

# Remembering Norman McLeod



16 April 2011 • Martin, McLeod and Routledge families







# Norman McLeod and Jane McLachlan

Married 23rd April 1879 @ Free Presbyterian Church in Hamilton

## Their children

1. Norman, (*Scotty*) born February 2 1880 – died May 31, 1918
2. Hugh Duncan, born May 2 1881 – died July 7, 1964
3. Annie, born 1883 – died 1957
4. Susan Jane, born May 1 1885 – died June 7 1957
5. Dugald, born 1887 – died before 1917
6. Donald Roderick – born 1889, died 1964
7. Lachlan, born and died 1891 (lived 1 day)
8. Jean, (*Ginny*) born 1893 – died 4 February 1964
9. Alexandrina, (*Lexy*) born 31<sup>st</sup> December 1895 – died November 1 1994
10. Duncan, born October 7 1898 – died 20 December 1938
11. Kenneth, born 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 1899 – died 8<sup>th</sup> January 1900

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Norman, Hugh, Annie, Susan and Dugald were all born at Braxholme.

Donald, Lachlan, Jean, Lexy, Duncan and Kenneth were all born at Condah.

Hugh, Susan and Donald were the only children to marry and have children.

Hugh married Mary Cameron on January 14, 1915 (two weeks before Norman's enlistment).

Three children were born to the marriage – Catherine, Kenneth and Ian Dougal.

Susan married Howard Routledge on July 20 1920 following his return from the war. Three children were born to the marriage – George, Emily and Peter.

Donald married Louise Milne on February 15, 1920. Four children were born to the marriage – Dorothy, Joan, John and Nancy.

Lexy married Orlando Dusting on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 1938 – no children were born the marriage.









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## Life at home

### Norman's school years

Norman attended the Condah State School. He was enrolled in Grade 2 in 1887 and completed Grade 6 in 1893. There were 11 children in his grade including his younger brother, Hugh, who also started school in 1887. His education by today's standards is considered minimal; by the standards of the time it would have been considered satisfactory.

### Life in Condah early 1900s

Condah at the time Norman was a young adult had three churches (Presbyterian, Anglican, and Roman Catholic), the hotel (Greenhills – shown below), the state school (Condah Number 1019), the butter factory, the bank, the Mechanics Hall and the railway station.

The annual Condah Pastoral and Agricultural Show was held in November. The 'Ladies of Condah' held an annual dance by invitation in the Mechanics Hall in August.

There may have been a football oval and football club, as in Norman's will dated April 10, 1917 he leaves his two football medals to his youngest brother, Duncan and to 'Master Frank Coutts late of Condah'. However, it is possible he may have played for nearby Wallacedale which definitely had a football club.







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**Poem • by Norman McLeod in 1890s, title unknown**

Gone from the friends that loved him  
Gone from this world so gay  
Gone in his blooming manhood  
Far, far, away

Gone like the stars that glimmer  
Gone like the dried up stream\*  
Gone like the winsome pictures  
Of Youth's proud happy dream

But in the land of Eden  
Where bloom no fading flowers  
Far from this world of sorrow  
Amid the heavenly bowers

He kneeleth now and prayeth  
At the great white throne of God  
To Christ our loving saviour  
Who raised the inflicting rod

That took from our friends their brother  
On that scorching summer's day  
Not one was near to tend him  
As in the bush he lay

His bullocks they fed near him  
When our loved one was found  
Uncaring of his tragic fate\*  
They chewed their cud around\*

Then to the father's dwelling  
The sad, sad news was told  
That in the room at Condah  
His son lay stiff and cold

God help the aged father  
To bear the chastening rod  
God help the poor young brother  
And sisters that he loved

The New Year's sun dawned promising  
Within that old man's home  
But ere it set the fourth time  
His joy and pride was gone

Gone like the Smoky River  
That runs before his door  
In winter it is flooded  
But in summer it runs no more

\* lines missing from copy of poem ; added by Ian McLeod, son of Norman's first cousin, also called Norman McLeod





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## **Norman McLeod's wars – Boer War**

Norman enlisted for the Boer War on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1902.

He enlisted at Ballarat and his regimental number was 459. He was 22 years of age and listed his occupation as 'farmer'.

### **The Boer War**

The Boer War began in 1899 and ended on 31 May 1902.

The conflict in South Africa is generally divided into three phases.

1. The early phase, from October to December 1899, when the British armies, mainly infantry, were defeated or besieged by the highly mobile Boer mounted troops.
2. The second phase, from December 1899 until September 1900, which involved a British counter-offensive, resulting in the capture of most of the major towns and cities of South Africa.
3. The third and longest phase, from September 1900 to May 1902, when the war was mainly a guerrilla conflict between British mounted troops and Boer irregulars.

Before Federation the colonies had sent a number of contingents. After federation a further three contingents were raised by the new Commonwealth in 1901, but as they did not embark until 1902, most arrived too late for any action; indeed, some were still at sea when the war ended on 31 May 1902.

Norman McLeod was one of those who did not see any action arriving after hostilities had ceased.

**Source: Australian War Memorial**





## Norman McLeod's wars – First World War

Norman was a Corporal in 13<sup>th</sup> Lighthorse until 8 July 1915 when he reverted to Private. He left for overseas on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1915.

