

*Evening Star.* 31 May 1915 (Papers Past)

**LATE WAR NEWS.  
STOP PRESS ITEMS.  
TROOPER HAY'S DEATH.**

Our Timaru correspondent wires that Trooper William Harold Hay reported killed was the only son of the late William Hay who lived at Timaru some years after retiring from farming. Trooper Hay, whose mother and sisters reside at Timaru, was farming at Bluecliffs for some time, but sold out, and was Temuka representative of the National Mortgage and Agency Company before enlisting. Recent letters stated that Trooper Hay was orderly to Sir Ian Hamilton.

*Timaru Herald.* 1 June 1915 (Papers Past) [19/11/2013]

The late Trooper W. H. Hay who was reported yesterday as killed in action, was the only son of the late Mr Wm. Hay, Wai-iti road. He was a young man of much promise, and was very popular and highly esteemed by all with whom he came in contact. Educated at Waimataitai School, and afterwards at Timaru Boys' High School, the late trooper took to farming pursuits on a farm at Bluecliffs. He however, for health reasons, abandoned this, and was employed by the National Mortgage and Agency Co. as their Temuka agent before joining the forces. While the forces were in Egypt Trooper Hay was orderly to General Sir Ian Hamilton.

*Lyttelton Times.* 1 June 1915 (Papers Past)

Trooper William Harold Hay (Canterbury Mounted Rifles), killed in action, was the only son of the late Mr William Hay, who lived in Timaru some years after retiring from farming. Trooper Hay, whose mother and sister reside in Timaru, was farming at Bluecliffs for some time, but sold, out. He was the Temuka representative of the National Mortgage and Agency Company before he enlisted. Recent letters stated that Trooper Hay was orderly to Sir Ian Hamilton.

*Press.* 2 June 1915 (Papers Past)

**TROOPER W. H. HAY.**

Trooper William Henry [sic] Hay (Canterbury Mounted Rifles), killed in action, was the only son of the late Mr Wm. Hay, Wai-iti road, Timaru. He was a young man of much promise, and was very popular and highly esteemed by all with whom he came in contact. Educated at Waimataitai School, and afterwards at Timaru Boys' High School, the late trooper took to farming pursuits on a farm at Bluecliffs. He, however, for health reasons, abandoned this, and was employed by the National Mortgage and Agency Company as their Temuka agent before joining the forces. While the forces were in Egypt Trooper Hay was orderly to General Sir Ian Hamilton.

*Press.* 14 July 1915 (Papers Past) [15/05/2025]

**WITH THE SOUTH CANTERBURY MEN.  
HOW HAROLD HAY DIED  
A PLUCKY DEED**

Trooper S. E. Williams, of St. Andrews, South Canterbury, writing from the Dardanelles, says:

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We are up in the trenches one day on and the next day off duty. The enemy keep up a constant and at times a pretty heavy rifle-fire, but the trenches are well built, and they very rarely hurt anyone, while any shots that go high pass right over the position, and fall away out to sea. A good many shells are fired at the position every day, but they are poor quality, badly aimed, and do not do much damage. Our own guns and those of the warships lead the foe a merry dance, and do them a good deal of damage. So far our regiment has only lost two men, and both of these were outside the lines at the time. One was wounded while coming in from a sniping trip, while the other, **Harold Hay** (of Timaru), was killed while assisting in a very plucky deed. He and four others volunteered to go out and bury some dead who had been lying on the beach half a mile away for the last three weeks. They got there all right, and had buried one man when the enemy opened a hot fire upon them, and they had to retreat. Poor Harold was shot dead, the rest getting in safely. The next morning, Swannie Overton and another crawled out to his body, under fire most of the time, and buried it, bringing back his belongings with them. It was awfully sad, but he died like a man, which will be some comfort for his family, anyway. I have not seen Victor or Ernest Knowles yet, but have been told on sure authority that they are both fit and untouched. They are some little way from here, and I have not had time to go and look them up yet. We are well fed here, plenty of tea and sugar, biscuits, bully beef, jam, cheese, bacon and potatoes, while we got an issue of rum every evening when in the trenches, and a small amount of tobacco occasionally. The climate is perfect, dry and cool, and there are no flies. We generally manage to get a swim in the sea during the course of the day, which is just ripping. We have got a pet turtle about twelve inches long in our trench, which causes a good deal of entertainment. Our chaplain held a service just behind the trenches at 3 o'clock last night. It was such a nice one, and gave one a feeling of calm and restfulness amid the roar and crackle of rifle-fire all round.

*Timaru Herald.* 15 November 1919 (Papers Past) [09/01/2017]

## **TRINITY CHURCH.**

### **RETURNED SOLDIERS WELCOMED**

On Thursday evening the congregation of Trinity Church, Timaru, accorded a welcome-home social to the young men of the congregation who had seen service abroad or at home, in the recent war. There was a large and representative attendance, and the Rev. T. Stinson presided. The chairman in the course of his opening remarks, extended a hearty welcome to the returned men present, and stated that recently a number had left the district. He also read a letter of apology for unavoidable absence, from Mr E. Drake, who expressed his regret at being unable to be present. Continuing, Mr Stinson referred to the creditable record the congregation had, between 50 and 60 of the men having joined up. He also spoke of the readiness with which the eligible members of the congregation had enlisted, and stated that long before compulsory service was instituted every eligible single man in the congregation had offered his services. (Applause). He paid a fitting tribute to the services of the men who had been fortunate to return, and also referred eloquently to those who would always be remembered amongst "the unreturning brave." He thought it was only right that at such a function as that they should remember those who made the supreme sacrifice for liberty and right, and he asked all present to be upstanding in affectionate remembrance of Norman Crawford, Harold Hay, Bob Norrie, Willie Wotton, Wallace Simmers, Lawson Calvert, Victor Duncan, and Willie Stark. They who had not been able to take an active part in the field could never repay their indebtedness to the young men who had helped to bring about such a great and glorious victory to our Arms. (Applause).

Messrs J. N. Lewis and G. A. Pearson, on behalf of the returned soldiers, thanked Mr Stinson for his kindly welcome, and all present for the manner in which they had endorsed the sentiments expressed by him. They expressed their gratitude to the ladies of the congregation in the different organisations, who had worked unremittingly for the comfort of the boys at the front, and had created a record of which any congregation could be justly proud. As a result of this, many comforts had been enjoyed on the field, in a manner which, to say the least of it, was highly appreciated. They felt they had been privileged in being able to render service for King and Country in an hour of such trouble and danger.

During the evening a very enjoyable musical programme was carried through under the direction of Mr Webb, church organist. Those contributing were Misses J. and C. McKay (duet), Miss Rodger, Miss Young and Miss J. McKay (solos), Mr J. N. Lewis (solos), and Mr B. A. de Latour (violin selections). On the motion of Mr Stinson, all who had taken part in the programme were cordially thanked, especially Mr de Latour, who had given up the entire evening, and who rendered four selections to the great enjoyment of all.

Supper was afterwards served by the ladies of the congregation, and a short conversazione followed, the proceedings, which were of a very enjoyable nature throughout concluding with a hearty vote of thanks to the ladies, and the singing of the National Anthem.