



# **Major Kenneth Nugent Steele**



**Played with Adelaide University**



**Football Club: A Grade (1911 – 1912)**

(Intervarsity 1910, 1911 and 1912)

**Cricket Club: 1909/10 - 1914/15**

**Blues – Football (1910) & Cricket (1915)**

**Medical Student: 1910 – 1914 - M.B. B.S. (1914)**

## ***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 Kenneth Nugent Steele. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.***



### Kenneth Nugent STEELE

Date of birth	17 December 1889
Place of birth	Adelaide, South Australia
School	Prince Alfred College, Adelaide, South Australia
Religion	Presbyterian
Occupation	Medical practitioner
Address	North Adelaide, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	24
Next of kin	Father, T Steele, Jeffcott Street, North Adelaide, South Australia
Enlistment date	24 May 1915
Rank on enlistment	Captain
Unit name	No 1 Australian General Hospital
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia, on board A62 <i>Wandilla</i> on 25 June 1915
Miscellaneous details (Nominal Roll)	see other
Other details	War service: Egypt, Gallipoli, France. Gassed, April 1918; invalided to Rouen, thence to 3rd London General Hospital.

### WW1 Pictorial Honour Roll of South Australians

#### STEELE, Kenneth Nugent



REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

Major  
8th Field Ambulance

Born 17 December 1889 at Adelaide, SA  
Son of Robert Moore STEELE of Jeffcott St., North Adelaide, SA  
Occupation prior to enlistment Medical Practitioner  
Enlisted 15 April 1915  
Served in Egypt, Gallipoli, France  
Gassed April 1918 and invalided to Rouen then London  
Returned to Australia 28 September 1918 per "Malta"

All Australia Memorial SA Edition Section B



# WW1 Service records

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

4th MILITARY DISTRICT.  
1421 510

C.M. Form A-22.  
(Revised 1.5.13.)

**AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.**

Application for a Commission in the *A I F*

No.	PARTICULARS.
1.	Surname <i>STEELE</i> Other names (in full) <i>KENNETH NUGENT</i>
2.	Educational Qualifications <i>College Menawarby</i> <i>Graduated A.B.B.A. Adelaide</i>
3.	Military Qualifications (previous Military Service, if any, to be stated) <i>Served as a Lieutenant in College Cadet Corps</i>
4.	Present Civil Employment <i>Medical Practitioner</i>
5.	Date of Birth and Age <i>December 17th 1899</i> 25 Years 6 Months
6.	If a British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject <i>British subject</i>
7.	Married or Single <i>single</i>
8.	Postal Address <i>Adelaide Hospital</i>
9.	Next of Kin <i>Father. Jeffcott St. Wm. Adelaide</i>

Date *19.5.15* (Signature of Applicant) *K Steele*

NOTE.—Candidates for Commissions in the Permanent Forces are required to attach a satisfactory certificate of moral character, or, if they are serving in the Permanent or Officers Forces, to be recommended by their Commanding Officer. They are also to state on the back of this form the subjects in which they desire to be examined in Part II., and where exemptions are claimed for educational subjects, the authority for same is to be stated, and where necessary to be supported by certificates.

**MEDICAL CERTIFICATE.**

In the name of Candidates for Commissions in the Permanent Forces, Proceedings of Board, in accordance with the "Instructions for the Physical Examination of Candidates for Commissions in the Permanent Military Forces of the Commonwealth," will be submitted for this Certificate, such Board, however, will not be assembled until after the nomination of the Candidate to undergo examination has been approved by the Military Board of Administration.

I, *Charles Heatman* do hereby certify to the correctness of the following particulars respecting the above-named applicant. I further certify that the applicant is not ruptured, and is capable of bearing the fatigue incident to the performance of military duty.

Height *5 feet 9 1/2* Weight *10 stone 10 lbs.*  
Chest Measurement *33 1/2-36"* Eyesight *right eye - 6/6 left eye - 6/6*

Signature of the Examining Medical Officer *Charles Heatman*

**RECOMMENDATION AND CERTIFICATE OF COMMANDING OFFICER.**  
(Not required in the case of Candidates for Commissions in the Permanent Forces.)

I recommend that the Candidate above-named be appointed a *Captain* in the Corps under my command, and I certify:—

1. \* (a) That such appointment will be within the authorized establishment and provision on the Estimates for the current year, or  
(b) That such appointment, although not within the authorized establishment and provision on the Estimates for the current year, will be within the number of supernumerary officers permitted under C.M. Regulation 36.  
2. (a) That the provisions of C.M.R. 80 have been fully complied with, or  
(b) That the provisions of U.Y. Reg. 23 have been fully complied with, or  
(c) That the provisions of U.Y. Reg. 129 have been fully complied with.