Verified True Copy. H.M. 1009 P

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.  
**AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.**

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 55A Name Norman McLeod  
Unit 13<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regt.  
Joined on 29 January 15.

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? Norman McLeod
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? Perth  
In the County of Western Australia
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) British Subject
4. What is your age? 31 years last birthday
5. What is your trade or calling? Labourer
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, when, to whom, and for what period? No
7. Are you married? No
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) John McLeod, 100<sup>th</sup> Street, Perth
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? No
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Insubordinate 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
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, 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. Yes, 1st Anzac Mounted Brigade, 1st Light Horse Regt.
12. Have you ever been reported as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? No
13. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? Yes
14. (For married men, sign with children, and declare who are the sole support of said family.)  
Do you understand that no Repatriation Allowance will be issued to you after repatriation during your term of service? Yes
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against small pox and venereal fever? Yes

I, Norman McLeod, 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 abstain not less than three months of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife and children.

Date 29/1/15 Signed Norman McLeod Signature of person enlisted.

\*This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 16 years of age.  
†If single, man is entitled to the wife, and if there are children, three years more to be added.

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER.

The foregoing questions were read to the person enlisted in my presence. I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to by him.

I have examined his naturalization papers and am of opinion that they are correct.  
(This to be struck out except in the case of persons who are naturalized British Subjects)

Date 29.1.15 Signed J. H. McLeod Signature of Attesting Officer.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY PERSON BEING ENLISTED.\*

3. Norman McLeod swear that I will well and truly serve our Sovereign Lord the King in the Australian Imperial Force from 29 January 1915 until the end of the War, and a further period of four months thereafter unless sooner lawfully discharged, dismissed, or removed therefrom; and that I will resist His Majesty's enemies and cause His Majesty's peace to be kept and maintained; and that I will in all matters appertaining to my service, faithfully discharge my duty according to law.

So HELP ME, GOD.

Signed Norman McLeod Signature of Person Enlisted.

Taken and subscribed at Perth in the State of Western Australia this 29 day of January 1915, before me—  
Signed J. H. McLeod Signature of Attesting Officer.

\*A person enlisting who declines to take an Oath may be admitted in accordance with the Third Schedule of the Act, and the above form must be amended accordingly. All amendments must be initialed by the Attesting Officer.

MILITARY SERVICE RECORD		MILITARY SERVICE RECORD	
Surname	Other Names	Regimental No.	Unit
McLeod	Norman (Cpl) 55A	13	13th L.H.R. A.S.C.
PURPORT.		AUTHORITY.	
Embarked at Melbourne per A74 "Persia" on 20/5/15.			
20/5/16. Taken on Strength of 13th. Light Horse Details.		REFO. 4/1-16	
24/2/16. Marched in from Tel-el-Kebir to H'Qrs 13th L.H.R.		MEFO 18/2-16	
4/4/16. Forfeits 1 days pay also Fined 5/- (G.D)		MEFO 19/4-16	
17/4/16. Transferred to 1st L.H.Trng Regt. (G.D)		MEFO 23/5-16	
27/8/16. Detached from 2nd Anzac L.H.Rgt for duty with A.P.M.			
2nd Anzac H'Qrs. (G.D)		REFO. 14/1-16	
24/5/16. Tfd to 1st Rfte 5th Divn Cavalry (GD)		MEFO 27/2-16	
24/12/16. Sick to Hospital, France. (States 2nd Anzac L.H.Rgt)		REFO 2/1-17	
31/12/16. Rejoined Regt from Hospital. " " " " " "		REFO 3/2-17	
Allotted Reg. No. 55 A		REFO 11/1-17	
17.6.17. Det. from 2nd L.H.R. to Salvage Party 25th Div.		REFO 27/3-17.	
4.7.17. Rej. Unit from Salvage Party 25th Div.		REFO. 29/1-17.	
3.9.17. Proc. to Aus. Gen. Base Dep for transfer to Inf. Reinf.		REFO. 40/1-17	

D 502416. - C.D.M.



## Norman's World War I record

<b>Service Number</b>	55A (also served Boer War)
<b>Enlisted</b>	29/1/1915 at Hamilton
<b>Regiment</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> Lighthorse
<b>Age</b>	34 years 11 months
<b>Occupation</b>	Labourer
<b>Height</b>	5ft 8" (173 cms)
<b>Weight</b>	160 lbs (72.6 kilos)
<b>Chest</b>	35/37 inches (90cms)
<b>Features</b>	Fair complexion, greyish eyes, hair dark brown
<b>Distinctive Marks</b>	Mole in front of neck slightly to left side
<b>Religion</b>	Presbyterian
<b>Died</b>	Killed in action 31 May 1918
<b>Buried</b>	Allonville Communal Cemetery, 4 miles NNE Amiens, France

## Letter Pay office AIF 16<sup>th</sup> July 1915

To District Pay Master

3<sup>rd</sup> Military District, Melbourne

The following allotment is forwarded for necessary action. The soldier's pay book has been amended. No 55 Trooper N. McLeod "A" Sq 13<sup>th</sup> Lighthorse. 3/- per diem from 7<sup>th</sup> July 1915 in favour of N. McLeod, Snr, Morven Park, Condah, Vic.

