

## McKEAN, Curtis William



C.W. McKean, one of the soldiers photographed in *The Queenslander Pictorial*, supplement to *The Queenslander*, 1918. (2014). John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland.

Rank: Private

Service Number: 53060

Unit: 41<sup>st</sup> Battalion

Place of Birth: Calliope, Qld

Date of Birth: 13 June 1899

Enlisted at Rockhampton, Qld, on 23 October 1917, aged 18 years 4 months. Next-of-kin was mother, Margaret McKean, Calliope, Boyne Valley Line, Queensland.

On enlistment he was 5 feet 10 inches and weighed 140 lbs. His chest measurement was 34 inches. His occupation was labourer. Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board RMS *Osterley* on 8 May 1918. While at sea he came down with a bout of influenza and was hospitalised on the ship at sea. He had another bout of influenza as well as tonsillitis and measles all within a few months of each other. Fought in France 41st Battalion from October 1918. In late October 1918 ill with bad back pain and was transported back to the Birmingham War Hospital, England. Diagnosed with nephritis (kidney disease) and oedema (swelling of feet and legs). Condition attributed to active service. December 1918 Curtis was moved to the Australian Auxiliary Hospital in Middlesex and found unfit for active service, and unfit for Home Service for six months. Returned to Australia 28 March 1919. 30 May 1919,

Curtis was discharged from service. Died 15 October 1930 aged 31 years.  
Buried Calliope Cemetery, Queensland.

Service Record: [View digital copy \(naa.gov.au\)](#)

*Paulette Flint, 2024*