On appointment the candidate will be posted to *1st Australian Unit Egypt* Squadron, Battery, or Coy., &c.  
*No. 1 A.G. H. W. Shepherd*

Date *19.5.15* Commanding *of P. Force* at *on 3* Regt. or Corps.

**RECOMMENDATION OF DISTRICT COMMANDANT.**  
(Not required in the case of Candidates for Commissions in the Permanent Forces.)

*A.G. 273715*  
Commanding C.M. Forces *4* Military District

\* Sub-para (a) to be struck out if (b) applies, and vice versa. [Sub-para, not applicable to be struck out.]  
N.B.—Record of War Service (if any) to be shown on back of Form.  
Seniority of Candidates to be stated when two or more applications are forwarded on the same date.

## Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps.....B.F.Amb.....No. 3. Aust. Gen. Hosp.

Rank.....Major.....Surname.....STEELE.....Christian Name.....Kenneth Nugent

Religion.....Septa.....Age on Enlistment.....years.....months

Enlisted (a).....Terms of Service (a).....Service reckons from (a).....

Date of promotion to present rank.....Date of appointment to lance rank.....

Extended (.....) Re-engaged (.....) Qualification (b).....  
or Corps Trade and Rate.....

Occupation.....Signature of Officer.....

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c. during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents
Date	From whom received				
6/11/15	O.C. 3rd A.G.H. Jnd. Unit.	Proc. to Reinf. MEF Embarked	Gallipoli	27/10/15	
5/12/15	" "	Adm. 3 A.G.H. Sprained Ankle Disc. to duty	Mudros	4/11/15 D/O 3/103	
27/1/16	Oxfordshire	Disembarked from Mudros	Alexandria	27/1/16	
1/1/16	Conv. Depot	Admitted. ENTERITIS	Mudros	27/12/15 D/O 3/462	
12/5/16	3rd. A.G.H.	Returned to duty	Abbassia	6/5/16 D.O. 14/887	
25/9/16	Mon. roll	Embarked for O/Seas B.E.F.	Alexandria	25/9/16	
20/10/16	3rd. A.G.H.	Sick to Hpl.	England	11/10/16 D.O. 3/46E	
18/9/16	" "	Sick Dis. from Hpl.	"	18/10/16	
18/3/17	AIF List No. 201	Posted to No 3 MAH. (Temp)	"	15/3/17 D.O. 2/1009E	
14/3/18	3rd. A.G.H.	Attached from 3rd. A.O.G. For duty	"	18/3/17 D.O. 3/46	
	AIF List No. 197	To be Major	"	20/6/17 D.O. 3E	
	A. Aus. Hpl	M/O to Admin. Hqrs. LONDON	"	14/3/18	

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged in the Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.  
(b) Signaller, Shoeing-Smith, &c.

(17501.) Wt. W 1887-P 1124, 1,000,000, 6/18, D &amp; S. Form B. 103, (E. 1250.)

(P.T.O.)

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c. during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents
Date	From whom received				
15/3/18	O.C.	Proceeded overseas France	Folkestone	15/3/18	D.O. 3/151E
22/3/18	8th. F. Amb.	T.O.S. from 3rd. Aux. Hpl	Field	18/3/18	D.O. 12/218
26/4/18	" "	Posted to 56th. Bn. Rejoined	"	19/4/18	D.O. 16/287
27/4/18	4th. C.C.S.	Asses Adm & tld. to A.T.	"	25/4/18	D.O. 16/287
26/4/18	8th F. Amb	"ounded in action (gas)	"	25/4/18	D.O. 16/303
27/4/18	8th Gen Hpl	Asses Adm	Rouen	27/4/18	D.O. 17/357
28/4/18	" "	To England	"	28/4/18	D.O. 18/365
29/4/18	3rd Lon Gen	Adm. Gas Poisoning Slt.	England	29/4/18	D.O. 18/263E
4/7/18	" "	Disc. to duty	"	4/7/18	
		Returned to Australia per			
		H.I.B. Gas poisoning &			
		Debility and is struck off			
		Strength			
26/7/18		LIEUT.			
		For officer i/c records			
		Adm in. Hqrs. LONDON.			



## Published Biography

**Blood Sweat and Fears: Medical Practitioners and Medical Students of South Australian who Served in World War 1, C Verco, A Summers, T Swain & M Jelly. July 2014**

### STEELE Kenneth Nugent

MB BS

1889 - 1956

Kenneth Nugent Steele was born in Adelaide South Australia, on the 17th December 1889 son of Robert Moore Steele and his wife Theresa, nee O'Leary. His brothers were David Macdonald Steele and Donald Macdonald Steele. He was educated at Prince Alfred College and studied medicine at the University of Adelaide graduating in 1914. He then completed his residency at the Adelaide Hospital.

