



L-Cpl. Norman Robertson Bennett



Played with Adelaide University



**Cricket Club: 1911/12 - 1913/14B; 1915/16 A & B 1918/19A -
1919/20A**

Other Sports: Lacrosse

Sports Awards: Blue - 1919 (Lacrosse)

Medical Student 1912 - 1914, 1916 - 1919

MB BS 1919

Background

Coinciding with the Centenary of Anzacs our incentive behind the series of biographical publications is the Adelaide University Football and Cricket Club's desire to honour our players who served in the Great War (1914 - 1918). These brave men put on hold their academic, professional and sporting careers for King and Country in the name of peace and freedom. The AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee is endeavouring to identify every one of our players who served and prepare life stories on all. This is to ensure their sacrifices and further contributions to society will be recognised by future generations.

On Anzac Day 2015, the Centenary of the Gallipoli landing, a memorial plaque was unveiled on the Adelaide University Oval Pavilion and this was followed by the erection of a picket fence between the pavilion and the scoreboard with each picket bearing a plaque with the name of an AUFC/AUCC player who served.

The following documentation relates to the life of Norman Robertson Bennett. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.




Norman Robertson BENNETT

Regimental number	133
Religion	Protestant
Occupation	Medical student
Address	Burlington Street, North Walkerville, Adelaide, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	20
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs A B Bennett, Burlington Street, North Walkerville, Adelaide, South Australia
Previous military service	19th Australian Army Medical Corps
Enlistment date	21 August 1914
Rank on enlistment	Lance Corporal
Unit name	<u>3rd Field Ambulance, B Squadron</u>
AWM Embarkation Roll number	26/46/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board Transport A7 <i>Medic</i> on 20 October 1914
Rank from Nominal Roll	Lance Corporal
Unit from Nominal Roll	3rd Field Ambulance
Recommendations (Medals and Awards)	Unspecified
Fate	Recommendation date: 6 August 1915 Returned to Australia 4 November 1915
Family/military connections	Brother: 62063 Pte Leslie Robertson BENNETT, 4th General Service Reinforcements, returned to Australia, 4 December 1918.
Other details	War service: Egypt, Gallipoli Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Verify that this is a true & correct copy of the original

Duplicate

AUSTRALIAN  MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 133 Name Norman Robertson Bennett
 Unit "B" Sect. 3rd B. Co. Ambulance
 Joined on 21 Aug. 1914

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? ... 1. Norman Robertson Bennett
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? ... 2. In the Parish of Walkerville in or near the Town of Adelaide in the County of Adelaide
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ... 3. Natural Born British Sub.
4. What is your age? ... 4. 20 years 6 months
5. What is your trade or calling? ... 5. Medical student
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? ... 6. No.
7. Are you married? ... 7. No.
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) ... 8. Mrs. A.P. Bennett (Mother)
Bushington St.,
4th Walkerville
South Australia
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? ... 9. No.
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incorrigible and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with Disgrace from the Navy? ... 10. No.
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy, or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge ... 11. S. Cadets. r/r. 19th Feb. 2/12
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? ... 12. Yes.
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? ... 13. No.
14. (For married men and widowers with children)—Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued to you either before or after embarkation during your term of service? ... 14. —

I, Norman Robertson Bennett do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife and children.*

Date 18th Aug. 1914 Sd Norman R. Bennett.
 Signature of person enlisted.

D. 577/8.14. — C. 10220. * This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.

Description of Bennett Norman Robertson Enlistment.

Age 20 years 6 months

DISTINCTIVE MARKS.

Height 6 feet 3 1/2 inches

Weight 164 lbs.

Chest Measurement 35 3/4 inches

Complexion Dark

Eyes Brown

Hair Dark Brown

Religious Denomination Protestant

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

I HAVE examined the above-named person, and find that he does not present any of the following conditions, viz. :-

Scrofula; phthisis; syphilis; impaired constitution; defective intelligence; defects of vision, voice, or hearing; hernia; hemorrhoids; varicose veins, beyond a limited extent; marked varicocele with unusually pendent testicle; inveterate cutaneous disease; chronic ulcers; traces of corporal punishment, or evidence of having been marked with the letters D. or B.C.; contracted or deformed chest; abnormal curvature of spine; or any other disease or physical defect calculated to unfit him for the duties of a soldier.

He can see the required distance with either eye; his heart and lungs are healthy; he has the free use of his joints and limbs; and he declares he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him fit for active service.

Date 18.8.14

Place Fort Lango

(SD) A. E. Shepherd Lieut. Col.
Signature of Examining Medical Officer.

CERTIFICATE OF COMMANDING OFFICER.

I CERTIFY that this Attestation of the above-named person is correct, and that the required forms have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to B. Sect Field Ambulance

Date 31. Oct. 1914

(SD) F. Goldsmith Capt

Place Northville

Commanding B. Sect. 3rd Field

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps *2nd Field Ambulance D Section*

Regimental No. *133* Rank *Lance Gtl.* Name *Bennett Norman R.*

Enlisted (a) *Aug 27/14* Terms of Service (a) *War and 4 months* Service reckons from (a) _____

Date of promotion to present rank _____ Date of appointment to lance rank *Sept 1st 1914* Numerical position on roll of N.C.Os. _____

Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) _____

Date	From whom received	Report	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
<i>4/9/15</i>	<i>3F Amb</i>	<i>Shrapnel wound head</i>	<i>Injured to join M.E.F.</i>	<i>Gallipoli</i>	<i>2/3/15</i>	<i>DO. 31/529.</i>
		<i>Admitted No 3F Hosp</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>3/9/15</i>	<i>C 3422 DO. 31/550.</i>
<i>red 12/10/15</i>	<i>1st A.G.H.</i>	<i>Admitted 19 Gen Hosp</i>		<i>ALEXANDRIA</i>	<i>2/2/15</i>	<i>C 514 + C 529 DO 1/4.</i>
<i>2/10/15</i>	<i>19th Hosp</i>	<i>Discharged to Aust Hosp</i>		<i>Cairo</i>	<i>1/10/15</i>	<i>C 2640</i>
<i>2/10/15</i>	<i>1st A.G.H. Hosp</i>	<i>Admitted No. 1 Gen. H.</i>		<i>Helio polis</i>	<i>1/10/15</i>	<i>C 3695. Shrapnel wound skull</i>
<i>red 17. 11. 15</i>	<i>Non Roll Karoola</i>	<i>Invalidated to Australia for 6 months leave.</i>		<i>Suez</i>	<i>4/11/15</i>	<i>Pa Karoola B647 DO 1/5</i>

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.

(b) e.g., Signaller, Shoeing Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

National Archives of Australia

NAA: B2455, BENNETT N R

No. 1. AUSTRALIAN HOSPITAL SHIP, A.I.F.

MILITARY DISTRICT.

A.G. 42 370 766

CASE NO. <i>690</i>	REG. NO. <i>133</i>	RANK <i>L/Cpl</i>	NAME <i>BENNETT, N.R.</i>	WARD <i>E4</i>
UNIT <i>3rd Field Amb.</i>	NEXT OF KIN <i>Mother. Burlington Street, Malkerville, S.A.</i>			
EMBARKED AT <i>Suez.</i>	DATE <i>3.11.15</i>	DISEMBARKED AT	DATE	M. O. I/C CASE
RECEIVED FROM <i>1st A.G.H. Helio polis.</i>	SENT TO		<i>Capt. Lewis</i>	
DIAGNOSIS <i>Comp. frac. right occipital bone</i>	RESULT			

TREATMENT

MEDICAL HISTORY

Was wounded 8 weeks ago by shrapnel. Took bullet out and subsequently removed pieces of dead bone from brain. Small hole originally enlarged by operation. First effect was immediate loss of sight, and vision remained dim for long distance for some time. Wound $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, size of 1/- leading down through upper part of right occipital bone. Has good vision except in lower part of both eyes. When climbing steep stairs has to look down to get step.

Transferred to

D

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No. 133

Rank _____ Name Bennett N.R.

Unit _____

LIST. Casualty _____



(a) — Bennett N.R. Depot Discharge
 (b) No 133 L/cpl Bennett N.R. 3rd Field Amb

DATE

PURPORT.

1914/1915 Star Issued B.R.M. 48/1229/ AME/26 818



BENNETT Norman Robertson

MB BS

1894 - 1957



Norman Robertson Bennett (known as NR) was born in Adelaide on 8th February 1894, the third son of Arthur Barkly Bennett, an ironmonger's assistant working in Port Adelaide, of Burlington St, Nth Walkerville. He won a Scholarship at Sturt St School and was an Honours student at Adelaide High School. He began his study of medicine at the University of Adelaide in 1912.

Bennett enlisted in the AIF, on the 21st August 1914 at Fort Largs. He was 20 years old and a 2nd year medical student with previous experience as a Senior Cadet for 2 years. He was single, 6ft tall, and weighed 164lbs. He was posted to B Sect 3 FdAmb from 28th August 1914 as a Lance Corporal. Bennett embarked from Adelaide on the 20th October 1914 and with the Unit moved to the Gallipoli Peninsular. At Anzac on the 3rd September 1915 he was wounded with shrapnel. His wound included a compound fracture of the R occipital bone. He was transferred to Mudros and the 19 General Hospital at Alexandria. Subsequently he was invalided to Australia in November 1915 A decision by the DGMS on the 15th December 1915 and noted by the Principle Medical Officer, 4th MD, Lieutenant Colonel Russell that Bennett "will not be accepted for Service with the AIF so long as remains as a Medical Student at any University of the Commonwealth of Australia". He was discharged at the 4 MD as a lance corporal on the 14th February 1916 as medically unfit. Bennett applied to re-join the AIF on the 19th June 1918 aged 24 years, and still a medical student; citing his previous 18 months with the 3rd FdAmb in Gallipoli. He passed his physical examination with normal vision despite some visual loss after the removal of the bullet from his skull in 1915. However, he was not called up for duty due to the "cessation of hostilities." He qualified in medicine at Adelaide University in December 1919 with MB BS. He was issued with the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Bennett married Gweneth Willimott on the 3rd December 1921 and had three sons. During the years 1924-1926 he had a small practice in Cleve later moving to a larger house and practice in Port Lincoln with Donald MacDonald Steele. Bennett took an active interest in the social and medical politics of the area notably the Hospital, the Bowling and Racing Clubs; he loved fishing and bird watching. The family lived there until 1936 when they returned to Adelaide for the education of the boys at St Peter's College and his new employment with the Repatriation Department. By 1937 he had established his own practice at 19 Fullarton Rd and was there for 20 years. His sons graduated MB BS at Adelaide University and worked with their father in Fullarton Rd next to the Arkaba Hotel. Norman Robertson Bennett died on 15th January 1957 and was survived by his wife until 1970 and his three sons.



