



# BEARDMAN FAMILY



# BEARDMAN

## Lionel Henry

### Service No: 72



## BASIC INFORMATION

Name: Lionel Henry Beardman

Service number: 72

Date of enlistment: 06/10/1914

Age at Enlistment: 29 years 2 months

Civil Occupation: Labourer

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

Height: 5 feet 7 ½ inches

Weight: 150 Pounds

Chest measurement: 36 inches

Complexion: Dark

Eye Colour: Blue

Hair Colour: Black (curly)

Father: William Beardman

Mother: Martha Jane Meredith

Siblings: Walter William, James Barker, Herbert George,

John Augusta, Olive Matilda Martha, Richard Aubrey,

Charlotte Ann, Kenneth Eric

Married: 1: Alma Eliza Wheeler, 2: Pearl Waghorn (nee Endersby)

Children: Horace Prince Alford, Thomas William Henry, Norma Joyce



Lionel Beardman

Courtesy of Norma and Stan Karasinski

Life Story:

Born in 1885 at Toodyay, Lionel was the fourth child of William and Martha Beardman. They were a farming family, living at Mill Farm.

Lionel enlisted early, joining the 10<sup>th</sup> Light Horse on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 1914, at Toodyay. His father, William, was listed as his next of kin.

Lionel's youngest brother, Kenneth, also went to the War, attempting to enlist

first in 1916 (as a seventeen-year-old) and then again (successfully) in 1917 with his parents' permission.

Trooper Beardman embarked at Fremantle, for Alexandria, aboard the *Mashobra* on the 8<sup>th</sup> February, 1915. He arrived at Gallipoli on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 1915 but, by the 18<sup>th</sup> June, had suffered, at Walker's Ridge, a shrapnel wound to his forehead and sinus.

He embarked on the Hospital Ship *Gascony* on the 18<sup>th</sup> June and was transported to Egypt then admitted to the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian General Hospital, at Heliopolis, on the 30<sup>th</sup> June. Lionel remained in hospital at Heliopolis until the 3<sup>rd</sup> September, when he embarked aboard the *Ulysses* at Suez to be returned to Australia for "a change."



The Beardman family Circa 1898– Lionel is standing on the left side of the centre row

Courtesy of Norma and Stan Karasinski

Lionel convalesced at the Number 8 Australian General Hospital in Fremantle until the 20<sup>th</sup> December 1915. In January 1916, he applied for a discharge on personal grounds but this was denied. A second application for discharge, with a longer letter, detailing his head wound and its after-effects, was submitted in February, around the time he was due to re-embark at Fremantle. This resulted in him being finally discharged as medically unfit on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 1916.

Lionel appeared on the 1916 Electoral Roll living at Avon Terrace, York, with his sister, Charlotte Ann. His parents and two brothers, Walter and Kenneth, were also living in the York district at this time.

Lionel was listed as a labourer at the time of enlistment, but he opened the Dardanelles Tearooms in Avon Terrace, opposite the Court House, on the 31<sup>st</sup> August, 1917. He continued to run the tearooms until December, 1920, when he sold the business. It was renamed the Regal Tearooms by the new owner.

Lionel married Alma Eliza Wheeler in January 1920, at York. They had two children, Horace Prince Alford (born in 1920) and Thomas William Henry (born in 1921), but their marriage was very short. In 1924 Alma died of tuberculosis at Wooroloo Sanatorium, leaving Lionel with the two boys.

After selling the tearooms, Lionel worked several odd jobs in and around York. In 1921 he was the town's Pound Keeper but, by 1925, he was working as a billiards marker at the Arcade in York. However, in August 1925, Lionel was appointed as a linesman in the Postmaster-General's Department.

In 1937, he was injured by an electric shock whilst working on a storm-damaged telegraph line.

In 1946, at the age of sixty-one, Lionel married Pearl Waghorn (nee Endersby), a widow with four children from her first marriage. Their only child, Norma Joyce, was born in 1949.

# RESIDENCY MUSEUM

The marriage was not a happy one; the pair only lived together for a short time before Lionel's declining health became too much to bear.

Lionel moved away from York in the late 1950s to live with his son, Thomas, in Bassendean. By the early 1960s, due to poor health, he was being cared for at St Vincent's Home for Men in Midland.

The only time that Norma saw her father after her parents' separation, was in 1964. She recalls visiting him at the Home, but he was unable to communicate with her.



