










List of Names appearing on Moseley WW2 memorials

Surname	Initial	Memorial	Date of Death	Service	Age	Other information
Adams	K W	St Mary's Church	16.5.1944	RAFVR 	22	Flight Sergeant Kenneth William Adams. Kenneth was educated at Moseley Grammar School. He enlisted in the RAFVR, 114 Squadron as a navigator, Service No. 1575629. On 16 th May 1944 he was in a crew of four that took off in a Boston BZ373, a night bomber, at 23.55 from Marcianese, Italy, to bomb the road/crossroads between Frosinone and Terracina, It crashed on take- off. Adams was killed, but the other three crew members survived with minor injuries. He was buried in Caserta War Cemetery, Italy. Kenneth was the son of William Frederick Adams, an automobile engineer, and his wife Jessie Selina (née Eccleston), of 60 Trafalgar Road, Moseley, Birmingham.
Askquith-Ellis (spelled incorrectly on St Mary's WW2 memorial as Asquith-Ellis)	R B	St Mary's Church	15.6.1940	RAF 	26	Pilot Officer Ralph Blanshard Askquith-Ellis. Ralph was educated at King Edward's Grammar School, Camp Hill and Birmingham University. He enlisted in RAF, 224 Squadron, Service No. 42477. On 14 th June 1940, he was the observer in a Lockheed Hudson Mk I that took off at 06.25, from Leuchars, Fife in Scotland to Sola in Norway to bomb an ammunition dump. The plane was shot down at 09.00 off Sola. The squadron, part of Coastal Command, lost three Hudsons on this sortie. Ralph is commemorated at Runnymede Memorial, Surrey. He was the son of Robert Battiscombe Askquith-Ellis, assistant works manager at Wolseley Tool and Motor Car Co, and Clara Lepine Askquith-Ellis (née Alexander), of 30 Cotton Lane, Moseley, Birmingham.


Brookes	W H	St Mary's Church	29.6.1942	Chief Recruiting Officer for the Midland Division 		Lieutenant Colonel William Henry Brookes , William served with distinction in WW1 with the 24 th and 286 th Brigade RFA and then as a Major in the Royal Artillery, Service No 28130. He was awarded an MC with Bar, Croix de Guerre avec Palme, and Mentioned in Despatches twice. He retired from the Regular Army in 1931. During WW2, William became the Chief Recruiting Officer for the Midland Division, Service No 1965, He relinquished the position due to ill health. William died on 29 th June 1942. He was buried at St. Peter's churchyard, Harborne, Birmingham. William was the son of William Henry Brookes, a soldier, and Elizabeth Brookes; and husband of Emily Louise Brookes (née Portland, m 1906, St Martin's church), of 2 Coppice Road, Moseley, Birmingham.
Brown	P	Moseley Ashworth Cricket Club	23.5.1941	Royal Navy 	20	Wireman Philip Brown . Before the war Philip was an electrical finisher. He enlisted in the Royal Navy and became a wireman the navy's word for an electrician, Service Number: P/MX 71973. He served on <i>HMS Fiji</i> , a light cruiser. On the 22 nd May 1941, <i>HMS Fiji</i> was sunk by an enemy aircraft 50 miles south west of Gavdo Island, off Crete. His parents were Henry Brown, a master tailor, and his wife Hannah of 101 Bishop Street, Birmingham. He is named on his parents' memorial at Witton Jewish cemetery and also the Portsmouth Naval memorial.
Bullock	J G	St Agnes Church St Mary's Church (Initials on St Mary's WW2 memorial are incorrect. They should be J. G. not J. H.)	8.8.1944	South Staffordshire Regiment	37	Lieutenant Colonel James George Bullock , Commander of the 7 th Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment, Service No. 35652. The 7 th Battalion, 176th Infantry Brigade, 59 th Infantry Division was sent to France in late June 1944, to bolster the troop numbers for the final assault on Caen. Following the assault, the Germans retreated slowly south towards Falaise. The battle for Falaise itself began on 8.8.1944, the British army attacking from the south. James was killed during the assault. He is commemorated at Fontenay-le-Pesnel War Cemetery, Tessel, Normandy, France. James was the son of Ernest Bullock and his wife Clara (née Wragg) of 131 Alcester Road, Moseley, Birmingham and husband of Elfrida Agnes Bullock (nee Phillips, m 1931), of 12 Swanshurst Lane, Moseley.



