



AUBREY FAMILY



Family History

William Aubrey, born in 1838, was an unmarried labourer who was transported to the Swan River Colony aboard the *William Hammond* in 1856. He received his Ticket of Leave in 1859 and his Conditional Pardon in 1864.

In 1871, William married Mary Anne Sullivan in York. The couple went on to have ten children: Isabella Allen (1872), John Patrick (1877), William (1879), Mary Margaret (1882), Thomas James (1884), Charles Henry (1887), Agnes Jane (1889, died aged 24 days), Joseph Patrick (1889), Ernest James (1893), Edward Walter George (1897).

John Patrick Aubrey applied to enlist on the 19th May 1917 but was declared unfit for service due to poor eyesight. He was 39.

William died in 1913. His obituary stated that he had spent most of his life in the York district. Mary Anne died in 1919.

AUBREY

Joseph William

Service No: 2781



BASIC INFORMATION

Name: Joseph William Aubrey

Service Number: 2781

Date of Enlistment: 16/10/1916

Age at Enlistment: 26 years 4 months

Civil Occupation: Farm Hand/Labourer

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

Height: 5 feet 6 inches

Weight: 132 lbs.

Chest Measurement: 34 inches

Complexion: Dark

Eye Colour: Brown

Hair Colour: Dark Brown

Father: William Aubrey

Mother: Mary Anne Sullivan

Life Story

Joseph William Aubrey was born in York in 1889. The twin brother of Agnes Jane, he was registered at birth as Joseph Patrick.

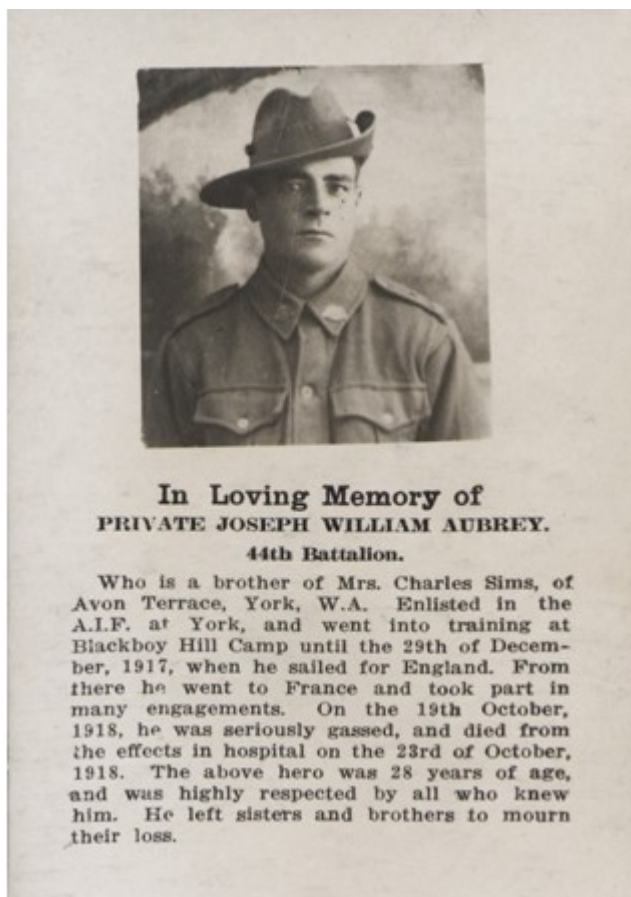
Joseph enlisted on the 16th October 1916 and sailed from Fremantle, aboard A34 *Persic*, on the 29th December 1916. He arrived in England on the 3rd March 1917 and marched into the 11th Training Battalion at Larkhill on the 8th March.

On the 9th July 1917, Joseph proceeded overseas to France where he was Taken on Strength with the 44th Battalion.

On the 18th October, Joseph was Wounded in Action in the Field. He was admitted to the 14th General Hospital at Wimmereux, suffering from poisoning caused by a mustard gas shell, and died on the 25th October 1917.

Joseph was buried in the Wimmereux Communal Cemetery.

His personal effects were willed to Miss Eva Mead, Newcastle Street, York.



Courtesy State Library of WA



AUBREY

Ernest James

Service No: 5980

BASIC INFORMATION

Name: Ernest James Aubrey

Service Number: 5980

Date of Enlistment: 13/3/1916

Age at Enlistment: 23 years 2 months

Civil Occupation: Labourer

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

Height: 5 feet 4 inches

Weight: 135 lbs.

Chest Measurement: 34 inches

Complexion: Dark

Eye Colour: Grey

Hair Colour: Brown

Father: William Aubrey

Mother: Mary Anne Sullivan

Married: Nita Kathleen Gaebler

Children: Leon Ernest (born 1916)

Life Story

Ernest James Aubrey, known as Ernie or “Pud,” was born in 1893 to William and Mary Anne in York.

Little is known of his early life but, in 1903, at the age of eight, he wrote a letter to Aunt Bessie who ran the page titled “Our Children of the West” in the W.A. Record newspaper. Ernie was also listed on the Honour Roll of the York Rifle Club in 1916.

Ernest enlisted on the 13th March 1916. At the time of his enlistment, Ernie was single but, on the 25th May, he married Nita Kathleen Gaebler at the Roman Catholic Church in York, before his embarkation aboard the *Milliades* at Fremantle on 9th August 1916. Their son, Leon Ernest, was born in Armadale on the 23rd September 1916, two days before Ernie arrived in Plymouth.

On the 12th December 1916, Ernie proceeded overseas to France and, on the 19th December, he was Taken on Strength with the 19th Reinforcements, 16th Battalion in the Field.

