

# **Sgt. Albion Marshall Perrers**



**Played with Adelaide University** 



Football Club: A Grade (1913)

and

**Cricket Club: A & B Grade (1913/14)** 

Student: BSc (1912-14 & 1929)

# **Background**

Coinciding with the Centenary of Anzacs our incentive behind the series of biographical publications is the Adelaide University Football and Cricket Club's desire to honour our players who served in the Great War (1914 - 1918). These brave men put on hold their academic, professional and sporting careers for King and Country in the name of peace and freedom. The AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee is endeavouring to identify every one of our players who served and prepare life stories on all. This is to ensure their sacrifices and further contributions to society will be recognised by future generations.

On Anzac Day 2015, the Centenary of the Gallipoli landing, a memorial plaque was unveiled on the Adelaide University Oval Pavilion and this was followed by the erection of a picket fence between the pavilion and the scoreboard with each picket bearing a plaque with the name of an AUFC/AUCC player who served.

The following documentation relates to the life of Albion Marshall Perrers. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.

# The AIF Project

https://aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=238792



#### **Albion Marshall PERRERS**

Regimental number 34320

Place of birth Port Lincoln South Australia

Religion Church of England
Occupation Electrical engineer

Address Nora Street, Maylands, South Australia

Marital status Single
Age at embarkation 25

Next of kin Mother, Mrs Margaret Perrers, Nora Street, Maylands, South Australia

Enlistment date 2 October 1916

Rank on enlistment Gunner

Unit name Field Artillery Brigade, March 1917 Reinforcements

**AWM Embarkation Roll** 

number

13/128/1

Embarkation details Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A74 Marathon on 10

May 1917

Embarkation details Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A11 Ascanius on 11 May

1917

Rank from Nominal Roll Sergeant

Unit from Nominal Roll 1st Division Artillery

Fate Returned to Australia 20 June 1919

# **Service Record**

https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8011627

USTRALIAN IN	IPERIAL FORCE
Attestation Paper of Persons	Enlisted for Service Abroad
Name LERRERS A	LBION MAKSHALL
Unit 12/23 1	916
uestions to be put to the Per	eon Polistics before Attenton
What is your Name?	1. allion Ametall Perror
Sandard or America Officer.	2. In the Parish of
In or near what Parish or Town were you born?	near the Town of St Lincoln
(	in the County of SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.)	3/ CN atural Down
What is your Age?	4 25/12
What is your Trade or Calling?	5. Electrical Enginer
Are you, or have you been an Apprentice? If so, ) where, to whom, and for what period?	6. 20
Are you married?	7y h8
Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated)	MORA STAMMAYLANDS
The answer to this question shall not be	SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Have you ever been discharged from any part of His	9
Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incorrigible and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with disgrace from the Navy?	10. 1. 2. No.
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? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of Discharge	п. 'ЛО
Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous	iz Geo
Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His	13. hodis bas asdat
Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds?	
tole support of Widowed mother)— Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be insued to you understand that no Separation Allowance will be insued to you in respect of your service beyond an amount which	14
Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against t	Yes sidt
smallpox and enteric fever?	15.
me to the above questions are true, and I am willing a the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the l	imits of the Commonwealth.
Inree-III	of the pay payable to me from time to time during
vice for the support of my wife and children	L. aux Doubles
	A THURSDAY MAN U F. XI

# **Biography**

#### **Early Life**

Albion Marshall Perrers was born at Port Lincoln on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 1891, the son of William Tardrew Perrers and Margaret, formerly Francis, nee Fertch (SA Birth Registration 476/364). At the time of Albion's birth, William held the Publicans' Licence for the Port Lincoln Hotel. In late 1894 the family left Port Lincoln for Adelaide. William passed away in 1897 when Albion was only 16 years old.

### **Schooling**

Albion's early schooling was at the East Adelaide Public School. In October 1904, he passed his Primary Examinations at East Adelaide and was awarded an Exhibition tenable at the Pupil Teachers' School (*Adelaide High School from 1908*).

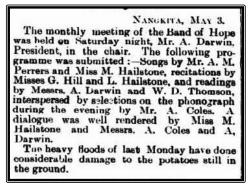
Albion attended the Pupil Teachers' School from 1905. He passed his Junior Examinations in 1905, three subjects in the Senior Examinations in 1906 and a further three subjects in the Senior Examinations together with two subjects in the Higher Public Examinations in 1907. He had also passed Intermediate Plane Geometry at the Arts and Science Examinations in July 1905.

While at Pupil Teachers' School, Albion was a member of the League of the Empire (a group with the aim of inculcating patriotic feelings).

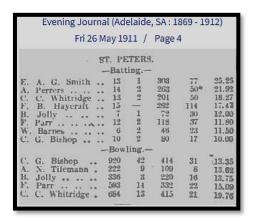
Albion played cricket for East Adelaide Avenue in East Torrens Junior Association in the 1907/08 season.

### **Early Career**

Albion was appointed a Provisional Teacher at Nangkita (near Mt Compass) in August 1908, but in October 1908, he was appointed as monitor back in the city at Parkside. In May 1909, Albion visited to Nangkita and sang at the monthly meeting of the Band of Hope.



During the 1909/10 cricket season, Albion played for Wesley in the East Torrens Association. In April 1910 Albion was appointed a Provisional Teacher at Thebarton. He played cricket for St Peters in the Adelaide and Suburban Association in the 1910/11 to 1912/13 seasons.



In December 1910 Albion joined the committee of the Adelaide High School Old Scholars' Association. In 1912, Albion played football for St Bartholomew's in the South Australian Amateur League.

#### University

Albion commenced studying toward a Bachelor of Science in 1912. He was at Adelaide University from 1912 to 1914. Albion gained a Division I pass in mathematics in 1912 and Division III passes in pure mathematics and compulsory chemistry in 1914.

In November 1912, Albion won a position in the Federal Public Service and was appointed a clerk in the meteorological branch of the Home Affairs Department.

#### **University Sport**

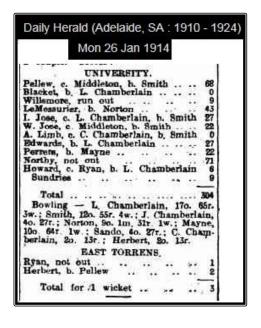
#### Football

Albion commenced his football career with the Adelaide University playing a pre-season match against North Adelaide in April 1913. He played the 1913 season for University A Grade in the Amateur League.

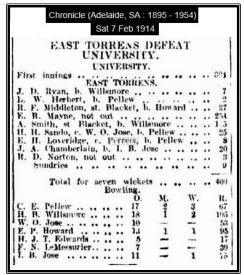
#### Cricket

Albion Perrers played at least three A Grade games and three B Grade games for Adelaide University in the 1913/1914 season. His best batting performances was an innings of 22 in A Grade in January 1914. University compiled a good score against East Torrens, who were the leading of the SACA competition (Premiers five times in the last six seasons and went on to win it again in the 1913/14 season). On a "soft wicket", Perrers partnered Northey in a fine tail end partnership which helped take the score to a very respectable total. After Perrers had hit one of the bowlers for three fours in an over it forced a change in the bowling.

added 51 for the eighth wicket. The score stood at 231 when Perrers partnered Northy, who continued to lay on the wood, especially in his strokes on the off. L. and J. A. Chamberlain could not get much assistance from the soft wicket, and the latter was hit by Perrers for three fours in one over. Herbert relieved him, and Norton bowled in place of J. A. Chamberlain. These failed to effect a separation, and Mayne and C. Chamberlain took up the attack. Perrers was missed by Ryan at the wicket off Chamberlain, and in the same over Northy got the East Torrens captain to square leg for 4 and reached his half-century in an hour. Perrers attempted to play back to Mayne and was bowled for 22. Howard was the last man



Unfortunately, during the second week of the game, East Torrens had little trouble passing the students score, with Ernie Mayne a State and Test batsmen, who was at the height of his career (4 Tests and 141 State), blasting 254 not out, the highest score by any batsman that season.



Albion had been promoted from B Grade in late December after playing the first few matches of the season in the B Grade. His promotion came mainly because of player unavailability during the University holidays. He held his place in the team until the better players returned at the start of the academic year.

### **Post University**

Albion does not appear to have continued with his University studies after 1914 and returned to his old club, playing cricket for St Peters in the Adelaide and Suburban competition in the 1914/15 season.

In March 1916, Albion passed the Federal Government Junior Assistant Engineers examinations for the Post Master's General Department (PMG).

