

## WORLD WAR ONE MEDALS

### 1914 STAR

#### TERMS

The star was awarded to all officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the British and Indian Expeditionary Forces, (including civilian medical practitioners, nursing sister, nurses and other employed with military hospitals), serving in France or Belgium on the establishment of the British Expeditionary Forces between 05 August 1914 and midnight of the 22/23 November 1914. The medal was **not** issued for service afloat. It is often called the "MONS STAR".

#### BAR

**5th Aug - 22nd Nov. 1914** The bar was awarded to those who served under fire or were present on duty within range of the enemy mobile artillery in France or Belgium between the above dates and on the strength of units and formations contained in the official lists.

#### DESCRIPTION

A bronze star measuring 45-mm wide and 57-mm top to bottom. A four-pointed star has its uppermost point replaced by a crown. Across the face of the star are two crossed swords (blades upwards), the points and handles of which protrude and thus form four additional points.

#### OBVERSE

In the centre are three scrolls; on the top scroll is the month **AUG**, with the date **1914** and the month **NOV** on the middle and bottom scrolls. The three scrolls are surrounded by a laurel wreath 19-mm in diameter and on the bottom of the wreath is superscribed the Royal Cypher GV (with the V inside a large G).

#### REVERSE

The reverse is plain and displays the recipient's number, rank, name and unit. The Canadian 1914 Stars most commonly have:  
2-STA.HOSP.C.A.M.C.

#### MOUNTING

The ring for suspension is stamped out solid with the piece and is attached to the top point of the crown.



## RIBBON

The watered ribbon is 32-mm wide and shaded left to right: red, white and blue. The recipient of a bar wears a small silver rosette on the ribbon in undress.

## NAMING

Plain except for naming (See REVERSE).

## DATES

The medal was authorized in April 1917, and the bar on 19 October 1919.

## ISSUED

There were 160 awarded to the 2nd Canadian Stationary Hospital members who served with the British Expeditionary Force beginning 06 November 1914. A few Canadians who were attached to British Units also received the medal.

Approximately 378,000 total of these medals plus 145,000 bars were awarded to members of the British Expeditionary Force.

1



## EXAMPLES of members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force who received the 1914 Star and Bar.

Sergeant-Major Shergold, MC, DCM, Canadian Signals: Sergeant Major SHERGOLD was attached to 1 Signal Squadron, Royal Engineers and reached France on 16 August 1914. He was awarded the DCM and MID on 18 September 1914 and an MC in January 1915 later rising to the rank of LCol.

Lance-Corporal R.G. Sheale, DCM, 1<sup>st</sup> Signals Company, Royal Canadian Engineers. Lance Corporal Sheale was attached to the Royal Engineers and received his DCM for action at Tour de Paissy on 18 September 1914. **London Gazette** of 01 January 1915.

<sup>1</sup> Brigadier, the Honourable William Antrobus Griesbach, CB, CMG, DSO, VD, KC, Alberta Regiment – 1914 Star

## 1914 - 1915 STAR

### TERMS

The star was awarded to all who saw service in any theatre of war against the central powers between 05 August 1914 and 31 December 1915 except those eligible for the 1914 Star. Canada considered "overseas" to be service beyond the three mile limit and hence many RCN small ships were entitled to this star. There is no bar.

### DESCRIPTION

A bronze, four-pointed star, 45-mm wide and 57-mm top to bottom, with its uppermost point replaced by a crown. Across the face of the star are two crossed swords (blades upwards) with the blades and hilts protruding to form four additional points of the star. (The design is the same as the 1914 Star.)

### OBVERSE

In the centre is a scroll with **1914-15**. This is surrounded by a laurel wreath and on the bottom is the Royal Cypher GV (large G with a smaller v inside).

### REVERSE

The reverse is plain (See NAMING).

### MOUNTING

A suspension ring at the top of the crown is stamped out solid with the star.

### DATES

The medal was authorized in December 1918 (Army Order 10/1919, amended by 383/1919, 310/1920, 7/1921, 346/1922).

### RIBBON

The watered ribbon (32-mm wide), is shaded left to right, red, white, and blue.

### ISSUED

There were 71,150 issued to Canadians (of a total 2,366,000 issued).



**NAMING**

Engraved on the reverse are the recipient's number, rank, name and unit along with the following Canadian units and ships:

E.E.	LD:S'CONA'SH	1/CAN:INF:BDE:H.Q.
1/CAN:INF	F.GH.	2/CAN:INF:BDE:H.Q.
1/CAN.MTD:RIF	R.C.H.A.	CAN:D.S.COY
2/CAN.MTD:RIF	CAN:A.S.C.	2/CAN:DIV:A.C.
3/CAN.MTD:RIF	CAN:A.M.C.	1/CAN:DIV:AC.
5/CAN.MTD:RIF	CAN:FD:ART	H.M.C.S. NIOBE
R.CAN.:R.	CAN:Y.M.C.A.	H.M.C.S. GLORENCE
P.P.C.L.I.	1/CAN:DIV.CYCLIST.	H.M.C.S. RAINBOW
R.CAN:DNS	1/CAN:DIV:CAV:	H.M.C.S. EARL GRAY

**NOTE**

Major Canadian Units to receive this star were the PPCLI, 1st and 2nd Divisions, Cavalry Brigade and communication and artillery units.

This medal is always issued with the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

2



<sup>2</sup> Lance-Corporal William Henry Metcalf, VC, MM\* , Canadian Scottish with 1914/15 Star – Displayed at the Canadian Scottish Museum, Victoria, British Columbia