

David Claude ROBERTSON

David Robertson was born in 1890 in Castlemaine. He was educated at St Andrews College in Bendigo and completed his articles with Tatchell, Dunlop, Smalley and Dunlop in Bendigo. He was awarded the Supreme Court prize in 1911 at the completion of his legal studies. After admission to practice in May 1911, Robertson worked as a barrister.

Robertson enlisted in January 1917, with the 24th Reinforcements of the 6th Battalion, and left Melbourne in February 1917 on board the ill-fated *Ballarat*. He spent most of 1917 in England training and did not arrive in France until December 1917. He returned to England in the middle of 1918, for officer training, and by the end of the War, was made a lieutenant.

After his return to Australia in September 1919, he returned to his career at the Bar. During World War Two he enlisted again and served in the Australian Army Legal Department, in particular at the POW camp at Murchison. He finished the Second World War with the rank of lieutenant colonel and again returned to the Bar.

He died in 1963 at Lake Bolac, where he had had a late career change to a minister of religion.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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HMAT *Ballarat* in the English Channel 25 April 1917 after being torpedoed. David Robertson would have been aboard this troopship at the time of this incident.