

# Harry's Story

**Henry Amos Frederick Hill**

**Born 22nd March 1891, Bow East London**

**Died 27<sup>th</sup> August 1974, Christchurch, New Zealand**

Henry(Harry) was an only child of Henry and Amelia Hill (nee Perry) born in Bow, East London in 1891 and attended primary school only. His first job was a telegraph boy and then he went to the Gaslight and Coke Company in 1911 employed as a meter reader. Part of his job was to collect the money out of the meters. Later on he became a supervisor and was acknowledge for 40 years service in 1951 including his war years. He served in the army territorials and was called to war in 1914 and served in the Royal Field Artillery.



He married Lily Brown (Milly) on 3 Sept 1916. He was on active service at that time and came home on leave to get married. The cumberband and sweetheart button worn by Lily is still held by the family along with Harry's cap badge.

He was then sent to Mesopotamia via the Cape of Good Hope. He served there until end of war when he returned to his job in the gas company. A postcard sent from Basra in 1918 said that he was "still in the convalescent camp and coming right" - while not wounded may have suffered from dysentery. Photos of that time show him on horses, at camp at Aldershot and playing in the army band. One photo taken in 1918 shows him with a group of NCO's at a school of instruction with Australians and Kiwis also in the group. His discharge papers note that he was in the Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery.