# **Tony Bird RAF DFC**

Tony Bird DFC died in a care home in Bognor on 15/7/2018l' He went to Selhurst Grammar School in the 1930s. A Bomber Command Lancaster pilot, he was shot down on his 23rd mission over Germany and was a POW in Stalag Luft III. The following items have been sent to us by Adam Hermitage, son of Edward Hermitage who was a schoolfriend of Tony Bird's.

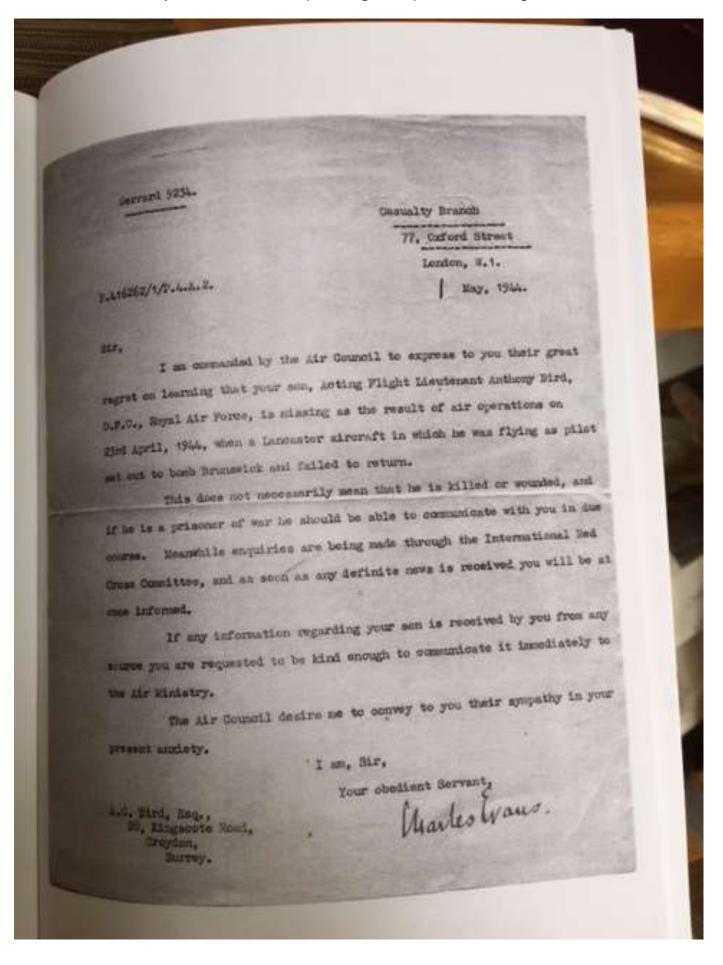




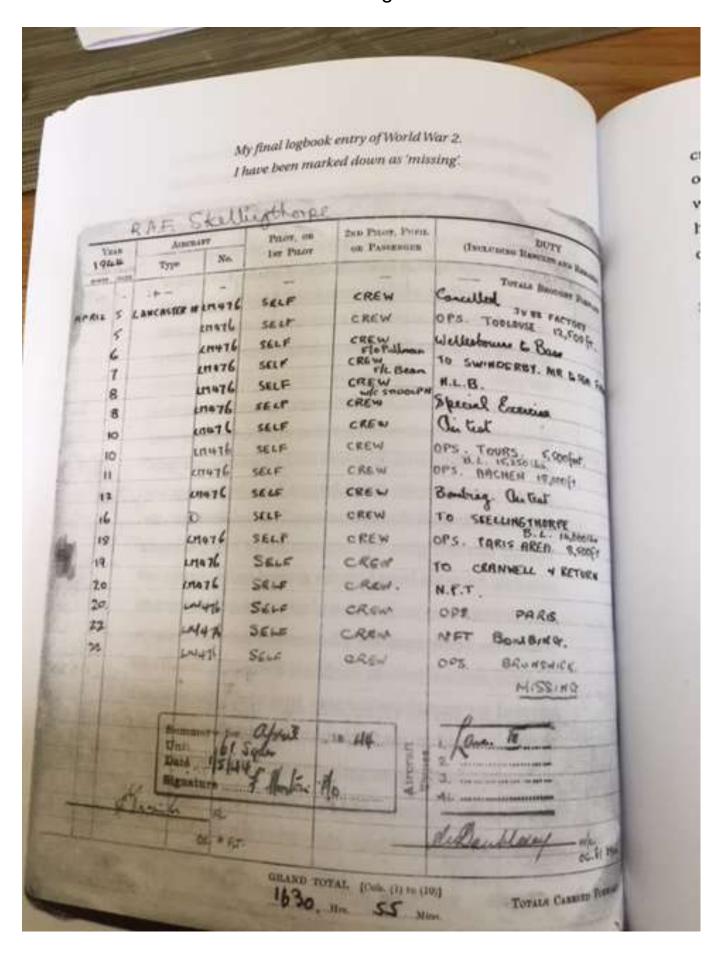
A Lancaster pilot's story of survival against all the odds

TONY BIRD DEC

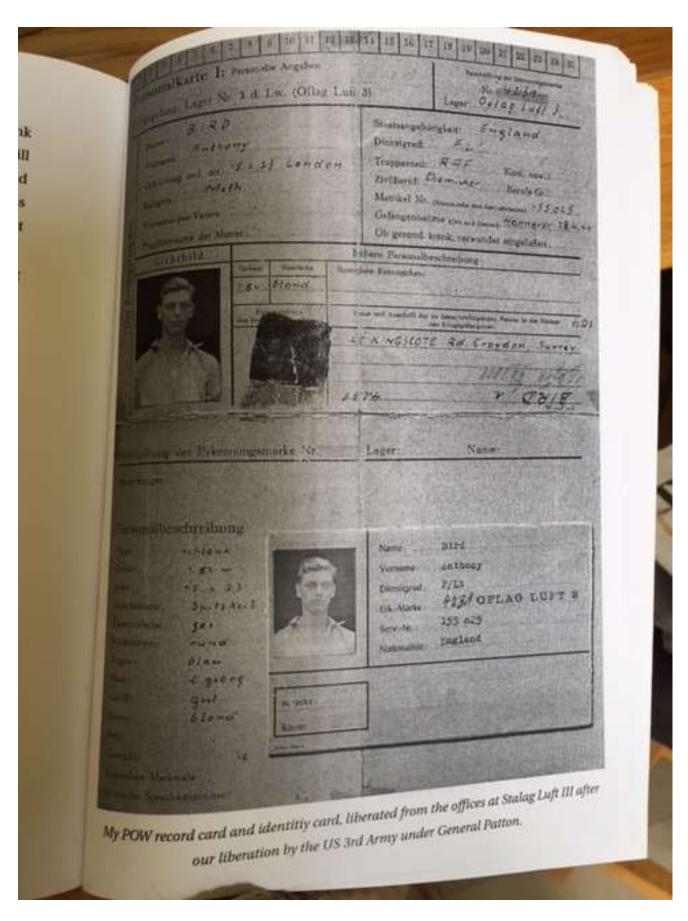
01 May 1944 letter reporting the pilot missing in action.



### Pilot's logbook



## **POW Record Card**



#### Newspaper article



PILOT OFFICER ANTHONY (TONY) BIRD, of Kingscots-road, Addiscombe, an old boy of Selburst Grummar School, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Aged 20. Pilot Officer Bird has numerous operational flights to his credit. In one recent big raid over Germany he was shot up twice and knocked unconscious for a time.

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#### PILOT OFFICER A. BIRD

When he recovered he went on to bomb the target. He brought home his Languager and those of his crew who had not based out and made a successful crash landing. This remarkable feat was performed without a navigator. Members of the crew were awarded the D.P.M.

Pilot Officer Bird volunteered for the RAP, in 1941 and gained his "wines" in Canada in 1942. After distinguished conduct in one raid hy was congratulated by his Commanding Officer and later given a combining Officer and later given a combining officer.

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