



## Casualty of WWII

### Pilot Officer, Alfred Astle, DFC

Surname	Given Names	Rank	Number	Regiment	Attachment	Date of Death		Age at Death	
						Year	Date		
Astle	Alfred	Pilot Officer	177562	Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve	156 Squadron	1944	24th September	29	
Date of Birth		Place of Birth	Father		Mother		Baptised		
Year	Date		Surname	Given Names	Maiden Name	Given Names	Year	Date	Place
1914	24th December	Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire	Astle	Arthur	Lane	Clara Kate			
Census Information									
Year	Surname	Given Names	Status	Age	Occupation	Place of Birth	Relationship to Head		
Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire									
1921	Astle	Clara	Married	53	School Cleaner	Marnhull, Dorset	Head		
	Astle	Ruby	Unmarried	21	General Domestic	Bourton-on-the-	Daughter		

						Servant	Water, Gloucestershire	
	Astle	Phyllis	Unmarried		16	Grocers Assistant at Gilbert & Sons Grocers	Bourton-on-the- Water, Gloucestershire	Daughter
	Astle	Vincent			14	Errand Boy for Sherbourne & Tarbrother, Butcher	Bourton-on-the- Water, Gloucestershire	Son
	Astle	Alfred			6		Bourton-on-the- Water, Gloucestershire	Son
<b>Police Station, Eastcott Road, Swindon</b>								
<b>1939 Register</b>	Astle	Alfred	Unmarried			Police Constable, Wiltshire Constabulary		
<b>Military Service Record</b>								
<b>Enlistment Details</b>								
Year	Date	Place	Age			Trade	Religion	
			Years	Months	Days			
1941	May							
<b>Physical Description</b>								
Height		Complexion	Eye Colour	Hair Colour	Distinguishing Marks			
Feet	Inches							
Attached to Bomber Command Pathfinders								
In 1946 it was announced that Alfred's widow had been invited to Buckingham Palace to receive her husband's posthumous DFC award. The award was dated to 23rd September 1941								
<b>Next of Kin</b>								
Surname	Given Names	Status	Relationship	Abode				
Astle	Dulcie	Widow	Wife	Swindon				
<b>Details of Death</b>								
Date of Death	Cause of	Theatre of War	Ships Name		War Gratuity Paid			

Year	Date	Death			Year	Date	£	s.	d.	Recipient
<b>Grave Location</b>										
<b>Cemetery</b>							<b>Plot Number</b>			
No Known Grave										
<b>War Memorials and Commemorations</b>										
<b>Memorial Name and Location</b>							<b>Panel Number</b>			
Runnymede Memorial, Coopers Hill, Englefield, Surrey							Panel 210			
Wiltshire Constabulary War Memorial, Police Headquarters, London Road, Devizes										
War Memorial, Main Street, Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire										
<b>Other Significant Information</b>										
His mother was a widow by 1939 living at 5 Salmonsbury Cottages, Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire										
Alfred married Dulcie Seager in the September Quarter of 1941 and is registered in the Swindon Registration District										



Bourton on the Water War Memorial & WWII Panel



Runnymede Memorial

## Newspaper Reports

### Bourton Airman Missing

News has been received by Mrs. C. Astle, of Salmondsbury Cottages, Bourton-on-the-Water, that her youngest son, Pilot Officer Alfred Astle, has been reported missing when taking part in operations.

Alfred, who is aged 29 years was educated at Westwood's Grammar School.

In 1941, he married Miss D. Seager, of Swindon, and before joining the R.A. F., in that year, he was a member of the Wiltshire Constabulary.

He was a keen sportsman and at the close of one sports season he was awarded the Chief Constable of Wiltshire's cup for winning the most athletic events.

**Gloucestershire Echo, 2 October 1944**

### Posthumous Award

The news has recently been received by Mrs. C. Astle of Salmondsbury Cottages, Bourton-on-the Water, that her youngest son, Pilot Officer Alfred Astle, of Bomber Command Pathfinders has been posthumously awarded the DFC.

The citation, announcing the award to date from September 23, 1944, states that Pilot Officer Astle, R.A.F.V.R., No. 156 Squadron, completed numerous operations against the enemy as navigator, in the course of which he displayed the utmost fortitude, courage and devotion to duty. He was reported missing in October, 1944

### **Fine Athlete**

Pilot Officer Astle who was educated at Westwood's Grammar School, Northleach, was before his enlistment in the R.A.F. in May 1941, a well-known member of the Wiltshire Constabulary.

He was a fine athlete and won many prizes, cups and medals.

His widow, who resides in Swindon, has been asked to visit Buckingham Palace to receive the decoration at an Investiture.

**Gloucestershire Echo, 23 February 1946**