



# **Gunner Ronald Dalton McKellar-Hall**



**Played with Adelaide University**



**Football Club: 1914 (B Grade)**

**Student: 1914 (Arts and Science)**

## ***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 Ronald Dalton McKellar-Hall. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.***

# Service Record

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=3007833>

**A** *Returned to Australia* *8<sup>th</sup> Div Art*

**AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.**

**AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.**

**ATTESTATION PAPER OF PERSONS ENLISTED FOR SERVICE ABROAD**

No. *26907* Name *HALL REGINALD DALTON McKELLAR*

Unit *3<sup>rd</sup> Coy 2<sup>nd</sup> DEPOT* *2<sup>nd</sup> Brig 6<sup>th</sup> Div Art*

Joined on *MAR 13 1916*

**Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.**

- What is your Name? *Reginald Dalton McKellar Hall*
- In the Parish of *Broken Hill* in or near the Town of *Broken Hill* in the County of *New South Wales*
- Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) *Natural born*
- What is your age? *19 - 1/2 years*
- What is your trade or calling? *Student*
- Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? *No*
- Are you married? *No*
- Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) *Father: Anthony James Alexander Hall, "Solider", Argyle St, Broken Hill*  
*Mother: Mrs Florence Mary "Darwell" Sulphide Street, Broken Hill, New South Wales*
- Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? *No*
- 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? *No*
- 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 *14 years Senior Artillery 1898. Transf. 1 year Artillery 1908. 78<sup>th</sup> Artillery. serving*
- Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? *Yes*
- Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? *No*
- (For married men, widowers with children, and widows who are the sole support of widowed mother) —  
Do you understand that no separation allowance will be granted to you in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with war would reach £1- per day? *No*
- Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever? *Yes*

*Reginald Dalton McKellar Hall* 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.

*My father agrees to allow no 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 *MAR 13 1916* *Reginald D. Hall*  
Signature of Person Enlisted.

\* This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 15 years of age.  
† Two-fifths must be allotted to the wife, and if there are children three-fifths must be allotted.

National Archives of Australia NAA B2455, HALL R D M

Description of Reginald Dalton McKellar Hall on Enlistment

Age 19 years 1 months  
 Height 5 feet 9 3/4 inches  
 Weight 137 lbs.  
 Chest Measurement 32 1/2 - 35 1/2 inches  
 Complexion Fresh  
 Eyes Grey  
 Hair Fair  
 Religious Denomination Catholic

## DISTINCTIVE MARKS.

his R 6 L 6  
 Mac 2 L

## 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; hæmorrhoids; 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 MAR 13 1916

Place ADELAIDE.

E. Johnson

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 6th F.A. Brigade 8th REINFORCEMENT  
2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.F.

Date 4/8/16

Place Adelaide

W. Hancock LT. COL.  
 CAMP COMMANDANT  
W. Douglas Dunn Lieut.

Commanding 2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.F.  
6th F.A. Brigade 8th REINFORCEMENT.



## Reginald Dalton McKellar HALL

Regimental number	26907
Place of birth	Broken Hill New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Student
Address	Broken Hill, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	19
Next of kin	Father, A Hall, Argent Street, Broken Hill, New South Wales
Previous military service	78th Infantry
Enlistment date	13 March 1916
Rank on enlistment	Driver
Unit name	Field Artillery Brigade 6, Reinforcement 8
AWM Embarkation Roll number	13/34/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A15 <i>Port Sydney</i> on 7 September 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Gunner
Unit from Nominal Roll	8th Field Artillery Brigade
Fate	Returned to Australia 4 May 1917
Miscellaneous details (Nominal Roll)	*Given name Reginald Dalton

### HALL, Reginald Dalton McKellar



Service no 26907  
Gunner  
8th Field Artillery Brigade

Born 07 February 1897 in Broken Hill, NSW  
Son of Anthony James Alexander and Florence Mary HALL  
Of 'Orville' Sulphide Street, Broken Hill, NSW  
Occupation prior to enlistment Student  
Enlisted 13 March 1916 at Adelaide, SA  
Served in France  
Returned to Australia 04 May 1917 per 'Miltiades' for family reasons

State Records of SA GRG 26/5/4/2872





**McKELLAR HALL, Dr Reginald Dalton, 1897-1991**

Reginald McKellar Hall abandoned his plans to attend medical school at Adelaide University in 1916 and instead joined the army as a gunner. After the First World War, he attended Melbourne University, graduating with the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery. He completed a two year residency at the Melbourne Hospital before travelling to Scotland to obtain his Fellowship. Returning to Australia, he arrived in Perth and in 1926 became Orthopaedic Surgeon at the Royal Perth Hospital. He was Emeritus Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at RPH and Princess Margaret Children's Hospital.

