FOX C.L. 1932-1940 Charles Laurence Fox, the son of Mr Julius Fox, a School Master of 130 London Rd, Wembley, born on March 26th 1922, had been a pupil at Wembley Hill Elementary School before entering Latymer in Class 1B on September 13th 1932. No further details appear in his admissions register entry. He had been School Captain in 1940 and one of the greatest sprinters the school had produced. He gained a Scholarship to Cambridge and spent the time waiting to join his unit of the R.A.F. teaching languages at the School during its time in Slough. ‘The Latymerian’ traces his service in the R.A.F. In December 1941 he was reported to be in training as observer in Canada and training as Pilot Officer. A year later he was serving In India now with the rank of Flight Lieutenant. In 1943 he was stationed in Yorkshire and training as an Instructor. He was training as a Pathfinder and on operations over Europe in Summer 1944 when he was lost in action over enemy territory. His was the loss that caused the Headmaster Frederick Wilkinson so much grief that he broke down while announcing it in Assembly and wanted to leave the stage but was forced to continue by Mr Waddams the Second Master.

This tribute appeared in the Spring 1945 edition of ‘The Latymerian’. It was written by his friend, Officer Cadet P.G.Mellett who was serving in India. ‘Charles Lawrence Fox, Captain of the School in 1940, Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, and one of the finest short-distance runners the School ever had, was killed in September 1944. He was navigator in the famous squadron of Wing Commander Tait and while flying home in bad weather after an attack on the Battleship ”Tirpitz”, his plane was forced down and crashed in Norway with the loss of the entire crew. ‘It means a big gap in their lives to those who knew Fox well. His friendship was a valuable possession and to have his company was to see oneself enlarged, for, under a cloak of abundant self-confidence, he was shy and intellectually modest. He analysed the passing world with reserve, and his view was always reasonable, for, while in all things he sought the distinction of perfection, he never sought that of originality for its own sake. His influence was therefore steadying, yet full of vitality, and his personality exceptionally fine. Fox will be well remembered and his relatives, whose loss is the greatest, are offered the deep sympathy of many Old Latymerians who knew him

Two booklets on the fallen Latymerians of The First and Second World Wars have been put together by Malcolm Smith, former Latymer Archivist and teacher.