

Timaru Herald. 18 December 1916 (page 7) [10/11/2013]

PERSONAL ITEMS.

Mr J. H. Hawkes, of Waimataitai, has received the following letter from Chaplain Malden, of the 2nd Battalion Auckland Regiment:—"Your very gallant son, Lance-Corporal V. E. Hawkes, of the 2nd Battalion Canterbury Regiment, was one of those men who did most valuable work with his machine gun in the early days of our advance on the Somme, and greatly helped the initial successes of his company. We are exceedingly sorry that later on he was severely wounded while taking up a new position with his .machine gun, and died of his wounds on the way to the dressing station. Apparently the Germans got an observation on what he was doing, and put over a lot of shells at that point." Expressions of sympathy are added.