

ALBERT JANE



ROYAL NAVY



Petty Officer Albert Jane 305302 was born on 9th May 1885 in Tideford, the younger of two children born to Richard and Elizabeth Jane. In the census of 1891 his father was listed as an agricultural labourer and the family was living at Kilquite, but by the census of 1901 15 year old Albert had left home and was working as a carter for the Rundle family at Trebrown Farm. His parents later moved to Quethiock where his father worked as a farm labourer.

On 23rd October 1903, aged 18, Albert joined the Royal Navy serving on HMS Vivid where he worked as a stoker and rose to become a Petty Officer. Towards the end of 1915 Albert married Beatrice Annie Dolley and returned to his ship, HMS Defence, an armoured cruiser.

Just over six months later, on 31 May 1916 during the Battle of Jutland, the largest naval battle of the war, Albert's ship was sunk. Escorting the main body of the Grand Fleet, HMS Defence was fired upon by one German battle cruiser and four dreadnoughts as she attempted to engage a disabled German light cruiser. She was struck by two salvos from the German ships that detonated her rear magazine. The fire from that explosion spread to the ship's secondary magazines, which exploded in turn. There were no survivors.

Albert's body was not recovered for burial. He was 31 years of age. Albert left behind his widowed mother, Elizabeth and his widow Beatrice.

Albert Jane is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial 1916 A-K and listed in the Memorial Register. He was posthumously awarded the Star, the Victory Medal and the British War Medal.