



**550 Squadron & RAF North Killingholme
Association**

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25th Reunion Weekend at North Killingholme

The Ashbourne Hotel

Friday 8th to Sunday 10th September 2017

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**WELCOME
INFORMATION**



TIMETABLE OF EVENTS

Friday 8th September 2017

7.30 for 8.00pm. Dinner at Ashbourne Hotel. No Formal seating plan. Casual attire. Pay on departure if non-resident.

Saturday 9th September 2017

9.30 a.m. 550 Squadron Museum open in Village Hall

11.30 a.m. Museum closes

11.30 a.m. Bar opens at Amethyst Hotel, East Halton.

12.00 p.m. Buffet lunch at Amethyst Hotel. Pay £10.00 at the hotel.

1.20 p.m. Leave Amethyst Hotel for North Killingholme. Medals can be worn.

1.35 p.m. Form up outside Village Hall behind Immingham Air Training Corps Band, march to 550 Squadron Memorial Stone.

2.00 p.m. Memorial Stone Service begins. Wreaths are laid.

2.15 p.m. Flypast.***

2.25 p.m. Service ends. Personal tributes are laid. Photo opportunity.

2.40 p.m. March back to Village Hall behind Air Training Corps Band.

3.15 p.m. Service in St. Denys' Church begins.

4.15 p.m. Service ends.

4.30 p.m. Afternoon Tea in Village Hall. 550 Squadron Museum open.

5.15 p.m. People disperse except for those staying Saturday night.

7.30 for 8.00 pm. Dinner at Ashbourne Hotel. Formal seating plan. Smart Attire. Pay on departure if non-resident.

****Please note that the Lancaster might not be flying this year. Our afternoon events are scheduled around any possible flypast and times may change at short notice****

Sunday 10th September 2017

11.45 a.m. Visit to International Bomber Command Centre, Lincoln

News and Reminders...

Lancaster Flypast

A few weeks ago we had the news that the entire Battle of Britain Memorial Flight had been grounded for engine checks. Sadly, it seems that these restrictions have still not been lifted, so we might not enjoy the Lancaster flypast this year.

However, the Scampton Airshow website indicates that they still hope to have a privately owned Spitfire and Hurricane flying this weekend, so we await official confirmation that we might receive a flypast from one of these aircraft instead.

The flypast was originally scheduled at 14.15hrs on Saturday, but we may have to change our programme at short notice to accommodate any alternative arrangements.

Name Badges

Name badges have been prepared for all attendees. They help new members get to know us and also prevent those embarrassing age-related moments when you know the face but can't remember the name !

If you are attending the Friday evening dinner please use your place card and take a badge holder from your table, so that you can wear a name badge on Saturday.

If you did not attend the Friday evening meal, but have booked lunch at the Amethyst Hotel on Saturday, your name badge and holder will be available there.

If you are not attending either meal, your name badge and holder will be available in the Ashbourne Hotel reception area throughout Saturday afternoon and evening.

550 History and Merchandise

Mike Leeman will be selling the 550 History and other merchandise at the following times and places:

- Friday evening at The Ashbourne before and after the meal
- Saturday morning in the Village Hall (merchandise only)
- Saturday afternoon at the back of the church following the service ***

**** We are pleased to advise that Patrick Otter, author of the 550 History will be signing copies of his book at the back of St. Denys' Church following the service in the afternoon****

Merchandise items include:

- Phantom print...large £5.00 small £2.50
- Association tie...£10.00
- Squadron badge...£5.00
- Lancaster pin badge...£3.00
- Pen...£1.00

The remaining cotton tote bags in sky blue or red, embroidered with the 550 insignia in full colour are available throughout the weekend at £11.00 from Val Kentish.

Programme Details...

Friday Evening Meal

The pre-booked Friday evening meal will be served in the Oak Room at 8.00pm. This is a relaxed event with no dress code.

There is no seating plan but please take the place card with your name on it from the table near the entrance in order to assist staff with serving your food. This is important, as your menu choices are printed on the reverse of your place card.

The hotel has requested that we ensure tables are full wherever possible as it speeds up service.

Members attending the Friday evening dinner are:

Wilfred	Burie	Bob	Henry
Denise	Albertyn	Donna	Henry
William	Albertyn	Dan	Jeffries
Jae	Bee	Paula	Jeffries
Dorothy	Black	Keith	Keith Allen
Norval	Black	Don	Kentish
Jem	Bover	Val	Kentish
Peter	Coulter	Margaret	Leeman
Sally	Coulter	Mike	Leeman
Andrew	Etherington	Margaret	Noonan
Sue	Etherington	Mike	Noonan
Clare	Fleming	Christopher	Parker
Edward	Fleming	Stephen	Parker
Lloyd	Fleming	Victor	Parker
Iris	Freely	Honor	Redshaw
Anne	Harris	David	Robinson
Jack	Harris	Kathleen	Robinson
Geoff	Hatfield	Angela	Tompson
Muriel	Hatfield		

Saturday - The Amethyst, Church Service and Village Hall

The Association has received 40 bookings for lunch at the Amethyst. It will be served from 12.00pm and you should pay £10.00 per head at the hotel. *Please be sure to attend if you have booked. In recent years people have booked for lunch but not appeared causing over-provision, significant waste and financial loss to the Amethyst.*

We extend our sincere thanks the Reverend Paul Salmon who will once again be conducting our Service. During the Service we are also pleased to advise that Ildiko Van Dyck will be singing a number of pieces.

The afternoon tea and cakes in the Village Hall remain as popular as ever, with 64 booked to attend - although attendance is likely to be much higher. The wonderful array of cakes and pastries would put *The Great British Bake Off* to shame, and as always, we are so grateful to everyone from the village for making this such a wonderful - if waist expanding - occasion!

25th Anniversary Cake

In addition to the usual vast array of local produce mentioned above, a magnificent cake has been baked to celebrate this, our 25th anniversary year of holding our reunions at North Killingholme!

It will be on display:

- On Friday evening in the Ashbourne Hotel at the meal
- On Saturday afternoon before the church service - in the church porch
- At the Afternoon Tea.....

.....Enjoy!

Saturday Evening Meal

The formal Reunion Dinner will be served in the Oak Room at 7.30pm. The dress code is formal/very smart casual. A Seating Plan will be located near the entrance which will show your table number. At each table in the Oak Room place cards with names and menu selections will indicate seating positions.

Before we start our meal, Liz Coulter will remind us why we are gathering by reading her touching and evocative poem "Respect" that she wrote in memory of her grandfather, F/L Jim Cassidy, DFC and Bar, RAAF.

During the evening, 550 photographs will be projected onto the wall at the end of the Dining Room and a display of memorabilia will be available to view.

Over coffee we will be entertained to a medley of 1940's songs by husband and wife duo "Magic Moments". Thanks to George Turner for arranging this.

Our thanks also go to Mike Leeman and George Turner for preparing the display boards and Peter Coulter for the electronic presentations.

Members attending the Saturday evening Reunion Dinner are:

Keith	Allen	Diana	Cross	Anne	Harris	Elizabeth	Norton
Denise	Albertyn	Mike	Cross	Jack	Harris	Phillip	Norton
William	Albertyn	Diana	Cross	Geoff	Hatfield	Eva	Otter
Malcolm	Batt	Mike	Cross	Muriel	Hatfield	Patrick	Otter
Susie	Batt	Ildiko	De Ryck	Donna	Henry	Christopher	Parker
Jae	Bee	Jos	De Ryck	Robert	Henry	Stephen	Parker
Ruth	Belinchon Roman	Christine	Dunlavy	Barbara	Hercliffe	Victor	Parker
Gordon	Bell	Andrew	Etherington	Dan	Jeffries	Len	Pexman
Norval	Black	Sue	Etherington	Paula	Jeffries	Sylvia	Pexman
Dorothy	Black	Fred	Fisk	Liz	Jones	Honor	Redshaw
Phil	Blackham	Joan	Fisk	Don	Kentish	David	Robinson
Jem	Bover	Keith	Fitch	Val	Kentish	Kathleen	Robinson
Donna	Brooks	Wally	Fitch	Margaret	Leeman	Maurice	Snowball
Gary	Brooks	Clare	Fleming	Mike	Leeman	Chris	Swan
Wilfred	Burie	Edward	Fleming	Arline	Lester	Angela	Tompson
Elizabeth	Coulter	Lloyd	Fleming	Rodney	Lester	Alan	Turner
Peter	Coulter	Iris	Freely	Alison	Lewis	Beattie	Turner
Rachel	Coulter	Liz	Freemont	Martin	Lewis	George	Turner
Sally	Coulter	Paul	Freemont	Pam	Lipfriend	Ruth	Turner
Sally	Craddock	Stan	Freemont	Margaret	Noonan		
		Andy	Gilbride	Mike	Noonan		

Sunday – Visit to the International Bomber Command Centre

Our tour of the International Bomber Command Centre Memorial Spire and Walls begins at 11.45am and will last approximately 1.5 hours. The site is not yet open to the public and we are grateful for the opportunity of a second "preview" visit prior to its official opening in 2018.

Please remember to leave ample time for your journey in case of delays due to heavy traffic going to the Scampton Airshow. We cannot begin the tour until the whole group (34 people) has arrived.

The address is Canwick Hill, Lincoln, LN4 2RF. Driving up Canwick Hill look out for the Mill Lodge pub/restaurant, fork right and the entrance is almost immediately on the right. Drive through the gate, park along the side of the road near the red portacabin on the right.

Our guide, Liz Prissick, will meet us, supply high visibility vests and take us on the tour of the Memorial.

As the site is still under construction please note the following:

- Wear suitable, stout, waterproof footwear, (the ground is uneven in places) and warm clothing (as it is quite often windy at the Spire).
- Stay on the designated pathway as there will be large plant machinery in operation.
- There is a toilet available on site but this is the only 'facility'. The Mill Lodge restaurant opposite the entrance to the site can be used for coffee and tea etc.
- There is no smoking on site.
- Stay together at all times due to the construction work.

The Centre encourages the placing of floral tributes and poppies and we plan to lay a 550 Squadron wreath. Poppies are available on site.

There is the option of a light lunch at the Mill Lodge pub/restaurant after the visit. This is booked for 1.30 pm. Please speak to Don or Val Kentish if you have not yet indicated your attendance as we need to inform the restaurant about the number in our party.

A Date for your Diary...

Remembrance Weekend 2017

Remembrance Sunday is on 12th November 2017. There will be an informal dinner at the Ashbourne Hotel at 7.45 p.m. on Saturday 11th November and an opportunity to visit the 550 Museum on the Sunday morning. Services will be held as usual at the 550 Memorial Stone and St. Denys' Church. A three course carvery lunch with coffee and mints will be served at the Amethyst Hotel in East Halton.

Rooms are available at the Ashbourne at the discounted "550" rate but we advise booking early as they have a function that evening.