



2nd Lieut. Stuart Douglas Ronald



Played with Adelaide University



Football Club: A Grade (1906, 1907 & 1911)

(Intervarsity Football 1907, Geelong College 1907)

and

Cricket Club: B Grade (1910/11)

Degree: LLB (1910)

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 Stuart Douglas Ronald. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.

The AIF Project

<https://aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=260521>




Stuart Douglas RONALD

Regimental number	6701
Place of birth	Adelaide South Australia
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Solicitor
Address	Port Pirie, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	34
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs H M Ronald, Kent Terrace, Norwood, South Australia
Enlistment date	4 December 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	10th Battalion, 22nd Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/27/4
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board HMAT A19 <i>Afric</i> on 7 November 1916

Service Record

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8034937>

OFFICER **LIAN**  **MILITARY FORCES.**

LIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

ATTESTATION PAPER OF PERSONS ENLISTED FOR SERVICE ABROAD

Name RONALD Stuart Douglas

Unit 16 Coy 2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.I.F.

Joined on 20-12-15 Pay Service 20-12-15

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

What is your Name? ... Stuart Douglas Ronald

In or near what Parish or Town were you born? ... near the Town of Adelaide
in the County of Sth Australia

Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ... NB

What is your age? ... 31 1/2

What is your trade or calling? ... Solicitor

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) ... Mother Mrs Hannah Matilda Ronald
Ken. Terrace Norwood
Sth Australia

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 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? ... 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 ... 14th. Univ. Rifle Club

Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? ... Months Squad Drill A Force

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 soldiers who are the sole support of widowed mother—
Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued to you in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with pay would reach 8/- per day? ... No

Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever? ... Yes

Stuart Douglas Ronald do solemnly declare that the above answers made 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 * + wife and children

Date 4-12-15 Stuart D. Ronald
Signature of Person Enlisted.

* This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.
† Two-fifths must be allotted to the wife, and if there are children three-fifths must be allotted.

Biography

Early Life

Stuart Douglas Ronald was born on the 29th of September 1884 at Thebarton, SA, the son of Edward James Ronald and Hannah Matilda Tuxford. Stuart's father, E.J. Ronald was a well-known Adelaide solicitor.

Schooling

Stuart attended St Peter's College, Adelaide from 1897 to 1903. In Form Remove A in December 1899, Stuart won the mathematics prize. He passed the Adelaide University March Preliminary Examinations in 1900, Junior Examinations in December 1901 and Senior Examinations in December 1903. Stuart also passed two further Senior Examinations in December 1904 and a further subject in the Special Senior Examinations in March 1905 under the tuition of Mr F.W. Wheatley.

Stuart represented St Peter's College at the Inter-Collegiate football match against Prince Alfred College and Wesley College in 1903.



St Peter's College Team - Stuart Ronald - back row 4th from left

Adelaide University

Stuart was articled to his father E.J. Ronald and commenced his studies in the law at Adelaide University in 1905. He graduated LLB in 1910.

Stuart was on the committee that organised the University Ball in 1909 to 1912 and was one of the secretaries of the 1910 and 1911 committee.

While still at University, Stuart became a member of the committee of the Adelaide Circulating Library a position he held from at least 1910 to 1913.

University Sport

Cricket

Stuart played cricket for Stow Ramblers in the 1908/09 season and for the Adelaide University B Grade in 1910/11.