Signed RM Meiller, Captain for Staff Paymaster

## Summary of regiments

<b>Regiment</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> Light horse	15 March 1915	25 May 1916
5 <sup>th</sup> Division Cavalry	25 May 1916	19 August 1916
2 <sup>nd</sup> ANZAC Light horse	20 August 1916	19 September 1917
14 <sup>th</sup> Battalion	20 September 1917	death



## Disciplinary action taken against Norman

1. Cairo April 8 1916: Forfeit one day's pay and fined 5 shillings for being absent from parade and drunk on 4<sup>th</sup> April
2. France 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> August, 1917, forfeited 8 day's pay for overstaying leave
3. France August 25 1917, forfeited 14 day's pay for:
  - a. Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that in the company of other soldiers created a disturbance at 10.50 pm.
  - b. Disobeyed a lawful command in that he did not cease talking when ordered to do so'

P.B.No.97355/141	PURPORT.	AUTHORITY.
22/4/17	Rej. Unit from Detachment to New Zealand Div. (s's 2nd Anzac LHR)	BEFO 19/3-17
16.8.17. 18.8.17.	When O.A.S. overstaying leave.	BEFO.35/1-17
24.8.17.	Disobeying lawful command. Award. forfeits 14 days pay	
24.8.17.	Created a disturbance with other soldiers.	
Total Forfeiture 14 days pay. P.B. No.97355/14. This sub.para. must be read in conj. with sub.p. 2664 as part of the forf. set out therein runs conc. with that set out herein.)		BEFO.36/1-17
16.18-8.17.	CRIME. O/Stay. leave. Award 21.8.17. Forfs. 6 days' pay. total forf. 8 days' pay.	BEFO.35/1-17.
20.9.17.	Trans. to reinf. of 14th. Bn. & Aust Gen. Base Dep.	BEFO.40/1-17
14.11.17.	To Hos. Sick.	BEFO.44/5-17
16.11.17.	Rej. Unit ex Hos. Sick,	BEFO.44-5-17
29.11.17.	To Hos. Sick.	BEFO.1/3-18
14.10.17.	T.O.S. of 14th. Bn. AIF. ex 2nd. Anzac Army Corps L.H.R.	
2.3.18.	Rej. Unit ex Hos. Sick. BEFO.7/8-18.	BEFO.2/7-18
31.5.18.	KILLED IN ACTION sts Pte. 14th Bn.(DOL)	BEFO.23/8-18





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## Norman's Regiment – the Australian Lighthorse

(Edited from <http://www.lighthorse.org.au/resources/history-of-the-australian-light-horse/the-mounted-soldiers-of-australia>)

### Recruitment

By 1914, when Australia joined the war against Germany, there were 23 Light Horse regiments of militia volunteers. Many men from these units joined the Light Horse regiments of the Australian Imperial Force (AIF).

Initially Australia promised four regiments of Light Horse, 2000 men, to fight in the British cause. By the end of the war, 16 regiments would be in action.

The recruits took a riding test which varied from place to place. At one camp they had to take a bareback army horse over a water jump and a sod wall. In another, they had to jump a log fence.

Recruits had to pass a very strict medical test before they were accepted.

They were then sworn in and issued with their uniforms - the normal Australian Imperial Force (AIF) jacket, handsome cord riding breeches, and leather "puttee" laggings bound by a spiral strap. They wore the famous Australian slouch hat and a distinctive leather bandolier that carried 90 rounds of ammunition.

The first of the Light Horse arrived at Gallipoli in May.

By August, when a huge attack was launched on the Turks, there were ten regiments of Light Horse at Anzac.

The 3rd Brigade - the 8th, 9th and 10th Regiments - was to make a dawn charge across a narrow ridge called The Nek. Plans went horribly wrong and nine tiers of Turkish trenches packed with riflemen and machine gunners waited for the Australian attack.

In three quarters of an hour 234 light horsemen were dead and 138 wounded in a futile action.

### Evacuation of Gallipoli

Australian forces were evacuated from Gallipoli on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 1915.



Re-united with their horses in Egypt after the evacuation of Anzac, the Light Horse regiments watched the Australian infantry leave for France. They were envious. But only two regiments - the 13th Light Horse and part of the 4th - were sent to the Western Front in Europe

## Light horsemen in France and Belgium

The two Light Horse regiments which served in France and Belgium - the 4th and 13th - are often forgotten; because they rarely fought as complete units and also because they sometimes worked in support of British, French and Canadian troops.

In 1916 they came from Egypt to France's worst winter for more than 30 years. In France the light horsemen often went into the trenches as infantry reinforcements, as they had done at Anzac.

They helped control tangled military traffic, escorted prisoners and rounded up lost soldiers after major battles.

They were sometimes sent to reconnoitre enemy positions or the Allied front line. On several occasions, small Light Horse patrols discovered that, due to poor communication between different armies, a section of our front line was deserted. A few men manned the empty trenches while others rode out to the units on either side and drew them together.







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**To the Mothers • by Pte Norman McLeod, Shrapnel Valley, November 30<sup>th</sup> 1915**

Who tended you in weakness when in your  
narrow cot?

Did you ever dream she'd comfort you  
when you nigh forgot

You little thought the 'wild oats' or the head  
that could not yield

Was weak enough to think of her when on  
the battle field

Did pride beam stronger in your breast, and  
ever the winning tear

Did you feel you were a coward then or had  
betrayed a fear?

