

Cyril Tom Cuthbert Keene

Cyril Thomas Cuthbert Keene was born in Chatham in 1891. His father, Thomas Evelyn Keene, was a soldier and in 1910 was listed as living at 24 Percy Road, Isleworth. Thomas enlisted at Richmond on 28th August 1914 aged 40 into the East Surrey Regiment no 20859 and was discharged on 29th November, 1916. In 1901, Cyril, aged 8 was living at 18 Clarence Terrace, Isleworth with his mother, Louisa (born in Glasgow, Scotland, née Hare), his younger sister Louie aged 5 born in Chertsey and his younger brother Thomas Charles Kingscote aged 1 born in Hounslow.



24 Percy Road Isleworth -2016

Cyril enlisted into the King's Shropshire Light Infantry on 20th April 1909 at Kingston-upon-Thames. He was 5 ft 4 ½ ins tall and was a labourer. He joined the 3rd Battalion as private 9218 and was sent to France on 21st December 1914. He saw active service at Ypres where he obtained a gunshot wound to the scalp in April 1915 which hospitalised him. He started to suffer from epileptic fits every second day as a result of this wound and was passed in front of a medical board on 7th February 1916 who deemed him physically unfit for duty and he was discharged from the army on 16th March 1916.

Cyril married Amelia Doris Jarvis on 2nd December 1916 at St Luke's Church, Richmond. He was 25 and she was 23. They had a child, Frederick Frank who had been born on 9th November, 1915.

Interestingly, Amelia had a brother 2 years her junior with the same name as she gave the baby. The family were living at 27 Chilton Road, Richmond and Cyril was working as a tobacconist. Amelia had been a servant living at Montrose, Kew Road. Cyril re-enlisted at Chatham on 2nd August, 1917 into the Essex Reserves but was discharged 2 months later on 15th October as physically unfit.

According to the 1911 census, Cyril's parents were living at Allen Cottage, 267 St Margaret's Road, next to the Ailsa Public House, with his sister and brother. They stayed at this address until 1928 when they moved to 7 Harewood Road, Isleworth. Cyril died on 27th October, 1918 aged 28 from the wounds he received at Ypres and is buried in Isleworth Cemetery, grave ref U. Co. 1. He received the silver war badge, the Victory, British and 1915 star. He is also remembered on All Souls' Memorial, Northcote Road, St Margarets.



Interred in Isleworth Cemetery
November 5th 1918



Cyril Keene's headstone in Isleworth Cemetery