In April 1917, Ernie was appointed as a Driver with the 16th Battalion where, apart from a short period of leave, he remained in the Field until the 25th November 1918. On that date Ernest was admitted to hospital suffering from a venereal disease. He remained unwell for a total of 153 days and was transferred several times to different hospitals.

On the 1st June 1919, Ernest returned to Australia aboard the *Somali*.

Post-War, he and his family lived in York until 1937. During the 1920s, he played football for York, often alongside one or more of his brothers, and was also appointed as an umpire. In May 1928, he was appointed as a linesman in the Postmaster General’s Department.

In 1931 he built a wood and iron house at the north end of Avon Terrace, selling this home to Mr R. Reid when the family moved to Victoria Park in 1937.

On the 8th May 1942, Ernest enlisted as a signalman, service number W62450, to do his bit in World War Two, but a recurrence of a back injury received in 1940 while working as a linesman, forced him to apply for discharge in August, with it being granted in September as recommended by a military Medical Board.

After the War, Ernie "Pud" Aubrey was active in the 16th Battalion Association, serving on the General Committee of the Association in the 1940s and 1950s.

At the time of his death in 1957, Ernie was living in Victoria Park. His wife, Nita, died in South Guildford in 1971.



AUBREY

Charles Henry

Service No: 2456

BASIC INFORMATION

Name: Charles Henry Aubrey (served as Aubry)

Service Number: 2456

Date of Enlistment: 15/2/1916

Age at Enlistment: 26

Civil Occupation: Labourer

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

Height: 5 feet 4 ½ inches

Weight: 152 lbs.

Chest Measurement: 34 inches

Complexion: Dark

Eye Colour: Blue

Hair Colour: Dark Brown

Father: William Aubrey

Mother: Mary Anne Sullivan

Married: No

Life Story

Charles Henry Aubrey was born in 1887 in York. Little is known of his early life, but he was reported as competing in races held by the York Athletic Club in 1908 and 1910. Charles also played for the Mt Hardy cricket team in 1909. A 1916 report of the list of members of the York Rifle Club, who had enlisted, included his name. He was the first of the three Aubrey brothers to enlist.

Charles enlisted on the 15th February 1916 (using the name Aubry) and appointed to the 10th Light Horse Regiment on the 1st April. He embarked on HMAT *Surada* at Fremantle on 16th June and was then Taken on Strength by the 3rd Light Horse Regiment on the 17th June, at Tel-El-Kebir. On the 5th August, he was detached to the 13th Imperial Camel Corps, being Taken on Strength by the Camel Corps on the 10th August at Abbassia, before then being Taken on Strength by the 11th Company Imperial Camel Corps on the 17th August, at Moghara.

On both the 8th and 13th September, Charles was reported for being unshaven on parade at camp at Moghara, forfeiting one day's pay on each occasion. On the 28th September, he was admitted to the 7th Field Ambulance station, then transferred that same day to the Nasreih Schools Military Hospital in Cairo, for a camel bite to his right hand. On the 1st October, Charles was transferred to the 14th Australian General Hospital (A.G.H.) in Cairo.

On the 9th October, he was transferred to the British Red Cross Hospital at Montazah then admitted, on the 20th October, to the 17th General Hospital at Alexandria, for an old jaw injury.

Discharged from hospital on the 10th November, Charles was immediately Taken on Strength by the 3rd Light Horse Training Regiment at Moascar. However, on the 17th November, Charles again reported sick to the 26th Stationary Hospital at Ismailia, before being transferred that same day back to the 14th A.G.H. in Cairo.

A medical report, dated the 21st November, detailed that Charles had been kicked in the jaw by a horse six years before, the bone had joined badly and had been re-broken for malposition. He had no symptoms of trouble at the time of enlistment but the joint had stiffened, with pain developing, during his time in the desert, at Wadhi Matru, and he was only able to open his mouth to ½ an inch. Under deep anaesthesia they had been unable to open his mouth much more than Charles could do himself. A medical board report, seven days' later, recommended Charles be discharged from military service as permanently unfit, because of an organismal infection incurred on active service. The disability was described as ankylosis of left temporomaxillary joint.

Charles remained at the 14th A.G.H. until the 21st January 1917, when he returned to Australia on *Euripides* and was admitted to the 8th A.G.H., at Fremantle, on the 14th February. He was discharged from hospital on the 19th April, with the medical discharge certificate mistakenly ascribing his condition to being the result of a gunshot wound to his jaw.

Charles was granted a small pension, with it being reduced to 15 shillings a fortnight from the 14th February 1918.

Little is known about his life after his discharge from the military on the 23rd June, 1917. Charles did attempt to re-enlist at Northam on the 19th June, 1918, under the correct spelling of his surname, but his application was rejected when his previous service record was examined.

In January 1920, Charles was convicted of being disorderly and using obscene language on Avon Terrace and was fined two shillings, with seven shillings' costs, or to serve on default one month's hard labour. A more serious charge of obtaining two pounds by false pretences was laid against him in October 1921, in the York Police Court.

Charles' body was found in a deserted blacksmith's shop in Roe Street, Perth, in the early hours of the 14th December 1924. Newspaper reports stated there were no suspicious circumstances and that he had suffered severely from the effects of being gassed in the war (there was no record of this on his service record).

In May 1925, Charles was cited in a divorce action between Richard James Kent and his wife, Janet Kent. It was stated that Charles Henry Aubrey had been living with Janet Kent, firstly at Subiaco in 1923 and then at a boarding house in James Street, Perth, in 1924.

The action was dismissed for insufficient evidence.

Acknowledgements

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