



Aviation Memorials in **Nottinghamshire**

We love to commemorate our aviation heritage.



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In Nottinghamshire We Love To Commemorate Our Aviation Heritage

The diversity of aviation memorial locations across the county is impressive. These memorials are not just at airfield sites, but they can also be found in churches, village halls, on city streets and at remote countryside locations.

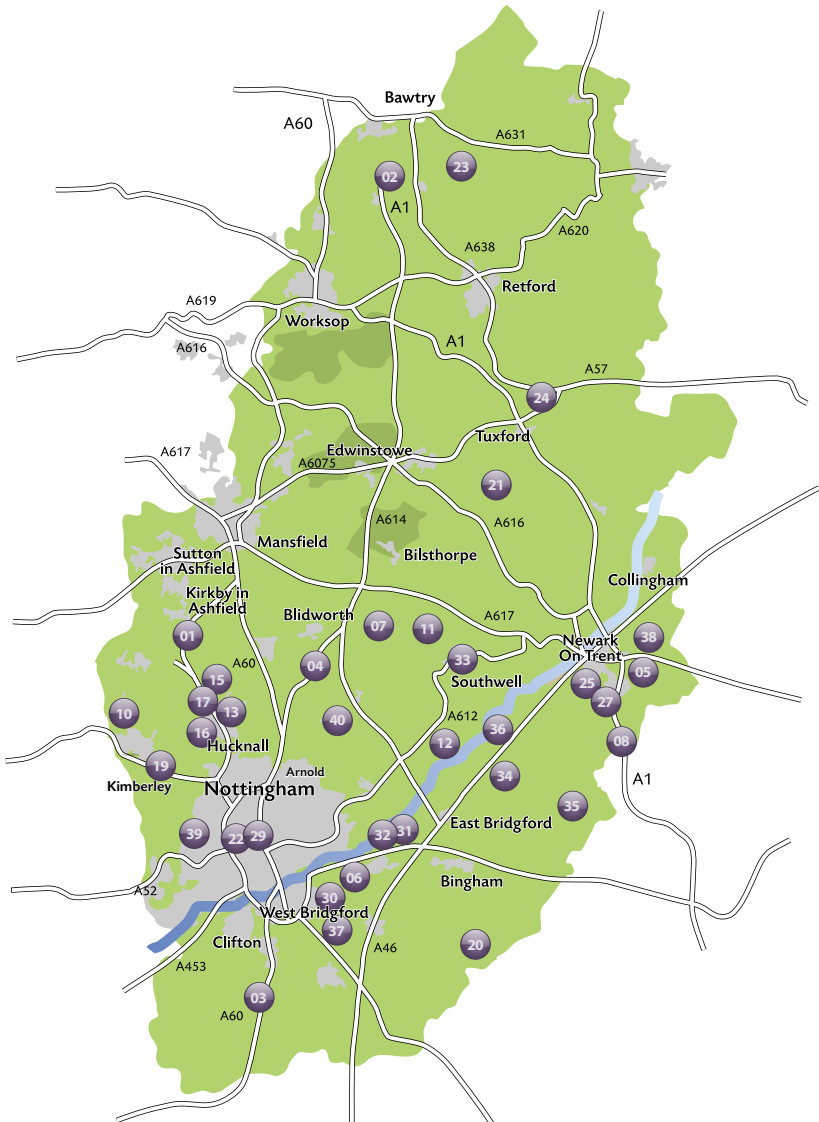
Some memorials are relatively new, whilst others can trace their origins back decades. These memorials, some of them raised through public subscription, reflect the lives of national figures like Albert Ball VC; whilst others are simpler marks of respect that have been erected thanks to the efforts of small groups of individuals. There are even sculptures and pub signs that highlight the county's contribution to the development of significant aviation technologies. Collectively they play a part in helping to commemorate the county's aviation heritage.

Many individuals had travelled from around the world to air bases in Nottinghamshire to train as World War II bomber crews. A common bond that joins most of these memorials together is that they commemorate the lives of brave individuals who were lost whilst learning these new skills; often in difficult weather conditions, a long way from home and in a relatively congested airspace, caused by having a lot of airfields so close together.

For each of the memorials listed we have provided some background information about the crews involved and the circumstances of the crash; this is merely a snapshot of incidents that are recorded in more detail in books and on websites and we would encourage you to investigate them further.

Please be aware that some memorials are located on private land and have been included in this guide thanks to the kind cooperation of the landowners. Please respect their property and follow the access instructions that have been carefully prepared for this guide.

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01 Annesley

Grid Ref: Sheet 120; SK508529

History On 14th January 1945 a Short Stirling bomber EH988 from 1661 HCU at RAF Winthorpe was being flown to Northern Ireland to be scrapped. Shortly after taking off two engines were lost and the aircraft tried to make a forced landing at RAF Hucknall; only to crash on a wooded ridge on the Musters Estate near Annesley.

In the late 1990s the Stirling Memorial Group raised money for a memorial close to the crash site. An official unveiling ceremony, carried out by Gp Capt Cook, was held on 16th September 1998, with many air force veterans present.

Recovered fragments of the lost aircraft are stored in a small wooden casket that is housed at the Newark Air Museum.

Nationalities: British

Access: Roadside access with a small pull-in / parking area. Take the A611 from either Nottingham or Mansfield; at the A608 junction take the turn towards the M1 junction 27 and then a left turn less than 50 metres after the traffic lights on the main roundabout junction.



01 | Annesley

02 Blyth

Grid Ref: Sheet 111; SK626868

History: This memorial commemorates two aircraft and crew that were lost close to the village during World War II.

The first was Wellington HE818 from No.18 OTU at RAF Worksop, which crashed approximately 200m from the site of the memorial on 7th March 1944. The second aircraft was Halifax NA581, which crashed to the north-west of the village in August 1944. This aircraft was flying on a daytime test flight with the RCAF 425 (Alouetté) Squadron out of RAF Tolthorpe, North Yorks, when it suffered engine problems and crashed.

The memorial site is in leafy shade on the village green and was erected on 14th September 1997.