He enlisted in the AIF and was commissioned 19th May 1915. He was 5ft 9ins, and weighed 10st 10lbs. He had served as a lieutenant in the Cadet Corps whilst at school. His father was named as his next of kin. This later changed to his wife care of the Commonwealth Bank, London. He was sent to Egypt with reinforcements for 1 AGH. He embarked on the *Georgian* as SMO in August 1915 which was detailed to evacuate casualties from Gallipoli to Malta. Steele reported the very poor conditions suffered on this voyage when he arrived in Malta and the *Georgian* was withdrawn from service. On his return to Mudros in late September he was detached to the British 29 (Lowland) CCS which was set up a convalescent depot for 1000 cases. Steele was posted to 3 AGH in November and remained on the strength of this unit for the next year, leaving it only as it was about to deploy to Abbeville from Brighton in March 1917. Whilst in England on 6th April 1917 Steele married Norah Elizabeth Taylor at St Peter's Church in Brighton. At that time he was posted to 3 AAH at

Dartford, where he remained for another 12 months. He was promoted to major in June 1917. He was sent to France to join 8 FdAmb 5 Div in March 1918, then at Corbie, close to the confluence of the Rivers Somme and Ancre. A month later, and the day after the Australian success at Villers-Bretonneux; he was detached to 56 Bn (14 Bde). Within a few days he was gassed, and evacuated to 8 GH at Rouen, and from there to 3 LGH. He spent three months in hospital before being invalided back to Australia in July. Back home he was admitted to 4 AGH at Randwick, and then 5 AGH at St Kilda, and finally discharged in November 1918. He was issued with the 1914-15 Star, The British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Steele returned to his practice at Glenelg, in spite of his injury. In 1947 he was still living in Moseley Street, Glenelg and had his car drugs and instruments stolen. Kenneth Nugent Steele died in Glenelg on 19th December 1956. He and his wife Norah are buried together in the Mitcham Church of England Cemetery.

#### Sources:

<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/scripts/Imagine.asp?B=8089321graduated>

Likeman R., "Gallipoli Doctors" Trojan Press, 2010. Photo: Prince Alfred College

The Adelaide Advertiser 15th June 1917

The Mail Adelaide 10th August 1946

Ancestry.com



**Published Biography**  
**Who's Who in Australia, 1921-1950**

**Kenneth Nugent Steele**



*(Blindhardt Portrait)*

**KENNETH NUGENT STEELE, M.B., B.S.** Professional Address: 32 Moseley Street, Glenelg. Sport: Tennis. Clubs: Tattersalls Club, Member of S.A. Jockey Club, Adelaide Racing Club, Port Adelaide Racing Club, and Amateur Turf Club.

Born 17th December, 1889. Son of the late R. M. Steele, of North Adelaide. Educated Prince Alfred College and University of Adelaide. Obtained Cricket and Football Blues at University, and played in many Inter-University Contests. Played League Football for North Adelaide, and for South Australia in Cricket. Graduated 1914. Enlisted for Great War in 1915, and returned at the end of 1918 with rank of Major. Served in Gallipoli with R.A.M.C. and A.A.M.C. in Egypt and France. Medical Officer to Minds Home for Epileptic and Weak-minded Children.

## Additional Biography

### Early Life

Kenneth Nugent (Ken) Steele was born on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 1889, the son of Robert Moore Steele and Theresa O'Leary. His siblings were Isabella Robertson (b 1877), Thomas (b 1878), Robert Moore (b 1880 – d 1880), Robert Moore (b 1881), Wilfred (b 1883), David MacDonald (b 1886), Arnold Lancelot (b 1887 – d 1916) and Donald MacDonald (b1892).

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.

### Education

Ken attended Prince Alfred College from 1903 (aged 13) and excelled in all areas of school life, particularly on the sports field. He was a multi-talented sportsman with an outstanding record in football and cricket. He was captain of the school first XVIII in 1909 and was awarded the Best and Fairest in the Intercollegiate game against St Peter's College.

He was active in the school cadets.

#### Prince Alfred College Intercollegiate Football Team 1906



*KN Steele – Middle Row – Third from Right*



## Prince Alfred College Intercollegiate Football Team 1907



***KN Steele (Vice Captain) Front Row – Third from Left***

Ken was captain of the PAC football and cricket teams in 1909 and one of the two Honorary Secretaries of the PAC Sports and on the Inter-Collegiate Sports Committee in both 1908 and 1909.