Methinks I see shadowed ghosts rise up  
from where they lie

To steep their blades once more in those  
who mother love deny

Let vain and haughty iron men be game to  
stand before

The thousands who took courage from the  
mothers they adore

That strain and waiting patience, which won  
praise everywhere

Was but maternal instincts of a mother's  
loving care

As you a reckless soldier, seeking pleasure  
not renown

Walked through the Cairo city with no sense  
of shame or frown

You were mighty in your onslaughts as your  
human weakness ran

A proud conceited idiot commonly known  
as a man

But don't be narrow minded and condemn  
us once and all

For all of us have something wrong – our  
excuse is Adam's fall

I care not what the world may say as I saw  
them sin and die

And the men who loved their home and kin  
were on Gallipoli

Of course they were on other fields but this  
sacred spot was ours

So to the mothers of all of them I send my  
spirit flowers

And far above the ridges that sheltered us  
from fire

Across the souls of mothers true, whose  
love doth never t're

And I can voice it strongly, no mother was  
like mine

In those moments of perdition – in hell at  
Lonesome Pine





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## Norman's war impressions published

 The Hamilton Spectator, Thursday 11/7/1918. p4.

### The Australians in France

In summarising his impressions of France and particularly the part Australians are taking in the defence of that country, Pte N McLeod, of Morven, Condah (since died on service), wrote in a letter to his parents :-

“What a lovely old life! What a haven of rest our dug-out is! Three of us in it. The architect is a miner named Reynolds, a true mate, who leaves behind in sunny Australia, a wife and three children; the other is Andrew McDonald, of Hamilton, quite a lad, but full of the right spirit. No. 3 is ‘Scotty’ (the writer). Pte McLeod had met many district chums, namely Gordon Pitcher, Tom Fallon, Duncan Wellner, Argyle McIntyre, “Pon” Young, Frank Baker, Wallace Malseed, and many others of “shearing fame and football repute”.

It was a sad sight, he said, to see old women and children laden with their house treasures clearing away in haste from the Bosches, and never did he engage in action so proudly and determinedly as on that day. To see the helpless women and children made the Australians all swear within themselves to do their best. The long procession of fleeing humanity was a sight which made him weak enough to shed tears, and strong enough to shed blood. When resting, they saw a “Tommy” leading a terrier by his puttee. Under such circumstances the sight was funny, and that man was talked about more than the job the Australians had to do, though their one ambition was to meet the Hun and stay his advance. If anyone doubted the respect in which the Australians were held by the enemy, let them come to France and see how the Germans paid homage to the Australian - by avoiding him as much as they could.’





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## Conscription

### Conscription during the First World War, 1914 – 1918

Source Australian War Memorial: [www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/conscription/ww1.asp](http://www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/conscription/ww1.asp)

‘At the outbreak of the First World War, the number of people volunteering to enlist for the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) was so high that recruitment officers were forced to turn people away. However, as the war went on, casualty rates increased and the number of volunteers declined, so that by 1916 the AIF faced a shortage of men. Despite opposition from his own party, Labor Prime Minister Billy Hughes decided to take the issue to the people in a referendum. The nation was asked to grant the government the power to compel citizens to serve overseas during the current war. The referendum provoked furious debate within the Australian community. It was held on 28 October 1916, and the proposal for conscription was narrowly defeated. In the ensuing political fall-out, the Labor Party split and Hughes formed a breakaway party called the Nationalist Party. Enlistment for the war continued to fall, and in 1917 Hughes called for another referendum on the conscription issue. This conscription campaign was just as heated as the first, with the most prominent anti-conscription activist being the Catholic archbishop of Melbourne, Dr Daniel Mannix. On 20 December 1917 the nation again voted "No" to conscription, this time with a slightly larger majority. Australia and South Africa were the only participating countries not to introduce conscription during the First World War.’



# HAMILTON SPECTATOR MONDAY

## ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not in any way identify ourselves with the opinions of our correspondents. We throw our "Original Correspondence" columns open to any bona fide person who wishes to publish his views, and all letters must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.—E.A. "Spectator."

### RAILWAY DEFICIT.

Our Editor of the "Spectator" (Mr. Johnson) had delivered his opinion upon the working of the Victorian railways. He upholds the administration and blames abnormal conditions for the appalling deficit. No hopes are held out by him that the total estimated loss for 1915-16 of £287,111 will not be reached. In fact his opinion seems to be that will prove understated. This method of administration cannot be carried on for ever, even if our State remains under the guidance of the present Premier. Some one has to pay the piper. Who should pay? Is any part of the State largely responsible for this deficit? (b) Does a portion of the State or section of our community benefit more from the railway system than others? If so, must certainly that part, portion or section benefitting unduly or reasonably should meet their share of the deficit. No thinker but must answer these two questions. (a) Yes, Melbourne. (b) Yes, Melbourne. Melbourne. We will quote Johnson's own words: "The capital expenditure on electrification to the end of 1915-16 amounted to £1,442,462. The interest charges at 4 per cent. amounted for that year to £57,996. The electrification of suburban railways has resulted not only in increased interest charges, but also in heavy charges to working expenses on account of alterations to lines and rolling stock. This property is classed as abnormal working expenses. "Another factor contributing to the loss on the railways in recent years is the competition brought about by the operation of electric tramways in the urban area. The subject is dealt with at page 17 of the annual report for the year 1915-16, and an approximate annual loss of £60,945 is given as a result of the competition." Summary of Melbourne's contributions:—Electrification scheme cost, £37,696; working expenses on rolling bridges and rolling stock down: by competition of electric tramways run for citizens of Melbourne's convenience, £60,945; with working abnormal charges, total £41. These electric tramways have increased convenience of travel considerably enhance value of properties. Even the £118,641 on items is a fairly large annual loss from the State to Melbourne.