Dr McKellar Hall is the author of "Reflections of an Orthopaedics Surgeon"; (a copy is available at the SLWA).

**Source:**

R.D. McKellar - Hall, 1983, *Reflections of an Orthopaedic Surgeon*, Victoria Park, W.A.: Hesperian Press, c1983.

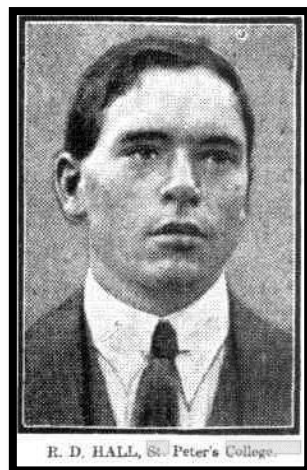
## Biography

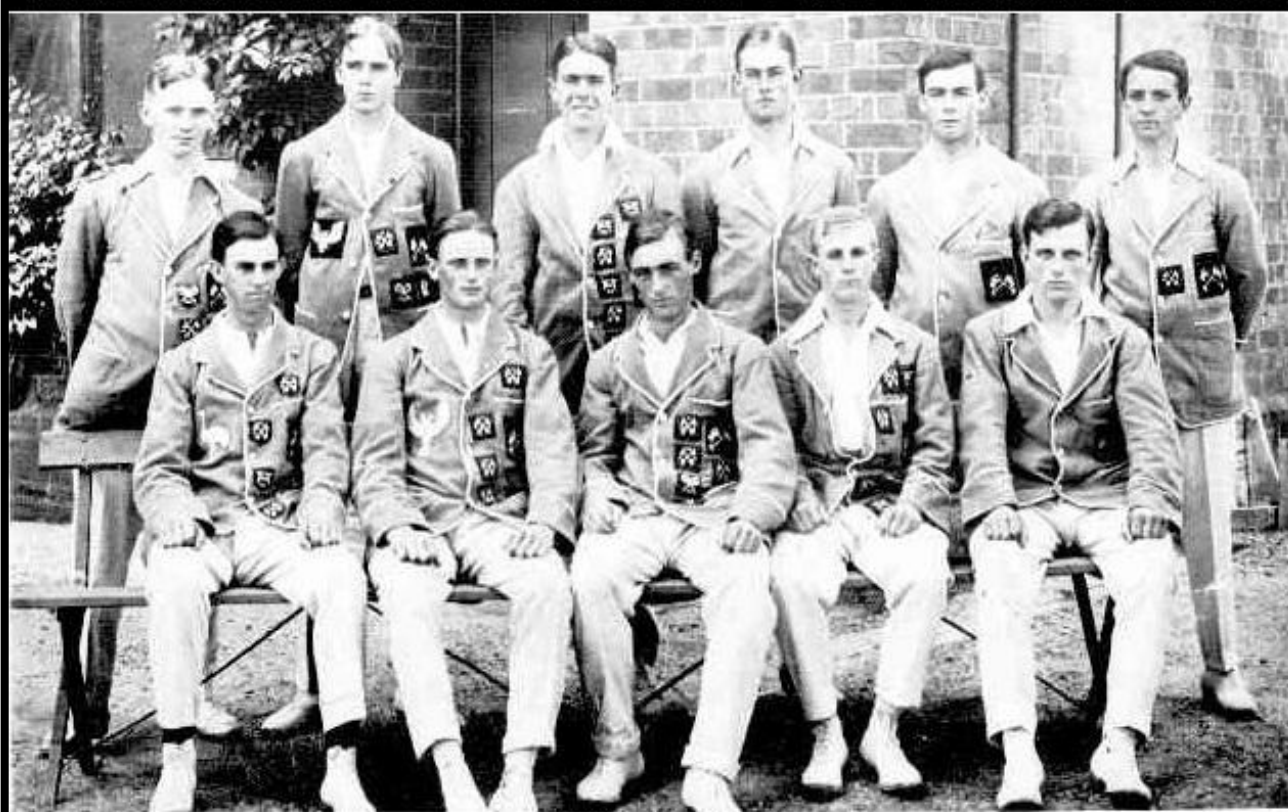
Reginald "Reg" Dalton McKellar-Hall was born on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 1897 in Brocken Hill, NSW to Lawyer Anthony James Alexander Hall (Adelaide University LL.B 1888) and Florence Mary McKellar (See Appendix 1).

