

## Arvon Griffiths McDonald

Arvon Griffiths Mc Donald appears to have been born about 1895. He carries the surnames of both his parents. Alexander (Alex) McDonald and Margaret (Maggie) Griffiths. There seems to be no official record of his birth or that of many of his siblings. Researchers believe there could be up to 12 children in the family.

Arvon enlisted for the AIF early, signing his Attestation Papers only nine days after war was declared in Australia. The paperwork has his name as Arbon MacDonald, the surname alternates through out documentation.

Service Number	239
Enlisted	17 <sup>th</sup> of August 1914
Embarked	Transport A3 Orvieto 21 October 1914 From Melbourne
Unit on Enlistment	5 <sup>th</sup> Battalion – private.
Returned to Australia	21 <sup>st</sup> August 1918
Discharged	17 <sup>th</sup> December 1918 as medically unfit.

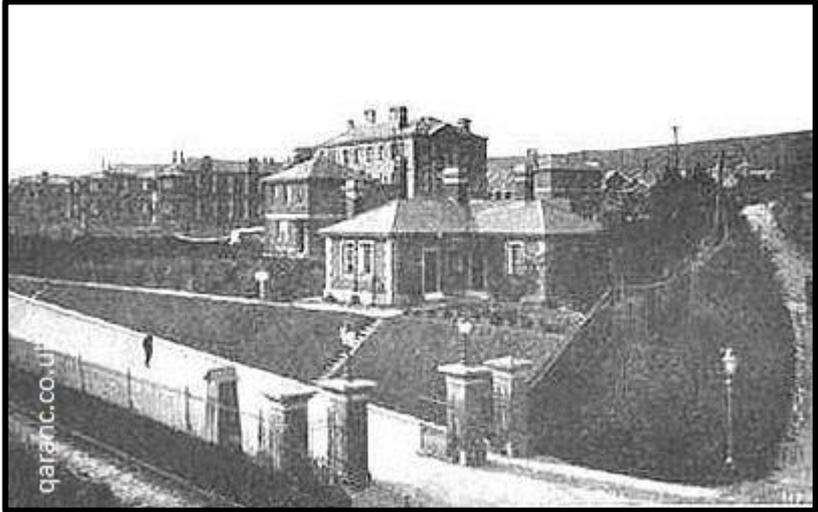
Arvon had a number of hospital admissions whilst overseas. The first of which was a wound inflicted at the Dardanelles on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 1914, the letter home to his father states it was not serious. In August 1915 a wire is received stating Arvon is on the Hospital ship Ascanius and on his way to England, later records show that he had a gun shot wound to the right arm, by 14<sup>th</sup> January 1916 his parents are advised that he has returned to duty in Egypt. November 10<sup>th</sup> 1917 another notification is sent to his father stating that Arvon had been wounded. On the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 1918 he has been admitted to Alexandra Military Hospital in Cosham suffering from Fractured Metatarsals severe. This seems to be the end of his military career and the records are not clear but indicate that he may have lost his right foot because of the injury.

Arvon appears on the 1925 electoral rolls as a labourer in Altona and seems to stay in that area until 1943. This is when he first appears in Traralgon with his wife Violet May Dennison (nee White). They are living in Argyle St. Violet has 3 sons from her first marriage. At this time 1943 Alexander Dennison, one of Violet's children is also living in Traralgon, his siblings Clifford and Cleasby Dennison (who both fought in WW2) are buried Gippsland Memorial Park as well.



The Orvieto leaving Melbourne in July 1914.

Alexandra Military Hospital, Cosham, Portsmouth



The 1914-1915 Star



The British War Medal



The Victory Medal



Gippsland Memorial Park, Traralgon L1-E003