Ralph Stephen Bennett





Photo thanks to Bill Berry

Rank: - Corporal

Number: - 1642411

Regiment: - Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve

Died: - Died 25 June 1946, killed by stolen truck.

Cemetery: - Saiwan Bay War Cemetery, Hong Kong Plot 1 Row F Grave 10

Batley News, 6 Jul 1946

Ralph Stephen was born in 1922, the son of Reuben Stephen and Agnes Bennett nee Wright who had married on 8 Feb 1914, at St Michael and All Angels, Thornhill. Dennis was born later that year.

The family lived 1 Hillcrest Avenue, Healey, Batley and Ralph attended Staincliffe Church of England School and was afterwards employed by Shell Max Company of Ossett. He was a choirboy and also a server at Staincliffe Church where he was a regular attender. Ralph joined the RAF in 1942 and was drafted overseas in 1945. He arrived in Hong Kong with the liberating forces in 1945 and was a Fitter MT, serving with No 5024 Airfield Construction Squadron workshops flight.

While corporal of the guard at a plant park in Kowloon he was knocked down and killed by a thief trying to steal a Thorneycroft 3- ton truck.

He is remembered with Honour at Royal Air Force Association, Batley and Batley War Memorial



Thanks to Bill Berry