

# TRENTHAM WAR MEMORIAL 1939-1945



**Name** **HUGH SHARPLEY**

**DOB** 28/4/1910

**Place of birth** North Shields

**Lived at** The Toft, Hanchurch

**Occupation** Engineering assistant

**Family** His father Edward Burgess [b1876] was Town Clerk of Stoke on Trent. He married Annie Beatrice Stephenson (b 28/9/1877) in 1905. Hugh had three siblings - [twins] Roger and Joyce (b1907) and sister Norah [b1912]

**Marital Status** Single

**Qualifications** He was awarded Aero Certificate 15031 at North Staffordshire Aero Club on 6th June 1937

**Age enlisted** Aged 28, he joined the Royal Air Force Voluntary Reserve in January 1939

**Date enlisted** He was called up on 1st September 1939

**Place enlisted** He completed his training and was serving with 234 Squadron at RAF St. Eval in Cornwall in early July 1940

**Service** Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve 234 Squadron

**Reg number** Service Number 742808

**Rank** Sergeant-Pilot



SHARPLEY Hugh		15031
The Toft, Hanchurch, Stoke-on-Trent		
<b>Born</b>	28th April 1910	at North Shields
<b>Nationality</b>	British	
<b>Rank, Regiment, Profession</b>	Engineering Assistant	
<b>Certificate taken on</b>	Miles Hawk, Cirrus IIIa	85 h.p.
<b>At</b>	North Staffs Aero Club.	
<b>Date</b>	6. 6. 37	

**Date of death** Died 16/11/1940

**Age at death** 30

**Place of death** He was killed on 16th November 1940, still with 234 Squadron, when he crashed into the sea off Porth, Newquay in Spitfire X4072 after taking off on an interception.

**Cause of death** Not fully known. He may have lost consciousness or may have been shot down.

**Grave or Memorial** Commemorated at Runnymede Memorial panel 19. The memorial commemorates those airmen and women who died in western Europe and have no known grave.

**Other information** Probate to Annie Beatrice Sharpley [mother] and Joyce Massey [sister and wife of Oswald Norman Massey] £779 6s 9d.



234 Squadron St Eval Dec 1940