



Lieut. Donald Augustus Dowling



Played with Adelaide University



Football Club: B Grade (1914)

Blue: Lacrosse - 1920

Degree: MB BS (1923)

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 Donald Augustus Dowling. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.

The AIF Project

<https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=82708>



Donald Augustus DOWLING

Regimental number	1045
Place of birth	Farina, South Australia
Religion	Roman Catholic
Occupation	Medical student
Address	c/o Mr W C Dowling, Clarendon, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	19
Next of kin	Father, James Patrick Dowling, Port Pirie, South Australia
Previous military service	50th Australian Army Medical Corps
Enlistment date	14 September 1914
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	Field Ambulance 4, Section B
AWM Embarkation Roll number	26/47/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board TRANSPORT A35 <i>Berrima</i> on 22 December 1914
Rank from Nominal Roll	Lieutenant
Unit from Nominal Roll	27th Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 30 September 1918

Service Record

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=3519026>

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 208
1045 Name Dowling Donald Augustus
Unit Army Medical Corps Section 4th Field Ambulance
Joined on 14th September 1914

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name?	1. <u>Dowling Donald Augustus</u>
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born?	2. In the Parish of <u>Farine</u> in or near the Town of in the County of <u>S. Aust.</u>
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.)	3. <u>Yes natural born</u>
4. What is your age?	4. <u>19 years - 2 months</u>
5. What is your trade or calling?	5. <u>Medical Student</u>
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period?	6. <u>No</u>
7. Are you married?	7. <u>No</u>
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated)	8. <u>Father</u> <u>James Patrick Dowling</u> <u>100th Farine</u>
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power?	9. <u>No</u>
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incurable 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. <u>No</u>
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. <u>50th A.M.C. 2 years</u>
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service?	12. <u>Yes</u>
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds?	13. <u>No</u>
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.

3. Donald Augustus Dowling 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 12/9/14 D. A. Dowling
Signature of person enlisted.

D.377/8.14. - C.10220. * This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.

Published Biography

"Blood, Sweat and Fears", ISBN: 978-0-64692-750-3, Medical Practitioners and Medical Students of South Australia who served in WW1. 2014

DOWLING Donald Augustus

OBE MB BS DPH

1896 - 1979



Donald Augustus Dowling was born on the 7th July 1896 at Farina, South Australia. He was the son of James Patrick Dowling of Manoora, SA. He was educated at Port Pirie and gained a bursary to Adelaide High School where he was a fine athlete in football, cricket and rowing. He began medicine at University of Adelaide in 1914 and rowed in the university eight.

Dowling enlisted in the AIF, on 14th September 1914, at Morphettville, as a 19 year old medical student. He had 2 years experience in the 50th AAMC and was a private soldier. His father gave permission for him to join and was named his next of kin. He was described as 5ft 10ins, 160lbs, of fair complexion with blue eyes and fair hair. He had four vaccination marks on his left arm. Dowling was posted to B section of 4 FdAmb. His unit proceeded, on the 12th April 1915, to join the MEF for the landing at Gallipoli. Whilst there he was hospitalised twice first with a dental problem and then in July with gastroenteritis but returned to duty and served with them until the end of the Gallipoli Campaign. He was promoted Lance Corporal in 1916 and transferred to a brief course as a Cadet with the 6th Officers Bn at Balliol College, Oxford. He was commissioned in November 1916 as a 2nd lieutenant and proceeded to France with the 27th Infantry Bn and served with them throughout 1917 and 1918. He was wounded in September 1917 in Belgium and from Rouen transferred to the 3rd London General Hospital with a gunshot wound to the neck. After 2 months care in November he returned to France and later served as the Brigade Gas Officer with the 7th Inf. Bde. Dowling returned to Australia in September 1918 with his appointment terminated in the 4 MD on the 22nd January 1919. He was issued with the 1914-15 Star, the British War medal and the Victory Medal.

Dowling resumed his medical studies at the University of Adelaide in 1919 graduating in 1923. He also gained sports blues in lacrosse and rowing and held executive positions in University sporting clubs and the Adelaide Medical Student Society. He then became a resident at the Adelaide Hospital. He entered private practice and returned to London in 1927 for further study. He joined the Commonwealth Department of Health as a medical officer at Port Adelaide in 1928 followed with a Diploma of Public Health and Tropical Disease from the Sydney University in 1933. He then continued as a Medical Officer on quarantine duties across Australia until 1946 followed by three years as Chief Medical Officer at Australia House, London. This led to a period of senior positions as the Australian Delegate to World Health Assemblies until 1951 when he returned to Australia. He was appointed as Commonwealth Medical Officer for Queensland until his retirement in 1960. Dowling's interest in sport and public life was sustained in Brisbane; he was a delegate to the Australian Olympic Federation, and the manager of the Australian Swimming Team to South Africa in 1959. He served on several industry and war appeal tribunals, and was a President of the AMA, Queensland Branch. He was appointed OBE in 1952. He was made a Fellow of the Australian Medical Association in 1978. Donald Augustus Dowling died in Brisbane aged 83 years on the 8th March 1979.

