

Gilbert Leslie Astin

Among the people who have lived their lives in Eerde, there are five men buried in our churchyard, who did not have a special bond with Eerde until just before their death. By the course of history they came to our village and is it was their fate that they would never return home.

These men are five British soldiers who were killed in Eerde in the fight against the oppressors in 1944. The youngest one was only 21 years of age when he died. We want to introduce you to this young man, Gilbert Leslie Astin.



Research and text:
John Jeffries, Long Bennington, Great Britain
Ad van de Laar, Eerde, The Netherlands

Gilbert Leslie Astin was born in a suburb of Manchester called Hulme. Gilbert grew up in an unexceptional, ordinary family. His father, John Philip Astin⁽¹⁾, was a dentist. His grandfather was in the same business; he was a false teeth manufacturer.

Gilbert's mother was Elizabeth May Hedges. Most people called her May. When May was young, she used to be a professional dancer with the world-famous "Tiller Girls". This troupe had performed not only all over England but also overseas. They were even on stage in Paris.

May and John were both born in 1893. They married on 21 February 1914⁽²⁾.



The Tiller Girls on stage

Shortly after the marriage John joined the Royal Army Medical Corps. In the army he trained to become a dentist.

One year after their marriage, on 1 February 1915, May and John had their first baby, a girl. Her name was Marjory⁽³⁾.

On 10 July 1917 they had another girl. They called her Vera⁽⁴⁾.

Marjory became seriously ill, she died from diphtheria at home in her mother's arms when she was only six years old⁽⁵⁾.

On Boxing Day 1922 a son was born. May and John called him Gilbert⁽⁶⁾.

The family was then living in Walnut street, Hulme, Manchester.



Walnut Street

A number in brackets, for example ⁽¹⁾, refers to the corresponding annex in the last pages.

When Gilbert was 5 years old, they moved to a village called Marple, where his father started a dental practice.



Mother May and young Gilbert

The house they lived in, was in the same street as the primary school where Gilbert went until he was about 11 years old. In those days every school used to keep a school log. From that log, we learned that Gilbert's first school day was 9 January 1928. The school was called Ludworth Primary School and it is still in use today.



Ludworth Primary School

This group photograph shows schoolboy Gilbert with his classmates at Ludworth Primary School. His friends used to call him "Gilly". He is on the back row next to the younger teacher.



Gilly and his classmates

Here you see Gilbert on holiday with his parents and their pet dog. Gilbert has a toy aeroplane in his hand.



Gilly, John and May

This picture of young Gilbert was taken in the early 1930's.



After he finished primary school, Gilbert went to the New Mills County Secondary School. He travelled to school by steam train with his friends from Marple and Mellor. New Mills County Secondary School at Church Lane, New Mills is still in existence. On the next picture you see Gilbert wearing the cap, with a stag incorporated in the badge, which was part of the school uniform.



Gilbert and his parents

The next picture shows Gilbert together with his sister Vera and their bespectacled cousin Yvonne in the middle.

Yvonne's mother was Gilbert's Auntie Ada. She, like May her sister, had also been a Tiller Girl and had continued to dance at venues all over Europe even after she was married and after the birth of Yvonne. Because of her itinerant lifestyle, Yvonne lived mostly with the Astin family.



Gilbert, Yvonne and Vera

Gilbert had a very enjoyable youth. He was full of energy and he loved playing lacrosse. Sometimes the family would go to the seaside. This picture with Gilbert and Vera ready for a swim, was taken there.



Gilbert and Vera

Just before his fourteenth birthday (6th December 1936) Gilbert was confirmed at Mellor Parish Church. Gilbert had a long association with this church. He was a member of the St. Sebastian's Bible Class and attended the Sunday School. In the same church, Gilbert's sister Vera married David Jones on 4th August 1941. By this time Gilbert was nineteen years old and he was one of the official witnesses⁽⁷⁾.

After Gilbert finished secondary school, he started to work with a firm of Estate Agents in Manchester. He had a girlfriend then. Her name was Barbara.



Barbara and Gilbert

Gilly's life was running like it should, but then the war broke out. The Germans, with Hitler as their leader, wanted to control all of Europe, including Great-Britain. The Battle of Britain was mostly fought in the air. German aeroplanes were bombing English cities. About 50.000 British civilians lost their lives. But the Royal Air Force struck back hard. After the Germans had lost about 170 planes in air fights, they left England in peace for the time being.

Gilbert was old enough to understand the situation. He wanted to contribute in the fight against the Germans and became a member of the Civil Defence. This organization guarded bridges and important buildings and was also responsible for air raid warning alarms.

Some time later Gilbert joined the Home Guard. This was a kind of army which was trained to slow down a possible German attack on England. In the time they gained, the regular army would return from campaigns abroad to England. The Home Guard had more than one million members, mostly boys who were too young for the army or men who were too old for it.

When Gilbert was 19 years old, he joined the army. He wanted take part in the fight against Nazi-Germany. Besides that he got a chance to see some of the world, just like his mother had.

Gilbert was asked to be a tank driver. He thought that would be an exciting job, so after a few months he was the driver of a Sherman Tank of the 44th Royal Tank Regiment.

Here you see a Sherman Tank and the symbol of Gilbert's unit.



