

Thomas was born at Maitland, NSW, on 28th Jan 1892, the son of Alfred James Neate and his wife Bridget Agnes, nee O'Brien.

On his enlistment with the AN&MEF he stated that he was single and a Letter Press printer and was posted to F Company.

On 1st Feb 1915 he transferred to A Coy, 3rd Battalion, ANMEF and assigned the new regimental number of 750. He left Rabaul on 11th May 1915 aboard the MATUNGA as a escort for prisoners and was discharged on 22nd May having completed 285 days service.

On 4th May 1918 he married Madeline Elizabeth Ann Hill. Madline died in 1934 and when Thomas enlisted in 2AIF on 20th May 1940, he stated that he was a widower. He joined the 2/5th Australian General Hospital, service number NX18789 and on 10th April 1940 he embarked for the Middle east and then on to Greece.

On 27th April 1941 he was captured and ended up in Stalag 20A, prisoner number 26116.

He was released on 20th October 1943 and repatriated to Egypt, arriving there on 3rd November 1943. He boarded the Wanganella on 29th December 1943 arriving back in Australia on 21st Jan 1944. He was discharged from the AIF on 21st December 1945

Thomas died in Newtown, NSW on 4th September 1969 and is buried at the Rookwood Cemetery.