



**MINNETT, Roy Baldwin (Roy) 1888-1955**  
**At Shore 1900-1906 (Reg. No. 507)**

1<sup>st</sup> XI 1903-1906

NSW 1906-1915, Australia 1911-1912

Aggressive batsman, fast-medium bowler

First-class career. 55 matches: 2203 runs (26.98); 86 wickets (25.02); 18 catches.

Test career. 9 matches: 391 runs (26.06); 11 wickets (26.36).

Roy Minnett was the youngest of three brothers who all played for NSW. At school his record was impressive: in 1905 he took 67 wickets for 637 runs (a school record); in 1906 he scored 3 centuries, and took 8/11 against Scots. Small wonder that he was selected for NSW virtually straight out of school. When he attained Test status, his debut against England promised much: he scored 90 in 111 minutes and shared a sixth-wicket partnership of 109 with Victor Trumper. The "Evening News" reported that "...his batting was easily the best of the Australians. His cover hitting is as fine as any seen at the Sydney Cricket Ground". In the games preceding the Sydney Test, he scored 364 runs in six innings, in two of which he was not out, with an average of 91. A few weeks later he made a brilliant 216 not out, in 197 minutes, against Victoria. His "hits" were: 34 singles, 16 twos, 8 threes, 27 fours and 3 sixes (one including four overthrows). 107 of his runs were scored at the northern end of the ground, and 109 at the southern end. It should be noted that the NSW team included Syd Gregory, Warren Bardsley, Charlie Macartney, Charlie Kellaway and "Tibby" Cotter - every one of them to be ranked among the greatest of those who have worn the "baggy blue" cap of New South Wales.

These performances made him an automatic selection for the 1912 tour to England for the Triangular Tournament with South Africa and England. Despite the wet conditions, which did not suit his method of play, he scored 734 runs on the tour and took 41 wickets, in an Australian side which lacked many of the top players. His best bowling performance was in his last first-class match, when he took 8/50 against Victoria in December 1914. The onset of war and the demands of his medical practice ended his career at the young age of 26.

Thus a player of great promise, whose best years were probably ahead of him, left the game long before his time. One may only speculate as to how Roy would have treated the very thin English bowling of the immediate post-war (WWI) period, when he would have been in his early 30s and in the prime of his cricket career. But it was not to be, and so Roy Minnett never attained the prominence of which he had shown himself capable.

