

CAPTAIN ARTHUR THOMAS ROWLANDSON ROBINSON – A.A.M.C.
2nd Tunnelling Company

Inverell, NSW was the birthplace of Arthur Thomas Rowlandson Robinson on July 29, 1895. He was the son of Arthur and Helen (Ellen) Mary Robinson. Previous military experience was as a private with the Sydney University Scouts from 1913-1915. He gained degrees as a Bachelor of Medicine (MB) and a Master of Surgery (Ch M) from the Sydney University and was resident Medical Officer at Lewisham Hospital, Sydney, NSW in 1917.

He applied for a Commission with the A.M.C, A.I.F. on October 18, 1917 passing his medical examination. The Commission Application shows his height 178cms (5ft 10ins), weight 60kgs (131lbs) with a chest measurement of 87cms (34ins) and up to standard eyesight. His Application was recommended to the rank of Captain on February 18, 1918 and Gazetted in issue No 52 in 1918.

Attestation Form gives enlistment date as February 18, 1918 while other forms reveal he was slightly proficient in French, was able to ride and that he be recommended for general duty. His Will was lodged with his mother Mrs Helen Mary Robinson, "Roma" Highfield Road, Lindfield, NSW who was also named as next-of-kin. Church of England was his faith.

At Liverpool, NSW he underwent another medical examination on April 7, 1918 and was sworn in two days later and officially appointed the rank of Captain.

Captain Robinson embarked from Sydney on transport HMAT A38 *Ulysses* as a Junior Medical Officer with the General Reinforcements to the A.A.M.C. on April 13, 1918. The troopship disembarked at Liverpool, England on June 8, 1918.

He marched in to A.D.M.C. Training Depot and was taken on strength on June 10 and two days later marched in as S.M.O. to the Training Camp at Fovant, Sutton Veny, England.

By July 8, 1918 he was attached to No.1 Command Depot, Sutton Veny after service at R.B.A.A. at Heytesbury, England, his duties being divided between these two Depots.

He proceeded to France via Folkstone, England on August 25, 1918 and the following day was posted to 3 A.G.H. at Abbeville for several days, then posted to the 3 Aust. Field Ambulance nearby. On October 4 he was detailed as Temporary M.O. for the 1st Battalion in the field until October 20, 1918.

Four days later on October 24 he proceeded to the Corps Gas School for four days training.

On December 12, 1918 left the 3rd Aust. Field Ambulance and marched in to the 2nd Tunnelling Company for duty.

While with this Company he was admitted sick on December 16 to the 47th Casualty Clearing Station suffering with Tonsillitis and rejoined his Unit on Boxing Day December 26, 1918. Two days later he marched out to join the 1st Australian Division and was taken on strength with the 2nd Aust. Field Ambulance.

On January 4, 1919 he was ordered to proceed from the 2nd Aust. Field Ambulance to London but took ill with Influenza and was transferred by A.T.19.

A Medical Report from the 1st Northern General Hospital dated January, 1919 states the following:

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| Took ill with general pains, pyrexia [Fever] and sore throat. Admitted to 47 C.C.S. and in bed for 7 days. Returned to duty and sent on leave. Whilst on leave felt sick and admitted to 1 st Northern General Hospital at Newcastle-upon-Tyne on January 18, 1919. In bed for three days. |
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He went to H.A. Convalescence, London and was granted leave until February 10, 1919 then discharged to duty at D.A.A.G.

Captain Robinson was attached for duty to the 3rd Aust. Auxiliary Hospital at Dartford, Engand on May 5, 1919.

He embarked for Australia from Devonport, England aboard the transport H.T. *Rio-Negro* on May 29, 1919. His next-of-kin was advised of his return on June 26, 1919. He arrived in Sydney on July 25, 1919 to the 2nd Military District (NSW).

A Report signed on October 8, 1919 for the District Medical Board at the Anzac Buffet in the Sydney Domain, stated that the Captain was fit and well and not suffering any disability as a result of his War Service. This Medical Report confirmed his discharge that day and his Appointment was terminated on October 11, 1919 in the 2nd M.D. (NSW).

For his service to his country Captain Arthur Thomas Rowlandson Robinson A.A.M.C. (including service with 2nd Tunnelling Company) was awarded the British War Medal (81835) and the Victory Medal (77318).

The Physician died aged 62 years in Sydney on January 9, 1958 his death being registered in the Lakemba district.

The following day in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on Friday January 10, 1958 these notices were published:

DEATHS

ROBINSON, Dr Arthur Thomas Rowlandson—January 9, 1958 of 266 Haldon Street, Lakemba, fond father of Elisabeth (Mrs Cowley), dear father-in-law of James and fond grandfather of Elayne Judith. At rest.

FUNERALS

ROBINSON—The Relatives and Friends of the late Dr ARTHUR THOMAS ROWLANDSON ROBINSON, of 266 Haldon Street, Lakemba, are invited to attend his Funeral: to leave the Lakemba Methodist Church, The Boulevard, Lakemba,, This Friday, after service commencing at 1.45 p.m. for Rookwood Crematorium.

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Funeral and Embalming Service
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