

Gunner of Renown



Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company

Brigadier General Alfred Joseph BESSELL-BROWNE, CB, CMG, DSO, VD

(1877-1947)

Alfred Bessell-Browne was an exemplary citizen soldier. He enlisted as a lance corporal in the first Western Australian (Mounted Infantry) Contingent to the Boer War and was commissioned in the field. Soon after returning home he departed with another contingent participating in many major actions.

Thereafter, he joined the Australian Field Artillery and was commanding 37th Battery when WWI broke out. He was promoted major to command the 8th Battery and sailed for Egypt in November 1914 with the first AIF contingent. He commanded the 2nd and 3rd AFA Brigades on Gallipoli in succession and was responsible for destroying the remaining guns before the evacuation.

When the AIF moved to France he was promoted and in January 1917 became CRA (artillery commander) of the 5th Division. He was an outstanding commander showing great flare in resolving command and control and technical issues.

He continued to serve in Western Australia between the wars and commanded the Western Australian Volunteer Defence Corps until his retirement in 1942.

For more information follow the link below.

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/bessell-browne-alfred-joseph-5223>