



Henry COLLYER

Cook's Mate. H.M.S Cheerful, Royal Navy

At KES:

Henry came to KES in 1904 and was good in the garden. It was therefore appropriate that when he left in 1909 he became a garden boy to Sir Owen Roberts at Henley Park.

Fred, his elder brother, was also at KES

Date of Death: 30th June 1917

Place: England

Remembered on the Chatham Naval Memorial

Henry enlisted into the Navy in September 1913. He served first on the Indomitable, and was in the bombardment of the Dardanelles in 1914. In January of the following year he was in action in the North Sea.

Subsequently he was transferred to a minesweeper which was torpedoed the day before the Battle of Jutland, and was in the water for an hour and a half before being rescued. His next boat struck a mine in the Atlantic in March, and was sunk, and again he was rescued only to lose his life three months later, Henry Collyer was serving on HMS Cheerful when it was sunk by a mine in the North Sea on June 30th 1917.

Obituary

Obituary KES Magazine

....lost his life on June 30th, through his boat, a destroyer, having struck a mine in the North Sea. Harry, who was 23 years of age, had previously experienced two narrow escapes from death. He joined the navy in March 1913, and gained his stripe for 3 years' good conduct. After 7 months service he won a money prize, a silver medal, and certificate for the excellence of his exhibit in the Naval Cookery Exhibition. He served first on the Indomitable, and was in the bombardment of the Dardanelles in 1914. In January of the following year he was in action in the North Sea. Subsequently he was transferred to a minesweeper which was torpedoed the day before the Jutland battle, and was in the water 2 hours and a half before being rescued. His next boat struck a mine in the Atlantic in March last, and was sunk. Collyer, at school, was not over-blessed with vigorous health, but took a part in all the games. He had a good circle of friends to whom he endeared himself by his happy disposition. The notice of the death of his brother Fred (01-04) has already appeared in our magazine, and we join with all our readers in tendering Mrs Collyer our deep sympathy in her double bereavement.