



**Pte. Donald MacDonald Steele**



**Played with Adelaide University**



**Cricket Club: 1912/13 – 1920/21 (A Grade)**

**A Grade Captain (1919/20 & 1920/21)**

**Football Club: 1914 – 1915 (A Grade)**

**Blue: Football (1914) & Cricket (1915)**

**Student – Medicine - 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 Donald MacDonald Steele. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.***

***(Those men who enlisted, but either because of cessation of hostilities or other reasons did not serve overseas are still included in the list of AUFC & AUCC players recognised as serving their Country. Our men who enlisted later in 1918 were not to know that Germany would surrender on 11th November 1918 and so their courage and commitment to serve should still be recognised.)***

# Service Record

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8093790>

A.M. Form A. 5 (a).

**AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.**

**AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.**

**Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.**

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Name { Surname STEELE  
in full { Christian Name DONALD MAC DONALD  
Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
Joined on 19 JUN 1918

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

You are hereby warned that if after enlistment it is found that you have given a wilfully false answer to any question set forth in this Attestation Paper, you will be liable to be tried for the offence.

<p>1. What is your Name? ...</p> <p>2. In or near what Town were you born? ...</p> <p>3. Are you a natural-born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ...</p> <p>4. What is your Age? (Date of birth to be stated) ...</p> <p>5. What is your Trade or Calling? ...</p> <p>6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? ...</p> <p>7. Are you married, single, or widower? ...</p> <p>8. Who is your next of kin? (Address and relationship to be stated) ... The answer to this question shall not be construed as in the nature of a Will.</p> <p>9. What is your permanent address in Australia? ...</p> <p>10. 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 ...</p> <p>11. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? ...</p> <p>12. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? ...</p> <p>13. Have you ever suffered from:—</p> <p>1. Consumption, tubercular disease, or chronic cough? ...</p> <p>2. Fits of any kind? ...</p> <p>3. Rheumatism or asthma? ...</p> <p>4. Mental or nervous disease? ...</p> <p>5. Has any member of your family suffered from any of the above diseases? If so, state particulars.</p> <p>14. (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 in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with pay would reach ten shillings per day? ...</p> <p>15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against small pox and enteric fever? ...</p>	<p>1. <u>Donald Mac Donald, Steele</u></p> <p>2. In or near the Town of <u>Adelaide</u> In the State or Country of <u>South Australia</u></p> <p>3. <u>Natural Born</u></p> <p>4. <u>24 years 10 months</u> <u>17th August 1873</u></p> <p>5. <u>Medical Student 4th year</u></p> <p>6. <u>No</u></p> <p>7. <u>Single</u></p> <p>8. <u>FATHER, STEELE ROBERT MOORE</u> <u>JEFFCOTT, ST. NTH. ADELAIDE</u> <u>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</u></p> <p>9. <u>JEFFCOTT, ST. NTH. ADELAIDE</u> <u>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</u></p> <p>10. <u>2 years S.I.C., 78B</u></p> <p>11. <u>Yes</u></p> <p>12. <u>No</u></p> <p>13.—</p> <p>1. <u>No</u></p> <p>2. <u>No</u></p> <p>3. <u>No</u></p> <p>4. <u>No</u></p> <p>5. <u>No</u></p> <p>14. <u>✓</u></p> <p>15. <u>Yes</u></p>
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3. Donald Mac Donald Steele 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 19 JUN 1918

Donald M Steele  
Signature of Person Enlisted.

D.1182/2.18.—C.1778—70M.



## Published Biographies

Blood Sweat and Fears: Medical Practitioners and Medical Students of South Australian who served in World War

1. Verco, Summers, Swain and Jelly 2014.

### STEELE Donald MacDonald

MB BS

1893 - 1962



Donald MacDonald Steele was born in Adelaide on the 17th August 1892, son of Robert Moore Steele and his wife Theresa, nee O'Leary, of Jeffcott St, North Adelaide. His brothers were David McDonald Steele and Kenneth Nugent Steele. His parents had married at Norwood in 1875. His father was with the Liverpool, London Globe Insurance Company in the city and was also the Consul for Portugal. Steele was educated at Prince Alfred College and had some private tuition in his Science subjects for the March 1914 University entrance Examinations. He was the school captain in 1911 and an excellent athlete especially as captain of cricket, tennis and football for several years. He represented the State in cricket as a school boy under the mentoring of Clem Hill then the state captain. He studied medicine at the University of Adelaide where he acquired a Sports Blue in cricket and football.

Steele enlisted in the AIF on the 19th June 1918 at Adelaide as a 4th Year medical student, single, aged 24 years with his father as nominated as his next of kin. He was 5ft 5ins tall, 125lbs, of medium complexion, blue eyes and brown hair with normal vision. He

had two years' experience in the sea cadets. He was not called up for duty and discharged as a private, B Coy, Mitcham AIF, on 18th November 1918 due to the cessation of hostilities.

Steele continued with his studies and graduated in 1919 after his discharge. He became the captain of the South Australian Cricket team in 1921 and on the 23rd November 1921 he married Winifred Ringwood at Christchurch, North Adelaide, and moved to Port Lincoln to join in a general practice with Dr Reg Goode. He was a keen gardener and played consistently at a high standard in golf and lawn bowls. He lived in Glenelg, South Australia from 1937. Donald MacDonald Steele died on the 16th July 1962 and was survived by his wife Winifred and children Ian, a doctor, and Janet.

#### Sources:

<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/scripts/Imagine.asp?B=8093787>  
Personal information from son Dr Ian Steele,  
Photo: Family collection taken after enlistment 1918.  
The Register Adelaide 20 December 1921

#### The Duty of the Profession to the Army

In the first place we have no hesitation in advising that for medical men who have no urgent domesticities, and are not yet established in practice, especially, that is to say, for young men, the duty is clear. They should put their names on the waiting list kept by the Director-General Army Medical Services, at the War Office... The

Director-General's list at present contains about 1,000 names of men deemed fit to undertake the arduous work of service in the field. This number, we learn on high authority, is not enough; the list is constantly being depleted, not only by men who are called up by the War Office, but by men who, getting impatient, go to France to help the French.

BMJ 21 November 1914 p 884

Wikipedia : [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donald\\_Steele](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donald_Steele)

## Donald Steele

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Donald Macdonald Steele** (17 August 1892 – 13 July 1962) was a cricketer who played first-class cricket for South Australia from 1912 to 1921. He was later a prominent doctor in South Australia.

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- 3 Later life
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## Family and early life [edit]

Don Steele was one of six brothers.<sup>[1]</sup> His elder brothers David Macdonald Steele<sup>[2]</sup> and Ken Steele<sup>[3]</sup> were doctors who served as medical officers in the field in World War I. Ken also played first-class cricket for South Australia before the war.<sup>[4]</sup>

Don attended Prince Alfred College, Adelaide, where he played in the First XI for six years from 1907 to 1912, captaining the team in the last three years.<sup>[5]</sup> He then studied medicine at the University of Adelaide, qualifying as a doctor at the end of 1919.<sup>[6]</sup>

Cricket career [ edit ]

Steele played his first game for South Australia in January 1912 while still at school. He became a regular player in the state team in 1912-13 and remained a fixture in the side until the end of the 1920-21 season, studies and professional duties permitting.

In his first match in the 1912-13 season he scored 113 not out in 175 minutes against New South Wales in an innings victory for South Australia.<sup>[7]</sup> He scored his second century in 1914-15 when he made 100 in 135 minutes, also against New South Wales.<sup>[8]</sup>

He captained South Australia in the last three matches of the 1920-21 Sheffield Shield season, scoring 107 not out in the first match, against Victoria.<sup>[9]</sup> He finished the season at the top of the South Australian batting averages, with 280 runs at 56.00.<sup>[10]</sup>

He was selected to captain the Australian team to tour New Zealand at the end of the season.<sup>[11]</sup> However, he was unable to go on the tour, having made arrangements to work as a locum in Port Lincoln.<sup>[12]</sup> His professional duties prevented him from playing any further first-class cricket.

