



INKPEN FAMILY





INKPEN

Gilbert George

Service No: 5472

Summary

Name: Gilbert George Inkpen

Service Number: 5472

Date of Enlistment: 22/8/1916

Age at Enlistment: 19 years 2 month

Civil Occupation: Clerk

Medals, Honours, Awards: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Height: 5 ft. 8 inches

Weight: 140 Lbs.

Chest Measurement: 32 inches

Complexion: Fair

Eye Colour: Grey

Hair Colour: Black

Father: Charles Adam Inkpen

Mother: Annie Eva Ougden

Married: Sarah Ellen Woodman

Family History:

James Edward Inkpen arrived in the Swan River Colony in 1829 with his wife and five children. He was granted 480 acres in the Avon district in 1831. James was a sawyer and cabinetmaker/carpenter by trade and held enough land to qualify as a juror.

His son, George, moved to York in 1874 after his publishing business went bankrupt in Perth. He began a business in York publishing small pamphlets and, by 1877, he had established the Eastern Districts Chronicle newspaper. George continued as proprietor of the paper until his death in 1886, when two sons, William James (or Walter) and George Edward, took over control of the business.

George's son, Charles Adam, was employed in the Telegraph Service and acted as Postmaster in Newcastle (Toodyay), Mingenew, Beverley, Kanowna and (possibly) Cossack. He was also in the Goldfields during the gold rush of 1893 and 1894, having resigned from the postal service on several occasions. In 1896, Charles was appointed Postmaster at Kanowna, but he was back in Perth by 1897, working as a clerk in the Lands Department.

By 1899, Charles was advertising as an auctioneer and Government Land Agent in York. He also acted as the District Registrar of births, deaths and marriages for the York District, while the registrar was on leave.

Charles was active in the horseracing fraternity at this time. He raced his own horse, "Twopenny," at various tracks around the state, including the Fremantle Turf Club, the Canning Amateur Race Club and the York Hunt Club races. Charles was Secretary of the York Jockey Club in 1900 and 1901.

On the 30th April 1902, Charles' body was found on the banks of the Avon River, near Monger's Bridge. The inquest into his death was adjourned, and a benefit concert held for his wife and family. Annie left York with her two sons soon after.

Life Story

Gilbert George was born in York in 1899 but, by 1902, he was living in Fremantle, where his mother found work as a servant to support her family after her husband's death. Little is known of his early life but, on his enlistment form, Gilbert stated he had served as a Naval cadet for three years.

On his enlistment papers in February 1916, Gilbert claimed to be nineteen years old when he was actually only seventeen. His mother signed the papers, as he was still underage and needed his guardian's permission to enlist.

Gilbert left Fremantle on the *Aeneas* on the 17th April 1916 with the 17th Reinforcements of the 16th Battalion. At the same time, he was promoted to acting Corporal.

On the 22nd January, 1917, Gilbert was admitted to hospital at the 4th Australian Division Base Depot in Etaples, France.

On the 2nd February, he was promoted to acting Sergeant before being attached to the Anzac Section of the 16th Battalion, 3rd Echelon, General Headquarters, on the 18th April.

On the 26th September, 1917, Gilbert was disciplined for overstaying his pass at Rouen and, on the 18th October, he was admitted to hospital for treatment, re-joining his unit on the 13th November, 1917.

On the 13th August 1918, Gilbert received a gunshot wound to the head during an air raid but was able to remain on active duty with his unit.

He was promoted to temporary Sergeant on the 3rd October and, on the 13th November, 1918, returned to London to report to Administration Headquarters before re-joining his unit on the 6th January.

Gilbert returned to Australia on board the *Beltana* on the 2nd June 1919.

After the War, Gilbert moved to Busselton and was recorded as being a clerk there in 1925. His brother, Lawrence, was also in Busselton, working as a plumber.

Between 1930 and 1932, Gilbert was the manager of the Vacuum Oil Company in Goomalling. He also acted as the Depot Keeper in 1931.

By 1933, Gilbert was living in Kalgoorlie. In October of that year, he was found guilty of driving under the influence, after his car collided with another vehicle, proceeded without stopping and hit a pedestrian. Gilbert was fined twenty-five pounds, with costs of four pounds, and disqualified from driving for twelve months.

Then, in 1934, he pleaded guilty to stealing forty-two pounds, nine shillings as a servant from the Vacuum Oil Company. His lawyer stated that Gilbert had been called upon to find eighty pounds after the accident earlier in the year, found himself financially embarrassed, and he was worried and run down. The Magistrate treated him leniently, and Gilbert was bound over on two sureties of fifty pounds and ordered to make restitution of the money.