"The bullet that was removed after he was shot at Gallipoli. I remember him asking me to put my finger in the hole in his head! Not something to ever forget. James Bennett Dilke SK Canada SOG 1CO"

Sources:

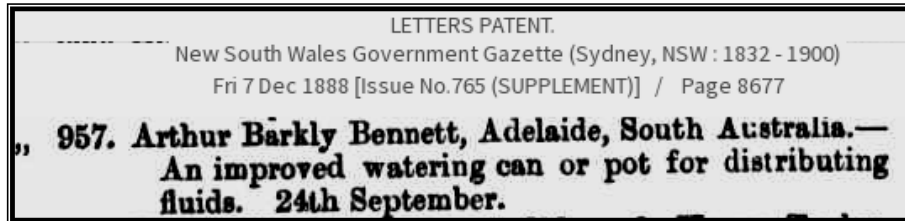
<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/scripts/Imagine.asp?B=3073071>;
Photo from Family taken 1924.
Family notes from Helen Bennett.

Additional Biography

Family and Early Years

Norman Robertson Bennett was born 8th February 1894 to Arthur Barkly Bennett (b 1857 - d 1927) and Mary Robertson (b 1863 - d 1924). The youngest of four children, Norman had two older brothers (Leslie Robertson Bennett and Jack Robertson Bennett) and a sister (Doris Barkly Bennett).

Norman's father was an ironmonger by trade, working for Crooks and Brooker, Adelaide and is recorded as having taken out several patents including one for an improved watering can.



Arthur and his family fell on hard times in the late 1800s, but things improved and he was later was the city manager for Crooks and Brooker around the turn of the century.

Growing up, the Bennett family had originally resided at White Street, Walkerville¹ until about 1905, and then later able to move to a nice property at 42 Burlington Street, Walkerville (shown below today but remains in fairly original condition) .



In the early 1900s, there was plenty of open space in the Walkerville area and the Bennett family had several horses when the children were young. When Norman was 6 years old, their pony went missing and a year later it was missing again along with another of the family's horses, which had also strayed. He would develop a life-long interest in horses and later own racehorses.

¹ White Street, which ran between Stephen Terrace and Smith Street (named after Charles White, the 1st Chairman of Walkerville Council) was later renamed as part of Church Terrace.

LOST, Black Pony Mare, from Walkerville; finder rewarded.—A. B. Bennett, Walkerville, or Crooks & Brooker, Adelaide. z5-7

Lost and Found.

Under this heading (if prepaid) 14 words, Sixpence

LOST, one Chesnut Mare, star on forehead, lame on near hind leg; also, Black Pony Mare, or nearly black, newly shod.—A. B. Bennett, Walkerville; or Crooks & Brooker, City. 3-5

By 1905 Norman's father was now in his own business and was the distributor an early type of cooler.



GOOD-BYE to Icechests—No more Ice required
The patented (No 250A) Iceberg Butter Cooler requires no Ice. We ask you to put them to the test. It will stand 12 hours in the hottest sun and the butter will still remain sweet and firm.

Patented throughout the Commonwealth.
Obtainable from leading Ironmongers and Grocers.

A. B. BENNETT, Distributing Agent,

Alfred Chambers, Currie Street.

The Iceberg Butter Cooler was still being sold up until the early 1940's after which there were various alternative types of refrigeration available.

Education

Norman initially attended Walkerville Public State School, where he obtained his Primary Certificate.

The Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922)
Tue 8 Oct 1907

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE
Public Examinations Board.
Primary Examination Results

Number of candidates entered, 1,211; number of certificates gained, 562. The following is a list of the candidates to whom certificates will be issued. They have passed in:—1, English grammar, composition, and dictation; 2, Arithmetic; and in two at French; 8, German; 9, Algebra; 10, Geography of the British Isles and Australia; 4, English history; 5, Greek; 6, Latin; 7, French; 8, German; 9, algebra; 10, geometry; 11, Drawing.

4, 9, 10, Crystal Brook Public School; Leslie Benjamin, 3, 4, 7, Perth Convent; Norman Robertson Bennett, 3, 6, 9, 10, Walkerville Public State; Gilbert Cacy Beresford, 3, 4, 9, 10, Kalgoorlie Central State School;

He then attended Sturt Street Public State School during 1907 and in December 1907 was awarded an Education Exhibition to attend the Grote Street Pupil Teachers School in 1908 to study for his Junior Public Examinations. The Pupil Teacher's School had been used for the purposes of training junior teachers while they were also studying for their junior, senior and higher public exams.

Evening Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1869 - 1912)
Tue 24 Dec 1907 / Page 1

EXHIBITIONS AND BURSARIES.

The following are the awards of the Education Department for the exhibitions and bursaries for 1908 names in order of merit).

EXHIBITIONS
—Open to All Schools.—

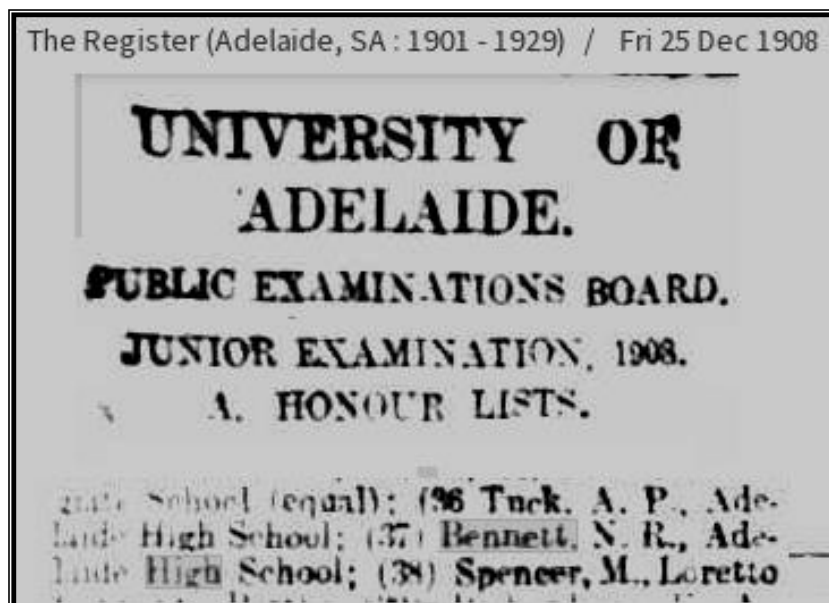
Bradley Robert James Hiler, Norwood, Pupil Teachers' School; Eric John Pryor, Pupil Teachers' School; Cecil Edgar Tilley, Sturt street, Pupil Teachers School; Norman Robertson Bennett Sturt street, Pupil Teachers' School; Alan Bruce Grant, Norwood, Pupil Teachers' School; Hall Blakenev Young, Norwood, Pupil Teachers' School; Harold Charles John Handfield, Port Adelaide, Pupil Teachers' School;

Pupil Teachers School Grote Street Adelaide



Originally constructed and completed in 1874 as the Grote Street Model School, it later incorporated teacher training and became known as the Pupil Teachers School. In 1908, the Government made it South Australia's first public secondary school and was renamed Adelaide High School. Norman was therefore going to be one of its first students.

Norman completed his Junior Public Year in 1908 at Adelaide High School and was mentioned in the Honour List for that year.



He then followed on with his Senior Public Year in 1909, passing in five subjects. The following year he passed four subjects in the Higher Public Examinations in December 1910.

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS BOARD.

B. PASS-LIST.

I. List of candidates who have passed in five or more subjects, and who, therefore, receive the Senior certificate. 1, English literature; 2a, modern history; 2b, ancient history; 3, Greek; 4, Latin; 5, French; 6, German; 7, arithmetic and algebra; 8, geometry; 9, trigonometry; 10, physics; 11, inorganic chemistry; 12, physiology; 13, botany; 14, physical geography and geology; 15a, drawing; 15b, music. An x denotes credit.

Bean, Edgar Layton, 1 2a 3x 4x 5 7 8 9, Scotch College, Claremont; Benjamin, Louis Reginald, 1 7 8 9 11, Scotch College, Claremont, and Perth Technical School; Bennett, Norman Robertson, 4 6 7 8 9 Adelaide High School; Berriman, Ralph Vaughan, 7 8 9 10 15a, S.A. School of Mines;

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

HIGHER PUBLIC EXAMINATION.

PASS LIST.

The following is a list of candidates who have passed in five or more subjects at the Higher Public Examination. The honors list was published on Saturday:—

Subjects—1, English literature; 2a, modern history; 2b, ancient history; 3, Greek; 4, Latin; 5, French; 6, German; 7, pure mathematics; 8, applied mathematics; 9, physics, 10, inorganic chemistry, 11a, biology; 11b, physiology; 1d, botany; 12, physical geography and geology. A "c" denotes credit.

