

**Netley Military Cemetery,
Hampshire, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2420A PRIVATE

G. McNAUGHTON

17TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

9TH OCTOBER, 1918 Age 30

George McNAUGHTON

George McNaughton was born at Auldgirth, Dumfriesshire, Scotland around 1888 to parents Henry and Agnes Jane McNaughton (nee Hunter).

The 1891 Scotland Census recorded George McNaughton as a 3 year old living with his family at High Street, Fife, Scotland. His parents were listed as Henry McNaughton (Carter, aged 38, born Auchtermuchty, Fife, Scotland) & Agnes McNaughton (aged 26, born Closeburn, Dumfries, Scotland). George was the eldest of two children listed on this Census – Lizzie McNaughton (aged 2, born Dunfermline, Fife, Scotland).

George McNaughton attended Bulhouse School, Perth, Scotland.

The 1901 Scotland Census recorded George McNaughton as a 13 year old Scholar, living with his family at 18 Carpenter Street, Perthshire, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. His parents were listed as Henry McNaughton (Carting Contractor, aged 48, born Auchtermuchty, Fife, Scotland) & Agnes J. McNaughton (aged 37, born Dumfriesshire, Scotland). George was the eldest of six children listed on this Census – Lizzie McNaughton (Scholar, aged 11, born Dunfermline, Fife, Scotland), Henry McNaughton (Scholar, aged 9, born Dumfriesshire, Scotland) Christina McNaughton (Scholar, aged 7, born Perth, Perthshire, Scotland), Stewart M. McNaughton (Scholar, aged 5, born Perth, Perthshire, Scotland) & Mary McNaughton (aged 1, born Perth, Perthshire, Scotland). Also listed in the household was Robert Manson (Servant, aged 29).

George McNaughton came to Australia when he was 25 years old according to information supplied by his father for the Roll of Honour. A "George McNaughton" was listed as a passenger on *Gothic* which departed from London, England & arrived in Sydney, New South Wales on 6th February, 1913.

George McNaughton was a 27 year old, single, Labourer from care of Miss E. McNaughton, care of Mr Stafford, Hoskin Street, Temora, NSW when he enlisted at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 15th July, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2420 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr Henry McNaughton, Kintillo, Bridge-of-Earn, Perthshire, Scotland.

Private George McNaughton was posted to 5th Reinforcements of 17th Battalion.

Private George McNaughton embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Themistocles (A32)* on 5th October, 1915 with the 17th Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements.

Private George McNaughton was taken on strength of "A" Company, 17th Battalion on 5th February, 1916 from Reinforcements.

Private George McNaughton embarked from Alexandria on 17th March, 1916 to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 23rd March, 1916.

Private George McNaughton was awarded 72 hours F. P. No. 1 (Field Punishment) on 8th May, 1916 for being insufficiently alert in obeying orders of N.C.O.

Private George McNaughton was wounded in action on 26th July, 1916. He was admitted to 1st Stationary Hospital at Rouen, France on 27th July, 1916 with gunshot wounds to right thigh.

Private George McNaughton was taken on strength of 2nd A.D.B.D (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 30th August, 1916. Pte McNaughton rejoined 17th Battalion in Belgium on 21st September, 1916.

Private George McNaughton was sent to Hospital in France on 3rd January, 1917. He was admitted to 36th Casualty Clearing Station on 3rd January, 1917 with Trench Feet then transferred & admitted to 12th General Hospital on 8th January, 1917. Pte McNaughton was transferred to England on 8th January, 1917 from Rouen, France on Hospital Ship *St. George*.

Private George McNaughton was admitted to Norfolk War Hospital, Norwich, England on 10th January, 1917 with Trench Feet. He was discharged to furlo from 27th January, 1917 & was to then report to Perham Downs on 12th February, 1917.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training & convalescing was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Private George McNaughton was marched out from No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 13th February, 1917 having been medically classified as B1 A & was marched in to No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham on 16th February, 1917.

Private George McNaughton was marched out from No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham on 13th March, 1917 to No. 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott, Wiltshire.