Rifle

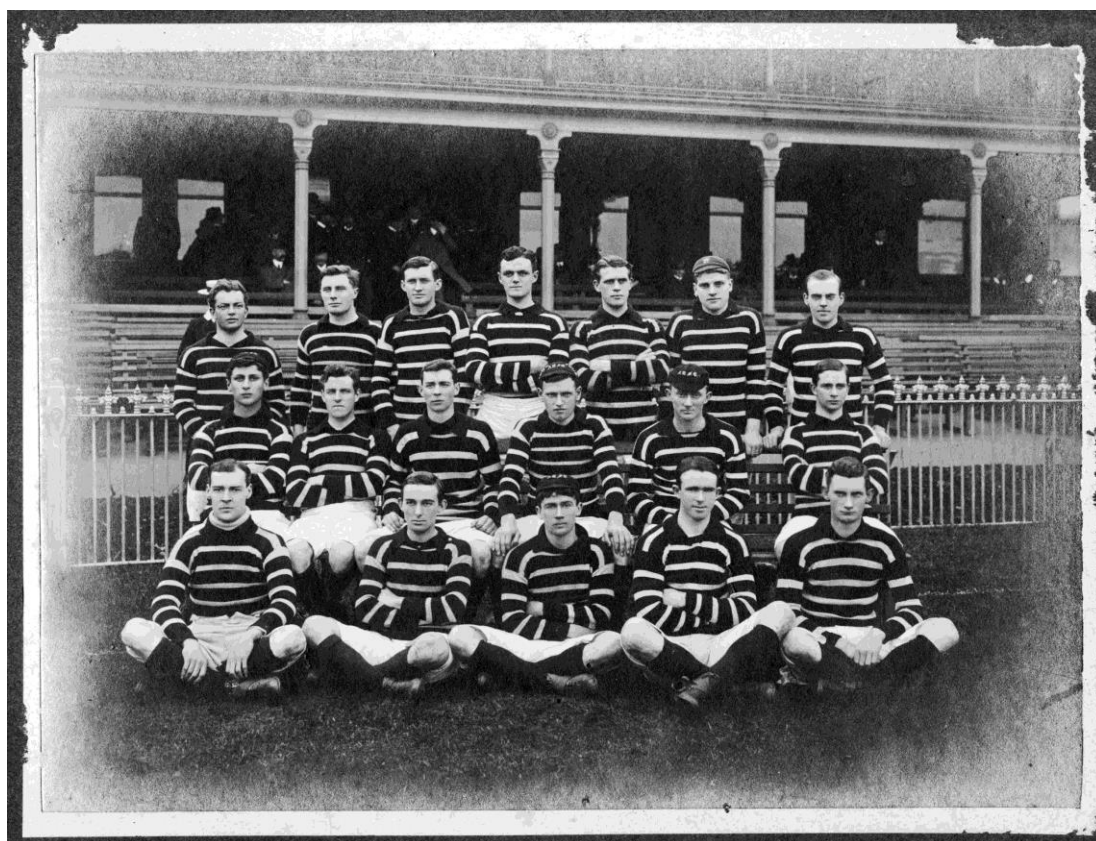
Stuart was a member of the Adelaide University Rifle Club for a year.

Football

Stuart commenced playing football for the University in its first year as a formal club (1906) playing in the Adelaide and Suburban Football Association competition in 1906 and 1907. He played in the 1907 Intervarsity team and represented the University in a match against Geelong College in 1907.

Adelaide University did not have a team in regular competitions in 1908-10. Stuart returned to play for the University in its first year in the Amateur League in 1911.

1907 – Adelaide University Intervarsity Team



*Back: W A V Drew, L H Haslam, E L Baylis, G A Harvey, G L Catchlove, A C Wilton, D R Cowan.
Middle: J Jona, W B Angwin, M H Moyes, T H Donnelly (capt), C E Dolling, C F Drew.
Front : S D Ronald, E M Holder, E B Jones, H W D Stoddart, S W Jeffries.*



Back Row - C. F. Pitcher, F. Schmidt, J. Symon, R. Badger, E. L. Baylis, A. E. Kain, L. G. Caust, A. C. Wilton,
K. N. Steele, H. B. Willmore, L. J. B. Hurley, S. D. Ronald, and L. A. Hayward
Middle Row - J. J. Forrester (trainer), S. W. Jeffries, C. F. Drew, H. W. D. Stoddart,
T. N. Le Messurier, E. B. Jones, and T. Margitich (Trainer).
Front Row - C. G. H. McDonald, A. Williams, F. Seymour-Smith, B. Coleman (Umpire),
W. J. E. Phillips, T. Williams, and W. W. Cooper

S.D. Ronald – Back Row - Second from Right (in Boater Hat)

Pre-War Career

In November 1910 Stuart was living at Kent Terrace, Norwood, SA when he gave notice that he intended applying for admission to the bar. He gained admission to the Bar on the 17th of December 1910 and by March 1911, Stuart was in practice at Eagle Chambers, Pirie Street, Adelaide.

In February 1913, Stuart commenced a partnership with Edward Clyde Padman under the style of Padman & Stuart Ronald, at Ellen Street, Port Pirie and at Gladstone and Crystal Brook. While at Port Pirie, Stuart was chairman of the local Football Association.

World War I

Stuart enlisted on the 4th of December 1915, SN 9901. He was 31 years old, 5' 11½ ", 140 lbs with a medium complexion, hazel eyes and hair turning grey. He attended NCO School at the Mitcham camp and was an acting Sergeant when he embarked with the 10th Battalion, 22nd Reinforcements from Adelaide onboard the *HMAT Afric* A19 on the 7th of November 1917.



He disembarked at Plymouth, England on the 9th of January 1917 and reverted to Private with the 3rd Training Battalion.

Unfortunately, Stuart contracted bronchitis in mid-January 1917, and it was mid-February 1917, before he re-joined his unit. Stuart had various periods as an acting Corporal and acting Lance Corporal in April and May 1917. On the 29th of May 1917 he proceeded overseas to France.

On the 10th of August 1917 he was selected to attend No 4 Officers Cadet Battalion, Oxford, England. On the 30th of November 1917, he was appointed a 2nd Lieutenant with the General Infantry Rifles and was back in France by December.

Mrs. E. J. Ronald, Kent terrace, Norwood, has received a cable from her son, Stuart D. Ronald (of the firm of Padman & Ronald, solicitors, Port Pirie), saying that he has received his commission as lieutenant in the A.I.F. in France.

On the 9th of January 1918, Stuart returned to England as he required an operation for haemorrhoids.

On the 12th of March 1918, Stuart embarked from England on either the *Durham Castle* or the *Kenilworth Castle* (both are on his service record) and disembarked at Capetown, South Africa. He departed Capetown on the 19th of April 1918 and returned to Australia onboard the *Orantes* which arrived at Melbourne on 10th of May 1918. Stuart returned to the 4th Military District (South Australia & Broken Hill) and on the 25th of May 1918 he was discharged as medically unfit and temporarily placed on the Reserve of Officers.

Post-War Career and Family Life

By the 21st of May 1918, Stuart had made a business trip to Port Pirie and from the 6th of June 1918 the partnership between Edward Clyde Padman (who had also served during WWI) and Stuart Douglas Ronald was dissolved.

Stuart resumed practice as a sole practitioner in March 1919 at Advertiser Buildings, Divett Street, Port Adelaide, however in October 1919, Stuart became a partner in a new legal firm with Mr P.E. Johnstone and Miss Mary Cecil Kitson. Miss Kitson was the first female admitted to the bar in South Australia and the new partnership was the first to have a female partner.

NEW LEGAL FIRM A NOVEL PARTNERSHIP.

On account of Mr. Poole's elevation to the judiciary of the South Australian Supreme Court the partnership in the legal firm of Messrs. Poole & Johnstone has been dissolved. Mr. P. E. Johnstone has now taken as partners Mr. Stuart D. Ronald and Miss Mary Cecil Kitson, LL.B., and in future the firm name will be that of Johnstone, Ronald, & Kitson. Miss Kitson enjoys the distinction of being the only woman who has been admitted to the South Australian Bar, and her brilliant reputation will be still further enhanced by the novelty of her entry into a business partnership.