Barlow, Douglas Lewis, Prince Alfred College, 4, 7c, 9c, 10c, 11ac; Bean, Edgar Layton Scotch College, Claremont, 2ac, 3c, 4c, 5c, 7; Bennett, Norman Robertson, Adelaide High School, 6, 7, 8, 9; Bevilacqua, Gwendoline Ivy, Adelaide High School, 2ac, 4; Boor, Alaric Pinder, Christian

During his three years at Adelaide High School, Norman played sport and was a member of the School Cadets. In September of 1910, Norman was a member of the school 1st XVIII football team that made a trip to Victoria to play against the Melbourne Continuation School (Melbourne High School). On the way back to Adelaide the team played a match against the boys of the Ballarat Agricultural High School. The sporting matches between Melbourne and Adelaide High School became an annual event, continuing to this day.

TRIP TO VICTORIA.

Some 30 scholars of the Adelaide High School left by the Melbourne express on Friday afternoon for a week's visit to Victoria. They were accompanied by six masters—Messrs. W. J. Adey (headmaster), R. A. West, M.A. (second master), A. W. Pitt, B.A., L. Darwin, B.A., A. O. Rischbieth, B.A., and J. L. Rowdter. On arrival at Melbourne this morning the boys will be met by the scholars of the Melbourne Continuation School and taken out to the various private houses where they are to be billeted for the week. This afternoon will be spent in watching the football match between South Melbourne and Collingwood. A rifle match with a team from the Melbourne Continuation School will be fired on Monday, and a drag excursion had been arranged for the following day. On Tuesday also the visiting masters will engage the masters of the Melbourne school on the tennis courts. A football match against the Melbourne Continuation School team has been arranged for Wednesday afternoon, and in the evening the Adelaide boys will be entertained at a dinner. The party will start on the return journey on Thursday, but a halt will be made at Ballarat, where a football match against a team representing the new Agricultural College at Ballarat will be played on Friday. The journey will be resumed the same day, and the boys will arrive in Adelaide on Saturday morning. The following team left:—Rice (captain), Carthew (vice-captain), Pearce, Tiver, Nicholls, Padman, O'Neill, Beatty, Broadbent, Oliver, Mattner, Bennett, Thomas, Orr, Mugford, Buzacott, Lowe. Emergencies—Maclaren, Gordon, and Cairns.

Completion of these Senior and Higher Public Examinations qualified Norman for entry to Adelaide University (matriculation) and he was also successful in gaining a Government Bursary tenable at the University.

The Register (Adelaide, SA: 1901 - 1929) / Sat 27 May 1911 / Page 19

Government Bursaries Tenable at the University—On the recommendation of the Council of the University of Adelaide bursaries for the year 1911 have been awarded as under—Restricted to Public High Schools—Bennett, Norman Robertson, Furnell, Arthur Harold, Madigan, Paul Edward, Tilley, Cecil Edgar, all Adelaide High School. Open to Public Competition—Jose, Ivan Bode, St. Peter's College; Love, John Alexander, Prince Alfred College; Moulden, Arnold Meredith, St. Peter's College; Ross, Dudley Bruce, St. Peter's College; Tassie, Jean Reid, Methodist Ladies' College; Williams, Francis Edgar, Kyre College.

In his final year at Adelaide High School, Norman played 1st XI Cricket. At the annual speech day in December, he was recognised as their best batsmen in the latter part of the 1910 season.

Observer (Adelaide, SA: 1905 - 1931)
Sat 24 Dec 1910 / Page 53

ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL.

The annual speech day of the Adelaide High School was held on Friday evening at the Exhibition Building. The chair was taken by His Excellency the Governor (Sir Day Bosanquet), and there was also on the platform the Chief Secretary (Hon. F. S. Wallis), the Director of Education (Mr. A. Williams), the Deputy Director (Mr. M. M. Maughan), the Acting Commandant (Col. H. Le Messurier), and the former head master of the school (Mr. W. A. West).

—Head Masters' Report.—

The head master (Mr. W. J. Adey) presented the following report:—

The first eleven had succeeded in every match, and the other teams had been enthusiastic, and had met with fair success. In the early part of the year John Nicholls had attained the highest batting average of 33, and Lance Mitchell had the credit of 19 wickets for an average of 4.5 runs. In the latter part Mitchell had been the best bowler, and Norman Bennett the best batsman.

In 1911, determined to qualify for entry into the medical faculty, Norman had to initially enroll in the Science Faculty to complete prerequisite first year science subjects. It must have been a struggle adapting to university study as he was only able to pass the compulsory Chemistry subject(3rd Class pass) that year.

During his first year at Adelaide University, Norman did not forget his old school and retained a connection by joining the committee of the old scholars association.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA: 1889 - 1931) / Fri 4 Aug 1911 / Page 9

ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION.

The inaugural meeting of the old boys' branch of the above association was held on Thursday night at the High School. The president (Mr. W. J. Adey) presided over a large number of old scholars, who have been connected with the school from 1900 onwards. Officers elected:—President, Mr. R. A. West; vice-presidents, Messrs. N. J. McCarthy and G. C. Lagertwood; branch secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. J. Wilkinson; assistant secretary, Mr. N. R. Bennett; committee, Messrs. Frayne, Statton, and McDonald. It was resolved that letters of condolence be sent to Miss Maughan on her recent sad bereavement, and to Mr. F. W. Thomas on his illness. The question of old scholars' badges was left to Mr. Adey to decide on.

Norman played for the old scholars against the present scholars match held in August 1911. He would retain a strong bond with Adelaide High School for many years.

Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924),
Monday 21 August 1911, page 8

ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL.

The past and present scholars of the Adelaide High School played their third annual match on the Jubilee Oval on Saturday. The present scholars boast that they have the best team which the school has ever yet put in the field was somewhat justified by the trouncing they administered to those who had formerly upheld the honor of the school on the football field. But against this may be urged the fact that the pasts had the worst team and the least system conceivable, so that the defeat cannot be considered in the light of crushing. Scrimmaging and a tendency to follow the ball from whatever position they were in did more than anything else to diminish the past's chances. The players consisted mostly of those who had only in recent years attended the old school. Again, the players consisted mostly of ex-pupil teachers, and the representation of the exhibitors was confined mostly to second raters. There is no wish, however, to detract from the presents' win, which was gained by solid combination. The men who contributed mostly to the 14 to 2 win gained for the "presents" were Mugford, Carthew, and Roy Thomas. The pasts were most ably represented by Bennett, Barbour, and Nietz. Scores:—

First Quarter.
Presents—2 goals 1 behind.
Pasts—2 behinds.

Second Quarter.
Presents—7 goals 5 behinds.
Pasts—5 behinds.

Third Quarter.
Presents—11 goals 9 behinds.
Pasts—1 goal 2 behinds.

Final.
Presents—14 goals 17 behinds.
Pasts—2 goals 7 behinds.

Goalkickers—Present—L. Carthew (captain), Holten, Parham, and Mugford (2); Tiver (2), Broadbent (3), Williams (4); Pasts—Bennett and Johnson.

In 1912, Norman passed Physical Chemistry (in a supplementary examination) and finally in 1913 in the supplementary examinations of March 1914, he passed Physiology. In those two years he had managed to complete the requirements to enter the Medical Faculty, however with the "War Clouds" emerging in the northern Hemisphere, like other young men were deferring their studies, so too would Norman defer his 2nd year medical studies in August 1914. He was to be one of Adelaide's very early volunteers, demonstrated by his Regimental Serial Number "133" on his Attestation Form.

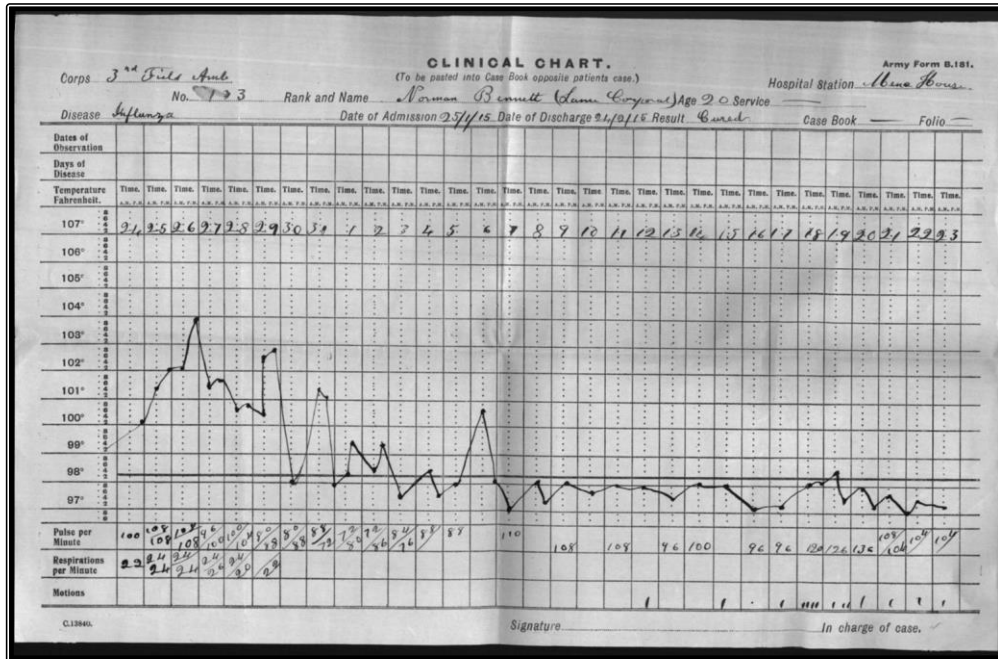
World War 1

Norman enlisted the AIF on 21st August 1914 at Fort Largs. He was 20 years of age, just over 6 ft tall and weighed 164 lbs. He had 2 years military training in the Senior Cadets while at Adelaide High School.

