

#### 1963.0004 PAPERS OF SIR ALFRED EDWARD ROWDEN WHITE 1899-1962

Creator	White, Sir Alfred Edward Rowden		
Creator's Activity/Occupation	Medical practitioner - Benefactors		

## Biography:

Born in Hobart in 1874, White progressed from Alexander Sutherland's Carlton College (dux 1893) to the University of Melbourne (M.B., 1899; B.S., 1900; M.D., 1906), where he lived at Ormond College. From 1900 until 1902 he was at the Fremantle Quarantine Hospital, then demonstrator in bacteriology at the University of Melbourne, Junior Resident Medical Officer at the Royal Children's Hospital and later Senior R.M.O. Children's and Alfred Hospitals. He was assistant to Dr. Herman Lawrence (dermatologist), Sir Richard Stawell and Mr. Hamilton before practising privately. Appointed major, Australian Army Medical Corps, A.I. F., on 6 June 1917, White served in France with the 2nd Australian General Hospital, Boulogne. In 1930 he helped to found the Association of Physicians of Australasia and in 1938 its successor the Royal Australasian College of Physicians; he was a councillor of both and vice-president (1944-46) of the R.A.C.P. He chaired the medical staffs of both the Children's and St Vincent's hospitals before retiring in 1938. He served as honorary physician at St. Vincent's, the Children's and Melbourne District Nurses After Care Hospitals, and at the Victorian Foundling Hospital and Infants Home. White was a generous benefactor of medical, cultural and charitable organizations, including the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, the Victorian branch of the British Medical Association (to endow the Sir Richard Stawell oration), the R.A.C.P., the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, the Rio Vista Gallery, Mildura, the National Theatre Movement of Australia, the National Trust of Australia and the Operation Youth Appeal of the Young Men's Christian Association. Always a strong supporter of the University of Melbourne, he gave money towards the establishment of a chair of medicine and the Rowden White Library in Union House. In 1955 Alfred set up the A. E. Rowden White and Edward R. White Foundation for Medical Research at the Royal Women's Hospital. Appointed C.M.G. in 1953, White was knighted in 1961. Unmarried, he lived for many years with a couple named Kilburn; their daughter Doris, whom he treated as his niece, later kept house and cared for him. He died on 15 January 1963 in his home at Toorak and was cremated. His will directed that the income from the bulk of his estate be used to finance medical and scientific research at the University of Melbourne under the name of the A. E. Rowden White Foundation. A portrait of him by W. B. McInnes is held by the university.

Reference Number	1963.0004		
Collection/Series Title	PAPERS OF SIR ALFRED EDWARD ROWDEN WHITE		
Date Range of Collection/Series	1899-1962		
Size/Extent	3 boxes (0.36cm)		
Access Conditions	Access: Open		

#### **Scope and Content of Series**

Biographical items including "A Brief Resume of My Life" 1955; diaries dealing with service in Boulogne, 1917-1918, a trip as guest of the Army to the front zones occupied by the allies, March 1919, a visit to Oxford to see treatment of war neurosis etc., August 1919; a trip to the United States, chiefly tourism but with notes of professional visits, 1928, etc.; Inwards Correspondence relating to private business including donations, including letter from Edward Rowden White from Hoten Camp, Mukden, August 1945 and K. Grant on Bowker's electrically driven car, 1942, and 87 letters from Professor W.A. Osborne on reading, acquaintances, old age, medicine etc., 1949-1962; Outwards Correspondence, postcards, including letter from Boulogne, March 1918. Professional



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papers including a lecture note book containing clinical lectures on medicine by John Williams, 1898, treatment book, papers by White, etc. to 1944. Photographs of White, the No.2 Australian General Hospital, Boulogne and groups, 1918. Programmes and other memorabilia of WWI and the Queen's visit, 1954.

## **Archival History**

Listed by Patrica Marcard June 1964. Typescript list converted to item data by Christine Elias.