Gilbert had further financial issues throughout the 1930s but, by 1937, he was still living in Kalgoorlie and working as a salesman. His brother, Lawrence had also moved to the town.

During World War Two, Gilbert enlisted in the Citizen's Military Force at Kalgoorlie.

In 1949, he and his brother were living at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel and Gilbert was recorded as working as a senior clerk.

In 1952, Gilbert married Sarah Ellen Woodman at East Coolgardie. By 1954, they were living at 57 MacDonald Street Kalgoorlie.

Gilbert Inkpen died in 1980 and was buried in Kalgoorlie.



INKPEN

Lawrence Henry

Service No: 1737



BASIC INFORMATION

Name: Lawrence Henry Inkpen

Service Number: 1737

Date of First Enlistment: 26/10/1914

Date of Second Enlistment: 9/6/1915

Age at Enlistment: 38 years 2 months

Civil Occupation: Farm Labourer

Medals, Honours, Awards: 1914/15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Height: 5 ft. 6¼ inches (167.7 cm)

Weight: 144 lbs. (65.3 kg)

Chest Measurement: 34 inches

Complexion: Fair

Eye Colour: Blue

Hair Colour: Dark Brown

Father: George Inkpen

Mother: Matilda Frances Ougden

Siblings: William James, George Edward, Nina May, Charles Adam, Ernest George, Frank Julius, Mary Louise, Myra, Walter Avon, Wesley Carter

Family History

Lawrence's Grandfather was James Edward Inkpen who, with his wife and five children, arrived in Western Australia in 1829 and was granted 480 acres in the Avon district in 1831. James was a sawyer and cabinetmaker/carpenter who owned sufficient land to qualify as a juror.

Lawrence's father, George, moved to York in 1874 after his publishing and printing business went bankrupt in Perth. He established a small printing business and was publishing pamphlets by 1875.

In 1877, George established the Eastern Districts Chronicle newspaper in York. He remained the proprietor of the paper until his death in 1886, when his two sons William (or Walter) and George took over control of the business. However, the brothers' partnership did not last long and George became sole proprietor of the business in 1888.

In 1927, the name of the newspaper was changed to the York Chronicle, and it continued to be published until 1959.

Life Story

Born in York in 1877, Lawrence commenced work with Western Australian Government Railways (W.A.G.R.) as a cadet in September 1892, aged fifteen years and nine months. He continued to be employed by W.A.G.R. in York until he transferred to Midland in January 1896. Two months later, Lawrence resigned.

Lawrence appears to have had a busy social life in York. In 1895, he won a prize for his collie dog at the York Agricultural Show, and there is a report of him reciting a poem at a Smoke Social organised by the Ancient Order of Druids (Balladong Lodge) in August 1898. He also performed at a fundraising social for the York Cycling Club in September 1897. Many reports from 1894 to 1900 mention him as part of the York Imperial Football Team and as a member of the Avon Cricket Club. Lawrence also held various positions, such as Secretary and Treasurer, with the Football Club.

During this period, it is known that Lawrence went to Perth to take up employment, though he was back in York by March 1900, when he and R. Highway, were given a farewell at the Castle Hotel before joining the Imperial Bushmen's Contingent which was leaving for the Boer War in South Africa. Lawrence was listed as No. 94 in the West Australian Unit. A more formal send-off was held at the Imperial Hotel in May, with Captain Cowan, Lieutenant Sweeny, the Mayor, Councillors and about fifty friends also present.

Lawrence served three months with the Light Horse Regiment and 510 days with the 4th W.A. Imperial Bushmen during the South Africa Campaign. It was July 1901 before Lawrence returned on board the *Britannic*, which arrived in Albany on the 20th July 1901. Three months later, he assisted with the organisation of the York Agricultural Show and, in 1902, with the annual sports meeting of the York Athletic Club.

That same year, Lawrence was appointed the Rates and License Collector by the York Roads Board and, by 1904, he was listed as Acting Town Clerk.

Lawrence continued his involvement with local sports clubs. In 1906, he was elected auditor of the York Athletic Club and was a delegate for the York Imperial Football Club.

After the disappearance of the substantive York Town Clerk (Mr. G. A. Stevens) with apparent discrepancies in the Council and Road Board accounts, Lawrence was again appointed Acting Town Clerk.

On the 26th October 1914, he enlisted in the Light Horse Regiment but asked to be discharged after three months.

Lawrence re-enlisted on the 9th June 1915 and, in October, shipped to Alexandria before joining the British Expeditionary Forces at Marseilles on the 16th March 1916. During his time in the Forces, he sent a series of letters and reports home to York. These were published in the local newspaper.

