

**In Memory of  
Flight Commander Cyril A Eyre and his brother Flight Sub Lt Geoffrey A Eyre.**



**EASTWOOD AND KIMBERLEY ADVERTISER 9TH NOVEMBER 1917  
ACTING FLIGHT COMMANDER CYRIL A. EYRE, R.N.  
& FLIGHT SUB-LIEUTENANT E. GEOFFREY A. EYRE.  
CODNOR  
ROYAL NAVAL AIR SERVICE**

The utmost sympathy has gone out to Mrs Wm. Eyre, of The Farmlet Codnor, in the great sacrifice she has had to make in the present world war.

The above is a reproduction of her only two children, both of whom gallantly volunteered for King and Country.

The elder, Cyril, who was 21 years of age, is now presumed to have been killed after being missing since July 7th.

Geoffrey, who is 19, is also reported to have been missing since October 21st

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Cyril was born on 25th April 1896 and lived at the 'Farmlet' just off Glasshouse hill Codnor, with his mother Clara and Brother Geoffrey.

He trained to fly in a 'Maurice Farman Biplane' at the Royal Naval Flying school at Eastchurch and gained his Aviation Certificate on 13th August 1915.

The same year Cyril joined the Royal Naval Air Service in Toronto, Canada with "A Flight" 1 Naval Squadron flying "Sopwith Pups". He shot down his first enemy aircraft on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1917.

He then progressed to a Sopwith Triplane and went on to claim six kills in total.

However on the 7th July 1917 Flight Commander Cyril A. Eyre flying his Sopwith Triplane N6291 was providing an escort for a photographic mission.

Trying to protect the photographic aircraft, Eyre and his two wingmen waited too long before trying to defend themselves and were isolated and destroyed.

Flight Commander Eyre was the last to fall, he crashed on the banks of the Lys River near Bousbecque at 11:10 hrs.

Eyre was shot down by Alfred Niederhoff (Jasta 11) who was under the command of Manfred von Richthofen "The Red Baron".

Niederhoff himself was shot down and killed twenty one days later.

If this wasn't bad enough, Cyril's mother also had the devastating news that her other son Geoffrey had also been shot down and killed on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1917.

Flight Sub Lt Edward Geoffrey Eyre of Naval 4, Royal Naval Air Service was shot down and killed by 44 kill ace Bruno Loerzer of Jasta 26.

Cyril Askew Eyre's grave is in Pont-du-hem cemetery in France. The headstone also records the death of his brother Geoffrey whose body was never found.