Cosham	B C	St Mary's Church	22.5.1942	RAFVR 	20	Pilot Officer Brian Chester Cosham. Brian enlisted in RAFVR, Service No. 111551 and gazetted on 30.12.1931. He was based at 19 Operation Training Unit, Kinloss, Moray, Scotland. Kinloss was used as a base for final training before crews passed into operational service with Bomber Command. He died at Grays Hospital, Elgin of his injuries sustained in an aircraft accident. The Armstrong Whitley V P5043 bomber he was piloting flew into a hill near Lossiemouth when attempting to land with engine trouble during a night flying exercise. His navigator also died from his injuries, but two other crew members survived. Brian was buried at Birmingham Lodge Hill Cemetery. He was the son of Alfred Edward Cosham, and of Hilda May (née Chester, m Aston 1912), of 143A Alcester Road, Moseley, Birmingham.
Dare	E A	Moseley Ashworth Cricket Club	5.8.1941	RAFVR 	31	Pilot Officer Edgar Alan Dare. Born 24.1.1910 to John Henry Dare, master brewer, and Mary Beatrice, née Tullett, Farquhar House, Edgbaston. He was educated at Bramston House, a boarding school in Oundle from May 1924-1927 gaining cricket colours. On leaving school he became head brewer and director of Messrs. Dare's Brewery Ltd, 207 Belgrade Road, Balsall Heath. He was captain of Moor Green F.C. and a member of Moseley Ashfield Cricket Club. From 24.9.1932 to 9.4.1938 he was a Special Constable attached to 'B' Division, Ladywood. He married Marie France Lucie Roxas-Elio from Tunisia. The married couple lived at Flat 36 Viceroy Close, on the Bristol Road. Edgar enlisted in RAFVR as an air gunner in 20 Operational Training Unit. Service Number 82976. He was killed in an accident during night time training in a Vickers Wellington bomber which stalled and crashed on the approach to Lossiemouth in bad weather when returning from an Air Firing Exercise. Three of the crew survived. He was buried at St. Peter's church, Dorsington, Stratford-on-Avon. He left a widow and young son, Michael John Dare, who was born on 1 st September 1940, in Stratford on Avon.


Harrison	T G	St Agnes Church	21.7.1944	RAFVR 	21	Flying Officer Trevor Gordon Harrison. Trevor enlisted in the RAFVR, 578 Squadron, Service No.177077. On the night of 20 th July 1944, he left RAF Burn, Yorkshire, at 23.57 in a Halifax III bomber to destroy the synthetic oil refineries at Bottrop in the Ruhr. His plane was lost without trace on the raid. He is named on the Runnymede Memorial. Trevor was the son of William George and Irene Harrison, of 87 Woodstock Road, Moseley, Birmingham.
Inns	J H	Moseley Ashworth Cricket Club	21.4.1944	RAFVR 	22	Flight Lieutenant John Howard Inns. John enlisted in the RAFVR, 100 Squadron, Service No. 117458. He took off from RAF Waltham, Lincolnshire for a bombing mission in an Avro Lancaster bomber. His plane was shot down by flak over the target during a raid on Cologne. He is buried at Rheinberg War Cemetery, Germany. He was the son of John, a merchant and manufacturer of foundry requisites, and Ethel Leonora Inns (née Greene, m 1920), of 37 Greenhill Road, Moseley, Birmingham
Lavender	W	St Mary's Moseley Church	5.9.1943	RAFVR 	21	Sergeant William Edwin Frederick Lavender. William enlisted in the RAFVR and trained as a wireless operator/air gunner, Service No 1578703. He was killed on an operational training flight. Taking off from RAF Elgin in a Wellington X bomber at 21.32, an engine cut out shortly after take-off. The plane nose-dived into the ground, exploding on impact. William was buried at Birmingham Lodge Hill Cemetery. He was the son of Frederick Harris Lavender and Edith Emily Lavender (née Wright), of 4 Woodbridge Road, Moseley, Birmingham and husband of Kathleen Joan Lavender (née Morris, m 1943) of Quinton, Birmingham.