In August, Lawrence was wounded by a gunshot wound to his left foot and shrapnel wounds to his torso. It was months before he was able to return to France.

In February 1917, Lawrence was promoted to Corporal and returned to the Front. In August, he required further surgery to his left foot and was invalided back to England for treatment. On his return to his Battalion on the 7th February 1918, Lawrence requested that he revert back to Private.

After another, more severe, head injury, in August 1918, Lawrence was invalided back to the U.K. and, from there, returned to Australia via the *Ceramic*. His nephew, Roy, was on the same ship. They arrived back in Australia on the 3rd March 1919.

After Lawrence was discharged from the Army on the 8th May 1919, he moved around the Wheatbelt, farming at Pantapin and labouring at Ulakine, Shackleton and Kwolyin. He became a member of the Shackleton-Kwolyin sub-branch of the R.S.L. and was elected auditor of the sub-branch in December 1944. In 1946, Lawrence proposed a toast at a Smoke Social as a welcome home to those members who had served in World War Two

There is no record of a marriage.

Lawrence died in 1960 in Nedlands, possibly Hollywood Hospital, which is located in that suburb.

INKPEN

Roy

Service No: 6596



Summary

Name: Roy Inkpen

Service Number: 6596

Date of Enlistment: 10/11/1916

Age at Enlistment: 25 years 1 month

Civil Occupation: Agent

Medals, Honours, Awards: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Height: 5 ft. 6 inches (167.6 cm)

Weight: 160 lbs (72.6 kg)

Chest Measurement: 36 inches

Complexion: Dark

Eye Colour: Grey

Hair Colour: Black

Father: George Edward Inkpen

Mother: Amy Frances Chipper

Siblings: Dorothy, Thelma, Mary

Married: Eileen Victoria Brockman

Children: Geoffrey Roy, Nancy Eileen, Brian

Family History

Roy's grandfather, George, moved to York in 1874 after his publishing/printing business went bankrupt in Perth.

In 1875, he began a printing business in York publishing small pamphlets and, by 1877, he had established the Eastern Districts Chronicle newspaper. George continued as proprietor of the paper until his death in 1886, when his two sons, William James (or Walter) and George Edward, took over control of the business which was located at the premises now known as Settlers' House in York. However, the partnership did not last long and George Edward, Roy's father, became sole proprietor of the business.

In 1927, the name of the newspaper was changed to the York Chronicle, and it continued to be published until 1959.

Roy's father was involved in many activities within York and the surrounding district, including the York Agricultural Society. He was the Mayor of York between 1917 and 1921, a member of the Freemasons, a Justice of the Peace in the York Magisterial District, and he was appointed a Justice of the Peace for the entire state of W.A. shortly before his death in 1932. Roy's mother was known for her close association with the Red Cross Society in York.

Roy was given control of the family business when his parents moved to South Perth around 1930 and, after his father's death, Roy's mother lived in West Perth for a short period before moving back to Grey Street, in York, around 1937. At this time, Roy's mother was the proprietor of the newspaper, but Roy, and his sister, Thelma, were closely involved in the business until his mother's death in 1940, after which Roy and Thelma took over the running of the paper.

Life Story

Roy was born in York to George Edward Inkpen and Amy Frances (nee Chipper) in 1891. He attended the York State School and, in 1906, passed Primary Examinations conducted by the University of Adelaide in the subjects of English, History, Greek and Algebra.

In 1911, Roy was elected secretary of a new Progress Association set up in East Quairading with his cousin Ross Chipper as President. Roy, in partnership his two cousins, Ross and Lindsay Chipper, was farming at "Pantapan", near Quairading and, after the partnership was dissolved in December 1912, Roy moved to Beverley to become the local agent for J.M. Drummond & Co.

Roy moved again, two years later, to take up the position of general commission, land and estate agent in Kwolyin, Shackleton and surrounding districts.

In November 1916, Roy enlisted at Greenhills to join the A.I.F. He embarked from Fremantle two months later, arriving in Devonport (U.K.) in March 1917, where he marched in to the 7th Training Battalion at Rolleston.

A month later, Roy was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital suffering from influenza. Upon his recovery, he returned to the 7th Training Battalion, where he was appointed Acting Lance Corporal, until he reverted to the ranks just before being sent to France with the Battalion in September 1917. Roy joined his unit in Havre before being sent to join the 19th Reinforcements of 28th Battalion.

