

# Mackay North State High School Lest We Forget Commemorative Project

Mackay North High's Lest We Forget Project is an on-going project of commemoration undertaken by Senior History students at the school.

The aim of the project is to commemorate and further publicise the sacrifices made by Australians in war and to make practical and respectful tributes to those Australians who have died for our country.

The project revolves around overseas pilgrimages to the battlefields, cemeteries and memorials where Australians have fought and died. These tours involve the search for individual graves and names and the honouring of these fallen soldiers on behalf of relatives in Australia. Photographs of the graves and names are taken and presented to relatives on each group's return.

The school has so far undertaken 7 commemorative tours - in 1999, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010 & 2012. In that time 181 students have travelled to Gallipoli, the Somme and Flanders, Thailand and Singapore and have honoured 669 men and 33 nurses buried or commemorated in these areas.

*"My final thoughts as I watched the silent headstones was that we have to live the life these soldiers gave us .... we have to live our lives to the fullest, love our friends and family to the utmost. It's the least we can do - live the life that these men never got."*



## **For more information on the Lest We Forget Project**

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(or Google - 'Mackay North Lest We Forget')

The Lest We Forget Project



Securing our future by respecting our past

# Mackay North State High School



## *Footsteps of Honour*

### 2012

## Commemorative Tour



# *Street Memorial Project*

Dear Campbell St Resident

Our names are Aoife Moore and Stephanie Hogan and we are members of the Mackay North SHS Footsteps of Honour 2012 Tour Group.

This year, our group embarked on a 3 week overseas pilgrimage to the past Australian battlefields, cemeteries and memorials of Gallipoli, France, Belgium and Singapore.

One aspect of our research and commemoration centred around undertaking a local history study of Mackay streets which were named in honour of fallen Mackay soldiers.

In pairs, we all 'adopted' a street and the relevant soldier and, in the lead up to the tour, we researched the war service of "our" soldiers and learnt about the circumstances surrounding each man's death.

On the tour, we visited the graves or the memorials where each of these soldiers is buried or commemorated. At each site, we undertook a service which included the delivery of a eulogy, a recital of The Ode and the observance of a minute silence. We then photographed the grave or memorial name to bring this record back to Mackay.

We were honoured to have researched and commemorated the soldier after whom Campbell St is named. So as to provide you with a little history of your street, please find over information related to the soldier. We hope you find it interesting.

## Campbell St, South Mackay

Named in honour of:

Lance Corporal Malcolm Campbell

Service No. 152

41st Battalion AIF

Killed in Action in Belgium on 5 October, 1917

Aged 25

Malcolm was born in Mackay on 8 January, 1892 and was the son of Neil & Flora Campbell of Goldsmith St, Mackay. He was apprenticed to a foundry, Cameron's Ltd, in Mackay for five years & listed his trade as an engineer on his attestation form.

He enlisted as an original member of A Company of the 41st Battalion on 14 March, 1916 in Rockhampton and embarked with his unit on 18 May. He arrived in England on 20 July and, after going AWL for three weeks and being fined 53 days pay, Malcolm went to France with the 41st on 24 November.

He then fought in the Battle of Messines in June and was promoted to Lance Corporal on 8 August. After spending time at the Divisional Gas School for a week in September, he re-joined his battalion in time to be involved in its most testing time of the war, the Battle of Broodseinde on 4 October.

Malcolm was one of 43 battalion members killed the next day as his unit fought desperately to stop German counter attacks. The men had to also endure constant bombardments from German artillery. Malcolm's body was lost & today he is remembered on the Menin Gate Memorial.



The Menin Gate Memorial is situated in the famous Belgian town of Ieper (Ypres). It records the names of 54 391 Commonwealth soldiers killed in the Ypres Salient during WW1 who have no known grave.

6176 of these names are Australians.



### Malcolm's Commemoration

We were honoured to commemorate Malcolm at a special group service at the Menin Gate Memorial on 30 September this year during our overseas pilgrimage.



Malcolm's name inscribed on the Menin Gate Memorial



Aoife was also able to pay special tribute to Malcolm as part of the group's six students who sang the National Anthem during the famous Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate on Sept. 29.



Stephanie (left) and Aoife at Malcolm's name.