Nationalities: British & Canadian

Access: Roadside access with parking spaces alongside the village green or along the main road. Easy access into Blyth from the A1 travelling from either the north or the south; with the memorial sitting on the village green opposite the B6045 turn to Worksop.

02 | Blyth

This memorial commemorates two aircraft and crew that were lost close to the village during World War II.





05 | Coddington



04 | Calverton

03 Bunny

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK583297

History: This aviation memorial plaque was dedicated on 11th November 2012 in St Mary the Virgin Parish Church, Bunny and commemorates two airmen killed in a Mosquito crash near to the village.

Mosquito FB.VI, HJ767 was flying on a night cross-country training exercise from 60 OTU at RAF High Ercall, Salop, when it crashed on 16th June 1944. It is reported that the aircraft developed engine trouble before crash landing into a copse called Bunny Decoy outside of the village. Both airmen on board the aircraft were killed.

The pilot, Flt. Lt. JJ K De Roeck (RAFVR) is buried at Nottingham Southern Cemetery; the navigator / observer, Sgt F W D Hearn (RAFVR) is buried at Oxford.



03 | Bunny

St Mary the Virgin Parish Church is normally locked but contact can be made with the vergier if you wish to view the memorial plaque.

Nationalities: British & Commonwealth

Access: On street parking is available on Church Street, which is just off the main A60 Nottingham to Loughborough Road in the village of Bunny.

04 Calverton

Grid Ref: Sheet 120; SK605517

History: Fairey Battle L5499 of 300 (Mazovia) Sqn, then operating from RAF Winthorpe, was returning from a raid on Boulogne on 13th October 1940 when it lost control in foggy weather and crashed in the Foxcovert Plantation near Calverton. Three crew members were killed in the crash and were buried at Wilford Hill Cemetery, Nottingham. The simple memorial was erected by coal miners who were preparing the nearby railway line to the former Calverton Colliery. This carries the inscription "Perished for our and your freedom – 13th October 1940 300 Polish Squadron".

A stone base was added to the memorial at a later date.

Nationalities: Polish

Access: Located in the Foxcovert Plantation at the side of the A614; the memorial is approximately a 1 km uphill walk from the roadside. The site is best approached by travelling along the A614 road from Ollerton towards Nottingham. Just after the Longdale Lane / Windbush Lane roundabout there is a lay-by on the left hand side; park in here and then walk back approximately 70 metres and walk up the side of the plantation towards Beanford Farm.



05 Coddington – village sign

Grid Ref: Sheet 121; SK832545

History: The Coddington village sign, unveiled on 10th December 1994, was designed by Barry King and children from the nearby Coddington School and incorporates an image of an aircraft flying from nearby RAF Winthorpe.

The village itself was partially formed by RAF Winthorpe married quarters and road names in the village such as

Hampdens Close, Lancaster Road and Stirling Drive reflect those aviation connections.

Access: Located alongside the Beckingham Road (old A17 road) adjacent to the Newark Road junction.



07 | Farnsfield

06 Cotgrave Place

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK630371

Nationalities: British

History: Whilst converting to fly Wellingtons, B Flight of 12 Squadron was dispersed to RAF Tollerton. During a local familiarisation flight on 8th February 1941 Wellington II W5365 suffered two control problems, nearly diving into the ground on each occasion. Despite regaining control the pilot was unable to avoid hitting an oak tree whilst attempting to land back at Tollerton.

Access: This memorial is mounted on a plinth at the side of the first tee on the Cotgrave Golf Course. From the A52 take the Stragglethorpe Road turning towards Cotgrave and then follow the signs for the Golf Course and Conference Centre. Park in the appropriate spaces in the Clubhouse Car Park and please check in at the Professional Shop before viewing the memorial.

Local farm workers attempted to rescue the crew members from the crash site. There were two survivors and six fatalities; all of whom are named on the Cotgrave Place memorial.



06 | Cotgrave Place

07 Farnsfield

Grid Ref: Sheet 120; SK644553

History: This memorial was erected in 1994 by friends, relatives and villagers of Farnsfield to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the loss of 578 Squadron Halifax, MZ519. The aircraft crashed on 6th July 1944 whilst returning from a raid on a V1 launch site at Croixdalle, France, killing all seven crew members.

Parfitt Road on the outskirts of the village itself is named after the pilot of the aircraft and a second memorial plaque on the edge of a relatively new housing estate denotes this fact. Further details about this particular memorial can be found on this website www.farnsfieldbomber.org.uk

Nationalities: British & Canadian

Access: Located close to Ridings Hill House this memorial site is well sign posted from the main street in Farnsfield. Follow the "Halifax

Memorial" signs that are located near to the Spar / Post Office and Co-Op shops; this takes you along Quaker Lane and Tipping Lane up a single track road towards the memorial site, which is also close to a local walking route.

A second location in the village related to this crash site can be found on the right hand side when you travel along the Edingley road towards Southwell.



08 Fernwood – Lancaster Grange

Grid Ref: Sheet 121; SK822505

History: The name of this residential care home was chosen by children at nearby Claypole Primary School, as part of a naming competition. Lancaster Grange was chosen in honour of the brave airmen who flew Lancaster Bombers from RAF Balderton in World War II. The care home proudly displays a weather vane in the shape of a Lancaster bomber.

Access: Located just off the B6326 road that leaves Balderton to join the A1 southbound; Lancaster Grange is located on Cross Lane, on the Fernwood Park Estate.

09 Gonalston

Grid Ref: See access information below

History: This memorial was erected by a family in memory of their son and six of his comrades from RAF Syerston who lost their lives in a crash on 26th May 1944.

Some reports indicate that a contributing factor of the crash was a parachute harness blocking the flight controls of the Lancaster L7578. The crew were buried in a collective grave in the military section at Newark Cemetery, on Elm Avenue (see memorial 25).



09 | Gonalston

Nationalities: British & Canadian

Access: This memorial stone close to the crash site is maintained in a secluded hedgerow on private land near Gonalston. Access to the site can be made by prior arrangement and when the fields are not being cultivated. Contact details for the farmer can be obtained via the Newark Air Museum.

