

SQUADRON LEADER SIDNEY EDWARD KELLAWAY

Royal Air force
Adjutant to 300 Polish Squadron at RAF
Bramcote
Died Thursday 24th October 1946
Age 45
Born in Birmingham, Living in Burbage
St Catherine's Churchyard, Burbage
Son of Mr Percy Warburton and Mrs
Harriet Kellaway.
Husband of Mrs Barbara Kellaway
1 Brockhurst Avenue, Burbage
Burbage War Memorial.
St Catherine's Church War Memorial.



Sidney Kellaway enlisted with the Royal Air Force in the closing months of World War 1. Born on the 17th February 1901 at 91 Russell Rd, Hall Green, Birmingham. Sidney was not old enough to serve in the earlier days of war but enlisted as soon as he was able.

Private Kellaway 2nd class wireless operator, (learner) started his military career on the 4th July 1918 at the recruits training wing, Blandford Dorset. After the armistice in November 1918 he re mustered as a general clerk. Promotion was rapid and after service based at Ruislip and Uxbridge he was promoted to Sergeant in 1922 and posted to Egypt.

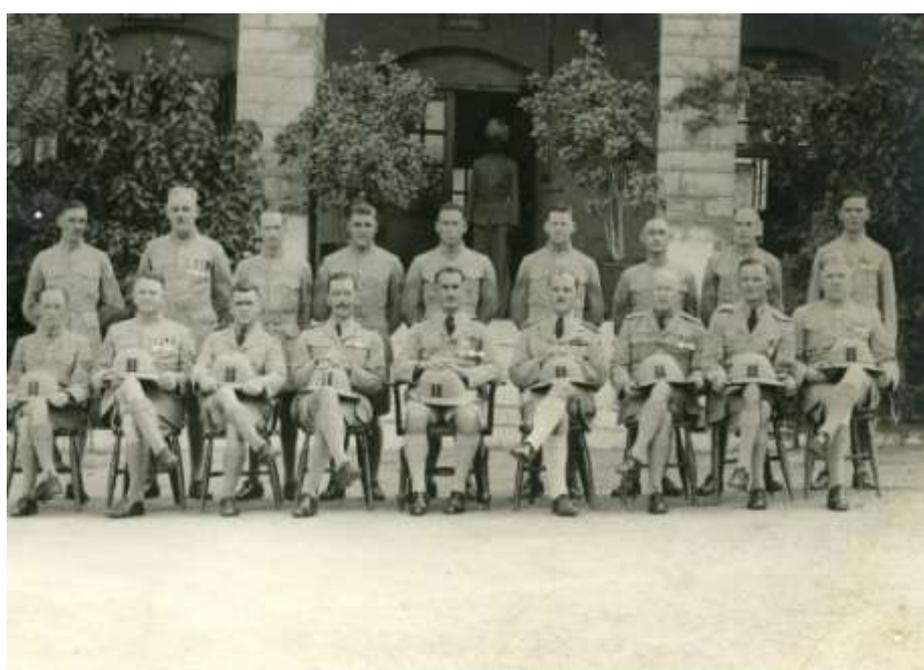


His five-year's service in Egypt was at one of the most interesting times in its modern archaeological history. Lord Carnarvon discovered the tomb of Tutankhamen in November 1922, Sidney visited the pyramids and the sphinx, which was then only half excavated.



RAF Depot, Aboukir, Egypt

By the early 1930's, Stephen was married with a young family. In 1937 with wife Barbra and children Eric and Margaret, he was posted to Aden serving as a warrant officer. Whilst in Aden (now Yemen) war broke out in September 1939, the Kellaways made two attempts to get back to England. The women and children were evacuated because of the fear of attack from Italian troops in Ethiopia, but when the danger subsided was sent back. Finally in May 1940 after a treacherous journey, which was vividly chronicled in Barbara's diary the family made it back to England.



The family moved to Burbage where Sidney became Adjutant for No1 Polish Squadron at Bramcote Barracks in May 1940 and by August he was the 305 Squadron Adjutant.

Group Captain A P Davidson formed the No. 3 Polish Squadrons on 1st July 1940 at their Parent Station Bramcote. Sidney was highly thought of and the Polish officers presented him with a silver tray engraved with all the men's names in the style of the polish flag.



On his military record, he is mentioned in despatches three times from June 1942, January 1943 and June 1943. On 19th February 1942, he was made Administrative Squadron leader to the No. 18 Operational Training Unit Bomber Command.

In 1946, Eric the son was in the RAF stationed at Cottesford and Mrs Kellaway was an active committee member of the Burbage Branch of the British Legion, Women's Section.



At the end of the War in May 1945, he moved back to Bramcote. His service period in the regular army was drawing to a close and Sidney applied to extend his service commission. On October 23rd 1946 after attending a medical board in London, which he successfully passed, he was driving home to Burbage when he was fatally injured in a road accident near Towcaster on the A5.

The funeral took place at St Catherine's with full military honours. In the obituary in the Hinckley Times it states, "in all spheres of service he proved an efficient officer and was three times mentioned in despatches, the junior ranks had always found him a great friend, to whom they could always go when in trouble, never failing to find help and sympathy".

