

## David Sydney WANLISS

David Sydney Wanliss was born on February 20 1864 in Scotland. He was educated at Ballarat College Victoria and then attained a Bachelor of Arts and subsequently a Bachelor of Laws from Cambridge. He was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple, London but returned to Victoria in 1890 and practiced in Melbourne and Ballarat. He co-authored the second edition of *Justices of the Peace* with his brother in law, (Sir) William Irvine, who would eventually become Chief Justice of Victoria.

Active in the militia since 1901, by the outbreak of the War he had become the Lieutenant Colonel of the 5th Battalion, (formerly the Victorian Scottish Regiment). He applied for a commission in the AIF on 12 August 1914 and was appointed commanding officer of the 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade. Fifty one year old Wanliss led his battalion at the landing at Gallipoli and throughout the heavy fighting at Krithia, but was struck down with typhoid and returned to Australia.

Wanliss returned to active service, firstly at the Australian Division Base Depot in France and then as commanding officer of the 65<sup>th</sup> Battalion but he did not see fighting again.

After the war, Wanliss spent some time as commandant of the 6<sup>th</sup> Military District (Tasmania) and, in 1921, was appointed the Chief Justice of the mandated territory in New Guinea. He held this post until 1937 when he retired to Brighton, Melbourne. He died, in 1943, at the age of 72.

David Wanliss was remembered fondly by the men in the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion as 'the father of the regiment' and received a CMG for his efforts. 'Wanliss Gully' at Anzac Cove in Turkey is named in his honour.



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