10 Greasley Parish Hall

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK478468

History: This illuminated memorial print commemorates three Mosquito aircraft crashes from 504 (County of Nottingham) Squadron RAuxAF that occurred close to the village in the late 1940s. The losses detailed on the print are:

Mosquito V350 crashed on take-off from Hucknall on 23rd August 1947.

Mosquito VP345 crashed on New Road, Greasley, near to the Horse and Groom public house on 13th March 1948.

Mosquito RK933 crashed on New Road Field, Greasley, only 300 metres from the VP345 crash site on 10th April 1948.

Subscriptions for the print came from the 504 Squadron Association and members; the local RAFA branch; Hucknall ATC; and local residents.

Nationalities: British

Access: Greasley Parish Hall is located next to the Greasley Sports Centre on Dovecote Road, Newthorpe. Access to the memorial can be requested via the Greasley Parish Council or staff at the Leisure Centre.



10 | Greasley Parish Hall

11 Halam

Grid Ref: Sheet 120; SK686551

History: In the early hours of Saturday 10th April 1943, Lancaster ED832 belonging to 1661 HCU took off from RAF Winthorpe. At 0125hrs, just 8 miles from the airfield, the aircraft crashed after clipping power lines and all seven crew members were killed. The three Commonwealth airmen were buried at Newark Cemetery and the other crew members were returned to their home towns.

The dedication service on 10th April 2011 was attended by more than 200 people, including relatives of the crew members lost in the crash; some of whom travelled from Australia and Canada. Also in attendance were representatives of the RAF, RCAF and RAAF; civic dignitaries and many local villagers who helped make the arrangements for the raising of the memorial.

Funding for the memorial was provided by a grant from the Nottinghamshire County Council's LIS and the donation of the main memorial stone by Aggregates & Concrete UK.

Nationalities: British, Canadian, Australian

Access: Located along School Lane about half a mile outside the village, the memorial is situated on a small parcel of land easily accessible from the roadside. The memorial is signed and coming from Halam, is obscured by the hedgerow, however the memorial is still very easy to find if you take your time driving down the narrow country lane.

12 | Hoveringham

These memorials commemorate two Lancaster crews, which crashed on separate nights in January 1945



13 | Hucknall - Cemetery



12 Hoveringham

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK709467

History: These memorials commemorate two Lancaster crews, which crashed on separate nights in January 1945. Both aircraft were on training operations from No. 5 LFS at RAF Syerston, which is located on the ridge over on the opposite bank of the river.

Lancaster Mk III JB125 crashed on 12th January 1945 whilst trying to land back at Syerston. The aircraft caught fire, killing the crew, despite rescue attempts by villagers from Hoveringham who tried to rescue the airmen. This crew comprised of three New Zealanders and four British airmen.

Lancaster Mk III LM308 crashed on 29th January 1945 whilst on their final training flight. In the circuit at Syerston eyewitnesses saw flames from both port engines before the aircraft crashed at high speed and exploded on impact; the crew were

killed instantly. This crew comprised of five Canadians and two British airmen.

Work on the memorials was instigated by Sir Edward and Lady Helen Nall and they were dedicated in a ceremony on 30th May 2010. Further details about this particular memorial can be found on this website www.hoveringham.org.uk/lancaster.html

Nationalities: British, Canadian & New Zealand

Access: These memorial stones, close to the crash sites, are located next to the Trent Valley Way public footpath that runs alongside the River Trent. Hoveringham village is located just off the A612 Nottingham to Southwell Road; there is free car parking in the village and on the riverside near the Ferry Farm Park. The memorials are approximately a 2km walk in a north easterly direction from the parking area.

13 Hucknall – Cemetery

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK538483

History: In Hucknall Cemetery there are 34 World War II burials and also a small Commonwealth War Graves section in the north eastern part of the cemetery, which contains 15 graves, 14 of which are Polish airmen.

There are reports of a memorial plaque, but all that can be seen is a concrete plinth set into the ground in front of the first two graves.

Unfortunately it is difficult to read the writing on this plinth, but it seems to relate to two Polish airmen who are buried there.

Nationalities: Polish

Access: The cemetery is located next to Titchfield Park and is best approached by taking the Broomhill Road turning off the Nottingham Road.

14 Hucknall – Flying Bedstead Pub

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK531486

History: Work at Hucknall on the VTOL concept in the early 1950s arose out of a proposal from Dr A A Griffiths of Rolls-Royce Ltd for an experimental test-rig to investigate control and stability factors affecting V-TOL flight.

Mr J S Hart, the Chief Installation Designer at Hucknall designed a Thrust Measuring Rig, which became known as the 'Flying Bedstead'. This work was instrumental in the

subsequent development of the world famous Harrier 'Jump-Jet Fighter', a story that is also explained through various exhibits and displays at the Newark Air Museum. This memorial is another unusual one for the Hucknall area as it is a public house called the Flying Bedstead.

Access: Located close to the town centre on Watnall Road and can be easily accessed from the A611 Hucknall bypass.

15 Hucknall Flying Bedstead roundabout

Grid Ref: Sheet 120; SK524506

History: This enigmatic sculpture depicts the Thrust Measuring Rig, which became known as the 'Flying Bedstead' and can so easily be missed as it is partially surrounded by trees and bushes.

Access: Located on the roundabout at the junction of the A611 Hucknall bypass and the B6011 Wighay Road towards Linby; best seen by travelling along the A611 bypass from Nottingham towards the M1 junction 27 (caution should be exercised if trying to go up to the sculpture due to the high volumes of traffic using the road).

15 | Flying Bedstead roundabout



16 Hucknall – Harrier Pub

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK517477

History: This is another public house that celebrates Hucknall's connections with the Rolls-Royce VTOL engine development programme. At the time of compiling this publication the pub was for sale and hopefully it will continue to trade with this aviation name.

Many of the roads on the housing estates around this area have aviation

connections, through aircraft names like Lancaster Road and Harrier Grove; or with aero engine connections like Merlin Drive and Nene Close.

Access: This memorial is the second public house in the Hucknall area. This public house is located on Christchurch Road and it can be found by following Ruffs Drive (opposite the Fire Station) on the B6009 Watnall Road.

