

### The Templehoff Family. 3 RAF deaths, two Jewish and one Christian

David Samuel Temple was born on 4 June 1921, in Kensington, London to Myer and Rebecca nee Tournoff and he had an older sister named Lilian.

David's grandparents Israel and Chaya nee Levy originated from Warsaw, Poland where they married in 1871. They had eight children of which the first six were born in Poland. They travelled to England and had two further children born in London. They are listed in 1881 as living in Black Lion Yard in Whitechapel and Israel worked as a master tailor.

Administrative County of London

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

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Civil Parish

Municipal District

Urban Sanitary District

Village or Hamlet

Rural Sanitary District

Parliamentary Electoral Division

Constitutional Electoral District

St Mary

of

of

of

of

of

of

of

No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES For which the Rating is payable	Number of Inhabitants	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON. DIVISION as to Marriage	AGE last Birthday	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION	Where BORN	(1) Deaf and Dumb	(2) Blind	(3) Lame, or Invalid
24	<u>2 Bury</u>			<u>Becky Borton</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>London White Chapel</u>			
27				<u>Abraham</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Taylor</u>	<u>Russia Poland</u>			
				<u>Mary</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Taylor</u>	<u>"</u>			
				<u>Abraham</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Taylor</u>	<u>"</u>			
				<u>Eva</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>London White Chapel</u>			
				<u>Esther</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>"</u>			
28	<u>28 Black Lion Yc</u>	1		<u>Thomas Reed</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Taylor</u>	<u>Ireland Waterford</u>			
				<u>Annie</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>"</u>			
				<u>Evy</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>"</u>			
				<u>Hyman</u>	<u>Visitor</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Taylor</u>	<u>"</u>			
29	<u>29</u>			<u>Israel Thompson</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Taylor</u>	<u>Russia Poland</u>			
				<u>Rebecca</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>"</u>			
				<u>Isaac</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Philomina</u>	<u>"</u>			
				<u>Thomas</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>machines</u>	<u>"</u>			
				<u>Annie</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>"</u>			
				<u>Thomas</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>"</u>			
				<u>Abraham</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>"</u>			
				<u>Benjamin</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>"</u>			
				<u>Tracy</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>London White Chapel</u>			
				<u>Charlotte Bennett</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>machines</u>	<u>Russia Poland</u>			
				<u>Thomas</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Low, paper mill</u>	<u>"</u>			
30	<u>30 The Station Yc</u>	1		<u>John Evans</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Low, paper mill</u>	<u>Wales &amp; Cardigan</u>			
				<u>Mary</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>35</u>		<u>London White Chapel</u>			
				<u>David Jones</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>"</u>			
				<u>Mary</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>"</u>			
				<u>John Davies</u>	<u>Visitor</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Refined</u>	<u>Wales</u>			
				<u>Thomas</u>	<u>Visitor</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>Wales &amp; Cardigan</u>			
				<u>William Jones</u>	<u>Visitor</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>London</u>	<u>London</u>			
				<u>John</u>	<u>Visitor</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>London</u>	<u>London</u>			