Jeavons	K A	Moseley Ashworth Cricket Club St Agnes Church	9.2.1945	Royal Artillery		Lieutenant Kenneth Arthur Jeavons. Kenneth was born on 13.2.1920. He was educated at Malvern College from 1933 to 1939, then Queens College, Cambridge. He enlisted in the Royal Artillery, Service No. 179241. Following a posting to 77 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment he was attached to 7th Battalion Worcestershire Regiment. The Regiment fought in the Burma Campaign. He died of wounds near Rangoon. Kenneth was buried at Taukkyan War Cemetery, Myanmar. He was the only son of Howard Frederick Jeavons, a hardware merchant, and his wife Madeleine of 62 Cotton Lane, Moseley, Birmingham
Mellar	S s/b J J S	Calvary Church of God in Christ (formerly the Baptist Moseley Church)	24.7.1944	RAF	29	Flight Lieutenant James John Spencer Mellar, known as Spencer. He was born in Aston in 1914. Spencer enlisted in the RAF, Service No. 49175. He served with 487 Squadron, formed on 15 th August 1942 at Feltwell, Norfolk. Spencer flew the light bomber, Ventura I/II from 1942 to 1943 before converting to flying the Mosquito VI from 1943. He crashed in a Mosquito FB Mark VI when control was lost during a single-engine overshoot at RAF Swanton Morley, due to an engine problem while on a training flight He was buried in Brookwood Military cemetery, Woking, England. He appeared In the Absent Voters List for 1938/1939 at 31 College Road, Moseley.
Morgan (1 st possibility)	R	Moseley St Mary's Church	16.5.1941	RAFVR	28	Leading Aircraftman Ronald Henry Morgan. Ronald was born in 1913 in Aberystwyth and educated at Ardwyn County School. He was a keen golfer and was also fond of motoring and other outdoor sports. He joined the Home Guard on its formation in 1940 before enlisting in the RAFVR in the autumn, Serial No. 1381382. On 15 th May 1941 he passed his examination as a Leading Aircraftsman and commenced training for flying duties at 9 Flying Training School based at Ansty, near Coventry. On his first training flight with his instructor in a Tiger Moth he flew into a barrage balloon cable at Clifton Bridge near Walsgrave near Coventry. He was the son of Henry George and Mabel Morgan. In 1921 his father, the district manager of Redworth Clothing Supply Company, lived at 103 Bromyard Road, Sparkhill. Ronald was buried at St Michael's Church, Aberystwyth with full military honours.








