



Marriage of Pilot-Officer John Lewis

Miss Barbara Harpur Jones (Branston) and Pilot Officer John Lewis (Collingbourne Kingston, Wiltshire) after their wedding in Branston parish church on Saturday. Flight Lieutenant Roderick Learoyd, V.C. (on left) was best man.

Lincolnshire Echo, Monday, 28 October 1940

OPC Note:

Pilot-Officer John Lewis was the observer, navigator and bomb aimer, one of the 4 man crew of a Hampden bomber on 12 August 1940, piloted by Flight Lieutenant Learoyd, detailed to destroy a heavily defended old aqueduct carrying the canal over the river Ems, north of Munster. The attack was carried out at 150 feet, under intense fire, and despite the plane being repeatedly hit and damaged, Learoyd brought the wrecked plane home and landed safely, without causing injury to his crew. For this action he was awarded the V.C., the first to be awarded to a member of the R.A.F.