

**Church Cemetery,  
Nottingham, Nottinghamshire  
War Grave**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**272 PRIVATE**

**E. I. PARR**

**AUST. ARMY MEDICAL CORPS**

**21ST JANUARY, 1920    Age 23**

*Peace Perfect Peace*

## Edgar Isaac PARR

Edgar Isaac Parr was born in 1896 at Trowbridge, Wiltshire, England to parents John Fredrick & Lucy Parr (nee Young). His birth was registered in the December quarter, 1896 in Melksham, Wiltshire, England. Edgar Isaac Parr was baptised on 8th April, 1897 at St. James with St. Stephen's Church, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, England.

The 1901 England Census recorded Edgar Isaac Parr as a 4 year old, living with his family at 13 Gladstone Terrace, Nottingham South East, Nottinghamshire, England in a 4 roomed dwelling. His parents were listed as Frederick Parr (Labourer (Leather works), aged 41, born Lowdham, Notts) & Lucy Parr (aged 35, born Romsey, Hants). Edgar was the youngest of five children listed on this Census – Nellie Eliza Parr (Fell\_\_ (Hosiery), aged 14, born Forton, Gosport, Hants), Cordelia Parr (aged 10, born Deal, Kent), Mabel Harriet Parr (aged 9, born Deal, Kent), Frederick John Arthur Parr (aged 9, born Forton, Gosport, Hants) then Edgar.

The 1911 England Census recorded Edgar Isaac Parr as a 14 year old, Packing in a Lace Warehouse, living with his family in a 6 roomed dwelling at 160 Colwick Road, Sneiton, Nottinghamshire, England. His parents were listed as Frederick Parr (Porter & Corps of Commissionaires, aged 51) & Lucy Parr (Home House Duties, aged 45). Frederick & Lucy Parr had been married for 26 years & had 8 children. All 8 children were listed on this Census – Nellie Eliza Parr (Hosiery Machinist, aged 24), Cordelia Parr (Shop Assistant Glass & China Trade, aged 20), Mabel Harriet Parr (Pattern girl in Lace Warehouse, aged 19), Frederick John Auther Parr (Blouse Cutter in Factory, aged 17), then Edgar, Reginald George Parr (At School, aged 7, born Sneiton, Nottinghamshire), Thomas Henry Parr (At School, aged 5, born Sneiton, Nottinghamshire) & Horace Guy Parr (aged 3, born Sneiton, Nottinghamshire).

An "E. Parr", Page Boy, aged 16, was a passenger on *Hawkes Bay* which departed from London, England on 1st July, 1913 bound for Melbourne, Australia.

Edgar Parr stated he was a 19 year old Driver (Horse Teams) when he enlisted on 15th September, 1914 at Oakleigh, Victoria. (Note: Edgar Parr stated on his Attestation Papers that his birthdate was 10th August, 1895 & that he was born at Southampton, Nottinghamshire. His religion was recorded as Methodist. He also stated he had acted as Page Boy to a Doctor in England & that he had served in Territorial Forces in Nottinghamshire for 1 ½ years.) Edgar Parr was 5 ft 7 inches with a fair complexion, brown eyes & fair hair. His next of kin was listed as Mrs L. Parr, of 11A Nottingtown Place, Sneiton, Nottingham, England.

The Medical Officer considered Edgar Parr as unfit for active service – "*He is poorly developed and has a varicocele on left side. He would be suitable for such services as an Orderly but not as a combatant.*"

Edgar Parr stated he was a 20 year old, single, Carpenter when he re-enlisted on 15th December, 1914 at Broadmeadows, Victoria with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was "2018 272" & his religion was Church of England. Edgar Parr was 5 ft 8 ½ inches with a fair complexion, brown eyes & light hair. His next of kin was listed as T.A.R. Parr, of 11A Nottingham Place, Sneton, Notts, England. (Note: Edgar Parr stated on his Attestation Papers that he was born at Portsmouth, London, Middlesex, England.) To the question on the Attestation Paper "Do you now belong to or have you ever served in His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy, or Colonial Forces" – Edgar Parr replied "No". The Commanding Officer approved Edgar Parr's Attestation & appointed him to 4th Field Ambulance.

Another Attestation Paper is included in the Service Record file for Pte Edgar Parr with all the same details as the 15th December, 1914 enlistment at Broadmeadows, however the service number has been recorded as "2018 2039A".