In June 1908, he played in a football match for PAC against Roseworthy Agricultural College. During the 1905/1906 season Ken played B Grade Cricket for North Adelaide he then played B Grade cricket for PAC from 1907/08 to December 1909.

Ken passed four subjects (English Literature, Latin and Geometry) in the Junior Examinations in December 1905 and a further four subjects (Latin, French, Algebra and Inorganic Chemistry) in the Junior Examinations in December 1906. He went on to pass Senior Examinations in English Literature (December 1907), English Literature, Latin, French, Geometry and Inorganic Chemistry (December 1908) and Arithmetic and Algebra (December 1908).

## University of Adelaide

Ken commenced studying medicine at the University of Adelaide in 1910 and he completed his MB BS in 1914.

Ken was the second of the Steele brothers to undertake a degree in medicine following in the footsteps of David MacDonald Steele (MB BS 1909). Their younger brother Donald MacDonald Steele gained his MB BS in 1919.

Ken's older brother, David MacDonald Steele played lacrosse for the University of Adelaide for more than 10 years, competing in several Inter-Varsity competitions and gaining a Blue for lacrosse in 1908. He was the AU Lacrosse Club Captain in 1910 and represented the State in Lacrosse.

Ken was registered as a legally qualified medical practitioner in December 1914.

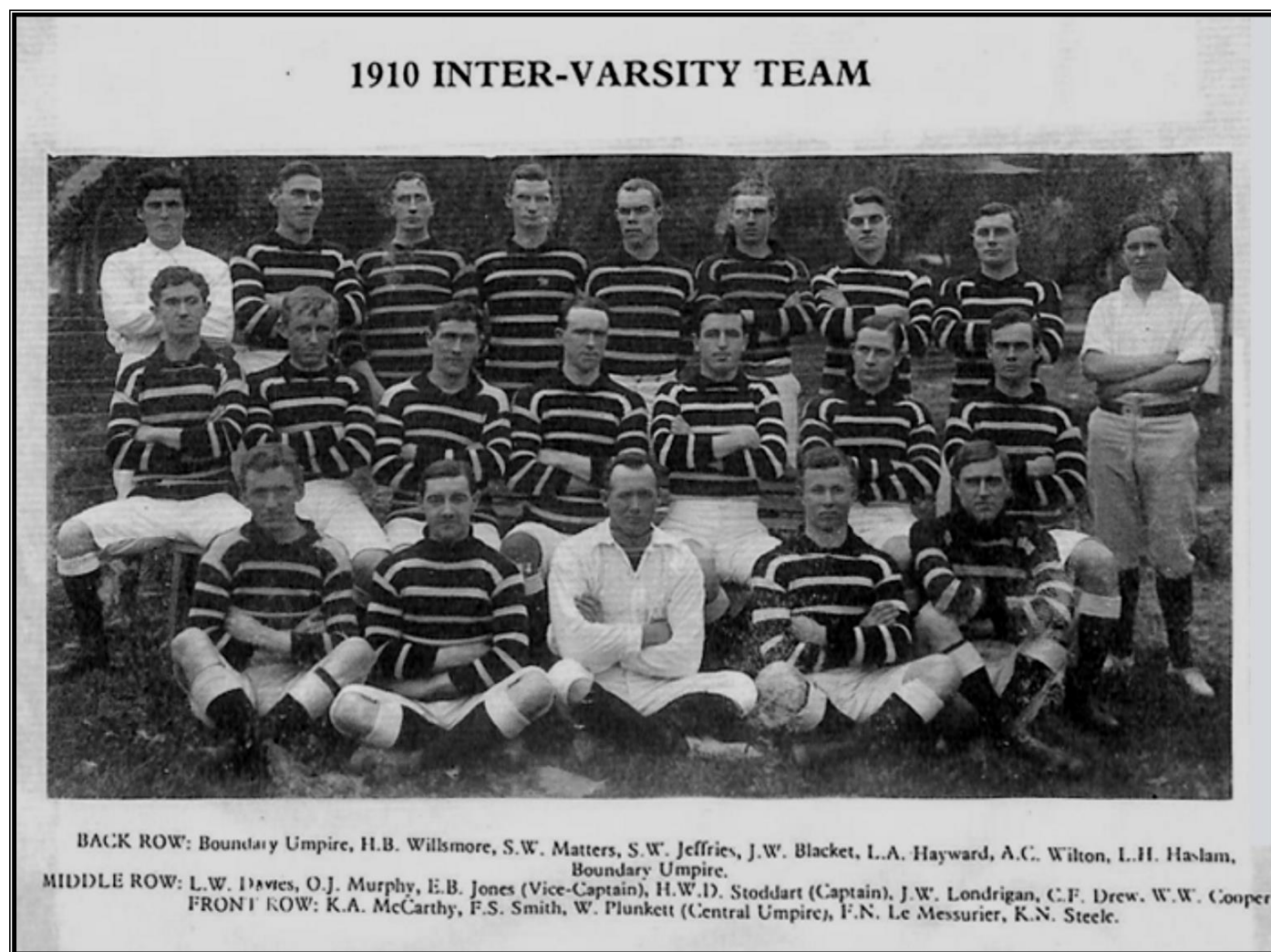
## Adelaide University Sport

### Football

Ken had played 10 games with the North Adelaide Football Club in 1909 and 1910. He made his debut against Sturt on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August 1909 at Unley Oval and his final game was against Port Adelaide on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 1910.

Ken was still playing league football for North Adelaide when he first represented Adelaide University at Inter-Varsity football in August 1910. He strained his ankle during the match which may not have please North Adelaide. He was awarded a Blue for Football in 1910 and went on to represent Adelaide University again in 1912 and 1913.

### 1910 Intervarsity Football Adelaide University v Melbourne University



**KN Steele – Front Row – Far Right**  
**(Held in Adelaide – Won by Melbourne 14 goals 10 points to 8 goals 11 points)**

Ken along with many other league footballers, who were students, joined University on the formation of the Amateur League in 1911 and was a member of the first Amateur League premiership team. Ken also played for University in the 1912 season. He played in the ruck and was the strongest follower in the team in the 1912 season. After having assisted the establishment of the University Football Club in the Amateur League, many of the former South Australian league players returned to their league clubs. Ken was expected to return to North Adelaide in 1913, but it appears that he retired from football at this stage. North Adelaide was also chasing his younger brother,

Don, who had completed his schooling at PAC where he had been an excellent player. Don chose to spend the winter of 1913 travelling overseas.

During his University years, Ken also competed in PAC Past versus Present football matches.



***KN Steele Back Row – Fifth from Right***

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.

***Cricket***

Having completed his studies at PAC, Ken commenced playing A Grade cricket for the University of Adelaide in the second half of the 1909/10 season. He continued to play for University until the end of the 1914/15 season. He was the Club Secretary for the 1912/13 season and on the Club Committee for the 1913/14 season.

During his University years he played in PAC "Past versus Present" cricket matches.

Ken was best known for his fast-bowling, taking 12 wickets at an average of 22.33 in 1910/11, 19 wickets at an average of 17.31 in 1911/12, 21 wickets at an average of 28.6 in 1912/13 and 23 wickets at an average of 18.95 in 1913/14. He topped the University Bowling averages in the 1911/12 season.

*The Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 – 1922) – 4 April 1912*

UNIVERSITY.						
Batting.						
	In.	N.O.	H.S.	Tl.	Av.	
A. G. Moyes .. ..	3	—	190	288	96.	
G. C. Campbell ..	11	1	114	498	49.8	
C. F. Drew .. . .	5	1	50*	160	40.	
C. E. Dolling .. .	8	—	90	304	38.	
A. C. Wilton .. .	10	1	64*	223	24.77	
H. B. Willemore ..	10	1	86	216	24.	
H. O. Rankin .. .	10	—	79	219	21.9	
C. R. Davies .. .	8	2	66*	97	16.16	
F. N. LeMessurier	8	3	45*	77	15.4	
K. N. Steele .. .	6	1	29	59	11.8	
L. G. Caust .. .	5	2	21	35	11.66	
E. B. Jones .. .	8	2	24*	62	10.33	
I. B. Jose .. .	3	1	7*	7	3.5	
Also Batted—N. E. Seppelt 0 and 4*.						
Bowling.						
	O.	M.	W.	R.	Av.	
K. N. Steele .. .	114	16	19	329	17.31	
C. R. Davies .. .	122	21	17	362	21.29	
A. C. Wilton .. .	64.5	4	8	223	27.88	
H. B. Willemore ..	151	16	19	595	31.31	
A. G. Moyes .. .	41	4	4	152	38.	
E. B. Jones .. .	111	22	9	344	38.22	
Also Bowled—N. E. Seppelt, 7o. 2m. 26r.;						
C. E. Dolling, 14o. 1m. 3w. 41r.; I. E.						
Ashby, 7o. 27r.; H. O. Rankin, 12o. 1m. 2w.						
78r.; H. Powell, 2o. 16r.; I. B. Jose, 6o. 2m.						
21r.						

In March 1913, Ken travelled with the University team to play a match in the Barossa Valley against Angaston. In April 1914 he played a combined Northern team (Peterborough, Yongala, Terowie, Boolaroo Centre, Wilmington, Clare and Burra) at University Oval then headed to the Barossa Valley to play matches against Nuriootpa, Angaston and Gawler.