17 Hucknall Market Place

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK533494

History: This memorial stone was raised in memory of 504 Squadron (County of Nottingham) RAuxAF, which was formed at nearby RAF Hucknall on 26th March 1928

Arrangements for the memorial were undertaken by 504 (County of Nottingham) Squadron Association and the local council. A service of dedication was held in Hucknall Parish Church before the formal unveiling and wreath laying ceremonies were completed on 30th June 2012 in the presence of many local civic dignitaries.

504 Squadron (County of Nottingham) RAuxAF was incorporated into RAF Fighter Command at the outbreak of World War II and operated during the Battle of Britain; and flew Hurricanes

and Spitfires. The squadron was disbanded in 1957; during the late 1990s a new unit was formed at RAF Cottesmore as an OSRSS of the RAF.

Nationalities: British

Access: This memorial is located in the corner of the Market Place, near the junction of Ogle Street, South Street and Baker Street (just in front of the Nottinghamshire County Council Library).



17 | Hucknall Market Place

18 Hucknall – West Street

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK527493

History: This memorial relates to a nearby crash on 23rd September 1940, when a Fairey Battle K9480 from 18 OTU at RAF Hucknall crashed into houses at the nearby corner of Ruffs Drive and Laughton Crescent. The crash resulted in the death of the pilot and several members of the Evans family who lived in one house and are buried at Broomhill Road Cemetery. The occupants of the other house, the Smith family, were injured but survived.

The inscription on the memorial is understood to read "Sleep well dear friend and dream of a free Poland".

A more recent and unusual memorial sits in the wall alongside the Polish Memorial. This is "In Memory of Sally, a Collie Dog 'Pride of Hucknall'", which whilst alive raised funds for the Royal Air Force Association, the Royal British Legion and the Polish Red Cross.

Nationalities: Polish

Access: This memorial is mounted in a sandstone wall next to the path on West Street, Hucknall; between Spring Street and Church Drive (close to the Seven Stars public house). Access to West Street can be made along Wood Lane towards the town centre from the roundabout on the A611 Hucknall bypass; known locally as the 'Harrier' roundabout.

19 Kimberley

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK502446

History: The town's distinctive rotunda war memorial features a small clock tower, references to the town's war dead from various conflicts and a bronze plaque that displays a distinctive Lancaster bomber.

Adjacent to the war memorial is a bronze plaque that was part funded by the Nottinghamshire County Council under a precursor to the LIS grant scheme. This plaque commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the famous Dambusters Raid and it is dedicated to local airman Sgt Richard Bolitho.

Sgt Bolitho lived on James Street in Kimberley and he was a rear

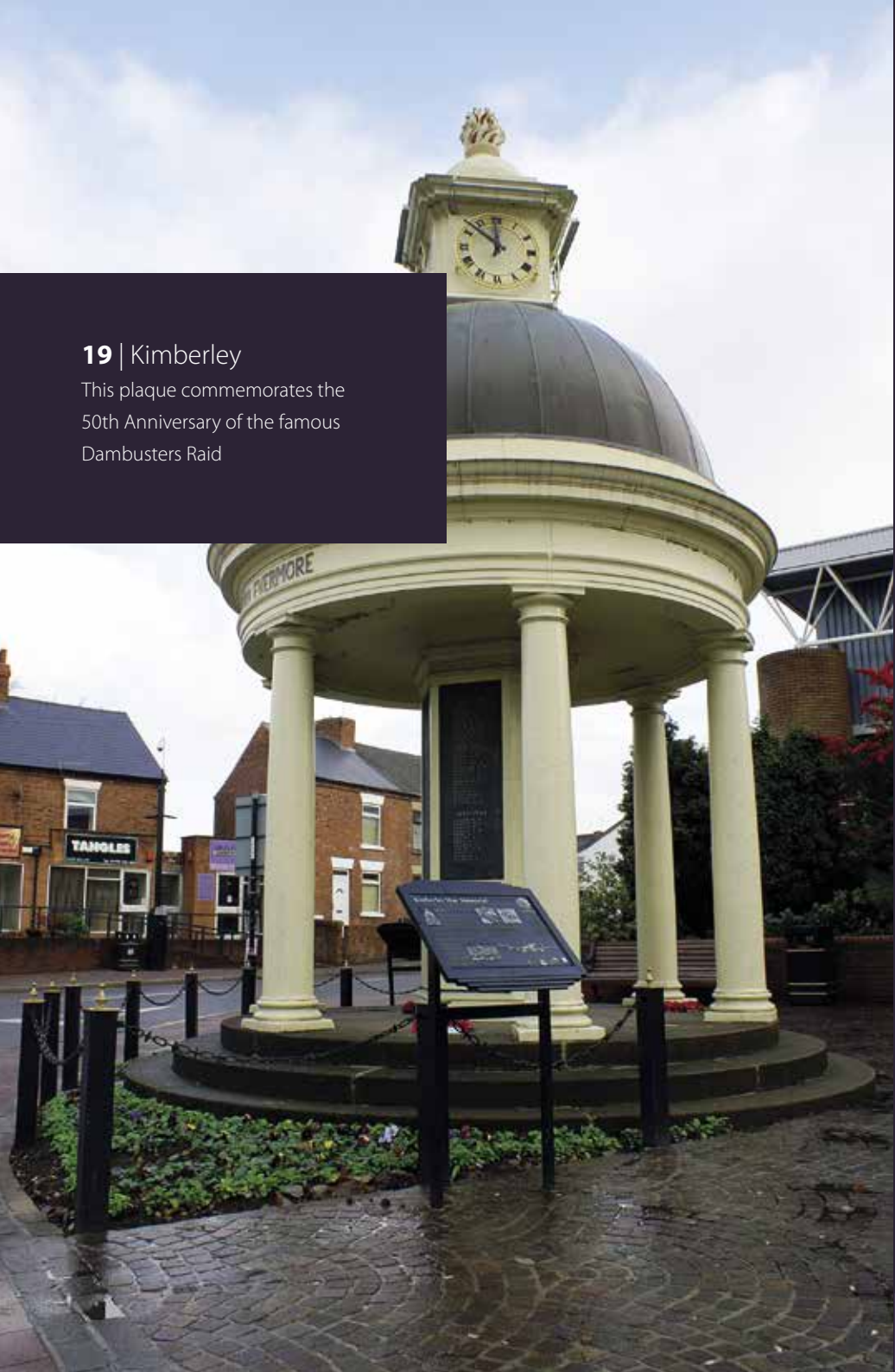
gunner with 617 Squadron – 'The Dambusters'. Sgt Bolitho was killed when his Lancaster aircraft, ED864 'B' for Baker, crashed after hitting power cables near Achling Aarben, North Dorsten, Germany at 12.15 on 17th May 1943 whilst on route to the Möhne Dam in the Ruhr valley.

