

Wallace John BALL

Born in 1896, Wallace Ball was a 20 year old law student and articled clerk when he enlisted in January 1916. He embarked on the HMAT *Afric* for England on 5 June 1916. In June 1917, he was posted at the No 2 officers Cadet Battalion at Cambridge, before proceeding to France with the 3rd Machine Gun Battalion in December 1917. Ball landed in Camiers, France where he marched out to the 11th Machine Gun Company. Ball served with the 11th Machine Gun Company between December 1917 and April 1918, then he rejoined the 3rd Machine Gun Battalion until July 1918.

These companies served in the Western Front battles around Ypres (Third Battle) and the Belgium actions of the Spring Offensive.

Ball contracted influenza in July 1918 and was transported back to England for hospitalisation and recuperation. Ball was then admitted to the 3rd London General hospital with severe pneumonia.

Ball returned to Australia in January 1919 on the HT *Ulysses*. Wallace Ball was admitted to practice on the 1st of August 1919. In 1920 he was made a partner in the solicitors firm Henderson and Ball. He served as both Treasurer in 1934 and then President of the Law Institute in 1936-37. In 1946, Thomas Henderson retired from the firm, but both Wallace and his brother, Robert Ball, continued to practice under the firm name. Ball died in Windsor in 1983, aged 87 years.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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Group portrait of officers and NCOs of the 11th Machine Gun Company at Locre

Front row: Sgt J A Ferguson; Lieutenant (Lt) Charles Edmond Coldwell-Smith; Lt Frank Leslie Thorn; Lt Frank Elwyn Wells; Captain Albert William Taylor; Lt Charles Edward Hughes; Lt Lionel John Parks; **Lt Wallace John Ball**; Cpl Stanley Ward Tacey