Morgan (2 nd possibility)	R	St Mary's Church	27.11.1943	5 th Battalion South Wales Borderers. Posted 5 th Battalion Northants Regiment 	21	<p>Lieutenant Richard Ronald Morgan, MC, known by his middle name Ronald. He was born in November 1922 at Pontypridd, the son of the Reverend Richard Cynddylan Morgan and his wife Olive. He was educated at Hartlebury Grammar School transferring to King Edward's Grammar School Five Ways in 1936, when his father took up the pastorate of Spring Hill Baptist Church. The family lived at 283 Gillott Road, Edgbaston. Ronald was recognised as an outstanding scholar and sportsman. He obtained a BA honours degree in English (wartime degree) from St Peter's Hall, Oxford. After graduation he initially enlisted in the 5th Battalion South Wales Borderers but was subsequently posted to Italy with 5th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment, part of the 78th Division. Ronald landed in Sicily on 25th July 1943 and then Taranto on the mainland of Italy on 22nd September. Engaging in battle on 4th November at Vasto Ridge, he led his men with <i>'great gallantry through heavy fire to gain the objective and capture an enemy platoon, complete with weapons'</i>. On 27th November, Ronald was leading his platoon in a night patrol across the River Sangro when he was struck by a burst of automatic gunfire and killed along with his batman. His headmaster described him as <i>'one of finest young men it has been his privilege to know'</i> and his commanding officer as a <i>'born leader of men'</i>. He was awarded a Military Cross posthumously the following year for his gallantry at Vasto Ridge. He was buried alongside his batman, Private William Thomas Vanes, aged 25 from Dudley.</p>
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Newey	A S	Moseley Ashworth Cricket Club	27.12.1942	RAFVR 	31	Flying Officer Alan Spencer Newey. Alan was educated at Malvern College from 1925 to 1929. Before the war Alan played for Moor Green Football Club. He enlisted in the RAFVR, 179 Squadron, Service Number 76248 and was gazetted Pilot Officer on 4.9.1939. He was given a full commission for the duration of the war a year later. On the morning of 12 th December 1942, he took off at 08:36 from Malta on a routine patrol sweep westward aboard a Wellington HX638. At 12.00, an SOS was received from the aircraft reporting engine trouble. The aircraft and crew failed to return to base. It was thought to have ditched 100 miles south west of Cape St Vincent. He is commemorated on the Malta Memorial, Valetta, South Harbour. He was the son of Spencer John Newey and his wife Mabel (née Adams) of 62 Wake Green Road, Moseley, Birmingham and husband of Anne Newey (née Sharp, m 1941) of 62 Wake Green Road, Moseley, Birmingham.
Onions	A M	Moseley Ashworth Cricket Club St Anne's Church	6.6.1944 D-Day	Royal Artillery 	24	Major Arthur Moreton Onions. Arthur was educated at Repton School, Derbyshire. His original Service Number at his attestation in 1939 with the Royal Regiment of Artillery was 929070. He transferred on 24.3.1940, to 101 Battery, 20 Anti-Tank Regiment, Service No. 126243. He landed in Normandy on D-Day and was one of 61 men from the Royal Artillery who were killed on that day. Arthur was buried at Bayeux War Cemetery. He was the son of Joseph Eric Moreton Onions and Sarah Bourne Onions, of 46, Alcester Road, Moseley, Birmingham.
Pankhurst	J	St Mary's Church	12.3.1944	1 st Battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment		Private James Pankhurst. James enlisted in 1 st Battalion, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment, Service No. 875506. The Battalion formed the rearguard defence of the BEF at Dunkirk in 1940. In March 1943, the battalion landed in North Africa to join the battle for Tunisia. The following year it participated in the landing at Anzio, Italy on 21 st January but failed to exploit a successful amphibious landing. As a consequence, the fighting here lasted for another four months. James was killed on 12 th March and was buried at Beach Head War Cemetery, Anzio, Italy.

Purchase	S P H	St Agnes Church	4.2.1943	RAFVR 	23	Sergeant Sydney Peter Herman Purchase. Sydney enlisted in the RAFVR. He was based at Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucester, a Ferry Training Unit, Service No 1183503. The Ferry Command Unit was used to ferry new aircraft from factory to operational units. On 4 th February 1943, Sydney was one of a crew of five flying in a Wellington IC HE130 bomber when it was reported to have crashed during flying operations near Gibraltar. He is commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial. Sydney was the son of Sydney Nelson Purchase, director of an aircraft and motor car radiator company, and his wife, Alice Alida (née Serck, m 1912) of 38, St Agnes Road, Moseley, Birmingham.
Raddan	E E W	St Mary's Church	6.6.1944	RAFVR	22	Sergeant Edward Ernest William Raddan, known as Ted. Ted enlisted in the RAFVR, Service No 1580830, as an Air Gunner. He was posted to the military base at Qastina, Palestine. He was part of a crew on a Wellington BX LN959 bomber which went missing on a cross country training exercise flying out of RAF Qastina. Edward is named on Alamein Memorial, Egypt. He was the son of William Isaac Punchard Raddan, coach painter, and Adelaide Maude Raddan (née Bodfish), of 3 Stanley Place, St Mary's Row, Moseley, Birmingham.
Reynolds	F E	St Mary's Church	24.7.1944	Royal Artillery	27	Captain Frederick Edward Reynolds. Frederick was a member of St Mary's church choir and an assistant Scout Master. He worked in the chemical division of Birmingham Gas Department and was in the rescue fire and ambulance brigade. Frederick was also an Army officer cadet. He enlisted in the Royal Artillery, Service Number 166370. He was initially attached to 3 rd Indian Field Regiment on the Western Front. From April 1941 he was posted to Burma and in 1944 was attached to 23 rd Indian Division, earning himself a Mentioned in Despatches. Frederick is named on Rangoon Memorial, Myanmar. His parents were William John, a groundsman, and Edith Annie Reynolds of 310 Station Road, Kings Heath.




