# Ronald Archer





**Rank: -** Warrant Officer Class II

**Number: -** 2322400

**Regiment: -** Royal Corps of Signals attached to 10 Indep. Motor Bde. Sig. Sec.

**Died: -** Killed in Action 2 March 1943 age 31

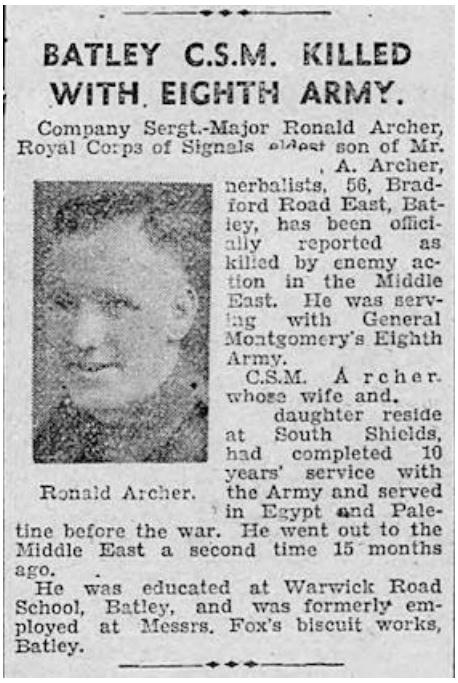
**Cemetery: -** Tripoli War Cemetery, Libya 6. F. 16.

Batley News, 27 Mar 1943 (photo)

Ronald was born on 25 February 1912 the son of Albert and Sabina (Sissie) Archer nee Clayton. Arnold was born in 1914. His mother died in 1918 and his father married Lottie Kirby in 1925. The family lived at 56, Bradford Road East, Batley where his father was a herbalist and confectioner.

Ronald was educated at Warwick Road School and was employed at Messrs, Fox's, biscuit works, Batley before joining the Army before 1933. He served in Egypt and Palestine before the war.

In 1939 he married Kathleen Hope of Cleadon, South Shields, Co. Durham and they had a daughter in 1941.



BATLEY C.S.M. KILLED WITH EIGHTH ARMY.

Company Sergt.-Major Ronald Archer, Royal Corps of Signals, eldest son of Mr. A. Archer, herbalists, 56, Bradford Road East, Batley, has been officially reported as killed by enemy action in the Middle East. He was serving with General Montgomery's Eighth Army.

C.S.M. Archer, whose wife and daughter reside at South Shields, had completed 10 years' service with the Army and served in Egypt and Palestine before the war. He went out to the Middle East a second time 15 months ago.

He was educated at Warwick Road School, Batley, and was formerly employed at Messrs. Fox's biscuit works, Batley.

Ronald Archer.

Ronald went to the Middle East for a second time in around November 1941 and served with the Royal Corps of Signals in General Montgomery's Eighth Army.

The Eighth Army first went into action as an Army as part of Operation Crusader, the Allied operation to relieve the besieged city of Tobruk, on 17 November 1941, when it crossed the Egyptian frontier into Libya to attack Erwin Rommel's Panzer Army Africa. At the beginning of November 1942, the Eighth Army defeated Rommel in the decisive Second Battle of El Alamein, pursuing the defeated Axis army across Libya and reaching the Mareth defensive line on the Tunisian border in February 1943, where it came under the control of 18th Army Group. The Eighth Army outflanked the Mareth defences in March 1943.

Ronald was killed in action and was awarded the 1939-45 Star; 1939-1945 War Medal.

The inscription on his grave is "HE DIED THAT OTHERS MIGHT LIVE"

He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial




Researched by members of
Batley History Group