

Dawlish Lads in the 5th Devons.



“Dawlish lads who joined the 5th Devons, and who are shortly leaving for India. A noteworthy fact is that the six men are well-known members of the Dawlish Football Club.

The names of the members are: -

Back row: Privates Dart and Coleman, and Sergt .Loram.

Front row: Privates Blackmore, Yeo, West and Hutchings.”

Photo: Boone, Dawlish now in the Museum collection.

Lance Corporal Reginald Charles Blackmore died of wounds in Palestine on 22nd September 1917. Private Frank Samuel Dart died in hospital on 19th December 1917.

Although the original newspaper caption indicates that these were all from the 5th Battalion , The Devonshire Regiment, they may have been men from other battalions home on leave in Dawlish. Private Frank Samuel Dart is recorded with the 1st/6th Battalion but it also went to India in October 1914. There were tributes at his funeral in Dawlish from Corporal F Knight, “his old pal, Pte W West, Palestine” and the Loram family.

Sergt Ben Hutchings (Devons) was wounded in the fighting in Palestine in November 1917. He went to India early in the war with the Devons. Prior to joining the forces he was a clerk in a local firm of auctioneers.