

William was born in Cowra 19 1894, the son of Thomas John Clarke and Margaret Victoria Clarke, nee Jordan. On 11<sup>th</sup> August 1914 he joined D Company AN&MEF stating that he was a tailor by trade and gave his father at Athol Road, Sutherland, as his next of kin. He returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 4<sup>th</sup> March 1915 having completed 206 days service.

Whilst he was in Rabaul his father enlisted in the AIF (under the name John Clarke) as part of the 5<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements to the 1st battalion on 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 1915. His regimental number was 1934 and he was a sergeant when he was medically discharged.



Thomas John Clarke

On 18<sup>th</sup> March William enlisted as part of the 7<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of the 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion, regimental number 2529. Throughout his service, William was plagued by bouts of Malaria, the first hospitalising him in the 1<sup>st</sup> ANZAC Hospital at Luna Park. On 1<sup>st</sup> June he was appointed acting sergeant and sail for the Middle East aboard the SHROPSHIRE, departing Sydney on 20<sup>th</sup> August.

He was again hospitalised with malaria, this time in Heliopolis Hospital from 30<sup>th</sup> Oct till 11<sup>th</sup> November. After discharge he was sent back to Australia to recuperate, leaving Suez on 4<sup>th</sup> December on the THEMISTOCLES, arriving back in Australia on 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 1916. On recovery he returned to Suez aboard the NESTOR on 18<sup>th</sup> May 1916, but again suffer bouts of malaria and returned to Australia on the ULYSSES on 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 1917, arriving in Melbourne on 12<sup>th</sup> April and was discharged from the AIF as medically unfit on 21<sup>st</sup> August 1917.



William Edward Clarke

He continued serving as a Corporal in the Home Service until his death at the Coastal Hospital, Little Bay, NSW on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1919 from Pneumatic Influenza. He is buried at Rookwood Cemetery and is remembered on Panel 68 at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra.