

Sgt Granville Thomas Truscott 581482 RAF

Granville, known as Gran, was born in 1915 in Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire, the eldest son of Thomas Charles Truscott and Emma Elizabeth Truscott nee Perry .

Educated locally, together with his three brothers he owned the Truscott & Perry Ladies Outfitters in Bishops Stortford. Active in the local community he was a Scout Leader and enthusiastic member of the local Amateur Dramatic Society. Granville joined the RAF one month before war was declared.

On 10 July 1940, 40 Blenheims were tasked with attacking satellite airfields in Amiens and St Omer. Six aircraft were lost on this mission and 107 Sqn, who provided six aircraft, lost five.

At 11:40 Granville, operating as the Observer, and the crew departed from RAF Wattisham in Blenheim IV P6894 (OM-Q) in formation with five other squadron aircraft. Their targets were in the Amiens-Glisy area.

Intense anti aircraft fire was encountered in the target area, and the formation was forced to break up. On leaving the target area, aircraft were attacked by a number of Me109s and Granville and the crew were reported to have been shot down by a Me109 of 9/JG3, crashing near the road to Crouy in Cavillon, Somme.

One aircraft returned to RAF Wattisham, and of the crews of the five aircraft that failed to return, two crews were later reported to have been taken POW, and the crews of the other three aircraft were all reported as killed in action.

Also killed: PO Thomas Maslin (Pilot); Sgt Stanley Edward Hinton (WOp/AG)

Originally buried near the crash site, Granville's remains were moved a short time later to his current resting place in the Cavillon Communal Cemetery, Somme, France.

Granville is commemorated on Wall Panel 256