

John was born in Kerry, Ireland on 5th March 1878, the son of Maurice Casey and Catherine Casey, nee Quinlan. Maurice and his family came to Australia aboard the NORTH arriving on 24th December 1883 as Assisted Passengers. Maurice died in 1895, when he drowned in Darling Harbour.

On 25th November 1902 John married Sarah May Greenhill at St Clement's Marrickville and they had 5 children, Maurice Harold (1903), Francis Michael (1905), Elizabeth Maud (1909), Robert Edward (1911) and Cecil Raymond (1913). He served in the CMF with the Electrical Company of Engineers.

On 11th August 1914 he joined D Company, AN&MEF, stating that he was an Electrical Engineer and gave his wife at "Langley", Durham St, Dulwich Hill, as his next of kin.

He was promoted Sergeant on 18th August and then reduced to Corporal at his own request on 7th September 1914. He returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 4th March 1915, having completed 206 days service.

On 24th May 1915 John joined the 4th Battalion, regimental number 2342, and sailed for Suez with the Battalion on 14th July 1915 aboard the ORSOVA. He landed on Gallipoli on 24th October and was evacuated to the UK four days later suffering from Dysentery. He rejoined his unit after they had left the Peninsular on 6th March 1916 and was transferred on the 19th to the 1st Pioneers and promoted to Sergeant on 18th March. On 2nd July 1916 he was wounded and evacuated not returning to his unit until 7th September. Later that month, on the 13th he contracted pneumonia, was evacuated to the Delphi Hospital in the UK and remained on temporary duties in the UK until he left for Australia aboard the NESTOR to Melbourne and then the EURIPIDES to Sydney. He was discharged as medically unfit on 12 December 1917.

John died on 5th February 1937 in Marrickville Hospital and is buried at Randwick.