## Later life [ edit ]

He practised as a doctor in Port Lincoln for some years<sup>[13][1]</sup> before returning to practise in Adelaide, where he and his wife lived in Glenelg<sup>[14]</sup>

While watching a Test match at Adelaide Oval in 1925 he was called on to treat the English spin bowler Tich Freeman, who had broken his wrist while attempting a catch. Steele put the wrist in splints then took Freeman to hospital.<sup>[15]</sup>

His son Ian was also a doctor.<sup>[14]</sup>

## References [\[ edit \]](#)

1. <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> "Out Among the People" <sup>q</sup>. *The Advertiser*. 8 February 1935. p. 23.
2. <sup>a</sup> "STEELE, David MacDonald MC & Bar" <sup>q</sup>. Anzacs Online. Retrieved 1 July 2017.
3. <sup>a</sup> "Kenneth Nugent STEELE" <sup>q</sup>. The AIF Project. Retrieved 1 July 2017.
4. <sup>a</sup> "Kenneth Steele" <sup>q</sup>. Cricinfo. Retrieved 1 July 2017.
5. <sup>a</sup> "Miscellaneous matches played by Donald Steele" <sup>q</sup>. CricketArchive. Retrieved 1 July 2017. (Subscription required (<sup>help</sup>)).
6. <sup>a</sup> "University versus North Adelaide" <sup>q</sup>. *Chronicle*. 6 December 1919. p. 18.
7. <sup>a</sup> "South Australia v New South Wales 1912-13" <sup>q</sup>. CricketArchive. Retrieved 1 July 2017. (Subscription required (<sup>help</sup>)).
8. <sup>a</sup> "South Australia v New South Wales 1914-15" <sup>q</sup>. CricketArchive. Retrieved 1 July 2017. (Subscription required (<sup>help</sup>)).
9. <sup>a</sup> "Victoria v South Australia 1920-21" <sup>q</sup>. CricketArchive. Retrieved 1 July 2017. (Subscription required (<sup>help</sup>)).
10. <sup>a</sup> "Batting and fielding for South Australia, Sheffield Shield 1920-21" <sup>q</sup>. CricketArchive. Retrieved 1 July 2017. (Subscription required (<sup>help</sup>)).
11. <sup>a</sup> "Australia v New Zealand. The Commonwealth Team" <sup>q</sup>. *The Register*. 17 January 1921. p. 7.
12. <sup>a</sup> "The New Zealand Trip. Dr Steele Unable to Go" <sup>q</sup>. *The Journal*. 17 January 1921. p. 1.
13. <sup>a</sup> "Dr Don Steele" <sup>q</sup>. *Sport*. 18 October 1926. p. 14.
14. <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> "About People" <sup>q</sup>. *The Advertiser*. 15 April 1950. p. 12.
15. <sup>a</sup> "Injuries to Englishmen" <sup>q</sup>. *Sunday Times*. 18 January 1925. p. 1.

## Donald Steele



## Personal information

<b>Full name</b>	Donald Macdonald Steele
<b>Born</b>	17 August 1932 Adelaide, South Australia
<b>Died</b>	13 July 1962 (aged 69) Adelaide
<b>Batting</b>	Right-handed

## Domestic team information

Years	Team
1911-12 to 1920-21	South Australia

### Career statistics

Competition	First-class
Matches	19
Runs scored	1142
Batting average	35.68
100s/50s	3/7
Top score	113*
Balls bowled	–

Wickets	-
Bowling average	-
5 wickets in innings	-
10 wickets in match	-
Best bowling	-
Catches/stumpings	11/0

Source: Cricinfo. 24 April 2017.

## Additional Biography

### Early Life

Donald MacDonald (Don) Steele was born on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August 1892, the youngest son of Robert Moore Steele and Theresa O'Leary. His siblings were Isabella Robertson (b 1877), Thomas (b 1878), Robert Moore (b & d 1880, living only a few hours), Robert Moore (b 1881), Wilfred (b 1883), David MacDonald (b 1886), Arnold Lancelot (b 1887, d 1916) and Kenneth Nugent (b 1889).

Don's father was an Insurance Agent and the sole agent of the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company in South Australia. The family lived at Jeffcott Street, North Adelaide.

### Schooling

Don attended Prince Alfred College (PAC), Kent Town, Adelaide where he was a successful student and athlete.

He passed Primary Examinations in English History, Latin & Algebra in 1906, Junior Examinations in English Literature, Latin (credit), French, Algebra and Geometry in 1908, Senior Examinations in English Literature, Latin and French in both 1909 and 1910 and Higher Public Examinations in Biology in 1912. He also passed Higher Public Examinations in Inorganic Chemistry (December 1913) and Senior Public Examinations in Algebra (March 1914) under private tuition.

Don represented PAC at inter-collegiate athletics, tennis, football and cricket (1907-1912). He played cricket for PAC in the South Australian Cricket Association B Grade Competition. He captained the Inter-Collegiate Cricket (3 years), Tennis and Football teams. In the 1910 Inter-Collegiate sports, Don came second in the One Mile Flat race and in August 1911 he travelled to Victoria representing PAC at football.