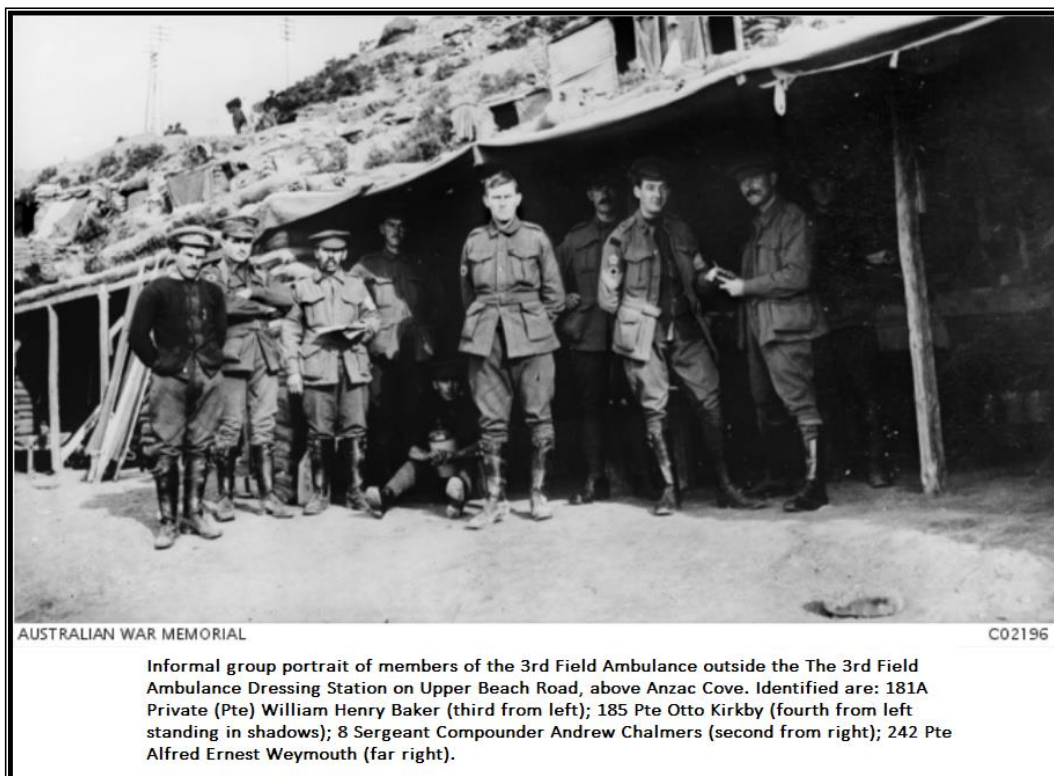
As a 2nd year medical student, he was posted to the 3rd Field Ambulance with a rank of Lance Corporal, where it was expected he would gain valuable experience (if he survived).

Norman embarked for overseas service from Adelaide in October 1914, but his unit spent time in Egypt undergoing further training prior to deployment to the Mediterranean.

While in Egypt, in January 1915, Norman was struck down with influenza and admitted to No. 2 General Hospital (Mena House) near Cairo. He recovered after a month's admission and return to his unit in late February.



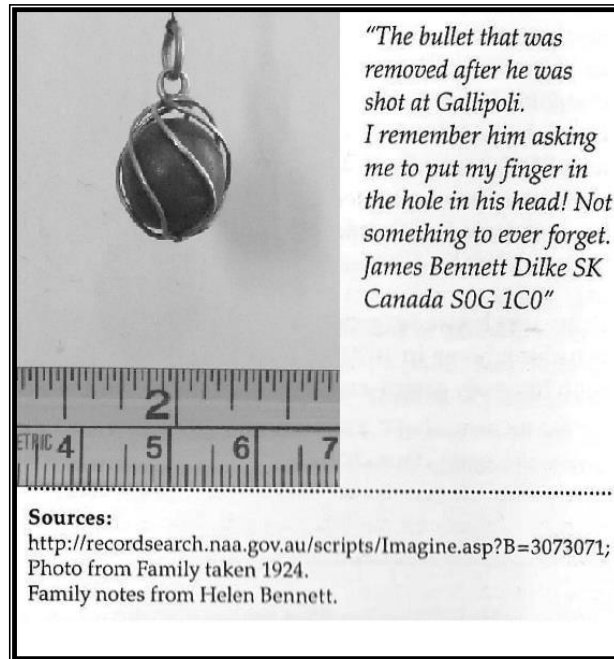
On the 2nd of March 1915 the 3rd Field Ambulance² joined up with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Forces in preparation for the Gallipoli landing.



Taken in 1915, although not confirmed, the photo above of members of the 3rd Field Ambulance, in the member in centre of the picture bears a strong resemblance to Lance Corporal Norman Robertson Bennett .


² The 3rd Field Ambulance was deployed in Gallipoli, Turkey, on 25 April 1915. It is primarily known for being the company [John Simpson Kirkpatrick](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Simpson_Kirkpatrick) was registered in. The Field Ambulance consisted of medical personnel who would treat injured soldiers on the battlefield. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3rd_Field_Ambulance_\(Australia\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3rd_Field_Ambulance_(Australia))

On 3rd of September, after a short time³ on Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, Norman received shrapnel wound to the back of the head which resulted in a serious compound fracture of the right occipital bone.



Ironically, Norman's older brother Jack, had enlisted on 30th August 1915, only a few days before his younger brother had been wounded.

BENNETT, Jack Robertson




Service No 11131
Private
Australian Army Service Corps.

REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

Born 16 July 1892 at Walkerville, SA
Son of Arthur Berkly BENNETT & Mary nee ROBERTSON
Of Burlington Street, North Walkerville, SA
Occupation prior to enlistment Clerk
Enlisted on 30 August 1915 at Adelaide, SA
Served in France
Returned to Australia 16 August 1919 per 'Wiltshire'

www.awm.gov.au
P07159.130



J.R. Bennett.

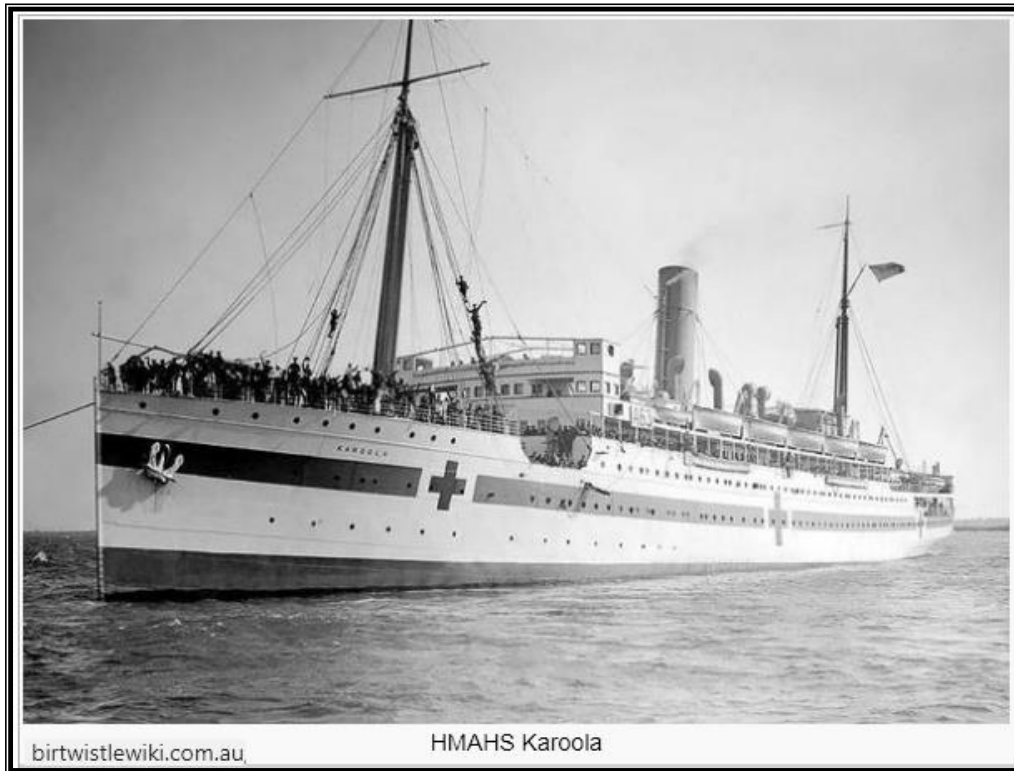
www.awm.gov.au P07159.130

After evacuation from Gallipoli he boarded a hospital ship bound for the port of Mudros on the Greek island of Lemnos, he was then transferred for hospitalisation in Egypt at the 19th General Hospital, Alexandria. Later he was moved to the 1st General Hospital at Heliopolis near Cairo.

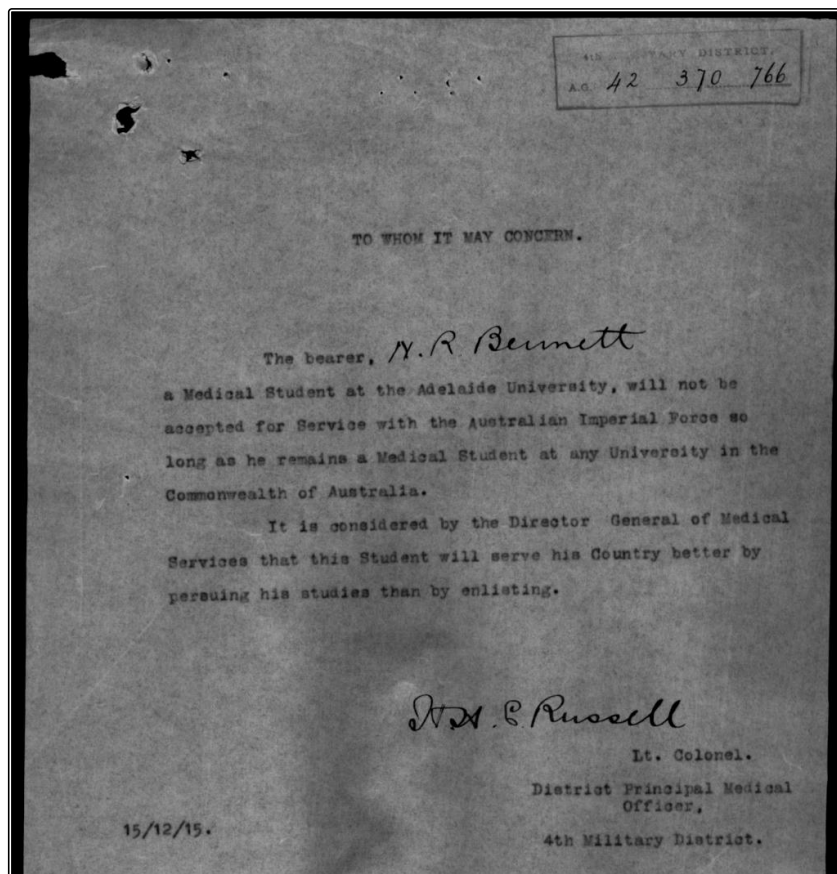
Two months after being wounded he had recovered enough to be Invalided back to Australia via the Suez Canal aboard the *HMAHS Karoola* on 4th November 1915.

