

Robert Clive CROCKER



Robert Clive Crocker ('Clive') was born on 29 June 1888, and attended Scotch College and then Melbourne University to study law. He was admitted to practice in 1913.

Already a member of the Army Service Corps, he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Forces on 18 August 1914, in the first week after the recruiting offices opened. He sailed from Melbourne on 20 October 1914 aboard the HMAT *Shropshire*, as part of the 2nd Field Artillery Brigade. He arrived at Alexandria, Egypt in January 1915, where his unit undertook training.

His unit, the 6th Battery of the 2nd Field Artillery, landed at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915 and was involved in action at Krithia and Cape Helles.

He was promoted to Captain on 31 May 1915, but on 12 July was shot in the shoulder whilst serving as an observation officer. He was removed from the field and operated on, but did not survive the operation and succumbed to the wounds.

Captain Crocker's gallantry was such that at the unveiling of a memorial to the fallen students at Scotch College in 1919, the State Commandant, Brigadier General Brand said "*He died as he lived, an ideal officer, a gallant young gentleman, and a credit both to the land that gave him birth and the college he loved so well.*"



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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Group portrait of officers of the Australian Field Artillery in front of the sphinx and pyramids at Giza. All of the officers embarked on HMAT *Shropshire* from Melbourne on 20 October 1914.