Sources:

<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/scripts/Imagine.asp?B=3519026>
AWM: P08858-013
MJA: December 1st1979.p598-589

Biography

Early Life

Donald (Don) Augustus Dowling was born on the 7th July 1896 at Farina, (on the edge of the desert, Farina sits within the Lake Eyre Basin and it is situated on the old alignment of the Ghan railway, 26 kilometres (16 mi) north of Lyndhurst and 55 kilometres (34 mi) south of Marree). His parents were James Patrick Dowling and Anne Margareth Crosby (also recorded as Annie or Ann and Margaret or Margret).

Don's siblings were Evaline Annie (b 1880), William Cameron (b 1884), an unnamed sibling (b & d 1887), Walter James Patrick (b 1889, d 1909), Mary Rose (b 1891, d 1892), James Francis (b 1893) and Alexander Joseph (b 1898, d 1899).

Don's father, James, joined the mounted police aged 21 years and after a time at the barracks in Adelaide he served at Georgetown in 1878 then was stationed in charge of Warooka, Port Wakefield, Fowler's Bay, Streaky Bay, Farina, Angaston, Kadina, Mount Barker and Port Pirie. Sgt. James Dowling retired from the force in 1914 on the eve of his promotion to sub-inspector, owing to ill health.

Schooling

Donald commenced his schooling with the St Joseph's Convent¹ at Kadina. He sat his Primary Examinations in June 1908 having been a pupil of the Sisters of Mercy at Mt Barker, SA. His father was then transferred to Port Pirie and in December 1908 Don sat further examinations and was awarded an Exhibition to attend the Adelaide High School.

At Adelaide High School he passed eight subjects in the Junior Examinations in December 1909. In December 1911, Don passed the Senior Examinations and in December 1912 he passed the Higher Public Examinations and qualified for a Government bursary.

Don was a member of the First Eighteen (football), the First Eleven (Cricket) and a member of the AHS Rowing Club. He competed in the Public Schools Championship as stroke for the fours at the Henley-on-Torrens in December 1913. In 1912 and for half of 1913, Don was a co-editor of the AHS magazine. The AHS photographs below are from the AHS magazine.

Don passed the Higher Public Examinations again in December 1913, this time coming 14th in the General Honours list (and eight of the South Australian students. Don won a Government Bursary to study Science for four years. Don gained honours in all five subjects, chemistry, biology, German, algebra and trigonometry.

Don name is also recorded on the Christian Brother's College WWI Roll of Honor, however it is unclear when Don attended the college.

¹ Another newspaper report stated that Donald had began his schooling at the Sisters of Mercy, Kadina, however examination results indicate that the convent at Kadina at the time was run by the sisters of St Joseph.

1910 - Adelaide High School Football and Rifle Teams



D A Dowling - Back Row – Third from Left (Incorrectly labelled as D Dawling)

1911 - Adelaide High School – First Eleven - Cricket



DA Dowling – Back Row – Fourth from Left

1912 - Adelaide High School – First Eleven - Cricket



DA Dowling – Back Row – Third from Right

1913 - Adelaide High School – Prefects



DA Dowling – Front Row – Second from Left

1913 - Adelaide High School Football Team



DA Dowling – Back Row – Third from Right

Pre War University

Don commenced studying at the University of Adelaide in 1914 but joined up for WWI on the 14th September 1914 and did not complete his first year of study.

Pre War University Sport

Football

Don played B Grade football for Adelaide University in 1914 and was a member of the B Grade premiership team that year.

Boat

Don joined that Adelaide University Boat Club and became a member of the University's eight. He represented Adelaide University at the 1914 Intervarsity rowing in Seat 4.

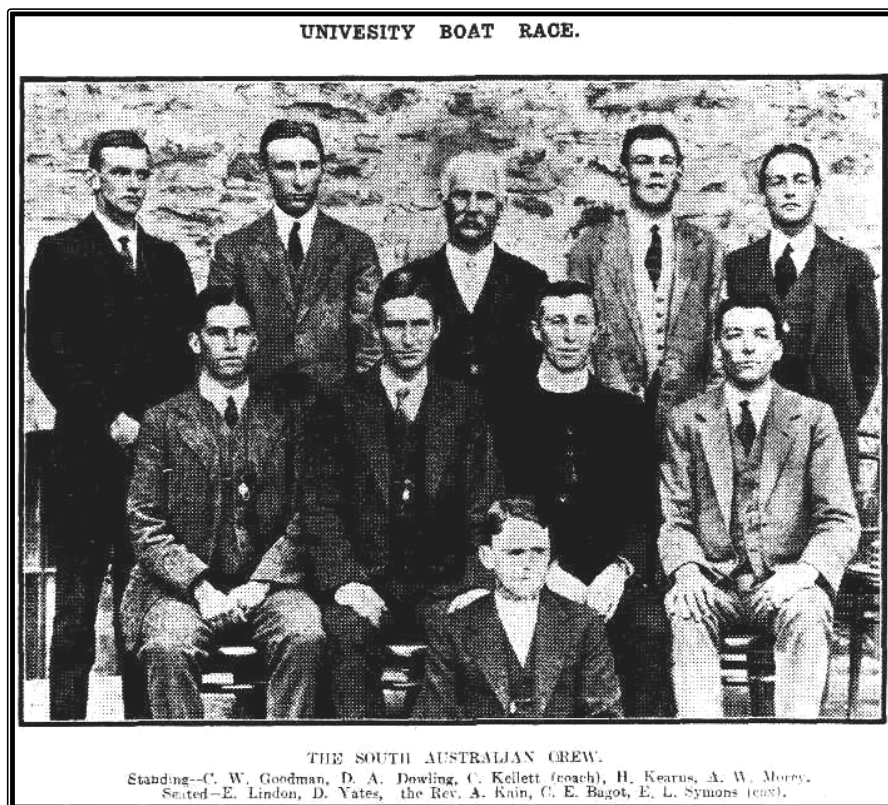
1914 - Adelaide University B Grade - Premiers