### Prince Alfred College - Intercollegiate Cricket Team - 1907



**DM Steele – Front Row – At Right**



## Prince Alfred College - Intercollegiate Cricket Team - 1909



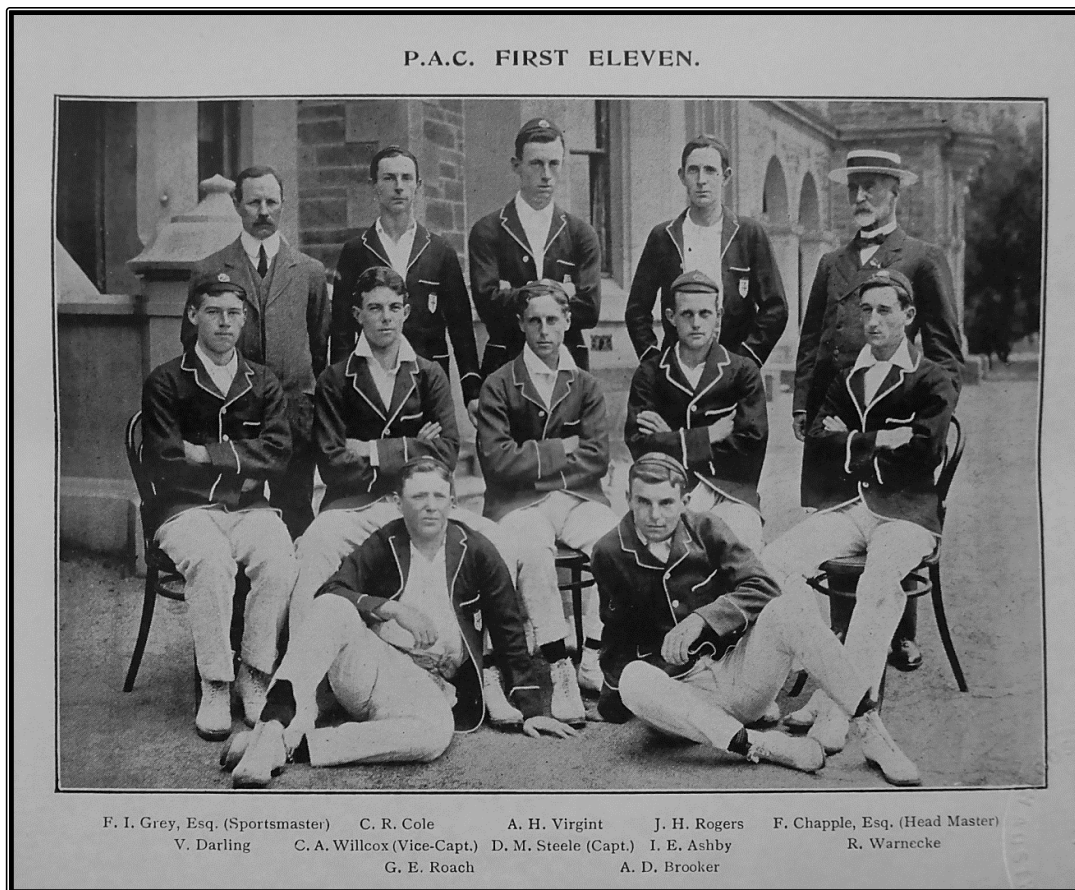
*DM Steele – Seated - Second from Left*

## Prince Alfred College - Intercollegiate Cricket Team - 1910



*DM Steele (Captain) – Seated – Third from Right*

## Prince Alfred College - Intercollegiate Cricket Team - 1911



***DM Steele (Captain) – Middle Row –Third from Left***

***The Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922) - 5 December 1912***



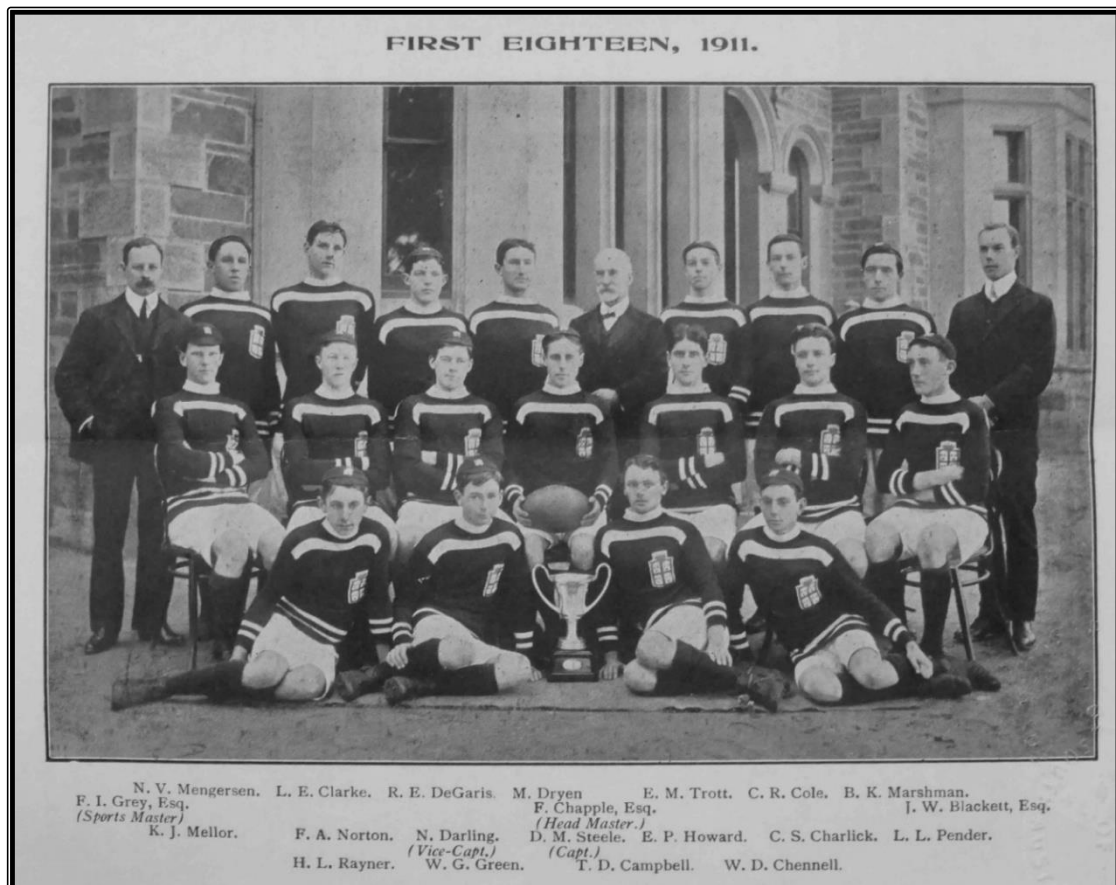


# "THE SEASON'S AVERAGES."

Observer (Adelaide, SA : 1905 - 1931) 27 April 1912

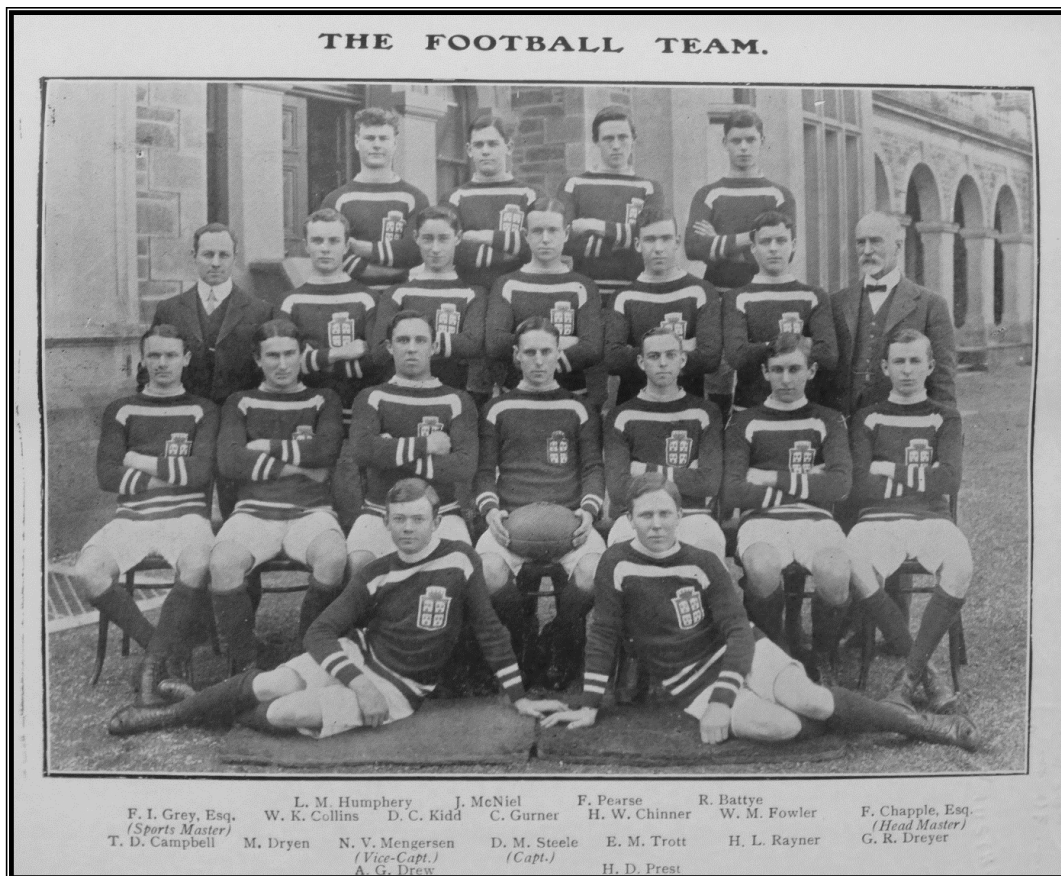
PRINCE ALFRED.						
—Batting.—						
	Inn.	N.O.	Runs.	H.S.	Avg.	
D. M. Steele .. ..	11	2	636	136	n.o.	70.6
N. Darling .. ..	6	1	222	81	n.o.	44.4
L. K. Swamp .. ..	6	1	263	87	n.o.	40.0
H. L. Rayner .. ..	14	3	278	55	n.o.	24.8
C. H. Hulbe .. ..	6	1	99	27		16.5
A. Norton .. ..	5	1	73	34		18.2
W. D. Chennell .. ..	6	—	90	31		15.0
W. G. Green .. ..	5	2	36	21		12.0
E. P. Howard .. ..	4	—	43	12		10.7
A. H. Virgint .. ..	5	1	41	12		10.2
J. N. Davies .. ..	7	—	65	22		9.2
A. K. Ashby .. ..	7	3	32	20	n.o.	8.0
H. H. Berriman .. ..	7	—	45	23		6.4
J. T. Edwards .. ..	5	—	32	30	n.o.	6.4
—Bowling.—						
	O.	M.	R.	W.	Avg.	
D. M. Steele .. ..	106	24	220	24	9.1	
L. K. Swamp .. ..	84	16	201	18	11.7	
A. K. Ashby .. ..	61.2	15	100	18	13.0	
H. H. Berriman .. ..	23	3	85	6	14.1	
E. P. Howard .. ..	75	24	177	10	17.7	
C. R. Cole .. ..	44	9	140	6	28.9	

## Prince Alfred College – Inter-Collegiate Football Team - 1911



D.M. Steele (Captain) – Middle Row – Fourth from Left

## Prince Alfred College - Inter-Collegiate Football Team - 1912



***D.M. Steele (Captain) – Middle Row – Fourth from Left***

## Prince Alfred College - Inter-Collegiate Athletics Team - 1912



***D.M. Steele – Second Row from Front – Third from Right***

## Pre-War First-Class Cricket for South Australia

Don played his first game in the Sheffield Shield competition for South Australia against New South Wales in January 1912. He was still a student at PAC and playing for the school 1<sup>st</sup> XI in the SACA B Grade competition. He was originally selected as 12<sup>th</sup> man but was included in the team when two other players were unavailable. In the first innings Don, 'with the confidence of a veteran, made 16 in 11 minutes by stylish batting'. He scored six runs in the second innings in a match which SA lost to NSW.

Due to his examination commitments, Don was unavailable for further State duties until December 1912. He was then selected to play NSW at Adelaide Oval and scored 113 not out in SA's first innings total of 569, NSW was required to follow on and SA won the match by an innings. This was a remarkable effort for a player who had not yet played an A Grade District cricket match. He played two further State games that season before he was unavailable due to examinations. He then departed South Australia for six months overseas in late March 1913, in the company of fellow cricketer C.E. "Nip" Pellew.

