

## **Daniel Humphrey McKENZIE**

Regimental number 2948

Place of birth Adelaide, South Australia

Religion Baptist

Occupation Painter

Address Germein Street, Semaphore, South Australia

Marital status Single

Age at embarkation 25

Next of kin Mother, Mrs M McKenzie, Germein Street, Semaphore, South

Australia

Enlistment date 8 June 1915

Rank on enlistment Private

Unit name 10th Battalion, 9th Reinforcement

AWM Embarkation Roll number 23/27/3

Embarkation details Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board

HMAT A15 Star Of England on 21 September 1915

Rank from Nominal Roll Private

Unit from Nominal Roll 10th Battalion

Recommendations (Medals and Awards) Distinguished Conduct Medal

'Conspicuous bravery at Pozieres, 25 July 1916.'

Recommendation date: 29 July 1916

Fate Killed in Action 25 February 1917

Age at death from cemetery records 28

Place of burial No known grave

Commemoration details Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, France

Villers-Bretonneux is a village about 15 km east of Amiens. The Memorial stands on the high ground ('Hill 104') behind the Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery, Fouilloy, which is about 2 km north of Villers-Bretonneux on the east side of the

road to Fouilloy.

The Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux is approached through the Military Cemetery, at the end of which is an open grass lawn which leads into a three-sided court. The two pavilions on the left and right are linked by the north and south walls to the back (east) wall, from which rises the focal point of the Memorial, a 105 foot tall tower, of fine ashlar. A staircase leads to an observation platform, 64 feet above the ground, from which further staircases lead to an observation room. This room contains a circular stone tablet with bronze pointers indicating the Somme villages whose names have become synonymous with battles of the Great War; other battle fields in France and Belgium in which Australians fought; and far beyond, Gallipoli and Canberra.

On the three walls, which are faced with Portland stone, are the names of 10,885 Australians who were killed in France and who have no known grave. The 'blocking course' above them bears the names of the Australian Battle Honours.

After the war an appeal in Australia raised £22,700, of which £12,500 came from Victorian school children, with the request that the majority of the funds be used to build a new school in Villers-Bretonneux. The boys' school opened in May 1927, and contains an inscription stating that the school was the gift of Victorian schoolchildren, twelve hundred of whose fathers are buried in the Villers-Bretonneux cemetery, with the names of many more recorded on the Memorial. Villers-Bretonneux is now twinned with Robinvale, Victoria, which has in its main square a memorial to the links between the two towns.

Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial

Parents: Daniel and Maggie MCKENZIE, Germein Street, Semaphore, South Australia

Miscellaneous information from cemetery records

Distinguished Conduct Medal

Medals

'For conspicuous gallantry in action. When the N.C.O.'s had become casualties, he took charge of the bayonet team, and, though three times knocked over by shells, continued to lead them with great dash.'

Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 62

Date: 19 April 1917

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