

COTTRELL Arthur

Private Arthur Cottrell – 17804

Enlisted in the 13th Battalion, King's (Liverpool) Regiment on 2nd September 1914. He went to France a year after enlistment. Arthur survived the Battle of the Somme but was killed in action on 21st. August 1918, aged 24 by machine gun fire during the third Battle of Albert. His unit was attempting to retake the Arras-Albert railway line. He is buried at Douchy-les-Ayette, Arras.

Arthur Cottrell was the son of Raymond and Elizabeth. In the 1914 Electoral Roll the family is recorded as living at 6 Hadlow Terrace, Hadlow Road, Willaston. The census records of 1911 show that he was one of 10 children, 9 of whom were living at that time but in 1918 there were 12 siblings. He was baptised at Willaston on 26th August 1893. He attended Willaston School. Previously, he had attended St. Paul's School, Birkenhead. The obituary carried by the local paper reports that he was a promising member of the Wirral Harriers and in 1914 won the sealed Handicap in a six mile cross country run. Private Cottrell's neighbour and friend was Walter Norris Jellicoe who is, also, commemorated on the village War Memorial. Arthur's father, a Corporal serving with the Heavy Car Battalion of the Mechanical Transport, survived the War.



Father and son were both employed at Tragasol, Hooton. Arthur served as an office clerk. One of Tragasol's products was used for stiffening bandages.

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From WWI Service Record:

Height 5ft 4in; sallow complexion; blue eyes;
brown hair

Next of kin: Father

Casualty Form: Embarked Folkstone 7 Nov 1915
Granted good conduct badge in field: 2 Sep 1916
Granted leave 24 Jul 17; rejoined 6 Aug 1917
To second Army Cookery School; 27 Aug 1917
Joined from Cookery School; 10 Sep 1917
Granted Class I Pref Pay; 1 Sep 1917
Posted to 13 Btn KLR; 30 May 1918
Killed in Action; 21 Aug 1918

Relatives on 14 April 1919

Father Thomas Raymond
Mother Elizabeth Emily
At home Norah age 17, Nellie age 15,
Marjorie age 9, Edna age 6,
Elsie age 4,
Walter age 14, Thomas age 12,
James age 3, George age 4 mths
Not at Home
Amy age 23 WAACs (Women's
Army Auxiliary Corps)
Florrie age 22 WAACs
Ethel age 19 Womens' Land Army