•			COMPULSORY SUBJECTS.						OPTIONAL SUBJECTS.					
. Name-		Handwriting	Dictation.	Baglish.	Arithmetic.	Algebra.	Geometry.	Elementary Plan-drawing.	Elementary Physics.	Elementary Chemistry.	Plane Trigonometry.	Latin.	French.	Total Marks.
Maximum marks		200	300	400	300	300	300	400	400	300	300	300	300	Ī.
Pass marks		120	180	240	180	180	180	240	240	120	120	120	120	
		1	NEW	SOUT	H WA	LES.								
Allinson, Clive Cedric Weir, Harry Reed, Joseph Griffiths Samuelson, Frank Allen *Hotson, John Maitland *Branagan, Francis Joseph *Corkeron, William Patrick		128 150 148 175 180	264 287 226 263 276 288 263	242 278 251 240 255 294 240	296 224 226 226 244 264 250	267 182 189 270 209 204 209	249 267 267 195 246 182 218	374 295 356 316 337 315 312	367 391 394 310 340 307 244	270 255	205  135  (85) (60)	206	223 (78) 	2634 2544 2314 2103 2084 2034 1896
			Qτ	EENS	LANI	Ď.				'				
Blakey, Othman Frank *Crow, Herbert Edred *MoVey, Daniel *Jones, William Llewellyn *Brooks, John Gilbert *Catchpoole, Ralph Norman		170 178	288 287 298 264 264 239	258 282 287 240 255 261	300 280 288 248 240 242	273 270 213 209 213 180	288 267 249 258 227 209	360 290 381 358 306 383	382 331 295 355 280 319	::	295 250 210 205 140	219 264 210 120	248 ::	2826 2693 2609 2543 2206 2006
			SOU	TH A	USTR	ALIA.								
Kelly, John Horace *Perrers, Albion Marshall Galley, William Hubert Muirden, Hector Raymond Eimer, George Herman Schneider, Walter Herman		183 158 178 133	288 288 240 276 274 274	288 240 259 272 240 240	300 268 242 242 248 252	273 227 246 189 240 209	285 282 246 218 195 182	352 332 369 353 279 332	379 346 361 307 340 355	252 175 233	245 150 120	243 126	::	2828 2537 2296 2185 2187
				FERN		FRAL								
Mackey, Maxwell Arthur		135	275	249	238	195	222	268	343	215			138	227
	* Indicates								<u> </u>	,	,	1	1	

#### World War I

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 1916, Albion enlisted with SN 34320. He was an Electrical Engineer, aged 25½ and his mother, of Norah St, Maylands, was listed as his next of kin. He was described as 5′ 7″, 129 lbs, with a fresh complexion, grey eyes and fair hair. He was appointed a private and attended Musketry School.

Albion embarked from Melbourne on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May 1917 onboard the HMAT A11 *Ascanius* and disembarked at Devonport, England on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 1917. He first went to the Reserve Brigade Australian Artillery School at Larkhill.

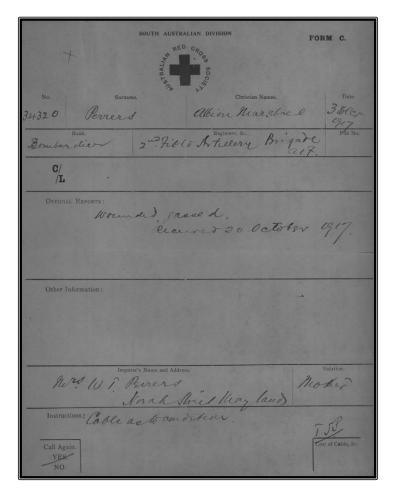
The Reserve Brigade Australian Artillery (RBAA)

Lark Hill Camp in Wiltshire England



(The insignia of the RBAA created out of white stones is shown between rows of barrack huts)

Albion proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 5<sup>th</sup> of September 1917 and was taken on strength with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery Battalion. Albion was an acting Bombardier with the 5<sup>th</sup> Battery in Belgium and on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 1917 he was gassed. He was repatriated to the Norfolk War Hospital in England on 7<sup>th</sup> of November 1917.



On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 1918, Albion returned to active service in France and on the 24<sup>th</sup> of August 1918, he was taken on to the staff of the 1<sup>st</sup> DA Headquarters, France. Tragically, on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 1918, Albion's elder brother, Sapper Harry Cudmore Barker Perrers, died of wounds (aged 35) and was buried Outtersteene Communal Cemetery Extension, Bailleul, France.

In 1919, Albion was promoted to ER Corporal and then ER Sergeant while on Educational Services at Tidsworth. He embarked for Australia on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 1919 on-board the HT 'Kronig Frederick August' arriving in Adelaide on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August 1919. Albion was discharged on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 1919.