## "TO MY COBBERS IN REGRET."

Private Norman M'Leod, of Comdab, in forwarding the poetry below, says "Just an attempt after request from my mates. Despite my pre-war political convictions I must admit the grave necessity of some thing being done when the voluntary system fails—call it what you like. There's the only road to victory—so decide whether you take it or not."

Would you see Australia ruined,  
While you're staying safe at home,  
While your mates are fighting bravely  
In a country 'cross the foam.

Do you read the roll of honour,  
That appears from day to day:  
Don't you see the name of cobbbers,  
Will you mock them while you stay.

You can little know the hardships  
That your mates have undergone,  
These thirty months and over  
They have kept you from the fun.

Yes, their losses have been heavy,  
And who's going to take the place  
Of the men who have gone under  
To uphold the British race.

Give up now your life of pleasure,  
Learn to use and load a gun;  
Be worthy of your ancestry,  
That victory may be won.

There are many who are lacking  
In response to Hughes's call,  
Yet the Motherland is waiting,  
So get ready one and all.

Join up now and reinforce us,  
As our ranks are thinned you know  
We will welcome you as comrades,  
And forget the fatal "No."

Let your party feeling wither  
In the fire within your breast,  
We are forced to love Australia,  
And in actions lie the test.

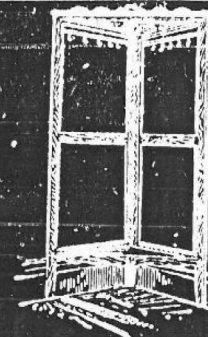
So hurry up and swell our numbers,  
Help to down old Freedom's foe,  
Though the path is hard and tiresome,  
Yet shall all your manhood glow.

And Australia shall for ever  
Be as free as wattle bloom,  
Then the altars of our duty  
Shall reward our present gloom.

### BALMORAL RIFLE CLUB.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

BALMORAL, Monday. The annual general meeting of the Balmoral section of the rifle club was held in the mechanics' on Saturday evening, Mr. H. L. Wood, captain, presiding. The balance sheet was read and adopted, and showed a credit of £2/16/. The secretary reported that fifty members had completed their musketry course. The following office-bearers were elected:



Compl

Bed

This Handsome bevelled edged

### The Handy Corner Wardrobe.

Takes but little space in the room.  
Neat, Useful, Cheap.



Our O

BEDS

Are the Latest

High Finish

Best Works

This Exceptionally Fine Piece of Hall Furniture, £4/4/-



Modern

Gondola Pram

Push Carts

Collapsible

Carts

Upholstering the Best.



Private Norman McLeod of Condah, in forwarding the poetry below says 'Just an attempt after request from my mates. Despite my pre war political convictions I must admit the grave necessity of something being done when the voluntary system fails – call it what you like. There's only one road to victory- so decide whether you take it or not.'

**To My Cobbers in Regret by Norman McLeod**

Would you see Australia ruined  
While you're staying safe at home  
While your mates are fighting bravely  
In a country 'cross the foam

Do you read the Roll of Honour  
That appears from day to day  
Don't you see the names of cobbers  
Will you mock them while you stay?

You can little know the hardships  
That your mates have undergone  
These thirty months and over  
They have kept you from the Hun

Yes their losses have been heavy  
And who's going to take their place  
Of the men who have one under  
To uphold the British race

Give up your life of pleasure  
Learn how to use and load a gun  
Be worthy of your ancestry  
That victory may be won

There are many who are lacking  
In response to Hughes call  
Yet the Mother land is waiting  
So get ready one and all

Join up now and reinforce us  
As our ranks are thinned you know  
We will welcome you as comrades  
And forget the fatal 'NO'

Let you party feeling wither  
In the fire within your breast  
We are forced to love Australia  
And in actions lie the test

So hurry up and swell our numbers  
Help to down old freedom's foe  
Though the path's hard and tiresome  
Yet shall our manhood grow

And Australia shall forever  
Be as free as wattle bloom  
Then the altars of our duty  
Shall reward our present gloom



## Norman's Wills

**10<sup>th</sup> April 1917**

In the event of my death I Trooper Norman McLeod, No 55, originally of 13<sup>th</sup> Lighthorse now of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anzac Military Regiment France hereby make my last will and testament in all faith, goodwill and solemnity.

I bequeath to my father and mother all my allotment as from May 1915. My deferred pay of 1/- per day amounting to date to something like 40 pounds, I bequeath thus as under. It will be drawn after the war is over and the longer I live the more of course will be coming to me.