Nationalities: British & Commonwealth

Access: Take the B600 junction off the A610 roundabout at Cinderhill and follow the signs to Kimberley / Eastwood. The memorial is located next to the mini roundabout at the Main Street junction with Greens Lane (formerly Factory Lane) and Victoria Lane. This is close to the Sainsbury's superstore and there is free short stay car parking close by.

19 | Kimberley

This plaque commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the famous Dambusters Raid





20 | Langar

20 Langar

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK734333

History: The memorial was erected by the local community in tribute to the 251 members of 207 Squadron who gave their lives whilst serving at the airfield during World War II. It was dedicated and unveiled on 12th May 1994 by Mrs D Ware who was the widow of Sgt Thomas Skelton, who was lost on ops from Langar 13th May 1943.

A wooden seat located alongside the memorial was donated by Mrs Ware and a Memorial Book to 207 Squadron was also placed in St. Andrew's Church, Langar. Further details about this particular memorial can be found on this website

www.207squadron.rafinfo.org.uk/langar10/



21 | Laxton

Nationalities: Commonwealth

Access: This memorial is located on the side of the Bingham to Harby road (Langar Lane) just south east of Langar village and close to one of the entrances to the airfield. There is a small unmade-up parking area from where it is a short walk to the memorial.

21 Laxton

Grid Ref: Sheet 120; SK722670

Memorial Grid Ref: Sheet 120; SK725665

History: Two memorials in Laxton commemorate a World War II Wellington bomber training operation crash. The aircraft lost was LP841 from No.82 OTU flying out of nearby RAF Ossington; it crashed shortly after take-off on 5th January 1945 and wreckage fell into the South Field at Laxton.

Two separate memorial stones were dedicated on 6th January 2013. The first memorial stone was installed in the church and it bears the names of the four members of the RCAF who were killed in the crash and the name of the one survivor.

A second memorial has been located by the roadside on Moorhouse Road, just outside of the village. This overlooks the crash site, where the aircraft hit an electrical pole near a stream and burst into flames. The tail section of the aircraft broke away, enabling the rear gunner Sgt. R Eden to escape. He was eventually led to safety by villagers.

Nationalities: Canadian

Access: St. Michael the Archangel church is located in the centre of the village on High Street. The second memorial is located on the right hand-side of the road as you leave Laxton village on the Moorhouse Road towards Moorhouse / Ossington.

22 Lenton - Albert Ball VC

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK554393

History: Albert Ball VC lost his life near Annoeullin, France whilst flying with 56 Squadron on 7th May 1917. Two days later he was given a full military funeral by Germans at Annoeullin Cemetery and posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross on 8th June 1917, which was presented to his parents on 22nd July 1917 by King George V.

The Albert Ball VC Memorial Homes were built by Albert Ball Senior and his wife in memory of their son; to house the widows and mothers of Lenton servicemen killed in the war. The properties were designed by a

Col AW Brewill and were opened on 7th September 1922.

Albert Ball VC is also the first name listed on the Lenton War memorial, which is located in front of the Memorial Homes.

Nationalities: British

Access: The Albert Ball VC Memorial Homes are located on Church Street, Old Lenton and are best approached by turning off the A6130 Lenton Boulevard. Much of the area has resident only parking spaces so please be careful where you park. The homes are still occupied so please respect the resident's privacy.



24 | Milton

23 Mattersey

Grid Ref: Sheet 111; SK686896

History: This memorial bench was installed to commemorate a mid-air collision between a Tornado GR1 aircraft from the Tri-National Tornado Training Establishment, RAF Cottesmore and a Cessna 152 aircraft on 21st January 1999, west of the village. Four people were killed in this tragic incident.



23 | Mattersey

Access: Turn off the B6045 in Mattersey village towards Mattersey Thorpe. The memorial bench is located on the roadside by the cemetery, which is approximately 400m from Mattersey village.

24 Milton

Grid Ref: Sheet 120; SK715730

History: The memorial stone was raised in the memory of six, IX(B) Squadron airmen who lost their lives when their Lancaster bomber, DV334 (WS-C) crashed on the night of 3rd December 1943; having returned from a bombing raid on Berlin.

Around 500 people attended the dedication ceremony for this memorial at the Milton Mausoleum on 19th May 2013.

Lancaster DV334 had been diverted from its home base of RAF Bardney, Lincs and initially tried to land at RAF Ossington, Notts. However heavy fog prevented landing at this initial diversion site and the pilot then attempted to land at the nearby RAF Gamston. This attempt was also unsuccessful and then, low on fuel the

Lancaster crash landed in a field close to the Milton Mausoleum.

Funding for the stone was provided by Nottinghamshire County Council via an LIS grant.

Nationalities: British & Commonwealth

Access: The Milton Mausoleum is located at Markham Clinton. It can be accessed from the A1 roundabout at Markham Moor or by taking the B1164 road from Tuxford. The distinctive Mausoleum is on the West Markham road out of Milton village.



24 | Milton

25 Newark Cemetery

Grid Ref: Sheet 121; SK805530

History: Newark and indeed Nottinghamshire's strong links with the Royal Air Force and the Polish Air Force is reflected in the war graves section that was established in the town's cemetery during World War II. Here around 90 Commonwealth and nearly 400 Polish burials were made. Amongst these are the graves relating to the other memorials detailed in this booklet at Gonalston and Staunton. Around 50 World War I burials were carried out in different parts of the cemetery.

