

William was born in Chester, England in 1877, the son of Evan and Catherine Garston. In the 1881 census he is shown as living in Wales. On 11th August 1914, William joined B Company, AN&MEF, stating that he was a ships steward and gave his mother at 39 Ewart St, Chester, as his next of kin. He returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 4th March 1915, having completed 206 days service.

On 12th March 1915 William enlisted in the 19th Battalion, regimental number 414, and left Sydney on 25th June aboard the CERAMIC, arriving in Alexandria on 23rd July. With his battalion, William landed on ANZAC Cove on 19th August and was wounded when a shell fractured his femur on 3rd September. He arrived in Suez aboard the Hospital Ship SALTA on 4th September and left Suez on 31st October aboard the AENEAS, arriving in Melbourne on 26th November 1915. He was discharged, medically unfit, on 9th Feb 1916.

On 25th May 1916 he was re-attested and joined the 6th Reinforcements, 5th Machine Gun Company. He left Melbourne on 20th October aboard the PORT LINCOLN, changing ships to the ULYSSES at Sierra Leone on 5th December, finally arriving at Devonport on 20th December 1916.

Whilst still in England, on 13th Feb 1917 he transferred to the 16th Machine Gun Company. On 2nd April he was admitted to hospital for an unspecified sickness and was in and out of hospital over the next year. He did not leave England and on 18th December 1918 boarded the LEICESTERSHIRE, arriving back in Sydney on 23rd Jan 1919. He was discharged from the AIF, medically unfit, on 2nd March 1919.

He was in Canada in 1920 and applied for assistance from the Department of Soldiers Civil Re-Establishment.

William died in Queensland on 6th Jan 1933 and is listed as having a wife, Mary Ann.