Private Edgar Parr was posted to 4th Field Ambulance on 15th December, 1914. He was attached to 1st Reinforcements on 17th December, 1914.

Private Edgar Parr embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Berrima* (A35) on 22nd December, 1914. Pte Edgar Parr is listed on 2 different Nominal Rolls but showing on both as departing on HMAT *Berrima* (A35) on 22nd December, 1914:

- Private Edgar Parr, service number 2018 departed with 4th Field Ambulance, 4th Infantry Brigade "A" Section
- Private Edgar Parr, service number 2039A departed with 2nd Field Ambulance 1st Reinforcements.

Private Edgar Parr was transferred to 2nd Field Ambulance on 9th February, 1915.

Private Edgar Parr proceeded to join the M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) at Gallipoli on 5th April, 1915.

Private Edgar Parr was admitted to No. 2 Australian Field Ambulance at Mena, Egypt on 21st March, 1915 with Diarrhoea. He was discharged to duty on 22nd March, 1915.

Private Edgar Parr was admitted to Hospital at Anzac on 20th August, 1915. He was transferred to Hospital Ship *Canada* from Mudros & invalided to England on 24th August, 1915.

Private Edgar Parr, 272, of 2nd Field Ambulance was admitted to Queen Alexandra's Military Hospital at Millbank on 10th September, 1915 from Dardanelles with Dysentery. (The War Gratuity Schedule & Casualty Form Active Service both record that he was admitted to Royal Orthopaedia Hospital, 234 Great Portland Street, London on 10th September, 1915.) He was discharged on 30th September, 1915.

Entry on War Gratuity Schedule for Private Edgar Parr – "*lb D/O 11.13.25 (1916) the Regt No was shown as 2018 should read 272*".

Private Edgar Parr was debited 3/- for loss of his Kit on 7th June, 1916.

Private Edgar Parr was written up for an Offence at Monte Video – "*Overstaying leave from midnight 16/6/16 till 6 pm on 19/6/16.*" He forfeited 3 days' pay & was awarded 7 days Confined to Barracks.

Private Edgar Parr was transferred from Monte Video, Weymouth, Dorset to Tidworth, near Salisbury, Wiltshire on 6th July, 1916.

Private Edgar Parr proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) via Folkestone on 16th July, 1916 & joined No. 1 Australian Divisional Base at Etaples, France on 17th July, 1916.

Private Edgar Parr joined 2nd Australian Field Ambulance in France from Reinforcements on 3rd August, 1916.

Private Edgar Parr was written up for a Crime in the field on 25th August, 1916 – "*Conduct to the prejudice of good order & military discipline in that he climbed a fruit tree & shook the fruit on the ground on 24th August, 1916*". He was awarded 7 days F.P. No. 2 (Field Punishment).

Private Edgar Parr was sent to Hospital sick on 11th November, 1916. He was transferred to Convalescent Depot from 3rd Stationary Hospital at Rouen on 13th November, 1916 suffering from Tonsillitis.

Private Edgar Parr was marched in to 2 A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 24th March, 1917. He was temporarily attached to Dental Clinic from 24th March, 1917 & detached to A.G.B.D. on 24th July, 1917.

Private Edgar Parr was on furlo to England from 2nd December, 1917 & returned from furlo on 19th December, 1917.

Private Edgar Parr was transferred to England on 13th February, 1918 from A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Havre due to Debility & Injury to back. He was marched in to No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth, Dorset from France on 14th February, 1918.

Private Edgar Parr was admitted to Bagthorpe Military Hospital, Nottinghamshire on 26th February, 1918 with Phthisis while on furlo. He was transferred to 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield on 4th April, 1918.

A Medical Report was completed on Private Edgar Parr on 6th April, 1918 at 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital. His disability was recorded as Chronic Pulmonary Tuberculosis which had originated in December, 1917 in France. Pte Parr had caught a cold in December with a persistent cough & pains across chest. He lost weight & had night sweats. Pte Parr's present condition was listed as "*weight now is 8st 13lbs usually 11st 4 lbs. Boarded at Weymouth*".

*C111 in Feb. and sent to a San on Feb. 20th at Nottingham for 5 weeks and was then sent to Harefield to be discharged in England, Is very thin and emaciated. Frequent troublesome cough....*" The disability was as a result of an infection while on active service. The Medical Board recommended that Private Edgar Parr be discharged as permanently unfit for General Service and Home Service.

