

Percy Bastard was born in Sydney in 1880, the son of William and Alice Bastard. In 1913, Percy and his brother officially changed their names to Beston. He served in the Boer War with the 2nd NSW Mounted Rifles between March 1901 and June 1902, number 706.

On 11th August 1914 he joined the AN&MEF stating that he was a Floorman, single and that his next of kin was his mother at 5 Short St, Leichardt. He returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 4th March 1915, having completed 206 days service.

On 2nd September 1915 he enlisted in the 7th Reinforcements to the 19th Battalion, regimental number 3330. On 20th December he sailed for the Middle East aboard the SUEVIC, and shortly after arrival transferred to the 4th battalion. He was appointed lance corporal on 14th March 1916 and sailed from Alexandria with his battalion on 23rd March, arriving in Marseilles on 30th March.

Percy was wounded with a gunshot wound to the hand and was evacuated. He suffered recurrent asthma and bronchitis which resulted him being returned to Australia aboard the WILTSHIRE in November 1916 and he was discharged as Medically Unfit on 11th April 1917.

Percy moved to Mudgee after the war where he married Phoebe C Deale in 1920. He died in Randwick in 1926.