In 1941 a memorial cross was erected in memory of the Polish airmen. This was unveiled by ex-President of the Polish Republic President Raczkiewicz (head of the war time Polish Government in London) and General Sikorski, Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Forces (war time Polish Prime Minister).

When both men died, they were buried at the foot of the Polish Memorial. General Sikorski's remains were returned to Krakow, Poland in 1993, but there is still a memorial to him at Newark.

Thanks to the fund raising efforts of the Air Bridge Association in 1989 the 'Air Bridge Memorial' was unveiled in the cemetery. This was in tribute to 250 Airmen of Britain, the Commonwealth and Poland who gave their lives dropping supplies to the Polish Home Army during the 1944 Warsaw Uprising. Between 4th August and 21st September 1944

over 200 flights were made from airfields in Italy over Yugoslavia, Hungary & the Carpathians to Poland. An annual memorial service is held to commemorate the Air Bridge at the end of September.

Efforts are currently underway to secure funding to convert part of the cemetery's memorial chapel into a Visitor Centre.

Nationalities: British, Commonwealth & Polish

Access: The Newark Cemetery is located on the main London Road between Newark and Balderton, with signposting from the town centre to the 'Polish War Graves'. There is a small car parking area close to the London Road entrance (close to the recently unveiled Town War Memorial). However, the main war graves section of the cemetery is a 300 metre walk from this location. Closer on-road parking can be found on nearby Elm Avenue; by entering the cemetery from this road the walk to the war graves section is only 50 metres.

26 | Newark National Westminster Bank





25 | Newark – Cemetery

26 Newark National Westminster Bank

Grid Ref: Sheet 121; SK807533

History: This memorial plaque, donated by Mr & Mrs Tony Wilkinson, is dedicated to the men and women who served in nearby airfields and walked the ancient streets of Newark during the war years, 1939-1945.

It was erected by the Bomber Airfield Society and is located on a site provided by the National Westminster Bank PLC.

Access: The National Westminster Bank is located on the corner of Stodman Street and the Newark Market Place.



29 | Nottingham Castle

The Albert Ball VC memorial statue in the grounds of Nottingham Castle



27 Newark Town Hall

Grid Ref: Sheet 121; SK807533

History: Newark Town Hall is a grade one listed building and one of the finest examples of a Town Hall in the country.

The Town Hall Museum and Art Gallery houses a range of aviation related objects, which can be viewed when the collection is open. Of major note is the illuminated scroll granting "freedom of the

Borough" to RAF Syerston in April 1964, which is displayed in the first floor lobby outside the Pickin Room. Inside the Pickin Room there is a display cabinet of objects related to the town's military and RAF connections.

www.newarktownhallmuseum.co.uk

Access: The Town Hall is easily accessible from the Newark Market Place.

28 Nottingham – Canal Street

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK574394

History: This plaque was unveiled by the Sheriff of Nottingham on Saturday 30th November 2013 to mark the 200th anniversary of one of Nottinghamshire's earliest aviation events; the first successful balloon flight from Nottingham.

The plaque has been located close to what is believed to have been the original launch site for the balloon back in 1813. It is understood that thousands of people travelled to Nottingham to witness the balloon flight, which was made by James Sadler on 1st November 1813.

Approval to get the plaque sited in the city was secured by the

Nottingham Civic Society and the East Midlands Balloon Group.

Access: Located on the wall by the entrance of the Fellows, Morton and Clayton pub on Canal Street, Nottingham, which is almost opposite to the Broadmarsh Bus Station.



29 Nottingham Castle Albert Ball VC

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK568395

History: After Albert Ball's death on 7th May 1917 a Memorial service was held at St Mary's Church, Nottingham. The Nottingham City Council then opened a subscription fund for a memorial in his memory.

The statue, commissioned by the sculptor Henry Poole, was formally unveiled in the grounds of Nottingham Castle by Air Marshal Trenchard on 8th September 1921.

An annual service of remembrance takes place on 7th May each year in the castle grounds, which is normally attended by surviving members of the

Ball family along with representatives of Armed Forces. Some artefacts relating to Albert Ball VC are displayed in the Castle Museum.

Nationalities: British

Access: The Albert Ball VC statue is located in the grounds of Nottingham Castle close to the bandstand. The Castle is well signposted from the city centre and is best approached on foot from Friar Lane and Standard Hill. There is on street metered car parking close by and a short uphill walk will take you into the Castle grounds; an admission fee is payable to access this site.

30 Nottingham City Airport - Tollerton

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK618362

History: Over the years no less than nine different memorial plaques have been positioned on the restored pillbox, which originally formed part of the airfield's defences during World War II.

These memorials include references to individual RAF squadrons and units that were based there; and the crew of a Wellington Mk II aircraft W5365 that crashed on 8th February 1941 (this aircraft / crew is also commemorated at a separate memorial site at Cotgrave Place).

The memorials also mark the airfield's satellite role for RAF Syerston and RAF Newton; and commemorations to the ATC and 2425 Squadron ATC.

Access: Nottingham City Airport at Tollerton is accessed off the A52 Lings Bar Road, via Tollerton Road; the memorials are located on the pillbox at the rear off the visitor parking / viewing area near the control tower. Please respect all of the airport direction signage and access regulations.

31 Radcliffe-on-Trent – Totem Pole

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK645392

History: On Sunday 15th September 2013 this unusual memorial of a 17 feet tall totem pole, was formally handed over to the local village by the Canadian Deputy High Commissioner Susan Gregson.

The totem pole, carved by local resident Christopher Smith, honours the families of 205 Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) personnel who served at nearby Langar airfield at the height of the Cold War. These families came to live in Radcliffe-on-Trent, Notts between 1956 and 1963.

31 | Radcliffe-on-Trent – Totem Pole



The colourful totem pole features a range of carved symbols that represent different aspects of Canadian life and a small brass plaque at the base of the totem pole commemorates the handover.

Nationalities: Canadian

Access: This unusual memorial can be found in the grounds of The Grange Village Centre, which is a community facility located on Vicarage Lane, next to St Mary's Church and it is operated by the Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council.



