

**Morton Cemetery,  
Keighley, West Yorkshire  
War Grave**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2933 PRIVATE**

**E. A. M. MICHAEL**

**2ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**31ST JULY, 1916 Age 23**

## Ernest Augustus Mowbray MICHAEL

Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael was born at Navua, Fiji in 1893 to parents Henry Mowbray Michael & Ella Purdy Michael (nee Stuart).

Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael attended Public School in Manly, Sydney, NSW & King's College, Auckland, New Zealand. He served 2 years in Officer Training Corps at King's College, Auckland, New Zealand.

Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael was a 22 year old, single, Storekeeper when he enlisted at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 30th July, 1915 with the 2nd Infantry Battalion, 9th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2933 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr H. M. Michael, Sackville Street, Grey Lynn, Auckland, New Zealand.

Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Argyllshire (A8)* on 30th September, 1915.

Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael was admitted to 4th Auxiliary Hospital, Abbassia, Cairo, Egypt on 29th November, 1915. He was under treatment for Mumps on 12th December, 1915 in 4th Auxiliary Hospital, Abbassia & discharged to duty on 31st December, 1915.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

C03504

*Interior of a ward at No. 4 Auxiliary Hospital, Abbassia, Egypt – June, 1915*

Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael joined his Unit at Tel-el-Kebir on 6th January, 1916.

Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael embarked for Overseas from Alexandria on 22nd March, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 28th March, 1916.

Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael was wounded in action in France on 22nd July, 1916. He was taken to 1st Field Ambulance with shrapnel wounds to right thigh & left arm then transferred to No. 3 Casualty Clearing Station on 23rd July, 1916. Private Michael was transferred to Ambulance Train 27 on 24th July, 1916 & admitted to No. 26 General Hospital at Etaples, France on 25th July, 1916 with gunshot wounds to arm & thigh. He was transferred to No. 10 General Hospital at Rouen on 26th July, 1916 & invalided to England from Calais on Hospital Ship *Newhaven* on 27th July, 1916.

Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael was admitted to War Hospital, Keighley, West Yorkshire, England on 28th July, 1916 with gunshot wound to thigh.

Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael died at 4 am on 31st July, 1916 at War Hospital, Keighley, West Yorkshire, England from wounds received in action in France & acute septicaemia.

A death for Ernest A. Michael, aged 23, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Keighley, West Riding of Yorkshire.

Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael was buried on 2nd August, 1916 in Morton Cemetery, Keighley, West Yorkshire, England & is named on the Special Memorial in the Cemetery. He has no headstone but his death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Two photographs of the location of the grave of Private E. A. M. Michael were sent to his father – Mr H. M. Michael on 20th May, 1919.

Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Michael's father – Mr H. M. Michael, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent October, 1921 & Plaque sent February, 1923).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael – service number 2933, aged 23, of 2nd Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Henry Mowbray Michael and Ella Purdie Michael of Navua, Fiji.