From say 40 pounds

10 pounds to Annie McLeod, sister

10 pounds to Susan Jane McLeod, sister

10 pounds to Duncan McLeod, brother

10 pounds to fund to erect tombstone over grave of my fond bother, Dugald in Winton

Any deferred pay in excess of 40 pounds I bequeath thus

10 pounds to Hugh McLeod, brother

10 pounds to Jeane McLeod sister

10 pounds to Lexie McLeod, sister

10 pounds to Donald Roderick McLeod, brother

My football medals one to Duncan McLeod my youngest brother whom I love.

One medal to Master Frank Coutts late of Condah subject to consent of my loving mother.

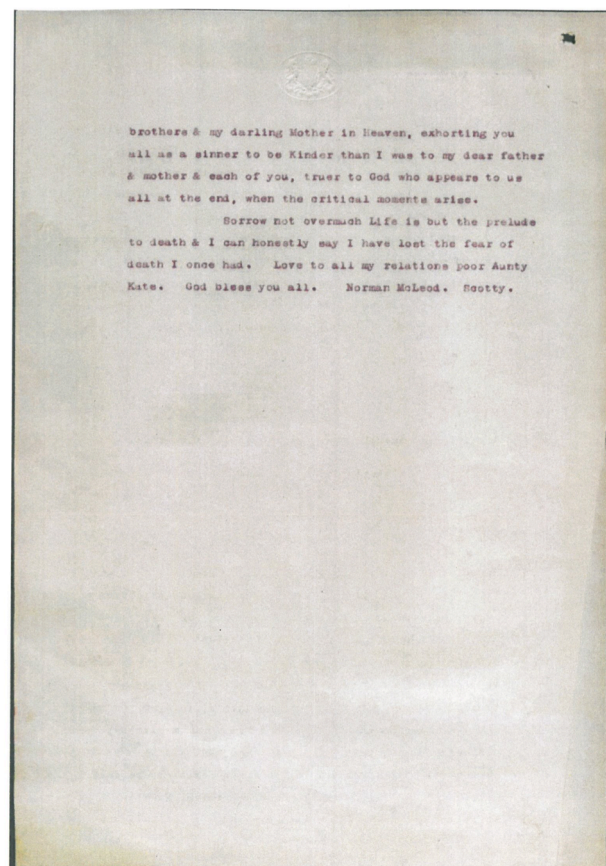
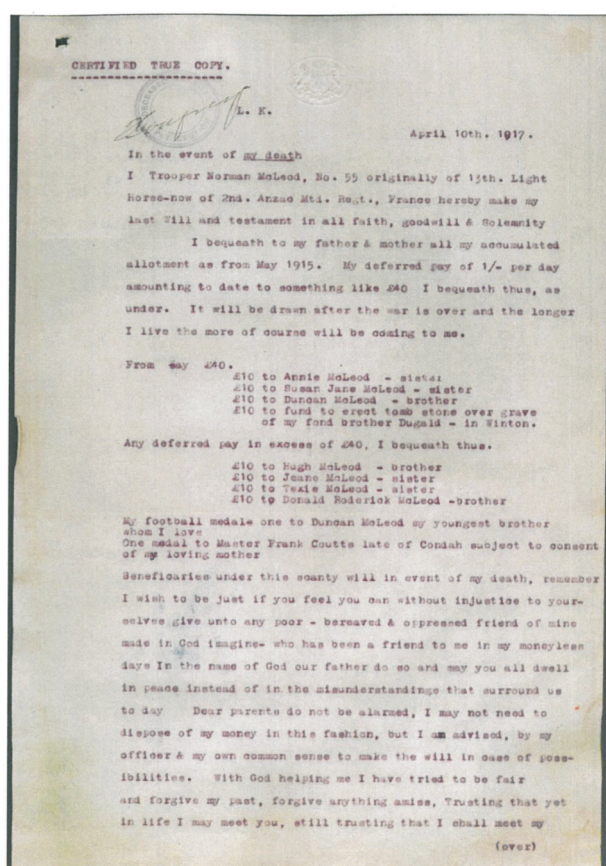
Beneficiaries under this scanty will in event of my death remember I wish to be just if you feel you can without prejudice to yourself give unto any poor, bereaved and oppressed friend of mine made in God's image who has been a friend to me in my money less days, in the name of God our father do so and may you dwell in peace instead of misunderstandings that surround us today. Dear Parents do not be alarmed I may not need to dispose of my money in this fashion but I am advised by my officer and my own common sense to make a will in case of possibilities.

With God helping me I have tried to be fair and forgive my past, forgive anything amiss, trusting that yet in life I may meet you, still trusting that I shall meet my brothers and my darling mother



in heaven exhorting you all as a sinner to be kinder than I was to my dear father and mother and each of you, truer to God who appears to us all in the end when the critical moment arises.

Sorrow not over much life is but the prelude to death and I can honestly say I have lost the fear of death I once had. Love to all my relations, poor Aunty Kate. God bless you all. Norman McLeod. Scotty



## Will 20 April 1918

In event of my death I bequeath my property to my parents Mr and Mrs Norman McLeod, "Morven Park" Condah, Victoria, Australia.

