

PEACOCK

John Frederick

Service No: 3201



Name: John Frederick Peacock

Service Number: 3201

Date of Enlistment: 31/10/ 1916

Age at Enlistment: 21 years 1 month

Civil Occupation: Farm hand

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

Height: 5 feet 9 inches (175 cm)

Weight: 145 pounds (65.77 kg)

Chest Measurement: 34 - 35 inches

Complexion: Dark

Eye Colour: Grey

Hair Colour: Brown

Father: Fredrick Peacock

Mother: Louisa Peacock (nee Chifney)

Siblings: Edward (1890), Minnie Matilda (1892), Walter Joseph (1893),
Mark Satchell (1898) and Louisa Margaret (1902)

Married: Rose Elizabeth Taylor

Children: Francis Frederick (1927), Kevin John (1929), Jean Dawn (1930)
and Joan Margaret (1935).



PTE. J. F. PEACOCK.
Wounded. Now returned to firing line
Parents reside at Quellington.

A photograph of John published in a
local newspaper
Courtesy National Archives of Australia

Family History

The Peacock family were farming in the York district from the 1850s. Their daughters married into other farming families, and their sons were also involved in agriculture.

Life Story

John was born in 1895 at Northam, the fourth child of Fredrick and Louisa Peacock. He was educated at Quellington School, along with other children from the Quellington district.

John enjoyed playing football and, as a young man, was reported to have kicked two goals for the Quellington football team in a match against the York Juniors in 1915.

In October 1916, it was reported that two of John's brothers, Edward and Walter, had been granted exemptions from military service until early 1917. Edward, as the secretary of the Quellington branch of the Red Cross, was already involved in fundraising for the War effort. Neither ever enlisted.

John enlisted in York on the 31st October 1916, naming his father, Fred, as Next of Kin. On the 23rd December, John boarded the *Berrima* at Fremantle bound for England and, by April 1917, he was in France fighting on the Western Front with the 48th Battalion.

On the 12th October 1917, the first day of the Battle of Passchendaele, John was hit by a bullet in this right thigh. The injury was severe, and he spent a lot of time recovering from the injury at various Australian hospitals in England before re-joining his battalion on the 30th March 1918 for the Battle of Amiens.

On the 5th October 1918, John was promoted to Lance Corporal and, in January 1919, he was admitted to hospital with Influenza.

John did not return to Australia until the 17th October 1919, when he arrived at Fremantle on the *Barambah*. He was discharged from the armed forces the following day and, along with Arthur Carter and Tom Bond, was welcomed home with a function at the Quellington Hall on October 22nd.

The Peacock family were later involved in fundraising for an honour board for the Quellington Hall.

John returned to his rural life. He enjoyed playing cricket, and there were many newspaper reports of him playing, either for Quellington or Malebelling, in the 1920s.

In December 1924, John applied to be registered as the proprietor of one thousand acres of land in the Avon District and, in 1926, he married Rose Elizabeth Taylor. John and Rose had four children, and their sons, Francis and Kevin, became farmers in the Quellington area. Their daughters, Jean and Joan, married local men.

John died on the 11th November 1968 and was buried at York Cemetery where, after her death in 1981, Rose was also interred.

Acknowledgements

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

Harvey, Heather

References

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