Private E. A. M. Michael 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*



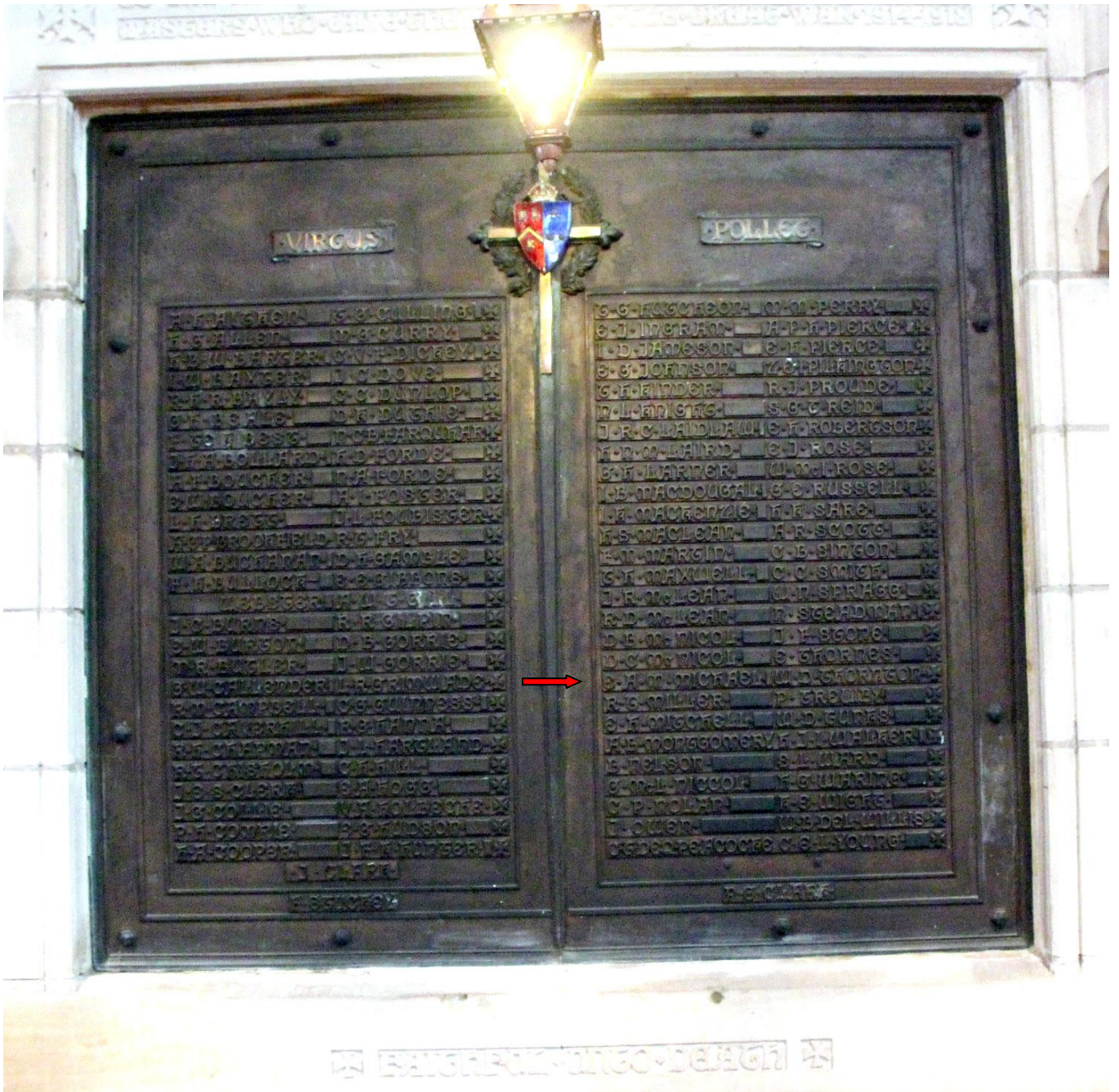
E. A. M. Michael is remembered on the World War 1 King's College Roll of Honour, located in King's College Memorial Chapel, Otahuhu, Auckland, New Zealand.



**King's College Roll of Honour** (Photos from *New Zealand History*)







King's College Roll of Honour (Photos from New Zealand History)

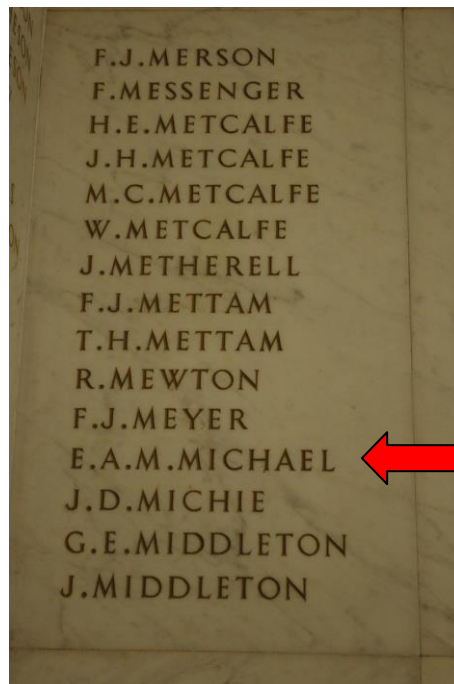




E. A. M. Michael is remembered in the World War 1 Hall of Memories Panels, Auckland War Memorial Museum, New Zealand.



**World War 1 Hall of Memories Panels, Auckland War Memorial Museum**



(51 pages of Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael'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*





**Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael**



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **CASUALTIES**

**193rd LIST ISSUED**  
NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED, CAUSE NOT STATED

Pte E. A. M. MICHAEL, New Zealand

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 15 August, 1916)*

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### **MEN WHO HAVE FALLEN**

#### **PRIVATE E. A. M. MICHAEL**

Advice has been received of the death from wounds of Private Ernest Augustus Mowbray Michael, son of Mr H. M. Michael, of Grey Lynn. Private Michael, who was serving with the Australian Forces, was formerly a partner in a trading firm in Fiji. He enlisted for active service in the early stages of the war. A brother of Private Michael is at the front.

*(New Zealand Herald, Volume LIII, Issue 16309 – 16 August, 1916)*

## **Morton Cemetery, Keighley, West Yorkshire**

Morton Cemetery, Keighley, West Yorkshire contains 22 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war commemorated here on panels adjoining a Special Memorial in the form of a life size Portland Stone statue of a First World War Soldier upon a decorated podium. There are an additional 6 Commonwealth burials of the 1939-1945 war, individually marked, throughout the cemetery. *(Information & photo from CWGC)*

Sixteen of the World War 1 servicemen are located in a plot overlooked by the War Memorial Statue but have no headstone. The plot is edged with Yorkshire Stone edging. The Memorial was originally erected by the local authority and later transferred to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, when it was refurbished and the panels renewed.