Signed Norman McLeod, Rank and Unit Pte 14<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF, Date 20 April 1918

Certified to be a true copy of will of No 55A Tpr McLeod, Norman, 14<sup>th</sup> Bn (dec'd)





## Norman's death

### The Hamilton Spectator June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1918

Our Condah correspondent writes that the sad tidings have been broken to Mr and Mrs McLeod of Morven park that Pte Norman McLeod, their eldest son, was killed in action in France on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Pte McLeod (better known as "Scotty") was well known throughout the western district, and was a noted footballer. He enlisted in January 1915, and sailed for Egypt on May 28<sup>th</sup> of the same year, and was at the evacuation of Gallipoli. He was originally in the Australian Light Horse but transferred back to the infantry on leaving Egypt, and in France took part in many big stunts without receiving a scratch, and gained the reputation of being a great fighter. Pte McLeod was 38 years of age and the sympathy of all goes out to his parents.

REPLY COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE COMMANDANT.  
ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS,  
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE,  
130, HORSEFERRY ROAD,  
LONDON, S.W. 1.

To: **Officer i/c Base Records.**  
**Department of Defence.**  
**Melbourne. Victoria.**

IN REPLY QUOTE  
**4Ard/2370/37/23. 8th October. 1918**

TELEPHONES: VICTORIA 8860 (10 LINES).  
CABLE & TEL. ADDRESS: "ADMNIAUST LONDON."

**55a. Pte McLEOD.N.14th Battalion.A.I.F.**  
**Killed in Action. 31-5-18.**

The attached, which has been forwarded to this  
office for transmission to Mother of the above named soldier,  
is passed to you for necessary action, please.

*M. Morgan*  
17/10

*Manning*  
Captain.  
for Officer i/c Records.

ENC: Communication.

### The Hamilton Spectator September 3 1918

Our Condah correspondent writes: A memorial service for the late Private Norman McLeod (killed in action) was held in the Condah Presbyterian church on Sunday September 1<sup>st</sup>. A most impressive sermon was delivered by Rev J R Houston, and appropriate hymns were sung. The



church was draped with white and purple, relieved by wreaths of violets and a large Union Jack. A large congregation assembled to pay the last tribute of honour to the deceased soldier, one of our best known Condah boys, who was on active service for three years, serving in Gallipoli, prior to joining the 14<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion in France where he was killed on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 1918.

### **The Hamilton Spectator October 10 1918**

#### *Thanks*

Mr and Mrs N McLeod and family desire to express grateful appreciation of the sympathy and thoughtfulness of the Condah people in presenting to them a handsome enlarged photograph of their son and brother, Private Norman McLeod, who was killed in action in France after nearly four years fighting in the cause of liberty and righteousness. Morven Park, Condah 25/10/18

Allonville Communal Cemetery, 4 miles NNE Amiens, France. Norman's grave is front of picture, right hand side







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## Eulogy

*Below is a transcript of the eulogy delivered by the Prime Minister, The Hon. P. J. Keating MP, at the funeral service of the Unknown Australian Soldier, 11 November 1993.*

We do not know this Australian's name and we never will.

We do not know his rank or his battalion. We do not know where he was born, nor precisely how and when he died. We do not know where in Australia he had made his home or when he left it for the battlefields of Europe. We do not know his age or his circumstances – whether he was from the city or the bush; what occupation he left to become a soldier; what religion, if he had a religion; if he was married or single. We do not know who loved him or whom he loved. If he had children we do not know who they are. His family is lost to us as he was lost to them. We will never know who this Australian was.

Yet he has always been among those whom we have honoured. We know that he was one of the 45,000 Australians who died on the Western Front. One of the 416,000 Australians who volunteered for service in the First World War. One of the 324,000 Australians who served overseas in that war and one of the 60,000 Australians who died on foreign soil. One of the 100,000 Australians who have died in wars this century.

He is all of them. And he is one of us.

This Australia and the Australia he knew are like foreign countries. The tide of events since he died has been so dramatic, so vast and all – consuming, a world has been created beyond the reach of his imagination.

He may have been one of those who believed that the Great War would be an adventure too grand to miss. He may have felt that he would never live down the shame of not going. But the chances are he went for no other reason than that he believed it was the duty he owed his country and his King.

Because the Great War was a mad, brutal, awful struggle, distinguished more often than not by military and political incompetence; because the waste of human life was so terrible that some said victory was scarcely discernible from defeat; and because the war which was supposed to end all wars in fact sowed the seeds of a second even more terrible war – we might think this Unknown Soldier died in vain.



But, in honouring our war dead, as we always have and as we do today, we declare that this is not true. For out of the war came a lesson which transcended the horror and tragedy and the inexcusable folly. It was a lesson about ordinary people – and the lesson was that they were not ordinary. On all sides they were the heroes of that war; not the generals and the politicians but the soldiers and sailors and nurses – those who taught us to endure hardship, to show courage, to be bold as well as resilient, to believe in ourselves, to stick together.

The Unknown Australian Soldier whom we are interring today was one of those who, by his deeds, proved that real nobility and grandeur belongs, not to empires and nations, but to the people on whom they, in the last resort, always depend.

That is surely at the heart of the ANZAC story, the Australian legend which emerged from the war. It is a legend not of sweeping military victories so much as triumphs against the odds, of courage and ingenuity in adversity. It is a legend of free and independent spirits whose discipline derived less from military formalities and customs than from the bonds of mateship and the demands of necessity. It is a democratic tradition, the tradition in which Australians have gone to war ever since.

This Unknown Australian is not interred here to glorify war over peace; or to assert a soldier's character above a civilian's; or one race or one nation or one religion above another; or men above women; or the war in which he fought and died above any other war; or one generation above any that has been or will come later.

