



## **550 Squadron & RAF North Killingholme Association**

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### **Reunion Weekend**

**The Ashbourne Hotel, North Killingholme**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2013  
&  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

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# **WELCOME INFORMATION**



## **Name Badges**

Name badges help new members get to know us and also prevent those embarrassing moments when you know the face but can't remember the name. If you would like to wear a name badge on Saturday please use your place card from the Friday evening dinner and collect a plastic holder from Reception at the Ashbourne. Blank badges and holders will also be available at the Amethyst Hotel.

## **Merchandise**

Commemorative mugs have been produced to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of 550 Squadron and twenty years of reunions at North Killingholme. These are available at a cost of £12. Phantom of the Ruhr prints are available in two different sizes at £3.50 and £5.50 along with ties (£10), badges (£3-5) and pens (£2 with refill). These will be available at various times throughout the day on Saturday.

## **Patrick Otter**

Well known aviation author and local resident Patrick Otter will be selling signed copies of his new book about 1 Group called "Swift to Attack" at the discounted price of £20 in St Denys' Church on Saturday afternoon and after dinner in the evening.

## **550 Website - Squadron Aircrew and Operations Information**

Peter Coulter has produced a short guide about how to optimise your searches on the 550 website. A limited number of copies will be available over the weekend and Peter is happy to discuss it and receive feedback.

## **Friday Evening Meal**

The three course Friday evening meal (with tea/coffee and mints) will be served in the Dining Room at 8.00pm for 45 people. There is no dress code or 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. The hotel has requested that we ensure tables are full wherever possible as it speeds up service.

## **Saturday - The Amethyst, Church and Village Hall**

The Association has received 79 applications for lunch at the Amethyst and 89 for the Church and Village Hall although attendance at the latter in particular is likely to be higher. **Due to the high demand, lunch will now be served at the Amethyst from 12.00pm.** The Reverend Sue Page-Chestney will be conducting our Services for the last time as she and Mike retire at the end of September 2013.

## **Saturday Evening Meal**

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

At the end of the Reunion Dinner there will be 550 photographs projected onto the wall at the end of the Dining Room and a display of memorabilia. Folders have been prepared with photographs and menus from all of our previous reunions. Weather permitting, we are free to use the outside seating area for socialising.

## **Attendance**

### **Members attending the Friday evening dinner are:**

Keith Allen	Pam Lipfriend
John Arnold (Australia)	Rowena Lipfriend
Dorothy Black	Sam Lipfriend
Norval Black	Stephen Lipfriend
Rick Browne (Canada)	Douglas Lockhart (Australia)
Sue Browne (Canada)	Robin Lockhart (Australia)
Peter Coulter	Tony Morley
Sally Coulter	Mike Noonan
Ellie Dargaville (Australia)	Christopher Parker
Gwenda Evans	Julie Parker
Harry Evans	Mary Parker
Jim Gilchrist (Canada)	Stephen Parker
Sylvia Gilchrist (Canada)	Victor Parker
Marguerite Haskins	Katy Pritchard
Terry Haskins	Honor Redshaw
Anne Hitchman (Canada)	David Robinson
Bill Hitchman (Canada)	Kathleen Robinson
Jenny Jacob	Chris Taylor
Don Kentish	Gerry Taylor
Val Kentish	Brian Troath
Margaret Leeman	Heather Vance (Australia)
Mike Leeman	Tim Vance (Australia)
Ben Lipfriend	

### **Members attending the Saturday evening Reunion Dinner are:**

John Arnold (Australia)	Donna Brooks
Laura Boeckx (Belgium)	Gary Brooks
Angela Bower	Rick Browne (Canada)
Bob Bower	Sue Browne (Canada)
Liz Broddley	George Bulman
Paul Broddley	Wilfred Burie (Belgium)

