

Arthur was born on 3rd March 1888 in Albury, the son of John Andrew Darby and Margaret Cecilia Darby, nee Condon. In 1913 he married Clara Valentine Evans at Paddington and on 11th August 1914 he joined D Company, AN&MEF stating that he was a saddler and gave his wife at 127 Flinders St, Moore Park as his next of kin.

He returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 4th March 1915 having completed 206 days service.

On 18th July 1915 Arthur enlisted in the AIF as part of the 11th Reinforcements, 1st Field Company, Engineers, and left Sydney aboard the BELTANA on 9th November 1915. He was taken on strength in Egypt on 28th December and then transferred to the 4th field Company, Engineers on 22nd Jan 1916.



Studio Portrait taken before embarkation in 1915.

He was appointed lance corporal on 1st Feb and left Alexandria for Marseilles aboard the CANADA on 1st June. On 28th August 1916 he was killed in action. An eyewitness, Sapper C. E. Monument 4089 stated: -

“He was killed by a wizz-bang near Kay’s Dump (between Ovillers and Thiepval) on August 28th, the second time we were in at Pozieres. I was about 10 yards away from him at the time. He was d near where he fell, and a cross was put on his grave. I have seen it. He was a married man and came, I think, from Sydney.”

Arthur is remembered at the Australian Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux and on Panel 23 at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra.