

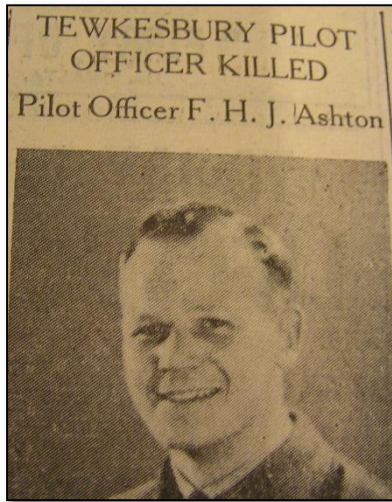
Pilot Officer FRANCIS HENRY JOHN ASHTON

112541, 124 Sqdn., Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve

who died on 31 May 1942

Remembered with honour at the RUNNYMEDE MEMORIAL

We only know about the life of **John Ashton** from the *Tewkesbury Register* of 29 May 1943, a year after he was killed.



TEWKESBURY PILOT OFFICER KILLED

Pilot Officer Francis Henry John Ashton (only son of Mrs. Ashton of 68. Barton-Street, Tewkesbury, and the late Mr. Ashton) who gave his life in action on the 30th May of last year. His wife resides at 68 Barton-street. For official purposes his death was presumed to have occurred on the 31st of May 1942.

Pilot Officer Ashton was twenty-seven years of age. He was educated at Tewkesbury Grammar School and afterwards became a student teacher at Twyning School. Then he had two years' training at Culham College, Oxford, and after this took the post of assistant teacher at Blockley Boys' School until he joined the Royal Air Force.

He was a Spitfire pilot, had seen much service, and had two enemy victims to his credit.

It was clear from the report and his memorial that the body of John Ashton was not recovered and war time censorship does not allow us to estimate in which theatre he was killed.