Barry Clark  
Peter Coulter  
Sally Coulter  
Sarah Craddock  
Diana Cross  
Mike Cross  
Ellie Dargaville (Australia)  
Guy De Braeckeleer (Belgium)  
Jos De Ryk (Belgium)  
Kathleen Dove  
Mervin Dove  
Ildiko Elbert (Belgium)  
Andrew Etherington  
Sue Etherington  
Gwenda Evans  
Harry Evans  
Fred Fisk  
Joan Fisk  
Keith Fitch  
Wally Fitch  
Jim Gilchrist (Canada)  
Sylvia Gilchrist (Canada)  
Anne Harris  
Jack Harris  
Anne Hitchman (Canada)  
Bill Hitchman (Canada)  
Jenny Jacob  
Don Kentish  
Val Kentish  
Margaret Leeman  
Mike Leeman  
Ben Lipfriend  
Pam Lipfriend  
Rowena Lipfriend  
Sam Lipfriend  
Stephen Lipfriend  
Douglas Lockwood (Australia)  
Robin Lockwood (Australia)  
Louis Michels (Belgium)  
Tony Morley

Mike Noonan  
Elizabeth Norton  
Phillip Norton  
Eva Otter  
Patrick Otter  
Mike Page-Chestney  
Sue Page-Chestney  
Christopher Parker  
Julie Parker  
Mary Parker  
Stephen Parker  
Victor Parker  
Jeremy Parsons (Australia)  
Brian Petch  
Len Pexman  
Sylvia Pexman  
Katy Pritchard  
Arthur Punchard  
David Robinson  
Kathleen Robinson  
Heidi Rombouts (Belgium)  
Monique Rombouts (Belgium)  
Maurice Snowball  
Bill Swan (Australia)  
Pat Swan (Australia)  
Chris Taylor  
Gerry Taylor  
Brian Troath  
Alan Turner  
Beatrice Turner  
George Turner  
Lesley Turner  
Ruth Turner  
Ildiko Van Dyk (Belgium)  
Heather Vance (Australia)  
Tim Vance (Australia)  
Merel Verbesselt (Belgium)  
Yana Verbesselt (Belgium)  
Ben Verspoel (Belgium)

Attendance information correct at 1/7/13

### **Sunday – Airfield Tour**

There are 23 people booked for the tour of the airfield by car that George Turner is organising. Please meet him at 11.00am outside Reception at the Ashbourne.

## **Monday – Visit to the BBMF**

The “red carpet” visit to Coningsby on Monday morning with Arthur Punched is fully booked. Please speak to Don or Val Kentish for a copy of the travel directions from North Killingholme. If you have not reserved a place and would like to attend please let them know in case there are any cancellations. We suggest leaving the Ashbourne at approximately 9.30am as our tour is booked for 11.00am. There is the option of a light lunch at the Leagate Inn pub in Coningsby village after the visit but they prefer we contact them with approximate numbers. Please tell Don and Val over the weekend if you want to take up this option.

## **When Leaving - room rates**

Please remember that the 550 rates for the 2013 reunion are:

**Comfort** and **Executive** rooms (twin or double) £73 bed and breakfast **per room** per night

**Single occupancy** - £63 bed and breakfast per night.

A limited number of **Family** and **Exclusive** rooms are available and you will receive a 550 discount on the usual price.

## **Book Now - Remembrance Weekend 2013**

Remembrance Sunday is on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2013.

There will be an informal dinner at the Ashbourne Hotel at 7.45 p.m. on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2013 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 & mints will be served at the Amethyst Hotel in East Halton.

The Association has provisionally reserved four rooms for 550 members at the Ashbourne for the Saturday night and these can be booked now. Rooms are cancellable until 2.00pm on the day before arrival at no charge.

More details will appear in the autumn newsletter.

## **Annual Reunion 2014**

Next year's reunion is planned for Friday 4<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2014.

## **Timetable of Events - Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

**9.30 am - 550 Squadron Museum open.**

**11.30 am – Museum closes.**

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

**12.00 p.m. - Buffet lunch at Amethyst Hotel begins. Pay £8.50 per head at the hotel.**

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

**1.35 p.m. – Form up behind Immingham Air Training Corps Band and march to 550 Squadron Memorial Stone.**

**2.00 p.m. – Lancaster flypast.**

**2.15 p.m. – Memorial Stone Service begins.**

**2.25 p.m. – Service ends. Laying of wreaths and crosses. 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. Squadron merchandise for sale and book signing by Patrick Otter.**

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

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

**7.30 p.m. – Dinner at Ashbourne Hotel. Pay on departure if non-resident.**

**Please note that our afternoon events are scheduled around the Lancaster flypast and times may change at short notice.**