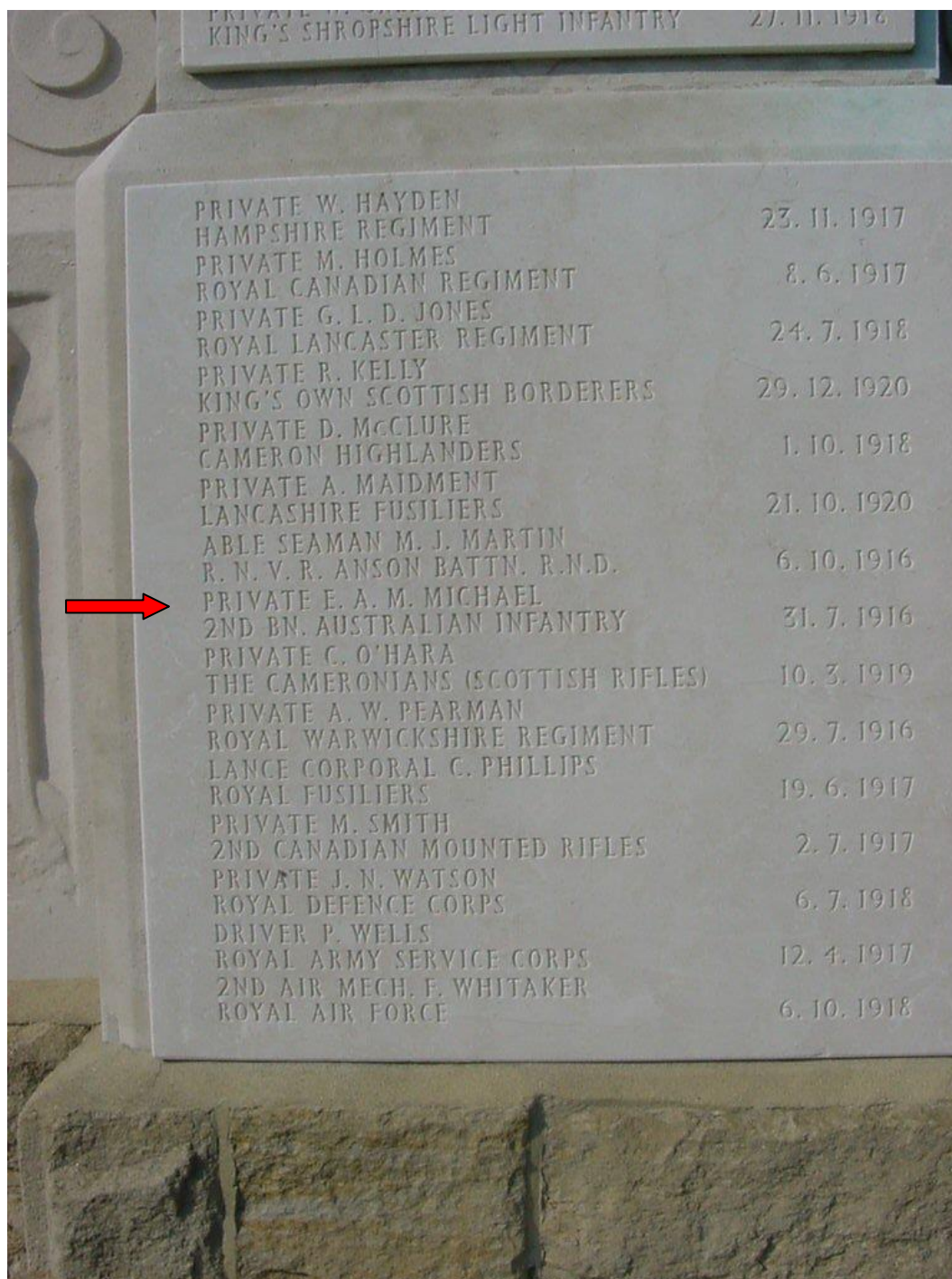
**1914 + 1918**

***THOSE HONOURED HERE DIED IN  
THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY  
AND LIE BURIED NEAR THIS SPOT***





Photo of Pte E. A. M. Michael's name on the Special Memorial in Morton Cemetery, Keighley, West Yorkshire. He is the only Soldier from the Australian Forces buried in this Cemetery.



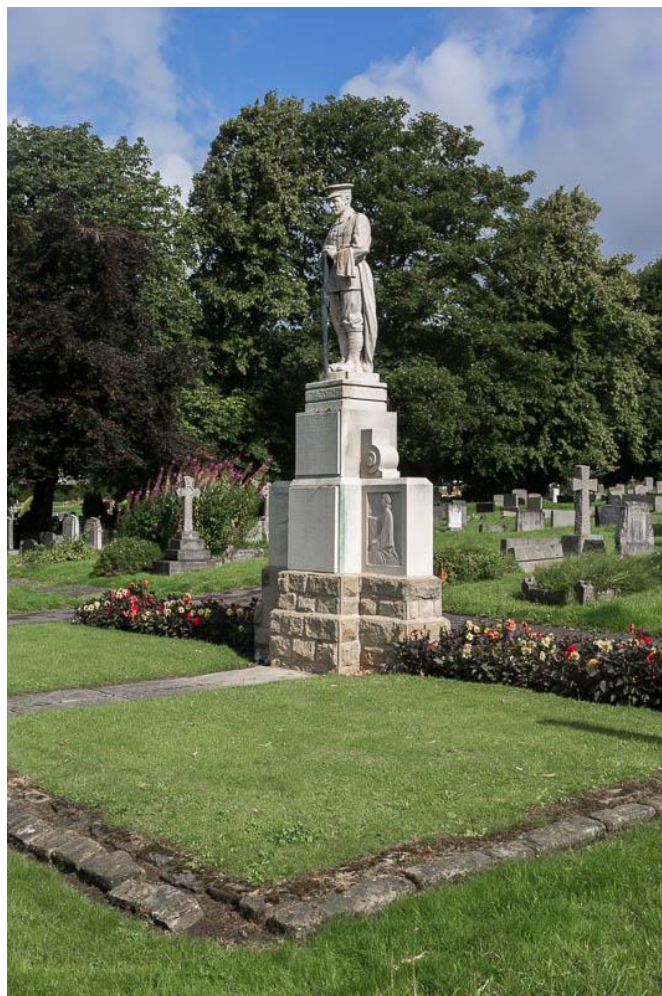
(Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)







**Burial Plot in front of Special Memorial in Morton Cemetery, Keighley, West Yorkshire**  
*(Photo from Roy's Blog)*



**Special Memorial in Morton Cemetery, Keighley, West Yorkshire**





**Special Memorial in Morton Cemetery, Keighley, West Yorkshire**