In his final season for the University team Ken took 18 wickets at an average of 16.0, missing one match “stewing” (swotting) for his final medical examinations.

*The Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 – 1923) – 20 November 1914*

in the interstate matches. The older brother (K. N. Steele) was not playing on Saturday, for he is now engaged in that arduous process known to the students as “stewing.” We will probably hear of Dr. K. N. Steele before long.


**Statistics for Adelaide University Cricket Club A Grade**

CLUB CRICKET	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50	Runs	Wkt	Avge	BB	5w	10w	ct
1910/11 University	8	7	2	48	14	9.60	-	-	268	12	22.33	3/22	-	-	
1911/12 “	8	6	1	59	29	11.80	-	-	333	19	17.52	4/32	-	-	
1912/13 “	9	8	-	89	42	11.12	-	-	496	21	23.61	6/55	1	-	
1913/14 “	10	10	1	169	42	18.77	-	-	436	23	18.95	4/35	-	-	
1914/15 “	6	4	-	10	4	2.50	-	-	289	18	16.05	4/48	-	-	
	41	35	4	375	42	12.09	-	-	1822	93	19.59	6/55	1	-	

In December 1913 Ken was selected to play for South Australia in two Sheffield Shield matches alongside his younger brother, Don. In his first match against NSW (19-23 December) in Sydney he played despite having injured his leg in training the day before the game commenced. Ken scored 6 and 11 and bowled without success conceding 48 runs.



Ken was selected to captain the SA Colts team in a match against Victoria in Melbourne in February 1914, but now in his final year of medicine, was unable to make the trip. He was selected to play a Sheffield Shield match against NSW in December 1914, however now having just graduated and starting his residency at the Adelaide Hospital he could not gain leave to play. His priority was now medicine and this along with the advent of World War 1 curtailed his cricket career.

**Kenneth Steele** 

Australia

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Full name Kenneth Nagent Steele  
Born December 17, 1889, East Adelaide, South Australia  
Died December 19, 1956, North Adelaide, South Australia  
(aged 67 years 2 days)

Major teams South Australia

Batting style Right-hand bat  
Bowling style Right-arm fast-medium

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**insights** Explore Kenneth Steele's performance

### Batting and fielding averages

	Mat	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct	St
<b>First-class</b>	2	4	0	18	11	4.50	0	0	0	0

### Bowling averages

	Mat	Runs	Wkts	BBI	BBM	Ave	SR	4w	5w	10
<b>First-class</b>	2	99	0	-	-	-	-	0	0	0

### Career statistics

**First-class span** 1913/14 - 1913/14

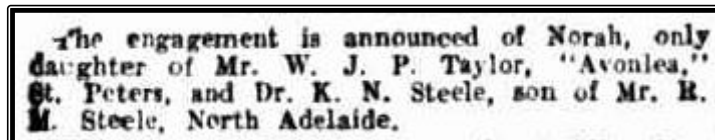


## Early Medical Career

Before embarking on his medical career, Ken was on vacation in mid-January 1915, staying at the Ozone Hotel, Kingscote, Kangaroo Island.

He was appointed to the role of resident medical officer at the Adelaide Hospital for 12 months from the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 1915. Before June 1915, Ken had acted as a locum in Burra for his brother Dr David MacDonald Steele on two occasions.

### ***Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 – 1954) – 26 December 1914***



In December 1914, Ken became engaged to Norah Taylor the daughter of Mr WJP Taylor of St Peters. Norah was born at Unley, South Australia on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1895 and was the sister of Benjamin Thomas (Ben) Taylor a medical student and who also played cricket for Adelaide University.

## War service – World War I

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 1915, Ken volunteered for service and received his commission as a Captain in the Australian Army Medical Corps. Ken's WWI record is well documented in the Blood Sweat and Fears biography above and his War Service Records can be accessed through the National Archives of Australia link:-

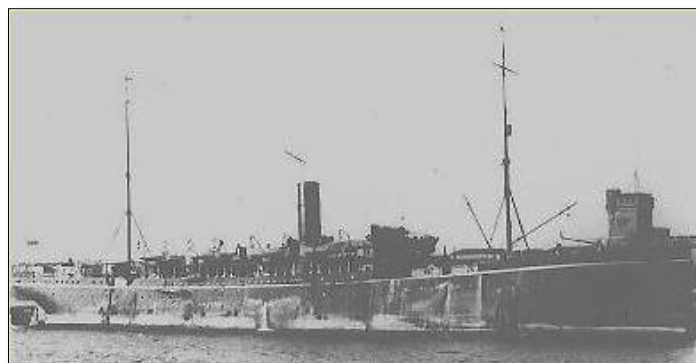
<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8089321>

In 1916 while serving in Egypt, Ken played in an AIF Cricket Team which defeated an English XI in a match played at the Gezira Sporting Club, Cairo.