Reg and his older brother Anthony attended the local Broken Hill schools initially, but they were sent to St Peter's College, Adelaide to complete their secondary education. After completing his Senior and Higher Year examinations, Anthony enrolled at Adelaide University to study for an engineering degree. It was Reg's plan to do medicine.

After completing his Senior Public Examinations in 1913, Reg stayed on at St Peter's College in 1914 to study for the Higher Year subjects which he needed to gain entrance into the Medical Faculty at Adelaide University. One of the compulsory subjects was Biology, which was conducted only by Adelaide University and required him to enroll. He passed Biology in the November 1914 examinations. The following year he needed to reenroll again at St Peter's College to complete another required subject (Physics) for entry to Medicine. He passed the physics examination and was now set to begin his medical studies in 1916 at the age of 19.

Reg was a fine all-round sportsman and was a member of the Firsts cricket team and football teams in 1914. In 1915 he was captain of the football team and vice-captain of cricket.





**St. Peters Team.**

Back Row—G. E. Jose, R. D. Hall, R. B. Coulter, R. G. Goodman, G. H. Leaver, H. G. Moyle.  
 Front Row—U. E. Colley, R. G. Horwood, W. G. Coleman (capt), L. Pellew, C. A. L. Greig.



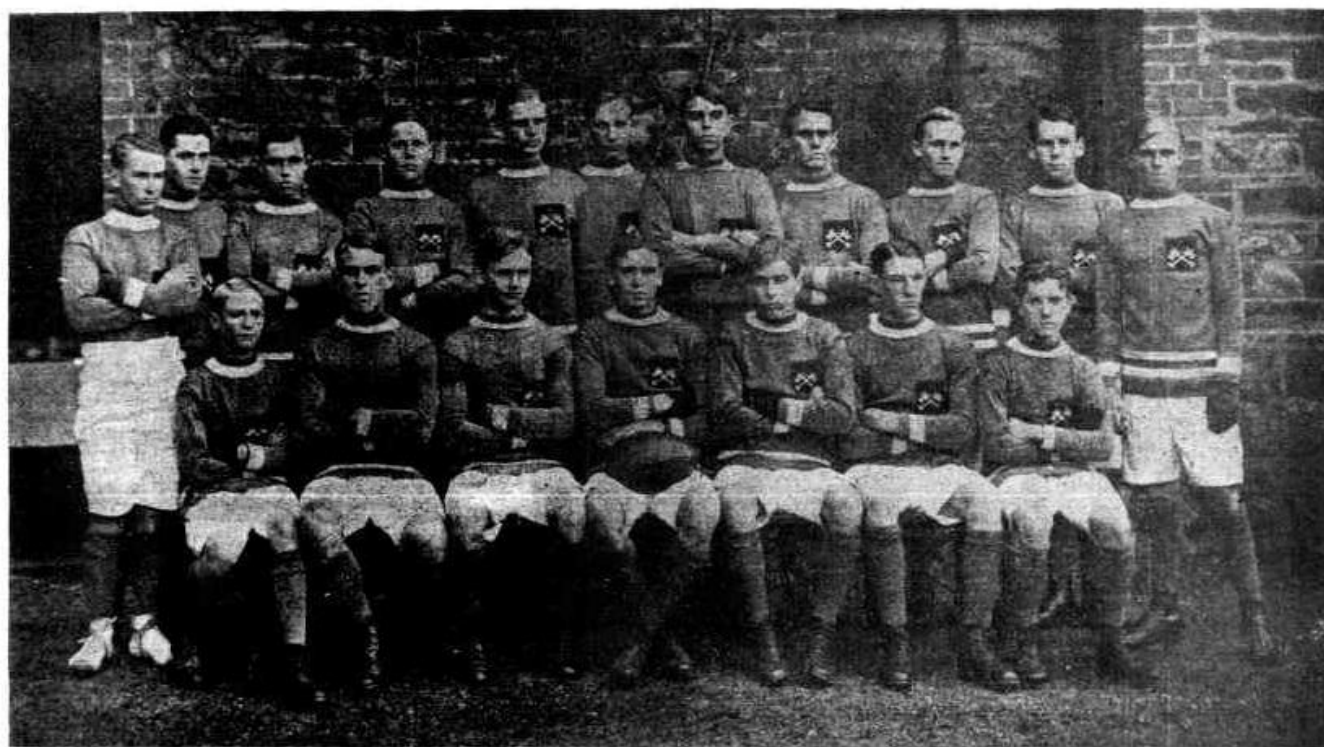
**St. Peters College Cricket Team, 1915**

