North Merchiston Cemetery,

Edinburgh, Scotland,

War Grave

Lest We Forget

World War 1

77   PRIVATE

D. MACKENZIE

2ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

22ND SEPTEMBER, 1915   Age 30

Gone But Not Forgotten

Donald (Daniel) MACKENZIE

Donald Mackenzie was born around 1886 in Edinburgh, Scotland to parents Donald & Mary Ann Mackenzie.

Donald Mackenzie had been an Apprentice with St. Cuthbert's Co-op Association, Edinburgh & had worked there for 14 years.

Donald Mackenzie enlisted under the name of Daniel McKenzie. He was a 28 year old, Single, Grocer from "Merchiston" Brightmore Street, Neutral Bay, Sydney, NSW when he enlisted at Randwick, Sydney, on 28th August, 1914 with the 2nd Infantry Battalion "A" Company of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 77 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Mackenzie of Brightmore Street, Neutral Bay, NSW. Daniel McKenzie stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served with 9th Battalion, Royal Scots for 4 years & had then resigned. The Attestation Papers were signed as "Daniel Mackenzie"

Private Daniel McKenzie embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Suffolk (A23)* on 18th October, 1914.

[Usually the Casualty & Active Service form contained in the Service Record file of a Soldier will have entries regarding a soldier's movements after leaving Australia for Active Service – for example the soldier's disembarkation date & place & also where they were sent after disembarkation. Pte D. McKenzie's Casualty & Active Service form only records his wounding as the first entry.]

An entry at the very top of the Casualty & Active Service form for Pte D. McKenzie, which has been crossed out reads: "Embarked to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) from Alexandria on "*Derfflinger*" on 5th April, 1915."

Pte D. McKenzie was wounded while on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 8th August, 1915. He was dangerously wounded with a bomb wound to the right thigh & was transferred to No. 2 Stationary Hospital at Mudros on 16th August, 1915.

No. 2 Stationary Hospital

The No.2 Australian Stationary Hospital was originally located at Mena Camp in Egypt, where it was concerned with the treatment of venereal diseases. It moved to East Mudros in June 1915. With the rush of sick & injured from the Peninsula, a late effort was made to develop Lemnos as an intermediate military medical base. Mudros was a small Greek port on the Mediterranean island of Lemnos, which was made available by the Greek Government for use by the Allies in fighting Turkey. As part of that reorganisation, No. 2 Australian Stationary Hospital was moved to West Mudros, landing on 4th August 1915 – a day before 3rd Australian General Hospital – on 'a bare and roadless hillside'. On the 16th, 12 nurses from 3rd A.G.H. replaced at the Stationary Hospital the personnel of the 30th British Field Ambulance who left for the Peninsula. Nurses from the Canadian Stationary Hospitals and 3rd A.G.H. were regularly detached to the hospital. The hospital originally had 624 beds, but by September/October 1915, No. 2 Australian Stationary Hospital occupied sixty large marquee-tents, and had 1,200 beds and 25 nursing sisters, making some 130 Australian nurses on the island.

Sister Nellie Constance Morrice and some unidentified orderlies in an operating tent at No 2 Australian Stationary Hospital on Lemnos. From the collection of Sister Nellie Constance Morrice. 1915.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL   C02093

Mudros harbour on the Aegean island of Lemnos, seen from above the 1st Battalion's camp. The tents visible on the other side of the harbour are those of the 2nd Australian Stationary Hospital. 1915.

Pte D. McKenzie was invalided to England on 27th August, 1915 on board the Hospital Ship "*Cawdor Castle.*"

A telegram was sent to Mrs McKenzie at Neutral Bay, NSW on 20th September, 1915 in reply to a request as to the present condition of Private D. McKenzie. The reply stated that Private D. McKenzie was still dangerously ill.

Private Daniel McKenzie died on 22nd September, 1915 at Military Hospital, Devonport, England from wounds received in action at Gallipoli.

A death for Donald McKenzie, aged 30, was registered in the September quarter, 1915 in the district of Devonport, Devon.

Private Donald Mackenzie was buried in North Merchiston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland in private ground – Plot number D. 856   and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Pte Daniel McKenzie had listed his next-of-kin as his mother – Mrs McKenzie of Neutral Bay, NSW. Through communications between Base Records & the resident at "Merchiston" Brightmore Street, Neutral Bay, NSW it was explained that Mrs A. R. Begg of "Merchiston" Brightmore Street, Neutral Bay was the sister of the late Pte McKenzie & that his parents were both alive & living at 10 Royal Park Terrace, Edinburgh, Scotland. Mrs Begg stated that her brother had been living with her at the Neutral Bay address prior to him enlisting in the Australian Imperial Force. Pte Daniel McKenzie's personal effects & two photographs of his grave had been sent to "Mrs McKenzie of Neutral Bay, NSW" but were opened & acknowledged by Mrs Annie R. Begg, the sister. Base Records amended their records in late October, 1915 to show the next-of-kin as his parents who were living in Edinburgh. Another package belonging to the late Pte D. McKenzie was despatched to his mother at her Edinburgh address in July, 1917.

