

TOASTS

THE QUEEN

KING PHILIPPE OF BELGIUM

QUEEN MARGRETHE OF DENMARK

550 SQUADRON SURVIVORS

ABSENT FRIENDS

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WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS and "NOSTALGIA TIME"
Jack Harris



550 Squadron
&

RAF North Killingholme Association

Reunion Dinner

The Ashbourne Hotel, North Killingholme

Saturday 4th July 2015

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To celebrate the 70th Anniversary of
Operation Manna & the disbanding
of 550 Squadron.

“The fighters are our salvation now;
the bombers will win us the war”

Winston Churchill, to the War Cabinet, September 1940



550 Squadron History

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|---------------|------|---|
| 25th November | 1943 | Squadron formed at Waltham airfield from C' Flight, 100 Squadron. |
| 26th November | 1943 | First raid, 8 Lancasters to Berlin. |
| 4th January | 1944 | Squadron moved to North Killingholme. |
| 14th January | 1944 | First raid from N.K., 11 Lancasters to Brunswick. |
| 25th April | 1945 | Last raid, 23 Lancasters to Berchtesgaden. |

Operational Record

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| 194 | raids |
| 3485 | take offs (122 early returns, 188 "Ordered to Return") = 3175 successful sorties |
| 14,271 | night operational hours flown |
| 4,988 | day operational hours flown |
| 16,195 | tons of bombs dropped |
| 56 | aircraft and crews "Missing" |
| 14 | aircraft crashed |

From April 1945, the Squadron flew on Operation Manna (dropping food to Holland) and Operation Dodge (bringing troops back from Italy). One aircraft was lost in September and one crashed in October.

31st October 1945 Squadron officially disbanded.

THE GRACE

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MENU

Smoked Chicken

Thai Fish Cakes

Goats Cheese Parfait

Fan of Melon

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Roast Rib of Beef

Sea Bass Fillets

Roasted Vegetable Risotto

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Citrus Cheesecake

Coconut Pannacotta

Baileys Filled Profiteroles

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Coffee or Tea, with Mints