Back Row—S. H. Smith, G. Gregerson-Tennant, M. T. A. Caterer, H. Fiorey, D. Ansell, L. B. Pellew.  
 Front Row—G. Owen-Smith, R. D. Hall, G. E. Jose, Lance Pellew, J. Astley.



Back Row—(from left) P. A. Jennings, W. W. Hall, M. S. Higgins, and G. P. Hall. Middle Row—(from left) W. W. Hall, M. S. Higgins, and G. P. Hall. Front Row—(from left) W. W. Hall, M. S. Higgins, and G. P. Hall. The man in the dark suit and hat is the Sports Master, P. A. Jennings. The man in the dark suit and hat is the Sports Master, P. A. Jennings. The man in the dark suit and hat is the Sports Master, P. A. Jennings.

*R G Mc Hall (Back Row 3rd on right)*



**St. Peters College Football Team.**

Back Row—S. Smith, H. Florey, J. Legg, T. Bowen, A. Webb, J. Tarrent, R. Miller, A. Colley, V. Cocks, O. Thomas, L. Spiller.  
Front Row—L. Pellew, R. Paxton, G. Jose (Vice-Capt), R. D. Hall (Capt), R. Hilton, W. Auld, E. Pellew.



## Adelaide University Football Club

Although playing football for St Peter's College in 1914, including the important intercollegiate match against Prince Alfred College in July, it appears Reg was enticed (probably by some of his old St Peter's College mates) in August to play for the Adelaide University B team, which at the time was second on the premiership table in the Adelaide Students Association Competition. As a bona-fide student at Adelaide University studying biology, he was qualified to play. Their rivals, Adelaide High School, had beaten Adelaide University earlier in the season and were top of the premiership table at the end of the minor round.

After having eliminated Christian Brothers College in the semi-final (with Hall in the best players) the following week, in the premiership match, they would come up against Adelaide High School again who had also won their semi-final. With Reg again in the best players, the University team won by a narrow 5-point margin.

Observer (Adelaide, SA : 1905 - 1931) / Sat 8 Aug 1914

### ADELAIDE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

Semi-finals.—Christian Brothers' College lost to University B, 11.8—3.4. Best players:—University—Timecke, Hall, O'Neill, Dowling, Neitz, Turner, Laurie, Piper, and Shanasy. C.B.C.—Power, Pick, Fox, Jones, Spain, Harris, Fitzgerald, and McCarthy. Goalkickers: University—Shanasy (1), Piper, Timecke (2), Guymer, Baaner, and Neitz (1). C.B.C.—Riley (2), and Hogan (1).

