

Harold was born in Erskineville on 30th June 1886, the son of James Bragg and Mary Bragg, nee Tye. On 1st May 1903, Harold joined the Chief Secretary's Department of the NSW Public Service as a junior messenger in the Registry of Friendly Societies and Trade Unions and later became a messenger.

On 11th August 1914 he joined the AN&MEF and gave his mother at Wollongong Rd, Arncliffe, as his next of kin. He returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 18th Jan 1915, having completed 161 days service.

On 25th October 1915 he joined the AIF as part of the 9th Reinforcements of the 18th Battalion and left for Alexandria aboard the RUNC on 26th Feb 1916 and then on to France in March/April. On 14th November 1916 he was evacuated to the UK with trench feet, being admitted to the Cheltenham Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospital, returning to his unit on 4th Feb 1917.

On 16th September 1917 he received a gunshot wound to his thigh and arm, rejoining his unit on 23rd November 1917. On 12th/13th May 1918 Harold went missing, subsequently confirming he was taken prisoner. At the enquiry into his absence, Lt Irvine stated,

"I am intelligence Officer with the 18th Battalion. The night of the 12th and 23rd May occurred during our tour of duty in the MORLANCOURT sector. I knew the 18th battalion sector well. On the night of the 12th and 13th May I took out a patrol. Since, I remember the condition of the night; it was dark without a moon, so dark that anyone not knowing the lay of the land, could easily loose themselves.

At that time the left of our front line trench was in the air. About 80 yards in continuation of the trench was an enemy post.

The left of our support trench was also in the air: 80 yards to the left in continuation of that trench line commenced a series of isolated posts constituting the front line of the flank brigade, the 6th A.I. Brigade. It was 200 yards from our support to our front line and at that time there was no C.T. connecting them to the left.

A man going overland and missing his way to the left might easily stray into the enemy position without passing any line held by our troops."

Harold was repatriated to the UK, arriving in Dover on 11th December 1918 and then left for Australia on the NAVASA on 5th March 1919. He was discharged from the AIF on 30th June 1919.

In 1920 he married Ada Madeline Baxter and later that year was killed whilst travelling across the Drummoyn bridge on a tram. Apparently, he was standing on the footboard of the tram when he hit a staunchon on the bridge.

He is buried in the Woronora Cemetery, Sutherland.