DA Dowling – Middle Row – Far Right

1914 – Adelaide University Intervarsity Eight

The Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922) - 4 June 1914



DA Dowling – Back Row – Second from Left

Sport (Adelaide, SA : 1911 - 1948) - 14 January 1916

1914 – Adelaide University Intervarsity Crew



A Good Record.

Among the many fine standards of recruiting set by various clubs and associations, few can surpass the splendid example of the 1914 Adelaide Inter-Varsity Boat Crew. Their record is given below, and speaks for itself. Stroke—D. Yates (Captain), now in camp. 7—L. C. Lindon, now in the A.M.C., attached to No. 1 General Hospital at Lemnos. 5—C. E. Bagot, had completed his first year engineering course when he enlisted in the 3rd Light Horse. Died of wounds received in action at Gallipoli on November 9th. 4—D. A. Dowling, attached to the Army Medical Corps at Lemnos. 3—H. W. Cairns, also in the A.M.C. attached to No. 2 General Hospital at Lemnos, in charge of the X Rays department. 2—A. W. Morey, the well-known Rhodes Scholar, who is a first lieutenant in the 11th Royal Scots Fusiliers, and has received the coveted Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry in France, where he was wounded. 1—C. W. Goodman (Vice-Captain and Honorary Secretary, first lieutenant in the Australian Engineers now attached to the staff at Keswick Military Headquarters. Emergency—C. S. Kneebone, now in camp. The only two members of the crew who have not enlisted are Coxswain E. L. Symons, who must first complete his medical course, before being allowed to accept a commission, and the Rev. A. E. Kain, a well-known footballer, who has not yet been able to don khaki.

DA Dowling – Seat 4 – Fourth from Left

World War I

Don enlisted on the 14th September 1914 and his WWI experience is well detailed in the 'Blood, Sweat and Tears' biography (above).



DA Dowling

A CATHOLIC STUDENT AT THE FRONT.



Private Donald Augustus Dowling, of the Second Expeditionary Force, now in Egypt, is a son of Sergt. J. P. Dowling, of Clarendon, formerly well-known in Kadina and Mount Barker. He began his education with the Good Sisters of St. Joseph at Kadina, and subsequently spent four years at the Good Sisters School at Mount Barker, where in June, 1908, he passed the Preliminary University Examination, being not quite 13 years old. He, of his own seeking, became interested in an endeavor to win an Exhibition, and made an earnest start early in August, and receiving the greatest assistance from a Sister of the Convent High School. But through the transference of his father to the charge of the Port Pirie police early in October, there was a break in his studies of about a month. On arrival at Port Pirie he joined the continuation class at the Port Pirie West State school, where he made such good progress, that, although he was attending the class for only six weeks before the examination, he was one of six who qualified for an exhibition at the Adelaide High School,

which was awarded him, tenable for two years, with an allowance. During the two years he successfully passed the University Public Examinations in Junior and Senior, and was awarded another two years scholarship. He also passed the Senior examination (for the second time) with honors. In November, 1913, he passed the Higher Public examination on the general honor list, and qualified for and was awarded a bursary at the University in the Science course, tenable for four years. During his studies at the High School young Dowling was captain of their rowing club, and was one of the six prefects at the institution, and in 1912 and half of 1913 he was a joint editor of the High School magazine, which he had to relinquish in order to allow him better opportunities to pursue his studies for the Higher Public examination. At the University he was selected as one of the University Rowing Club and rowed (fourth) with his team in the annual Universities boat race between Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide, rowed on the Port River in June last, when the race was won by Sydney men, Adelaide being second, beating the Melbourne team by a big lead. Mr. Dowling entered on his studies at the University in March, 1914, and was in his third and final term for the year, when the desire to aid his country caused him to seek the consent of his parents to join the second Expeditionary Force. As he had only just completed his 19th year, this consent was necessary. Needless to say, with the official approval of the Education Department and University authorities, his parents' consent was readily given. He arrived in Egypt with the Fourth Infantry Brigade at the end of January. He is attached to the B Section, 4th Field Ambulance. At the finish of the war he hopes to return and continue his University studies, and he should have a good chance of gaining the Rhodes scholarship. He was a popular boy with teachers and scholars at the High School, and his teachers and friends will be pleased to hear that he was well and happy when last heard from.

Extracts from the AHS Magazine during WWI

Don Dowling is a member of the Army Medical Corps of the Second Expeditionary Force. As Don is attached to the nursing party he should be in a position to receive valuable experience.

Private D. A. Dowling, another old scholar to offer his services for the front, also sent a brief epistle. Don was a former editor of the Magazine, and for five issues worked hard to keep up its standard. In November, 1913, he obtained one of the coveted Higher Public Scholarships, and was attending the University last year at the outbreak of the war, and left his studies for the more arduous task of soldiering.

Easter, 1915, page 24-25

EXTRACT FROM LETTER WRITTEN AT ANZAC

By D. A. Dowling.

"I was very pleased to receive the midwinter issue of *The Magazine*. It is one of the best I have seen for a long time. I was very pleased to read the long list of fellows from the school who had enlisted. I heard that Lieut. Bruns died a very brave death, leading his men of the gallant 16th Battalion in a charge on the Turkish position. I heard it from one of his men who was there that he was hit several times, and each time got up and tried to push on, until finally he was killed outright by a bomb. No battalion here has done better or suffered more than the 16th."

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Letters from the Front.

Extract of letter from Lieut. Don. A. Dowling, 27th Infantry Battalion :-

"I am now with the 27th Battalion, and have two stars. Joe Blacket is now in England. He was wounded the last time he was in the line. Needless to say, I had an excellent time at Oxford, and saw much of interest in the old University town. I met there Rayner, the S.A. Rhodes Scholar. I visited a number of places in England and saw many places of interest. It seemed a wee bit strange to see the things of which we had read in far-off Australia. I went to Edinburgh, Bristol, Brighton, Bath, Southampton, and, of course, to London, and a number of other places. I met a number of people over there, especially about London. Personally, I am not keen on sight-seeing, and visited a lot of places largely from a sense of duty. These times one pines more and more for home life, company, music, etc., and as these are always at hand there one naturally takes advantage of them. I have also had a trip to Paris, which I enjoyed immensely. It is undoubtedly a most beautiful city, and the Parisians(almost -iennes) are charming people. We were rather fortunate, as our interpreter (a Parisian) was on leave at the same time. Consequently we saw all the sights and beauty spots in a minimum of time, and also met some very nice people who ran us about in their motor cars, as far as the restrictions on the use of petrol would allow. How are all the people at school, these days? I was indeed sorry to hear about the death of Mr. Adey's child. It certainly was jolly hard lines. This scrap has been going on for three years now, and I wish I could think it would not have another three days."

Don's brother, James Francis Dowling also served in WWI (SN 20213). He was a bank clerk and he enlisted on the 6th August 1915. James was a Battery Quartermaster Sergeant who served in France and Belgium with the 31st Battery, 8th Field Artillery Brigade. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and was mentioned in Field Marshall Sir Douglas Haig's despatches on the 1st January 1919. James returned to Australia in late 1919. (see <http://ww1sa.gravesecrets.net/dh---do.html>).

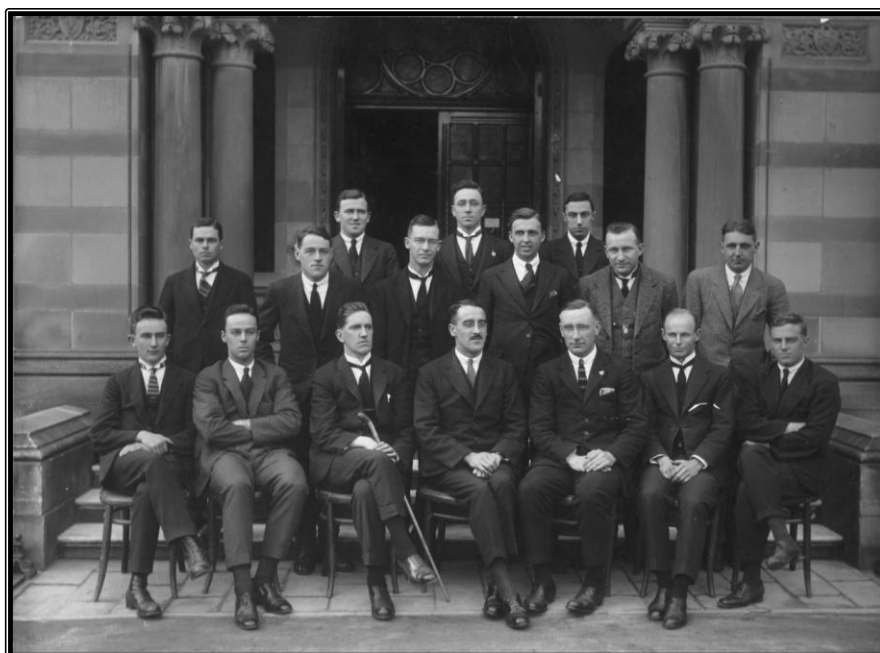
Don was present at a parade for returning ANZACs in Adelaide in November 1918 and he was accorded an enthusiastic reception at the Manoora Railway Station (north of Saddleworth and near the southern edge of the Clare Valley) when he arrived there to see his parents on the 24th November 1918.