Observer (Adelaide, SA : 1905 - 1931) / Sat 15 Aug 1914

### ADELAIDE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

Premiership.—University B, 5.10, beat High School, 5.5. Best players:—Winners—Timecke, Stoate, Hall, Dowling, Rayner, Shanasy, Laurie, and Padman. Losers—Davy, Polden, Mitchell, O'Grady, Saide, Symonds, Jacobs, and Yorgan. Goalkickers:—Winners—Shanasy (3), Neitz, and Meldrum (1). Losers—Treloar (2), Madigan, Murphy, and Symonds (1).

The rules of the competition in those days allowed the team that finished minor round premiers and lost the grand-final the right to a "challenge match". In that match the University team repeated its win over Adelaide high School, this time by a larger margin.

The Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954) / Sun 13 Sep 1914

### ADELAIDE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION PREMIERSHIP.

University B, 6.12, beat High School, 4.8. Best players:—University—Timecke, Laurie, Guymer, Saide, Dowling, Beaumont. High School—O'Grady, Davey, Saide, Mitchell, Symonds, Polden, Treloar, Streich. Goalkickers:—University—Laurie and Piper (2), Guymer, and Timecke. High School—Symonds, Treloar, Madigan, and Polden.

It appears from the fact that Reg is not in the 1914 AUFC B Grade Premiership Team photo, that he did not play in the September Challenge final. This could be explained by the fact that the St Peter's College

football team was in Melbourne at the time for the annual matches against Melbourne Grammar and Scotch College.



## World War I Service

At the beginning of 1916 Reg abandoned his plans to study medicine at Adelaide University and enlisted on 13th March 1916 alongside many of his St Peters Football and Cricketing teammates.

This would have been a great worry to his parents having lost their eldest son Anthony at Gallipoli in May 1915.

### HALL, Anthony Basil



REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

Service No: 213  
Sergeant  
10th Battalion

Born: Broken Hill, NSW  
Father: Anthony James HALL  
Of Broken Hill, NSW  
Occupation prior to enlisting: Electrical Engineer  
Enlisted: 22 August 1914 at Keswick, South Australia  
Embarkation: 20 October 1914  
Age: 19 years  
Served in Gallipoli  
Killed in Action: 18 May 1915  
Buried: Lone Pine Cemetery, Gallipoli, Turkey

Chronicle Newspaper



Further tragedy followed to make things worse when his father (Anthony Snr) died on 7th March 1917 leaving his wife in desperate circumstances. He had died intestate and heavily in debt. In January just prior to his father's death, Reg had been on the front lines in France and had been promoted to the rank of Gunner.

With his Mother, who was unwell, almost deaf, and penniless, his uncle contacted the Army Command to request Reg to be discharged on compassionate grounds.

### Reginald Dalton McKellar Hall - Statement of Service

Eng 13-5-17 No 37/C  
B1037-5-17

Statement of Service No. 36907 Name Hall, R.D. Mc

Unit in which served	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Period of Service in each Rank		Remarks
		From	To	
B Coy 2nd Depot D. Coy To Artillery, Bde. M. Old Artillery S. Aust.	Plt	13-5-16	15-3-16	
		16-3-16	30-4-16	
		10-5-16	10-5-16	
		10-5-16	10-5-16	C 100%
		17-6-16	3/8/16	
		11/8/16		
F.A. REINFORCEMENTS. MARIDYRONG F.A. Belgium 8th REINFORCEMENT.	Driver			
	Embarked Port Sydney. Melbourne.			
	Disembarked Plymouth			E-R-8331
A.A.T.D. Marched in from the house, Australia		Eng. 7-11-16		E.R. 6612. PL 1/39 E. 13-1-17.
TRANSFERRED TO 3rd Div Art.		Eng. 7-12-16		
TAKEN ON STRENGTH from F.A. Bde. (7-4-16)		Eng. 8-12-16		PL 2/43 E. 30-12-16
Proceeding Overseas FRANCE			31-12-16	1/4/16 E. 13-1-17
TAKEN ON STRENGTH from 23rd F.A. Bde. (8th F.A. Bde.)			6/1/17	1/238 5/1/17
Remustered as Gunner (8th F.A. Bde.)			7-1-17	2/420 8/2/17
TRANSFERRED TO 8 F.A. Bde			6-1-17	1/304 1/2/17 (23208)
M. In to No 2.C.D. Wynants from Furler		Eng. 26-4-17		7012/ 23/5/17
Recalled to Australia		France 23-4-17		7015/867.
Returned to Australia per H.T. Mullender for G.O.C.A.I.F. Family Reasons				Soc. A.I.F. 7.5224P A.7593. L.R. 3226.
		Disport. 4-5-17		7017/2201E 23-5-17

I have examined the above details, and find them correct in every respect.

