



## THE MASONIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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### **Wor. Bro. EDWIN MAXWELL DOLLERY, M.C. (1897 - 1973)**

Wor. Bro. Edwin Maxwell Dollery was born in Hobart, Tasmania, on 21 April 1897, son of Elias Mark Dollery, civil servant, and his wife, Emma Ann, nee Byfield.

Max, as he was known, was educated at Queen's College from 1906 to 1912 and The Hutchin School in 1913 and 1914, where he excelled as an all-round sportsman. Having served in the cadets, and as an officer in the 93<sup>rd</sup> Derwent Infantry, Militia, on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1916 he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force.

He sailed for Britain in August 1916 and joined the 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion on the Western Front in July 1917. He was commissioned in October that year. Wounded in action in May 1918, he convalesced in England and returned to his battalion in August.

At Proyart, France, later that month he led a party of six across open country in the face of enemy fire and silenced two machine guns. He was awarded the Military Cross. His A.I.F. appointment was terminated in Australia on 21<sup>st</sup> April 1919.

Entering the Royal Military College, Duntroon, Federal Capital Territory, in February 1920, he graduated the following year.

On 4<sup>th</sup> January 1922 at Holy Trinity Church, Hobart, he married, with Anglican rites, Norma Agnes Best.

He held a succession of posts as adjutant and quartermaster before being sent in 1926 to British Army Units in India to study mechanical transport. This subject was to be his specialisation.

Returning home in 1927, he was promoted to Captain in 1929 and Major in 1938. Dollery spent most of the intervening years on staff and instructional duties connected with motor transport. In 1938, he was posted as assistant director, mechanisation, to Army Headquarters, Melbourne.

Seconded to the AIF in April 1940 as Lieutenant-Colonel and posted to Headquarters, he embarked for the Middle East in August. As Assistant-Director, then Deputy-Director, of ordinance services he was responsible for managing the force's motor transport requirements.

He was appointed O.B.E. in 1942 and arrived back in Australia in February 1943.

Brigadier-in-charge of administration at headquarters, Northern Territory Force from