*Sydney Mail - 8 January 1913*

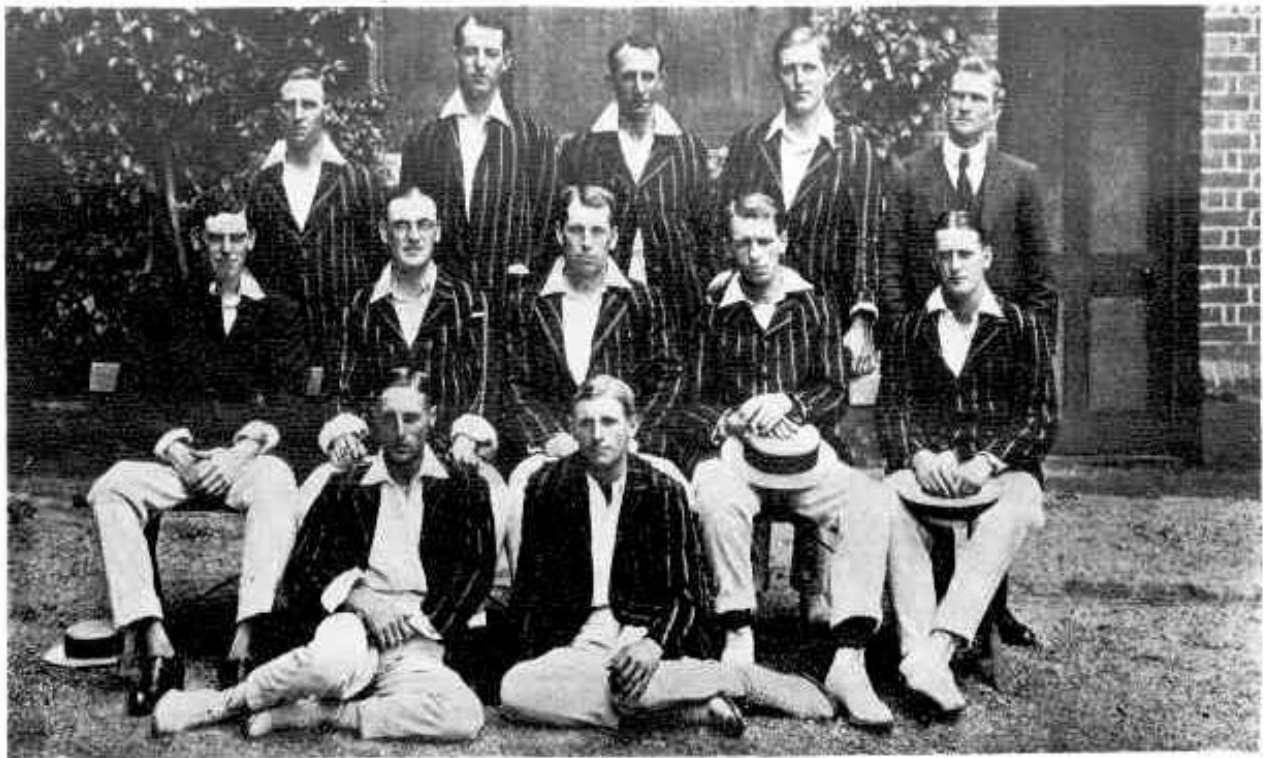


*The Herald - 3 January 1913*

Steele is entering upon what promises to be a brilliant career. He is but a youth, and is still a scholar at Prince Alfred College, which has produced several fine cricketers, of whom Clem Hill is the most striking example. A few weeks ago young Steele topped the century for his college against St. Peter's, and this brought him under the eye of the selectors, who decided to try him out against New South Wales. Steele promptly availed himself of the opportunity, and played a masterful innings for 113 not out, made in 175 minutes. He followed it up with 140 against Ballarat. Although not as yet a dashing batsman, he has a great variety of strokes, is eminently graceful, and some of his wrist work is remarkably pretty and effective. And he possesses just that necessary degree of confidence. South Australians say he will become a champion, and I quite believe it.

**South Australian State Cricket Team**

***Critic (Adelaide, SA : 1897-1924) - 14 January 1914***



THE DEFEATED SOUTH AUSTRALIANS.  
Top.—A. Smith, J. Moyes, H. P. Kirkwood, L. Winner.  
Middle.—W. J. Whitty, J. C. Crawford, Clem Hill (Capt.), E. R. Marne, L. Chamberlain.  
Bottom.—D. M. Steele, C. E. Pellew.

***DM Steele – Front Row – At Left***

***Critic (Adelaide, SA : 1897-1924) - 14 January 1914***



***C.E. Pellew, F Tolley and DM Steele***



Don played in three of South Australia's four Sheffield Shield matches in the 1913/14 season. He was unavailable for selection for the match against Victoria played at Adelaide Oval. In the first two matches against NSW and Victoria, Don was joined by his brother Ken.

*Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924) - 5 February 1914*

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.						
Batting.						
	In.	R.O.	H.S.	Tot.	Avg.	
J. N. Crawford ..	6	—	91	220	36.4	
H. Bridgman ..	2	1	25x	36	36	
E. R. Mayne ..	6	—	68	210	35	
H. P. Kirgwood ..	6	1	56	132	30.2	
H. F. Middleton ..	2	—	16x	30	30	
D. M. Steele ..	6	—	84	169	28.1	
A. G. Moyes ..	6	—	55	143	23.8	
P. D. Rundell ..	4	1	47x	63	21	
C. E. Pelieu ..	6	—	57	108	18	
W. J. Whitty ..	2	1	15	15	15	
L. Chamberlain ..	6	—	43	68	11.2	
A. Smith ..	2	—	19	11	9.1	
C. Hill ..	2	—	19	12	9.1	
L. Winsor ..	6	1	25	32	6.2	

In June 1914, Don was being seriously considered for selection for the tour of South Africa but indicated that he could not travel due to his medical studies.

In the last "pre-war" season of Sheffield Shield (1914/15) Don played in all four matches. His best results were 100 runs against NSW in the second innings at Adelaide Oval and 85 runs against Victoria in Melbourne. He finished the season with a total of 268 runs from 8 innings with an average of 33.4.

*Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924) - 23 December 1914*

**NEW SOUTH WALES VICTORIOUS**

**IN FIRST SHEFFIELD SHIELD MATCH**

**WIN BY 174 RUNS.**

The first Sheffield Shield contest of the present season was concluded on the Adelaide Oval yesterday afternoon, and resulted in a meritorious win for New South Wales, who had a margin of 174 runs when the last wicket fell in the home team's second innings. Don Steele played a charming innings for 100, and Stirling batted grittily for 54. Cooper made 16 and remained not out.

**Steele 100—And Out.**

## Overseas Travel

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 1913, Don left Adelaide onboard the *R.M.S. Moldavia* in company with Mr Frank G. Tolley, Mr Tim Tolley, Mr Len Chamberlain and Mr. C.E. (Nip) Pellew. The group was away for almost six months and their travels included trips to Ireland, Norway, Paris, Belgium and Italy. While in England they attended many sporting events including several county cricket matches. They returned to Adelaide onboard the *Morea* on the 13<sup>th</sup> of September 1913.

*The Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954) - 13 September 1913*

**PERSONAL.**

Amongst the passengers by the *Morea*, which arrived at the Outer Harbour this morning, was Mr. Frank G. Tolley, who has been holiday making in the old country and the Continent for the past six months. Owing to the exceptionally fine summer, a glorious time was spent, which included trips to Ireland, Norway, Paris, Belgium, and Italy. Mr. Tolley was present at Epsom, and witnessed the sensational finish for the Derby, which is now past history, and, being an enthusiast in cricket matters, attended various county matches. He was accompanied throughout his trip by three of South Australia's junior cricketers, in the persons of Messrs. Len Chamberlain, Don Steele, and C. E. Pellew, who should keep their friends "going" for some time with an account of their trip and experiences. The whole party are in excellent health and spirits, and thoroughly enjoyed the trip home from Marseilles, where they embarked. Mr. Tim Tolley, who last week travelled by the *Macedonia* to Fremantle to meet his son (Mr. Sam Tolley), also a member of the touring party, returned in their company this morning.

## University of Adelaide

In December 1913, Don passed a course in inorganic Chemistry (by private tuition) for the University of Adelaide Higher Public Examinations and 1914. He commenced studying, as a non-graduating student in Arts and Science Faculty to qualify for entry to medicine. After passing the prerequisite subjects, Don commenced studying Medicine in 1915. He was the third of the Steele brothers to undertake a degree in medicine, following in the footsteps of David MacDonald Steele (MB BS 1909) and Kenneth Nugent Steele (MB BS 1914).

Don graduated MB BS (first-class) in December 1919.