Private George McNaughton was transferred to 62nd Battalion on 27th April, 1917 & was taken on strength of 62nd Battalion at Windmill Hill the same day.

Owing to duplication of Regimental Numbers, Private George McNaughton had the letter "A" added to his Regimental number on 29th June, 1917.

Private George McNaughton was transferred back to 17th Battalion on 19th September, 1917 on marching out from 61st Draft Battalion at Fovant, Wiltshire.

Private George McNaughton proceeded overseas to France via Southampton from Fovant & 61st Draft Battalion on 9th October, 1917. He was marched in to 2nd Australian Divisional Base Depot at Havre, France on 10th October, 1917. Pte McNaughton was marched out to join his Unit on 13th October, 1917 & was taken on strength of 17th Battalion in France on 14th October, 1917.

Private George McNaughton was with 17th Battalion in France on 17th June, 1918.

Private George McNaughton was sent sick to Hospital in 29th June, 1918. He was admitted to 47th Casualty Clearing Station with Myalgia on 26th June, 1918 then transferred to Ambulance Train 15 on 1st July, 1918. Pte McNaughton was admitted to 3rd Australian General Hospital on 1st July, 1918 then transferred to 1st Australian Convalescent Depot at Abbeville on 11th July, 1918. Pte McNaughton was marched in to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Havre, France on 25th July, 1918 & marched out to join his Unit in 29th July, 1918. Pte McNaughton rejoined his Battalion in the field on 3rd August, 1918.

Private George McNaughton was wounded in action on 3rd October, 1918. He was admitted to 50th Casualty Clearing Station on 3rd October, 1918 with gunshot wounds to left foot & right arm. Pte McNaughton was transferred to Ambulance Train 22 & admitted to 12th General Hospital at Rouen on 4th October, 1918. He was transferred to England on Hospital Ship *Carisbrooke Castle* on 8th October, 1918.

17th Battalion

The 17th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade.....

After further training in Egypt, the 17th Battalion proceeded to France. Landing there on 22 March 1916, it took part in its first major battle at Pozieres between 25 July and 5 August. The Battalion returned to the Pozieres trenches for a second time, although in a reserve role, between 18 and 28 August. After a spell in a quieter sector of the front in Belgium, the 2nd Division, which included the 5th Brigade, came south again in October. The 17th Battalion was spared from having to mount an attack across the quagmire the Somme battlefield had become, but did have to continue manning the front through a very bleak winter....

After another winter of trench duty, 17th Battalion helped to thwart the German Spring Offensive of 1918. With this last desperate offensive defeated, the Allied armies turned to the offensive and the 17th participated in the battles that pushed the German Army ever closer to defeat: Amiens on 8 August, the legendary attack on Mont St Quentin on 31 August, and the forcing of the Beaurevoir Line around Montbrehain on 3 October. Montbrehain was the battalion's last battle. It was training out of the line when the armistice was declared in November 1918, and was disbanded in April 1919.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 17th Battalion

3rd October, 1918 – Joncourt & Wiancourt:

The battalion attacked at 6.5am. The C.O. was Lt. Col. R. M. SADLER M.C., O.C. "B" Coy Captain H. RONALD D.S.O., O.C. "C" Coy Capt. J. L. WRIGHT M.C., O.C. "D" Coy Capt. K. W. McKENZIE M.C. vide appendix 2.

During the night of the 3rd/4th October the battle front was taken over by units of the 6th Brigade A.I.F. who passed through our front posts & took up a position slightly forward thereby automatically relieving our men.

At midnight on the third orders were received by wire to withdraw and concentrate in H. 13a (WIANCOURT).

During the day the mustard gas which takes some time to have effect resulted in the evacuation of the following officers – The C.O. Lt Col R. M. SALDER M.C., Capt. K. W. McKENZIE M.C., Lieut W. R. HAIGH M.C. A/Adjutant, Lieut G. R. McPHEE __, Lieut C. BLACKFORD Sig O., Lieut E. W. DARK, L.G.O., Lieut R. E. MASTERTSON, Lieut H. E. HARRIES, Lieut H. R. BOOTH, Lieut R. W. PETTIT, Lieut W. MOORE, Lieut C. R. NICHOLSON also Captain H. T, ALLAN M.C. who was attached to the Brigade on the right as liason officer.

The following officers were wounded :- Capt H. RONALS D.S.O., Lieut T. L. ADAM, Lieut R. T. PHELPS, Lieut W. A. ROBERTSON.

The remaining Casualties were 102 O.R. evacuated gassed

18 O.R. K.I.A.

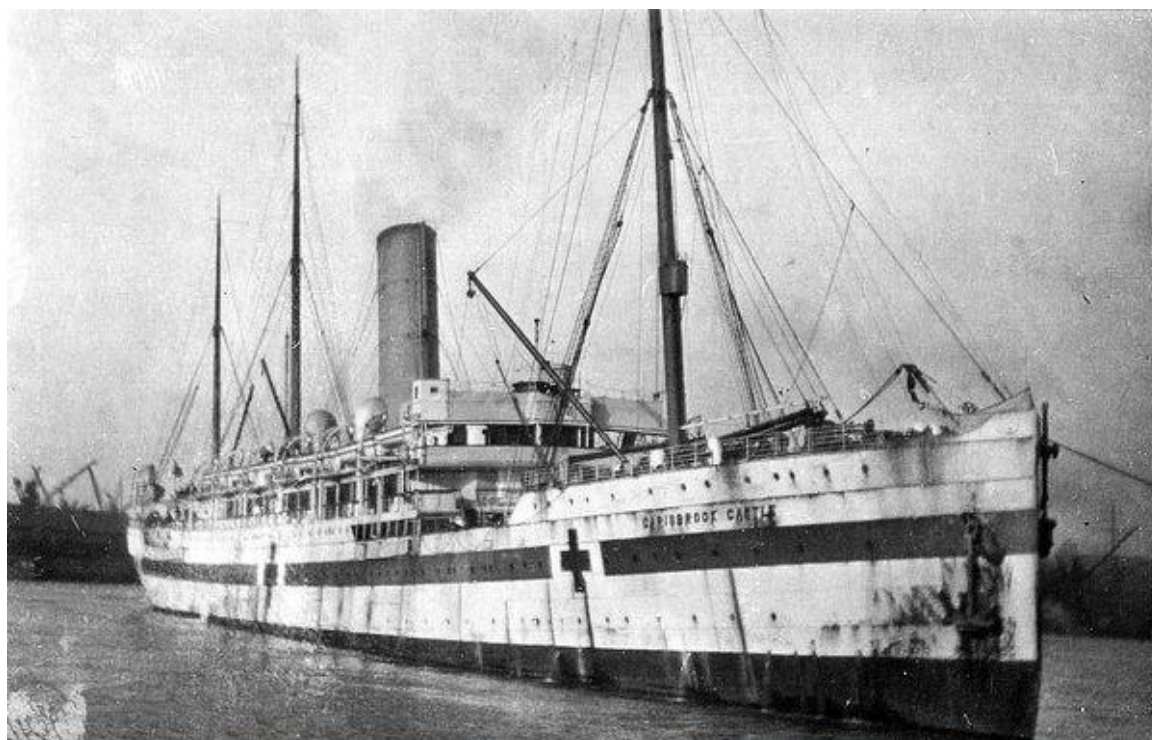
85 O.R. Wounded

On the evacuation of Lieut W. R. HAIGH M.C., Lieut A.F. GILBERT took over the duties of adjutant.

On the evacuation of the CO. the next senior officer available in the battalion Captain J. L. WRIGHT M.C. was sent for to take over the command.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private George McNaughton died on 9th October, 1918 at Sea on board Hospital Ship *Carisbrooke Castle* in Port at Southampton from Wounds received in action – gunshot wounds to Axilla & left foot & haemorrhage. His body was transferred to Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley, Hampshire, England.



Hospital Ship Carisbrooke Castle

A death for George McNaughton, aged 29, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Southampton, Hampshire, England.

Private George McNaughton was buried on 14th October, 1918 in Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England – Plot number N. 412 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private George McNaughton - *Coffin was Elm with brass fittings. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military funeral, Bearers and Bugler being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the "Union Jack," and conveyed to the graveside in a Gun-carriage. A party of R.A.M.C. men followed the remains to the graveside, and the burial service was conducted by the Rev: J. Forbes, of Southampton. The grave will be turfed, and an oak cross erected by the A.I.F. London. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Names of relatives and Friends present at the Funeral – Father Mr H. McNaughton, Kuchills, Bridge of Earn, Perthshire. Brothers.

Private George McNaughton was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte McNaughton's father – Mr H. McNaughton, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque issued in England in November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private George McNaughton – service number 2420A, aged 30, of 17th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Henry and Agnes Jane McNaughton, of Gloucester, New South Wales.

Private G. McNaughton is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 83.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

G. McNaughton is remembered on the Temora & District War Memorial, located in Callaghan Park, Loftus Street, Temora, NSW.



Temora & District War Memorial (Photos from Register of War Memorials in NSW)



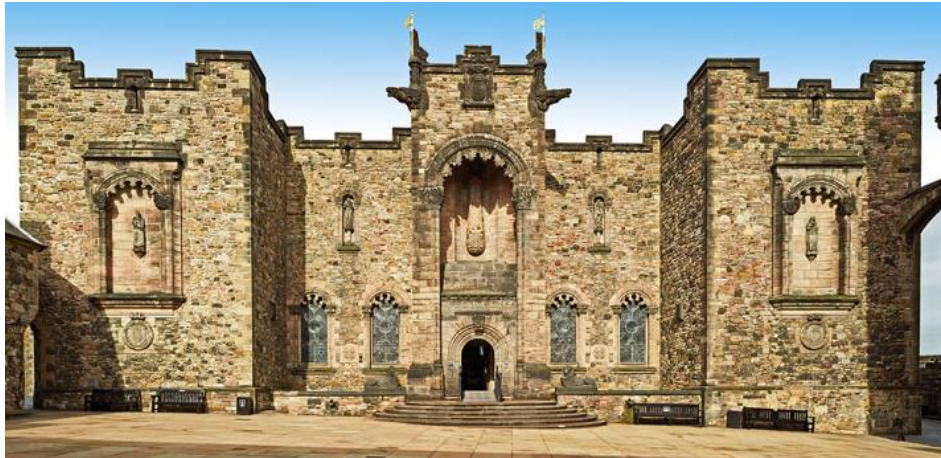
Private George McNaughton & his brother Pte Stewart McNaughton are both remembered on the Bridge of Earn War Memorial, located alongside the Bridge of Earn Public Hall and Institute in Station Road, Perthshire, Scotland.



Bridge of Earn War Memorial (Photos from War Memorials Online)



George McNaughton 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.



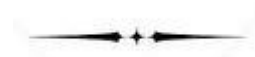
The Scottish National War Memorial & the Hall of Honour & the Roll of Honour books.

(Photos from The Scottish National War Memorial)



(46 pages of Private George McNaughton'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



Connected to Private George McNaughton

Younger brother – Gunner Stewart McNaughton – 92554, “F” Battalion, Tank Corps. Died 2nd August, 1917. Buried at Ypres Town Cemetery Extension, Belgium.



Newspaper Notices

DOUBLE CASUALTY LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF WOUNDS

Pte GEORGE McNAUGHTON, Scotland

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 26 November, 1918)

TEMORA

Pte G. McNaughton, who enlisted from Temora, in 1916, has died of wounds. Precious to enlisting the deceased soldier was a farm labourer in the employ of Mr D. Sinclair.

(Cootamundra Herald, NSW – 24 December, 1918)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

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)

Private G. McNaughton does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England

Netley Military Cemetery is a permanent military cemetery, the property of the Ministry of Defence. The cemetery was at the back of the Royal Victoria Military Hospital and was used during both wars for burials from the hospital. The cemetery contains 637 First World War burials but only 35 from the Second World War. In addition to the Commonwealth graves, there are a number of war graves of other nationalities including 69 German graves dating from the First World War.

