

# *Gunner of Renown*



Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company

**Air Commodore Raymond James BROWNELL, CBE, MC, MM  
(1894-1974)**

Raymond Brownell was born in Hobart on 17 May 1894. He joined the Australian Field Artillery in 1912 and enlisted as a gunner in the AIF in September 1914.

He rejoined 9th Battery on Gallipoli in July 1915 and remained there until the evacuation in December. He transferred with his battery to France in March 1916 having been promoted sergeant the previous month and was awarded the MM for maintaining communications between the firing line and the battery at Pozieres under intense shell fire in July.

Soon thereafter he was selected for flying training with the Royal Flying Corps and began operational flying in September 1917 having been commissioned. He shot down three German aircraft on the Western Front before being transferred to the Italian front in December where he shot down a further six and mistakenly shot down an Italian aircraft but was nevertheless awarded the MC.

In 1921, he was appointed flying officer in the newly formed Royal Australian Air Force and had a distinguished career including being appointed Air Operations Commander of No. 11 Group on Morotai at the end of WWII.

For more information follow the link below.

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biographies/search/?scope=all&query=Brownell&x=29&y=14&rs>