Saunders	P W	St Mary's Church	9.3.1943	RAFVR 	28	Corporal Patrick Westaway Saunders. Patrick was born on 18.4.1914. Before the war he was a textile sales representative. Patrick enlisted in the RAFVR, Service No 1055494. He was based at RAF Chilmark, Wiltshire with 11 th Maintenance Unit. Patrick died at Tower House Emergency Military Hospital, Salisbury from injuries due to a fractured skull he received when the vehicle he was driving was in collision with another. Eleven occupants of the two vehicles were taken to hospital. He is buried at Teffont Magna Church Cemetery, Wiltshire. He was the son of Alexander and Nana Florence Saunders, of 3 King Edward Road, Moseley.
Shorthouse	R H	St Agnes Church	21.1.1945	Royal Artillery 	25	Lance Bombardier Robert Harold Shorthouse. Robert was born on 14.7.1919. He was educated at Moseley Grammar School. In 1939 he enlisted as a Gunner in 59 th Army Group Royal Artillery, Service No. 1437594. After completing his training, he was transferred to 160 th Field Regiment when it was formed in July 1941 as a Jungle Field Regiment. In July 1944 as a Field Regiment once more it became part of 26 th Indian Division in Burma, where he was stationed at the time of his death. He is commemorated on the Rangoon Memorial, Myanmar. He left a widow Peggy Olive Shorthouse (née Parker, m 1942), of 28 Bramley Croft, Shirley. His parents were Harold Shorthouse, a store keeper at C J Lucas Ltd, and his wife Alice (née Nice), of 639 Yardley Wood Road, Moseley.
Smith	E B	St Anne's Church	7.3.1944	RAFVR 	20	Flight Sergeant Edward Bembridge Smith. Edward enlisted in the RAFVR, 254 Squadron, Service Number 1576481. He was based at RAF North Coates, Lincolnshire, a Coastal Command Unit, flying the Beaufighter TFX. It was designed as a long-range heavy fighter. It saw service as a night fighter, a torpedo bomber, a ground attack fighter and an anti-shipping aircraft. Edward's Beaufighter was shot down on a routine patrol over the North Sea when it came under attack from an enemy convoy. He was the son of Oswald and Hilda Smith, of 98 Sandford Road, Moseley, Birmingham. Edward is commemorated on Runnymede memorial.


Smith	N T H	St Mary's Church	15.6.1944	Royal Armoured Corps Warwickshire Yeomanry 	24	<p>Trooper Norman Thomas Harold Smith. Service Number 324286. In late 1941 the Regiment was mechanised as an armoured regiment and transferred into the Royal Armoured Corps, with the division redesignating itself as 10th Armoured Division. The regiment then saw service in the North African Campaign, fighting at the Second Battle of El Alamein whilst attached to the 2nd New Zealand Division. It was deployed to Italy in 1944, where it saw action in the Italian Campaign in June and July as part of 78th Division. He was killed in the push north from Rome to Orvieto on Route 71 towards the Trasimene Line. Norman was the son of Thomas and Mary Smith (née Bennett), of Moseley, Birmingham. Norman is buried at Orvieto War Cemetery</p>
Swain	G A	St Mary's Church	6.7.1944	Royal Navy 	21	<p>Petty Officer Motor Mechanic George Arthur Swain. George was born on 26th March 1923. His parents were Albert Swain and his wife Alice Annie Therza (née Strickland). George was initially a silversmith but on the death of his widowed father he took over the family grocery business. He lived at 98 School Road, Moseley. He enlisted in the Royal Navy for long service, Service No. C/MX, based at Chatham. He served on <i>HMS Magic</i>, a Catherine class minesweeper launched in 1943. On 6th July 1944 the ship came under attack from a German Neger, nicknamed a human torpedo, while protecting troops and supply ships off Normandy a month after D-Day. A Neger was a torpedo-carrying craft which could not submerge but was difficult to see during night operations. Forty Negers operated from Favrol Woods near Honfleur. <i>HMS Magic</i> sunk with the loss of 26 crew. George is commemorated on Chatham Naval Memorial.</p>