³ There is conflicting evidence on whether Norman was with the 3rd Field Ambulance for the initial landing at Anzac Cove or he came with a 2nd wave landing. A family story relates that he had only been at Gallipoli a few days before being wounded.

Arriving back in Adelaide on 2nd December 1915, he was admitted to the 7th Australian General Hospital, Keswick, South Australia and then given 2 months leave, before having to see a specialist. At his appointment on 2nd February 1916, the specialist assessed him as "fit for duty", but Norman was immediately discharged from the AIF to complete his medical studies.



Now recovered, Norman may have been keen to re-enlist but could not, because the government policy on enlistment of medical students had changed. This was on account of the need for more qualified doctors at the front lines in Europe. All medical students were now required to complete their studies before they could enlist.



The medical course had been condensed at the time so that studies and examinations could be completed more expeditiously. Students needed to study and gain clinical experience during the summer vacation.

Norman recommenced medicine again in 1916 and completed his 2nd Year (passing 2nd Class). The following year he passed 3rd Year (3rd Class) and in 1918 he passed 4th Year (3rd Class).

Half way through his 4th Year, in June 1918, he did reenlist and passed the physical examination. He was assigned to the Mitcham Camp, however was not called up for overseas service because of the "cessation of hostilities" and was discharged on 18th November 1918.

After the end of the War, for his service Norman was awarded the 1914/15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal.

His 5th and final year was then completed during 1919 and in December 1919 his MBBS Degree was conferred. He had not been a brilliant medical student, but had showed a determination to gain his medical degree.

Adelaide University Sport

Norman had played cricket at Adelaide High School and at University he played in the B grade side in his first two years. Norman had also managed a game or two of cricket at the tail end of the unofficial SACA Competition in 1915/16 season after being repatriated home. After graduating in 1919, he was able to play in 1918/19 and the first half of the 1919/20 seasons with the AUCC after the SACA competition resumed after the War. As the wicket keeper he was now playing primarily A Grade.

Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924) Mon 31 Mar 1919

WEST TORRENS DEFEAT UNIVERSITY.	
—West Torrens—	
R. Nottrage, c. White, b. Taylor	22
A. Smith, b. Taylor	22
F. Shaw, not out, Bennett, b. Jose	36
C. Hasley, b. Pellew	22
H. Bridgman, b. Willmore	17
C. S-m, not out, Bennett, b. Jose	60
K. Kentish, c. Baker, b. B. Jose	25
E. Edwards, b. Pellew	7
P. Coombe, not out, Bennett, b. Jose	20
L. Berry, not out	2
G. Marsh, c. Willmore, b. Jose	0
Sundries	20
Total	243
Bowling—Taylor, 2 for 45; Willmore, 1 for 35; T. B. Jose, 4 for 18; B. Jose, 1 for 37; Pellew, 2 for 25; Fisher, 0 for 41; White, 0 for 47.	
—University—	
I. V. Pellew, b. Marsh	23
G. E. Jose, b. Marsh	14
D. M. Steele, l.b.w., b. Marsh	0
H. B. Willmore, not out	91
A. H. White, c. Wasley, b. Coombe	3
B. T. Taylor, b. Coombe	0
W. B. Shanary, c. and b. Bridgman	46
T. B. Jose, l.b.w., b. Coombe	4
A. B. Barker, b. Coombe	0
N. Bennett, b. Bridgman	1
H. M. Fisher, c. Shaw, b. Coombe	0
Sundries	5
Total	187
Bowling—Bridgman, 2 for 6; Coombe, 5 for 58; Marsh, 3 for 46; S-m, 0 for 30; Wasley, 0 for 18; Smith, 0 for 26.	

Lacrosse

Although Norman had played football for Adelaide High School, at University he chose to play lacrosse as a winter sport. He was a member of the B Grade premiership team in 1912. Many of his team mates would serve in WW1. Amongst them was Arthur Blackburn, who would win a Victoria Cross and Military Cross recipient Alan Morey, who was killed in action.

AU Lacrosse Club - Premiers 1912 B Grade



After the end of WW1, he resumed playing lacrosse and was a member of the Adelaide University team which played Melbourne when the Intersarsity competition resumed.

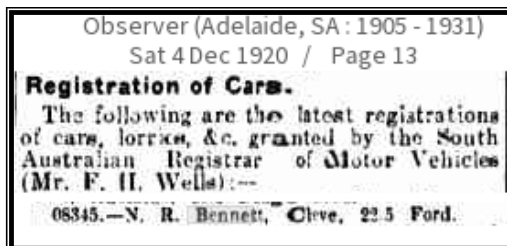
1919 Intersarsity



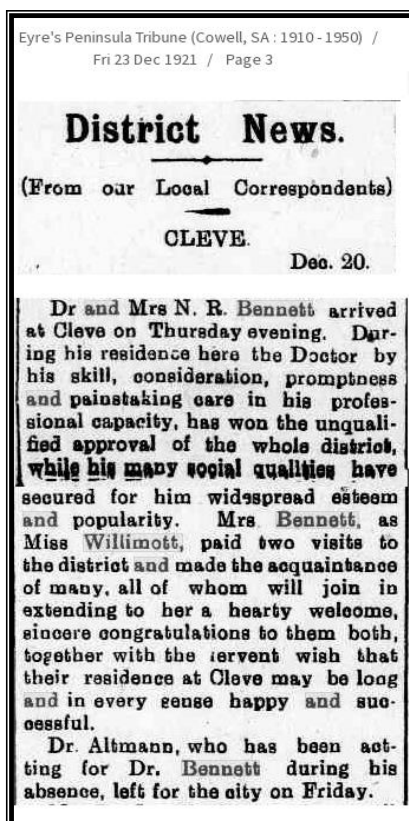
N. R. Bennett (Front Row - 2nd from right)

Medical Career

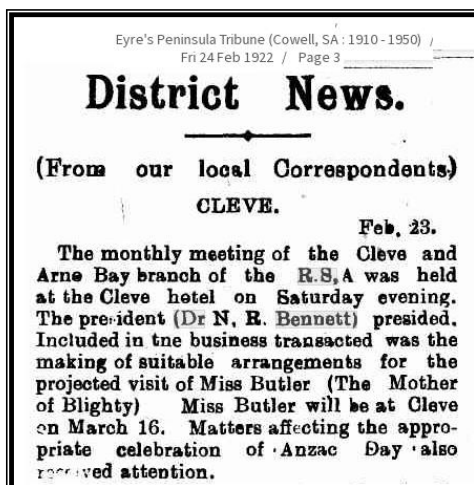
As was the case for many new graduates, for those who were not pursuing further training, a position in the country was the most likely appointment. Norman headed to Cleve on the Eyre Peninsula in 1920. In December 1920 he registered a Ford motor car.



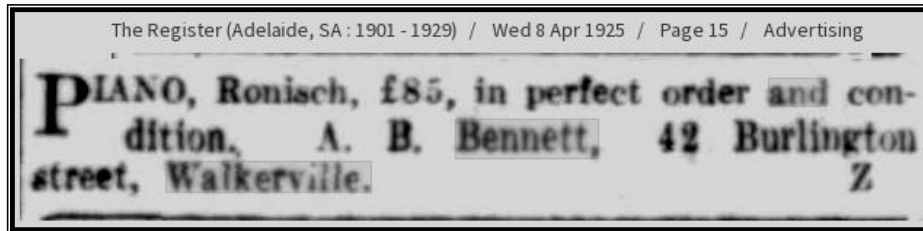
Norman married Gweneth Willimott on 3rd December 1921 and just prior to Christmas, she joined him at Cleve, where he had established his practice.



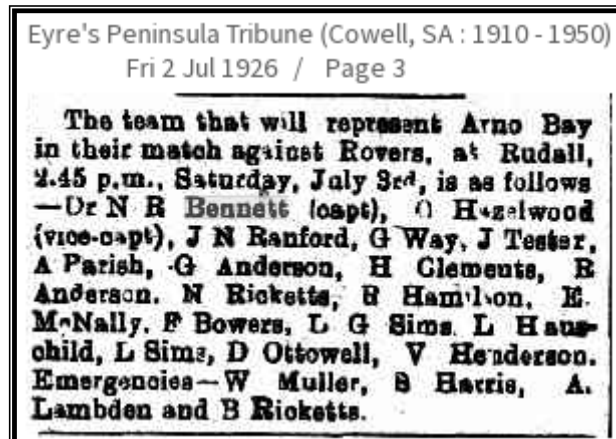
In 1922, Norman held the position of president of the Cleve and Arno Bay Returned Servicemen's Association



While in Cleve, sadly on April 26th, 1924, Norman's mother, Mary passed away. The family piano was disposed of in 1925, at the time of the family home at 42 Burlington Street being put up for sale.



Norman and Gweneth were well respected members of the community, involving themselves in the social activities of the township and surrounds. Norman had continued with his sport and was captain of the Arno Bay football team.