Sherman tank



FEAR NAUGHT

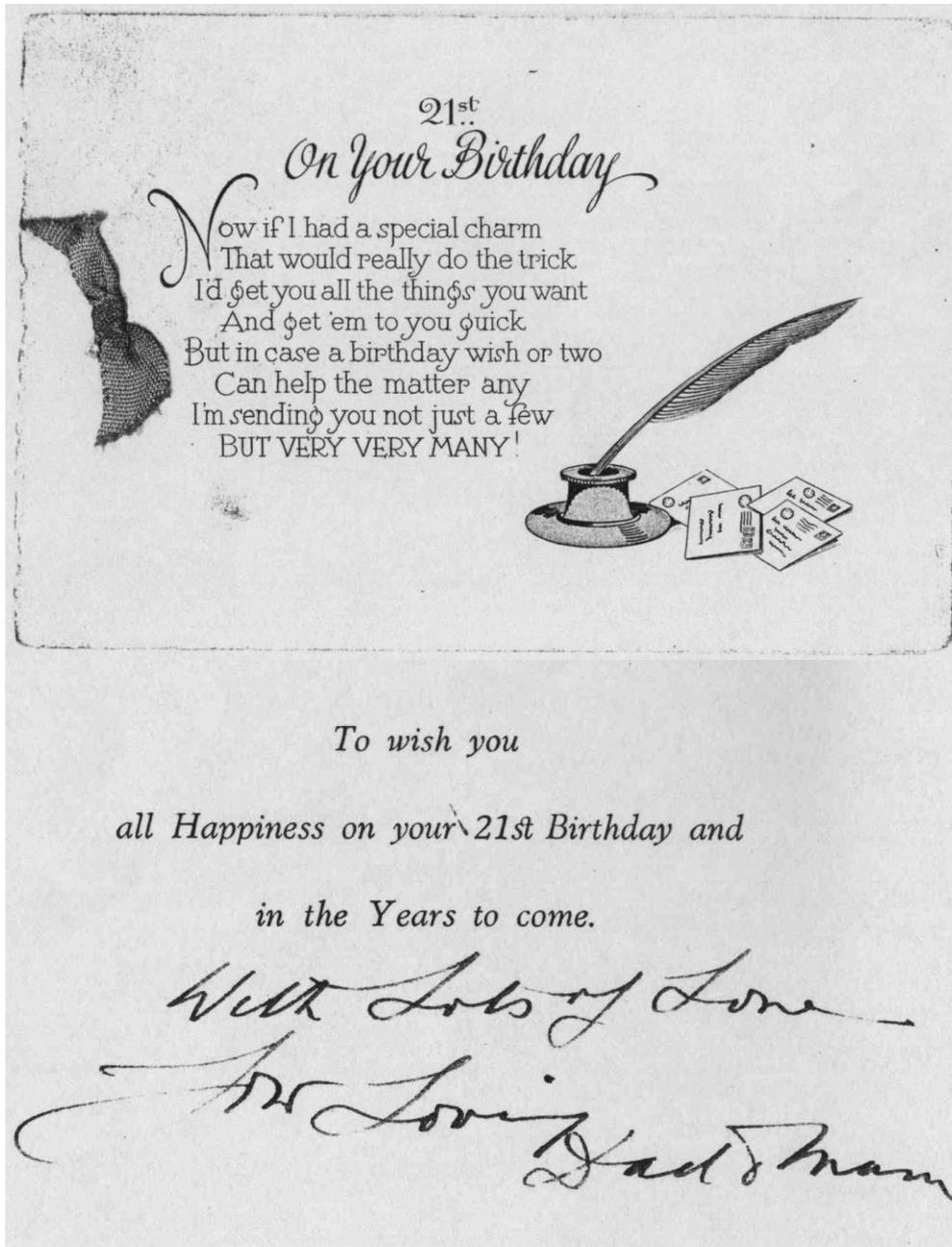
Gilbert was sent to Alexandria in Egypt. Together with Australian and South African Troops, his Tank Regiment fought in the north of Africa.

Their opponents were not only Germans, but Italians as well. The Italian dictator Mussolini was an important ally of Hitler.



Gilbert in Africa with his friend James (Chick) Hardy

In July 1943 the 44th Royal Tank Regiment was shipped to the island Sicily. They had to conquer Italy from the south. Later the British army was shipped from Sicily and arrived on the mainland of Italy in August, From there they advanced to the north. Gilbert celebrated his 21st birthday in Italy. By military post he got a card from his parents.



Gilbert's birthday card

On 9th October 1943 the regiment was inspected by Field Marshall Montgomery, who would be responsible with General Eisenhower for Operation "Market Garden", a year later.

Having successfully engaged with the enemy on several occasions in the Italian Campaign, the regiment sailed back to England on 27th January 1944. On arriving the whole regiment, which had been abroad for 3 years, was granted a well-earned home leave. Gilbert had many exciting stories to tell to his parents and his friends. The months March, April and May were used for training and to restore the regiment's strength.

After that Gilbert had to leave for France.