This list created 9 January 2020



To request access to records on the list below via the University of Melbourne Archives Reading Room, quote the Unit/Box reference in full.				
Unit/Box	Item number	Title	Date range	Description
1963.0004 Unit 1	1963.0004.00001	World War One diaries	6 June 1917-7 July 1918	Previous control number 2/1. Diary apparently sent home to the Kilburne Family, Toorak, Victoria, in instalments in place of letters. Covers Sea trip Melbourne to London (6 June-16 August 1917). Experiences as Medical Officer, No. 2 Australian General Hospital, Boulogne (1 September 1917-7 July 1918). Leave at British Officers' Convalescent Home, Mentone, near Marseilles (19 January-9 February 1918).
1963.0004 Unit 1	1963.0004.00002	The Biarritz Trip	undated	Previous control number 2/2. Description of the condition of the city of Amiens as well as American soldiers in Biarritz and Bordeaux.
1963.0004 Unit 1	1963.0004.00003	Medical Testimonials	1899-1906	Includes application for Honorary Clinical Assistantship, Children's Hospital. Previous Control Number: 1/1
1963.0004 Unit 1	1963.0004.00004	A Brief Resume of My Life	1955-1962	Covers professional activities and details of bequests, from November 1955 to July 1962. Previous Control Number: 1/2
1963.0004 Unit 1	1963.0004.00005	Account of Alfred Edward Rowden White's work	Undated	Covers education and professional life. Previous Control Number: 1/3
1963.0004 Unit 1	1963.0004.00006	Suggestions to Executor regarding Will	1952	Some Suggestions to My Executor in Carrying out the Conditions of My Will, 21 November 1952. Previous Control Number: 1/4
1963.0004 Unit 1	1963.0004.00007	Italian Trip	1919	Diary; general tourist affair; notes some signs of the war; Boulogne; Paris; Turin; Milan; Verona; Venice; Florence; Rome; Naples, 10 February - 1 March 1919. Previous Control Number: 2/3
1963.0004 Unit 1	1963.0004.00008	Rhine Bridgeheads Trip	1919	Diary; trip as guest of army to the front zones occupied by the allies, March 1919. Previous Control Number: 2/4
1963.0004 Unit 1	1963.0004.00009	Visit to Oxford	1919	Diary; to see recent methods in treatment of war neurosis and account of Ashhurst Hospital, August 1919. Previous Control Number: 2/5



1963.0004 Unit 1	1963.0004.00010	United States Trip	1928	Diary 1: Sydney; New Zealand; Tahiti; San Francisco; Los Angeles; Utah; St Louis; Chicago; Cleveland; New York; London; South England; Midlands; a tourists account with some details of doctors met and hospitals visited, 26 March to 18 May 1928. Diary 2: Eastern United States; England; sea voyage to Melbourne, May to December. Previous Control Number: 2/6/1
1963.0004 Unit 1	1963.0004.00011	United States Trip	1928	Diary 2: Eastern United States; England; sea voyage to Melbourne, May to December. Previous Control Number: 2/6/2
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00012	Trip Book	1937	Cruise up eastern Australian coast; New Guinea; Indonesia; Philippines; Kowloon; Japan; Shanghai; Hong Kong, April 1937. Previous Control Number: 2/7
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00013	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	1938	Wilson, Bishop & Henderson receipt for rent, 25 February 1938. Previous Control Number: 3/1/1
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00014	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	1938	A Walker, Honorary Secretary, Royal College of Physicians, regarding appointment of A E R White as joint trustee of funds donated to the College, 8 March 1938. Previous Control Number: 3/1/2
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00015	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	1942	K Grant, University of Adelaide, regarding Bowker's electrically drive car, 22 October 1942. Previous Control Number: 3/1/3
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00016	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	1945	Edward Rowden White, brother of A E R White, Hoten Camp, Mukden, regarding current trends in war and prisoners of war. Previous Control Number: 3/1/4
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00017	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	1955	Circular from the Melbourne Club regarding alterations to the club. Previous Control Number: 3/1/5
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00018	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	1956	Sir Hugh Davies regarding Dr Thomas Ryan, 16 May 1956. Previous Control Number: 3/1/6
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00019	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	1956	J Greig, General Manager, Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society, thank you for work done for Royal Women's Hospital Research Foundation, 20 June 1956. Previous Control Number: 3/1/7



