

Husband: **Francis Cameron SMITH** #4

Born: 15 Oct 1915 in Hull, East Yorkshire¹
 Occupation: Carpenter/Cabinet Maker
 Died: 12 Apr 1988 in Castle Hill Hospital, Hull²
 Father: Charles SMITH #19 (Master Joiner)
 Mother: Lucy Mary PEACHEY #20

ADDRESS:

1915 - 5 Palm Grove, Somerset St, Hull
 1927 - 14 Eastbourne Street, Hull
 1935 - 151 Coltman St, Hull
 1939 - Londesborough St Barracks, Hull
 1945 - 28 Walgrave St, Hull
 1988 - 28 Walgrave St, Hull

NOTES:

Cause of Death - (a) Calcific Aortic Stenosis
 (b) Cardiorespiratory Failure
 (c) Aortic Valve Replacement (31.3.88)

MEMORIES OF WORLD WAR II SERVICE:

(Info from Bertha Macaulay)

In March 1934, Frank joined the Territorial Army in Royal Tank Corps at Anlaby Road, Hull.

At the start of November 1934, he transferred to 4th Battalion of East Yorkshire Regiment at Londesborough Street Barracks, Hull. Following outbreak of WWII in September 1939, he was on training exercises at Stow-on-the-Wold in Gloucestershire. In Jan/Feb 1940 he was posted to France and was in the British retreat to Dunkirk in May 1940. Between June and September 1940, he was again on training exercises in the South of England (Weymouth, Clevedon, Dorchester), but was back in Hull by the Christmas of 1940. In Jan/Feb 1941 he was posted to Egypt and he also spent some time in Cyprus. In June/July 1942 he was reported as taken prisoner in Libya, from where he was taken to a POW Camp in Northern Italy. Following two escapes, during which he was hiding in the mountains of North Italy (and was assisted by local villagers), he was finally recaptured and transferred to a POW Camp in Germany. After the Allied victory in 1945, the Camp was freed by the Americans and he returned to England, arriving on 8th June 1945 (VE Day).

04-Jun-1942 - posted as "missing" in Middle East (Libya)
 17-Jul-1942 - reported as being a POW in Italian hands
 28-Oct-1942 - reported as being in POW Camp 66 (PM3400) in Italy
 15-Mar-1943 - reported as transferred to POW Camp 54 (PM3300) in Italy
 20-Jan-1944 - reported as "in hiding in the mountains"
 02-Aug-1944 - reported as transferred to Stalag 7A in Germany
 11-Sep-1944 - location verified as Stalag 7A in Germany
 08-May-1945 - arrived back in England following Liberation
 14-Dec-1945 - demobbed from Army

EAST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT (4th Battalion):

(Information from Iain Kerr [iainkerr@clara.net])

The 4th Battalion, The East Yorkshire Regiment (Territorial Army) was mobilised on the outbreak of war on 3 Sep 1939, and assigned to 150th Infantry Brigade in the 50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Division. It remained in those formations, apart from some detachments, until Jun 1942. The battalion deployed to France with the British Expeditionary Force in Jan 1940 and was deployed forward into Belgium in May 1940. It took part in the fighting withdrawal for Dunkirk, being evacuated from the beaches in Jun 1940. Back in the UK, the battalion was reinforced and re-equipped before being moved to North Africa in Apr 1941, where it joined the 8th Army. The battalion was employed in the Western Desert and Egypt, then Cyprus from Jul to Nov 1941, Iraq from Nov 1941 to Jan 1942 and Syria in Jan/Feb 1942, before returning to North Africa. In Feb 1942, the 50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Division was dug in on the Gazala Line in the Western Desert and remained there until May when Rommel's Afrika Corps launched a major offensive. The 4th Battalion suffered such losses in a week of intensive fighting that it effectively ceased to exist.

(Information from Forrest Anderson [maaf11@dial.pipex.com]):
 The 4th Battalion of the East Yorkshire Regiment was part of 150th Infantry Brigade from 3 Sep 1939 to 1 Jun 1942, along with the 4th and 5th Battalions of the Green Howards. The 150th Brigade served mainly (but not solely) under the 50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Division, and the Brigade moved as follows:

3 Sep 1939 -	25 Jan 1940	UK	
26 Jan 1940	- 2 Jun 1940		France and Belgium
3 Jun 1940	- 22 Apr 1941		UK (evacuated from Dunkirk)
23 Apr 1941	- 13 Jun 1941		At Sea
13 Jun 1941	- 11 Aug 1941		Egypt
11 Aug 1941	- 14 Aug 1941		At Sea
14 Aug 1941	- 5 Nov 1941		Cyprus
5 Nov 1941 -	8 Nov 1941	At Sea	
8 Nov 1941 -	29 Nov 1941	Palestine	
29 Nov 1941	- 24 Jan 1942		Egypt
24 Jan 1942	- 1 Jun 1942		Libya

On 1 June 1942, the day after General Ritchie is said to have declared "Now I've got him (Rommel) in the hollow of my hand", 150th Brigade was captured by the Germans in Libya in an area known as the Cauldron, with the loss of about 3,000 men.

