

**Cannock Chase War Cemetery,
Staffordshire War Graves,
England**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



80690 RIFLEMAN

J. MC KENZIE

N.Z. RIFLE BRIGADE.

2ND NOVEMBER, 1918 Age 39

John McKENZIE

John McKenzie was born on 8th February, 1880 in Gawler, South Australia to parents Andrew and Elizabeth Ann McKenzie (nee Freer). His birth was registered in Gilbert, South Australia. Both of John McKenzie's parents were born in Scotland.

Andrew McKenzie, father of John McKenzie, died on 5th June, 1903 at Park Hill, Heriot, New Zealand.

Elizabeth Ann McKenzie, mother of John McKenzie, died on 22nd March, 1909 at Park Hill, Heriot, New Zealand.

John McKenzie married Minnie May Deadman on 25th January, 1912 at Park Hill, Heriot, Otago, New Zealand.

John McKenzie was a 37 year old, married, Station Manager (last employer – McLennan & Scott, Timaru) from Hukariri, Heriot, Otago, New Zealand when he enlisted at Balclutha. Otago, New Zealand on 20th December, 1917 with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force (N.Z.E.F.). His service number was 80690 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs M. McKenzie, Park Hill, Heriot, Otago, New Zealand.

Private John McKenzie was posted to "C" Company, 41st Reinforcements & left home on 20th May, 1918. He entered Camp on 22nd May, 1918 for recruit training. Private McKenzie was transferred to "C" Company of 42nd Reinforcements on 13th July, 1918.

Rifleman John McKenzie commenced Active Service on 25th July, 1918. He embarked from Wellington, New Zealand on *Tofua* on 1st August, 1918 & disembarked at London, England on 4th October, 1918.

Rifleman John McKenzie was marched in to N.Z.R.B. (New Zealand Rifle Brigade) Reserve Depot at Brocton, England on 4th October, 1918.

Rifleman John McKenzie was admitted to Military Hospital, Cannock Chase, Staffordshire, England on 1st November, 1918 with pneumonia.

Rifleman John McKenzie died on 2nd November, 1918 at Military Hospital, Cannock Chase, Staffordshire, England from Pneumonia.

A death for John McKenzie, aged 38, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Lichfield, Staffordshire, England.

Rifleman John McKenzie was buried on 5th November, 1918 in Cannock Chase War Cemetery, Staffordshire, England – Plot number 1. A. 8. and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Rifleman John McKenzie was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Rifleman McKenzie's remarried widow – Mrs M. Faichney, 33 Cheltenham Rd, Burwood, Sydney, NSW, Australia, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent February, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Rifleman John McKenzie– service number 80690, aged 39, of 3rd New Zealand Rifle Brigade. He was the son of Andrew and Elizabeth Ann McKenzie; husband of M. Faichney (formerly McKenzie) of 33 Cheltenham Rd., Burwood, Sydney, Australia. (Minnie M. McKenzie married Daniel Faichney in the district of Ashfield, NSW in 1921)

Rifleman John McKenzie is remembered on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour.



Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial (*Capital Photographer*)

J. McKenzie is remembered on the Heriot War Memorial, Otago, New Zealand.



Heriot War Memorial (*Photos from NZ.history.govt.nz – Bruce Cavanagh*)

John McKenzie is remembered on the Online Cenotaph for New Zealand.



(14 pages of Rifleman John McKenzie's Service records are available for On Line viewing at Archives New Zealand website.)

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial & Archives New Zealand



John McKenzie

Newspaper Notices

ROLL OF HONOUR

OVER 100 DEATHS

OTAGO DISTRICT

DIED OF SICKNESS

RIFLE BRIGADE

McKenzie, J., Nov. 2 – Mrs M. McKenzie, Heriot (w.)

(New Zealand Herald, Volume LV, Issue 17006 – 13 November, 1918)

Cannock Chase War Cemetery, Staffordshire, England

During the First World War when there was a large military camp at Cannock Chase which became the base for the New Zealand Rifle Brigade. There was also a prisoner-of-war hospital with 1,000 beds, and both camp and hospital used the burial ground. Cannock Chase War Cemetery contains 97 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, most of them New Zealanders, and 286 German burials. There are also three burials of the Second World War. The 58 German burials in Plot 4 were all brought into the cemetery in 1963, as part of the German Government's policy to remove all graves situated in cemeteries or war graves plots not maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

(Information & photos from CWGC)







Photo of Rifleman J. McKenzie's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Cannock Chase War Cemetery, Staffordshire, England.



John McKenzie is remembered on the family headstone in Tapanui Cemetery, West Otago, New Zealand.

The Headstone includes Andrew McKenzie, father of John McKenzie, Elizabeth Anne McKenzie, mother of John McKenzie, William Alexander McKenzie, eldest son of Andrew & Elizabeth McKenzie.

The Back of the Headstone records "*Rfm John McKenzie d. on Service 2 Nov. 1918, aged 38 years*".

Kenneth McKenzie, brother of John McKenzie, is also listed on the back of the headstone.

