

John was born in Scott Creek, South Australia on 24th March 1883, the son of Stephen Pellew Carthew and Sarah Carthew, nee Machereth. On 11th August 1914 he joined F Company, AN&MEF stating that he was an engine driver, single and gave his mother at Scott Creek, South Australia, as his next of kin. He returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 18th Jan 1915 having completed 161 days service.

On 26th July 1915, in Adelaide, he joined the AIF as part of the 15th Reinforcements for the 10th battalion, regimental number 4746. He sailed from Adelaide aboard the MONGOLIA, leaving on 9th March 1916. He was a part of the 3rd Machine Company and was an EDP Corporal for part of that time, with a short period as EDR Sergeant. He reverted to private on joining the 21st Machine Gun Company on 2nd October 1917.

On 19th November 1917 he was accidentally injured (fractured ribs) and evacuated to the Lord Darby War Hospital Warrington not returning to his unit until 15th April 1918. On 22nd May he was transferred to the 1st Machine Battalion and had his regimental number changed to 4746A. He was appointed Lance Corporal on 30th October 1918.

On 18th August 1919 he married Catherine Rogan at St Mungo's Roman Catholic Chapel in Alloa Scotland. He and his wife returned to Australia aboard the BENALLA, disembarking in Adelaide on 22nd November 1919 and John was subsequently discharged from the AIF on 24th August 1920. It would appear that Catherine returned to Scotland not long after arriving in Australia.

John died on 27th December 1953 and is buried in Scott Creek Cemetery.