The Bennett family remained in Cleve until the end of 1926. While in the town, they welcomed two sons into the family; John Barkly and Richard Barkly.



Norman pictured with John about 1925

At the end of 1926, the Bennett family then moved to Port Lincoln where Norman joined the practice of Donald McDonald Steele. Steele had also served in WW1 played State cricket and was Bennett's captain while he was playing with the Adelaide University cricket team.

In October 1927 Norman's father passed away also, he was still residing in Walkerville, but now at the home of his son Jack, in Wilsden Street.

The Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929)
Wed 12 Oct 1927 / Page 2

BENNETT.—The Friends of the late Mr. ARTHUR BARKLY BENNETT are informed that his Funeral (motor) will leave the Residence of his Son (Mr. J. R. Bennett), 19 Wilsden street, Walkerville, on THURSDAY Morning at 11 o'clock, for the North Road Cemetery.

GEO. DOWNS & SON, Undertakers,
*Phone 735. Jeffcott street, North Adelaide.

In addition to joining Dr Steel's practice, Norman soon held an honorary appointment to the Port Lincoln Hospital and during his time there he and Gweneth involved themselves in many community activities. Norman, as well delivering many babies for other Port Lincoln families, He and Gweneth welcomed another son, William Barkly during their time there.

In 1928, Norman was involved in a very heart-breaking case, when two children died in the Port Lincoln Hospital from strychnine poisoning. He was one of the treating doctors and was called as a witness at the inquest.

The Telegraph (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947)
Wed 6 Jun 1928 / Page 7 / Deaths of Children

“Strychnine Poisoning”

ADELAIDE, June 6.

The inquest in connection with the deaths of Lorna Fay Tyrrell and Clive Tyrrell (aged respectively 1 year and 11 months, and 9 months), who died in the Port Lincoln Hospital on May 23 and 31, respectively, was resumed yesterday.

Charles Hardley Tyrrell (father of the children) gave evidence that he used strychnine in connection with his work as a rabbitier. He returned home from Venus Bay on May 26, and left a bag of strychnine on his lorry. Next morning he ordered one of his sons to bring it inside and put it away. That was done. The boy said that he found the bag on the ground and that it was untied at the time.

Freda Alsatha Tyrrell (wife of the previous witness) gave evidence about the baby, Clive, becoming suddenly ill on May 27.

Gwendoline Sarah Tyrrell (15), sister of the children, said that she nursed the baby, but did not give him anything to eat or drink the day he became ill. She had handled the bag of poison a week previously. She did so because of a quarrel with her parents, and a desire to frighten them. She said that she would take poison, but a sister took the bag away from her.

Dr. Norman Robertson Bennett said that he believed that the child suffered from strychnine poisoning.

The inquiry was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

After the lengthy inquest that followed, at which Norman and Dr Steel both appeared, it was determined that the children had been murdered by a family acquaintance. The accused was found to be of unsound mind.

The Maitland Weekly Mercury (NSW : 1894 - 1931)
Sat 18 Aug 1928 / Page 9

UNSOOUND MIND.

WOMAN WHO MURDERED TWO CHILDREN.

At the Adelaide Court, Eileen Johncock, charged with having murdered Lorna Tyrrell, aged 2 years, was declared by the jurors to be of unsound mind, and was ordered to be confined during the Governor's pleasure.

Lorna, and her one-year-old brother, died from strychnine poisoning, after having been attended by Eileen Johncock.

While practicing at Cleve and Port Lincoln, Norman's love of horses saw him heavily involved in racing. He was also a vice-president of the Port Lincoln Football Association.

Port Lincoln Times (SA : 1927 - 1954)
Fri 2 Aug 1929 / Page 2

Race Officials Elected

At a recent meeting of the Port Lincoln Racing Club Ltd., Mr. W. Muir McFarlane was re-elected to the position of president. He was accorded a vote of appreciation for past services to the club.

Other officers elected were:--
Stewards—Messrs C. R. Doudy (chairman), K. J. Hyde, and S. J. Hudson, and Dr. N. R. Bennett; treasurer, Mr. W. H. P. Forbes; clerk of course, Mr. P. Dobbus; secretary, Mr. I. O. Jacobs.

The matter of making a donation toward the funds of the Foreshore Improvement was discussed, and it was agreed that it be left in abeyance.

On the recommendation of the past committee, it was agreed that the charge for admission be made at the Christmas meeting, instead of separate charges to the ground and enclosure, as in the past.

Port Lincoln Times (SA : 1927 - 1954) / Fri 18 Apr 1930

PREPARATION FOR SEASON

FIRST MATCH MAY 10

The adjourned annual meeting of the Port Lincoln Football Association was held on Thursday evening, April 10.

The following officers were elected:—Patron, Mr. A. S. Hopping; president, Mr. R. F. Poole; vice-presidents, Messrs. F. H. Pratten, D. R. Myers, C. L. Thomas, P. L. Low, W. Muir McFarlane, A. S. Crawford, A. E. J. Ridgway, M. G. Henderson and Dr. N. R. Bennett; secretary, Mr. A. A. Cooper; treasurer, Mr. N. E. Oswald; auditor, Mr. N. V. Jacobs; commissioner, Mr. P. J. Kelly.

Adelaide High School Old Scholars

Norman was an original scholar of 1908 and maintained his connection with Adelaide high School through the Old Scholars' Association. He was a regular supporter and a prize donor for athletics carnivals and at the speech nights where academic achievements were recognised.

ANNUAL SPEECH NIGHT Adelaide High School Prizelist

Annual speech night of Adelaide High School will be held tomorrow evening in the Exhibition Building, North terrace.

The programme will consist of school hymn, reports of Messrs. R. A. West (principal) and R. A. Potter (sports master); address by the Hon. L. L. Hill (Premier and Minister of Education); presentation of prizes by Mrs. Hill, physical display, and music items.

Scholars to whom prizes will be distributed are as follow:—

FIRST YEAR

M. L. Simes (presented by Dr. J. Jona), T. R. G. Bateman (Dr. H. F. Altmann), R. W. S. Gross (Dr. A. E. H. Watson), H. Middleton (Eng. Cdr. G. I. D. Hutcheson), E. L. Warner (Dr. J. G. Sweeney), R. G. Markham (Mr. J. E. Ashton, LL.B.), C. C. Thurlow (Mr. H. A. Neuenkirchen, A.C.U.A.), J. G. H. Tregoning (Mr. H. W. Martin), A. Smith (Dr. Watson), O. Gratter (Mr. J. P. Cartledge, LL.B.), M. J. Smith (Dr. Sweeney), H. B. Elms (Dr. Altmann), S. G. A. Janzow (Mr. Neuenkirchen), F. E. Smith (Dr. Watson).

SECOND YEAR

R. A. Walker (Dr. N. R. Bennett), J. Richards (Dr. Jona), G. Cooke (Mr. Neuenkirchen), M. J. Dollman (Dr. Bennett).

OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION

"The Old Scholars' Association, under the guidance of Mr. Richards as president, has carried out a full programme of meetings. During Old Scholars' Week, held in the second week of July, many old boys took the opportunity of witnessing the various contests which had been arranged. At the ladies' conversazione, held in August in the Price Hall, the gathering was representative of almost every year of the school. The annual ball, the old boys' dinner, and the social evenings have all been well attended. The association has shown its interest in the school by donating the senior cups for sports days, and the old scholars' medals. A number of old scholars, while assisting us with donations for prizes last year, asked that they might be again associated with speech night. We take this opportunity of acknowledging our gratitude to those who have assisted us (Dr. H. F. Altmann, Dr. J. Jona, Dr. A. H. E. Watson, Engineer-Commander G. I. D. Hutcheson, Mr. H. M. Perrers, Mr. J. E. Ashton, Mr. H. A. Neuenkirchen, Mr. H. W. Martin, Mr. J. P. Cartledge, Dr. N. R. Bennett, Dr. J. R. Cornish, Dr. J. G. Sweeney, and Mr. B. Roberts).

Norman and Gweneth were keen bridge players and at a charity event for raising funds for a tennis court at the hospital, they won the bridge competition.

Hospital Tennis Court

BALL AND BRIDGE DRIVE

OVER £23 CLEARED

The ball and bridge drive arranged to raise funds for the construction of a tennis court at the Port Lincoln Hospital, held at the Memorial Hall on Thursday, December 11, was a financial success, the profit totalling £23 11/1. This result was gratifying to Mr. S. J. Dollard, who sponsored the movement, and to the secretary (Mr. J. H. Bellgrove), who worked hard to make it a success.

Dance music was provided by Miss Elsie Brougham and Messrs. R. E. Ballard and S. S. Harvey and the Merrymakers Orchestra.

Prizes for a novelty dance went to Miss N. White and Mr. Fuller.

Bridge was played in the council chamber, the awards being won by Dr. N. R. Bennett and Mrs. Bennett.

Thanks are extended to Mrs. D. M. Steele (convenor of the supper committee) and helpers, to the ladies who

Norman was also appointed the Medical Inspector of Shipping and Medical Inspector of Seamen arriving at Port Lincoln.

Commonwealth of Australia Gazette (National : 1901 - 1973) / Thu 13 Sep 1934 [Issue No.62] / Page 1589 /

Navigation Act 1912-1926.

MEDICAL INSPECTORS OF SHIPPING AND MEDICAL INSPECTORS OF SEAMEN.

THE undermentioned duly qualified medical practitioners are hereby appointed to act as Medical Inspectors of Shipping:—

Charles Stewart Barbour Randolph Yule Kalanga Mathew Edgar Alexander North	}	Officers of the Department of Health.
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The undermentioned duly qualified Medical Practitioners are hereby appointed to act as Medical Inspectors of Seamen:—

Randolph Yule Kalanga Mathew, an officer of the Department of Health.

