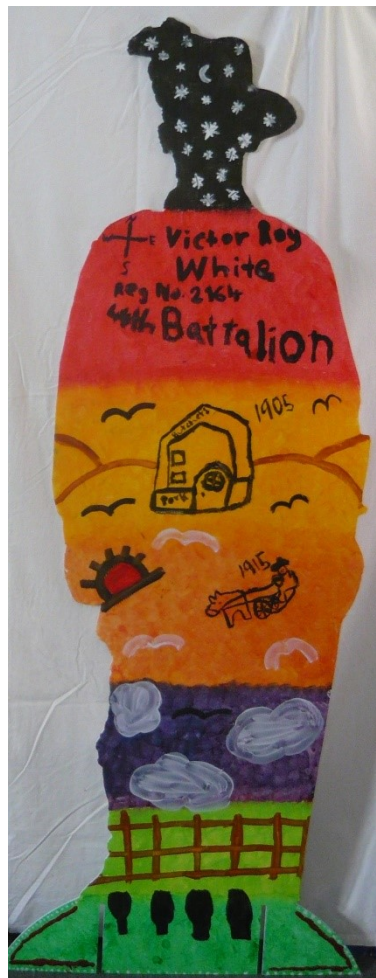


WHITE

Victor Roy

Service No: 2164



BASIC INFORMATION

Name: Victor Roy White

Service number: 2164

Date of enlistment: 2/5/1916

Age at Enlistment: 18 years 9 months

Civil Occupation: Carter

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

Height: 5 feet 4 ½ inches

Weight: 124 pounds

Chest measurement: 32 inches

Complexion: Dark

Eye Colour: Grey

Hair Colour: Black

Father: John Henry White

Mother: Elizabeth Crouch

Siblings: Edith May 1892, Lionel John 1895, Ethel Ruby 1898, Francis Frederick 1903

Married: Ruby Jane Agnes Clair



Victor Roy White
Courtesy National Archives of
Australia

Family History

Victor's grandfather, George Henry White, was a convict who arrived in W.A. aboard the *Seapark* in 1854. He married Martha Mary Kerr, an Irish woman, in 1959, and the couple went on to have eight children, all of whom were born in York.

George became a small farmer at "Daisy Hill" on the road to Daliak farm, owned by J.H. Monger. He was also a carter on the York-Guildford Road and later to the Goldfields.

John Henry, the eldest son, married Elizabeth Crouch in York in 1891, and the couple made their home in Meares Street. They had five children. Victor Roy was their second son.

John Henry worked as a carter, a sandalwood contractor and a Cobb & Co. coach driver between York and Southern Cross. By 1905, he was the manager of York Meat Company's butcher shop, on the corner of Avon Terrace and Joaquina Street, where the Town Hall now stands.

Life Story

Born in 1897, Victor attended York State School, where he is listed on the Honour Roll. He demonstrated a talent for athletics, winning several foot races in his age group and was placed 2nd in the All Schools' Championship 440 Yards race for boys aged between eleven and thirteen at the Empire Day Sports Meet in 1910. Victor also won the District Handicap Race over seventy-five yards.

In 1915 he broke his left leg, when he was thrown from the butcher's cart in Monger Street.

Victor enlisted on the 2nd May 1916, listing his occupation as carter. He also stated he had spent four years in the Cadets and had nine months' service with the 25th Light Horse.

On the 10th October, 1916, Victor sailed for Plymouth on the *Suffolk* and marched in to the 3rd Division Training Battalion at Hurdcott, in England. The Battalion proceeded overseas on the 28th February and, by the 22nd May, 1917, they had been Taken on Strength with the 44th Battalion in the Field.

On the 9th June, Victor was Wounded in Action at Messines, Belgium, and taken to hospital with a shattered elbow and a gunshot wound to the hip.

He was transferred to England on the HS *West Australia* on the 1st July 1917 and admitted to the Military Hospital at Richmond.

After several operations on his arm, Victor was discharged and returned to Australia on the 5th November 1917. He was admitted to the No. 8 Australian General Hospital at Fremantle on the 23rd December and discharged on the 21st June 1918. A medical examination at the time of his discharge noted Victor was still disabled, with a weak grip and limited flex in his arm.

However, in 1921, despite his injuries, he won the medal for best player at the Medina Rovers Football Club's annual windup smoke social held at the Fire Station in York. Victor continued to play for the team until 1926. A report from 1924 noted that he had not missed a game since the formation of the club.

Victor married Ruby Jane Agnes Clair in Perth in 1929. They had four children: Evelyn Blanche, Barbara Lorraine, Audrey and Myrtle.

By 1931 the family was living in McCartney Street, York, and Victor was working as a mail carrier. Between 1936 and 1949, he worked in a billiard hall as a billiard marker but, by 1954, Victor was living in Perth in emergency housing and earning a living as a road worker. At some point, the family moved to Eden Hill.

Ruby died in 1969, and Victor went into the R.S.L. aged care complex at Menora, in Perth. He died in 1990 and was buried in the same grave as Ruby at Karrakatta cemetery.

Acknowledgements

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

Harvey, Heather

Silhouette artwork by: York District High School Students

References

National Archives of Australia. 2018. *Discovering Anzacs*. [ONLINE]

Available at: <https://www.discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au>.

[Accessed 3 January 2018].

Department of Justice. 2018. *Searching Western Australian Online Indexes*.

[ONLINE] Available at:

<http://www.bdm.dotag.wa.gov.au/apps/pioneersindex/default.aspx>.

[Accessed 3 January 2018].

National Library of Australia. 2018. *Trove*. [ONLINE] Available at:

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/>.

[Accessed 3 January 2018].