Tallis	D A	St Mary's Church	31.5.1942	RAF 	21	Flight Sergeant Dudley Arthur Ronald Tallis DFM. Dudley was educated at Moseley Grammar School. He enlisted in RAF, Service Number 48958, in 1938, aged 16. He made 42 flying missions over Europe, including Berlin and Italy. He was then withdrawn from operational duties for a year to take up a post as a wireless operator instructor. After returning to flying duties, he was reported missing on his first operational flight. Dudley is buried at Rheinberg War Cemetery. He was the son of Cornelius Leslie Tallis, a butcher, and his wife Nellie May of Shirley, Birmingham formerly of 30 Woodbridge Road, Moseley.
Thompson	B	St Mary's Church	26.10.1943	RAFVR 	20	Sergeant Barry Howard Thompson. Barry was born in 1923 to Howard John Thompson, the sales director of a time recording manufacturer, and his wife Hilda (née Sandbrook, m 1921). The family lived at 125 Anderton Park Road, Moseley. Barry enlisted in the RAFVR, Service No 1232209, in 1942 and was posted to North Battleford, Saskatchewan, Canada where he trained on a Fairchild Cornell II, a 2-seater trainer. In July 1943 he passed his course and was awarded his 'Wings'. He was then posted to 32 Elementary Flying School, Bowden, Alberta as a pilot instructor. Three months later, on 26 th October he overstressed the plane while performing unauthorised acrobatics on a dual instruction flight, causing the plane to break up and crash four miles southwest of Bowden.
Thornton Brother of D B Thornton below)	C B	Moseley Ashworth Cricket Club	21.8.1944	RAFVR 	25	Flight Lieutenant Cyril Brooking Thornton. Educated at Chigwell House School, Edgbaston then King Edward School, Stratford on Avon. He joined the Worcestershire Regiment in June 1939 and was gazetted Second Lieutenant in June 1940. Cyril was seconded to the RAF, Service No 117692, 501 Squadron and promoted to Flight Lieutenant on 21 st February 1942. He served with the Fighter Interception Development Unit with special



					<p>responsibility for the night time interception of flying bombs. Cyril claimed six V1's destroyed although only details of four of them have been found. On 10th March 1944, Cyril was awarded an MBE for this act of bravery on 21st February 1943:</p> <p><i>In November, 1943, a Mosquito aircraft, carrying full operational equipment and long range petrol tanks, crashed whilst taking off and immediately burst into flames. Soon explosions were occurring almost continuously owing to fuel tanks, cannon shells and Verey cartridges being ignited. Blazing wreckage was being flung in all directions. Flying Officer Thornton, a pilot, was one of the first to arrive at the scene of the accident. Finding the navigator had been thrown clear, he made him comfortable, organised the medical party and supervised the injured airman's removal to the ambulance. Then, with complete disregard of his own safety, this officer made straight for the main area of the crash which was surrounded by barbed wire, and saw that the pilot of the aircraft was lying beside an engine with his clothing on fire. Flying Officer Thornton went through the wire into the middle of the wreckage to reach the pilot, and, in spite of the great danger he was in, put out the flames on the pilot's clothing, and removed his parachute. With assistance he then carried the pilot to an ambulance. Unfortunately, both the rescued airmen died later but had it not been for the prompt and gallant action of Flying Officer Thornton, who sustained burns to both his hands, neither would have been rescued alive.</i></p> <p>He was killed in an air accident on 21st August 1944 due to bad weather and crashed his Hawker Tempest E1602/SD P near Woodnesborough, Kent. He is buried at Margate Cemetery, Kent. Cyril was the husband of Jean (née Boyd) whom he married in the Autumn of 1940. He was the son of the late Major Frank Brooking Thornton (d 1936), and Beatrice Louisa Thornton of 8, St. Georges Road, Edgbaston. In 1939 his mother Beatrice served in the Women's Voluntary Services Hospital Supplies.</p>
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Thornton	D B	Moseley Ashworth Cricket Club	15.6.1944	Royal Sussex Regiment	28	Lieutenant Desmond Brooking Thornton. Born on 15 th May 1916. He attended King Edward School and was captain of school cricket. He also played for Moseley Ashfield. On leaving school he attended the University of London and afterwards became an insurance broker with Messrs Winkle and Cooke Ltd, Colmore Row. He was commissioned in the Royal Sussex Regiment, 1 st Battalion, Service No. 153263. He served with the 8 th Army in North Africa but was invalided home. After recovering from his wounds he volunteered for service on the Normandy Front. He was attached to 9th Battalion Durham Light Infantry. He died from wounds received in action. He is buried at Bayeux War Cemetery. He was the son of the late Major Frank Brooking Thornton (d 1936), and Beatrice Louisa Thornton of 8, St. Georges Road, Edgbaston. In 1939 Beatrice served in Women's Voluntary Services Hospital Supplies.
Tracey	J R	St Agnes Church	11.4.1945	RAFVR	27	Flight Lieutenant John Robert Tracey. Service No. 62690, 605 Squadron. It was formed on 5 th October 1926 at RAF Castle Bromwich as a day bomber unit of the Auxiliary Air Force, recruiting in the Birmingham area. On 1 st January 1939, 605 Squadron was re-designated as a fighter squadron and initially re-equipped with Gloster Gladiators. The squadron moved to RAF B71 Coxyde air base, Belgium in March 1945 when it became operational. On 11 th April, John departed from Coxyde in a de Havilland Mosquito FB.Mk VI fighter-bomber on a night 'intruder' mission. The missions were intended to attack enemy fighters, airfields, radar and other infrastructure; stage diversionary attacks; and escort bombers. His plane came down en route to Berlin. John, who was piloting the plane, and his Flight Lieutenant were both killed and the plane irreparably damaged. John is buried in the Berlin 1939-45 War Cemetery.

