

Carswell was born at Camberwell, London in 1887, the son of Alexander Carswell and his wife Jane Cumming, nee Bryson.

On his enlistment in the AN&MEF, he stated that he was a shipping clerk and was posted to G Company. He was appointed lance corporal on 1st Feb 1915 and was discharged on 4th March 1915 on his return from Rabaul. He completed 206 days service.

On 2nd April 1915 he enlisted in the 19th Battalion, regimental number 1358 and was promoted sergeant on 15th April and then CQMS on 1st May 1915. He sailed from Sydney on 25th June aboard the CERAMIC, arriving in Alexandria on 23rd July.

On 16th August the battalion boarded the SATURNIA and landed at ANZAC on the 21st where they initially bivouacked at Reserve Gully. The battalion remained on Gallipoli until they left for Lemnos on 20th December 1915. They remained in camp on Lemnos until 4th Jan 1916 when they boarded the ASCANIUS, arriving in Alexandria on the 7th.

The battalion left Alexandria on 18th March 1916, arriving in Marseilles on 25th March.

On 19th August 1916 Carswell was promoted 2/Lt and then LT on 1st Jan 1917. On 21st December 1917 he married Constance Edwina Pearce at Camberwell, London.

The 19th battalion was dissolved on 10th October 1918 and Carswell and many other Officers and OR's were transferred to the 17th Battalion, which was at that time at Vignacourt, on the Somme.

On 26th October he was seconded to 3 Squadron Australian Flying Corps as Recovery Officer.

Carswell left England for Australia on the WARWICKSHIRE on 5th April 1919 and had his appointment to the AIF terminated on 27th July 1919.

Carswell returned to England after the war and his son Carswell Harold was born in 1923. He served with the RAF in WW2 and died in an aircraft accident in India in August 1944. At that time Carswell Snr was working as a civilian interpreter in Singapore.

Carswell died at Vacluse, NSW on 11th September 1958.