Lionel died in 1966 at St Vincent's Home in Midland, aged eighty-one.

Lionel with his daughter Norma  
Circa 1950

Courtesy of Norma and Stan  
Karasinski

## BEARDMAN

Kenneth Eric

Service No: 7273



## BASIC INFORMATION

Name: Kenneth Eric Beardman

Service number: 7273

Date of enlistment: 06/02/1917

Age at Enlistment: 18

Civil Occupation: Draper

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

Height: 5 feet 4 inches

Weight: 124 Pounds

Chest measurement: 34 inches

Complexion: Dark

Eye Colour: brown

Hair Colour: brown

Father: William Beardman

Mother: Martha Jane Meredith

Siblings: Walter William, James Barker, Herbert George,

John Augusta, Olive Matilda Martha, Richard Aubrey,

Charlotte Ann, Lionel Henry

Married: Margaret Agnes Stevens

Children: Geoffrey Eric (1924), Kenneth William (1926), Brian James (1929), Beverley Dawn (1933)



## Life Story:

Kenneth Eric, born in Toodyay in 1899, was the youngest child of William and Martha Beardman. He first attempted to enlist in the A.I.F in York on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 1916, when he claimed to be eighteen years old.

Kenneth passed the medical examination at this time, but it appears nothing eventuated from his application. Perhaps the authorities were made aware that he was underage?

Kenneth completed a second application to enlist at York on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1917 and was attached to the 25<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion. However, except for some time spent in hospital with measles, he remained at D3 Depot on guard duties until January 1918.

In December 1917, his mother made a declaration in front of the Mayor of York stating that Kenneth had been born at Toodyay on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1898. This may have had some bearing on his situation.

Kenneth was transferred to Blackboy Hill in January 1918, and attached to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Reinforcements, 28<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

He finally embarked for Suez on the *Ormonde* on the 13<sup>th</sup> March, 1918.

Arriving at Suez on the 4<sup>th</sup> April, Kenneth soon found himself in hospital with mumps. One month later, he left Alexandria on the *Indarra* bound for Southampton, England, from where he was marched in to the 5<sup>th</sup> Training Battalion at Fovant, in Wiltshire, on the 5<sup>th</sup> June.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> August 1918, Kenneth proceeded overseas to France and, a few days later, was Taken on Strength with the 28<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

He was promoted to Lance Corporal on the 5<sup>th</sup> November and, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1919, to Temporary Corporal, reverting to Lance Corporal in May.

After a short stay in hospital suffering from scabies in May 1919, Kenneth returned to England and, in September, returned to Australia on the *Barambah*, disembarking on the 17<sup>th</sup> October at Fremantle.

By 1921, Kenneth had returned to York. He was playing cricket with local York teams and was the captain of the Juniors' football team. After breaking his leg during a match and becoming unable to work, fundraising events were held in town to support him. At this time, Kenneth appears to have been working, in partnership with Roy Flood, as a wood merchant.

In 1922, Kenneth broke the same leg while transporting a load of wood from York to Clackline. The partnership between Beardman and Flood was dissolved in 1923, with Roy Flood continuing to run the business alone.

Kenneth married Margaret Stevens at York in 1922. The couple left York in 1923 and, by 1925, they were living in the Bridgetown area, where Kenneth was working as a salesman.

In 1930, Kenneth was the manager of a store, A. Macrow & Sons, in Collie. However, in April 1932, he was charged with stealing from his employers and dismissed from his job.

The family moved to the Goldfields that same year, with Kenneth working as a labourer at the Lake View and Star Mine, where he was injured at work that December.

Kenneth appears to have been in financial difficulty between 1934 and 1939, as he was sued by several individuals, St John of God's Hospital and the Municipality of Kalgoorlie.

Between 1940 and 1949, the family was living in Kalgoorlie and Kenneth was working as an agent, then as a salesman.

During the Second World War, Kenneth was active in fundraising for the HMAS Kalgoorlie Fund and the Food for Britain Appeal.

From 1940 onwards Kenneth played golf for the R.S.L. Golf Club in Kalgoorlie. On the 16<sup>th</sup> September, 1951, he collapsed while playing golf and was declared Dead On Arrival at Kalgoorlie District Hospital. At the time of his death, Kenneth was the local manager of the Singer Sewing Machine Company in Kalgoorlie.

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## References

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