Talbot Lewis Dunn, Newcastle, New South Wales.
William Bryce Kerr, Port Kembla, New South Wales.
Alexander Christie McArthur, Grafton, New South Wales.
Theodore Carl Kohler, Wallaroo, South Australia.
Norman Robertson Bennett, Port Lincoln, South Australia.
Clarence Gordon Wells, Port Victoria, South Australia.
Alfred Ernest Vivian, Albany, Western Australia.
Frederick William Cotton, Cossack, Western Australia.
Lancelot Machell Travers Hungerford, Esperance, Western Australia.

Another of Norman's sporting interests, was golf and was captain of the Port Lincoln Golf Club in 1935. In December, he played for the Council and Parents of the Port Lincoln High School in a cricket match against the students. In 1936 he was the runner-up in the veteran doubles tennis at the Peninsula Tennis Championships. Norman was also president of the bowling club and in his spare time loved to get out fishing.

Port Lincoln Times (SA: 1927 - 1954)
Fri 10 May 1935 / Page 6

GOLF SEASON

—:—

FIRST COMPETITION SATURDAY

—

MIXED FOURSOMES EVENT

—

The captain of the Port Lincoln Golf Club (DE N. R. Bennett), in the absence of the president (Mr. A. S. Hopping) will officially open the season next Saturday, when a mixed foursomes competition will be played. Afternoon tea will be served.

On Saturday and Monday practice-games were played on the links, which are in fair order. The course will be improved further when the grass has been cut a second time. Most of this work will have been done by the opening day.

There is evidence that the gain in new members will be considerable, for several newcomers are already showing interest.

Port Lincoln Times (SA: 1927 - 1954)
Fri 20 Dec 1935 / Page 1

The annual match between students of the Port Lincoln High School and members of the school council and parents was played on the school ground on Thursday of last week. The scholars won comfortably. A. K. Mullner scored 71 for the council and parents, and M. Narrowway batted well for 79 for the students. Scores:

COUNCIL and PARENTS.—First Innings—A. McInerney, b M. Gasmier, 24; A. Narrowway, b D. Williams, 5; J. Johnson, b L. Ryan, 6; N. R. Bennett, c and b Gasmier, 0; F. Mart, b L. Ryan, 0; C. Hopping, b L. Ryan, 6; K. Mullner, c K. Dollard, b G. Hillier, 71; T. E. Ashton, run out, 5; D. Letcher, not out, 4; T. R. Letcher, b Ryan, 0; sundries, 9; total (for 9 wickets), 130.

Bowling:—K. Dollard, 0/14; D. Williams, 1/12; L. Ryan, 4/37; M. Gasmier, 2/29; R. Brabham, 0/23; G. Hillier, 1/9.

HIGH SCHOOL.—First Innings—M. Narrowway, c McInerney, b D. Letcher, 79; J. Jones, c K. Mullner, b A. McInerney, 3; D. Williams, retired, 50; R. Brabham, retired, 7; M. Gasmier, c J. Johnson, b N. R. Bennett, 5; S. Carr, c T. E. Ashton, b Bennett, 0; R. Carr, retired, 20; G. Hillier, not out, 14; K. Dollard, c C. Hopping, b J. Johnson, 10; L. Ryan, not out, 5; sundries, 9; total (for 8 wickets), 211.

Bowling:—K. Mullner, 0/15; A. McInerney, 1/38; A. Narrowway, 0/24; J. Johnson, 1/23; C. Hopping, 0/13; T. Ashton, 0/31; D. Letcher, 1/13; F. Mart, 0/21; T. Letcher, 0/12; N. R. Bennett, 2/7; E. P. Williams, 0/5.

Peninsula Tennis Championships
Port Lincoln Times (SA: 1927 - 1954)
Fri 17 Apr 1936 / Page 7

VETERANS' HANDICAP DOUBLES

First round—C. L. Thomas-L. R. Davies d. A. P. Quinn-F. Wait; A. S. Hopping-N. R. Bennett d. A. C. White-W. H. Butcher; W. L. Ferrier-E. Richards d. S. F. Phillips-H. Turner; M. J. Gerlach-E. P. Williams d. B. Lowe-J. Carter.

Semi-final — Hopping-Bennett d. Thomas-Davies; Ferrier-Richards d. Gerlach-Williams.

Final—Ferrier-Richards d. Hopping-Bennett 9-7.

In May 1936, after 10 years in Port Lincoln, the family returned to Adelaide. With their oldest boy, John now 12 years of age, due to commence his secondary education it was the right time for the move. The boys were all enrolled at St Peter's College and did very well academically and in sport. Norman had been appointed to a position with the Repatriation Hospital at Daw Park.

Port Lincoln Times (SA : 1927 - 1954)

Fri 15 May 1936 / Page 1

Dr. N. R. Bennett, who has accepted a position with the Repatriation Department, Adelaide, will leave Port Lincoln with Mrs. Bennett and family at the end of the month. Dr. C. T. Piper, who will take over his practice, returned to Adelaide last Friday night with Mrs. Piper, after a brief visit.

The Bennetts were spoken of very highly by the Port Lincoln community and were given several farewells. Norman had been involved with the bowling, football, golf, tennis and racing clubs in various capacities. That was in addition to his dedicated medical services to the hospital and wider community.

Port Lincoln Times (SA : 1927 - 1954), Friday 29 May 1936, page 12

Farewell to Sportsman

DR. BENNETT ENTERTAINED

Members of the Port Lincoln Bowling and Golf Clubs, at a joint gathering at the bowling green on Monday afternoon, bade farewell to Dr. N. R. Bennett, on the eve of his departure for Adelaide. Dr. Bennett was president of the bowling club for the past two seasons, and had served as a member of the committee of the golf club. Mr. T. E. Ashton, a past president of the bowling club, presided.

In proposing the health of the guest, Mr. C. S. Grant (vice-president of the bowling club), said they regretted Dr. Bennett's departure. They had always found him a true sportsman on the green and elsewhere, and they hoped that he and Mrs. Bennett and family would enjoy health and happiness.

Mr. T. R. Letcher said Dr. Bennett's departure would be a loss to the bowling club, the members of which would watch his performances on the metropolitan greens with interest.

Mr. C. L. Thomas spoke in support.

In asking Dr. Bennett to accept a bowl as a gift from his fellow bowlers, Mr. Ashton said he and the former secretary (Mr. J. M. Beck) were two of the stalwarts of the club, which had suffered a twofold loss by their departure within a few weeks of

each other. Dr. Bennett's enthusiasm was a big factor in the club's success.

Mr. W. B. Richardson, speaking on behalf of the golf club, said Dr. Bennett had rendered that body invaluable service. He had been a regular attendant at the various working bees, and had been a tower of strength in many other ways. They hoped that Dr. and Mrs. Bennett and family would have happiness and health in the future. Mr. Richardson asked Dr. Bennett to accept a golf bag, as a gift from the club.

Dr. Bennett, in reply, said he would need no reminder of the happy times he had spent on the bowling green and the golf links. It had been a pleasure to mix with two such fine bodies of sportsmen. He expressed thanks for the good wishes extended to his wife, family and himself.

Race Committee Says Goodbye

Members of the Port Lincoln Racing Club committee paid a surprise visit to Dr. Bennett's home on Friday night, to bid farewell, and to express thanks for what he had done for the club and followers of the sport as chairman of stewards. The Mayor (Mr. R. F. Poole), who is a member of the committee, spoke, and was supported by Mr. P. J. Kelly. Mr. A. C. Johnson presented Dr. Bennett with an entree dish. Dr. Bennett thanked the visitors for the expressions of goodwill.

In addition to his work at the repatriation hospital, Norman also established his own private medical practice on Fullarton Road, next to the Arkaba Hotel, where he practiced for 20 years. In 1942 a thief broke into his Fullarton home.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954)
Fri 21 Aug 1942 / Page 3

Thefts at Fullarton

Climbing through a side window of the home of Dr. Norman Robertson Bennett of Fullarton road, Fullarton, yesterday, a thief stole articles and money to the value of £2/17/6.

The theft occurred between 5.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. A purse containing a 10/- note and 10/- in silver was stolen, as well as a 16/- war savings certificate, a torch, and some tobacco.

Norman had been on the reserve list of officers in the 4th Military District, South Australia and in July 1950, Honorary Captain N.R. Bennett was retired.

Commonwealth of Australia Gazette (National : 1901 - 1973)
Thu 6 Jul 1950 [Issue No.38] / Page 1660

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

4th Military District.—The following officers are placed upon the Retired List (4th Military District) with permission to retain their rank and wear the prescribed uniform, 17th May, 1950:—Lieutenant-Colonel (Honorary Colonel) F. L. Wall, M.C., Lieutenant-Colonels R. L. Kenihan, M.C., and E. B. Jones, Major (Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel) G. H. B. Black, Majors J. R. S. G. Beard, M.C., W. H. Collins, D.S.O., W. L. Smith, M.C., J. C. Mayo, L. G. Tassie, D.S.O., J. W. Flood, W. J. W. Close, K. N. Steele, A. H. Guymer and J. G. Sleeman, Captain (Honorary Major) L. W. Linn, Captains A. C. Wilton, J. G. Sweeney, P. W. Rice, R. A. Hastie, G. H. Burnell, G. S. Shipway, A. K. Gault, E. L. Symons and G. Wien-Smith, and Honorary Captains S. C. M. Downing, R. J. Sargent and J. D. Mill. The following officers are retired, 17th May, 1950:—Honorary Captains H. M. J. Halloran, K. McEwin, G. H. Kendrew, J. A. Rolland, W. Hamilton, N. R. Bennett, L. L. Davey and O. M. Moulden.

Norman had an interest in horses from an early age, but it was only towards the end of his life that he had great success as a racehorse owner. Beau Grand, a horse that he raced in partnership with A.J. McBride, was very successful winning many feature races during 1953 and 1954.

News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954)
Mon 13 Apr 1953 / Page 18

Owner gave good tip about winner

Success of Beau Grand in Tattersalls Cup was predicted by his partner-owner and Tattersalls committeeman, Mr. A. J. McBride, on Friday, when he declined to have his photograph taken with other committeemen and the trophy for the race.