Type	J C R	St Mary's Church	4.7.1944	Royal Armoured Corps Attached Queens Own Hussars 	23	Lieutenant John Cedric Rogan Type. John attended Malvern College from 1934 to 1939. He was an Officer cadet at the Royal Military College Sandhurst. John was posted to 4/7 Dragoon Guards, Service No. 128797 and gazetted Lieutenant a year later on 11.5.1940. He was posted to Italy, attached to 7 th Queens Own Hussars (QOH). In May 1944 the 7 th QOH joined the advance up Italy, seconded to the 2nd Polish Corps to capture the sea port of Ancona. There was heavy fighting during the crossing of the river Chienti between 21 st and 30 th June before the eventual hard fought eight hour battle for the port on 17/18 th July. John was killed a few days after the crossing of the Chienti river. He was buried in Ancona War Cemetery, Italy. He was the son of Dorothy Type (née Holmes) and the late Cedric Percy Type (d 1925) of 2, Oxford Road, Moseley, Birmingham.
Vaughan	N J	St Mary's Church	26.8.1943	Royal Engineers 	26	Sapper Neville Joseph Vaughan. Service No. 1873636. Neville served with the 41 st Fortress Company, Royal Engineers in Singapore. In February 1942 he was reported missing in Malaya. The following year, the family received a postcard from Neville in July, to say that he was a Japanese POW but in good health. However, just weeks later, on 26 th August 1943, Neville died from beriberi. He is buried at Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery, Myanmar. The family lived at 82 Westfield Road, Kings Heath.
Wadsworth	A	St Mary's Church	14.10.1939	Royal Navy 	16	Boy (First Class) Arthur Henry Wadsworth. Arthur lived at 43 Jutland Road, Kings Heath with his parents William Charles and Emily Clara (née Rostill) Wadsworth (m 1918). He was educated at Moseley National School and was a choir boy at St Mary's church, Moseley. On leaving school he joined his father at the Austin motor works. Arthur joined the crew on <i>HMS Royal Oak</i> on his 15 th birthday, Service No P/JX 158595. Shortly before midnight on 13th October 1939, Kapitanleutnant Günther Prien, commander of the German

					<p>submarine U-47 evaded the supposedly secure defences of Scapa Flow targeting <i>HMS Royal Oak</i>. His first four torpedoes caused only minor damage. However, the next three caused a large hole in her side. The <i>Royal Oak</i> quickly began to roll over and then some cordite magazines caught fire. 386 men were rescued from the water but another 833 lost their lives. There was shock and grief, particularly over the large loss of boy-sailors. There had been 163 of them aboard the ship, some as young as 15. 126 went down with the <i>Royal Oak</i>. The U-boat captain was awarded the Knight's Cross, Germany's highest military award, and became a celebrity. Arthur is commemorated on Portsmouth Naval Memorial.</p> <p>This was not the only tragedy for the family. Two months after his son's death Corporal W Charles Wadsworth drowned when jumping in the river Severn at night to rescue a comrade. He was buried at Brandwood End Cemetery, Birmingham. Charles fought with the 5th Worcester Regiment in the Great War taking part on 31st October 1914 in the battle for Gheluvelt, Belgium, one of 375 men who stood between the Kaiser and the channel ports, for which he was awarded a Military Medal. In WW2, he joined 11th Warwickshire Home Defence Battalion aged 47. He was described as a 'fine soldier and a splendid character'. Arthur's younger brother Lance Corporal Victor Charles Wadsworth served in the RAMC and survived the war.</p>
Ward	J C	St Mary's Church	3.10.1941	RAFVR 	21 Sergeant John Charles Ward was educated at Moseley Grammar School then Wycliffe College, Gloucestershire. He was a medical student at Birmingham University. He enlisted in the RAFVR 54 Squadron, Service No. 1165245. He was based at RAF Hornchurch, Essex, a Fighter Command Unit. In 1941 a new type of offensive, called a 'Circus' was designed to persuade the Germans to move their fighter units from internal German bases to the coast to replace their coastal Luftwaffe units that had been

