

Alexander Walker AITCHISON

Regimental number 1128

Place of birth Penrith, New South Wales

School Cleveland High School, New South Wales

Religion Presbyterian

Occupation Cook

Address 101 Trafalgar Street, Annandale, Sydney, New South

Wales

Marital status Married

Age at embarkation 30
Height 5' 3"
Weight 111 lbs

Next of kin Wife, Mrs Elsie May Aitchison, 101 Trafalgar Street,

Annandale, Sydney, New South Wales

Previous military service Served in the Royal Navy HMS 'Pioneer', in the

capacity as cook.

Enlistment date 19 February 1915 Date of enlistment from Nominal Roll 19 February 1915

Place of enlistment Liverpool, New South Wales

Rank on enlistment Private

Unit name 18th Battalion, D Company

AWM Embarkation Roll number 23/35/1

Embarkation details Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board

Transport A40 Ceramic on 25 June 1915

Rank from Nominal Roll Private

Unit from Nominal Roll 18th Battalion

Fate Killed in Action 22 August 1915

Place of death or wounding Gallipoli, Turkey

Date of death 22 August 1915

Age at death 31

Place of burial Hill 60 Cemetery (Secial. Memorial 1), Gallipoli,

Turkey.

Panel number, Roll of Honour, 84

Australian War Memorial

Miscellaneous information from cemetery records

Other details

Parents: David Frith and Elsie AITCHISON; husband of Elsie Mary AITCHISON, 10 Banks Avenue, Daceyville, New South Wales. Native of Penrith, New South Wales

War service: Egypt, Gallipoli

Embarked Alexandria to join the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, Gallipoli, 16 August 1915.

Reported missing, between 21 and 25 August 1915.

Court of Enquiry, held at Tel el Kebir, 16 January 1916, concluded: 'Reasonable to suppose dead'.

Statement, Red Cross File No 00401016, 1168
Sergeant R.J. EVERSON, 18th Bn (patient, Montazah Convalescent Camp, Egypt), 4 November 1915:
'Witness says it was common knowledge that Aitchison on Aug. 22 in an advanced trench had all the front of his face blown off and no medical aid was obtainable, he was still alive when the fellows who told Everson left the trench but he seemed a hopeless case. A lot of men were buried round this spot a few days after.'

Second statement, 1313 Pte J. WHITE, D Company, 18th Bn (patient, All Saints' Hospital, Malta), 12 November 1915: 'On the 27th Aug. we were close to Hill [?]. We left our trench, charged and took an advanced trench from which we had to retire to our old quarters. There we saw Aitchison lying with his face terribly injured but not quite dead. The bearers refused to move him as his case was hopeless. He died.'

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory

Medal

NAA: B2455, AITCHISON Alexander Walker Red Cross File No 00401016

Sources