

BOURDON, Paul Joseph (Charlie)

Born: October 10, 1923, Marylebone, London, England.*

Died: October 21, 2007.

Charlie was an orphan and was brought up by a foster family until the age of seven, before moving to a boy's home in Enfield, Middlesex. At the age of 14 the boys moved to Gloucestershire where they were taught agricultural trades by the Catholic Salesian Brothers but war was looming and Charlie joined the R.A.F. in February 1941, at the age of 17. After serving with the 159 Squadron Charlie was demobilised in November 1945 and spent some time employed in the farm industry, also embarking on his speedway career around the same time.

He was to make his only appearance in Bristol colours in their first post-war league match at Middlesbrough on April 10, 1947, but was replaced in the side by Roger Wise for the next meeting. He continued to ride in second half events for a short time but re-joined the Royal Air Force and served in Rhodesia, where he continued his motorcycle exploits.

Charlie left the R.A.F. for a final time in November 1949 and emigrated to Western Australia the following August. He had many jobs in his new life Down Under, including Prison Officer and Paramedic and led a full and active existence until his death in October 2007 at the age of 84.

Year	Club	Division	M	R	P	BP	TP	CMA	FM	PM
1947	Bristol	NL2	1	1	0	0	0	0.00	-	-