

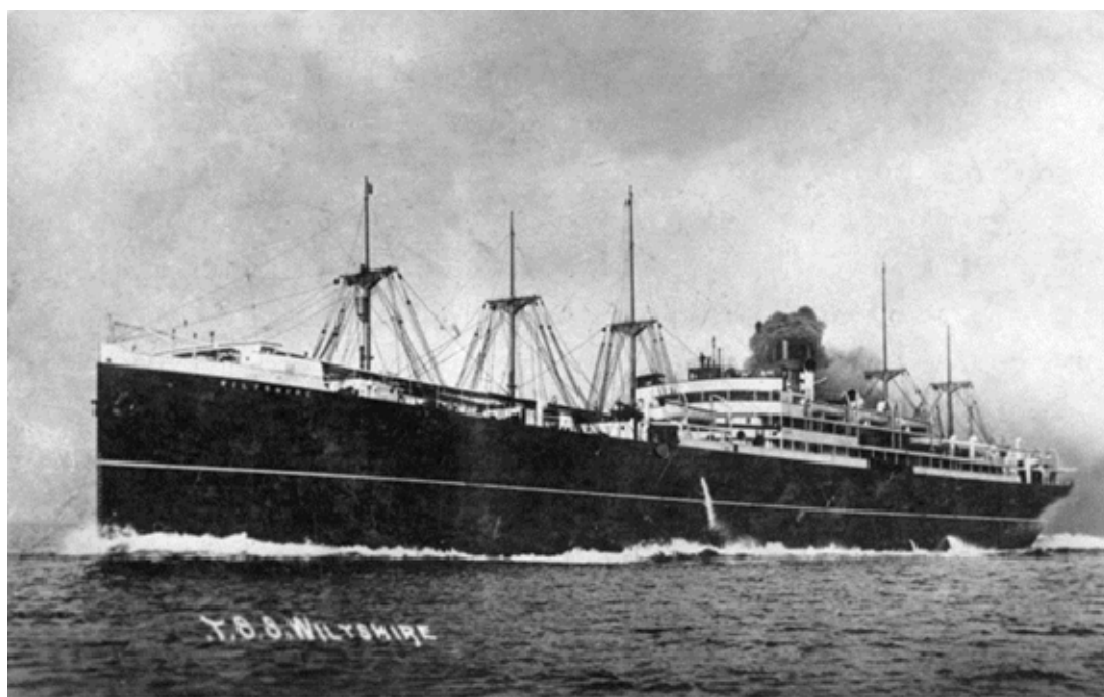
John James HANBY

John James Hanby probably qualifies as the oldest member of the legal profession to participate in the Great War. He was born in 1857 and was 57 years of age when the war began in August 1914. He had completed 'long articles' during the 1870s, first with a firm in Port Fairy and later with another firm in Geelong, until he was admitted to practice and became a partner in Crisp, Cameron and Hanby.

Over the next few decades Hanby held various positions with the citizen militias, eventually commanding the Garrison Artillery. He was also an expert, and prize winning, shot in shooting competitions.

Hanby attempted to enlist for active service overseas, but was rejected. Instead, he was placed in command of training at the rifle range at North Williamstown and twice, in 1916, he was placed in command of troop ships going to Egypt, returning to Australia on both occasions.

In 1917, he was elected Mayor of Brighton, having been a councillor for many years. He died in 1936. His two sons, John Hanby and Garnet Hanby, also fought in World War One. John Hanby was present at the landings at Gallipoli in 1915, and Garnet served in France.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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HMAT *Wiltshire* (A18) was one of the steamships requisitioned by the Australian Government for use as a troop transport. She was one of the ships of the first convoy, which assembled in King George's Sound, Albany, WA, in October 1914 to carry Australian and New Zealand forces to Europe. *Wiltshire* continued such duties until released by the Australian Government in 1917. Hanby was in charge of the troops on this ship in 1916.