

Carter, John Oswald.

ASC 1905-6 ("Jack")

Roll of Honour

Rank: Trooper

Unit: 6th Light Horse Regiment

Date of death: 4 October 1915. Died of wounds

Cemetery or memorial details: Lone Pine Memorial, Turkey

War Grave Register notes: Carter, Tpr. John Oswald, 857. 6th Light Horse
Regt. Died of wounds at sea 4th Oct., 1915.

Particulars required for the Roll of Honour of Australia in the Memorial War Museum.

Name (in full) of Fallen Soldier..... **John Oswald CARTER**
Unit and Number (if known)..... **857 6th L.H. Regt.**
With what Town or District in Australia was he chiefly connected (under which his name ought to come on the Memorial)—
Town (if any) **Young** District..... State **N.S.Wales**
What was his Birthplace..... **Albury, N.S.W.**
Date of Death..... **4/10/15**
Place where ~~he~~ Wounded..... **Anzac**

Particulars Required for the Nation's Histories.

What was his Calling..... **Grazier**
Age at time of Death..... **24**
What was his School.....
What was his other Training.....
If born in Britain or Abroad, at what age did he come to Australia.....
Had he ever served in any Military or Naval Force before Enlisting in the A.I.F. (Please state particulars).....

Any other biographical details likely to be of interest to the Historian of the A.I.F. or of his Regiment—
Enlisted, 3/12/14 - 4th Rfcts., 6th L.H. Regt. T.O.S., 6th L.H., 13/7/15
Mortally wounded, 4/10/15
Was he connected with any other Member of the A.I.F. who died or who distinguished himself. (Please state Relationship)——

Name and Address of the Parent or ~~other person giving this information~~—
Name..... **J. Carter**
Relationship to Soldier..... **father**
Address..... **Kikioniah, Young, N.S.Wales.**

Description of Carter, John

Age 23 years months

Height 5 feet 6 inches

Weight 102 1/2 lbs.

Chest Measurement 33 - 35 inches

Complexion Fair

Eyes Blue

Hair Dark

Religious Denomination C. of E.

C A R T E R.	John Oswald, (Tpr)	857.	6
Surname.	Other Names.	Regimental No.	

PURPORT.

Embarked at Sydney per H.M.A.T.s.s. "Shropshire" on 17/3/15.

<u>13-7-15</u>	<u>Joined 6th L.H.R. from Dtls. Camp at Maadi & taken on strength & posted to "B" Sadr.</u>	<u>(D.T.)</u>
<u>4-10-15</u>	<u>Wounded, Anzac Cove. 4/10/15 Died of wounds (Shr. Head) on board H.S. "Assaye" at Sea.</u>	<u>(D.T.)</u>
<u>4-10-15</u>	<u>Buried at sea between Anzac & Imbros. by Rev E.T. Clarke.</u>	<u>(D.T.)</u>

4th REINFORCEMENTS.

(EMBARKED AT SYDNEY. NEW SOUTH WALES. ON H.M.A.T. A9. "SHROPSHIRE." 17TH MARCH. 1915.)

857	Carter, John Oswald	23	Grazier	..	S.	Care of J. Carter, father, Kikiomah, Young, N.S.W.	James Carter, father, Kikiomah, Young, N.S.W.	C. of E.
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6th Light Horse Regiment

The 6th Light Horse Regiment was raised in Sydney in September 1914 from men who had enlisted in N S W and became part of the 2nd Light Horse Brigade. Sailing from Sydney on 21 December 1914, the regiment disembarked in Egypt on 1 February 1915.

The light horse were considered unsuitable for the initial operations at Gallipoli, but were subsequently deployed without their horses to reinforce the infantry. The 2nd Light Horse Brigade landed in late May 1915 and was

attached to the 1st Australian Division. The 6th Light Horse became responsible for a sector on the far right of the ANZAC line, and played a defensive role until it left the peninsula on 20 December 1915.

Acknowledgement copied from AWM site.

FROM THE TRENCHES.

KOORAWATHA BOY'S LETTER.

In a letter from Trooper James Stewart, 6th L. Horse at Gallipoli, to his mother, at Kilkee, Koorawatba, he says:—"We are still herein the firing line, and things are pretty quiet since the big light about a fortnight ago, when our chaps and the Tommies advanced and took a lot of trenches and prisoners. I hope you got my cable about a week ago. The weather is getting a little cooler here at night time now, but the days are nice and warm, and we have had hardly any rain. I got some chocolate to day, those little 3d cakes of Nestles were 9d each. Some of the chaps in our Regiment are taking commissions in the infantry. I had a letter from aunt saying she would send me chocolates and cigarettes regularly. We have been in the trenches for 14 weeks and would not mind seeing our horses for a change. Things are pretty quiet where we are on the right flank, but they are lively enough on our left where they are continually throwing bombs at one another—the trenches are only about 30 yds. apart. We are doing fairly well in the tucker line lately and get rice and condensed milk, before we used to only get bully beef and biscuits. I must hurry—with this as I go on observation duty very soon. We observe with a periscope through the day and the Turks often put a hole through one. Their trenches are just across a gully from ours, and about 100 yards away; at night time we pull a sand bag off the top and look over. The flies are still pretty bad and it is a job to eat without swallowing half a dozen. I see **Jack Carter** pretty often, he is getting on alright only is pretty thin on it. I got a parcel with eight pairs of socks from you the other day.