Mr. McBride, who races Beau Grand in partnership with Dr. N. R. Bennett, was asked if he would be in the photo, but replied, "I'll have it taken with the trophy after we win it tomorrow."

Beau Grand ran one of his best races to win narrowly.—Redleap.

Inside Running
News (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954)
Mon 31 May 1954 / Page 27

Beau Grand

A. B. Macdonald, who trains Gawler, Onkaparinga, and Tattersalls Cups winner Beau Grand, bred the four-year-old Beau Cheval horse and sold him to his present owners, Dr. N. R. Bennett and Mr. A. J. McBride (now overseas), who have always raced him.

GJC chairman Mr. Tom Shanahan, and secretary Mr. Stan Lewis, and their committee said the club would continue to give a £1,500 Cup stake while they received such good support.



Beau Grand (W. Wood), winner of the Tattersalls Cup at Morphettville on Saturday, being led back to scale by the joint owners, Mr. N. R. Bennett (right) and Mr. A. J. McBride.

ARC committeeman and former owner of the Kambula (Kadina) stud, which was the biggest and ugliest youngster ever foaled at Kambula, and he'll unhesitatingly tell you—Beau Grand.

Tom told me Beau Grand was nearly as tall as his dam, Myriad, a short time after his foaling. We all know how he developed and became one of our best performers—stout-hearted, game, an dstrong.

Beau Grand's trainer, Ab. Macdonald, bred the Beau Cheval horse, leased, and then sold him to his present owners, Messrs. N. R. Bennett and Jim McBride.

Prizemoney Won By Owners

Owners	1sts	2nds.	3rds.	Stakes won
G. W. Badman	8	6	6	£5,320
L. McMahon	4	—	1½	£4,930
N. R. Bennett and A. J. McBride	3	9	2	£4,510
A. A. L. H. and K. N. Zadow	7	3	2	£4,465
A. J. Lee	6	9	4	£4,368¼
C. O. Fairbairn	1	—	—	£3,925
W. Hill Smith and G. D. Leahy	6	7	1	£3,860
Mr. and Mrs. W. Hill Smith	5	2	1	£3,845
L. Newton	2	—	—	£3,800
A. Varcoe	4	6	3½	£3,730
R. G. Fry	5	2	3½	£3,707½
W. G. Byrne	7	6	3	£3,660
A. D. Dodgson and W. H. Kelsh	2	1	2	£3,610
W. H. Kelsh	2	1	2	£3,610
D. Moriarty and L. C. Keane	4	—	1	£3,230
H. Bickford	5½	5	1	£3,185
F. H. McNarama	6	2	1	£3,143
F. H. Pratten	5	7	2	£3,135

Death

Norman Robertson Bennett died on the 15th of January 1957 aged 62. He was survived by his wife Gweneth and his three sons. He is interred at the North Road Cemetery, Nailsworth , South Australia.




Photo added by [J](#)

Norman Robertson Bennett

BIRTH	1894
DEATH	1957 (aged 62–63) South Australia, Australia
BURIAL	North Road Cemetery Nailsworth, Prospect City, South Australia, Australia
MEMORIAL ID	197198700 · View Source

Find A Grave

Family Legacy

The three boys all attended St Peter's College (S.P.S.C.) and had outstanding academic careers. All three sons followed in their father's footsteps and became doctors and at times worked with their father at his medical practice at 19 Fullarton Rd.

John "Jack" Barkly Bennett MBBS (Adel. 1947) S.P.S.C. 1936 - 1941

Born at Cleve 21st July 1924 - Died in Melbourne 14th July 1987 (aged 62)

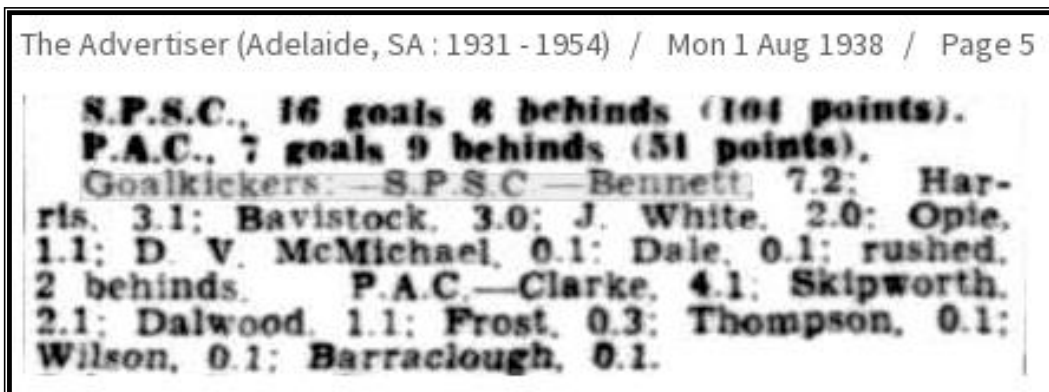
Richard "Dick" Barkly Bennett MBBS (Adel. 1948) S.P.S.C. 1936 - 1942

Born at Cleve 5th October 1926 - Died 18th August 1998 (aged 71)

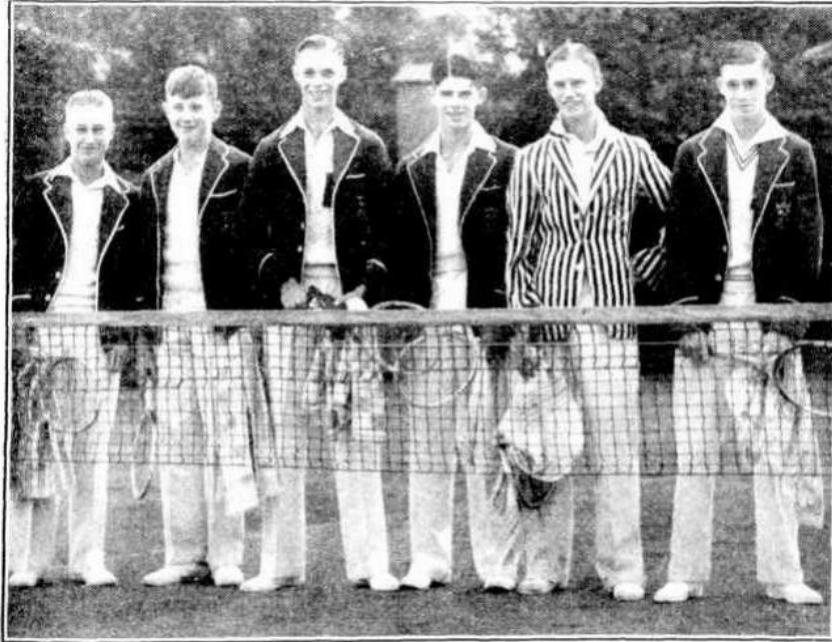
William Barkly Bennett MBBS (Adel. 1956) S.P.S.C. 1936 - 1946

Born at Port Lincoln 20th August 1928 - Died in Adelaide 23rd May 1968 (Aged 39)

John was an outstanding young footballer. In the 1938 Intercollegiate match against Prince Alfred College (PAC) he kicked seven goals from full-forward. He would have only just celebrated his 14th birthday. It appears that John did not continue on with his football to concentrate on tennis and his studies.



In April John had captained the winning Intercollegiate tennis team against PAC. He also won the South Australian Schools Open singles and doubles championships in December 1938. In future years he would continue with his tennis and perform well at district and state levels.



INTERCOLLEGIATE TENNIS. St. Peter's team, which defeated Prince Alfred in the annual tennis contest. The players were:—J. B. Bennett (capt.), J. S. Skipper, P. S. Rudall, D. E. Whitehead, J. M. Opie, and J. E. Dunstan.

A young Dr Richard Barkly Bennett was the doctor who examined the body of "The Somerton Man" in December of 1948. Only recently graduating in medicine, he was working at the Adelaide Hospital and on duty when a corpse found on the beach at Somerton was brought in for examination of the cause of death. The case remains unsolved to this day and the identity of the man is still unknown.

Sat 18 Jun 1949

BEACH DEATH INQUEST

'Not Accidental,' Says Coroner

The unknown man whose body was found on the beach at Somerton was probably poisoned and his death was almost certainly not accidental, the City Coroner (Mr. T. E. Cleland) said at the opening of the inquest yesterday.

This left the alternative that the deceased died by his own act or was murdered.

After evidence of the discovery of the body, and medical and police evidence, the inquest was adjourned until Tuesday, when medical evidence will be given by Professor J. B. Cleland, Sir Stanton Hicks and Dr. R. B. Bennett.

A plaster cast of the head and shoulders of the dead man was displayed in court during the proceedings.

The Coroner said it appeared the man was not missed, perhaps because there was sufficient reason for his disappearance from his usual surroundings.

Sources and Acknowledgments:

- *Blood, Sweat and Fears, Medical Practitioners and Medical Students or Served in World War 1; Christopher Verco, Annette Summers, Tony Swain & Michael Jelly. (Army Health Services Historical Group)*
- *With additional original research from the National Library of Australia - Trove (Digital Newspapers)*
- *National Archives of Australia - WW1 Service Records*
- *Adelaide University Archives - Intersivity Team Photos*
- *Adelaide University Archives - University Calendars (1912 - 1920)*
- *SAILIS - Land Services SA - Land Titles*
- *Find a Grave, database and images Memorial no. 197198700, citing North Road Cemetery, Nailsworth, Prospect City, South Australia, Australia ; Maintained by A Thorpe (contributor 48957588) .*
- *Australian War Memorial Photograph of men of 3rd Field Ambulance*
- *Wikitree -Genealogy - family photo courtesy of Bruce Bennett*



Standing from left: Norman Robertson Bennett, Leslie Robertson Bennett, Jack Robertson Bennett
Seated from left: Mary (Robertson) Bennett, Arthur Barkly Bennett, Doris Barkly Bennett

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