









IN MEMORY OF THE R.A.F. CREW OF 297 SQUADRON WHO WERE KILLED NEAR THIS SITE ON 27.8.1944 AT 04.05 IN ALBEMARLE V1782

F/S A.H.BUSBRIDGE (PILOT)

F/S B.V. MOWAN

F/S W.F. INSLEY

Sgt. K.J. SHAY

Sgt. E.F. BONSER (296 SQUADRON)

THEY WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN













Act of Remembrance for Albemarle V1782



Memorial Cairn, Mill Farm, Black Bourton. Thursday 27th August 2015



Memorial Cairn at Mill Farm, Black Bourton for the Crew of Albemarle V1782



297 Squadron had moved to RAF Brize Norton early in 1944 as part of No 38 Group and had subsequently been involved in the opening of the Second Front on D Day, towing Horsa gliders with paratroops in Operation Overlord. Flt Sgt Alan Busbridge and his regular crew took part in two missions on D Day, one in Phase II of Tonga and then again in the evening of 6th (Operation Mallard), completing them both successfully. After the D Day operations the Squadron continued dropping supplies to the resistance forces in France. On the night of 26th August one such SOE operation was to take place and by a tragic twist of fate,

Flt Sgt Busbridge and his crew, who were not due to fly that night, were deployed at the last minute. Two replacements had to be found as two of the regular crew members had already left the Station for the night. Albemarle V1782 took off at 2300 with Flt Sgt Alan Busbridge as pilot, Flt Sgt William Insley and Flt Sgt Bernard Mowan on board, along with Sgt Kenneth Shay and Sgt Edgar Bonser who was seconded from 296 Squadron. Approximately five hours later, after a successful mission despite adverse weather conditions during the flight, they were almost home when they were instructed to overshoot the runway. There was speculation as to what the cause was, but as the aircraft circled over Black Bourton it crashed in a field near Mill Farm and all five crew members perished.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you and also with you.

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear from God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, to remember those of Albemarle V1782 and to seek forgiveness of our sins, that in the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in danger.

Psalm 46.1

Roll of Honour

Ever-living God, we remember those whom you gathered from the storm of war into your presence, especially for;

> Alan Busbridge William Insley Bernard Mowan Kenneth Shey Edgar Bonser

May that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all people and establish harmony among the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Remembrance

Let us remember before God. And commend to his sure keeping: those who have died for their country in conflict; those whom we knew and whose memory we treasure; and all who have lived and died in the service of humanity.

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. Second older voice

At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.

Third younger voice

We will remember them.

The Last Post Minute Silence The Reveille

Wreath laying may take place here

When you go home tell them of us and say; 'For your tomorrow, we gave our today.'

Most merciful God, we remember those who you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence: grant that we, being faithful till death, may receive with them the crown of life that never fades, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Reading

In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised up above the hills. Peoples shall stream to it, and many nations shall come and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken. For all the peoples walk, each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.

Micah 4.1-5

Holy God, the protector of all who trust in you: Grant to the Armed Forces of the Crown, and all who seek you, the assurance of your presence, the knowledge of your love, and the guidance of your Spirit

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Bring healing and wholeness to people and nations: let your mercy rule all that we do.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Be with all who defend your truth and your peace, that they may vanquish injustice and wrong.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Give wisdom to leaders and commanders, that they may be a force for good on the earth.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

In your wisdom embrace our enemies, and those who wish us harm: turn, the hearts of all to kindness and friendship.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us. Be with all medics and chaplains, and all who support the suffering: give then wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Sustain the anxious and fearful, and renew then with courage from on high.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Comfort all worried families, whose loved ones are in danger: surround them with your love, protect them from all harm.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Be with the sick and wounded, stand by all prisoners and captives: let your mercy be shown to all, and your power to heal and save.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Receive those fallen in battle, and all innocents who have died: surround their loves ones with compassion, and give them a patient faith.

Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Confirm what is founded on truth, and establish your love in our hearts: that justice may abound on the Earth, and all peoples rejoice in your peace.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and humanity: that we may help, encourage, and comfort others, and support those working for the relief of the needy and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

Lord God our Father,
we pledge ourselves to serve you and all
humankind, in the cause of peace,
for the relief of want and suffering,
and for the praise of your name.
Guide us by your Spirit;
give us wisdom;
give us courage;
give us hope;
and keep us faithful now and always.
Amen.

God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest, to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth and all people, unity, peace and concord, and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. All Amen.



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Service conducted by The Reverend (Squadron Leader) Andrew John Luke Chapman Station Chaplain; Royal Air Force, Brize Norton

