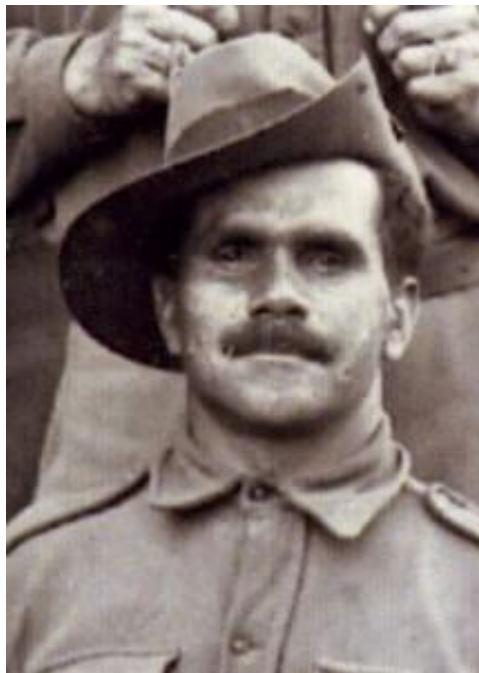


## Richard McDonald

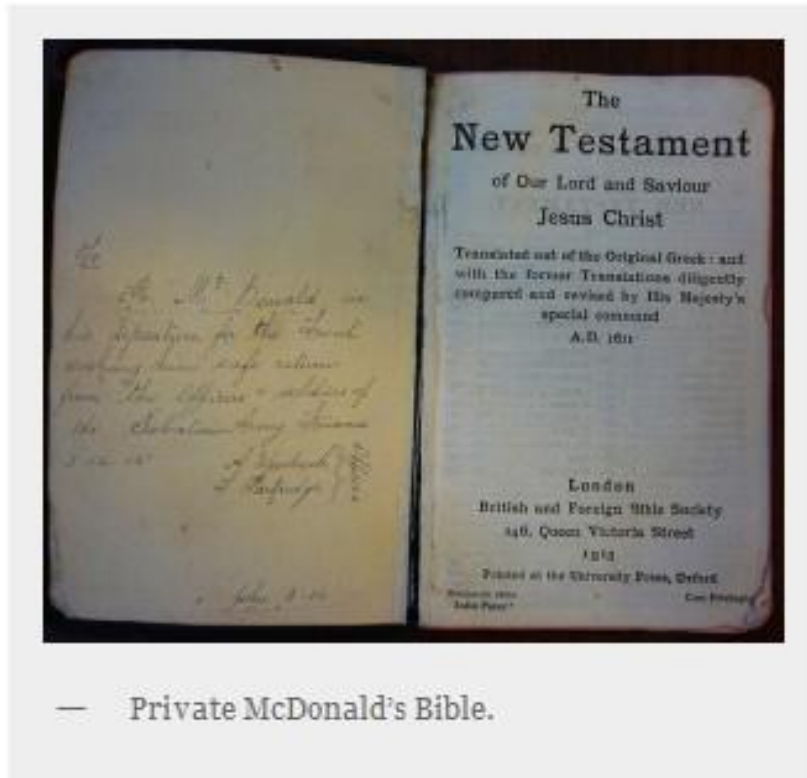
Private Richard McDonald joined the Australian Army in 1915 via the famous “South Coast Warratah March”.

An aboriginal quarryman as well as a member of the 37<sup>th</sup> Infantry Band at Kiama, Private McDonald enlisted at Liverpool with the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion on 20 December 1915.



**RICHARD MCDONALD**

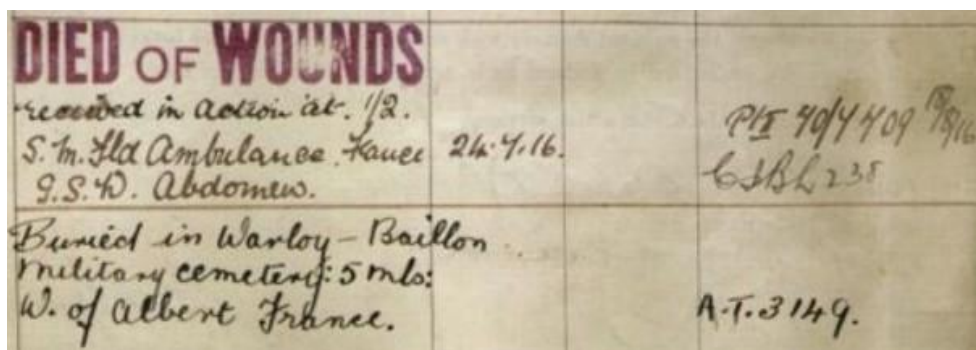
Before he left Australia, the Kiama Salvation Army presented a bible to Private McDonald.



To  
*R. McDonald on his departure for the front wishing him  
 safe return. From the Officers and soldiers of the  
 Salvation Army Kiama.*  
 3.12.15  
 A. Woodcock  
 F. Partridge

*John 3.16*

Two weeks after arriving in Pozieres he was killed by a gunshot wound in the abdomen in July 1916, aged 33.



Private McDonald's Australian Imperial Forces record shows he had no known next of kin, with his few belongings being sent to his legatee, Miss A. May Morrow of Dapto. She said of Private McDonald:

*"He was absolutely without a living relative"*

Forwarded to Miss Morrow were photos, a pipe, wallet, wrist watch and two devotional books.

Miss Morrow died in 1949, also with no next of kin. The bible was then found in a box of second hand books bought at Sydney's Surrey Hills in 2006.

The bible was received on behalf of Kiama by the Mayor, Sandra McCarthy, at a small ceremony at Kiama Library on July 7 2011, 95 years after the death of the Aboriginal soldier.

Richard McDonald is buried at [Warloy-Bailion Communal Cemetery Extension in France.](#)



**McDONALD.**—Died of wounds, France, July 24, 1916,  
**Private R. McDonald (Dick), late of Kiama.**  
Home at last, thy labour done,  
Safe and blest, the victory won,  
Jordan passed, from pain set free,  
Angels now have welcomed thee.  
A tribute of high esteem and deep affection from his  
friends at Auburn, Mr. and Mrs. A. Dickenson and  
family, Ruby F. Coulson, and his mate, Private Sam  
Wallace (on active service).

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD 26 AUGUST 1916