Kenneth Ashby





Rank: - Stoker 2nd Class

Number: - C/KX 575360

Regiment: - Royal Navy, His Majesty's Landing Craft Flak No.1

Died: - Did not survive sinking of his ship 17 August 1944 age 21

Memorial: - Chatham Naval Memorial 78, 1

Batley News, 2 Sep 1944 (photo)

Kenneth was born in Batley on 17 Mar 1923 the son of Dick and Elsie Ashby nee Hargreaves who had married on 16 Sep 1922 at St. Andrew's Church, Purlwell. The family lived at 25, Oakhill Road, Batley and Kenneth worked as a plumber for Mr. D. Crowther of Beck Lane, Batley. He was engaged to Miss Doreen Sykes

of 64, Purlwell Lane, Batley. He was a member of Batley Parish Church and Carlinghow Youth Movement.

Kenneth was on board a landing craft when it was sunk. A ship mate Marine Keith Parkinson of Wakefield who was in hospital with both legs blown off wrote to say that Kenneth was not among the survivors. The official news was that the ship was lost during invasion operations in August 1944.

Kenneth was awarded the 1939-45 Star; 1939-1945 War Medal

He is remembered with Honour at the British Normandy Memorial, column 302 and Batley War Memorial



LEGLESS MARINE IN HOSPITAL SENDS NEWS

That Batley Stoker Was Lost When Landing Craft Sank

Official news has been received by Mr. and Mrs. D. Ashby, 25, Oak Hill, Carlinghow, that their only son, Stoker Kenneth Ashby, R.N., aged 21, is missing, presumed killed at sea.

Before this, a shipmate, Marine Keith Parkinson, of Wakefield, wrote from hospital, where he was in bed with both legs blown off, to say that their ship had been sunk and Kenneth was not among the survivors of the 91 aboard.

Kenneth Ashby.

The ship, a landing craft, was lost in invasion operations this month.

Formerly a plumber for Mr. D. Crowther, of Beck Lane, Stoker Ashby was engaged to Miss Doreen Sykes, 64, Purlwell Hall Road, Batley. He was a member of Batley Parish Church and Carlinghow Youth Movement.

Mr. and Mrs. Ashby are very grateful to everyone for their sympathy and kindness.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group