

Sidney James Hatcher

30942, Bedford Yeomanry Battalion, Household Cavalry. Died 31 March 1918, aged 22

Sidney was born January and baptised in Warboys 23 February 1896. He was the third of six children of Seymour Hatcher, a carpenter, parish clerk and sexton, and Jane (nee Hull). The family lived at The White Lion, The Cross, Warboys where Seymour died in 1906. Jane then moved her family to George Lane.

Sydney joined the Bedfordshire Yeomanry Regiment, a detachment of which was stationed in Ramsey. He served with the 1st Battalion which became part of the 9th Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division. They embarked for France June 1915.



Sydney fought in Ypres 1915, the Battle of Flers-Courcellete 1916, the Arras Offensive and the Cambrai Offensive 1917.

He was killed in action during the Battle of Rosiers on the Somme 30 March 1918. Brigade notes that most of the men lost their lives due to disease in unhygienic trench conditions as the horses spent much of the time in reserve. The massive use of machine guns and heavy artillery in the conflict had restricted the use of horses to supply and ambulance work.



Sydney has no known grave and is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial, Somme, France. He is remembered on a silver shield in Bedford County Offices along with **Lewis King** who also lost his life with the regiment.

Sydney's mother, Jane, remained in the area until her death in 1937.