(Information & photos from CWGC)



Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire

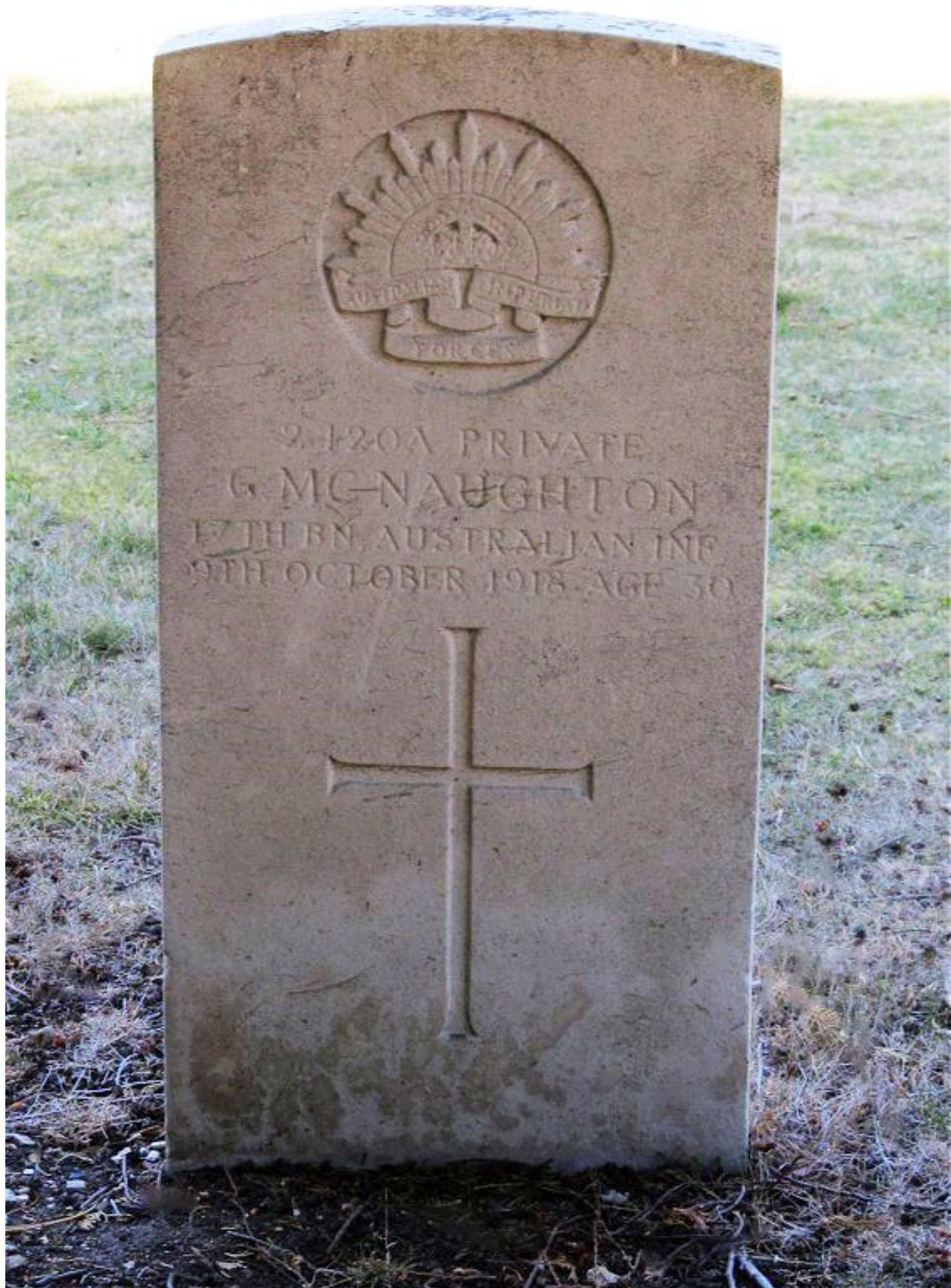




Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire (Photo above - Andrea Charlesworth; below - darealjolo)



Photo of Private G. McNaughton's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England.





Original Cross markers – Netley Military Cemetery