Tom Fox





Rank: - Private

Number: - 14229114

Regiment: - Durham Light Infantry 9th Bn.

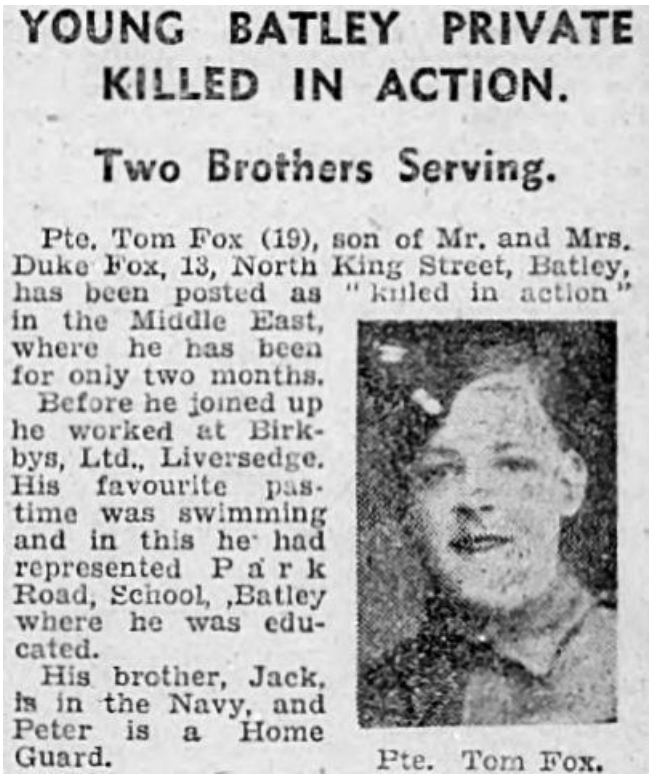
Died: - Killed in Action, Sicily 08/08/1943 Age: 19 years

Cemetery: - Catania War Cemetery, Sicily III. B. 43.

Batley News, 11 Sep 1943 (photo)

Tom was born in 1923 the son of Duke and Gertrude Fox nee Coates who had married in 1921. John (Jack) was born in the summer of 1921 followed by Tom, Peter 1926, Jane E 1928 and Margaret 1933 who died in May 1933 when they lived at Old Mill Lane, Batley. In 1943 the family lived at 13, North King Street, Batley.

Tom was educated at Park Road School and represented them at swimming, which was his favourite pastime. Before he joined up, he worked at Birkby's Ltd. Liversedge.



YOUNG BATLEY PRIVATE KILLED IN ACTION.

Two Brothers Serving.

Pte. Tom Fox (19), son of Mr. and Mrs. Duke Fox, 13, North King Street, Batley, has been posted as "killed in action" in the Middle East, where he has been for only two months.

Before he joined up he worked at Birkbys, Ltd., Liversedge. His favourite pastime was swimming and in this he had represented Park Road, School, Batley where he was educated.

His brother, Jack, is in the Navy, and Peter is a Home Guard.

Pte. Tom Fox.

The 9th Durham Light Infantry was a territorial battalion was part of the 151st Infantry Brigade of the 50th (Northumberland) Infantry Division, initially a two-brigade motorised Division. On 24 April 1943, 50th Division was withdrawn to Eighth Army reserve in Tunisia where Tom would have joined them in June 1943. They were assigned to XIII Corps for Operation Husky, the Allied invasion of Sicily. On 10 July, the 151st Brigade landed in the Gulf of Noto, at Avola; its objective was the hills above the landing beaches. The Brigade fought in eastern Sicily until 13 August, a few days before the fall of Messina.

Tom was killed in action on the 8th August.

HE SACRIFICED HIS GLORIOUS YOUTH FOR HONOUR, LIBERTY AND TRUTH

He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group