

Lee Rigby's fiancée finds happiness with cadet major

- **Aimee West, 24, was devastated when her husband-to-be was murdered**
- **She met Fusilier Lee Rigby at army cadet training camp in August 2012**
- **But in May 2013, the 25-year-old was hacked to death in broad daylight**
- **Now, she has found comfort in 51-year-old father-of-three Paul Draper**

By [Khaleda Rahman](#) for MailOnline

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Lee Rigby's fiancée has found happiness again with a cadet major who was a friend of the murdered soldier.

Aimee West, 24, was devastated when her husband-to-be was hacked to death in the street in Woolwich, south east London, two years ago - but has now found comfort in Major Paul Draper.

The 51-year-old father-of-three was a friend of Fusilier Rigby and attended his funeral.

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Lee Rigby's fiancée Aimee West (right) has found happiness with a friend of the murdered soldier (left)

In the past few months, the pair has been on several dates, according to **The Mirror**.

A source told the newspaper: 'She'll never forget Lee – he was so important to her, but everyone wants her to be happy.'

'Paul is a lot older than Aimee but he's been there for her since Lee died.'

Major Draper, a decorated member of the Middlesex and North West Army Cadet Force, said he and Miss West are 'very good friends'.

Last month, he comforted Miss West as she attended a service at St Paul's Cathedral to honour fallen soldiers in Afghanistan.

The former Royal Military Policewoman, is set to run the London Marathon for charity this month in honour of Fusilier Rigby.



Pictured from left, Aimee West, Lee Rigby's sister Sara McClure and his mother Lyn Rigby at the Old Bailey

On her JustGiving page, she said: 'So after raising so much money last year for the SSAFA's Lee Rigby fund I thought I'd give it another go but on home soil.'

She met him at an army cadet training camp in Sennybridge, South Wales in August 2012. They quickly fell in love and got engaged.

In May 2013, he was knocked down near army barracks by Michael Adebolajo and Michael Adebowale, who had spotted his Help for Heroes hooded top.

Adebolajo and Adebowale were handed life sentences after murdering the 25-year-old in broad daylight.

After the sentence, Miss West said: 'I am relieved and thankful with the outcome of

today's hearing.

'I hope that this is the last we will hear from them both, so that I can focus on rebuilding my life and keeping Lee's memory alive.'

In an interview in November last year, she described him as 'outgoing' and 'like nobody else'.

She said: 'As soon as he turned up, everyone knew he was there because he was energetic and fast-paced, and like nobody else I ever met. He was just so alive.'



Lee Rigby's killers Michael Adebolajo (left) and Michael Adebowale (right) were jailed for life for the murder

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