

Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

Private
Wilfred Herman
Balchin

Transport Ship Star of Victoria



0200606E

April 13th, 1918

The O.C.,
H.M.A.S. Port of Melbourne,
late Star of Victoria,
c/o G.P.O.
London.

Dear Sir,

We have received enquiries by cable from our Adelaide Bureau concerning - Wilfred Herwin BALCHIE - member of crew of Transport "Star of Victoria" - who is reported seriously ill, and are applying to you for information as to the nature of his illness and his present condition.

We are informed that the "Star of Victoria" was renamed and renamed the "Port of Melbourne", but trust that if you have no information you may be able to refer us to the proper authorities.

His relatives in Australia are apparently very anxious, and we shall therefore be very grateful if you will reply as soon as possible.

With apologies for troubling you.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

L. Baker

Secretary.

13th April, 1918.

To the,
O.C.
David Lewis Northern Hospital,
Liverpool.

Dear Sir,

We have received enquiries from our Adelaide Bureau,
asking us to ascertain news respecting:

Wilfred Herwin Balchin, member of crew of Transport,
"Star of Victoria", who was reported to be seriously ill
in your hospital.

Can you supply us with information concerning his
illness, and present condition, to enable us to cable the
same to his relatives in Australia.

We are informed officially that the "Star of Victoria"
remained, and named the "Port Melbourne".

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) L. Baker

SECRETARY.

Tel: VICTORIA 8576
8577
8578

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO

"THE SECRETARY,"

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

WOUNDED AND MISSING

— ENQUIRY BUREAU —

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY, 100 F R V I I

36, GROSVENOR PLACE.

LONDON, S.W. 1.

13th April, 1918.

To the,

O.C.

David Lewis Northern Hospital,
Liverpool.

Dear Madam,

Reference your enquiry overleaf, a patient of the

Dear Sir,

name of Wilfred Balchin, 25 Lincoln Street, Liverpool, died

We have received enquiries from our Adelaide Bureau,
at this hospital on the 20th of January 1918. From information
asking us to ascertain news respecting:

received from the Sister of the Ward, I understand that the

Wilfred Herwin Balchin, member of crew of Transport,
patient mentioned had been mentioned as being seriously ill
"Star of Victoria", who was reported to be seriously ill
he is the same man as we have no record of the name of the post
in your hospital.

Both initials and name were attached to the Hospital Record of Balchin died

Can you supply us with information concerning his

illness, and present condition, to enable us to cable the
same to his relatives in Australia.

We are informed officially that the "Star of Victoria"
remained, and named the "Port Melbourne".

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Vera Deakin
SECRETARY.

L. B.

29 Liverpool
April 20-1918

David Lewis Northern Hospital,

L I V E R P O O L .

15th April 1918.

The Secretary,

Australian Red Cross Society.

Dear Madam,

Reference your enquiry overleaf, a patient of the name of Wilfred Balchin, 29 Lincoln Street, Liverpool, died at this Hospital on the 20th of January 1918. From information received from the Sister of the Ward, I understand that the patient mentioned had relatives in Australia, I therefore presume he is the same man as we have no record of the name of the boat he was attached to. Hospital Records show that Balchin died of Phthisis.

Yours faithfully,

A. Levey

Secretary - Supt.

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T.S.S. "PORT MELBOURNE"
Port of LE HAVRE.

17th December 1918

19

The Secretary,

Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau,

Australian Red Cross Society,

36, Grosvenor Place,

L O N D O N, S.W.1

Dear Madam,

re W. H. Balchin.

In reply to your letter of 18th April last received on my arrival here I have to inform you that we had a man named H. Balchin serving on this ship several voyages ago. He was discharged and we have no records on board to show where or whether he was ill at the time.

I should suggest your applying to the Board of Trade Offices, (Registry of British Seamen's Dept.) Tower Hill, London, giving the date of his employment on board.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. Munnery

Master.