### **Post War Career & Family Life**

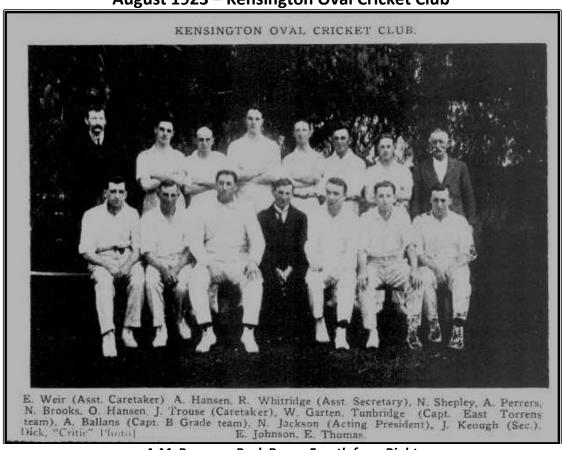
On returning from the war Albion would have returned to his employment with the PMG.

Albion recommenced playing cricket and was with St Luke in the Adelaide and Suburban competition in the 1919/20 season and by the 1922/23 season he was playing for the Kensington Oval Club.

1919/20 Batting Statistics for St Luke

ST.	LUI	KE.			
Ba	ttin	g.			
	Ins	. N.O.	R.	H.S.	AV.
S. Leak		7 3	513	135*	128.75
E. A. G. Smith		7 1	319	92	63
H. Daw		5 —	202	124	40.40
N. Macklin		6 1	178	65	35,60
8. Godden		6 2	100	52°	25
J. Sincock		8 —	178	68	22,25
R. Whitehill		5 1	70	52	17.50
A. Perrers		4 1	49	21*	16.33
A. W. Wright		6 1	68	32	13.60
B. Hele		3 1	26	24	13
R. Chapman		7 -	67	24	12.42
L. Harden		6 1	46	18*	12
L. Viney		8 1	83	27*	11.85

August 1923 – Kensington Oval Cricket Club



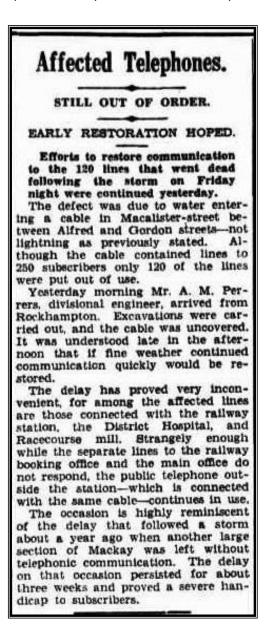
A.M. Perrers - Back Row - Fourth from Right

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 1925, Albion Marshall Perrers (aged 34) married Gladys Taylor Heath (aged 29), the daughter of Mr & Mrs John Heath, at Christ Church, Kadina. In May 1926 the couple attended the St Peters Masonic Lodge Ball. They had a son, Brian Cudmore Perrers who was born in 1927 and a daughter, Margaret "Meg", born in January 1930.

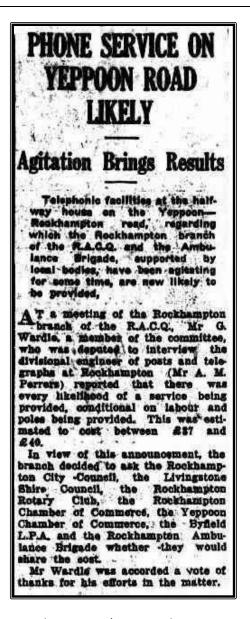
Albion was actively involved in returned soldier's activities. He was on the committee for the 10<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> Battalion Club in 1928. He assisted at the TB Soldiers Annual Dinners in 1928 and 1930. In 1934 he was a Vice-President of the A.I.F. Artillery Club.

Albion returned to Adelaide University in 1929, passing second year Physics. By 1930 Albion and Gladys were living at 11 Ellesmere St, Kensington Pk. In December 1911 Albion presented a prize at the AHS annual speech night.

In September 1936, Albion and Gladys sold their household furniture in preparation for their move to Queensland. Albion had been promoted to the role of Divisional Engineer, PMG, Rockhampton. On arrival in Rockhampton, the family stayed at the Commercial Hotel for about a month before moving into a house on Private Street. In February 1938 Albion travelled to Mackay to help resolve telephone issues caused by a storm.



