

Corporal George Carter West

15th April 1917

Dawlish Gazette – 5th May 1917

THE GREAT SACRIFICE.

It is with deep regret that we have to chronicle the deaths, whilst gallantly fighting for their country and the cause

of the Allies, of three more Dawlishians, viz.:

George Knapman, Private, — Fusiliers (transferred from the 11th Devons).

C. M. S. ("Maurice") Peters, Private, H.A.C.

George West, Corporal, Australian Expeditionary Force.

The keenest sympathy will be felt with Mr and Mrs W Knapman, of 47 High Street, much-respected residents, in the loss of their youngest son, who was aged 20. For 12 months he was in the Home Force. He was then passed for active service, and was home quite recently on draft leave. He was only a few weeks in France, and went into action on the 23rd April and was killed the following day. An officer of his Company communicated the sad news to his parents, at the same time forwarding deceased's pocket book, etc. Before joining up, deceased was in the ironmongery trade, and learnt the rudiments of the business at Mr J Shapter's. He was an unassuming young man, liked by everyone. Mr and Mrs Knapman have had an anxious time during this war. Their eldest son has been at the front since the early days of hostilities, and their second son, Jack, has been invalided out of the Wessex R.A.M.C. as a result of wounds, chiefly an injury to one of his eyes.

The second on the list, more familiarly known to many in Dawlish as "Maurice" Peters, was the eldest son of the late Mr "Jim" Peters, formerly a grocer in Dawlish. His youthful days were spent in this town. He was aged 28, a keen man, who was connected with the Stock exchange, and doing well.

The third is the second son of Mr F West, of Old Town Street. He was an old soldier, a cavalry man, and served through the South African War. Eleven years ago he went to Australia. He served at Gallipoli before going to France. His long absence has put him out of mind of most Dawlish people. Sympathy will be felt with the aged father and the family.

Dawlish Gazette – 2nd June 1917

Lieutenant Stanley Gritten, of the Australian Imperial Brigade, has written to Miss Lena West detailing the circumstances of the death of her brother, Corpl. George West, second son of Mr Frederick West, of 5 Manor Place, Dawlish. He says that on the 15th April he was suddenly called upon to assist in repelling an enemy attack. While thus engaged a large shell burst close by and your brother was killed instantly by a fragment which hit him on the forehead. All West's comrades join with me in expressing their deep and sincere sympathy with you and your family in your great loss. Your brother met his death while nobly doing his duty, and the General wishes you to accept his sympathy.—The official announcement of the death has now been received from the Australian base.