

A Supreme Court of Victoria and Legal Profession First World War Commemoration

Ramsay Burns COOK

Ramsay Burns Cook was born in Bendigo in 1889. His family was originally from Scotland and he was educated at St Andrews School, Bendigo and the University of Melbourne. He obtained his law degree at Melbourne University and was articled with Harwood & Pincott, Solicitors, in 1905. He was admitted to practice on 1st March 1911. Cook remained with Harwood & Pincott, Solicitors, until his death in January 1948.

Originally, he enlisted in the Military Reserve where he was promoted to captain in March 1915, and commanded the 9th Australian Garrison Artillery at Port Phillip Heads, Queenscliff. This was a Garrison manned essentially by volunteers from 1883 until 1946. The first allied shots of World War One (and World War Two) were fired from the Fort Nepean Garrison. Orders for the shots being issued by Lieutenant-Colonel Sandford at Fort Queenscliff.

Ramsay Cook married in November 1917. He was a prominent solicitor in Geelong and a partner at Harwood & Pincott. He was Chairman and Managing Director of the Geelong Advertiser from 1927, Chairman of Geelong Broadcasters Pty Ltd since its inception and a Member of the Council of the Church of England Girls' Grammar School (The Hermitage).

He was also a Director and Chairman of the Victorian Branch of the Australian United Press and a number of other newspaper companies. His son became the Editor of *Geelong Advertiser* and there are still members of the Cook family practicing law.

