

# BRAMCOTE MOURNS LOSS

## Harry Brocklesby Batram

*Member of the Royal Artillery; he was awarded a strip of tri colour ribbons before he died.*

Harry lived in Bramcote all his life, born 17<sup>th</sup> September 1877 and died 16<sup>th</sup> September 1914; him and his kids grew up in this beloved town. He lived with his wife Alice Eugenia Smith and their 3 children: Diana, Elizabeth and Harry. Tragically, his son Harry died fighting in World War II.

Harry was captain in the Royal Artillery. A unit of the British army formed in 1794, he joined in 1895 and his regiment (the South Nottingham Hussars) was one of the first to arrive in Belgium at the commencement of World War I mainly because Britain was still recruiting the main parts of their army (starting the war with just 100,000 soldiers) and the Royal Artillery were available at the time. Many of Bramcote's men throughout the years of the Great War, went out to fight and sadly; few returned. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 1914 Harry's regiment first encountered the German Army on its march through Belgium. They were some of the first to create the beginnings of the trenches on the west side. Heroically, Captain Harry Batram fought for 6 years straight before dying



*Harry's gravestone is still standing today in his hometown of Bramcote*

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of September 1914, Captain Harry Brocklesby Batram collapsed on the battlefield, not from a gunshot wound but from gastritis. He was rushed to hospital however the journey took 9 days and he died in his hospital bed on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 1914. R.I.P. He is buried in his home town of Bramcote, where he grew up and where his children grew up.

### SOUTH NOTTINGHAM HUSSARS

The South Nottingham Hussars were a part of the royal artillery and is still running today even though it was formed over 120 years ago! They fought in World War 1 and 2.