32 | Radcliffe on Trent - St Mary's Church

32 Radcliffe-on-Trent St Mary's Church

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK646393

History: Amongst the various elegant stained glass windows in St Mary's Church, Radcliffe-on-Trent there are two windows which have aviation connections and these are located in the south wall.

These commemorate the town's connections with the RCAF and they were dedicated in 1962. One has an RAF Crest and the writing "From 30 Air Materiel Base", whilst the other has a maple leaf and the writing "Royal Canadian Air Force 1962".

The RCAF connections relate to RCAF Langar whose personnel were stationed in Radcliffe in the 1950s through until 1963. These connections are further illustrated by the fact that Radcliffe-on-Trent has an estate of

houses with roads that are named after Canadian cities (Vancouver, Regina, Prince Edward etc.). Some of the houses on the estate are reputed to have had the first upright fridge freezers delivered from Canada for occupants.

Nationalities: Canadian

Access: St Mary's Church at Radcliffe on Trent is located on Main Road at the junction with Vicarage Lane, next door to The Grange Village Centre.



32 | Radcliffe on Trent - St Mary's Church

33 Southwell Minster

Grid Ref: Sheet 120; SK702538

History: In the north choir aisle of Southwell Minster is the beautiful Airmen's Chapel, which reflects the county's diverse aviation history.

The chapel altar was built at RAF Norton (Sheffield) in 1919 out of aircraft propellers. The triptych that sits on the altar was inspired by a Dame Edith Sitwell poem, 'Still falls the rain', this was installed in 1988. The cast iron altar cross and candlesticks were made from the cylinder block from an aeroplane engine.

A communion rail with the RAF eagle and crown was made at nearby RAF Newton in 1984. In front of the rail there is a carpet emblazoned with the RAF crest and the kneelers also have aviation designs woven into them. The carpet was given by Elsie and Doris Waters in gratitude for the safe return of their brother Horace John Waters (better known as Jack Warner of Dixon of Dock Green).

The RAF ensign, which hangs in the chapel, was presented by No 12 Group Fighter Command and a memorial plaque commemorating this presentation is located behind the chapel lectern and relates to the 1939 to 1945 period.

A Polish flag hanging alongside the RAF ensign marks the county's close ties with Poland, which is further

emphasised by the wall mounted plaque by Ronald Simms that commemorates the Katyn Forest Massacre in Poland.

Please be aware that depending on the church season, some of these artefacts may not always be in position.

This entry and photographs are included with the kind permission of The Dean and Chapter of Southwell Minster.

Nationalities: British, Commonwealth & Polish

Access: The Minster is located on Church Street, Southwell, and there is a car park opposite. Further details about the Minster can be found on their website

www.southwellminster.org



33 | Southwell Minster

34 | Screveton

34 Screveton

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK734443

History: In the late afternoon of 14th April 1944 two aircraft were on separate training flights over Nottinghamshire when they suffered a mid-air collision, which resulted in the loss of eleven airmen.

Two were flying in Oxford LB415 from 1521 BAT Flight at RAF Wymeswold, Leics; the other nine were flying in Lancaster W4103 from 5 LFS at RAF Syerston. Eyewitnesses at the time of the crash reported that both pilots bravely steered their stricken aircraft away from the village of Screveton and into more open countryside, thereby reducing the risk of casualties on the ground.

Initial research into the mid-air collision was carried out by one of the schoolboy witnesses of the incident and the memorial was finally dedicated on 13th November 2005.



33 | Southwell Minster

Nationalities: British & Canadian

Access: This memorial is located equidistant between the two crash sites. It is located close to the village of Screveton on the Flintham Road that runs between Flintham and Screveton. There is a small pull-in close to the memorial where a couple of cars can be parked.

35 Staunton in the Vale

Grid Ref: Sheet 130; SK805435

History: This memorial commemorates the crew of 61 Squadron Lancaster W4270 that crashed 1 mile north west of St Mary's Church on 18th February 1943. The aircraft was operating from RAF Syerston and was returning there when it got into difficulties.

All of the crew were killed in the crash and most were returned for burial in their home towns. However the Canadian pilot "Herb" Warne is buried in Newark Cemetery (No 307 Section P). Research into the crash has brought to light a lot of new information, including the fact that the crew trained with 1661 HCU at RAF Winthorpe.

The memorial was rededicated on 3rd July 2010, when new plaques were unveiled and at the same time

contact was made with the last of the aircrew's relatives. The LIS grant fund has also provided an interpretation board for the site.

Nationalities: British & Canadian

Access: Staunton in the Vale is located just off the Newark to Kilvington road. When visiting this memorial in the village church yard you should park on the public road leading down to the church / Staunton Hall, which is opposite to the Staunton Arms public house. If parking on the road side please avoid the grass verges and do not block property access driveways; the memorial can be accessed by walking approximately 250 metres down the Church Walk public foot path. Please do not try to access this site via Staunton Hall entrance.

36 Syerston – Longhedge Lane

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK736490

History: At the end of Longhedge Lane next to an airfield gate is a silver birch tree that was planted in memory of Corporal Audrey Mee Henderson.

Alongside the tree two small plaques have been fastened to the wooden fence, which commemorate Audrey and her husband, P/O Donald James Henderson. Both of whom served at RAF Syerston at various times from 1942 to 1947.

Access: Leave the A46 dual-carriageway at the Flintham / Sibthorpe junction and follow the signs towards RAF Syerston. Head north on the old Fosse Way road towards Syerston village and then turn left into Longhedge Lane, which runs parallel to one of the airfield's taxiways.

35 | Staunton in the Vale

This memorial commemorates the crew of 61 Squadron Lancaster W4270 that crashed 1 mile north west of St Mary's Church





38 | Winthorpe Newark Air Museum

37 Tollerton village Air Hostess pub

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK606343

History: This Everards public house proudly displays a sign that features an air hostess and a Boeing 707 aircraft. The site aviation connections are further enhanced by its location on Stanstead Avenue.

The village also has a distinctive village sign that has aviation content, which is located at the junction of Nottingham Road and Cotgrave Lane.

