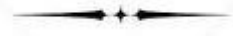




## **Disposal of War Medals to Australian Soldiers' Next-of-Kin**

The following letter was sent by Australian Imperial Force, Base Records Office, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, to a relative of a deceased Australian Soldier from World War 1 giving an explanation of how the War Medals are distributed.



Dear Madam,

It is noted that you are registered on the records of the late Private \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_ Battalion, as next of kin, but in order that the instructions under the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" may be properly complied with when disposing of War Medals, &c., I shall be glad to learn whether there are any nearer blood relations than yourself to the above-named, for instance, is his father still alive, if so I shall be much obliged for his name and address at your earliest convenience.

The provisions of a Will have no bearing upon the distribution of Medals unless they are specifically mentioned therein, such mementos being handed over in the following order of relationship, unless good and sufficient reasons for varying the procedure are stated:-

Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister, eldest surviving half-brother, eldest surviving half-sister.

Thanking you in anticipation of the favour of an early reply.

Yours faithfully

Major,

Officer in Charge, Base Records

R.F.  
Tel.C.4780.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.  
BASE RECORDS OFFICE,  
VICTORIA BARRACKS,  
MELBOURNE. 7th February, 1922.

Always state Regimental Number, Rank, Full Name, and Unit of Soldier in your Communication.

Next of Kin should always notify Change of Address to Base Records, Melbourne.

Dear Madam,

It is noted that you are registered on the records of the late No.180 Private C. MEDHURST, 42nd Battalion,

as next of kin, but, in order that the instructions under the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" may be properly complied with when disposing of War Medals, &c., I shall be glad to learn whether there are any nearer blood relations than yourself to the above-named, for instance, is his father

x x x x  
x x x still alive,  
if so I shall be much obliged for his name and address at your earliest convenience.

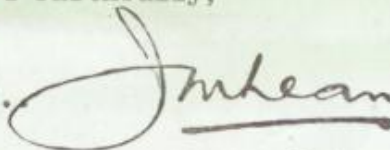
The provisions of a Will have no bearing upon the distribution of Medals unless they are specifically mentioned therein, such mementos being handed over in the following order of relationship, unless good and sufficient reasons for varying the procedure are stated:—

Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister, eldest surviving half-brother, eldest surviving half-sister.

Thanking you in anticipation of the favour of an early reply.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. N. Medhurst,  
Spring Creek,  
KILLARNEY, Q.



Major,

Officer in Charge, Base Records.

D.1402/10,21-1.18078-54.

FEB 1922  
DESPATCHED