## Pre-World War I - University Sport

Don and Ken's older brother, David Steele played lacrosse for the University of Adelaide for more than 10 years, competing in many Inter-Varsity competitions and gaining a Blue for lacrosse in 1908. He was the Club Captain in

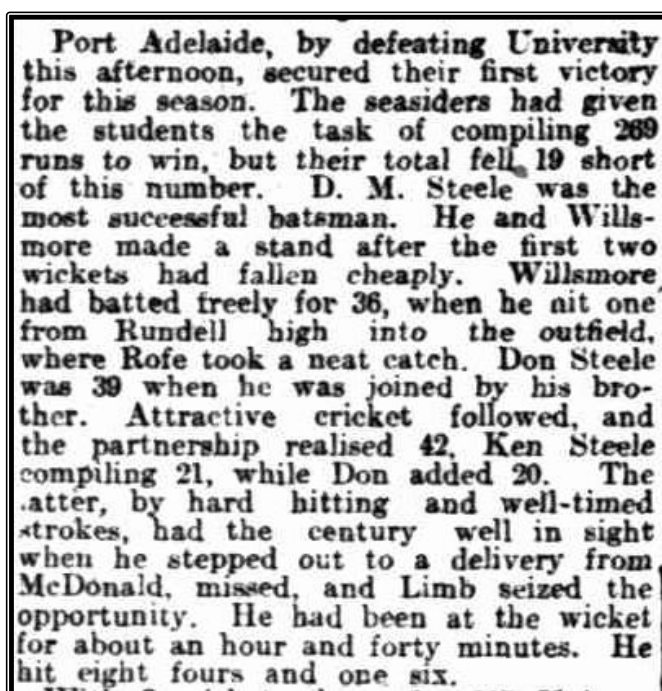
1910 and represented the State in Lacrosse. His other brother, Ken Steele, played cricket for University and football for North Adelaide and University.

### **Cricket**

After finishing his schooling at PAC, Don played cricket for Adelaide University from late in the 1912/13 season and continued after WW1 until the end of the 1920/21 season. During World War I District Cricket matches had been suspended from 1916/17 until resumption in the 1918/1819 season.

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> of February 1913, Don played his first game for Adelaide University. He joined his elder brother Ken in the A Grade side and the pair batted together making a partnership of 42 runs. Although University lost the match to Port Adelaide, Don's first innings with the club was described as including "hard hitting and well-timed strokes" and he top scored with 81 runs. While Don only had four innings with University in the 1912/13 season he accumulated 202 runs and had an average of 50.5.

### ***The Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954) - 8 February 1913***

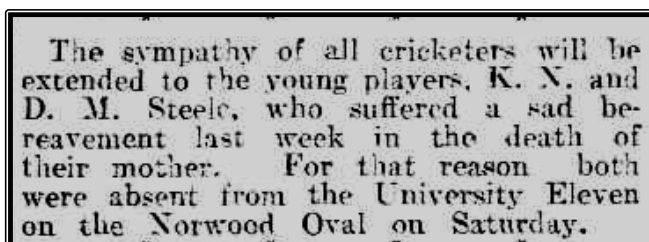


Port Adelaide, by defeating University this afternoon, secured their first victory for this season. The seashiders had given the students the task of compiling 269 runs to win, but their total fell 19 short of this number. D. M. Steele was the most successful batsman. He and Willsmore made a stand after the first two wickets had fallen cheaply. Willsmore had batted freely for 36, when he hit one from Rundell high into the outfield, where Rofe took a neat catch. Don Steele was 39 when he was joined by his brother. Attractive cricket followed, and the partnership realised 42, Ken Steele compiling 21, while Don added 20. The latter, by hard hitting and well-timed strokes, had the century well in sight when he stepped out to a delivery from McDonald, missed, and Limb seized the opportunity. He had been at the wicket for about an hour and forty minutes. He hit eight fours and one six.

Don and Ken both played A Grade cricket for Adelaide University in the 1913/14 season.

Tragically for the lads, their mother, Theresa passed away in January 1914.

### ***The Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922) - 29 January 1914***



The sympathy of all cricketers will be extended to the young players, K. N. and D. M. Steele, who suffered a sad bereavement last week in the death of their mother. For that reason both were absent from the University Eleven on the Norwood Oval on Saturday.

Don played in nine innings in the 1913/14 season and scored 508 runs, with a top score of 163 and an average of 56.44 (fourth across all A Grade teams).

*The Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923) - 9 April 1914*

UNIVERSITY.						
—Batting (16).—						
		Inn.	N.O.	R.	H.S.	Avg.
D. M. Steele	...	9	0	508	163	56.44
W. O. Jose	...	7	3	180	69*	45.00
J. D. Northey	...	8	4	161	71*	40.25
C. R. Davies	...	6	0	216	73	36.00
B. T. Taylor	...	9	5	140	45*	35.00
C. E. Pellew	...	10	0	333	68	33.30
F. N. Le Messurier	...	11	0	317	77	28.81
A. G. Moyes	...	7	0	184	45	26.28
H. B. Willsmore	...	11	0	284	119	25.81
A. Limb	...	11	1	238	65	23.80
K. N. Steele	...	10	1	160	42	18.77
I. B. Jose	...	10	0	136	32	13.60
J. W. Blacket	...	8	0	60	27	8.62
Also batted:—A. M. Perrers, 4, 22; E. R. Howard, 2, 6; H. J. T. Edwards, 27, 0, 7*.						

In January 1914, Don played for SA in a two-day game against Ballarat in Ballarat and later in the month he scored 73 runs in a first-class match for South Australia against New Zealand at Adelaide Oval.

In April 1914, Don was a member of the University team which played a combined Northern team (Yongala, Terowie, Burra, Booleroo Centre, Wilmington, Clare & Peterborough) at University Oval and later that month he travelled with the team to play a series of matches at Nuriootpa, Angaston and Gawler

For the 1914/15 season Don and A.G. "Johnny" Moyes were the Adelaide University Cricket Club's delegates on the SACA Cricket Committee. Both Don and his brother, Ken Steele, were on the University Cricket Club's committee. For the third season in a row, Don topped the University Batting Averages scoring 375 runs in 8 innings with a high score of 104 at an average of 53.4.

Don was awarded a Blue for Cricket in 1915 making him a Double Blue, having won a Blue for football in 1914.

*Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924) - 1 April 1915*

UNIVERSITY.					
Batting.					
	Inns.	N.O.	H.S.	Ttl.	
D. M. Steele .. ..	8	1	104	375	53.4
A. G. Moyes .. ..	10	—	146	446	44.6
C. E. Pellew .. ..	13	2	94	401	30.5
H. B. Willsmore .. ..	12	1	x72	234	25.9
H. Rayner .. ..	4	1	x22	62	20.2
R. Nicholls .. ..	5	4	x9	19	10.0
B. T. Taylor .. ..	8	1	x41	125	17.6
A. Limb .. ..	14	—	64	207	14.11
I. B. Jose .. ..	7	1	26	83	13.5
H. Richards .. ..	5	2	x20	37	11.4
E. Weatherill .. ..	13	—	26	133	10.2
L. A. Mander .. ..	5	1	x64	38	9.2
O. Baaner .. ..	4	—	13	32	8.0
W. Price .. ..	5	—	23	30	6.4
K. N. Steele .. ..	5	—	4	10	2.0
Also batted—Horwood, 0.4; Edwards, 0.0; Howard, 17.4; Davies, 5.0; Beare, 0 n.o., 11 n.o.; Hurley, 0.0.					



## ***Football***

The North Adelaide Football Club was keen to recruit Don, who had been a brilliant footballer at PAC. They were keen to have his services for the 1913 league football season, but Don was not available when he decided to travel overseas. His older brother, Ken had played for North in 1909 and 1910.

In future seasons, Don chose to play for the Adelaide University Football Club in the Amateur League A Grade competition in the 1914 and 1915 seasons. He was frequently a multiple goal scorer and among the teams' best players list.

Don was selected to play IntersVarsity Football for Adelaide University in 1914 and was awarded a Blue for Football in 1914.

Don was a member of the Amateur League Permit Committee for the 1915 season.

Due to the War, Amateur League football was suspended from late in the 1915 season and IntersVarsity Football was not played in the period 1915-1918. Don did not return to play football after the war.

### **1914 IntersVarsity Football Team**



### ***DM Steele – Middle Row – Second from Right***

Don and Ken's nephew, Robert Thornborough Steele (son of Robert Moore Steele) qualified MB BS in 1942. He played football for the Adelaide University Football Club and at Inter-Varsity. He gained a Blue for Football in 1939. He was a Vice President of the Club for many years and President from 1954-1959. He became an Honorary Life Member of the Club in 1960.

## World War I

Don was a 22-year-old medical student at the outbreak of World War I.

Three of Don's brothers served overseas during WWI. Wilfred Steele was a Cattle Station manager who served in the Light Horse, Dr David MacDonald Steele served in the Australian Army Medical Corp and was awarded the Military Cross and Bar for conspicuous gallantry and Dr Kenneth Nugent Steele served in the Australian Army Medical Corp. All three survived the Great War, however sadly on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August 1916, their brother Arnold Lancelot Steele of Jamestown, SA passed away in only his 29<sup>th</sup> year.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of June 1918, Don was 24 years and 10 months old and in his fourth year as a medical student. He was 5' 5½" tall and weighed 125lbs. He had a medium complexion, blue eyes and brown hair. He enlisted under M.O. No. 210 of 25.3.18, A.I.F. Standing Order 4a, an order which, due to the desperate need for Doctors, required near-qualified medical students to enlist.

Don was not called up for duty due to the cessation of hostilities and was discharged at the Mitcham Camp on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November 1918.