Access: Located at the junction of Burnside Road and Stanstead Avenue in the village of Tollerton, this site is easily accessible from the A606 Melton Road.

38 Winthorpe Newark Air Museum

Grid Ref: Sheet 121; SK833563

History: Over the years Winthorpe Newark Air Museum has dedicated several memorials to reflect RAF Winthorpe's role as a training base.

The RAF Winthorpe / 1661 HCU memorial that was unveiled on 24th September 2000 features part of a propeller hub of a Stirling EF186, from 1661 Heavy Conversion Unit (HCU), which was then based at RAF Winthorpe. The aircraft crashed at Breeder Hills near Grantham, Lincs on 4th December 1944 carrying a crew of nine and there were no survivors.

In 2002 nine weeping cherry trees were planted around the memorial, each marked with the name of an aircrew member that was killed when Stirling EF186 crashed.

Various additional memorials / displays can be found by exploring the museum site. These include items relating to the Polish Air Force and their squadrons which operated from the airfield.

In the Lancaster Corner display area of Hangar 1 is a commemorative plaque in memory of Wg Cdr Guy Gibson VC and Sqn Ldr Jim Warwick DFC. They were killed in September 1944 when their Mosquito aircraft crashed in The Netherlands. Close by is an extensive display that commemorates a 1661 HCU crew that trained together at RAF Winthorpe in March 1944. They flew operationally with 619 Squadron and their aircraft ME846 was lost over northern Belgium in June 1944.

A plaque commemorating a World War I airman Lt Pierce is now located in the Exhibition Hall. The Sutton Wick Beverley crash is commemorated at the museum with a tree; bench; and a plaque in Hangar 2.

In April 2013 the museum hosted a dedication service in memory of two airmen who were killed when an Avro Tutor training aircraft (K4814) from 2 CFS RAF Cranwell, Lincs crashed in April 1941. The crash site is at Langford Moor, Coddington, just north east of the current museum site. Those killed in the crash were P/O the Reverend Richard Inge and P/O Robert Lanchester.

Nationalities: British; Commonwealth & Polish.

Access: Newark Air Museum Ltd, Drove Lane, Winthorpe is two miles north east of Newark on Trent. The museum is easy to find from the A1, A46, A17, A1133 roads and the Newark bypass by following the brown and white air museum signs. There is ample free on-site car parking, however an admission fee is payable to visit the museum, which includes the memorials.

38 | Winthorpe Newark Air Museum



39 Wollaton Hall

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK533395

History: March 1944 saw the grounds of Wollaton Park being used by the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the American 82nd Airborne Division to house over 2000 men.

Men from the 508th took part in 'Operation Overlord', jumping on 6th June 1944, with their objective being Sainte-Mère-Église. The survivors of this action returned to Wollaton in July 1944 where they re-mustered for 'Operation Market Garden' jumping on 17th September 1944 near the Waal River at Nijmegen. The unit later fought in the Ardennes during the 'Battle of Bulge'.

This memorial was constructed by young offenders supervised by the Notts Probation Service and was unveiled on 27th June 2010.



39 | Wollaton Hall

Nationalities: American

Access: Located in the upper car park of Wollaton Hall Park in Nottingham. Easily accessed by following the Wollaton Hall signs from the Nottingham ring road; car parking charges apply when parking your car in the spaces provided close to the memorial.

40 Woodborough Church

Grid Ref: Sheet 129; SK632477

History: On the internal wall of the church pulpit is a small plaque that commemorates a mid-air collision over the village on 26th May 1966. The aircraft that collided were two Jet Provosts from RAF Syerston and debris from the collision fell within the confines of the village.

Unusually for aviation memorials the last lines on this plaque read as

follows: "Thanks be to God. No one was hurt".

Nationalities: British

Access: St Swithuns Church, Woodborough is located at the junction of Main Street and Lingwood Lane in the village. The church operates under the 'Open Door' policy and the plaque can be viewed.

Abbreviations

ATC	Air Training Corps (Air Cadets)
BAT	Beam Approach Training
c/n	Code number
CFS	Central Flying School
DFC	Distinguished Flying Cross
Flt Lt	Flight Lieutenant
Gp Capt	Group Captain
HCU	Heavy Conversion Unit
LFS	Lancaster Finishing School
LIS	Local Improvement Scheme (Notts County Council)
OSRSS	Offensive Support Role Support Squadron
MU	Maintenance Unit
OTU	Operational Training Unit
RAAF	Royal Australian Air Force
RAF	Royal Air Force
RAFA	Royal Air Force Association
RAuxAF	Royal Auxiliary Air Force
RCAF	Royal Canadian Air Force
RAFVR	Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve
Sgt	Sergeant
Sqn	Squadron
VC	Victoria Cross
VTOL	Vertical Take Off and Landing

Postscript

Whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information provided in this guide, we cannot accept any responsibility for any errors, omissions or subsequent alterations. We are also aware of several projects to erect memorials to aviation crash sites and

former airfields across the county so we suggest that you look out for details of these in the local press and wherever possible support their implementation.

This guides only lists sites where physical memorials exist, there are many other crash sites across the county, where no memorial exists. These are featured in a range of books and publications that are available from outlets like the Newark Air Museum Shop. If you have a particular aviation incident that you are interested in it might be worthwhile contacting the Curator of the Newark Air Museum to enquire what information is held in the museum archive.

Newark Air Museum, Drove Lane, Winthorpe, Newark, Notts, NG24 2NY

Tel: **01636 707170**

Email: **enquire@newarkairmuseum.org**

Website: **www.newarkairmuseum.org**

We hope that this booklet will encourage you to go out and explore the sites that have been listed, but when doing so that you respect the access guidelines included in the publication.



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Newark Air Museum and Nottinghamshire County Council gratefully acknowledge the valuable help provided by: volunteers and staff at the Newark Air Museum; Howard Heeley; Colin Savill; Di Ablewhite; the Warne family; Jane Knox and the 'ME846 Family'; Richard Flagg; Gary Watson; the staff and church members at the numerous churches across the county; various contacts associated with the different memorial sites locations; the North Kesteven District Council for their inspirational North Kesteven Airfield Trail booklets.