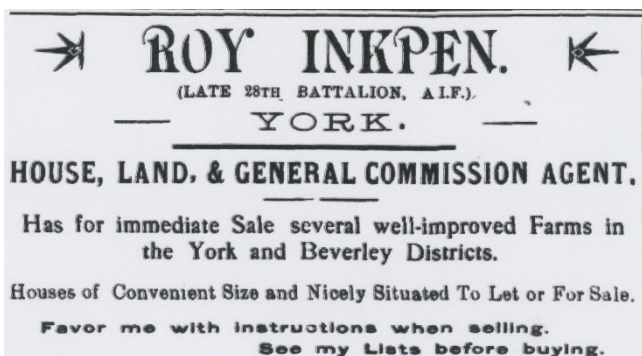
In September 1918, Roy received a shrapnel wound to the head and was hospitalised in France for treatment. The wound was considered to be a minor injury affecting the scalp, and it healed completely but left him prone to getting headaches after exertion. He was not considered disabled and was deemed fit to return to duty.

Roy, and his uncle, Lawrence Inkpen, wrote many letters while they were away from Australia. These were published in several newspapers in W.A.

In May 1918, Roy spent a week in hospital in France, after which he was invalided to the U.K. and admitted to Southwark Military Hospital.

After returning to duty in December 1918, Roy was promoted to Lance Corporal and, a few months later, in March 1919, he returned to Australia on the ship *SS Ceramic*. Lawrence was on the same ship.

Roy wasted no time in settling back into civilian life and, in September 1919, was elected Secretary of the York Branch of the Returned Soldiers Association, later to become the R.S.L. He continued to be actively involved with this organisation for many years, and his wife eventually served on the committee of the Women's Auxiliary of the York R.S.L. in the 1930s.



Also in September, the first advertisement listing Roy as a House, Land & General Commission Agent appeared. Further advertisements were published in the following months, listing various companies for which he had been appointed the local agent

in York.

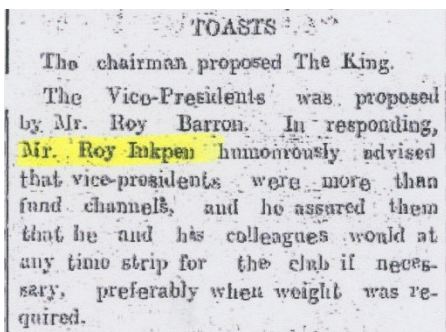
In 1920, Roy was listed as the agent for the Starr Bowkett Building Society in Fremantle.

Roy was a prominent figure in York and was elected to various positions in many different clubs and societies over the years, including the York Agricultural Society and the newly-formed York Trotting Club. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1921 and served the York District for many years.

On the 15th September 1921, Roy married Eileen Brockman at the Anglican Church in York. Eileen was the youngest daughter of Harold Brockman and the sister of Fred, Norman and Ralph Brockman. Norman acted as Roy's best man. The bridesmaid was Miss Thelma Inkpen, sister to the groom.

Roy and Eileen had five children, all born in York, but only two, a son (Geoffrey Roy born 1925) and Nancy Eileen (born 1926) survived to adulthood. Two boys were stillborn in 1923 and the last child, Brian (born in 1927), died aged only eight days.

By 1925, Roy had become an Auctioneer after applying for an Auctioneer's Licence the previous year. He also purchased the York Newsagency and, in October of the same year, won the tender to provide the service of Council Valuator for the York Municipality, which required him to revalue all rateable property by March 1926.



Extract from Avon Gazette and York Times

Roy continued to play a prominent role in York society, becoming Vice President of the Medina Rovers Football Club in 1929. That same year, Roy sold the Newsagency but continued his roles as Justice of the Peace, Estate Agent and Auctioneer. Throughout the 1930s and 1940s, Roy continued to sit on the Bench in York, often conducting inquests as the Acting Coroner.

Whilst his son Geoffrey was serving in the R.A.A.F. in World War Two, Roy was elected to sit on the Committee of the Patriotic Funds which was set up to organise all fundraising for wartime relief purposes as well as to collect books, newspapers and magazines for dispatch to the troops. Roy's wife Eileen continued her involvement with the Red Cross.

Around 1945, Roy purchased a large property known as “Berry Brow”, comprising 63 000 acres on the south side of Bakers Hill. He worked the property in conjunction with his son, Geoffrey.

Roy died on the 3rd November 1953 after being in poor health for some time. He left behind his wife Eileen, son Geoffrey, daughter Nancy and two grandchildren, David and Peter Pride. Geoffrey and his wife had a son twelve days after Roy’s death. They later had a daughter, Pamela Catherine.

Roy’s wife Eileen died in 1972 in York.

Acknowledgements

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Heather Harvey

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