## Post-War University Sport

### Cricket

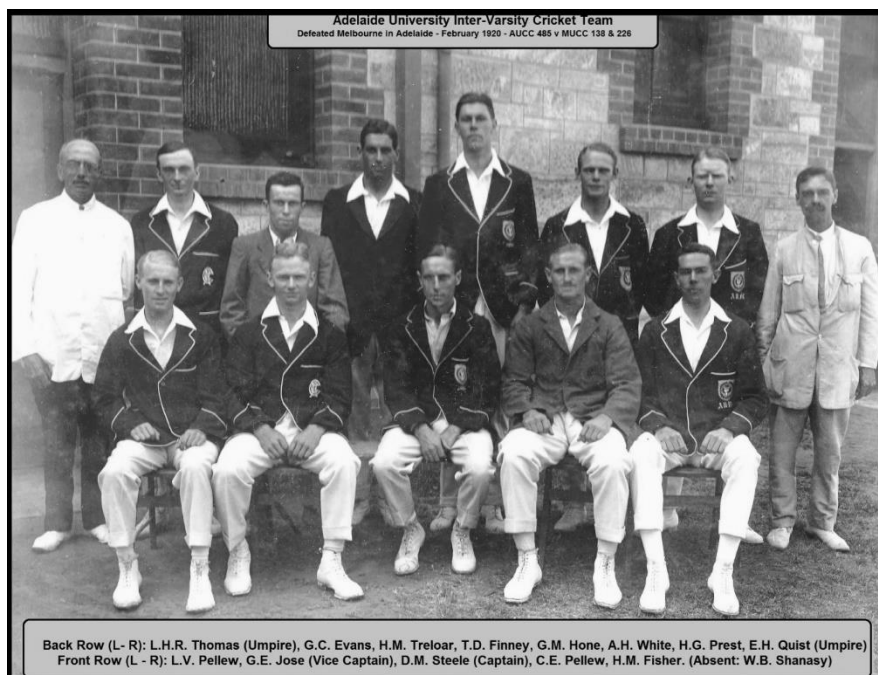
Donald MacDonald Steele led the University A Grade team when the official SACA District competition resumed in 1919/20. The team finish 4th in the 8 team competitions, however there were no final series played. Don scored 380 runs in 6 innings with 2 not out innings, for a season average of 95, with a highest score of 157.

### *The Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922) - 4 December 1919*



In Don's final season with the Club, 1920/21, his team performed well and finished 2nd on the premiership table, however again no final series were played. He only had two innings for the side, scoring 68 and 57.

Don captained the Adelaide University team in two Inter-Varsity matches, defeating Melbourne University at Adelaide University Oval in February 1920 and in Melbourne in December 1920.

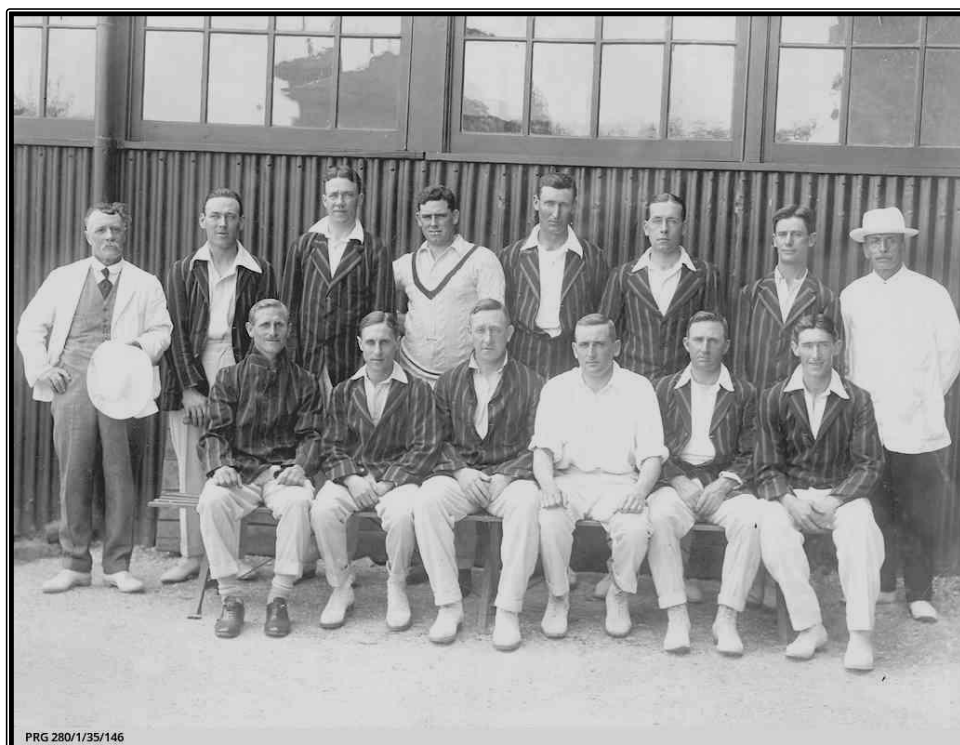


***DM Steele (Captain) – Front Row – Third from Left***

## Post-War First-Class Cricket for South Australia

Sheffield Shield cricket recommenced in the 1919/20 season and Don played in 3 of the 4 games played by South Australia. His best results for the season were 73 runs against Victoria and 76 runs against NSW. In 6 innings he scored a total of 191 runs with an average of 31.83.

**South Australian cricket team who played Victoria at Adelaide Oval in the 1920-1921 seasons.**



***DM Steele – Front Row – Second from Left***

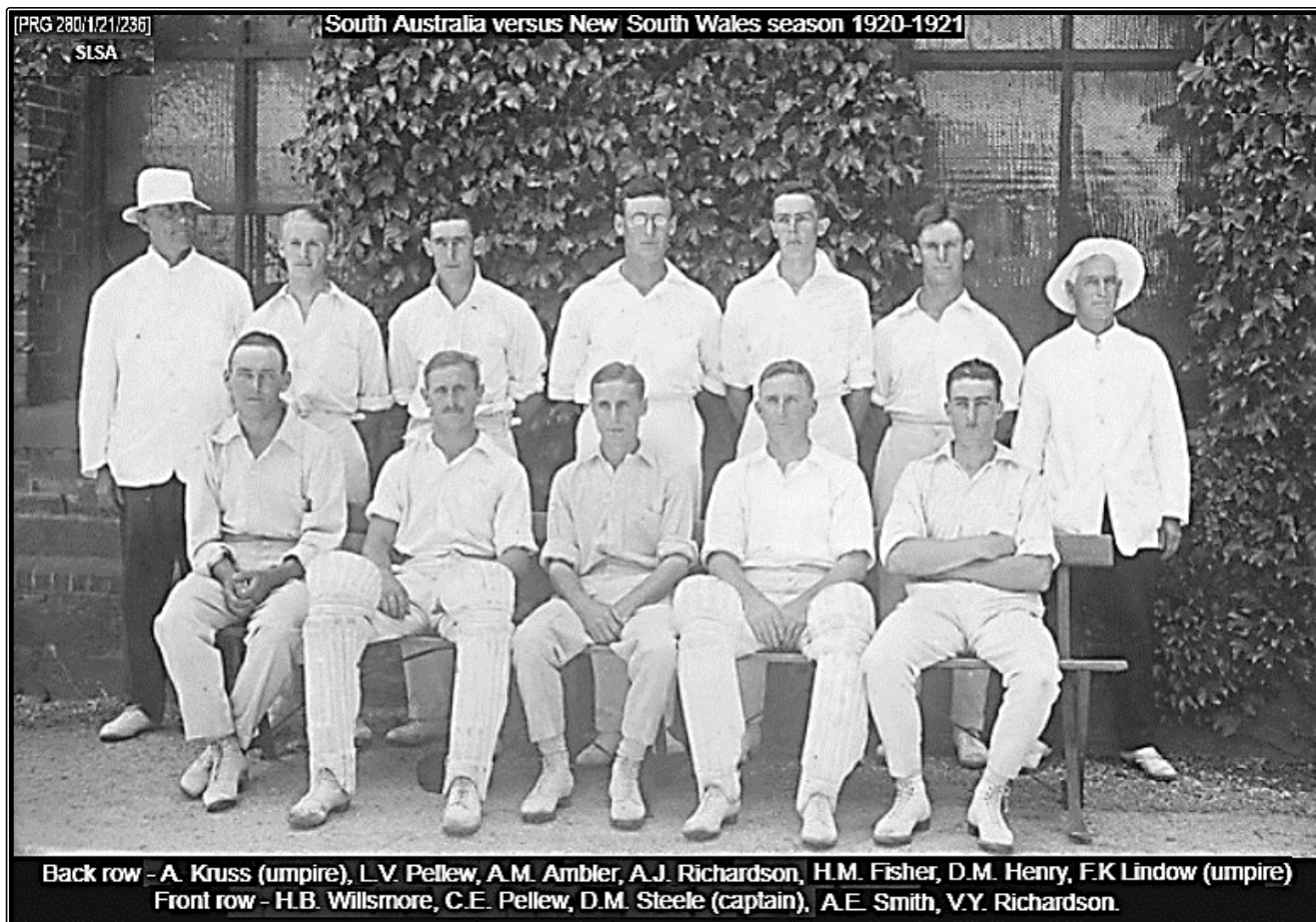
***Back Row: G.I. Colyer (umpire), H.B. Willsmore, D.E. Pritchard, W.J. Whitty, A.J. Richardson, E.L. Phillips, D.M. Henry, F.J.C. Thomas (umpire).***

***Front Row: C.E. Pellew, D.M. Steele, D.R.A. Gehrs, P.D. Rundell, A.E. Smith, A.M. Ambler***

Don played all four Sheffield Shield games in the 1920/21 season and captained South Australia on three occasions. His best score for the season was 107 not out against Victoria in the second innings in Melbourne. In 7 innings he was not out on 2 occasions and scored a total of 280 runs at an average of 56.