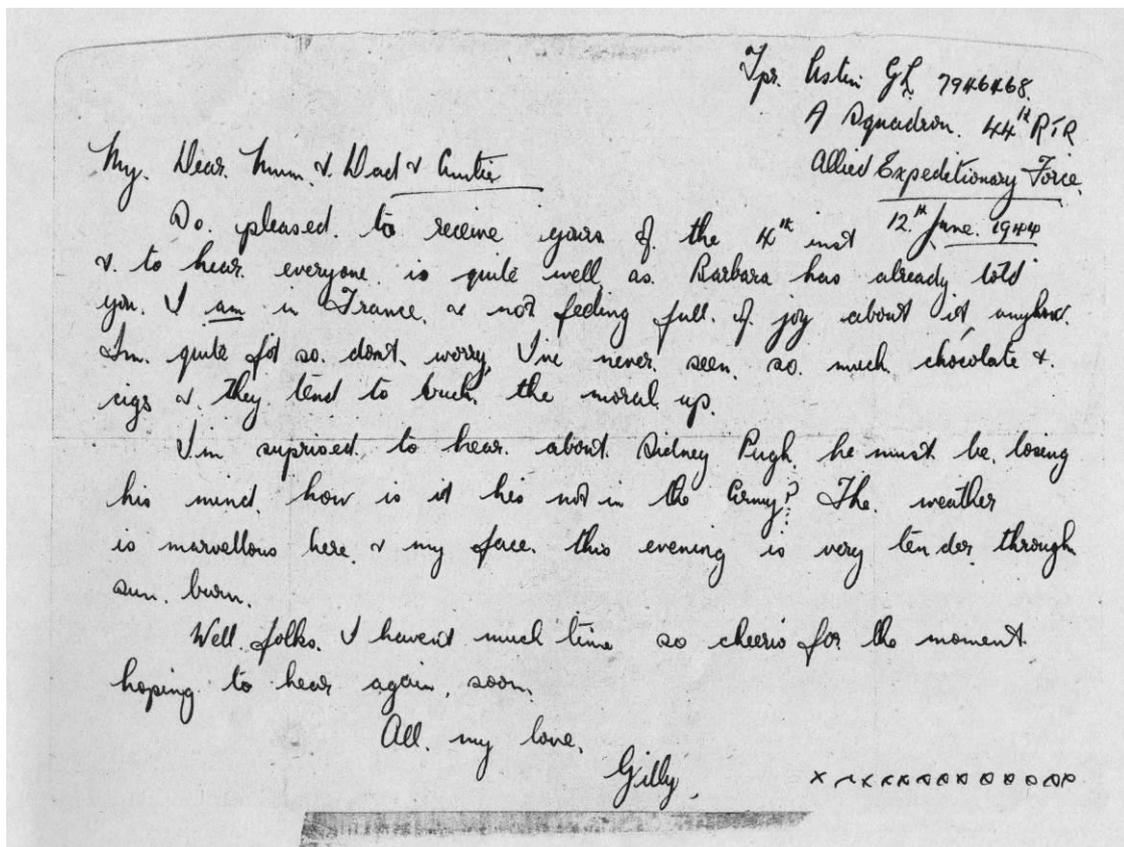
The Allied Forces had conquered the peninsula of Normandy. This spectacular invasion cost the lives of thousands of young soldiers, but it was the start of the liberation of Europe.

An artificial harbour was made in Arromanches. That is where Gilbert's tank rolled off the boat into France.



Disembarkation at Arromanches

On 12th June 1944 Gilbert wrote a letter home. He told his parents that he did not like France very much. But he assured them that they didn't have to worry.



Gilly's last letter to his parents

Under the command of the American General Patton, France and Belgium were liberated in a few months. The troops advanced so quickly that it became a problem to get all the supplies to the front in time. So the march to Germany more or less came to a stop.

In an attempt to finish the war before the winter of 1944, Field Marshall Montgomery came up with a plan to march briskly into Germany.

The plan was that ground forces would move quickly from Belgium through Eindhoven, Veghel and Nijmegen to Arnhem. From there it was easy to take the Ruhr area and to eliminate the German war industry. If the plan worked, the war could be over by Christmas 1944.

The road to Arnhem was crossed by rivers and canals. So parachute infantry was dropped alongside the route to secure the bridges and make it possible for tanks and trucks to go to Arnhem unhindered.

This plan became code-named "Market Garden".



The plan "Market Garden"

The paratroopers who landed near the small village of Eerde, were Americans of the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment. They had only light weapons and they had no vehicles. After a few days they were provided with some jeeps, which came from England by gliders. The Americans didn't have tanks either. But the plan was set up well. Each American airborne regiment would be assisted by a number of tanks from the 44th Royal Tank Regiment. The tank which was driven by Gilbert Astin had to join the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment in Veghel.



501st Parachute Infantry Regiment

The journey from the Belgian village of Neerpelt to Veghel took Gilbert almost a week. The reason for this was that the Germans first blocked the road at Valkenswaard and on Tuesday 19th September they bombed Eindhoven, so that the tanks could not pass the city. On this picture you see the tanks and trucks waiting in Valkenswaard.



