



WAGHORN

William Edward

Service No: 7066



Basic Information

Name: William Edward Waghorn

Service number: 7066

Date of enlistment: 28/9/1916

Age at Enlistment: 19 years 3 months

Civil Occupation: Farmhand

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

Height: 5 feet 9 inches

Weight: 136 pounds

Chest measurement: 36 inches

Complexion: Dark

Eye Colour: Brown

Hair Colour: Dark brown

Father: Charles James Waghorn

Mother: Agnes McMullen/McMullan

Siblings: Charles Sylvester (1900), Nellie Louisa (1903-1903) Alfred Linley (1904), Isabella/Isobel Irene (1907), Gladys Hilda (1910), Iris Ida (1912), Frank Gordon (1914), Agnes M. (1917), John Leonard (1918), Bernice Jean (1919), Norma Valery (1923-1923).

Children: William John, Donald Cedric

Family History

Charles James Waghorn, William's father, was born in Kent, England, in 1868. It is not known exactly when Charles arrived in Western Australia, but it is believed to be sometime between 1881 and 1891.

In 1898, he married Agnes McMullen, the daughter of William McMullen (an expirée who arrived on the *Runnymede* in 1856) and Mary Ann Dinsdale, the daughter of William Dinsdale (an expirée who arrived in 1858 on the *Edwin Fox*). Mary Ann McMullen was the proprietor of the Railway Hotel at Greenhills, having taken on the job after the death of her husband in 1889.

In 1901, Charles worked as a repairer for the Western Australian Government Railways in the York/Greenhills area. However, he soon turned to farming and, by 1903, he was living in the Cunderdin district. Despite filing for bankruptcy in 1907, Charles and Agnes remained in the area until around 1910, when Charles was listed as a contractor at Greenhills.

In 1914, Charles again filed for bankruptcy. The family lived at Mt Hardey at the time, but they had returned to Greenhills by 1914, where they remained until 1917. Between 1925 and 1936, the family lived at Warding, and Charles was listed as a farmhand.

Agnes died in 1939 and, by 1943, Charles was living at the home of his daughter, Isabella Irene Higgins, in Coode Street, Bayswater, where he remained until about 1948. At some point, Charles moved back to the Northam district and, by 1954, he was living on the Irishtown Road. Charles died in 1959, and his death was registered at Northam.

Charles Sylvester, Alfred and Frank, William's brothers, worked in and around the York/Greenhills district for many years, Charles until his death in 1944 and the others until the late 1940s/early 1950s, when they moved to the Metropolitan area. His other brother, John, became a police officer and was posted to Kalgoorlie.

Life Story

William Edward Waghorn was born in York in 1899.

He enlisted as a Private on the 28th September 1916, giving his postal address as Greenhills, and embarked from Fremantle aboard the *Berrima* on the 12th December 1916, with the 11th Battalion, 3rd Reinforcements.

William disembarked in England in February 1917 and was marched in to the 3rd Training Battalion. He spent time in hospital between the 11th and 17th March, and was readmitted to Parkhouse Hospital on the 26th March, suffering from mumps.

William finally proceeded to France on the 22nd May and was Taken on Strength with the 11th Battalion on the 16th June 1917.

On the 18th September 1918, he received gunshot wounds to the chest and arm. William was invalided back to England and admitted to the Voluntary Aid Hospital at Cheltenham on the 24th September. He was granted furlough on the 19th November and finally discharged on the 3rd December 1918.

William returned to Australia on the *Murari* and was finally discharged from the army on the 8th March 1919. After the War, William remained in the Greenhills area, where he worked as a farmhand.

In 1932, he married Doris Eveline Doust, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A.H. Doust of "Buckland Hill." The couple had two sons and made their home at Doodenanning, though William was still listed on the 1936 electoral roll as a farmhand at Greenhills.

On the 9th May, 1937, William collapsed and died while driving home to Balkuling on Goldfields Road after attending his father's 69th birthday. He was pronounced Dead on Arrival at York Hospital.

William was given a military funeral at York on the 11th May 1937.

Doris appears to have been left in financial difficulty after the death of her husband. She married Norman Stanley Cosh at the York Registry office in 1937 and, in 1941, advertised the sale of 990 acres freehold, nine miles north of Balkuling, with a five-room bat house, chaff shed and stables.

Doris and Norman made their home at Corrigin before moving to Ongerup in 1958, then on to Denmark in 1968.

By 1977, Doris was living alone in Karawarra, Perth, while Norman was enrolled at 152 Parry Street, Perth. Norman Stanley Cosh died in Nedlands in 1986, in the Salvation Army Nursing Home, aged seventy-seven. Doris died at Warwick in 2009.

Acknowledgements

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

Harvey, Heather

References

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