LATE SOCIAL.
Lieutenant Donald A. Dowling, one of the Anzacs who returned to South Australia on Sunday, November 23, was accorded an enthusiastic reception at the Manoora Railway Station, on his arrival there on the 24th. The following evening a social was tendered to him by the Red Cross ladies, and a great number assembled to do honor to the guest. Eulogistic speeches were given by the chairman (Mr. W. T. Frost, J.P.), Archdeacon Euright, Messrs. J. Jones, David and R. F. Kelly, J. R. Denton, and M. A. Kelly, which were interspersed with musical items. Lieut. Dowling suitably responded. Supper and a dance terminated a very happy evening.

Post WWI University

Don returned to Adelaide University in 1919 and commenced to study medicine. His MB BS was awarded in 1923.

1923 - Sixth Year Medical Students



DA Dowling – Front Row – Third from Right

Back: J. S. Kessel, A. W. Welch, A. J. Lewis.

Middle: R. T. Binns, F. L. Thyer, J. R. Cornish, A. L. Tostevin, F. B. Leditschke, G. H. Howard.

Front: W. R. Angus, F. R. Wicks, H. Mcl. Birch, H. C. Hosking, D. A. Dowling, R. J. De N. Souter, L. D. Cowling.

Post WWI University Sport

Boat

Don rejoined the Adelaide University Boat Club. In 1920 Don was a vice captain of the University Boat Club and in 1922 he was on the Intersarsity Boat Race committee.

Lacrosse

After WWI, Don played A Grade Lacrosse for Adelaide University from 1919-1923. He was part of the team which were runner-up for the 1921 A grade premiership and who won the premiership in 1922.

Don played Intersarsity Lacrosse from 1919-1923. Adelaide University won the Intersarsity in 1920 and 1922. Don was awarded a Blue for Lacrosse in 1920.

1919 – Adelaide University Intersarsity Lacrosse



DA Dowling – Back Row Third from Left

Back: C.G.Evans (emg), L.Wilson, D.A.Dowling, H.M.Fisher, J.L.McGee, H.N.Rees, R.Walmsley (emg)

Front: H.R.Othams, R.T.Grant, H.K.Pavy (capt), N.R.Bennett, A.K.Gault, K.J.Healy

1920 – Adelaide University IntersVarsity Lacrosse

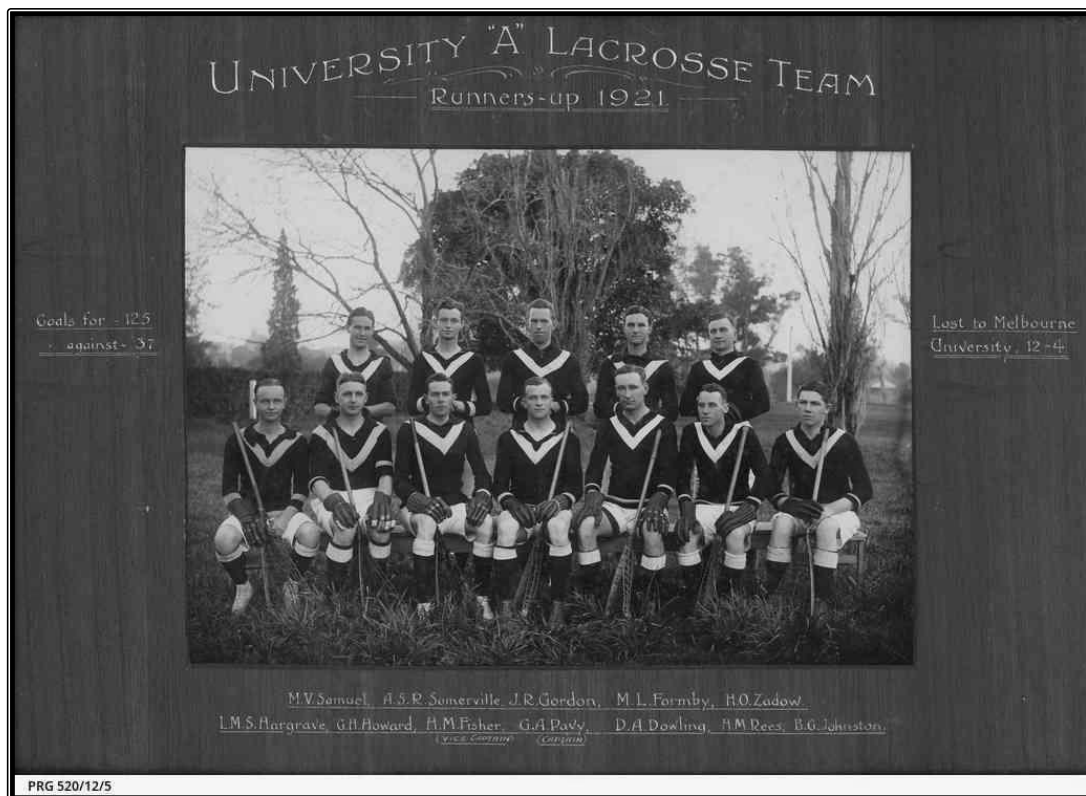


DA Dowling – Front Row – Far Left

Back: L.M.S.Hargrave, B.G.Johnston, G.H.Howard, G.E.Jose, H.M.Rees.