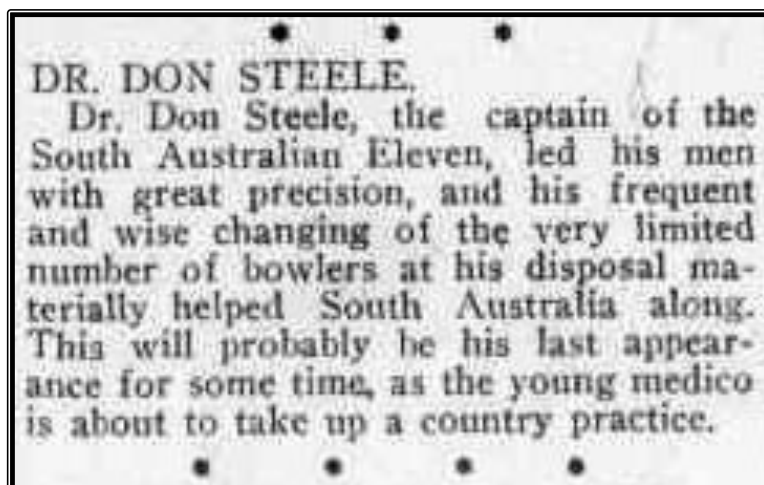
At the end of the season, Don retired from cricket to join a medical practice in Port Lincoln. As an exceptionally fine right-hand batsman Don played in 19 first-class matches and in 35 innings, he scored 1,142 at a respectable average of 35.68 runs. His career included 3 centuries with a high score in his debut match of 113 not out, 7 half centuries and he also took 11 catches.

### State Team 1920/21



*DM Steele (Captain) – Front Row – Third from Left*

***Critic (Adelaide, SA : 1897-1924) - 12 January 1921***





## Selection for International Cricket

In January 1921 Don was selected to lead the Australia team in a match against New Zealand, however he could not accept the role as he was committed to take up a medical position. He was at the time also a strong candidate for selection on the 1921 Ashes Tour of England. His medical career was the priority.

*The Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929) - 17 January 1921*

Recorder (Port Pirie, SA : 1919 - 1954),  
Tuesday 18 January 1921, page 1

### **AUSTRALIAN TRIP TO NEW ZEALAND,**

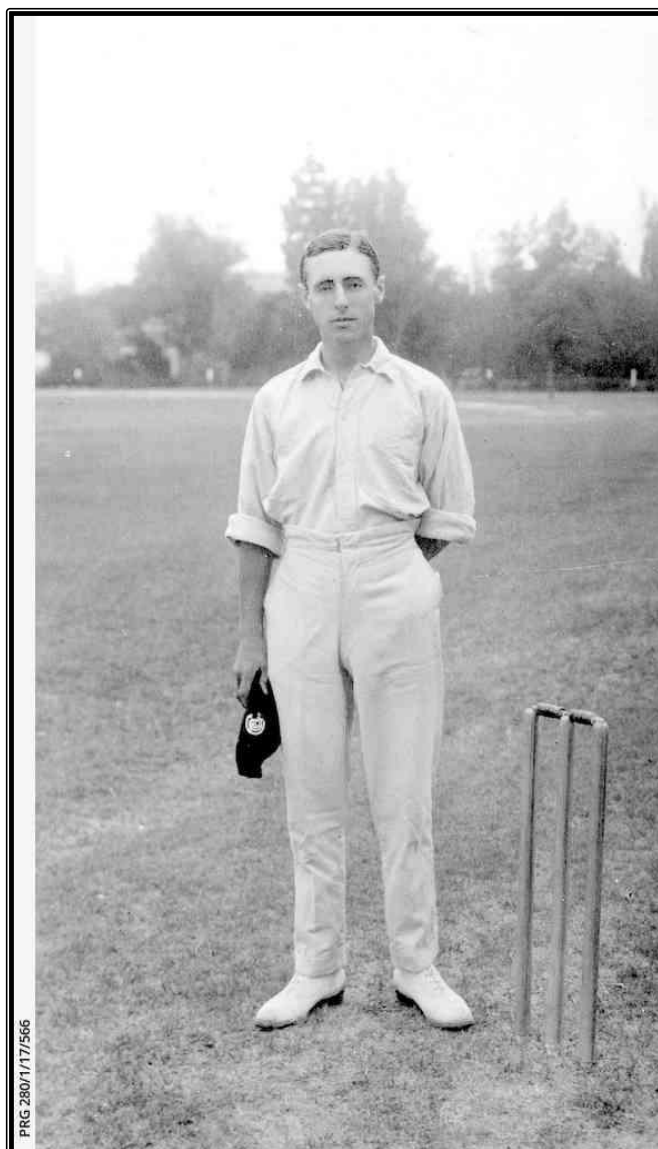
#### **STEELE UNABLE TO JOIN TEAM.**

**ADELAIDE, Monday.**

Dr. D. M. Steele, who has been chosen captain of the Australian Eleven which is to visit New Zealand, has notified the selectors that he will be unable to go on account of being unable to break an arrangement to act as locum tenens for another doctor at Port Lincoln. He stated that L. Pellew and V. Richardson had accepted invitations to join the team.

National Library of Australia

A well-merited compliment has been paid to Dr. Steele—and incidentally to South Australia—in his appointment as leader. His captaincy of the local State eleven has been capable and popular. He first played in interstate cricket in January, 1912, and he has a splendid record in Sheffield Shield games. His aggregate of 1,069 runs includes three centuries, and gives him an average of 34.78 to the innings. In club matches he leads the 'Varsity team. He has scored altogether 1,700 runs (average 60.89), a performance which stamps him as a batsman of exceptional ability. It is a pleasure to watch the skill and ease with which he makes his strokes, and he is also a splendid field.

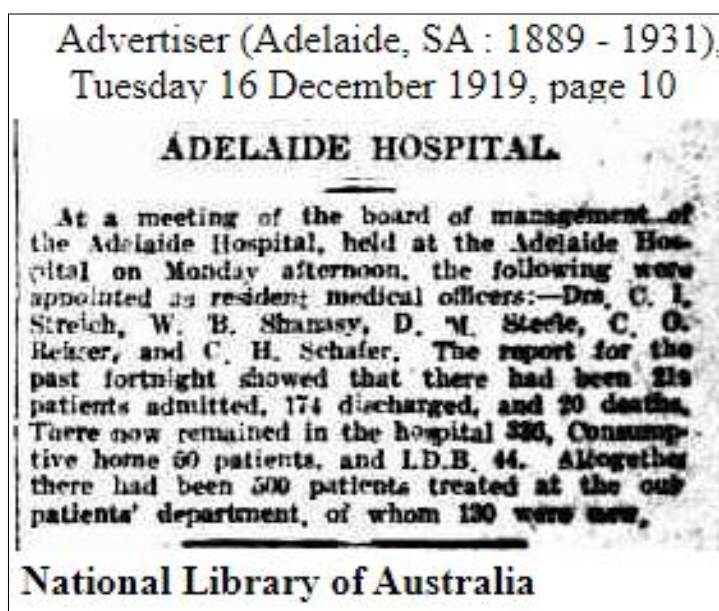


**Dr. D.M. Steele**  
**Statistics for Adelaide University Cricket Club**

CLUB CRICKET	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avg	100	50	Runs	Wkt	Avg	BB	5w	10w	ct
1912/13 University	3	4	-	202	81	50.50	-	2							
1913/14 "	9	9	-	508	163	56.44	1	3							
1914/15 "	7	8	1	375	104	53.57	2	1							
1915/16 "	1	1	1	71	71*	-	-	1							
1918/19 "	3	3	-	170	137	56.66	1	-							
1919/20 "	7	6	2	380	157	95.00	2	-							
1920/21 "	3	2	-	125	68	62.50	-	2							
	33	33	4	1831	163	63.13	6	9							

## Career & Family Life

Don graduated MB BS in December 1919. On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> of December 1919, he was appointed a resident medical officer at the Adelaide Hospital.



