

Salisbury Cathedral

Roll of Honour



Lest we Forget

World War I



LIEUTENANT

J. P. M. CARPENTER

ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY

16TH SEPTEMBER, 1916 AGE 23

Grant Him O Lord

Eternal Rest

Let Light Perpetual

Shine Upon Him

John Philip Morton CARPENTER

John Philip Morton Carpenter was born in 1893 at Salisbury, Wiltshire to parents Harry William Carpenter (later Archdeacon of Sarum) & Annie Susanna Carpenter (nee Morton). John's birth was registered in the district of Alderbury, Wiltshire in the December quarter of 1893. His parents had married in the district of Kidderminster in the June quarter, 1880.

The 1901 Census recorded John P. M. Carpenter as a 7 year old, living with his family at The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire. His parents were recorded as Harry W. Carpenter (Clergyman, Church of England, Salisbury Cathedral, aged 47, born Huntingdon, Hants) & Annie S. Carpenter (aged 48, born London). John P. M. Carpenter was the youngest of 3 children listed in this Census – Winifred L. (aged 17, born Salisbury), Eleanor D. (aged 15, born Salisbury) & then John P. M. Also listed was Alice E. Morton – Sister-in-law of Harry (aged 48, Living on her own means). The Census also listed 4 servants – Emily Bright (aged 32, Cook), Alice M. Joels (aged 25, Nurse), & E. L. M. Groves (aged 23, Parlour Maid) & Sarah K. Groves (aged 17, House maid).

John Philip Morton Carpenter attended Marlborough College from September, 1907 to December, 1909.

The 1911 Census recorded John Philip Morton Carpenter as a 17 year old Pupil at Lancing College, Shoreham, Hove, Sussex. He was at Lancing College from January, 1910 to April, 1912 & was in News House.

Following the outbreak of war John Philip Morton Carpenter joined the University and Public Schools Corps and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Wiltshire Regiment on the 22nd of September 1914. (*London Gazette*)

On the 3rd August, 1915, the 5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment embarked on board the HMT "Sania" at Mudros for a second tour at Gallipoli. They landed the following morning and occupied reserve trenches at Walker's Ridge and on the 10th they were involved in an advance up the hill at Chunuk Bair in support of an attack. They were caught in the open and according to one account three companies were "annihilated". The survivors withdrew to the beach in small parties where they regrouped. On the 11th August, John Carpenter was wounded while on the beach and was evacuated back to England.

From the *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette* – 21 August, 1915:

"5th Wilts Officers Wounded

Capt. J. G. W. Greany, Capt. R. W. F. Jesson, Capt. F. A. Spencer, 2nd Lieutenant J. P. M. Carpenter, and Hon. Lieutenant and Quartermaster G. Rumsey, of the 5th Wilts, are returned as having been wounded in the Dardanelles."

From the *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette* – 11 September, 1915:

"Approaching Marriages

A marriage has been arranged between John Philip Morton Carpenter, 2nd Lieutenant, 5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment, second son of the Ven. the Archdeacon of Sarum, and Mrs Carpenter, of The Close, Salisbury, and Marjorie Clare, elder daughter of Dr. and Mrs Ord, of The Hall, Salisbury, and grand-daughter of the late William Miller Ord, M.D., F.R.C.P., of 37 Upper Brook Street, Grosvenor Square."

From the Birmingham Daily Post – 11 October, 1915:

"Royal Regiment of Artillery

The undermentioned second lieutenants to be temporary lieutenants: J. P. M. Carpenter, from the D. of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment) (Oct. 10)."

Following his recovery, John Philip Morton Carpenter transferred to the Royal Field Artillery in December, 1915.

John Philip Morton Carpenter, Lieutenant R. F.A., aged 22, was married at Salisbury Cathedral at 2pm on the 4th of December, 1915 to Marjorie Clare Ord, aged 21.

Newspaper Marriage notice:

Carpenter : Ord – On the 4th inst., at Salisbury Cathedral, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Salisbury, assisted by the Very Rev. the Dean of Salisbury, the Venerable the Archdeacon of Sarum, and the Rev. H. C. Bush, John Phillip Morton Carpenter, Royal Field Artillery, son of the Archdeacon of Sarum and Mrs Carpenter, The Close, Salisbury, to Marjorie Clare, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Ord, The Hall, Salisbury.

(The Times, London – Wednesday December 8, 1915)

Lieutenant John Philip Morton Carpenter returned to France in May, 1916.

