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BRO. ROY LONGMORE

(1894 - 2001)

Roy Longmore is the oldest of the three Gallipoli veterans portrayed on the Australian Legends stamps issued by Australia Post on 21 January 2000.

Roy was born on 29 April 1894 and when the First World War broke out in 1914, he immediately left his job as a farm hand in Victoria and enlisted in the first Australian Imperial Force (AIF). 1.



He celebrated, if that's an appropriate description, his 21st birthday in Egypt and, on 12 October 1915, he landed at Gallipoli with the 21st Battalion of the 2nd Division.

It was nearly six months after the first Anzac landing and the campaign was at a stalemate with both the Anzacs and Turkish troops engaged in heavy trench fighting.

Longmore had the dangerous job of tunnelling under the Turkish positions to lay mines. 2.

He was 6 feet (182 cm) tall and had to crouch to stay under cover.

Roy later said: "I was underground most of the time. I Didn't see much".

He told of a warning he gave to a young new arrival to keep his head down as the Turks were good shots. "Of course he wouldn't take much notice of me. He put his head up and ended up in a trench behind us, dead. Bullet straight through the head".

After the evacuation from Gallipoli, Longmore went to France with the 2nd Pioneer Battalion where he fought at Pozieres where he was wounded in 1916 but remained on duty, Armentieres and Villers-Bretonneux. 3.

He again continued fighting after being wounded in the leg in April 1918.

He was promoted to Corporal and just one month before the armistice in November 1918, his war came to an end when he was wounded in both legs.

"We were patrolling in a gully when suddenly half a dozen Germans just appeared over a hill with machine guns and opened fire. Jerry riddled me with machine-gun

