Albert Henry Belfield was born in Battersea, on 3rd May 1903. His parents were Albert Belfield 1873-1958 and Fanny Louisa Wheeler 1871-1961.

Albert senior came from Keston, in Kent and Fanny was born in Tunbridge Wells. They were married at St. John’s Church Fulham on 1st May 1904.

Albert senior had joined the Metropolitan Police Force, as a constable and was stationed in Chelsea where in 1901 he was living at the Police Station, in Kings Road, Chelsea. His warrant number was 85865 and he retired from the Police Force on 27th December 1925 with a pension of £ 165. 4s. 8d per annum.

The 1911 census records Albert, Fanny and their son Albert Henry living at 31, Winchester House, Beaufort Road, Chelsea.

At some point after he retired, Albert and Fanny moved to Sussex. The 1939 register records them living at Vale Cottage, Danehill, which was between Rose Cottage and Lilac Cottage, close to Iveydene. These cottages are situated near to the Coach and Horses public house.
Meanwhile their son Albert Henry was, in 1939 living at 104, School Road, Dagenham, his occupation was a metal turner, in a machine shop at a motor manufacturers. It is pure speculation but could this have been the Ford car manufactures in Dagenham.

During WW2 Albert Henry joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserves, 13th maintenance unit based at Henlow, Bedfordshire. The RAFVR were formed in July 1936 to provide individuals to supplement the Auxillary Airforce that was set up in 1925 by the local Territorial Associations. His service number was 1440186, and rank Aircraftman 1st class.

He died on War Service, 8th December 1943, his widow Ellen was at the time living at Reapyear Farm Cottage, Chelwood Gate. He left £ 542 in his Will to his wife Ellen.

If you have any more information about this family that you believe would be of interest please contact the Danehill Parish Historical Society dphs@outlook.com. We’d love to hear from you.