

Edward Russell Thomas REYNOLDS

Edward Reynolds was born in Walhalla on 16 April 1892, although he grew up in Coburg, attending the Coburg State School and later Carlton College. He completed his law degree at Melbourne University in 1913 and was admitted to practice in 1915. He enlisted on 1 May 1916 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant with the Australian Services Corps and left Sydney on the 15th May 1916.

He served with the No.4 Division Supply Column and later moved to the motorised transport corps. He served throughout France during 1917 and 1918, later returning to England to attend the School of Education. Reynolds returned home to Australia in March 1919.

Reynolds commenced work as a barrister on his return to Australia, and became a Kings Counsel in 1939.

Reynolds was president of the Law Council of Australia in 1947, and Leader of the Victorian Bar from 1946 to 1952. After taking silk, Reynolds worked on, or appeared before, a number of inquiries and Royal Commissions. He was one of the many counsel who appeared in the Bank Nationalisation case in the late 1940s.

From 1948 to 1952, he was a member of the Victorian Parliament representing Toorak for the Liberal Party. This followed a number of unsuccessful attempts at gaining a parliamentary seat including Essendon and Maribyrnong in 1914 (while still an articled clerk), Kew in 1927 and Melbourne South in 1928, 1929 and 1935. Reynolds was made an honorary life member of the Victorian Bar in 1966, and died in July 1971.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

REL29520

Souvenir Copper Ashtray with brass crest for the town of Armentieres, France, associated with Reynolds from the collection of the Australian War memorial