

Harold Oscar NEVETT

Harold Nevett was born in 1885, the son of a solicitor in Ballarat. He was educated at Ballarat College and Melbourne University, where his prowess as a sportsman was lauded. He was awarded the Supreme Court Judges' Prize in 1905 and, after being admitted in October 1908, became a principal in the firm of Buckland and Nevett in Camperdown. He also held a commission in the 20th Light Horse Militia.

After repeated attempts to enlist in the Australian Army, Nevett was informed that there would be no commissions for the Australian Forces, at his rank, for six to eight months. Subsequently, he enlisted in England in December 1914, as a 2nd lieutenant with the Royal Field Artillery. At the battle of Messines Ridge in June 1917 his "deeds of valour on the battlefield" earned him a military cross. He made lieutenant in July 1917. In November 1917, at Passchendale, he was gassed and was evacuated to England, where he saw out the war as a gunnery instructor.

Nevett married the Hon. Evelyn Kitson, the second daughter of Lord and Lady Airedale, in London, in 1919. He returned to Camperdown with his wife in 1920, they had five children. Nevett continued to practice with Buckland & Nevett solicitors until his death in June 1940.