Sadly, for the Steele family, their father, Robert Moore Steele, passed away at his home at Jeffcott Street, North Adelaide on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1920, leaving a daughter (Mrs Isabella Morant) and six surviving sons.

Having completed his residency at the Adelaide Hospital by early 1921, Don undertook a three-week position as a locum at Pinnaroo in the South East of South Australia. While at Pinnaroo, Don played cricket for Pinnaroo in a match against Parilla.

## *Pinnaroo and Border Times (SA : 1911 - 1954) - 4 February 1921*

**Dr Ian McNeil, the Pinnaroo medico, left by motor car last night, en route for Adelaide, for a three week's vacation. Dr McNeil has appointed Dr D. M. Steele, of Adelaide, to act as his locum tenens in Pinnaroo during his absence.**

## Adelaide Hospital House Staff 1921



PRG 280/1/45/18

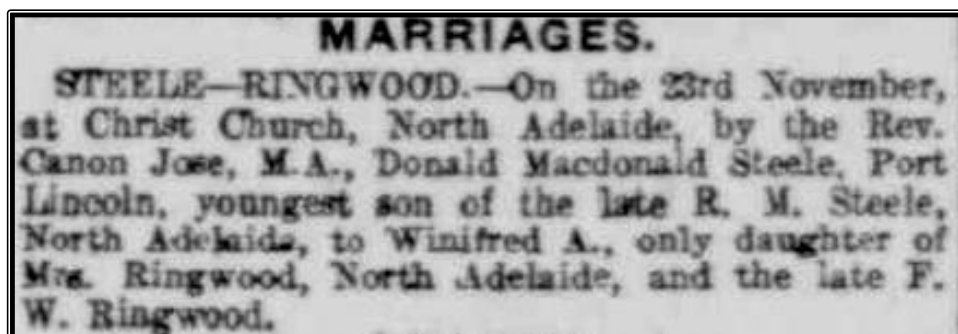
*D.M. Steele - Seated – Fourth from Left*

*Standing L-R: Doctors Robert McM. Glynn, H.G. Wallace, J.E. Mahon, and B.F. Francis.*

*Sitting L-R: Doctors R.S. Hecker, F.H. Beare, C.T. Turner M.C. (Medical Superintendent), D.M. Steele  
Clarence O.F. Rieger and R.L.E. Walmsley.*

Don then moved to practice at Port Lincoln on Eyre Peninsula, SA. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 1921, he married Winnie Ringwood at Christ Church, North Adelaide.

### *The Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929) - 20 December 1921*



Don and Winnie had three children, the first, a daughter, was tragically stillborn on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November 1923. Their only son, Ian Macdonald Steele was born on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May 1925 and their second daughter, Janet, was born on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 1926.

Don quickly became involved in the local Port Lincoln community. In 1926, an article in the 'Sport' newspaper stated "The doctor has done a lot to encourage local cricket, and his advent to Lincoln gave the game a fillip. Dr Steele is a generous-hearted gentleman, noted for his many kind actions on behalf of those more unfortunate than others, and does not look a day older than when he made big scores for his State."

Don was a member of the Institute Committee for 15 years. He was Club Champion of the Port Lincoln Golf Links in 1927 and a Vice-President of the Bowls Club when it opened on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 1928 and later became President of the Club. Don was Vice Captain of Golf Club in May 1930 when the new golf links opened. He was divisional surgeon for the local St John's Ambulance Brigade.

In November 1935, Don was a driving force behind the organisation of the first combined dinner of the Prince Alfred and St Peter's Old Collegians' Association for the Port Lincoln district and the West Coast. He was chair at the dinner which was attended by just over 40 people.

#### **Old Collegians' Dinner – Port Lincoln**

***Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954) 12 December 1935***



OLD COLLEGIANS AT PORT LINCOLN. The other day old scholars of St. Peters and Prince Alfred colleges held a reunion dinner at the Grand Hotel, Port Lincoln. Dr. D. M. Steele was in the chair. The parent bodies in Adelaide were represented by Messrs. John Hill and F. J. Ward (St. Peters), and P. L. Claridge (Princes).—Murray

After 16 years in practice at Port Lincoln, Don moved back to Adelaide. Dr and Mrs Steele were presented with a clock and a framed picture of Port Lincoln. At the opening of the new golf season Don was thanked for his long and loyal service.

#### **FAREWELL DANCE FOR DR. AND MRS. STEELE"**

***Port Lincoln Times (SA : 1927 - 1954) - 16 April 1937***

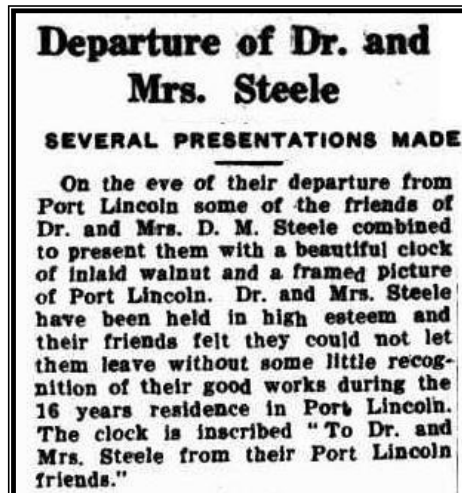
**FAREWELL DANCE FOR DR. AND MRS. STEELE**

A farewell dance was tendered Dr. and Mrs. D. M. Steele in the woolshed of Mr. Ken Hyde, Coomunga, on Tuesday night as an expression of appreciation for their services, and the esteem in which they are held by country people surrounding Port Lincoln. About 150 guests were present. Dr. and Mrs. Steele expect to leave Port Lincoln for Adelaide about May 1.



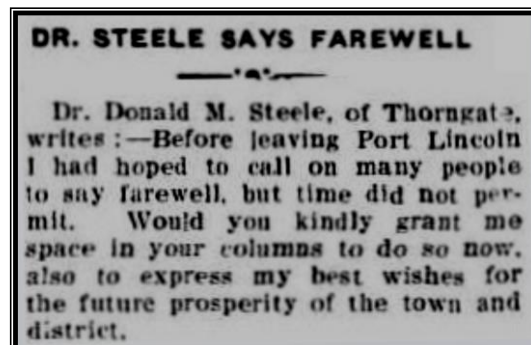
## "Departure of Dr. and Mrs. Steele"

*Port Lincoln Times (SA : 1927 - 1954) 30 April 1937*



## "DR. STEELE SAYS FAREWELL"

*Port Lincoln Times (SA : 1927 - 1954) - 14 May 1937*



On returning to Adelaide, Don and Winnie were initially living at Thorngate, but by May 1938, they had moved to Glenelg, residing at 6 Mosley Street, Glenelg near the home of his brother, Dr Ken Steele.

In September 1938, he joined the Executive Committee of the Glenelg District Cricket Club and in October 1938, his Lawn Bowls membership was transferred from Port Lincoln to Glenelg.

## World War II

In 1941 Don was appointed an Honorary Captain in the AAMC. His WWII record has not yet been opened to the public, however as his name continued to appear in the SA newspapers throughout the years of WWII, frequently being thanked for the successful delivery of babies, it is apparent that Don's WWII service would have been part-time, and it is probable that he served on medical boards for the recruitment of service personnel.

Don and Winnie's son, Ian MacDonald Steele, studied medicine at the University of Adelaide from 1941 and gained his MB BS in 1948.

## Post WWII

The Steele's frequently took holidays in January and often returned to Port Lincoln for the fishing, staying at the Pier Hotel.

In July 1949, Dr. John L. Stokes joined Donald MacDonald Steele and Dr. D.C. Dawkins in the practice at 25 Jetty Road, Glenelg.

Dr Ian Steele married Miss Mary Burges, the daughter of Mrs. Howard Burgess of Glen Osmond and the late Mr. Burgess, at St Saviour's Church, Glen Osmond on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 1950. The couple has a daughter, Penelope Anne, in August 1952 (B.Sc., (Hons.) Adel. 1953) and a son, Peter MacDonald in October 1952.

Don and Ian competed in the Father and Son competition at the Royal Adelaide Golf Club, winning the Wendt Trophy in October 1952, coming second in 1953 and third in 1954.

## Death

Donald MacDonald Steele passed away on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July 1962, aged 69. He was cremated and his ashes were interred at Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide. Don was survived his wife, Winnie and their two children, Ian and Janet.

Winifred Annie Steel passed away on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June 1965 and her ashes are interred alongside Don's at Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

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

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Virtual War Memorial Australia <https://vwma.org.au/>

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

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David MacDonald

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8093787>

Kenneth Nugent

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8089321>

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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 – Donald MacDonald Steele)

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Adelaide University Football Club 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1906-1981