John Casson





Rank: - Gunner

Number: - 1099449

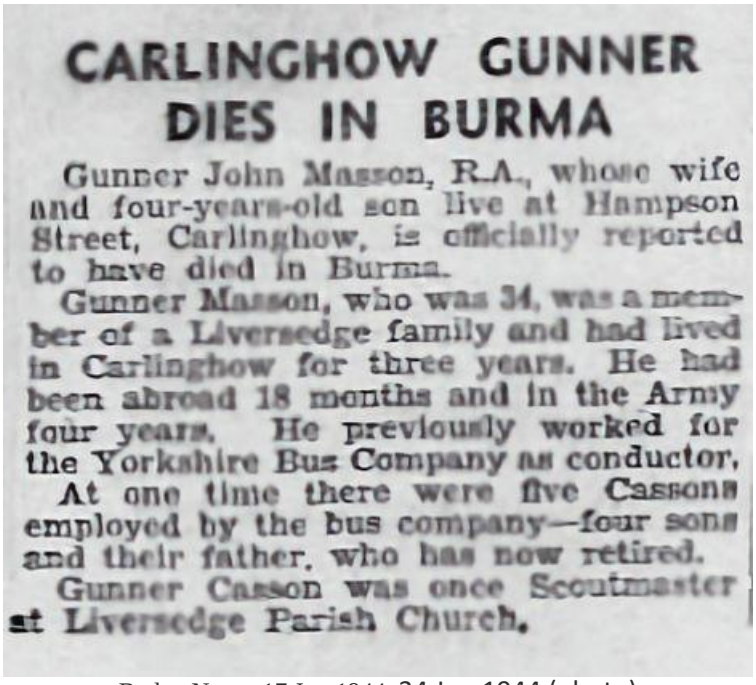
Regiment: - Royal Artillery 136 Field Regt.

Died: - Died as a result of accident Burma 24 May 1944 Age: 34 years.

Cemetery: - Chittagong War Cemetery, Bangladesh 6. F. 9.

John was born in the Milnsbridge area of Liversedge in 1910, the son of John William and Elizabeth Casson (nee Robinson). His father, John William, was born in Leeds and his mother in Darlington, they had married on Christmas Eve 1895 at Armley Hall, Leeds. Thomas was born in 1896 followed by Florence 1898-1898, Charles 1899, Winifred 1902, Jack 1905-1906, were all born in the Bramley

area of Leeds before they moved to Liversedge and the birth of Rose 1908, John, Harry 1913 and William 1916. John was a Scoutmaster at Liversedge Parish Church and worked for the Yorkshire Bus Company as a conductor before enlisted in the Army in 1940. At one time, his father and three of his brothers also worked for the bus company. In 1937 he married Gladys Smith and they moved to live at Hampson Street, Batley just after the birth of their son, Dennis, in 1940.



CARLINGHOW GUNNER DIES IN BURMA

Gunner John Masson, R.A., whose wife and four-years-old son live at Hampson Street, Carlinghow, is officially reported to have died in Burma.

Gunner Masson, who was 34, was a member of a Liversedge family and had lived in Carlinghow for three years. He had been abroad 18 months and in the Army four years. He previously worked for the Yorkshire Bus Company as conductor.

At one time there were five Cassons employed by the bus company—four sons and their father, who has now retired.

Gunner Casson was once Scoutmaster at Liversedge Parish Church.

Batley News, 17 Jun 1944, 24 Jun 1944 (photo)

In 1940 he enlisted in the Army and was sent abroad in late 1942. He served with the 136 Field Regiment of the Royal Artillery who served in Burma. John was reported to have died on 24 May 1944 and was buried at the Chittagong War Cemetery, which is in Dampara locality.

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



Researched by members of
Batley History Group