## After the War and Medical Studies

After being discharged from the army on compassionate grounds in 1917, Reg was supported by his uncle in Melbourne and was able to realise his ambition to study medicine. Enrolling at Melbourne University in 1918, he completed his MBBS degree and spent two years residency at Royal Melbourne Hospital.

## Orthopaedic Surgeon and Life in Perth

Moving to Perth in 1926 and after gaining experience overseas, Reg became a specialist orthopaedic surgeon at the Royal Perth Hospital. In December 1928, Reg married Melbourne girl Linda Anderson who he had met during his time at Melbourne University and Royal Melbourne Hospital.



During his long career as an orthopaedic surgeon he was known to have special interests in the following areas:

Reg was very much involved with the rehabilitation of soldiers who has suffered amputations and other serious injuries to limbs and fought hard for governments to fund care and facilities for them.

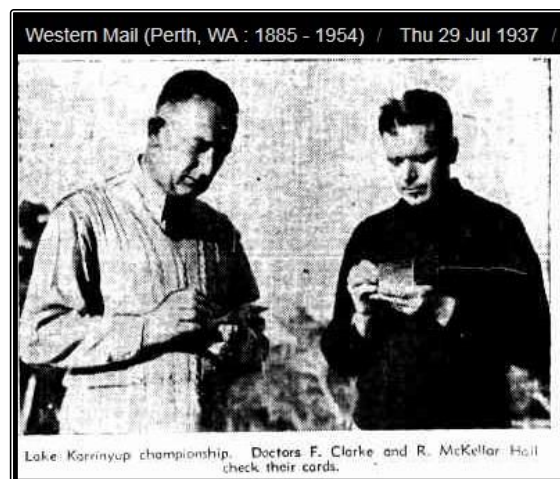
He was very interested in the politics of medicine and served a term as president of the Orthopaedics Association of Australia in 1961.

His other great interest was in the care and treatment of crippled children. This arose after the Polio epidemics in Australia in the 1940's and 50's. He was for many years Honorary Surgeon and President of the Western Australian Crippled Childrens Association.





Reg was also a very keen and low handicap golfer and an esteemed and long serving member of the Lake Karrinyup Golf Club.



Reg and his wife Linda travelled extensively overseas and carried a high profile on the Perth social set.



Linda passed away in 1979 aged 76. Reg died in 1991 aged 94

*Profile Compiled by: Rob O'Shannassy AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee*

- *Adelaide University Football Club - Photo Collection - Adelaide University Archives*
- *With additional information from the National Library of Australia - Trove (Digital Newspapers)*
- *National Archives of Australia - WW1 Service Records*
- *State Library of Western Australia*
- *Ancestry.Com - Public Member Family Tree*

## Appendix 1

# Reginald 'Reg' D McKellar Hall

1897

(AGE)

## Birth

About 1897 • Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia

2 Sources

1915

18

Death of Brother Anthony Basil McKellar Hall (1895–1915)

18 May 1915 • Dardanelles, Canakkale, Turkey

1917

20

Death of Father Anthony James Alexander Hall (1864–1917)

1917 • Broken Hill

1944

47

Death of Mother Florence Mary McKellar (–1944)

15 Jun 1944 • Broken Hill, New South Wales

1951

54

## Arrival

27 Aug 1951 • London, England

1 Source

1979

82

Death of Wife Linda Winifred Anderson (1903–1979)

1979 • Perth, Western Australia

## Family

### Parents

Anthony James Alexander Hall

1864–1917

Florence Mary McKellar

–1944

### Siblings ^

Anthony Basil McKellar Hall

1895–1915

### Spouse

Linda Winifred Anderson

1903–1979

<https://www.ancestry.com.au/family-tree/person/tree/28856173/person/26902367615/facts>