Percy Birkett France



Rank: - Private (Signaller)

Number: - 4690113

Regiment: - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry Signal Section 2nd Bn HQ

Died: - Missing, presumed killed in action 06/04/1942 Age: 24 years

Memorial: - Rangoon Memorial, Mayanmar Face 16

Percy Birkett was born in the summer of 1917the son of Percy Birkett France and Florence Emma France nee Lancaster who had married on 7 Oct 1911 at Holy Trinity Church, Batley Carr. Ernest was born in 1912 followed by Jack 1913-1919, Eveline 1915 and Percy. His father also Percy Birkett France was killed in action on 10 Apr 1917.

In 1917 the family lived at 36, Craven's Place, High Street, Batley Carr.

Florence Emma moved to Blackpool but her youngest son left London on 12th November 1937 on a ship bound for Yokohama but his intention was to move to Gibraltar. His last address was 47, Parker Road, Thornhill Lees and his occupation was a soldier. In 1942 he was with the signal section of the 2nd Bn. K.O.Y.L.I. serving in Rangoon and Burma. He was last seen on the 6th April 1942.

The Rangoon Memorial bears the names of almost 27,000 men of the Commonwealth land forces who died during the campaigns in Burma (now Myanmar) and who have no known grave.

Percy Birkett is remembered with Honour at Holy Trinity, Batley Carr, Lychgate Memorial and Batley War Memorial. He was awarded the 1939-45 Star and the 1939-1945 War Medal.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group