

Timaru Herald. 3 November 1917 [13/11/2013]

Corporal R. N. Hawkes, of the Base Records Office, Wellington, formerly of Wilson Street, Timaru, received word on Thursday that his son, Corporal Richard Neville Hawkes, had been killed in action on October 12. Corporal Hawkes, who enlisted at the early age of 17 years, left with the Otago draft of the 3rd Reinforcements. He was present at the landing at Gallipoli, where he was severely wounded. As a result of his wounds he was in hospital for four months, but the bullet which hit him was not extracted, it being too near his heart. He participated in all the fighting in which New Zealanders took part, from the evacuation of Gallipoli right through every action in France, until his death on October 12. He was promoted to the rank of Corporal after the battle of Messines. Before leaving for the front. Corporal Hawkes was employed by Messrs Wallace and Cooper, as an engineer. Great sympathy is felt for Mr and Mrs Hawkes in the loss of their brave son.

Press. 6 November 1917 (page 4) [14/09/2013]

THE FALLEN AND WOUNDED.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Corporal R. N. Hawkes, of the Base Records Office, Wellington, formerly of Wilson street, Timaru, received word last week that his son, Corporal Richard Neville Hawkes, had been killed in action on October 12th. Corporal Hawkes, who enlisted at the early age of 17 years, left with the Otago draft of the 3rd Reinforcements. He was present at the landing at Gallipoli, where he was severely wounded. As a result of his wounds he was in hospital for four months, but the bullet which hit him was not extracted, it being too near his heart. He participated in all the fighting in which New Zealanders took part, from the evacuation of Gallipoli right through every action in France, until his death on October 12th. He was promoted to the rank of corporal, after the battle of Messines. Before leaving for the front, Corporal Hawkes was employed by Messrs Wallace and Cooper, Timaru, as an engineer.

Otago Daily Times. 10 November 1917 (page 8) [14/09/2013]

Corporal R. N. Hawkes, of the Base Records Office, Wellington, formerly of Timaru, received word on Thursday that his son, Corporal Richard Neville Hawkes, had been killed in action on October 12. Corporal Hawkes, who enlisted at the age of 17 years, left with the Otago draft of the Third Reinforcements. He was present at the landing at Gallipoli, where he was severely wounded. As a result of his wounds he was in hospital for four months, but the bullet which hit him was not extracted, being too near his heart. He participated in all the fighting in which New Zealanders took part, from the evacuation of Gallipoli right through every action in France, until his death on October 12. He was promoted to the rank of corporal after the battle of Messines. Corporal Hawkes was awarded the Military Medal for distinguished service in the field. [no record on personnel file]

Evening Post. 13 November 1917 (page 7) [14/09/2013]

WHILE DOING THEIR DUTY

CASUALTIES AT THE FRONT

Cpl. Richard N. Hawkes (killed) was a son of Cpl. R. N. Hawkes, of the Base Records Office, Wellington, formerly of Timaru. Deceased, who enlisted at the age of 17 years, left with the Otago draft of the 3rd Reinforcements. He was present at the landing at Gallipoli, where he was severely wounded. As a result of his wounds he was in hospital for four months, but the bullet which hit him was not extracted, being too near his heart. He participated in all the fighting in which New Zealanders took part from the evacuation of Gallipoli right through every action in France, until his death on 12th October. He was promoted to the rank of corporal after the battle of Messines. Cpl. Hawkes was awarded the Military Medal.

Corporal **Richard Neville Hawkes** (killed in action) was the son of Corporal R. N. **Hawkes**, of the Base Records Office, formerly of Timaru. Corporal **Hawkes**, who enlisted when 17 years of age, left with the Third Reinforcements, and was severely wounded at the landing at Gallipoli. He recovered and went to France, here he took part in all the fighting in which the New Zealanders participated. He was awarded the Military Medal for distinguished service and promoted to be corporal.

The Timaru Herald reports the death of Mr Richard Neville Hawkes, land and estate agent. Born at Bendigo, Victoria, in 1865. Mr Hawkes came to New Zealand with his parents, and was educated in Dunedin. He entered the teaching profession, and after holding positions at Milford and Winchester, was appointed head-master of St. Andrew's School in 1899, a position he held until his retirement on superannuation on account of failing health in 1909. Mr Hawkes admirably filled the role of country schoolmaster, his interest in his pupils extending far beyond their school years. He was an authority on botany, and for his research work in this respect, in which he made an important discovery, he was honoured by the Royal Geographical Society. He also interested himself in astronomy and geology. His main pastime was angling, though he was also a marksman above the ordinary, and at one time was a keen volunteer. The late Mr Hawkes was also a devout and faithful Freemason. Mr Hawkes entered business in Timaru on his retirement from the teaching profession, and during the war he did valuable work in the Base Records Office. He is survived by a widow and two daughters. A son was killed at the war. The remains were interred in the presence of a large gathering, among which were representatives of the teaching profession and of the Masonic fraternity.