The Unknown Soldier honours the memory of all those men and women who laid down their lives for Australia. His tomb is a reminder of what we have lost in war and what we have gained.

We have lost more than 100,000 lives, and with them all their love of this country and all their hope and energy.

We have gained a legend: a story of bravery and sacrifice and, with it, a deeper faith in ourselves and our democracy, and a deeper understanding of what it means to be Australian.

It is not too much to hope, therefore, that this Unknown Australian Soldier might continue to serve his country - he might enshrine a nation's love of peace and remind us that, in the sacrifice of the men and women whose names are recorded here, there is faith enough for all of us.

<http://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/keating.asp>



OATH TO BE TAKEN BY PERSON BEING ENLISTED.\*

3. Norman McLeod swear that I will well and truly serve our Sovereign Lord the King in the Australian Imperial Force from \_\_\_\_\_ until the end of the War, and a further period of four months thereafter unless sooner lawfully discharged, dismissed, or removed therefrom; and that I will resist His Majesty's enemies and cause His Majesty's peace to be kept and maintained; and that I will in all matters appertaining to my service, faithfully discharge my duty according to law.

So HELP ME, GOD.

Lt Norman McLeod  
Signature of Person Enlisted.

Taken and subscribed at Hamilton in  
the State of Victoria  
this 29 day January of  
1915, before me—

Reported at Sturt St  
Depot 2/1/15  
James Wood  
Signature of Attesting Officer.

\*A person enlisting who objects to taking an oath may make an affirmation in accordance with the Third Schedule of the Act, and the above form must be amended accordingly. All amendments must be initialed by the Attesting Officer.





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## Dedication

I dedicate today's workshop to my mother, Emily Jean Martin (nee Routledge) who was an inspiring example of someone who was warm, caring, compassionate and accepting of others.

Also to my grandmother, Susan Jane Routledge (nee McLeod) 'the Angel' of Bank St, Port Fairy who 'devoted hours of her time to voluntary work for local institutions and ... always proved herself a great neighbour and was a friend of everyone' (Obituary Port Fairy Gazette June 1957)

And my great grandmother, Jane McLeod (nee McLachlan), Norman's mother, whom I believe he loved very much.

## Why a facilitated conversation?

'Facilitation, in basic terms, is about bringing people together and supporting them through reflection, learning and relationship building...

We facilitate to stimulate transformation or bring about change. We facilitate to ensure that people can speak with one another about what they care about and decide for themselves what to do about it. We facilitate instead of 'telling' people what to do or giving them answers because this creates dependency, lack of ownership and solutions that do not have local relevance or meaning'

Campbell, Campbell and Blair (2011), Guiding Principles: Facilitating the development of a social learning network, still in draft version

**Maryanne Martin, organiser of 'Remembering Norman' event, 16th April 2011**





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## Scotty Cake created by Louie Green

- 80 grams unsalted butter, softened
- 300 grams SR flour
- 3 eggs
- 150 grams caster sugar
- 3 apples peeled, cored and chopped
- Whipped cream to serve

### Method

1. Preheat oven to 180°
  2. Grease cake tin with butter and dust lightly with some flour
  3. Whisk eggs and sugar until pale and fluffy
  4. Beat in butter to thoroughly combined
  5. Sift flour into mixture and add apples, mix gently
  6. Pour into greased tin and bake for 30 – 40 minutes
  7. Remove and leave to cool before turning out of tin
  8. Serve with whipped cream
1. Place on wire trays to cool.





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## Alice Sim's Anzac Biscuits

- 125 grams of butter
- 1 tablespoon of golden syrup
- 1 slightly rounded teaspoon of soda
- 2 cups of flaked oatmeal
- 1 small cup of plain flour
- Half a cup of sugar

### Method

1. Melt butter in a saucepan.
2. Put golden syrup in a large bowl
3. Add soda
4. Add 2 tablespoons of boiling water and mix well until the mixture froths then add the melted butter.
5. Add flaked oatmeal, plain flour and sugar until all mixed together
6. Put large teaspoon portions on a greased tray and press with a fork.
7. Bake at 400 degrees until golden brown.
8. Place on wire trays to cool.





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## Maryanne Martin would like to thank

The readers of poems, extracts and stories:

- Melanie Martin, 'To The Mothers'
- Leon McLeod, 'Title unknown poem 1890s'
- Jennifer Green, 'Norman's will 1917'
- Elizabeth Hedger (nee Routledge) 'Aunty Lexie story',
- Michael Routledge for audio for 'Unknown Soldier'

Terry Sim for his help in organising the event and patience in listening to ideas about it

Donald Blair of Panmure, bagpiper

Ian Black, for access to information stored at Hamilton History Centre

Ian Douglas McLeod, Tasmania for his enthusiasm for the concept and for sharing information about the McLeod family throughout 2010.

Simone Blair, Claire Campbell, Cindy Hann, Erika Oakes, Melbourne, for feedback on booklet and the workshop concept

Louie Green (my son in law) for creation of Scotty's Cake (both recipe and cake on the day)

Alice Sim for her Anzac biscuits (recipe and biscuits on the day)

Jude Niemiec of Clunes for hours spent in formatting souvenir booklet

...and most of all – sincere thanks to my family, friends and participants for your willingness and good humour to be involved