Pte Daniel McKenzie was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte McKenzie's father as the closest next-of-kin. The Medals, Scroll & Plaque were despatched to London for issue to Pte McKenzie's father.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Donald Mackenzie – service number 77, aged 30, of 2nd Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Mr and Mrs Donald Mackenzie of 10 Royal Park Terrace, Edinburgh. Born at Edinburgh.
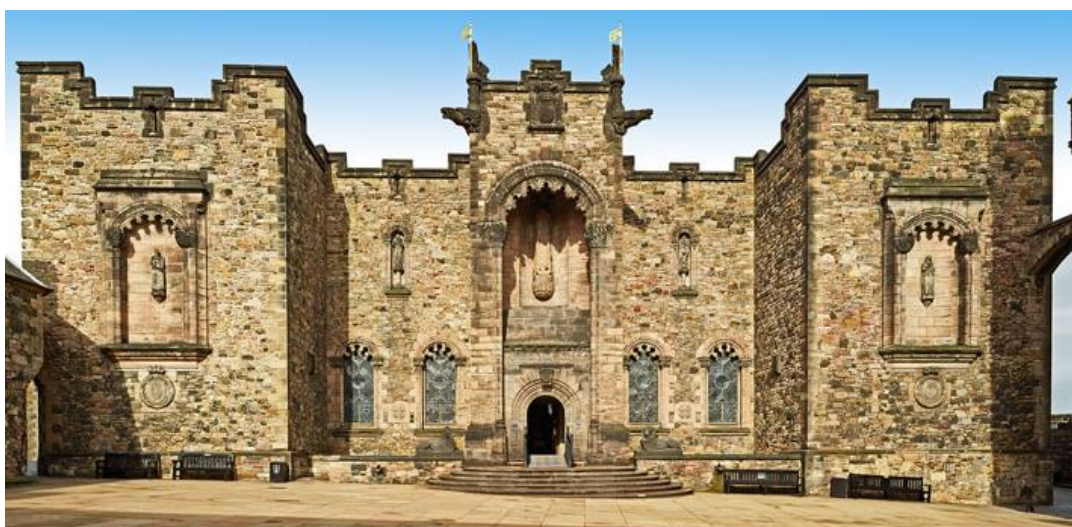
A War Pension was granted to Mary Ann Mackenzie, of 10 Royal Park Terrace, Edinburgh, Scotland, mother of the late Donald Mackenzie, in the sum of 20/- per fortnight from 25th October, 1917.

Private D. Mackenzie is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 33.

Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Daniel (Donald) Mackenzie is remembered in the Roll of Honour books held in the Hall of Honour inside The Scottish National War Memorial. The north side of the Hall of Honour is divided by columns into bays, each dedicated to a different regiment and enhanced with battle honours and consecrated colours. On the broad shelf in front of each of the bays, the names of the dead are listed in leather-bound books.
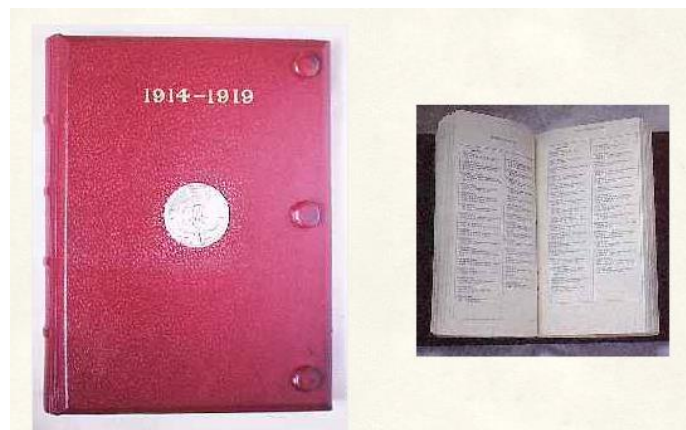

The Scottish National War Memorial

(Photos from The Scottish National War Memorial)

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The Hall of Honour & the Roll of Honour books.

(58 pages of Pte <u>Daniel Mckenzie</u>'s Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives

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Newspaper Notices

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES

93rd CASUALTY LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF WOUNDS

Pte D. McKENZIE, Neutral Bay

(*Bendigo Advertiser*, Victoria – 16 October, 1915)

<u>Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones</u>

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.
(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Pte D. Mackenzie does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Gone But Not Forgotten

North Merchiston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland

North Merchiston Cemetery, Edinburgh contains 116 First World War burials, some of which form a small plot in Section K marked by a screen wall. During the First World War, Edinburgh was the location of 2nd Scottish General Hospital (1,000 beds) which occupied Craigleith Poorhouse, the Edinburgh War Hospital (2,600 beds) was in the Asylum buildings at Bangour and the Leith War Hospital (585 beds) in the infirmary at Leith. The port of Leith was used by hospital ships from north Russia and about 4,500 officers and men passed through it. There are also 15 burials of the Second World War.

The Cemetery was compulsory acquired by the City of Edinburgh District Council in 1992 because of its neglected condition by the previous private owners.

North Merchiston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland *(Photo by Kim Traynor 2011)*

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Photo of Pte D. Mackenzie's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in North Merchiston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland.

(Photo by Murray – Scottish War Graves Project))