Front: D.A.Dowling, K.J.Healy, A.K.Gault (vice capt), H.K.Pavy (capt), H.M.Fisher (sec), E.W.J.Millhouse, G.Pavy.

1921 – Adelaide University A Grade Lacrosse Team

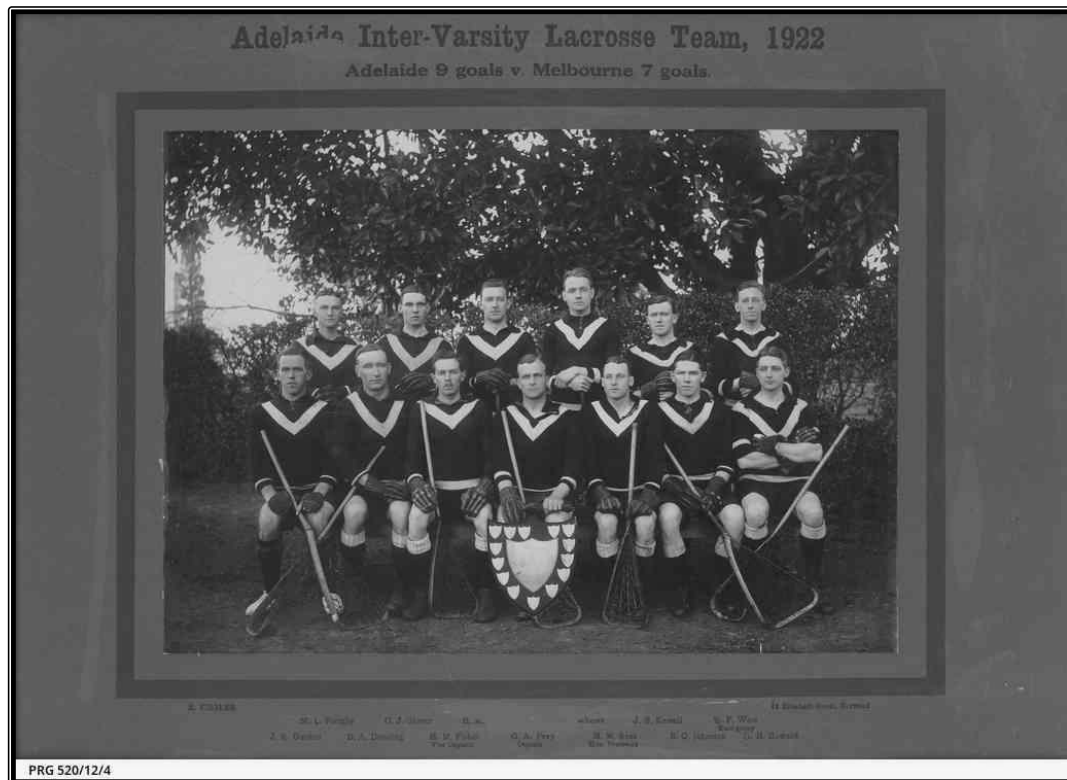


DA Dowling – Front Row – Third from Right

Back: M.V.Samuel, A.S.R.Somerville, J.R.Gordon, M.L.Formby, H.O.Zadow.

Front: L.M.S.Hargrave, G.H.Howard, H.M.Fisher (V C), G.A.Pavy (C), D.A.Dowling, H.M.Rees, B.G.Johnston.

1922 – Adelaide University Intervarsity Lacrosse



DA Dowling – Back Row – Second from Left

Front: J.R.Gordon, D.A.Dowling, H.M.Fisher (V-C), G.A.Pavy (C), H.M.Rees, G.G.Johnston, G.H.Howard

Back: M.I.Formby, C.J.Glover, H.M.Bourke, L.B.Mathews, J.S.Kessel, E.F.West.

1923 – Adelaide University Intervarsity Lacrosse



DA Dowling (Vice Captain) – Front Row – Third from Left

Back: G.Schroeder, E.J.Harison, C.J.Glover, B.S.Muecke, F.R.Wicks (emg), J.S.Kessel, A.T.Harison, W.Cole.

Front: G.H.Howard, H.M.Rees, D.A.Dowling (V-C), J.R.Gordon (C), B.G.Johnston (Sec), L.B.Mathews, L.M.Formby.

Held in Melbourne; won by Adelaide 4-3

Sports Association

Don was on the General Committee of the Sports Association (1922-23 to 1924) and he was a member of the Sports Association's annual ball committee (1923). He was a track steward at the Adelaide University Sports in 1923 and 1924.

