

**ST JAMES CHURCH TAUNTON**

**WORLD WAR 1 MEMORIAL PROJECT**

# **William Charles Cruys**

**Name:** William Charles Cruys

**Rank:** Lance Sergeant

**Service Number:** 49012

**Regiment:** Devonshire

**Battalion/Unit number:** 1st Battalion

**Date/year of Birth:** 1892

**Place of Birth:** Taunton

**Place of Residence:** 18 Middle Street, Taunton

**Date of Death:** 14th April 1917

**Place of Death:** France, in the vicinity of Arras/Vimy Ridge

**Burial/Memorial:** Arras Memorial

William Charles Cruys was the son of William and Annie Cruys. His father was a gardener and he was a hairdresser.

As part of 1st Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment, Lance Sergeant Cruys would have served in the British 5th Division alongside four Canadian Divisions in the Battle of Vimy Ridge, part of the Allied offensive known as the Battle of Arras. The Battle of Vimy Ridge took place from 9th to 12th April 1917, and William Cruys died two days after the main action.