Mr. Johnstone was educated at Prince Alfred College and subsequently at the University, where he obtained his B.A. degree in 1894 and LL.B. in 1898. He served his articles with Mr. Justice Gordon, and in 1899 was called to the Bar. Becoming a partner in the legal firm of Messrs. Young, Newland, & Johnstone, he remained with them for some time, and subsequently practised on his own account until in 1909 he joined Mr. T. Stanley Poole, M.A., LL.B., and has since been associated with him. Mr. Johnstone is a member of

the Council of the South Australian Law Society, lecturer in the law of contracts at the Adelaide University, and a member of the house committee of Prince Alfred College.

Mr. Ronald is a son of the late Mr. E. J. Ronald, a well-known Adelaide solicitor. Educated at St. Peter's College and the University he was admitted to the Bar in 1910. He practised at Port Pirie with Mr. C. Padman under the firm name of Messrs. Padman & Ronald until the outbreak of war. He joined the A.I.F., and was on active service abroad with the 10th Battalion for two years. Since his return from the front Mr. Ronald has been practising on his own account at Port Adelaide.

Miss Kitson is a daughter of Sub-Inspector Kitson, of the Detective Department. She was educated at the Convent of Mercy, Angus Street, and from there passed the Senior Public in 1910 and the Higher Public in 1911. She began her University course in 1912, and in 1916 was admitted to the LL.B. degree, so far the only woman in South Australia to obtain this distinction. In August, 1914, she was articled to Mr. Poole, and after three years' service she was admitted to the South Australian Bar on October 30, 1917; in the presence of a large audience, Lady Galway being among the gathering. Since her admission to the Bar Miss Kitson has been employed by Messrs. Poole & Johnstone as managing clerk.

In 1920, Stuart Douglas Ronald, married Aileen Mueller Whitfield in Perth WA. The couple lived at Childers Street, North Adelaide. Their son, Ian Douglas Ronald was born on the 12th of April 1922 at Konetta, and their daughter, Joan Ronald was born on the 13th of December 1923 at Tarawere Private Hospital, Harrow Road, St Peters.

In March 1923, Stuart was appointed a new Stipendiary and Special Magistrate in country Local Courts, and Courts of Insolvency in place of Dr Hewitson, who had been transferred to the Industrial Court. He was based at Wallaroo for four years.

Mr. Ronald was born at Thebarton in 1884, and was educated at St. Peter's College and the University of Adelaide, where he studied law. He was then attracted to his father, the late E. J. Ronald, who practised for many years as a solicitor in Adelaide. He subsequently went into partnership with Mr. E. C. Padman at Port Pirie, where they practised together for several years. Mr. Ronald enlisted with the Australian Imperial Forces, and served in France. On his return he joined as a partner the firm of Johnstone, Ronald, and Kitson, with whom he has since been associated. He has had considerable court experience. In his younger days he was a keen athlete, and represented his college and the University in the football field.



By October 1926 Stuart was receiving an annual salary £700 per annum. In January 1927, Stuart was transferred to the Adelaide Local Courts from Wallaroo. In March 1928, Stuart undertook duties on the Midland Licensing Court while Mr L.H. Haslam was on leave and in February 1930, he was appointed acting head of the Country Local Courts Department when Mr G.W. Halcombe was on leave.

In February 1932 'The Mail' reported that Stuart was among the members of the Bench and bar who were keen on surfing. By 1939, Stuart and his family were living at 71 Northumberland St, Tusmore. In January 1941 Stuart returned to the role of SM to the country Local Court Department based at Wallaroo for six months, however, perhaps due to WWII, he remained in that role until November 1945 when he was appointed to the Adelaide Local Court Department.

Stuart became a Senior Stipendiary Magistrate and on the 15th of April 1949, Stuart was appointed Local Court Judge on the retirement of L.H. Haslam, a role he only held until the 29th of September 1949 when he turned 65.



