Fred Bunn





Rank: - Private

Number: - T/281226

Regiment: - Royal Army Service Corps

Died: - Killed in Action 14/01/1944 Age: 34 years.

Cemetery: - Khayat Beach War Cemetery, Israel and Palestine D.D.16.

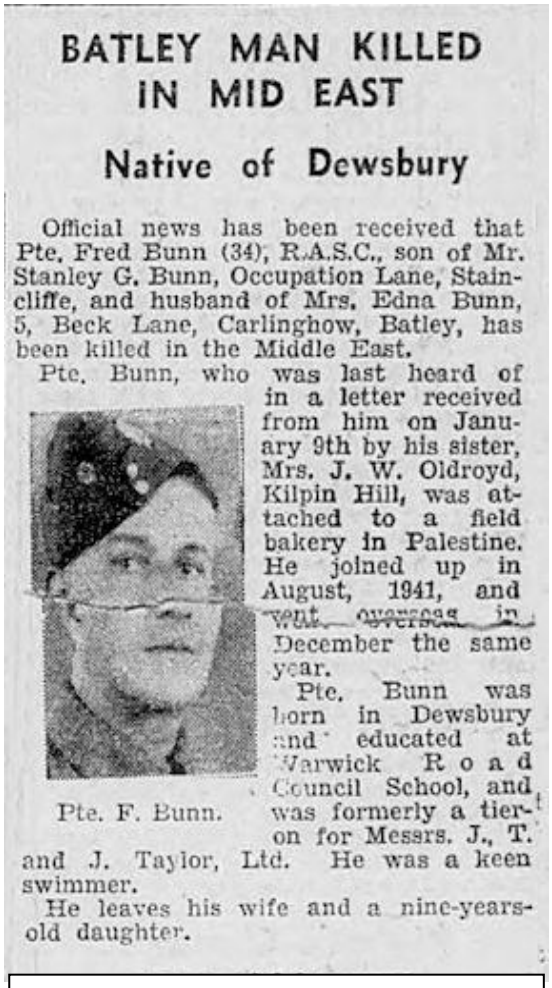
Fred was born on 14 May 1908 in Dewsbury, the son of Stanley George and Elizabeth Bunn nee Wood who had married on 18 September 1893 at Bradford Parish Church. Florence was born in 1896 and Lena 1900. Stanley came from Norfolk and Elizabeth and the girls were born in Bradford. In 1911 the family lived at 1, Pepperoyd Street, Dewsbury and his father worked as a window cleaner. The family would have moved nearer to the Batley Carr area because Fred attended Warwick Road Council School, they eventually lived at Occupation Lane, Staincliffe before 1944. His mother died in August 1939. In 1932 Fred married Edna Gardner, going to live at 5, Beck Lane Carlinghow.

A daughter was born in 1934. Fred worked at Messrs. J.T.& J. Taylors as a tier-on. He was a keen swimmer.

Fred joined up in August 1941 and went abroad in December 1941. He was in the Royal Army Service Corps and at the time of his death was attached to a field bakery in Palestine (Israel).

Haifa was of great strategic importance during the Second World War because of its deepwater harbour and airfield. It was also the terminus of the railway line from Egypt and of the Kirkuk-Haifa oil pipeline. Haifa became one of the main supply bases and army depots serving the Middle East forces.

We have not been able to establish how Fred died but the following was put on his headstone after the war: -



BATLEY MAN KILLED IN MID EAST

Native of Dewsbury

Official news has been received that Pte. Fred Bunn (34), R.A.S.C., son of Mr. Stanley G. Bunn, Occupation Lane, Staincliffe, and husband of Mrs. Edna Bunn, 5, Beck Lane, Carlinghow, Batley, has been killed in the Middle East.

Pte. Bunn, who was last heard of in a letter received from him on January 9th by his sister, Mrs. J. W. Oldroyd, Kilpin Hill, was attached to a field bakery in Palestine. He joined up in August, 1941, and went overseas in December the same year.

Pte. F. Bunn.

Pte. Bunn was born in Dewsbury and educated at Warwick Road Council School, and was formerly a tier-on for Messrs. J., T. and J. Taylor, Ltd. He was a keen swimmer.

He leaves his wife and a nine-years-old daughter.

Batley News, 5 Feb 1944 (photo)

HOW MUCH HE SUFFERED HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS BUT NOW HE'S FREE FROM ALL HIS WOES

Fred is remembered with Honour at Carlinghow Working Men's Club and Batley War Memorial Addenda 2019. He was awarded the 1939-45 Star and the 1939-1945 War Medal.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group