In February 1917, Miss Norah Elizabeth Taylor left for London to join Ken in the UK. She married Kenneth Nugent Steele, the son of R.M. Steele of North Adelaide on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 1917 at St Peter's Church, Brighton, England. Later that year Ken was promoted to the rank of Major. Ken was said to have saved the lives of many Australian soldiers during the influenza outbreak in England during WWI.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of April 1918, Ken was severely gassed and spent time in hospital in England before being repatriated back to Australia. At one stage his weight had dropped to 10 stone, which was ten pounds less than his enlistment weight.

It is unclear when Norah returned to Australia, but she was back in South Australia by August 1918. Ken returned to Australia on the *HMAT D17 Malta* arriving on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 1918.



*SS Malta (HMAT D17 Malta)*

Having spent more time in hospital in Australia, he was discharged on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November 1918.

## Post WWI Career and Family Life

On his return to civilian life, Ken commenced practicing at Murray Bridge and was appointed the Medical Officer for Mobilong on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 1918. He purchased a 25.6 Buick and soon became a Vice-President of the Murray Bridge Racing Club and later Honorary Surgeon to the Club.

Ken and Norah's only child, a daughter (Mary Nugent Steele), was born at Quambi, South Terrace, Adelaide on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 1919.

In March 1921, Ken purchased a Dodge motor vehicle. He ran a private hospital in Murray Bridge and in 1922, was a subscriber toward the building of the Murray Bridge Soldiers Memorial Hospital, which opened in August 1923.

## Ceremonial Opening of the Murray Bridge Soldiers Memorial Hospital



In 1923 he was appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Karoonda Race Club.

In late October 1924, Ken commenced practicing at Glenelg, SA. He was in partnership with Dr Milo Sprod and from February 1925, the pair also practiced at the Verco Building, North Terrace, Adelaide. By 1927, Ken was the Medical Officer for Minda Homes, a position he held for many years.

Ken and Norah purchased a house at 32 Moseley Street, Glenelg and in December 1924, they spent a month on holidays in Melbourne and Sydney. When Ken moved to Moseley Street, the Glenelg Cricket Club was hopeful that he would return to playing district cricket. Aged 35 with a medical practice to run and a wife and young daughter, he did not return to play cricket, but became a Vice President of the Club in 1928 and was a great supporter of the Club for the remainder of his life.

## Bodyline

During the Adelaide Oval match (January 1933) of the infamous "Bodyline Series", Australia's wicketkeeper "Bert" Oldfield was staying with Ken and Norah at Glenelg. When Bert was struck down by ball bowled by Larwood, he was taken by ambulance to Ken's home suffering from concussion.

Oldfield dropping to the ground after a ball from Larwood had smashed against his head. He was taken to the residence of Dr. K. N. Steele, at Glenelg, in an ambulance, suffering from concussion and shock.

Ken continued to practice at Glenelg throughout WWII. He was in charge of the first aid depot during a blackout and air raid exercise in late October 1940. Ken and Norah owned a wire-haired fox terrier, which they showed at the annual Terrier Club championships in 1944.

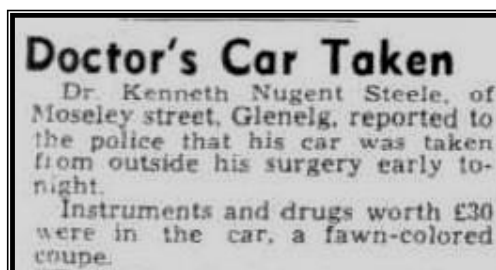
During WWII, Mary and George had two more children, George Fowle Ingersoll (Jnr), born in April 1941 and Norah Taylor Ingersoll, born in April 1945.

## Post World War II

In July 1946, Norah travelled to Sydney and joined the *Mariposa* sailing to America, where she spent several months with Mary, George and their children. While she was in America she attended baby Norah's christening. Norah returned to Australia in about December 1946.

While Norah was overseas, Ken had the misfortune to have his car stolen from outside his surgery. "Instruments and drugs worth £30 were in the car, a fawn-colored (sic) coupe".

### ***The Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 – 1954) – 10 August 1946***



***Dr Kenneth Nugent Steele***

Mary Ingersoll and her three children travelled to Sydney in early May 1947, leaving from San Francisco. Mary met the Ken and Norah in Sydney and travelled with them to Adelaide arriving home on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 1947. Originally the family were to stay until September, but their plans were pushed forward. They left Australia, via Sydney, by plane on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August 1947. In late January 1948, Mary and George's fourth child, a daughter, Pamela was born.

