

Surname	Oliver
Forename	James
Initials	J E
Age	31
Honours/Awards	
Date died	23/04/1917
Rank	Private
Regiment	The King's (Liverpool Regiment)
Unit/Squadron	18 th Bn.
Service Number	34579
Cemetery/Memorial	Cherisy Road East Cemetery, Heninel
Grave Reference	7.
Further Information	Son of Mr. John Oliver, 7 Buchanan Road, Seacombe. Apprenticed to Robert Clarke, painter, Victoria Road, Seacombe.



News Report

"Mick" Oliver Killed

Well Known Seacombe Comedian

We regret to announce the death, while in action, of Pte. James Ernest Oliver, of the King's Liverpool Regt., popularly known as "Mick" Oliver, the Seacombe comedian. The gallant soldier, who had entertained many local audiences with his patter and dancing, joined the Army in 1915, and was drafted to France in April of last year. His cheery buoyant spirit and liberal gift of wit made him the life of his company, and as his officer testified "he kept the men cheerful under the most trying conditions." He was attached to the Lewis Gun Section, and had survived many perilous experiences. On May 5th a letter was received by his father, Mr. John Oliver, 7, Buchanan Road, Seacombe – who, by the way, has been 40 years in the service of the Wallasey Ferries, and who now fills the position of foreman joiner – stating that his son was killed on the 23rd April, St.

George's Day.

The following letter from the officer of his company speaks eloquently of his services:- "It is with great regret that I write to inform you of the death in action of your son, on April 23rd. At the time of his death he was standing nobly to his post, facing the enemy, as he always did. His death was absolutely painless and instantaneous, and since the action his body has been carefully buried. He was one of my very best men, always cheerful and making others round him keep cheerful under the most trying keenly and I am sure all the rest of my company do also. HE did splendid work on the 9th April, and was spoken very highly of by everyone."

The deceased soldier was 31 years of age, and was the youngest son. He was apprenticed to Mr. Robert Clarke, painter, of Victoria Road, Seacombe, but for the last years had been acting as stevedore's storekeeper.

References and Acknowledgments

Commonwealth War Grave Commission
Wallasey Central Library – Reference Library

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