

CAPTAIN DAVID AUBREY ARNOT DAVIS - A.A.M.C.
3rd Tunnelling Company

Robert Elias Davis and Helene Margaret Cramsie Stewart were married in 1890 in Queensland and their son David Aubrey Arnot Davis was born in Toowoomba, Qld on December 25, 1890.

David achieved a Bachelor of Medicine (MB) degree.

At 25½ years of age he applied for a Commission with the A.A.M.C, A.I.F. on July 21, 1916. At that time he was medical officer at the Mater Miseraecorde Hospital, Brisbane and had no military experience. Next-of-kin was his father Robert Elias Davis of "Gunyah", Milner Street, Mosman, N.S.W. Statistics on the form were given as 174cms (5ft 8½ins) tall, weighing 58kgs (128lbs) with a chest measurement of 79-83cms (31-33¼ins). His eyesight was good.

It seems the Commission application lay in abeyance for almost eight months as changes on the form such as his occupation now Medical Practitioner and workplace crossed out. It was not until March 1, 1917 the application was granted as Captain and was gazetted in issue 74 of May 24, 1917. His Attestation form was signed on March 21, 1917 which adds Church of England as his religion and his age changed to 26¼ years.

Captain Davis departed Melbourne, Vic on May 11, 1917 on board HMAT A9 *Shropshire*. The voyage lasting seventy days docked at Durban and Capetown before terminating at Plymouth, England on July 19, 1917. The troops were detrained to Tidworth.

Captain Davis marched in to the A.A.M.C. Training Depot at Parkhouse the following day for further instruction.

On August 10, 1917 was detached for duty to 13 Training Battalion at Codford.

German measles caused admittance to hospital on January 3, 1918. On January 19, transferred to No 3 New Zealand Hospital, Codford and was discharged to duty on January 21, 1918.

Was sent to Hurdcott on February 2 and attached to the No.4 Command Depot.

Captain marched in to Administration Headquarters, London on March 25, in preparation for overseas duty. Proceeded via Folkstone to France on March 26, 1918 and attached for duty at Wimereux.

On April 7, 1918 was detached for duty with the 35 British Division and the following day was at the 2nd Aust General Hospital before being sent to the 15th Cheshire's two days later.

While with the 15th Cheshire's Regiment Captain Davis was wounded in action being gassed (slightly) by shell attack on May 21, 1918 and taken to the 3rd Canadian Casualty Clearing Station. He was admitted to the 8th General Hospital, Rouen two days later. After seven days in hospital returned to duty on May 28 and posted to 1st Australian General Hospital, Rouen.

His next-of-kin was advised he had been wounded in action on June 1, 1918 and apprehensively his father sent to Base Records the following telegram on June 4, 1918.

Base Records

Melbourne

Ascertain whereabouts present condition captain d a a davis australian army medical corps abroad anxious

davis milner street mosman

Base Records replied in a letter saying that the absence of later information may be accepted as indicative of satisfactory progress having been maintained. It also advised the hospital was as yet unknown to them and letters should be addressed as before. Further advice on June 11 gave the hospital he was admitted to.

On August 11, 1918 was detached to 2nd Aust. Division Headquarters, Rouen and on August 15 took up duties as R.M.O. at the 2nd Div. Reinforcements Wing.

Ceased to be attached on September 11, 1918 and returned to 7th Field Ambulance then four days later proceeded to the 25th Battalion as Temporary R.M.O. until October 14, 1918 returning to 7th Field Ambulance.

Captain Davis attended the Aust. Corps Gas School beginning October 20, 1918.

On October 30 a Medical Board gave him leave until November 4, to report to Medical Section Room 9.

He was then attached as Temporary R.M.O. to the 6th Army Field Artillery Brigade until he marched in to 7th Field Ambulance on November 22, 1918.

A detachment to the 27th Battalion followed from December, 18, 1918 and on January 28, 1919 he proceeded to U.K. on duty to report to Headquarters. He disembarked at Folkstone the same day and reported to Headquarters.

From D.A.A.G. proceeded overseas to France via Folkstone on February 4 and rejoined 7th Field Ambulance the next day. On February 8 was detached to 20th Casualty Clearing Station and during this time was deployed to 5th Field Ambulance on March 2 until March 8, 1919.

On March 8, 1919 was posted to 3rd Tunnelling Company reporting for duty the following day and was taken on strength on March 13, 1919.

A form issued on March 12, 1919 notifying his father of a Commission issued by the British War Office as Temporary Captain, Regular Forces of the British Army, for retention against the time of his return from active service. His father signed the receipt card on March 27, 1919.

He marched out on April 24, 1919 to report to Australian Base Depot and on May 1 Quota 42 marched out for England disembarking at Southampton the next day and marched in to No.3 Group at Codford.

Leave was granted until May 23 and Captain was to report to D.A.A.G., London for disposal orders of his departure for home.

The *Rio Padre* left Devonport, Eng. on May 27, 1919 with Captain Davis as duty Medical Officer for the journey to Australia. His next-of-kin was advised of his return on June 6, 1919. No date is recorded of disembarkation at Sydney, NSW (2 M.D)

His Appointment was terminated on October 1, 1919.

In 1919 David A.A. Davis married Ellen Lennox Pullar in Queensland.

For active service abroad Captain David Aubrey Arnot Davis A.A.M.C. / 3rd Tunnelling Company was awarded the British War Medal (74052) and the Victory Medal (70552).

On April 8, 1924 he applied for Appointment with the Royal Aust. Naval Reserve. Enlisted on May 1, 1924 and the sixteen year appointment remained for Surgeon Lieutenant Commander (D) Davis until he was discharged on August 20, 1940.

During WWII David, then living at Greenslopes Brisbane, Qld enlisted on January 30, 1942 with the Australian Army. Next-of-kin was wife Ellen Davis. Regimental number was Q140939 and the rank of Major. The posting was A.A.M.C. N.C. and he was discharged on September 2, 1943.

Dr David A.A. Davis died in the district of St Leonards, Sydney, NSW in 1964.

A letter reporting a claim for repatriation benefits had been lodged on October 25, 1964 requiring medical and service documents and information if any other claim had been lodged.

A memo regarding Capt Davis' service reads:

ROUTINE

CENARMYRIC MELBOURNE
REPATRIATION SYDNEY

REFERENCE YOUR TELEGRAM OF MARCH 26, 1965 (.) MED DOCUS FOR CAPT
D.A.A. DAVIS FORWARDED 1 DECEMBER 1964 VIDE YOUR 71174 (BS) OF 25 NOV
64.

2 APR 65

A telex printout stamped March 30, 1965 requested the following:

AIRCOM AA30128

1/128 DJ324

SYDNEY NSW 13 4-5P

AIRCOMMAND
MELBOURNE, VIC

DAVIS DAVID ALBURY ARNOT CAPT AAMC FORWARD SERVICE DOCUMENTS.
REPATRIATION SYDNEY
AIRCOMMAND DAVIS DAVID ALBURY ARNOT CAPT A.A.M.C.

AIRCOMM AA 30128