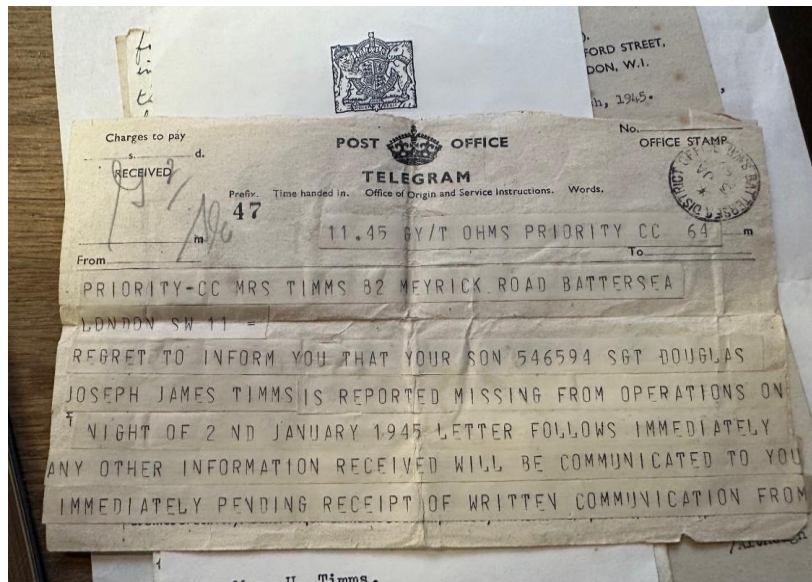
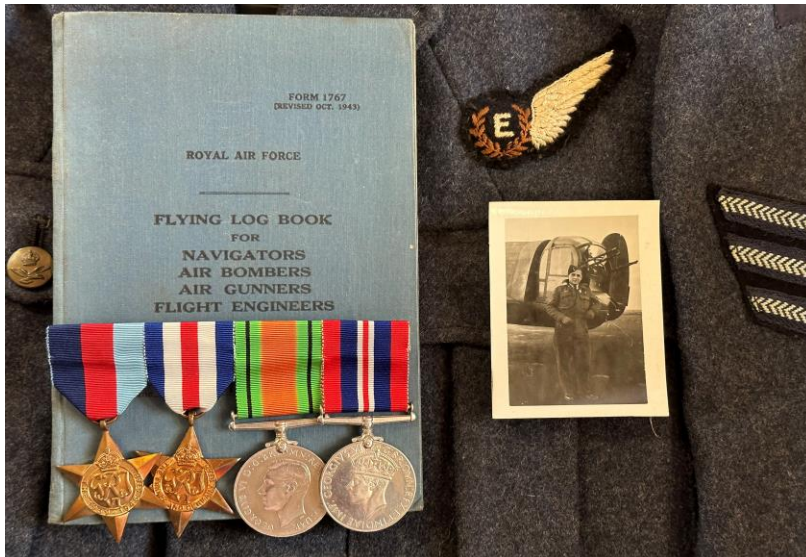


Lest We Forget

The poignant group of medals and ephemera for Sgt Douglas Timms are included in the **Charterhouse 31st August and 1st September two day Collector's Auction.**

“Sgt Timms was an engineer flying in a Lancaster who was sadly killed in action near Stuttgart on January 2nd 1945,” commented Richard Bromell. “The Lancaster was caught by German fighters and hit in the fuel tanks which caught fire and within seconds the plane blew up in mid-air. The pilot, navigator and bomb aimer were blown clear out the Lancaster and survived only to be captured when they landed by the Germans, but Sgt Timms and three crew from the plane lost their lives immediately.”

The lot includes his RAF jacket, Log Book noting flight operations and training, medals, black and white photographs, telegram to the family advising them of him being missing in action and letter of condolence are all a little pocket of history but it is the letter from the mother of the wireless operator in the same Lancaster who was also missing asking for any news and the letter from the pilot, Flight Officer Paul Bunn who survived, telling the family about the last time he saw Sgt Timms in the bomber before he was blown out from the plane which draw a tear to the eye.



The Sgt Timms pocket of WWII history.

AIR MINISTRY
9, Baldock Road,
Letchworth
Herts
14/6/45

Dear Mrs Gimmus,

I was very pleased to receive your letter. Frankly I cannot understand why the Air Ministry haven't communicated with you. I would have written to you earlier only I felt that perhaps it would only be rubbing salt into an open wound. Well on the night of Jan 2nd ~~we~~ were caught by fighters and were hit in the petrol tanks which immediately caught fire. Within a few seconds the aircraft just blew up in mid-air and myself, navigator & bomb aimer were blown clean out of the aeroplane. Now at the time your son was sitting next to me and when we got the burst

from the fighter he collapsed and slid
into the nose of the a/c. and that was
the last I saw of him. I did my best to
find out from the Germans exactly what
happened to them and they told me
definitely that four of the boys were killed.
Well now again they said that the boys
would be given a decent funeral like
their own people. There is another consolation
and that is none of the boys could possibly
have suffered in any way and were
killed outright. We were shot down near
a small town called Goppingen about
20 miles S.E. of Stuttgart.

In closing please accept my
sincerest sympathy and in future if I
can possibly help you please don't hesitate
in writing as I would be only too glad
to do anything for you

Yours faithfully
Paul M. Burns R.O.

82, Meyrick Road,

Viewing for the two day auction, being held at Charterhouse, The Long Street
Salerooms, Sherborne starts on **Tuesday 29th August** or you can see all the lots
and follow the auction live on charterhouse-auction.com

Charterhouse are now accepting further entries for their specialist autumn auctions of classic cars, motorcycles, enamel signs, automobilia and pictures.

Richard Bromell and the Charterhouse Team can be contact for valuations at The Long Street Salerooms, Sherborne, **01935 812277** or **rb@charterhouse-auction.com**