Thomas Brannan



Rank: - Bombardier

Number: - 994566

Regiment: - The 145 (Berkshire Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery.

Died: - Died at Batley District Hospital 18/08/1947 Age: 34 years.

Cemetery: - Batley Cemetery S 935.

Thomas was born on 3 September 1912 the son of John I. and Annie Brannan nee McGuighan who had married in 1906, registered Newcastle upon Tyne.

Thomas married Ellen Maloney on 29 March 1937 at St. Mary's Church, Batley. In 1939 the couple was living at 13, Bromley Street, Batley with their son John born in October 1937. Thomas was working as a rag packer and Ellen as a piecener.

Ellen died in June 1945 of 23, Prince Street, Bradford Road, Batley

On the outbreak of World War II, the Berkshire Yeomanry were deployed on airfield defence until July 1940 and then sent to Northern Ireland on garrison

duties where the Regiment enjoyed uninterrupted training, returning to England in July 1943.
Follow their posting to India, in July 1945 the Berkshire Yeomanry sailed with the invasion force to recapture Malaya. Here the regiment was occupied with rounding up and disarming of the Japanese, who had surrendered.
After some time in Malaya the Regiment took ship for Java to help deal with an Indonesian uprising against the Colonial Dutch. Here the Regiment was in the centre of bitter fighting almost daily in close support of Indian and Gurkha infantry brigades. It was not until May 1946 that most of the Regiment were en route back to England.

BRANNAN Thomas of 21 Prince-street Batley **Yorkshire** died 18 August 1947 at Batley and District Hospital Batley Administration (limited) **Wakefield** 17 September to John Thomas Maloney cloth finisher and Bridget Maloney (wife the of said of John Thomas Maloney). Effects £140 2s. 10d.

Thomas was awarded the 1939-45 Star and the 1939-1945 War Medal and is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group