The market place in Valkenswaard



Sherman tanks in Veghel (Photo: Johan van Eerd, Veghel)

On Sunday 24th September 1944 the commander of A squadron, Major Cave, was ordered to go to Eerde and contact the American Colonel Johnson. At that moment there were major problems in Eerde. The Germans were attacking the village with hundreds of soldiers and some tanks. Bullets were flying in the streets and grenades struck the church steeple and the windmill. Many houses were damaged or even shot in flames. A truck loaded with ammunition got a direct hit and all soldiers who were near it got killed.

The Americans were suffering badly, but they had to stop the Germans from cutting off the road to Arnhem, which by then they called "Hell's Highway".

At about eleven o'clock in the morning the tanks rolled into Eerde

On the north side of the village was the windmill. Gilbert placed his tank between the windmill and the miller's house. This would give them some cover.

Suddenly they heard an enormous explosion. Another tank, which was behind them in a garden near a house (Kapelstraat 71) was hit by a German tank. The gunners were dead but the driver was able to get out of the tank. The blast blew the commander, lieutenant Hooper, off the tank. He was wounded very badly, but he shouted to the Americans: "My men, get them out !!!!".

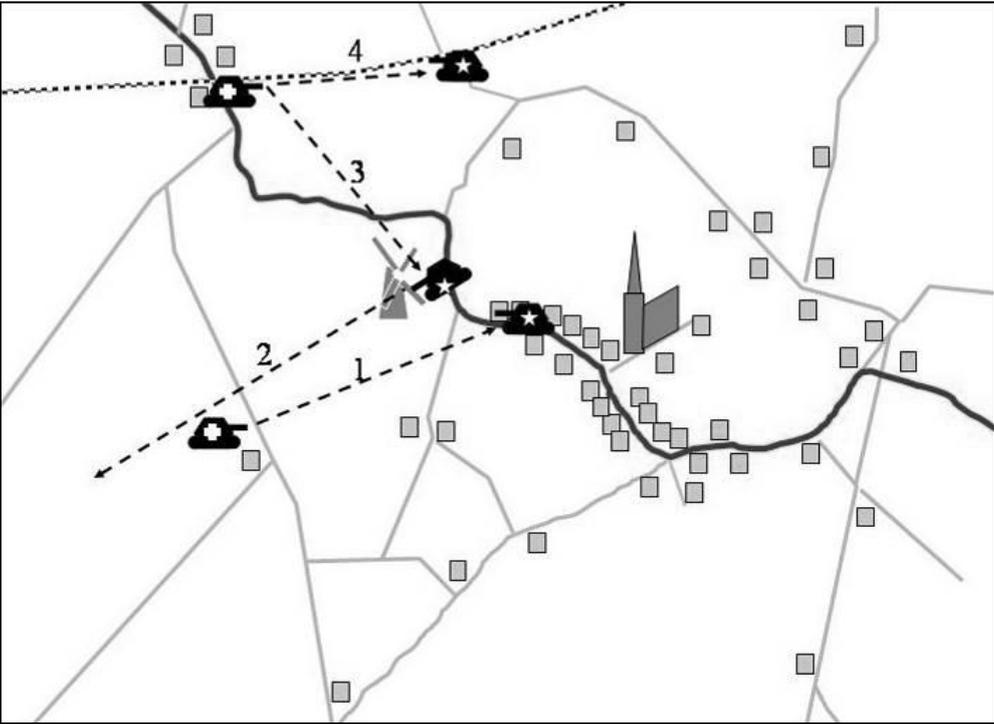
The gunners in Gilbert's tank turned the turret into the direction from which the shot had come from. They fired at the German tank, but missed it.

Then another German tank fired a shot and hit Gilbert's tank. The two gunners were killed immediately by the exploding ammunition inside the turret.

Gilbert was wounded too. He was hit in the side of the body. Soldiers reached him with medical aid very quickly, but there was nothing they could do as he had already died in the driving seat of his tank.

Some moments later the tank caught fire with Gilbert still in it.

Meanwhile the Germans eliminated another British tank which was standing near the railway. This caused no casualties, because the crew was not in the tank.



Most likely course of the tank incident in Eerde



Gilbert's tank beside the heavily damaged mill

The British were furious and refused to send more tanks. First the Germans had to be driven away.

The Americans decided to attack the sand dunes where the Germans were. American field artillery gave the Germans hell with their mortars. They used the church steeple as an observation post, to make sure they would only hit the Germans and not their own troops.

