

Harold Ebenezer Brown

*949, Hunts Cyclist Battalion, 203389, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Died 24 August 1917, aged 22*



Harold was born in London 13 July 1895, the oldest son of Ebenezer Brown, an insurance agent from Warboys, and Hephzibah (nee Denmee). Harold had six younger brothers and sisters and the family settled at 8 Station Road, Warboys, where Ebenezer worked as a draper's assistant. Harold attended Warboys Board School from 3 April 1903 with **Arthur Behagg**, **John Mills** and **Ernest Watts**.

After his schooling Harold worked as an errand boy until 3 November 1914 when he enlisted with the 1/1 Hunts Cyclist Battalion at Huntingdon. The battalion marched through Huntingdon behind their band before departing from the station for training on the east coast.

Transferred to the Royal Warwickshire Regiment 1/5th Battalion, Harold landed in at Le Havre 22 March 1915. He was wounded 23 August 1916 while supporting the Australian forces in the Battle of Pozières Ridge, which successfully drove a wedge behind the German stronghold at Thiepval and gained the highest point on the Somme battlefield. Harold was promoted to Corporal.



Harold was killed in action on 24 August 1917, age 20, during the Battle of Langemark in the 3rd Battle of Ypres. Langemark village was totally destroyed during the course of the war.

Harold was buried where he fell with his companions. In December 1919 his body was recovered, identified by his Hunts Cyclist pass book. He was reburied in the New Irish Farm Cemetery, Ypres.



Horace Brown, Harold's younger brother, had been killed in France nine months earlier on 5 November 1916. His brother William married Emma, the daughter of **Arthur Butterworth**. Their father lived until 1951 and their mother until 1957.