Private Edgar Parr was discharged to No. 2 Convalescent Depot at Weymouth on 13th May, 1918.

The next-of-kin of Private Edgar Parr was altered to Mr T. A. R. Parr, of 11A Nottingtone Place, Sneinton, Nottingham, England on 20th March, 1918.

Private Edgar Parr was marched in to No. 2 Convalescent Depot at Weymouth, Dorset on 13th May, 1918.

Private Edgar Parr was admitted to 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield on 24th June, 1918 with Tubercle of Lung.

Private Edgar Parr was returned to Australia from England for discharge at his own request on 30th June, 1918. Pte Parr embarked from the port of Suez on 21st July, 1918 on the *Kanowna*. While on board the *Kanowna*, Pte Parr was reported on 28th July, 1918 as being *"very debilitated on coming on board. Improving eating and sleeping better. Still very weak."* He returned to Melbourne, Australia on 1st September, 1918.

A letter was written to Victoria Barracks, Melbourne on 12th July, 1918 from Mrs W. H. Kennaugh, of Wollongbar, Richmond River, NSW, asking for any information on *"Edgar Parr, a returned soldier who was expected to arrive in Melbourne this week – he is suffering from consumption and will probably be in hospital. I am anxious to learn of his whereabouts as he has no relatives here."* A reply was sent from Base Records stating that it was necessary to include the regimental number & unit to which he was attached so that he could be identified.

A Radiological Examination was completed on Private Edgar Parr on 13th September, 1918 at No. 5 Australian General Hospital. The pathology report found that T.B. was present.

A Charge was recorded against Private Edgar Parr, Dental Corps, late 2nd Field Ambulance, by Military Sanatorium Macleod – (1) A.W.L. from 5.30 pm on the 18th October, 1918 till 11 am on the 21st October, 1918 – 3 days & (2) Conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline and that he was wearing civilian clothes. He was fined 10/- for the first offence & £1 for the second offence & forfeited 3 days' pay.

Private Edgar Parr was admitted to Military Sanatorium, Macleod, Australian Army Medical Corps on 18th September, 1918.

A handwritten not from the Captain, Australian Army Medical Corp, Military Sanatorium, Macleod reads: *"No 272 Pte PARR Edgar, 2nd Fld Amb – Requires further treatment – he is totally incapacitated from earning a livelihood for at least 6 months from this date service being the cause."* (Not date was recorded on the note).

Private Edgar Parr was discharged from Australian Imperial Force on 9th November, 1918 at 3rd Military District.

The Department of Repatriation, Melbourne wrote to Base Records Melbourne on 28th January, 1919 stating that No. 272 Private Edgar Parr, 2nd F. Amb. No. 16 A.G.H., Macleod had applied to the Department of Repatriation for a Free Passage to England. They were requesting confirmation that the regiment particulars were correct.

Ex-Private Edgar Parr died on 21st January, 1920.

A death for Edgar I Parr, aged 23, was registered in the March quarter, 1920 in the district of Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, England.

Private Edgar Isaac Parr was buried on 26th January, 1920 in Nottingham Church Cemetery, Nottinghamshire, England – Plot number St. Anne's Valley. 8531 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private Edgar Parr was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. The 1914/15 Star & the British War Medal were issued with the service number of 2039A while the Victory Medal was issued with the service number 2039. Ex- Private Edgar Parr had requested in August, 1919 that the War Medals entitled to him be sent to England as he had returned there. Pte Parr's medals were signed for by Lucy Parr, mother of the late Edgar Parr.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private E. I. Parr – service number 272, aged 23, of 2nd Field Ambulance, Australian Army Medical Corps. He was the son of Frederick and Lucy Parr, of 11A Notintone Place, Sneinton, Nottingham.

Private E. Parr is not commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia as he was no longer eligible as he was not a member of the Australian Armed Forces at the time of his death, having been discharged in 1918.



*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

Edgar Isaac Parr is remembered on the Sneinton District Virtual War Memorial, Nottinghamshire County Council's Roll of Honour.



(93 pages of Pte Edgar Parr's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

*Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives*



### Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

*(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)*

Private E. I. Parr does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

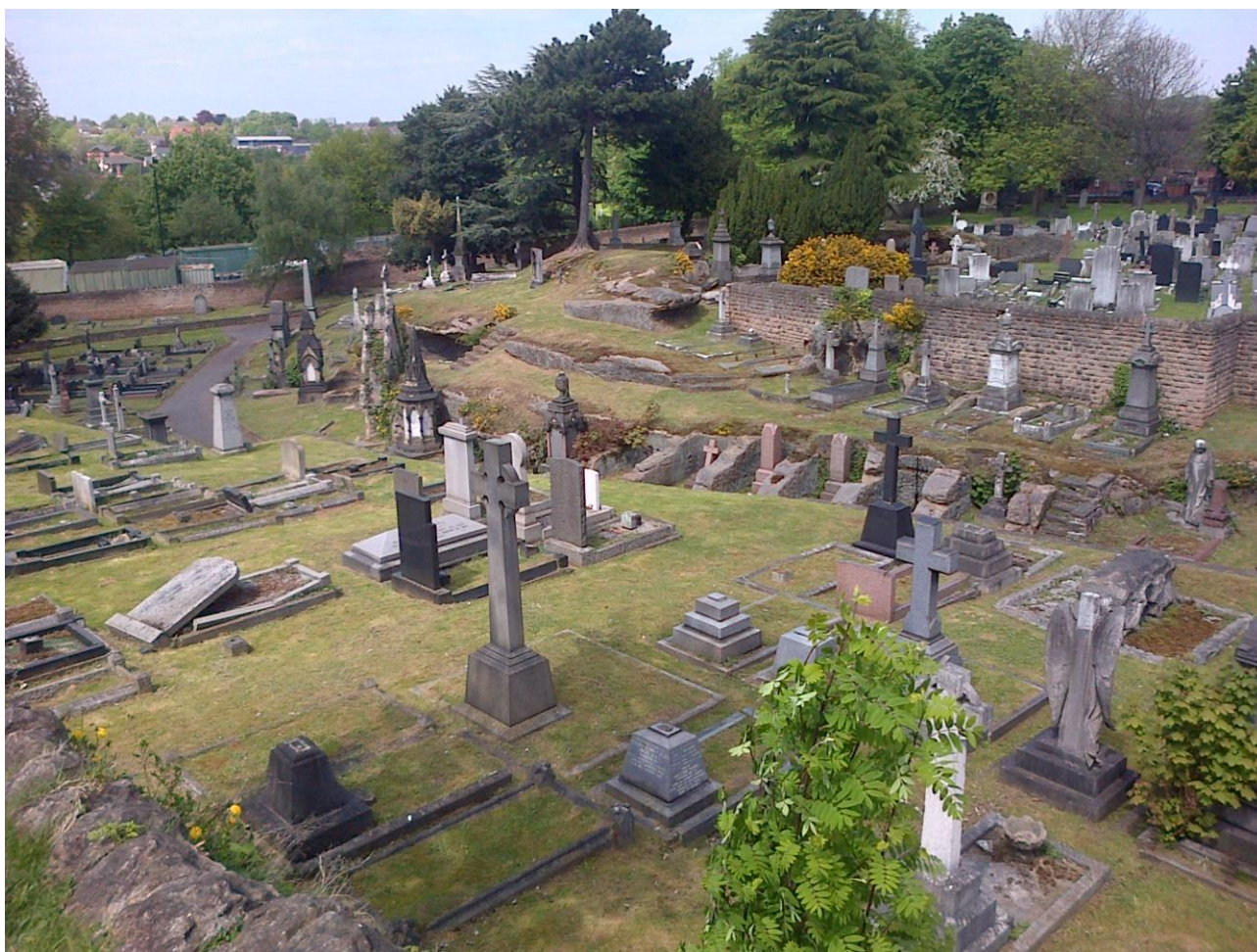
*Peace Perfect Peace*

### **Nottingham Church Cemetery, Nottinghamshire, England**

Nottingham Church Cemetery contains 101 Commonwealth War Graves – 81 scattered burials from World War 1 & 20 burials from World War 2. From 1851, after the cemetery was laid out on the former sandpits, local people grew to know it simply as "The Rock". It is also known as Church (Rock) Cemetery on account of its sandstone rock faces and caves.



**Nottingham Church Cemetery** *(Photo by Irish – Find a Grave)*



**Nottingham Church Cemetery** (Photo above by Irish – Find a Grave; below by Mick Garratt)



Photo of Private E. I. Parr's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Nottingham Church Cemetery, Nottinghamshire, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)*





**Nottingham Church Cemetery showing Pte E. I. Parr's Headstone** (Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)