1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00020	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	1956	Invitation from Dorothea Devine, Mother Rectress of St Vincent's Hospital, to view new casualty department, June 1956. Previous Control Number: 3/1/8
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00021	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	1956	R Upson, Director Royal Women's Hospital Centenary Appeal, enclosed letter of donation from Mr and Mrs Barnfield and family, to the research unit donated by A.E.R. White, 3 July 1956. Previous Control Number: 3/1/9
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00022	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	1956	Sir George Paton, Vice Chancellor University of Melbourne, thank you for gift of 2,000 pounds from Alfred Edward and Edward Rowden White for research at Royal Women's Hospital, 12 July 1956. Previous Control Number: 3/1/10
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00023	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	1957	J Hayden, Medicine, University of Melbourne, thank you for portrait, notice of formation of Council of laymen and scientists at St. Vincent's School of Medical Research, 7 October 1957. Previous Control Number: 3/1/11
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00024	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	Undated	Dr A M Jones regarding his (Jones) retirement. Previous Control Number: 3/1/12
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00025	Miscellaneous inward correspondence	Undated	Gertrude Johnson, National Theatre Movement, thank you for gift. Previous Control Number: 3/1/13
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00026	Inward correspondence from Professor William Alexander Osborne	1949-1962	Various topics including obituary for Dr S V Stawell; William Sutherland and Sutherland family; domestic matters; essays; gift for research at Royal Women's Hospital; veterinary medicine; medical profession; old age; left handedness; gall stones; electric microscopes; literary censorship; drug manufacturers; Lloyd George; Meanjin; Oscar Mendelsohn; Stawell Oration; gift of books. Previous Control Numbers: 3/2/1 - 3/2/87
1963.0004 Unit 2	1963.0004.00027	Outward correspondence to the Kilburn Family	1916-1928	Includes letters and postcards from United States; Europe; United Kingdom; Japan. Previous Control Numbers: 4/1/1 - 4/1/4; 4/2 - 4/4
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00028	Professional Papers	1898	Lecture notebook: Clinical Lectures on Medicine by John Williams M.D., 9 March and 11 September 1898. Previous Control Number: 5/1
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00029	Professional Papers	1917	Diseases: Symptoms and treatment, 5 June 1917. Previous Control Number: 5/2



1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00030	Professional Papers	1920-1922	Patient Cards, 1 bundle. Previous Control Number: 5/3
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00031	Professional Papers	1939	Royal Australian College of Physicians, invitation to first Annual Meeting, 24 March 1939. Previous Control Number: 5/4
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00032	Professional Papers	1942	Two Unusual Cases, reprint from Medical Journal of Australia, 18 July 1942. Previous Control Number: 5/5
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00033	Professional Papers	1947-1950	Subscription of account due cards, 1 bundle. Previous Control Number: 5/6
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00034	Professional Papers	1954	British Medical Association (Victoria) Annual Report, December 1954. Previous Control Number: 5/7
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00035	Professional Papers	Undated	The preparation of Vaccines by R V S Bain, Veterinary School, University of Sydney. Previous Control Number: 5/8
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00036	Professional Papers	Undated	Anatomical diagrams by A E R White. Previous Control Number: 5/9
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00037	Professional Papers	Undated	Distinguished research work, paper by A E R White on the work of Dr Green in Malaya. Previous Control Number: 5/10
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00038	Professional Papers	Undated	Fellowship of Medicine Emergency Post-graduate Scheme, weekly programme. Previous Control Number: 5/11
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00039	Professional Papers	Undated	Notes for demonstration of knee jerk by A E R White. Previous Control Number: 5/12
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00040	Professional Papers	Undated	Perimeter chart for Albert Rogers. Previous Control Number: 5/13
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00041	Professional Papers	Undated	Scheme for consideration of a commentary on Neurological Cases. Previous Control Number: 5/14
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00042	Professional Papers	Undated	Treatment Book containing clippings from professional journals and rough notes. Previous Control Number: 5/15
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00043	Photographs	1918	Alfred Edward Rowden White as a young man, undated; No. 2 Australian General Hospital Boulogne; Officers, No. 2 Australian General Hospital Boulogne; Group at Castellon near Mentone. Previous Control Numbers: 6/1 - 6/4
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00044	Miscellaneous material	1917	No. 2 Australian General Hospital, Boulogne, sports meeting programme, 15 September 1917. Previous Control Number 7/1



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1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00045	Miscellaneous material	1917-1918	No. 2 Australian General Hospital, Boulogne, Officers Mess Menu, 5 meals with signatures, 15 September 1917 to 25 December 1918. Previous Control Number 7/2
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00046	Miscellaneous material	1917	The Voice of the Battalion, paper of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F) Infantry, 15 November 1917. Previous Control Number 7/3
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00047	Miscellaneous material	1919	Triumphal March of the Dominion Troops through London Programme, 3 May 1919. Previous Control Number 7/4
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00048	Miscellaneous material	1919	Chu Chin Chow Programme, His Majesty's Theatre London, 26 May 1919. Previous Control Number 7/5
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00049	Miscellaneous material	1945	Union Club Melbourne, Honorary Membership Card for 1 month, 31 August 1945. Previous Control Number 7/6
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00050	Miscellaneous material	1954	Government of Victoria, Invitation to the dedication of the Shrine or Remembrance, 28 February 1954. Previous Control Number 7/7
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00051	Miscellaneous material	1954	Investiture by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Programme, 4 March 1954. Previous Control Number 7/8
1963.0004 Unit 3	1963.0004.00052	Miscellaneous material	Undated	Scope of Sir Richard Stawell Oration. Previous Control Number 7/9

End of list