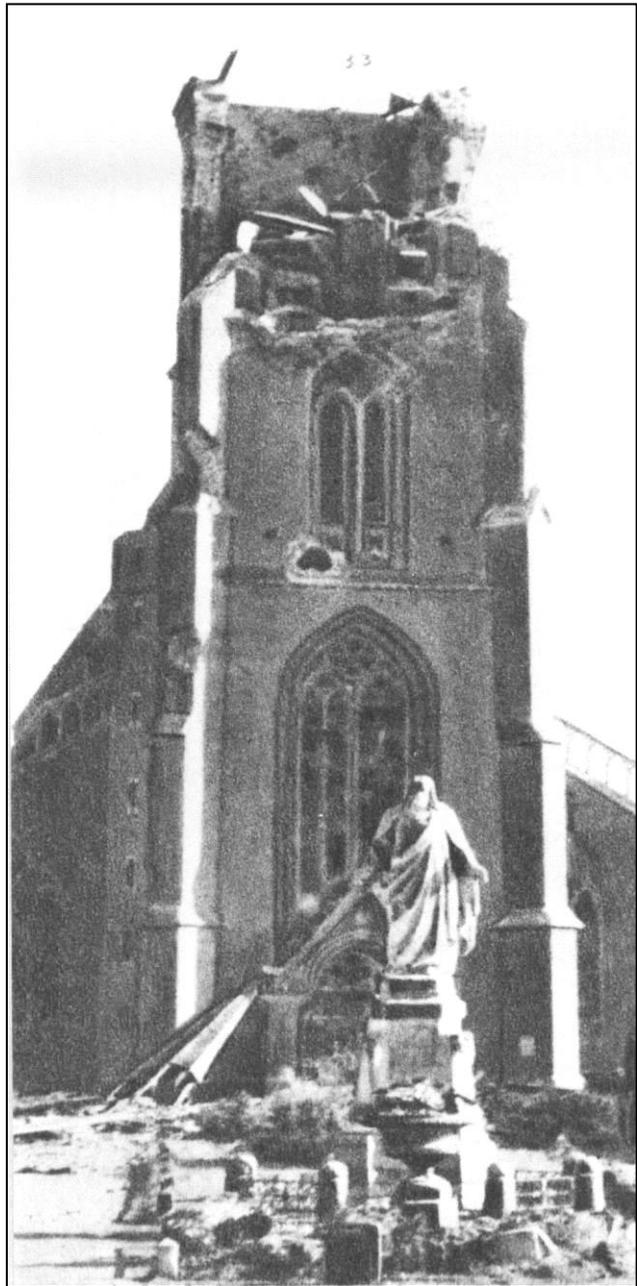
When the Germans found this out, they blew off the top of the church steeple with artillery.

After heavy fighting, some of which was man to man, the Americans succeeded in driving away the Germans. But this fight had cost many lives on both sides.

What they did not know by then, was that the Germans had another unit which had taken a part of the corridor to Arnhem about a mile south from Eerde at Logtenburg.

Some 80 British vehicles were shot in flames. Many truck drivers and their passengers were killed.

This was the final blow for Operation Market Garden.



Church of Eerde after the battle

In the end Montgomery's plan did not succeed.

The bridge in Arnhem, where thousands of British and hundreds of Polish soldiers died, proved to be a bridge too far. Also thousands of American soldiers lost their lives in this campaign.

But the southern part of the Netherlands was liberated.

Gilbert Astin was buried in the churchyard of Eerde, together with other British and Americans who were killed.

At first the graves were marked by wooden crosses. Later Gilbert and the other British troopers were buried next to each other, on the spot where they still are today.



Some days after Gilbert had been killed, his parents were notified. Of course they were very sad. Gilbert was their only son and they had hoped he would have a beautiful future. Many people expressed their sympathy to John and May Astin.

In the newspaper there was an article about Gilbert.

Tank Driver Killed in Action

Trooper G. L. Astin,
of Mellor

A host of friends share the sorrow of Mr. and Mrs. J. Astin, Volterra, Longhurst-lane, Mellor, in the reported death in action of their only son, Trooper Gilbert Leslie Astin, a tank driver of the Royal Armoured Corps. The War Office message says that he was killed on September 24th, in N.W. Europe.

Aged 21, Gilbert (Gilly) attended Ludworth Council and New Mills Secondary Schools and, before joining



the Army over two years ago, was in an estate agent's office in Manchester. Shortly after his enlistment he went overseas to Egypt and eventually saw considerably service in North Africa and Italy, before his movement to the French theatre of activity. He was one of the band of local boys who, at the out-

break of war, Tpr. G. L. Astin showed commendable public spirit by seeking to play a part in the country's defence and served in the Civil Defence messenger service until joining the Home Guard.

A bright lad, bursting with energy, he was keenly interested in sport and played lacrosse with the Mellor Club. He was associated with Mellor parish church and St. Sebastian's Sunday School. His loss is deeply felt in the district.

At the Sunday morning service at Mellor Parish Church, prayers were asked by the vicar from the congregation, on behalf of the relatives of Trooper Astin. The vicar, the Rev. L. G. Pronger, M.A., spoke of the loss of Gilbert in feeling terms, as he was one of the oldest members of the St. Sebastian's Bible Class and Club. The congregation stood in silence to honour the memory of this brave boy.

King George sent a card to John and May in which he offered his sympathy.



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

The Queen and I offer you our heartfelt sympathy in your great sorrow.

We pray that your country's gratitude for a life so nobly given in its service may bring you some measure of consolation.

George R.I

Major R.G. Cave of the 44th Royal Tank Regiment wrote a letter to Gilbert's parents, in which he told them that Gilbert had made many friends in the regiment. He also explained how Gilbert got wounded and that he could not have suffered very much before he died.

174044 Major R.G. Cave
A Squ 44 Bn R.T.R.
B.L.A.

3 Dec 44.

Dear M' Astin.

I would like to offer you the deepest sympathy of both the Squadron and myself on the death of your son in action on the 24th Sept 44. As a soldier I knew your son well and it is always a great loss to us to lose a man who has been through so many fights with us all. Everyone had the greatest confidence in your son and I think were as happy to have him in their tank crew as he was to be a member of the Squ in which I know

he had many real friends.

