

7th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment Service No. 492



## Private FREDERICK BROWN

Born in Braishfield, Hampshire, in 1891.

Killed in action on 3rd March 1916.

Aged 25.

FREDERICK BROWN was born in Braishfield on 28th February 1891, son of Frederick Brown, a woodman and hoop maker, and his wife Elizabeth Ellen Summers. He was born in Parnholt Wood, where his family was living when he enlisted, although they moved to Bransbury during the Great War.

Frederick was elder brother to James George, Elizabeth Ellen, William Charles, Rose and Frances Alice.

The 7th Battalion was the first service Battalion of Lord Kitchener's New Army to be formed in the Royal Sussex Regiment. It began recruiting at Chichester on 12th August 1914. After training in the UK the Battalion landed in Boulogne on 31st May 1915.

The Battalion then saw action on the Western Front at the Battle of Loos in late 1915 and later at the Battle of the Craters at the Hohenzollern Redoubt in March 1916.

The latter battle started in No Man's Land where the Germans were occupying craters made from earlier explosions and continuing enemy tunnelling had to counter-measured. At 5.45 on the 3rd March Royal Engineers exploded 3 large mines followed by a heavy artillery barrage. The craters were immediately occupied and successfully defended by, amongst others, the 7th Battalion. Around 220 officers and men were either killed or wounded including Frederick Brown who was killed in the action.

He is buried in the Lievin Communal Cemetery, France, grave Reference V1.D.10.

## LIEVIN COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION



The cemetery is located at Pas de Calais, 3.5 kms east of Lens. The Extension was made after the Armistice by the concentration of graves from the battlefields north and west of Lens from numerous small local cemeteries. It contains over 300 identified casualties from the Great War.