

Surname	Brown
Forename(s)	John Edward
Initials	J E
Age	
Honours/Awards	
Date died	21/11/1915
Rank	Private
Regiment	Cheshire Regiment
Unit/Squadron	11 th Bn.
Service Number	16832
Cemetery/Memorial	Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord
Grave Reference	I.C.5
Further Information	Resided At 38 Ashville Road, Seacombe.



News Report

A Keen Soldier

The first Wallasey member of the 11th Cheshires to fall on the battlefield is Private John Edward Brown, of 36, Ashville Road, Seacombe, news of whose death from wounds has been received from Flanders in the last few days. He was hit while trying to locate a sniper, the bullet entering his head, and he died shortly afterwards.

He is the third Wallasey "Pal" to give his life for his country. The two others, however, belonged to the 13th Cheshires which battalion was raised at the same time as the 11th. The fortunes of both these battalions, which went to the front together, are being followed in the borough with equal interest and anxiety, for when the young men of Wallasey rushed to the colours on the outbreak of war it was between these two units that the great majority of them were divided. There are, as a fact, rather more local men in the 11th Cheshires. Thus it may be said that at the moment there are very many homes joined in sympathy, each sensitive to another's anxieties and griefs.

This knowledge, and the knowledge that their son died the noblest of deaths, may be some support to the parents of Private Brown in their heavy affliction. They were apprised on Wednesday morning of his fate by a letter from Lieutenant Oscar Lloyd in the following terms:-

“It is with great sorrow that I write to tell you that your son has passed away at the result of wounds sustained on the 18th inst.

On the morning of the 18th he, with some of his comrades, was trying to find a German sniper, and he put his head above the parapet of the trench to fire when a bullet hit him.

I do not think he suffered much, as he was brave and cheerful, and you will be glad to know that he received every medical attention.”

Lieutenant Lloyd adds a tribute to the deceased :-

“I had always found him one of my best men, always willing and keen. While he was on the transport he did good work, and the company is poorer by a good soldier. All his comrades join with me in sending you the sincerest sympathy in your heavy loss.”

Private Brown, who was 22 years of age, was acting as assistant keeper at Oakdale Recreation Ground when he enlisted. He had held this post for about twelve months, and was not less popular than he was conscientious and efficient. He was an old boy of Somerville School.

References and Acknowledgments

Commonwealth War Grave Commission
Wallasey Central Library – Reference Library

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