WORLD WAR II - NORTH AFRICAN CAMPAIGN:

(Extract from "Deeds of the 8th Army" on website at <http://warlinks.com/>)
 The relief of Tobruk was completed by December 10 1941, after an eight months' siege. The enemy retired and made a stand at Gazala. The Eighth Army attacked on December 13, and had broken through by the night of December 16-17. Benghazi fell. The enemy made a stand at Agheila. War with Japan had broken out on December 8, and the Eighth Army began to send troops to the Far East. The Bengali attacked our weakened forces on January 21, 1942, drove us out of Bengazi and back to Gazala. He attacked again on May 27, and by June 2 it looked as if we would win. There had been a steady drain of our armour, however and the tide turned. The Eighth Army withdrew from its forward positions on June 14. On June 20 Tobruk was captured by the enemy.

WWII PRISONER OF WAR RECORDS:

Name: F. C. Smith

Rank: Serjeant

Army Number: 7884652

Regiment: East Yorkshire Regiment

POW Number: 131284

Camp Type: Stalag

Camp Number: VII-A

Camp Location: Moosburg An Der Isar, Bavaria, Germany

Record Office: Infantry and Army Educational Corps Record Office, York

Record Office Number: 20

POW CAMP - 66 (PM3400):

Located near Rome, Italy.

POW CAMP - 54 (PM3300):

Located at Fara Sabina, Italy. Research indicates: nearby mountains of Monte Flavia and towns of Licenza, Travea & Filletino. Also mentioned is Rio Frida and Camerata Nuovo. These names suggest the Camp was about 30-40 miles north-east of Rome.

POW CAMP - STALAG VIIA (7A):

(Website at <http://www.moosburg.org/info/stalag/indeng.html>)

(Website at <http://www.b24.net/pow/stalag7.htm>)

Shortly after the beginning of World War II in September 1939, a POW camp called Kriegsgefangenen-Mannschafts-Stammlager (Stalag) VII A was established north of Moosburg.

Moosburg lies in Bavaria, the southeast state of the Federal Republic of Germany - in the district of Upper Bavaria and the Landkreis (county) of

Freising. Bavaria's capital Munich is some 50 kilometres (30 miles) away and the river Isar connects both towns. To the north of Moosburg is the famous hop region Hallertau, to the east is Lower Bavaria with its capital Landshut.

Originally, the camp was planned for 10,000 prisoners, but at the end of the war some 80,000 Allied soldiers - mostly French and Soviet citizens - had to live in it. In 1945 US troops occupied Moosburg and liberated the POWs. Until 1948 the camp served as Civilian Internment Camp No. 6 with up to 12,000 German prisoners who were accused of having supported the Nazi dictatorship.

German refugees settled in the former Stalag area from 1948 on. It developed into Moosburg's Neustadt (new town) with its craftsmen's workshops and commercial enterprises. Only few of the the old prisoners' barracks still exist today. But there is the memorial on the former POW cemetery in Oberreit and the Stalag fountain in the new town.

Wife: **Bertha MACAULAY** #5
 Married: 17 Oct 1939 in Hull Register Office ³

Born: 22 Dec 1920 in Hull, East Yorkshire ⁴
 Died: 14 Nov 2020 in Hull, East Yorkshire ⁵
 Father: James MACAULAY #28 (Dock Labourer)
 Mother: Daisy MYERS #29
 ADDRESS:
 1920 - 7 Exmouth Buildings, Queen St, Hull
 1939 - 42 Barnsley St, Holderness Road, Hull
 1941 - 6 Waller St, Holderness Road, Hull
 1942 - 11 Craven St, Holderness Road, Hull
 1943 - 28 Walgrave St, Hull

F Child 1: **Christine SMITH** #6
 Born: 1 Jan 1947 in Hull, East Yorkshire ⁶

M Child 2: **Keith SMITH** #1
 Born: 29 May 1950 in Hull, East Yorkshire ⁷

¹ Certificate (Birth) - Hull (Sculcoates/Hessle), 92/438.

² Certificate (Death) - Humberside (Beverley/Hessle), 295.

³ Certificate (Marriage) - Kingston upon Hull (Hull), 47.

⁴ Certificate (Birth) - Hull (Sculcoates/Southcoates), 27/488.

⁵ Death Certificate.

⁶ Certificate (Birth) - Hull (University), 220.

⁷ Certificate (Birth) - Hull (University), 143.