In June 1938 Albion visited Aramac in the Barcaldine Region, Queensland on PMG business. In September 1939 he reported on the likelihood of extending telephone services to the Yeppoon Road area of Rockhampton.



During WWII Albion was involved in training the Women's National Emergency Legion in Morse Code and was Officer on Charge of the Post Office Volunteer Defence Corps at Rockhampton.

Albion was in charge of the line sections of the rollout of a new telephone exchange at Rockhampton which opened in November 1940.

# HISTORIC EVENT. Mr A. M. Perrers said that the opentng of the new exchange was a big event in the history and commercial life of Rockhampton. The P.M.G.'s Depart-ment's interest in the installation was made apparent by the presence of important officers from the south. Mem-bers of the staff appreciated the visit of Mr Malone, Mr Marks, and Mr W. King, who represented the chief engineer's branch, Melbourne. Mr Perrers thanked the various civic authorities for cooperation during the course of the installation, and referred especially to the Curator of the Botanie Gardens (Mr H. G. Simmons) for his assistance in the arrangement of lawns and ornamental shrubs about the building. were After afternoon ten visitors. over the equipment in small and had it explained to them shown over parties, and had it explained to under actual working conditions.

# Official Opening of Rockhampton Automatic Exchange Building November 1940



Back: G M Smith, P F Ryan, W C Rohde, S Chapman, R Tarbit.
Third row: W W Streten, R G Ferguson, W King.
Second row: R W Evans; E C Lather, A M Perrers, J Malone, S Marks.
Front row: R Frazer, O V Hoskin, W J Edwards.

#### **World War II**

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 1942, Albion enlisted with Service Number Q155025, he held the rank of Captain and was discharged on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January 1945. Further details of his WWII service are not yet publically available. By 1943, Albion and Gladys were living at 187 Quarry Street, Rockhampton.

#### Post WW II

While at Rockhampton Albion set up a linesmen's training school as part of a scheme to assist in the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen and by September 1949, more than 50 men had passed through the school.

The couple moved from Rockhampton to Brisbane in October 1948 when Albion was appointed assistant supervising engineer in Brisbane. They took up residence at Milson St, Coorparoo.

A DECADE of vast expansion in telephone, telegraph and broadcasting facilities in Central Queensland is recalled by the Divisional Engineer of the Postmaster General's Department (Mr A. M Perrers).

Mr Perrers, who took up his appointment in Rockhampton in 1936, was recently appointed assistant supervising engineer in Brisbane, and expects to leave Rockhampton on Monday.

In June 1953, Albion was awarded a Coronation Medal. By 1954 Albion and Gladys were living at Ray Street, Wilston, Brisbane. Living with them were Brian Cudmore Perrers (student), Margaret Perrers (physiotherapist) and Lucy Amelia Margaret Perrers (Albion's sister, born 1887).

#### Death

Albion Marshall Perrers passed away on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 1955, aged 64, in Queensland. His widow, Gladys Taylor Perrers died on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 1962 aged 66.

#### **Family Legacy**

In November 1954, Margaret became engaged to Laurence Aspinall, the younger son of Mrs F.A. Aspinall of Sydney and the late Mr A.R. Aspinall. Margaret died in Brisbane in 2020 aged 90.

Brain qualified as a veterinary surgeon. He died in Brisbane in 2012 aged 85.

## Profile Compiled by: Beth Filmer AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee

#### **Sources:**

The AIF Project <a href="https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/">https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/</a>

RSL Virtual War Memorial <a href="https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/">https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/</a>

https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/796251 https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/616344

The National Archives of Australia <a href="http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/">http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/</a>

https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/DetailsReports/PhotoDetail.aspx?Barcode=3466458

Australian War Memorial <a href="https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/">https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/</a>

The Adelaide University <a href="http://www.adelaide.edu.au/records/archives/">http://www.adelaide.edu.au/records/archives/</a>
The National Library of Australia <a href="http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/">http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/</a>

(Trove Newspaper articles tagged – Albion Marshall Perrers)

SA Genealogy <a href="https://www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/online-databases.html">https://www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/online-databases.html</a>

https://www.legislation.gov.au/file/1916GN31

State Library of South Australia

https://sarcib.ww1.collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/soldier/albion-marshall-perrers

Ancestry.com.au

Australia, City Directories, 1845-1948, Electoral Rolls