The action your son was killed in was one of great importance to the whole of the British 2nd Army as we had been given the job of keeping open the corridor for supplies to the 1st British Airborne Division at Amhem and as I expect you will remember this was not twice. In clearing the enemy out again your son was killed but the enemy were made to go and I am glad to say also made to suffer relatively heavily.

He was hit in the side of the body and I am sure ~~good~~^{could} have suffered very little if at all as he must have died very soon. We reached him with medical aid very quickly but there

was unfortunately nothing we could do as he had already died still in the driving seat of his tank. He was buried in the little churchyard of the village of Erde, in which he was killed, by our own Bn padre. Later I went back to the grave to take a picture of his and his comrades graves and found that the local Dutch people had made the grave look very nice with freshly cut flowers.

All his personal kit has been sent off to you and should by now have reached you. I am afraid it was impossible to recover any of the belongings he had on him as his tank later caught fire and they were lost

in the fire.

Again I will offer you my deepest sympathy in your loss and I would like to say that if there is any way in which I can help please do not hesitate to ask.

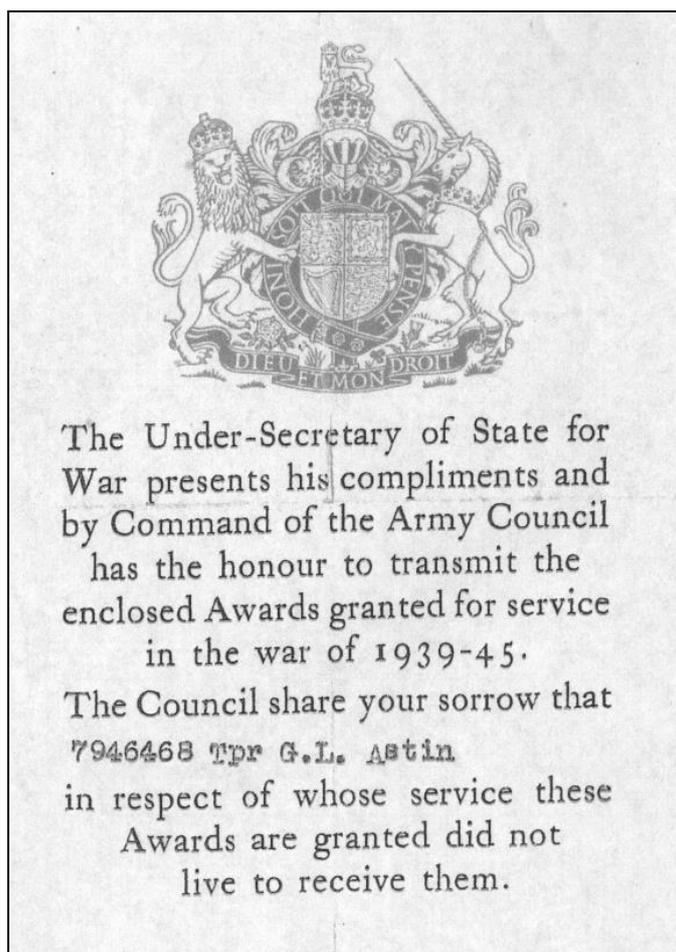
Yours sincerely,
R.G. Cave

Major Cave's letter

After the war had ended, the Under-Secretary of State for War sent the awards that were granted to Gilbert, to his parents.



1939 - 45 Star, Italy Star, Africa Star, War Medal 1939 - 45



Card that goes with the awards

In August 1946 Gilbert's parents received a letter from Pastor Willenborg from Eerde. The envelope also included some pictures which the pastor had taken from Gilbert's grave.

In the letter, the pastor invites John and May to visit Eerde some day. They never did.

Eerde 5 Aug. 1946

Dear Sir.

Just I will return to you the local news paper and a photograph too from the grave, who your son is lying. It is the first cross on the left side. If you have a good eye you can see the name Astin. Any weeks ago, here was an English officer, who said, the grave would receive news and letter crosses. These are the records, who have made. If you have the occasion to come to visit your sons grave, you will

be welcome her. I hope that you now care better go over it, that your son is killed and burrow here; and that God will help you and yours. If you will come here, you can go with the aeroplane to Eindhoven, from Eindhoven to here is 16 miles. With the boat to Rotterdam ^{or Flushing} and then with the train to Eindhoven. Then with the car. I could come in Eindhoven, if it is necessary. I hope I can speak a little English with you; it is easier for me to write than to speak, I think. I hope to see you

Yours sincerely
Pastor Willenborg

Letter from Pastor Willenborg

In Gilbert's home village, Mellor, there is a monument, in which Gilbert's name is engraved.



In the library of Gilbert's secondary school in New Mills you can find a Roll of Honour with the names of former pupils who died in the Second World War.



