

Daryl was born in Maitland, NSW in 1893, the son of George Ernest Crothers and Mary Ann Kate Crothers, nee Robinson. He was an electrician by trade and joined D Company, AN&MEF on 11th August 1914. He left Rabaul on 30th September 1914 and returned to Australia as an escort for prisoners and was discharged, medically unfit, on 15th October 1914.

On 7th April 1915 he joined D Company, 20th Battalion, regimental number 1177. He was appointed lance corporal on 31st May and sailed for Suez on the BERRIMA on 26th June 1915. With the battalion, he landed at Gallipoli and remained there until the battalion was withdrawn on 20th December 1915. He transferred to the 2nd Pioneer Battalion which left Alexandria for Marseilles, France on 19th March 1916.

On 2nd Jan 1917 he was admitted to Parkhurst Military Hospital where he remained until 26th Feb. Upon release he transferred to the Pioneer Training Battalion at Parkhill and on 7th November 1917 he was promoted ER Corporal before returning to France and his unit on 6th Feb 1918.

He returned to hospital after being gassed in March 1918 and was diagnosed with defective vision, a consequence of the gassing.

On 16th Jan 1919 he departed England on the DEMOSTHENES and was discharged from the AIF in Sydney on 28th April 1919.

In 1925 he married Mercia M Bridgement. He died at Gosford on 11th Feb 1968 and is buried at Rookwood Cemetery.