In September 1948, Ken and Norah holidayed in Sydney for a month, staying at the Hotel Australia. The couple frequently attended the theatre and were photographed among the first night audience of "Fly Away Peter" at the Theatre Royal in August 1949 (below).

*The Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 – 1954) – 13 August 1949*



AMONG the first-night audience of "Fly Away Peter" at the Theatre Royal on Wednesday night were (from left)—Mrs. Bill Morish, Mr. Morish, Mrs. Kenneth Steele, and Dr. Steele.

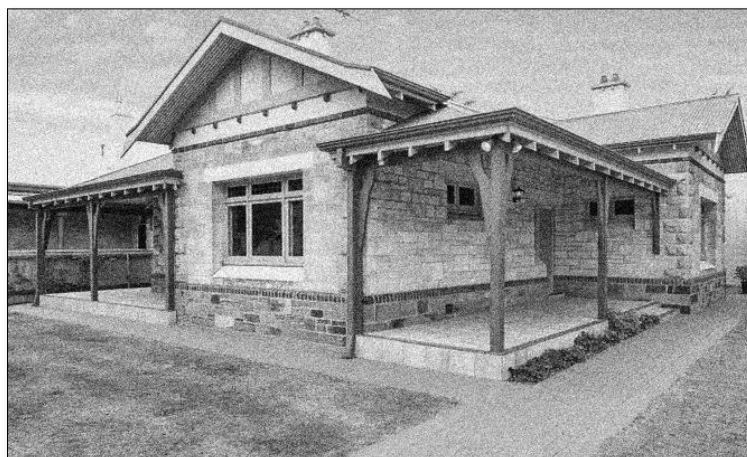
**Norah and Ken Steele – At Right**

Ken retired from private practice in 1949 and purchased a smaller home at Pier Street, Glenelg. The family home at 32 Moseley Street, Glenelg was put up for sale in June 1950. The house was passed in at auction at £9000 having not met the reserve of £9500. Ken and Norah were staying at the Pier Hotel, Largs Bay prior to settling into their new home in December 1950.

*The Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 – 1954) – 17 June 1950*

By direction of DR. KENNETH N. STEELE, who has purchased a smaller residence,  
**MOST DESIRABLY LOCATED IN THE BEST RESIDENTIAL PART OF GLENELG**  
**No. 32 Cr. MOSELEY STREET & GILES AVENUE**  
This WELL-MAINTAINED HOME of PLEASING DESIGN is constructed of freestone above a bluestone base, and provides conveniently disposed accommodation, including Reception Room, Dining Room, Lounge (which gives on to the sunroom); two principal Bedrooms (by rearrangement only, a further Bedroom could be provided), all-weather sleepout, Smoke Room or Library, and two smaller rooms which are readily adaptable as Breakfast and Morning rooms.  
The Entrance Hall and principal rooms are well proportioned and panelled.  
There are TWO EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-FITTED BATHROOMS, with tiled walls, built-in baths, and tiled floor.  
Domestic offices include Kitchen (with rubber floor covering), gas stove, stainless steel sink and drainboard, built-in cupboards—cellar and ample linen storage. There is also a spacious lobby, above which are two maids' bedrooms.  
"Insulwool" insulation almost throughout. Garaging for two cars. 120-gall. electric hot water installation.  
The grounds, which are well fenced (the front in well-executed brickwork), are most attractively laid out and planted to lawns, with rockeries, pergolas, ornamental trees, and shrubs; the paths are brick or slate paved.  
Most advantageously situated, and just over 200 yards from Woodlands Church of England Girls' Grammar School.  
**TO BE SOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION AT SETTLEMENT.**  
The purchaser of the property will be given the first opportunity to purchase existing floor coverings and certain furniture and other furnishings at valuation.  
Inspection by appointment only with the Auctioneers, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

**32 Moseley St Glenelg**





Ken continued in his role as medical superintendent of Minda Home and in conjunction with the head school teacher, had “undertaken individual treatment and training appropriate to each student.”

## **Death**

Kenneth Nugent Steele died at Glenelg, South Australia on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December 1956, aged 67 and was buried at the Mitcham Anglican Cemetery.

Norah Elizabeth Steele died in 1983, aged 88 and was buried with Ken at the Mitcham Anglican Cemetery.

Mary Steele Ingersoll passed away in the USA in 2006. She was the Mother of four, Grandmother of eleven and Great Grandmother of 12. She was also survived by her cousins in Australia.

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

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