After his brief period as Judge of the Local Court, Stuart returned to his role of Special Magistrate at the Adelaide Local Courts, a role he was still carrying out in March 1953 (aged 68).

In October 1950, Stuart opened the new Thebarton Community Hall, his father E.J. Ronald had been the first Mayor of Thebarton.



S.D. Ronald – At Left

Death

Stuart Douglas Ronald passed away on the 1st of January 1960, aged 75 years, and was buried at Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide. Aileen's ashes were interred at Centennial Park on the 8th of May 1969.

Family Legacy

Stuart's son, **Ian Douglas Ronald (1922 – 2005)**, followed in his father's footsteps attending St Peter's College. He enlisted in the AIF (SX15198) on the 21st of November 1941, aged 19 years and 7 months. He served in Northern Australia and Pt Moresby. He was in Papua New Guinea in mid-1943 as he sent a bird eating spider to his parents. He was discharged on 15 March 1946.



After the War, Ian attended the Dental School at Adelaide University. He became engaged to Margaret Impett, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Impett of Port Pirie in December 1949. Ian graduated with a Bachelor of Dental Surgery in 1950.



Back Row: Blair Lake, Frank White, Basil Phillips, John Reiners, Ian Ronald
Trevor Clements, Paul Vawser
Middle Row: Don Pynor, Bob Nicholas, Andrew Muirhead, Lachlan Daenke,
 Milton Sims, Hugh Kennare, Len Thompson, Viv Hood, Tas Brown,
 Bob Stanton, Ken Brown
Front Row: Ian Hodgson, John Coombe, Trevor Martin, Prof TD Campbell (Dean)
 Ian Dunstan, Ray Leach, Dick Trott

Figure 2.12 Adelaide dental graduates 1950. Returned servicemen in above photograph: BH Lake, BW Phillips, JA Reiners, ID Ronald, HA Nicholas, HD Kennare, LA Thompson and RB Leach.

Ian and Margaret married at St Peter's College Chapel on the 14th of April 1951 and moved to Broken Hill. In 1952, Ian took over the dental practice of Mr C. E. Richardson, at 5 Medical Hall Chambers, Argent Street, Broken Hill.

Barrier Miner (Broken Hill, NSW : 1888 - 1954)
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Dental Practice Changes

The dental practice of Mr. C. E. Richardson, in Argent Street, will be taken over by Mr. Ian D. Ronald on February 18.

Mr. Ronald, a returned soldier, obtained the degree of D.B.S. at the Adelaide University.

For the past 12 months he has had a position at the Mines Dental Clinic in Broken Hill.

Mr. Richardson, who founded a practice about 14 years ago, will leave the district when his successor takes over.

Mr. Ronald visited other States, including places in S.A., W.A. and Victoria, prior to entering a practice. He decided that the stable conditions in Broken Hill offered the greatest security. He would retain the present staff.

Formerly from Adelaide, he intends to settle in Broken Hill for a number of years.

Stuart's daughter, **Joan Ronald (1923 – 2003)**, attended Girton House School. She enlisted in the AIF (SF113390). Her record is not yet available to the public. On the 3rd of December 1949, Stuart and Aileen's daughter, Joan, married Mr Henry Nelson Hayter, at St Matthew's Church, Marryatville.

Sources and Acknowledgements:

The AIF Project <https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/>

RSL Virtual War Memorial <https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/>

The National Archives of Australia <http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/>

<https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/197095>

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=6412218>

Australian War Memorial <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/>

The Adelaide University <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/records/archives/>

The National Library of Australia <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/>

(Trove Newspaper articles tagged – Stuart Douglas Ronald)

SA Genealogy <https://www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/online-databases.html>

Ancestry.com.au

1907 AU Intervarsity Football Photo courtesy of Tony Swain one of the authors of the book “Blood, Sweat and Fears”

<https://www.centennialpark.org/memorial-search/>

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