Sports Association General Committee 1922-23



BACK ROW:- C.E.Willing, L.C.Maiden, H.M.Rees, A.E.Leidig, H.G.Prest.
MIDDLE ROW:- R.D.Hornabrook, R.O.Fox, J.D.Finey, Miss L.E.Morris, A.H.Hennessy, A.L.Tostevin, Gillman.
FRONT ROW:- A.B.Barker, A.S.de B. Cocks (Hon. Asst. Sec.), C.T.Madigan (Vice-Pres.), D.A.Dowling (Dep. Chmn), H.Mel. Birch (Hon. Treas.), M.V. Samuel, L.D.Cowling.

DA Dowling – Front Row – Fourth from Left

Back: C E Willing, L C Maiden, H M Rees, A E Leidig, H G Prest

Middle: R D Hornabrook, R O Fox, T D Finey, Miss L E Morris, A H Hennessy, A L Tostevin, Gillman

Front: A B Barker, A S Cocks, C T Madigan, D A Dowling, H M Birch, M V Samuel, L D Cowling

Career and Family Life

Don was registered as a fully qualified medical practitioner in January 1924 and became a resident medical officer at the Adelaide Hospital that same month. After completing his residency, Don was in private practice. In February 1927 Don went on a brief visit to Melbourne before departing for Great Britain and the Continent. On returning to Australia Don joined the Commonwealth Health Department and was based at Port Adelaide.

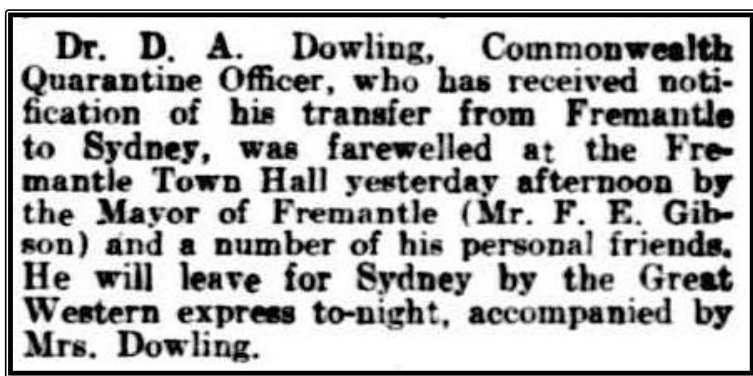
Don became engaged to Mollie Ida Rees, the third daughter of Mr and Mrs George A Rees of Finch Street, Malvern, Victoria in October 1928. Sadly, Don's father, James Patrick Dowling did not live to see Don's wedding as he passed away at Manoora on the 19th December 1928. Don and Mollie married at St Joseph's Church, East Malvern (Melbourne) in January 1929.

Don and Mollie then moved with the Commonwealth Health Department to the Quarantine Station at Fremantle, Western Australia. Their first child, a daughter, Jill Dowling, was born at Fremantle, WA on the 6th February 1930.

In February 1930, when there was a smallpox scare in WA, Don was the acting Chief Quarantine Officer. Don and Mollie had a six week holiday in the eastern states in June and July of 1930, possibly to introduce their baby daughter to relations. While in WA, Don and Mollie lived at the corner of Gill Street and Canning Road, East Fremantle.

In February 1932, Don was transferred from Fremantle to Sydney and was given a farewell at the Fremantle Town Hall. The Dowling family broke their journey east at Manoora where they visited Don's mother.

The West Australian (Perth, WA : 1879 - 1954) - 9 February 1932



Dr. D. A. Dowling, Commonwealth Quarantine Officer, who has received notification of his transfer from Fremantle to Sydney, was farewelled at the Fremantle Town Hall yesterday afternoon by the Mayor of Fremantle (Mr. F. E. Gibson) and a number of his personal friends. He will leave for Sydney by the Great Western express to-night, accompanied by Mrs. Dowling.

In April 1933, Don was awarded a Diploma in Public Health from the University of Sydney. Don and Mollie's second child, a daughter, Anne Cameron Dowling, was born on the 6th July 1933, in Sydney. In 1933, the family were living at 27 The Crescent, Vaucluse, NSW.

Don made a private visit to Adelaide in November 1933, this trip would have been to visit family prior to his departure for Thursday Island (39 kilometres (24 miles) north of Cape York Peninsula in the Torres Strait, Queensland, Australia). Don departed from Sydney on the 6th January 1934 on board the 'Marella' which was bound for Singapore to take up his duties as Port Medical Officer. Mollie and the girls had joined Don before May 1934 when Mollie's parents travelled to Thursday Island to visit the family. The family lived at Hastings Street, Thursday Island.

In February 1937 Don and family travelled from Thursday Island to Cairns where they stayed for a short time at the Strand Hotel. They then motored from Brisbane to Adelaide for a holiday. They were in Adelaide for Anzac Day 1937 and Don marched with his old unit, the 27th Battalion. Don returned to work in May 1937 and was based at Brisbane. The 1937 Electoral Rolls give Don and Mollie's address in Brisbane as 7 London Road, Clayfield. In about 1939 Don and Mollie's son, Anthony Donald Cameron Dowling was born.