On the 15th September, 1916 Lt. Carpenter was reconnoitring for a new position for his battery following the capture of the village of Flers. While talking to his Battery Commander, who had recently taken command, a shell landed killing them both.

A former Battery Commander wrote:-

"He came to me as my Senior Subaltern just before leaving England in May, and was my most valued officer. He will be a loss to the Battery indeed. He worked very hard, and was a great help to me in France."

Lieutenant John Philip Morton Carpenter was killed in action on 15th September, 1916, aged 23 years. His CWGC headstone however, has the date of death as 16th September, 1916. His Medal Index Card has "Killed in Action - 15th September, 1916."

Newspaper Death Notice:

Carpenter – Killed in action, on the 15th Sept., John Philip Morton Carpenter, Lieutenant, Royal Field Artillery, dearly-loved husband of Marjorie Clare Carpenter, of The Hall, Salisbury, and son of the Archdeacon of Sarum, and Mrs Carpenter, of The Close, Salisbury, aged 23. (The Times. London – Friday Sept. 22, 1916)

Obituary:

Lieutenant John Philip Morton Carpenter, R.F.A., killed on September 15, aged 23, was the younger surviving son of the Archdeacon of Sarum, and Mrs Carpenter, of The Close, Salisbury. He was educated at Marlborough and Lancing, and on the outbreak of war, he obtained a temporary commission in the 5th Wiltshire Regiment, and was wounded at Suvla Bay in August of last year. He was transferred to the R.F.A. in December last. He married Marjorie Clare, elder daughter of Dr. W. W. Ord and Mrs Ord, of The Hall, Salisbury. (The Times. London – Friday Sept. 22, 1916)

Lieutenant John Philip Morton Carpenter was buried in Bulls Road Cemetery, Flers, France – Grave Reference – III. L. 14. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission & as such he has a CWGC headstone. The CWGC lists Lieutenant John Philip Morton Carpenter as the son of Archdeacon H. W. Carpenter and Mrs Carpenter of North Canonry, The Close, Salisbury.

Lieutenant John Philip Morton Carpenter was entitled to the 1914-15 Star, British War & Victory Medals. His Medal Index Card does not show the date he had entered a Theatre of War but does state Theatre of War as Gallipoli and France.



1914 Star, British War & Victory medals

J. P. M. Carpenter is remembered as a Casualty of WW1 in the Diocese of Salisbury Memorial Book for Salisbury Cathedral.

John Philip Morton Carpenter is remembered in the War Memorial Cloister beneath the great Chapel at Lancing College.



War Memorial Cloister at Lancing College

(Photos & some Army information courtesy John Hamblin – [Lancing College War Memorial](#))



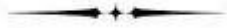
Lieutenant John Philip Morton Carpenter

The Battle Cross for Lieutenant John Philip Morton Carpenter was located in Salisbury Cathedral next to his brother-in-law Captain Charles Basil Mortimer Hodgson who died 1st April, 1918.



Battlefield crosses of Capt. C. B. M. Hodgson and Lt. J. P. M. Carpenter, the son-in-law and the son of the then Archdeacon of Sarum (Harry William Carpenter). (Photo courtesy of Michael Day)

*This Cross Marked the Place where
Lt. J. P. M. Carpenter
Son of the Archdeacon of Sarum was Killed
Near Flers at the Battle of The Somme and
was afterwards moved to his Grave in
Bullecourt Cemetery.*



Bulls Road Cemetery, Flers, France

Flers is a village in the Department of the Somme, about 8 kilometres north-east of Albert.

Flers was captured on 15 September 1916 in the Battle of Flers-Courcelette, when it was entered by the New Zealand and 41st Divisions behind tanks, the innovative new weapons that were used here for the first time. The village was lost during the German advance of March 1918 and retaken at the end of the following August by the 10th West Yorks and the 6th Dorsets of the 17th Division.

The cemetery was begun on 19 September 1916 and was used by fighting units (mainly Australian) until March 1917. The 154 burials made during these months now form Plot I. Plot II, Row A, Graves 1-17 were added in September 1918 by the 17th Division burial officers. The rest of the cemetery consists of graves (mainly of September 1916, or August 1918) brought in after the Armistice from the fields between Flers and Longueval.

There are now 776 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 296 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to 15 casualties known or believed to be buried among them.



(Photo & information from CWGC)

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(Cemetery Photo above & headstone photos courtesy of David Milborrow)





