

Leonard was born in 1889, in Maidstone, Kent, the son of William and Emily Avar. He is shown on the 1911 UK census as living with his parents and a brewer's clerk. His father is shown as being a Police Constable. He served as a Lance Corporal in the Kent Cyclist Battalion from 1909 till 1913, at which time he possibly came to Australia.

Leonard joined G Company, AN&MEF on 11th August 1914 stating that he was single and gave his father at 69 Holland Rd, Maidstone, as his next of kin. Leonard returned from Rabaul and was discharged, end of period of engagement, on 4th March 1915, having completed 206 days service.

Not long after his return from Rabaul he left on board the ORSOVA for Southampton. He married Evelyn Beatrice Beale in the same year and then joined the British Army in the RASC, service number S4/215309. He served from 11th Dec 1915 till being discharged as medically unfit, TB, on 10th Jan 1919. His discharge medical board recommended he return to Australia for his health.

He was repatriated to Australia and left Southampton on the KANOWNA on 25th August 1919. (As an aside, the KANOWNA has an unfortunate association with Rabaul, as it was meant to accompany the BERRIMA to Rabaul in August/September 1914 with a contingent of men from Queensland, but following a mutiny by its civilian crew, it was forced to turn back after leaving Port Moresby, and never took part in the landing that Leonard was part of.)

Leonard died on 29th October 1969 and is buried at the North Ryde Cemetery,