Total of Houses and all Tenements with lease

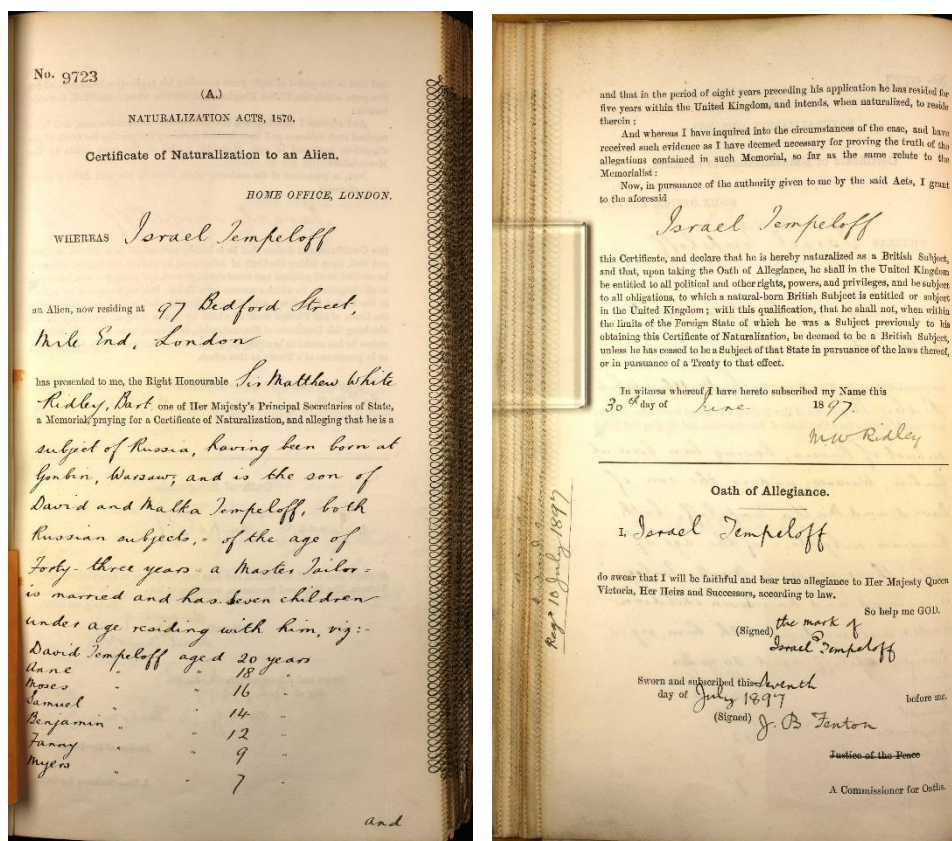
2-3

Total of Males and Females

17 11

## 1891 Census

By 1897 the family had moved to 97 Bedford Street in Mile End Old Town where Israel was listed as working as a master tailor. On 30 June 1897, Israel and his family became naturalised British Citizens and by 1901 he was a gentleman's tailor employing two staff.



In 1911 the family were living at 8 Tredegar Square in Bow, London and David's father Myer is listed as aged twenty-one, single and working as a bookkeeper.

By 1918 Myer had changed his surname to Temple and was working as a juvenile outfitter. He married Rebecca Tournoff in April 1918 and their first child Lilian was born on 12 February 1919 followed by David in 1921.

Myer died at the age of thirty-three on 31 July 1924 only three years after David was born. His death certificate states that his cause of death was malignant carditis and syncope.

Registration District KENSINGTON.								
1924. DEATHS in the Sub-District of KENSINGTON NORTH in the County of LONDON.								
Columns:—	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
No.	When and Where Died.	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Age.	Rank or Profession.	Cause of Death.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.
389	Thirtieth July 1924 249 Portobello Road	Myer Temple	male	33 years	Juvenile Outfitter	Malignant Endocarditis (a) syncope one p.m. Certified by B. Shaw L.R.C.P.	I taken causing the body to be buried 247 Portobello Road	Thirty first July 1924 Registrar

Myer is buried in Edmonton Federation Jewish Cemetery.



**TEMPLE.**—On Thursday, the 31st of July, 1924—**שרי ר' מנחם אבן**, Myer Temple, beloved husband of Rebecca (née Tournoff), youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Israel Templehoff, brother of Mrs. M. Simmonds, Mrs. S. Nymman (Hannah); Mrs. J. Mazin (Fannie), Mr. Morris Temple, Mr. Samuel Temple, and Mr. Benjamin Temple. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife, children, parents, relatives, and friends. May his dear soul rest in everlasting peace. **ה'תש"ד, י"ז**, 249, Portobello-road, London, W.11.

Myer's headstone and death announcement in the Jewish Chronicle.

Rebecca bought up the children alone as her parents Israel and Rosetta had also died in the 1920's. Her family heritage was of Russian Jews who emigrated to England in 1828. Rebecca remarried out of the Jewish religion when she was forty-five, to a twenty-one-year-old Christian, James Atkins, on 18 November 1937 at Edmonton registry office. David's stepfather James was only four years older than him.

James worked as an outfitter and qualified as a pilot in 1936 at the Herts and Essex Aero Club. In 1939, the register states that the family were living at 15 Farm Avenue in Harrow and James is listed as serving in the RAF and David was working as a civil servant. David's sister Lilian worked as a stenographer and her fiancée Alfred Gale, a physicist, was also living at the address. Lilian married Alfred in October 1939 in Hendon and their daughter Jill was born in 1944. The family emigrated to Massachusetts, USA in the 1950's and became American citizens in 1958.





James Atkins

James was the pilot of Beaufighter JL514 of 227 Squadron. Early in the afternoon on 21 May 1943, three Beaufighters were engaged in a fight with five JU 52's and an escort of five Arados near Melos in the Aegean Sea. The aircraft was seen to attack an Arado but nothing more was seen or heard from the aircraft. James is buried in Phaleron War Cemetery and was killed almost exactly two years after David.

