

"It is with pride that we place on record one of the finest athletic performances ever registered by a Queensland representative. We refer to the win of R. F. McMurdo (Rocklea Harriers) in the Marathon Championship of Australia and New Zealand, held in Sydney, on August 27th 1927. There were 25 starters, including many proved Marathon runners in this historic race, Tasmania, New South Wales, and Queensland being represented. McMurdo ran a heady race, and, finishing strongly over the last mile, won comfortably from H. Hayden (NSW), in 3 hours 6 mins 23 secs."

from QAAA Annual Report 1927-28

The report goes on to say that McMurdo was a walker not a runner. He travelled to Sydney primarily for the 50mi Australian Walking Championship. The 50mi was held in the week after the marathon. He won the 50 mile. Also interesting he was a Rocklea Harrier, a club that completely dominated Qld events 10k and over until the 1960's.