Young Witness 22/10/15 P.3

Extract of a letter from a "Jeffery" mentioning Carter. Quoted at length to give this original insight into life at Anzac.

In the Trenches, 24th Sept. 1915.

Dear Mother,

I have very little news and very little time as I am writing this on duty in the firing line. I am feeling as fit as a fiddle myself, but quite a lot of our fellows have knocked up through sickness,—mostly dysentery, and in some cases fever or nerve strain, but I am fortunate enough to be one whom war agrees with as I have had no sign of any sickness. I told you in my last letter that Fred had to go back with dysentery— it is a terrible complaint here. **I had a long yarn with Jack Carter about ten days ago he is as thin as a rake and had about a month's beard on when I saw him last, he, like many more, badly need a fortnight's spell in Egypt or somewhere.** If the young fellows about Grenfell only knew how much we need reinforcements,

every one of them with the least claim to being a man would come. I came on duty last Sunday morning at 9 a.m. into the firing, there are three of us in each "possy," as they are called, through the day we get no sleep and at 7 p.m. (I will call us A, B, C,) 'A' goes on observation, that is he looks carefully out of tin; porthole ready to fire at the slightest movement on the Turkish trenches, which are about 25 yards away, or to report anything unusual in the way of signals etc. Of course the lives of his mates depend on his giving the alarm immediately there is anything in the way of a surprise attack, so you can understand that a man who is in a low state through dysentery soon loses his nerve, and is unfit for the responsibility. While A is observing, B and C lie down or rather, huddle up in a corner, as the 'possy' is only about the size of our linen cupboard. At 8 p.m. B observes and A and C lie down, so we have an hour on and two hours off all night. I started at 1 a.m. last Sunday, and it is now Saturday, so I have been six days and nights without taking my boots off, and have worn my ammunition belt with 200 rounds in it the whole time, always refilling at the first opportunity after having had a few shots. I have quite got into the habit of sleeping in the two-hour spells— half sitting up at that— and I honestly feel as fresh as a lark. I don't know when I will be relieved, but expect I will have a couple of days at easy jobs before I have been here many more days. All the Grenfell boys here are a credit to Grenfell — good soldiers every one of them. McIntyre, of Goolagong Road was slightly wounded in the knee last night, bomb throwing— he was one of the best bomb throwers in the 7th Regiment.

Continuing, Mr. Jeffreys said he thought nothing could appeal to slackers more strongly than poor Jack Carter's experience.

The Grenfell Record 23/11/1915 P.4

Extract from War Diary 4/8/1915:

"Enemy bombarded for ½ hour. 1 casualty.

Casualties 1 wounded 1 sick"

6 A.L.H.

**CARTER
Tpr. J.O. 857.**

(D. of W. October. Details D. & B.)

Informant maintained firmly that "Jack" Carter was alive. He has been sick but was now at Maadi, or, if he had left Maadi, he would probably have returned to the front. Carter was quite a young fellow, dark, with a dark moustache.

**Ref:-Tpr. E.H. Gunn, 261,
6 A.L.H. B.Squad.
Luna Park Hospital,
Heliopolis, Cairo.**

**W.H.V. Read,
22:11:15.**

(S.)

6 A.L.H. Regt.
2nd Reinf.

CARTER
Tpr.J.O. 857.

(D. of W.)

Was seen by informant 6 weeks ago at "Somerville Post"
and was then alright.

Ref:-Tpr.M.D.Reid, 737,
6 A.L.H.
Gezira Palace Hospital, Cairo.

A.E.Allen,
23:11:15.
6 A.L.H.

(S.)
CARTER
Tpr.J.O. 857

(D. of W.)

He was wounded by shrapnel at the end of August and was
put on hospital ship at Anzac, but informant does not
know where he was sent to.

Ref:-Sgt.H.W.Scott, 205,
6 A.L.H. B.Squad.
Sporting Club Hospital,
Heliopolis, Cairo.

A.E.Allen,
26:11:15.

(S.)

6 A.L.H.

CARTER.
Tpr.J.O. 857.

(D. of W. October. Details D. & B.)

Informant knew Carter very well and was with him when he
was seriously wounded. He was also with him afterwards on
the beach and saw him taken to a hospital ship, alive but
unconscious. Since then he had seen in an English paper
that Carter was dead, but where he died was not stated.
Informant knew Carter's family but had not written because
he did not know where Carter was buried.

Ref:-Cpl.C.Sanders, 887,
6 A.L.H. B.Squad.
Sporting Club Hospital,
Heliopolis, Cairo.

W.H.V.Read,
25:11:15.

(S.)

6 AL.H.

CARTER
Tpr.J.O. 857.

(D. of W. October.)

Informant who was a member of the same troop as Carter says that Carter was just entering a communication trench when he was hit with a shrapnel bullet on right side of head. Informant saw his hat showing a tear on the right side. Informant heard 3 days afterwards that he had died of his injuries.

Ref:- Pte.J.Foley, 1016,
1st A.G.Hospital,
Heliopolis, Cairo.

N.W.Kater,
26:11:15.

(S.) *Cancel?*

6 A.L.H.

CARTER
Tpr.J.O. 857.

(D. of W. Oct. Details.)

Carter was badly wounded with shrapnel, and informant saw him after he was wounded. Informant said that he knew on good authority that Carter did not reach Egypt or Malta, but died on the hospital ship, or possibly on the beach.

Ref:- Tpr.C.J.May, 285,
6 A.L.H. B.Squad.
Atelier Hospital, Heliopolis, Cairo.

W.H.V.Read,
27:11:15.

(S.)

6 A.L.H.

CARTER
Tpr.J.O. 857.

(D. of W. Details D. & B.)

Informant was told that Carter received injuries in the face and head and died while undergoing medical treatment somewhere in Egypt.

Ref:- Tpr.G.E.Bush, 85,
6 A.L.H. A.Squad.
Al Hayat Convalescent Home,
Helouan, Cairo.

A.Horderp,
3:12:15.

(S.)

6 A.L.H.

CARTER
Tpr.J.O. 857

(D. of W. Oct. Details D. & B.)

Informant states that on the first Monday in October during a heavy bombardment at Chatham's Post he was hit by a shrapnel bullet in the head. They saw him carried away. They heard afterwards that he died. Tanner has a written note of this.

Ref:-Tpr.D.M.Tanner, 969,
" W.Cohen 1131,
6 A.L.H.
Gezira Hospital, Cairo.

N.W.Kater,
7:12:15.
6 A.L.H.

(S.)
CARTER
Tpr.J.O. 857.

Died on board H.S. "Assaye" from Gun shot wound in the head (right temple) on 4th October 1915.

No record of burial.

Cert. by:-

O.C. 6 A.L.H. Regt. Details.
Maadi, Cairo.

Cairo,
8:12:15.

(S.)

6 A.L.H.

D. of Ws. Oct.
Details D. & B.

J. O. Carter
857

Witness know him and describes him as being slightly built and dark haired.

He saw him hit with a bullet wound in the head. The doctor never thought he would reach the beach alive, but he did, and was carried on board ship.

He died the same day or next.

No details as to burial or actual date.

Trooper R. Lancaster 795
6 A.L.H.
A Coy

MALTA

All Saints

11.12.15.

6 A.L.H.

D. of W. Oct. Details

Trooper J.O. Carter
357

Informant and Carter both came from Grenfell, D.S.W. On the extreme right at Anzac some time in the early part of October he was hit in the head by shrapnel while doing fatigue work. Informant saw him in the dressing station afterwards, he was delirious then. Informant thinks he died after being taken on board the hospital ship.

Trooper W. James 1091
6 A.L.H.

MALTA

St. Patrick's

3.1.16.

To

Miss Churnside
Shepherds Hotel

From inquiries made in Alexandria the following information has been gathered.

Alexandria 1st December 1916

No. 357 Tpr. Carter J.O. died on board H.S. "Assaye" from G.S.W. head (right temple) on 4th Oct. 1915. No record of burial/

Signed C.A. Long
Recording Sgt.

6 A.L.H.

D. of W. Details of
D. & B.

Trooper J.O.Carter
857

Informant did not know him well but remembers carrying a man called Carter, one of a reinforcement who came out three months ago, down on a stretcher. As far as informant can remember he had been hit in the head. He was very bad. Conscious at first, but soon relapsed into unconsciousness again. They took him away from the dressing station as quickly as possible. Informant heard that he died later in the hospital-ship.

Trooper J. MacDonald 151
6 A.L.H.

MAIPA

St. John's

19.12.15.

To
Miss Churnside
Shepherds Hotel

From inquiries made in Alexandria the following information has been gathered.

Alexandria 1st December 1915

No. 357 Tpr. Carter J.O. died on board H.S. "Assays" from G.S.W. head (right temple) on 4th Oct. 1915. No record of burial/

Signed C.A.Long
Recording Sgt.

TROOPER J. O. CARTER.

Trooper John Oswald Carter (died of-wounds) was the younger son of James Carter, of Kikioniah, Young, and of Rosedale, Moss Vale. He was 24 years of age, and was educated at the Melbourne Grammar School. He was in Scotland when the war broke out, and had the chance of obtaining a commission in Lord Lovat's Scouts, but, preferring to join with his fellow Australians, he returned to N.S.W. and enlisted as a trooper with the 6th Light Horse.

THUDDUHGRA.

(From our Correspondent).

On Sunday, 20th, a Memorial Service was held in the Church of England for Private Jack Carter. The church was draped with flags, and a large congregation was present. Had it not been a wet night, the church would have been filled to overflowing, as it was many came long, distances to be

present. Miss Yeomans presided at the organ, and at the close of the service played the Dead March in Saul.

Young Witness 25/2/16 P.5

Grenfell's Roll of Honour

Following is a revised list of recruits from Grenfell and district, and Grenfell natives, who have enlisted for active service: —

KILLED IN ACTION.

ALLISON, JOHN (Greenethorpe) CARTER, JOHN OSWALD (Kikiamah)

The Grenfell Record and Lachlan District Advertiser 25/7/16

Another from this neighborhood has been added to the list of those who on the field of honour, have given their lives in defense of the Empire. On Friday, news was received of the death from xennnAa irf .Tamos: firm nf Mi' anrl

Mrs. James Carter, of Kikiamah. The deceased soldier was 24 years of age, and was a young man of great promise. Deep sympathy will be felt on all sides for the family, especially for the bereaved mother who is in a very unsatisfactory state of health. Death is reaping a bountiful harvest in the Dardanelles. Let us still hope that it has not been a mistake all through, as many would have us believe. Private Carter was attached to the Australian Light Horse, and had seen a considerable amount of active service, having enlisted in the early stages of the war.

Grenfell record 26/10/15

ROLL OF HONOR.

ANOTHER LOCAL SOLDIER DEAD,

PRIVATE JACK CARTER.

The sad mews was received yester day by the Rev. S. A. T. Champion .(rector of St. John's, Young), that Private Jack Carter, son of Mr. J. Carter, of Kikiamah station, Young, had died of wounds received whilst fighting with the Australian Imperial Forces at Gallipoli Private Canter was attached to the Light Horse-----.

We deeply sympathize with the relatives in their bereavement.

Young Witness 22/10/1915 P.2

DEATHS, CARTER Died of wounds received at the Dardanelles October 4th Trooper /John Oswald Carter. 6th Light Horse' dearly beloved younger son of James and Mary Carter Kikiamah, Young and great grandson of the late Samuel Bowler, of Annandale, Holbrook, aged 24

Albury Banner P.48 5/12/1915

65775

19th April 1917.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the report of the regrettable loss of the late No. 857, Trooper J.O. Carter, 6th Light Horse Regiment, I am now in receipt of advice which shows that he died at Sea, on board Hospital Ship "Assaye," on 4th October, 1915, of wounds received in action, and was buried at Sea, between Anzac and Imbros, on 4th October, 1916, the Rev. W.T. Clarke officiating.

These additional details are furnished by direction it being the policy of the Department to forward all information received in connection with deaths of members of the Australian Imperial force.

Yours faithfully,

Major
Officer i/c Base Records.

James Carter,
Kikamah,
Y.C. No. N.S.W.

Wife

Note the inaccuracies in the dates in above notification. Second date is 1916, not 1915. What a distressing letter then to receive some 18 months after his death.



Young Shire Town Hall and Council Chambers.



Grenfell War Memorial

TO
 23 Chesterfield Ave
 Malvern S.E. 1
 The Officer in Charge
 Medal Section
 Victoria
 29/4/67

Dear Sir -

As the next of kin of Corporal
 John Oswald Carter I would
 like to apply for the Gallipoli
 Commemoration medal to which
 I believe he would be entitled.
 My brother enlisted in N.S.W.
 & served in the 6th Light Horse
 under Colonel Peire. He was
 wounded at Gallipoli and
 died at sea on the hospital
 ship "Assaye" bound for Lemnos.

Yours faithfully
 Elinor Peterson (nee Carter)

Notice above, after some 50 years after his death, his sister still grieves him.



Gallipoli Medallion

For many years the Australian Government pressed the British Government to authorise a medal to recognise service on the Gallipoli Peninsular in 1915.

Finally in 1960 the Australian and New Zealand Governments awarded this medallion to the men and women who had served during the campaign.

It depicts Simpson and his donkey with a wounded soldier and the reverse has the stars of the Southern Cross.

Photo taken of display at the Australian Army Museum. Victoria Barracks Nov. 2012



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