						<p>redeployed to cover the German army invasion of the Balkans and Russia in February and June that year. It was thought that this would enable more successful daylight penetration raids into Germany and France. The attacks involved small numbers of bombers escorted by several squadrons of fighters with the aim of bombing enemy airfields and supply dumps. Most of the bombers involved were Bristol Blenheims. John, piloting a Spitfire V, A type, was shot down by a Messerschmitt Bf109 ten miles off Manston, Kent while escorting Bristol Blenheims during Circus 105 on 3rd October 1941. John's body was washed ashore eighteen days later on 21st October. He is buried at The Hague General Cemetery, Netherlands. He was the son of Leonard, a manufacturing jeweller, and Rosina Ward, of 72 Reddings Road, Moseley, Birmingham.</p>
Wilkins	N H	St Mary's Church	5.3.1940	Royal Regiment of Artillery	19	<p>Second Lieutenant Nigel Hugh Wilkins. Nigel was born on 15th June 1920. He was educated at King Edward's School Birmingham. He enlisted in 204/95 Anti-Aircraft (Warwick) Regiment, Royal Artillery, Service No. P/87325. In 1940 he was based at Longhope, near Scapa Flow, a heavy anti-aircraft camp. He died aboard <i>HMHS Amaraopora</i>, from cerebrospinal meningitis. The Hospital Ship was based at Scapa Flow and made regular trips to Glasgow to take the sick to local hospitals. Nigel was buried at Brandwood End Cemetery, Birmingham on 9th March 1940. He was the son of Charles Stanley Wilkins (deceased, d 1926, aged 40) and Edith Florence Wilkins (née Dexter, m 1913) of 13 Grove Avenue, Moseley, Birmingham.</p>

Williams	H L	St Mary's Church	29.9.1944	The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) 	25	<p>Sergeant Hugh Lovel Williams. Born on 4th April 1919. He enlisted in the Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) 2/7th Battalion, Service No. 5113956. The 2/7 Battalion was sent to France in 1940 and were involved in the Battle of Dunkirk where they suffered heavy casualties due to the men having very little training. Two years later the 2/7 became part of the reformed 169th Infantry Brigade and fought in the North African Campaign with the 8th Army, capturing Tunis in May 1943. Four months later the 8th allied Army landed at Salerno. It was here that they took part in some of the bloodiest fighting in Italy. By 1st September 1944 the German Army was retreating from Foggia, northwards in mountainous terrain. From thereon it was a gruelling ridge by ridge battle. It was in one such battle that Hugh lost his life. He is buried at Coriano Ridge War Cemetery, Italy. Hugh was the son of Albert George, a textile salesman, and Ada Harriet Williams (née Huggins), of 64 Woodthorpe Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham.</p>
Young	J K	St Agnes Church	31.7.1941	RAFVR 	18	<p>Leading Aircraftman John Kenneth Young. John enlisted in the RAFVR, Service No. 1191569. He was based at 5 Flying Training School as a pilot under training. Piloting a two-seater Miles Master monoplane, an advanced trainer, he took off from RAF Peplow, Shropshire on a night training flight when he flew into a tree shortly after taking off due to the propellor being left in a 'course pitch' position in error. John was buried at Birmingham (Yardley) Cemetery. He was the son of David Charles, a postman, and Jessie Margaret Young, of 129 Sandford Road, Moseley, Birmingham.</p>

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