

Gilbert Anderson BURCHILL

Gilbert Anderson Burchill was born in 1892 in Kew, Victoria. He completed his law degree at University of Melbourne in 1915, and by early May 1916 had enlisted, at the age of 23 years. He joined the 15th Reinforcements of the 21st Battalion as a private, and embarked on the HMAT *Shropshire* on 25 September 1916 for England. By April 1917 he was in service in France and, in May 1917, was wounded in action, having suffered a gun shot injury to the right leg, in the battle of Bullecourt. He was evacuated to England to recover. He spent from May to August in hospital until he was transferred to Pelham Downs for further training. Burchill rejoined his battalion in France in early October 1917, where the 21st Battalion participated in the second Ypres battles. Burchill suffered a second wounding, gun shot wounds to the left arm and thigh, in the battle for Montbrehain October 1918. He was invalided to England for recovery and was subsequently discharged from the service in February 1919.

Burchill returned to Melbourne, disembarking in May 1919, and was admitted to practice in October 1919. Burchill had probate matters advertised from January 1922 onwards, as G.A. Burchill, LL.B., at 34 Queen St, Melbourne. Legal notices for probate are published until 1956 for this address. He married in July 1922, and had a family of two sons and a daughter. He lived in the family home in Elsternwick, until 1980. Burchill passed away at age 92 in Brighton in 1984.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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View of the Church at Montbrehain. In the general attack on 5 October, the village, full of machine guns, was stormed and captured by the 21st and 24th Battalions. The 21st Battalion made a dashing attack with the bayonet upon the village itself, while the 24th Battalion had a most difficult task against the trenches and natural positions north east of it. Montbrehain marks the final achievement of the Australian Infantry in the war, for they were that night relieved for a long rest, during which the Armistice was signed.