### David Temple

On 18 May 1941, David was on board Whitley P5047 which departed from RAF Little Rissington in Gloucestershire. The aircraft crashed to the ground at Windrush Relief Standing Ground. David's death certificate states that his cause of death was '*burns sustained when the aeroplane in which he was flying accidentally crashed to the ground at Windrush Relief Landing Ground*'.

All three men on board were killed including U/T Pilot, LAC John Samuel Edgar Rawcliffe, 964357 and Pilot John Trevor Smale, 1252037

Registration District CIRENCESTER.								
1942.. DEATHS in the Sub-District of NORTHLEACH in the County of GLOUCESTER.								
Columns:— 1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
When and Where Died.	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Age.	Rank or Profession.	Cause of Death.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.
Eighteenth May 1941 Windrush Relief Standing Ground Windrush	David Samuel Temple	Male	19 years	of 15 Farm, Overton, Havering, Middlesex Civil Servant serving as a Corporal No 46234 in the Royal Air Force, the son of Myer Temple deceased formerly an Outfitter.	Burns sustained when the aeroplane in which he was flying accidentally crashed to the ground at Windrush Relief Landing Ground.	Certificate received from John D Lane, Coroner for Gloucestershire (Upper District). Inquest held 31st May 1941 and 15th April 1942.	Seventeenth April 1942	any miles Registrar

David's death certificate

David Samuel Temple	R.A.F. Station, Little Rissington	May <del>April</del> 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1941.	19 years	R. G. Wilkinson, R.A.F. Chaplain.
No. 454.				

David's burial record at Little Rissington

David was buried on 23 May 1941 at Little Rissington (St Peter) Churchyard, and his headstone was marked with a cross. Extensive research uncovered the fact that he was Jewish and that he was nineteen and not eighteen as engraved on his headstone. An appeal was sent to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to change his headstone. The CWGC have acknowledged that David's mother requested that no religious emblem was placed on his headstone. They have stated:

*'The Commission clearly had correspondence with the next of kin who chose not to have a religious emblem engraved on the headstone.*

*Follow up communications from the Commission with the family were not returned, where it was then decided (by the Commission) that a cross should be engraved as the default.*

*As this is a direct confliction with the mother's original wishes, the Commission will now seek to rectify this historic mistake and amend the headstone to show no religious emblem upon Corporal Temple's headstone within Little Rissington (St. Peter) Churchyard'.*

We are now waiting for David's headstone to be changed.





967234 CORPORAL  
D. S. TEMPLE  
ROYAL AIR FORCE  
18TH MAY 1941 AGE 18

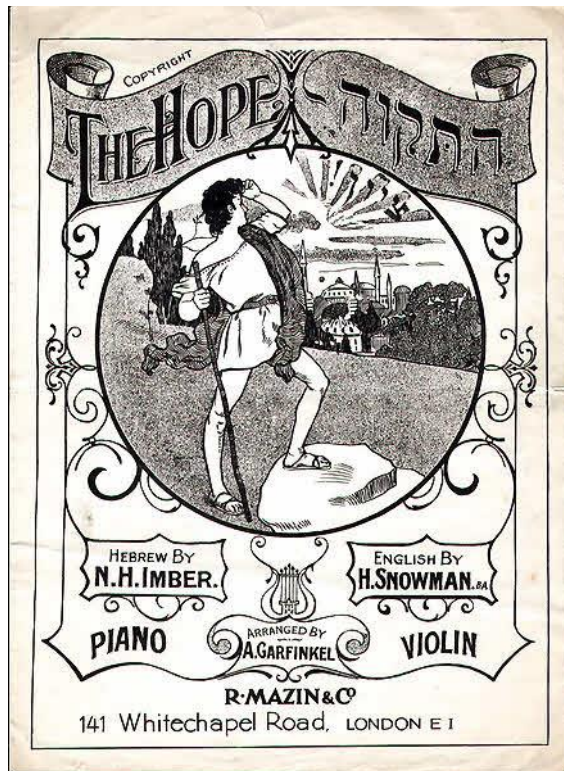


ALWAYS IN OUR THOUGHTS  
SO SADLY MISSED

MOTHER, FATHER AND JOHN

Francis Montague Mazin, David's cousin

David's father Myer had a sister Fanny Templehoff who married naturalised British citizen and Russian born Jacob Mazin in 1909. They had four children of which the youngest and only son was Francis Montague Mazin born in April 1921 two months before his cousin David Temple. The Mazin family owned a well-known book and music shop in 1899 which existed until 1970.



Francis enlisted into the RAF in 1941. He was the navigator on Halifax W7878 which departed RAF Gravelly on a night operation to Krefeld on the 22 June 1943. The aircraft crashed into the sea off the Dutch coast killing all the crew who are commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial. Francis was twenty-two.