

Leopold LEVY

Leopold Levy was born on 1 January 1890. He was educated at Wesley and then the University of Melbourne. He was an active member of the militia, attaining the rank of lieutenant in both the Wesley College Senior Cadets and the Melbourne University Rifles.

He was admitted to practice on 3 August 1914, and enlisted shortly thereafter, on 13 August 1914. This was within days of the recruitment offices opening. He was amongst the earliest to embark for the war, aboard the HMAT *Orvieto* on 21 October 1914, as Lieutenant of the 5th Infantry Battalion.

He reached Gallipoli and served under Lt Col David Wanliss CMG. He saw action throughout the entire campaign, from April through to December, apart from a month spent recuperating after being slightly wounded. Whilst in Egypt after the Gallipoli battles, his training as a barrister came to the fore, when he was appointed a Judge Advocate in General Courts Martial. He continued in this role as well as undertaking his officer duties as he went with his battalion to Pozieres in mid 1916.

The stress of the shelling at the first battle of Pozieres caused him to suffer a nervous breakdown and he was hospitalised. He was unable to serve at the front line again, although he tried to rejoin his battalion. He was at the Training Battalion in England as musketry officer for some months and, when in October 1917, it was decided to send him back to Australia, he stated that he was "extremely desirous of serving in any way that I might be of use". He was employed in England as a courts martial officer and staff captain, and eventually returned to Australia in December 1918.

Upon his return to Australia, Leopold Levy married Doris Whitney in 1920. He practiced as a barrister and solicitor, initially in Mildura, in the early 20's where he was involved with the returned servicemen. His considerable skill as a violinist was also put to good use. He returned to Melbourne and practiced from Bank Place from the mid 20's onward.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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