

## Former School Students WWI Database

**Abernethy**                      **Reginald McClure**  
**Date of Birth**                28 Oct 1892  
**Birth Place**                 Shepparton, Victoria, Australia  
**Birth Registration**        36420/1892  
**Parents**                      William McClure Abernethy and Margaret McAinsh  
**School(s) Attended**        Wesley College

### General Notes



From boyhood, Reginald excelled in sports and was especially devoted to rowing. From 1910 to 1912, he was a member of the Wesley College crew and was stroke. Then in 1912, he won the proud position of Head of the River. He was also captain of the boats and stroke of the 'Queen's' College (University of Melbourne) crew. He was also in the races of 1913 and in the University interstate races of the same period. He was also stroke then. He was one of the crew that competed in the Grice eights and stroked for the crew of the Wesley Collegians who won the Maiden Fours at Nagambie on Boxing Day, 1912. He is also mentioned in the Melbourne Cricket Club Roll of Honour 1914-1918.

He enlisted for war service in Melbourne as a gunner for the 4th Field Artillery Brigade, in October 1915. He was in Egypt until 1916, and went to France, landing there in March. He went to an officers' school of instruction in London in May 1916, and then he got his commission as a second lieutenant in October 1916. He returned to France and became a first lieutenant in January 1918.

He was attached to the 5th Field Artillery Brigade. There, he was killed in action.

Reginald was a schoolmaster residing at Yaralla, near Shepparton, when he enlisted for war service. He served in Egypt and on the Western Front, during World War One.

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<b>Conflict</b>	World War I	
<b>Service Number</b>	6529	
<b>Enlistment Date</b>	28 Aug 1915	
<b>Embarkation Date</b>	18 Nov 1915	
<b>Embarkation Ship</b>	HMAT Wiltshire	
<b>Rank</b>	Lieutenant	
<b>Unit Served</b>	4th Field Artillery Brigade 5th Field Artillery Brigade 2nd Divisional Ammunition Column	
<b>Decorations</b>	1914/15 Star (1920) British War Medal (1921) Victory Medal Memorial Scroll (1921) Memorial Plaque (1922)	
<b>Date of Death</b>	22 May 1918	<b>Age</b> 25
<b>Death Place</b>	Frenchencourt, France	
<b>CWGC</b>	Yes	

**Cemetery** Frechencourt Communal Cemetery, France  
**Cemetery Location** Row D, Grave 8

**Sources**

National Archives of Australia:  
<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=3018134>  
Australian War Memorial: <https://www.awm.gov.au/people/rolls/R1761299/>  
Australian War Memorial: <https://www.awm.gov.au/people/rolls/R1659996/>  
Australian War Memorial: <https://www.awm.gov.au/people/P10263300/>  
AIF Project: <https://aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=345>  
**Commonwealth** War Graves Commission: <http://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/587397/ABERNETHY,%20REGINALD%20MCCLURE>  
RSL Virtual War Memorial: <https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/108395>  
Wesley College: <http://www.wesleycollege.net/Our-Community/Archives-and-Collections/Roll-of-Honour/Lieutenant-Reginald-McClure-Abernethy.aspx>  
History of Australian Rowing: <http://www.rowinghistory-aus.info/school-rowing/vic/aps-head-of-river/1910.php>  
Melbourne Cricket Club Roll of Honour 1914-195, page 4  
Victorian Birth, Marriage and Death Indexes  
Shepparton News, 3 Jun 1918, page 2 (The Great Sacrifice - Made by Lieut. R. M. Abernethy)  
Shepparton Advertiser, 3 Jun 1918, page 3 (Lieut. R. Abernethy - Killed in Action in France)

**Report prepared by Glen Turnbull, (School Archivist)**  
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