Charles Kitchener Hill







Rank: - Lieutenant

Number: - 249255

Regiment: - King's Shropshire Light Infantry 5th Bn. (Formerly Coldstream Guards)

Died: - Killed in Action 10/09/1943 Age: 28 years

Cemetery: - Salerno War Cemetery, Italy IV. A. 17.

Batley News, 31 Oct 1942(photo); 2 Oct 1943 (photo)

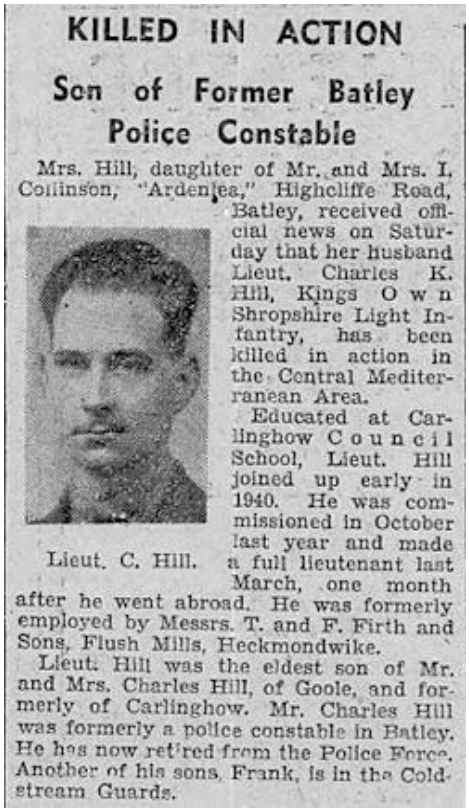
Charles was born in Carlinghow, Batley on 26 Feb 1915, the eldest son of Charles Edwin and Amy Hill nee Firth who had married in 1914, registered Bradford. The family lived at Carlinghow Field Hill before his parents moved to Goole.

Charles was educated at Carlinghow Council School and was later employed by Messrs. T. & F. Firth and Sons, Flush Mills, Heckmondwike.

His father was a police constable in Batley.

In 1939 he married Ada Collinson of “Ardenlea”, Highcliffe Road, Batley.

He joined the Forces in early 1940 and was commissioned to Second-Lieutenant in October 1942 when he left the Coldstream Guards and joined the Shropshire Regiment. He was sent abroad in February 1943 and became a full Lieutenant in March 1943.



KILLED IN ACTION

Son of Former Batley Police Constable

Mrs. Hill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. Collinson, "Ardenlea," Highcliffe Road, Batley, received official news on Saturday that her husband Lieut. Charles K. Hill, Kings Own Shropshire Light Infantry, has been killed in action in the Central Mediterranean Area.

Lieut. C. Hill.

Educated at Carlinghow Council School, Lieut. Hill joined up early in 1940. He was commissioned in October last year and made a full lieutenant last March, one month after he went abroad. He was formerly employed by Messrs. T. and F. Firth and Sons, Flush Mills, Heckmondwike.

Lieut. Hill was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hill, of Goole, and formerly of Carlinghow. Mr. Charles Hill was formerly a police constable in Batley. He has now retired from the Police Force. Another of his sons, Frank, is in the Coldstream Guards.

On 3 September 1943 the Allies invaded the Italian mainland, the invasion coinciding with an armistice made with the Italians who then re-entered the war on the Allies side. Allied objectives were to draw German troops from the Russian front and more particularly from France, where an offensive was planned for the following year.

Commonwealth and American forces near Salerno on 8-9 September 1943 and there was fierce fighting for some days in the bridgehead that was established. The site for the cemetery was chosen in November 1943 and it contains many burials resulting from the landing and the fighting that followed.

ALWAYS IN MY HEART, FOR ALL THE HAPPINESS AND LOVE YOU GAVE ME



Researched by members of
Batley History Group