Private Norman F. Donaldson (XC 1910-'12)

AWM ~ Roll of Honour
Norman Francis Donaldson

Service Number: 412
Rank: Private
Unit: 28th Australian Infantry Battalion
Date of death: 4 October 1917
Age at death: 21
Place of death: Belgium
Cause of death: Killed in action
Burial: No known grave
Place of association: Perth, Australia
Memorial details: Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing (Panel 23), Ypres, Flanders, Belgium

“The Xaverian” did know of Norman Donaldson’s enlistment in 1915 as he is mentioned in the 1918 Xaverian as being “With the Army” on page 36 but certainly not his death in 1917 because the following notice was in the 1918 Xaverian:

From “The Xaverian” 1918, p. 20

Norman Donaldson — Someone writes —
“Donaldson, with the Federal Mutual Fire Insurance Company.” If this be the Norman of 1910—12, would he let us know, for our address book still has him fast anchored in Port Headland, W.A. Some catalogue work for you Norman, if Norman you be.

There was no obituary written in The Xaverian magazine for Norman Donaldson. The following is from his Red Cross files.

The Menin Gate is one of four memorials to the missing in Belgian Flanders which cover the area known as the Ypres Salient. The site of the Menin Gate was chosen because of the hundreds of thousands of men who passed through it on their way to the battlefields. It commemorates casualties from the forces of Australia, Canada, India, South Africa and United Kingdom who died in the Salient.

Panel Numbers quoted at the end of each entry relate to the panels dedicated to the Regiment with which the casualty served.

Each night at 8 pm the traffic is stopped at the Menin Gate while members of the local Fire Brigade