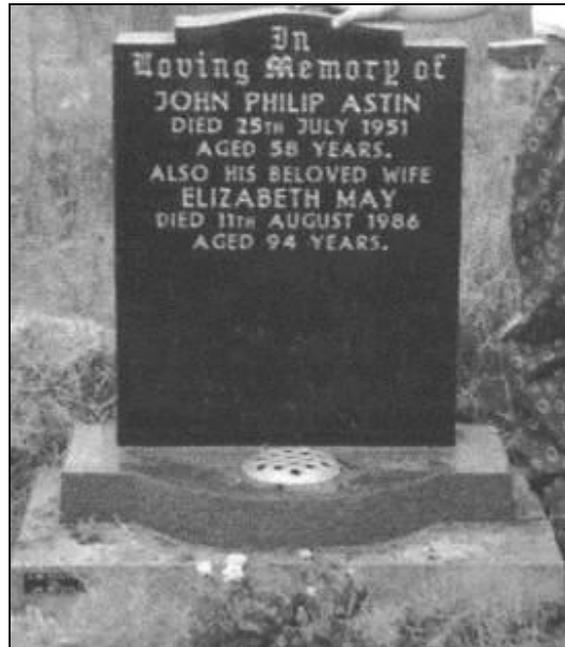
Roll of Honour in New Mills



Monument in Mellor

Gilbert's father, John Astin, continued to work as a dentist until he died in 1951, aged 58.

His mother May, died in 1986. She reached the age of 94.



The grave of Gilbert's parents

On 24th September 2004, exactly 60 years after Gilbert's death, some relatives came to visit Eerde. They were Elizabeth and John Jeffries and Dave and Jayne Jones. Elisabeth and Dave are children of Gilbert's sister Vera, which means Gilbert was their uncle. Although they never knew Gilbert personally, they were touched by the memories that their mother had kept of him.

While visiting Eerde, they met Ad and Piet van Riel. Ad and Piet lived at the windmill in 1944, they were 13 and ten years old then.

After the war, the burned-out tank had been standing at their house for some years. It was not easy to move such a heavy obstacle then. Besides that the tracks had been taken off to be used for another tank.

Being curious, the boys had climbed in the tank many times. Among the burnt things in the driving seat, they found a wallet. Parts of the belongings were still intact. There was a picture in it on which an address in Belgium was written. The boy's father, miller Wim van Riel, sent the wallet to that address in Belgium, because it was their only lead.

Under the driver's seat the boys found a badge, which troopers wore on their berets. Ad van Riel had treasured it for 60 years and very generously gave it to Gilbert's family on 24th September 2004.



Gilbert's badge

The family took the badge home to England where it was cherished as a precious memory to uncle Gilbert. However after some time they decided to send it back to Eerde. Now the badge is displayed in the museum that is housed in the windmill.

Gilbert Leslie Astin was just an ordinary boy from an average family. Like anyone his age, he had future plans and expectations. He had a girlfriend whom he might have wanted to marry and have kids with. And if he had lived today, he would probably have enjoyed his grandchildren.

But because he fought and died for our freedom, he missed that future.

Thanks to Gilbert and to thousands of men who gave their lives like he did, we can live in freedom today.



Gilbert L. Astin
1922 - 1944

Annexes

1. Entry of Birth John Philip Astin (father)

Printed by Authority

B
M 235678

CERTIFIED COPY of an
Pursuant to the Births and Deaths

 ENTRY OF BIRTH.
Registration Acts, 1836 to 1874.

Registration District **BURNLEY**

1893 Birth in the Sub-District of **Padiham** in the County of **LANCASTER**

No.	When and Where Born.	Name, if any.	Sex.	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Signature, Description and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.
497	<i>Eighteenth February, 1893 122 Railway Terrace, Padiham, Lancashire</i>	<i>John Philip</i>	<i>Boy</i>	<i>Nathaniel Astin</i>	<i>Sarah Ann Astin formerly Dewhurst</i>	<i>Bar-Messenger</i>	<i>Nathaniel Astin, Father, 122 Railway Terrace, Padiham</i>	<i>First April, 1893</i>	<i>Wm. Sewell</i>

I, **ROBT. ERNEST BRGAUP**, Superintendent Registrar for the District of **BURNLEY**, in the County of **LANCASTER**, do hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Entry No. **497** in the Register Book of Births No. **43** for the above-named Sub-district, and Book is now legally in my custody.

WITNESS MY HAND this **15th** day of **FEBRUARY, 1922**

R. E. Brgaup


The Act 3 & 4 Geo. V, cap. 27, section 3, enacts that "FORGERY of the following documents, if committed with intent to defraud or deceive, shall be HELD to be indictable with Penal Servitude for any term not exceeding fourteen years:—Any register or record of Births, Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths, Burials, which may be, or heretofore, may be, by law authorised or required to be kept in the United Kingdom, relating to any Birth, Baptism, Marriage, Death, Burial, or any part of any such register, or any certificate copy of any such register, or any part thereof."

