

## MEAD FAMILY



## MEAD

### Ernest James

Service No: 2696A





## Basic Information

Name: Ernest James Mead

Service Number: 2696A

Date of Enlistment: 19/6/1916

Age at Enlistment: 27 years 3 months

Civil Occupation: Wood Machinist

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

Height: 5 Ft 9 inches

Weight: 151 Lbs.

Chest Measurement: 34 inches

Complexion: Fresh

Eye Colour: Grey

Hair Colour: Brown

Father: John Henry Mead

Mother: Margaretta Agnes Alice Rowes Ffarington

Siblings: Frances Ellen (1874-1954), Dorothy Margaretta (1876-1905), Alice Julia Richarda (1878-1949), Mary Eleanor/Ellen (1881-1884), John Henry (1883-1883), Charlotte Annie (1884-1886), John (1887-1946), Ivy Evangeline (1891-1922), Henry Alexander Charles (1892-1916), Viola May Lillian (1895-1897)

Married: Nena May Dow

## Life Story

Ernest was born in York in 1889. His father, John Henry, had been a labourer working for the Misses Ffarington in Perth in 1872.

John married Margaretta Agnes Alice Rowes Ffarington in 1874 at Guildford. He continued to work as a gardener until 1886, winning prizes for his vegetables at horticultural shows held in Perth.

The couple must have moved to York in either December 1886 or early 1887, because John Henry applied for a Wine and Beer Licence for the Stanley Hotel, a house situated in Blandstown, York.

In September 1888, John advertised a passenger and parcel conveyance from York to the Goldfields. He advertised this business until December 1890.

In 1891, John applied to have the license transferred from the Stanley Hotel to a house he rented from William Eaton, situated at the corner of South Street and Avon Terrace. The application was opposed by the landlord of the Stanley Hotel and the proprietors of the Imperial and Castle Hotels, which were situated within a stone's throw of the building. However, the application was successful and advertisements began to appear for the Railway Hotel, on the corner of South Street and Avon Terrace, in 1884.

In January 1894, John became the proprietor of the Miners' Arms in Newcastle Street.

Although the family moved to Perth in 1898, Ernest spent his early childhood in York.

He married Nena May Dow in Perth in 1909 and, by 1910, was living in North Perth and earning his living as a machinist, possibly at the Midland Railway Workshops, as he was employed there at the time of his enlistment in 1916.

Ernest was granted leave from his job with Western Australian Government Railways to enlist in the A.I.F. He enlisted on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 1916 and was taken by the 6<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of the 51<sup>st</sup> Battalion.

Ernest left Fremantle on the A23 *Suffolk* on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 1916.

He proceeded overseas to France from England in December 1916 and was promoted to Lance Corporal on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1917. Unfortunately, he was charged with drunkenness two months later and deprived of his Lance stripe.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> October, Ernest was reinstated as Lance Corporal. Then, on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 1918, he received a further promotion to Corporal.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> April 1918, Ernest Mead was Killed in Action while fighting in France. The exact location was unknown.

Ernest is buried in the Adelaide Cemetery at Villers Bretonneux: Plot 3, Row J, Grave 10.

He is Commemorated at the W.A.G.R. Midland Workshops War Memorial on Yelverton Drive, Midland.

# MEAD

## Henry Alexander Charles

Service No: 2554



## Basic Information

Name: Henry Alexander Charles Mead

Service Number: 2554

Date of Enlistment: 24/8/1915

Age at Enlistment: 28 years 11 months

Civil Occupation: Civil Servant

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

Height: 5 Ft 7 ½ inches

Weight: 121 Lbs.

Chest Measurement: 32 inches

Complexion: Dark

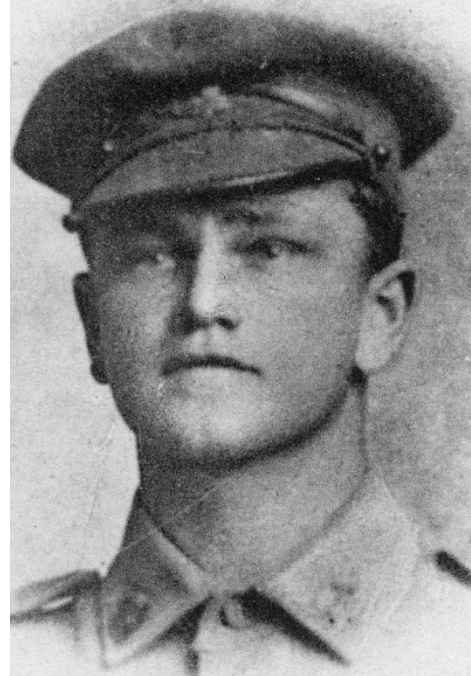
Eye Colour: Dark Blue

Hair Colour: Brown

Father: John Henry Mead

Mother: Margaretta Agnes Alice Rowes Ffarington

Siblings: Frances Ellen (1874-1954), Dorothy Margaretta (1876-1905), Alice Julia Richarda (1878-1949), Mary Eleanor/Ellen (1881-1884), John Henry (1883-1883), Charlotte Annie (1884-1886), John (1887-1946), Ernest James (1889-1918), Ivy Evangeline (1891-1922), Viola May Lillian (1895-1897)



## Life Story

Henry Alexander Charles Meade was the youngest son of John and Margaretta.

He enlisted in August 1915 and left Fremantle on the HMAT A *Ulysses* in November. Initially holding the rank of Sergeant, Henry reverted to the ranks on joining the 51<sup>st</sup> Battalion at Tel El Kebir in May 1916.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> April, he was promoted to Corporal, and then to Sergeant on the 8<sup>th</sup> June 1916, three days after leaving Egypt for Marseilles.

Henry arrived in France on the 12<sup>th</sup> June. Two months later, he was reported as being wounded and missing. His whereabouts were unknown for some months, before an inquiry, in April 1917, determined he had been Killed in Action between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> August 1916. A fellow soldier of the 51<sup>st</sup> Battalion, J.A. Walsh, stated:

*...He was shot through the back at Posieres and was carried to the back of our lines and put in a dug out to have a rest. This is the last heard or seen of him. He could not have been P/W and there was heavy shelling going on all the time. We always retained the ground where Sergeant Meade was last seen.*

Henry's grave now lies in the ANZAC Section, Third Echelon, G.H.Q. British Expeditionary Forces.



## Acknowledgements

The following people and organisations helped with the research to compile this booklet.

Harvey, Heather  
Clarke, Cathy

Silhouette artwork by students of York District High School

## References

National Archives of Australia. 2018. *Discovering Anzacs*. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au>. [Accessed 3 January 2018, 28 June 2022].

Department of Justice. 2018. *Searching Western Australian Online Indexes*. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.bdm.dotag.wa.gov.au/apps/pioneersindex/default.aspx>. [Accessed 3 January 2018].

National Library of Australia. 2018. *Trove*. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/>. [Accessed 3 January 2018].

Department of Veterans' Affairs. 2022. 1917-Ypres. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/resources/1917-ypres>. [Accessed 28 June 2022].