World War II

Don enlisted for WWII with Service Number Q108310 on the 6th October 1941 at Enoggera, Queensland. He held the rank of Captain. His WWII record is not yet open to the public. It appears that Don only served briefly as he was discharged on the 11th December 1941. He continued his work with the Commonwealth Health Department and was concerned with the potential impacts of malnutrition.

Post WWII

Don was promoted to the position of Senior Medical Officer and was stationed in Canberra from 1946-48. In October 1947 he travelled to Darwin to check medical defence measures to prevent the possibility of cholera spreading to Australia after a serious outbreak of the disease in Egypt. Don and Mollie's elder daughter, Jill, attended Clayfield College, Brisbane and she was dux of the college in 1947. Jill and Anne were both competitive swimmer and Jill later played intervarsity hockey.

Don was then appointed the Chief Medical Officer at Australia House, London. He was in London in 1949 when many Australians were required to undergo quarantine as a result of a passenger onboard the P&O Liner 'Mooltan' contracting typhoid.

Who's Who in Australia 1950

DOWLING, Donald Augustus, M.B., B.S.
Adel., D.P.H. Syd., Chief Medical Officer
Australia House, Lond., since 1948: son
of late James P. Dowling; b. July 7, 1895,
Farina, S.A.; ed. Adelaide High School and
University of Adelaide: University 1914
and 1919-23; A.I.F. Sept. 1914-Jan. 1919;
L.T. work 1925-26; England, 1927; Med.
Offcr. C'wealth Dept. of Health, 1928-46,
Sen. Med. Offcr., Canberra, 1946-48;
m. Jan. 26, 1929, Mollie I., d. Geo. A.
Rees, 1 s., 2 d.; *recreations*, theatre,
golf; *clubs*, United Service (Brisb.),
Canberra, Roy. Canberra Golf; *address*,
31 Cole Park Rd., Twickenham, M'sex,
England.

The family had the opportunity to travel through Norway, Switzerland, Italy, Austria and Germany while based in London. Don was then appointed a vice-president of the World Health Organisation and in May 1951 he spoke at the fourth World Health Assembly at Geneva.

Mollie and the three children (Jill, Anne and Tony) returned to Australia onboard the Strathaird in March 1951 after two years overseas. They came home ahead of Don as the girls wanted to commence their professional careers. Jill commenced studying physiotherapy and Anne commenced nursing at the General Hospital. The family lived at Hampton Court, Clayfield (Brisbane, Qld) until Don returned to Australia in October 1951. Don travelled to Brisbane via America then took up his role as Deputy Director in the Commonwealth Health Department, Queensland.

In May 1952 Don undertook an official visit to North Queensland including visits to Mackay, Bowen, Townsville, Cairns and Thursday Island. His role covered such topics as health insurance, outbreaks of child gastro, the prevention of foot and mouth disease, tuberculosis and swine fever, the prevention of fraud in relation to free medical services and the promotion of immunization. Don is pictured below having an X-Ray at the opening of the Chest Clinic on George Street, Brisbane.



DA Dowling - Left

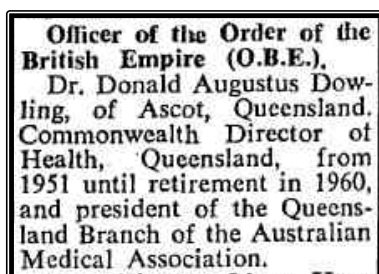
By 1954 the family had moved to 75 Yabba St, Ascot, Qld and in February that year Don and Mollie's daughter, Jill, gained her Diploma in Physiotherapy from the University of Queensland. Jill then went to work at the Rockhampton Hospital, Qld.

In 1954 Don was dealing with such issues as radiation and rats onboard ships entering Australia, foreign weeds and grasses entering on the wheels of airplanes, the prevention of diseases entering Australia via insects on airplanes and with humans and animals entering Australia.

In 1959 Don travelled overseas as manager of the Australian Swimming team returning from Johannesburg to Perth, Australia on Qantas flight SA242/34 on the 10th April.

Don was awarded an O.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in June 1962.

The Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 - 1995) - 2 June 1962



Sadly for Don and his children, Mollie Ida Dowling passed away on 21st February 1968, aged 66 years. She was buried at the Albany Creek Memorial Park, Bridgeman Downs, Qld.

Don became the Australian Swimming Union President. He was the president of the ASU in March 1965 when Dawn Fraser and three other female swimmers from the 1964 Australian Tokyo Olympic team were banned from competitive swimming for alleged misbehaviour at the games.

Don and Mollie's son, Tony, became a doctor. He was living at Crosby Road, Hamilton (Brisbane) in 1972 and later practised in New South Wales.

Death

Donald Augustus Dowling passed away of a myocardial infarction on the 8th March 1979, aged 83 years. He is commemorated at the Pinnaroo Lawn Cemetery and Crematorium, Bridgeman Downs, Qld.



Profile Compiled by: Beth Filmer - AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee

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