2. Entry of Marriage John Philip and May (parents)



CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF MARRIAGE

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number **PAS 1062667**

191 4 Marriage solemnized at *the Register Office Chorlton* in the District of *Chorlton* in the County of *Manchester*

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
103	<i>Twenty first February 1914</i>	<i>John Philip Astin</i>	<i>20 years</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Dentist's Assistant</i>	<i>14 North Street Peterborough</i>	<i>Nathaniel Astin</i>	<i>Artificial Teeth Maker</i>
		<i>May Elizabeth Hedges</i>	<i>21 years</i>	<i>Spinster</i>		<i>21 Walnut Street Hulme</i>	<i>George Hedges (deceased)</i>	<i>Decorater</i>

Married in the *Register Office* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the *Church of England* by *Articles before* by me;

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *John Philip Astin* and *May Elizabeth Hedges* in the Presence of us, *F. Kemp* and *G. Hedges* by *E. A. Ramsbottom Registrar* and *Walter Mason Deputy Supt. Regr.*

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a register of Marriages in the Registration District of **Chorlton**

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the **14th** day of **July** 2005

MXC 172938

This certificate is issued in pursuance of section 65 of the Marriage Act 1949. Sub-section 3 of that section provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the marriage to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

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03653 9198 0408 SP5L 018694

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3. Entry of Birth Marjory (sister)

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE
Application Number PAS1062667

REGISTRATION DISTRICT									
1915 BIRTH in the Sub-district of Lincoln Home in the Counties of Lincoln C.B. &c.									

Columns:-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
69	24 Broad Gate Leicester 1915	Marjory Leicester	Girl	John Philip Astin	Elizabeth May Astin formerly Hedger	artificial Tooth Manufacturer	J P Astin Father 24 Broad Gate Leicester	12 July 1917	GEB Pobley	

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 14th day of July 2005

BXCB 165921

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RMA

006563 8200 0485 SPSL 010896

4. Entry of Birth Vera (sister)

BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION ACT, 1874.
CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRY OF BIRTH.

I, the undersigned, Do hereby certify that the Birth
of Vera Maria Astin born on the
10th day of July One thousand nine hundred and Seventeen
has been duly registered by me at Entry No. 490 of my Register Book No. 423

Witness my hand, this 12 July 1917 day of 1917

J P Astin Registrar of Births and Deaths.
District: Charlton Sub-District: Leicester

NOTICE
This Certificate when duly filled up by the Registrar, is to be given (on demand) to the Informant at the time of Registering the Birth, on payment of a fee not exceeding Three-pence. (See Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1874, Section 30.)

Printed by Authority of the Registrar General by Messrs. Colverdale & Co., Ltd.

5. Entry of Death Marjory (sister)

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE
Application Number PAS1062667



REGISTRATION DISTRICT		Chorlton							
1921	DEATH in the Sub-district of <u>Hulme</u>			in the <u>County of Manchester C.B.</u>					

Columns:-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
63	<i>Fifth December 1921 21 Walnut Street Hulme</i>	<i>Marjory Louisa Astor</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>6 years</i>	<i>a Dentist</i>	<i>Daughter of W Septic Throat. John Philip Astor. Certified by R. S Roberts L.R.C.P</i>	<i>J. P. Astor Father In attendance 21 Walnut Street Hulme</i>	<i>Sixth December 1921</i>	<i>S. H. Erving Registrar.</i>

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 15th day of July 2005

DYA 720389 See note overleaf

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JC

036563 9199 0405 SPSL 010695

6. Entry of Birth Gilbert

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE
Application Number PAS1059412



REGISTRATION DISTRICT		Chorlton							
1923	BIRTH in the Sub-district of <u>Hulme</u>			in the <u>County of Manchester C.B.</u>					

Columns:-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
	<i>Twenty sixth December 1923 401 Walnut Street Hulme</i>	<i>Gilbert Leslie Boy</i>	<i>Boy</i>	<i>John Philip Astor</i>	<i>Elizabeth May Astor formerly Hodge.</i>	<i>Dentist</i>	<i>J. Philip Astor Father In attendance 21 Walnut Street Hulme</i>	<i>Twenty sixth January 1923</i>	<i>S. H. Erving Registrar.</i>	

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 20th day of June 2005

BXCB 124435 MEW

CAUTION: THERE ARE OFFENCES RELATING TO FALSIFYING OR ALTERING A CERTIFICATE AND USING OR POSSESSING A FALSE CERTIFICATE ©CROWN COPYRIGHT
WARNING: A CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY.



036563 9209 0405 SPSL 010695

7. Entry of Marriage Vera (sister) and David Jones

P 732874

CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY OF MARRIAGE.
Pursuant to the Marriage Acts, 1811 to 1934.

Registration District NORTH EAST CUMBERLAND

1941. Marriage Solemnized at the Parish Church of Mellor in the County of Chester.

Column No.	1	2	3	4	5	6
	When Married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the time of Marriage
30	4th August 1941	David Thomas Jones	27	Bachelor	Sanitary Inspector	Tredawel, Brynmawr, County of Brecon, South Wales
		Vera Mavis Astin	24	Spinster	—	"Vollerria", Longhurst Lane, Mellor

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by

This Marriage was solemnized between us, { David Thomas Jones } in the Presence of us, { Youngs Dorothy Ayleffe }
{ Vera Mavis Astin } { Frank Price Jones }
{ Gilbert Leslie Astin }

I, Leonard Garford Spranger of Mellor in the County of Chester
a true copy of the Entry No. 30, in the Register Book of Marriages of the said Church.

WITNESS MY HAND this 4th day of August 1941.

CAUTION.—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this Certificate, or (2) uses it as true, knowing it to be falsified, is liable to Prosecution.