



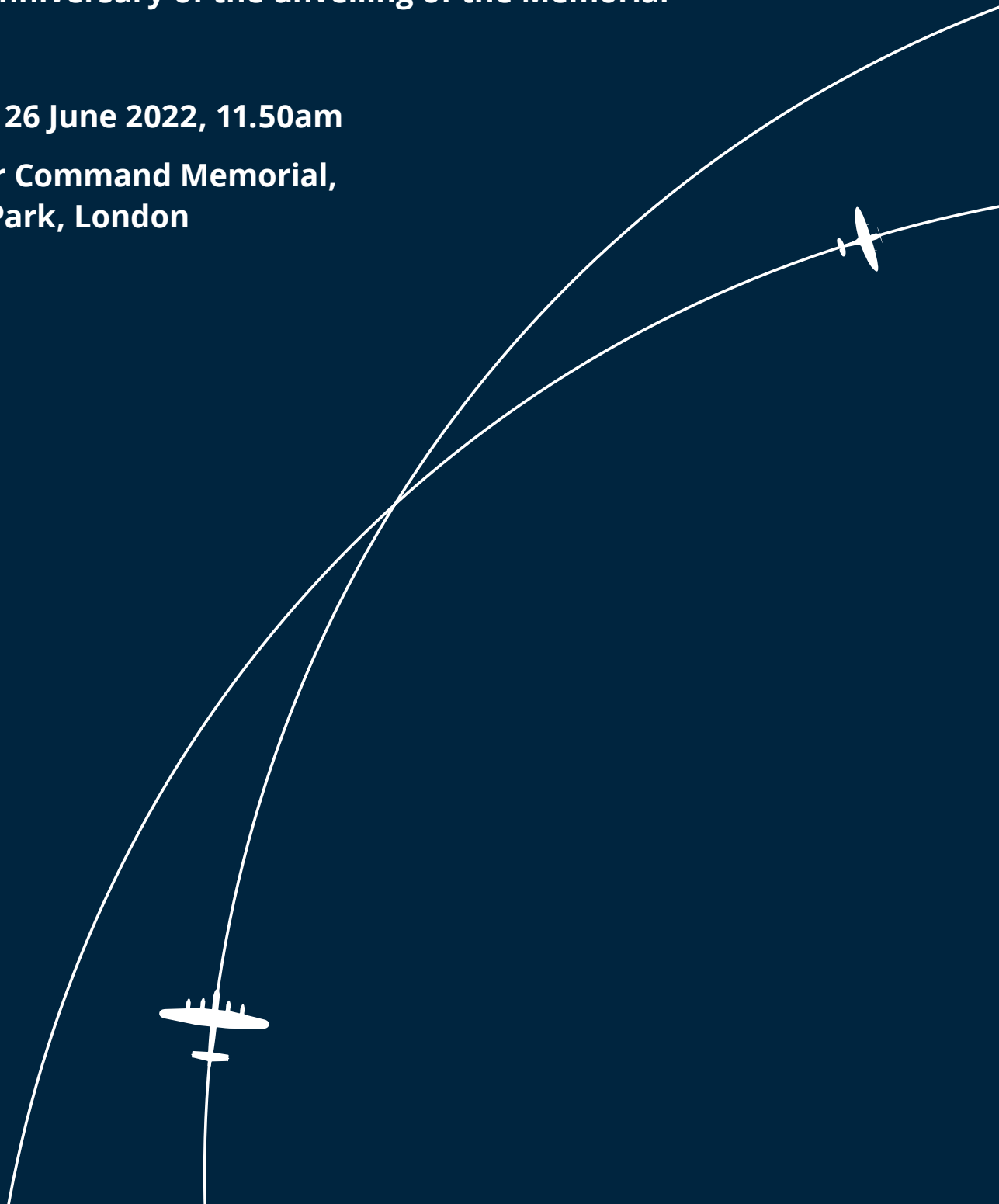
**Royal Air Force
Benevolent Fund**

BOMBER COMMAND ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Tenth anniversary of the unveiling of the Memorial

Sunday 26 June 2022, 11.50am

**Bomber Command Memorial,
Green Park, London**



PER ARDVA AD ASTRA

The Fund is the proud custodian of the Bomber Command Memorial. It is our aim to preserve the memorial for future generations so that the noble sacrifice of the 55,573 men who lost their lives in Bomber Command will always be remembered.



HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II
UNVEILED THIS MEMORIAL
28 JUNE
IN THE YEAR OF HER DIAMOND JUBILEE
2012



STORIES OF BOMBER COMMAND

Members of the University of London Air Squadron read stories of Bomber Command crew.



Air Gunner – Brian Wicks



Air Gunner – Noel Burgess



Bomb Aimer – Grey Cumberbatch*



Flight Engineer – John Jennings



Navigator – Horace Callow*



Pilot – Patrick Langford



Wireless Operator – Harry Gillott

*Image credit IBCC

*Officiant: The Reverend (Sqn Ldr) A J L Chapman, Station Chaplain,
Royal Air Force High Wycombe*

BIDDING

As we give thanks for God's great works, we remember those who served in Bomber Command and subsequent formations who have lived and died in his service, and in the service of others; we pray for all who suffer through war, and are in need; we ask for his help and blessing that we may do his will, and that the whole world may acknowledge him as Lord and King.

READING

From Psalm 103.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great goodness. As a father is tender towards his children, so is the Lord tender to those who fear him. For he knows of what we are made; he remembers that we are but dust. Our days are like the grass; we flourish like a flower of the field; when the wind goes over it, it is gone and its place will know it no more. But, the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever and ever toward those that fear him.

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

We remember before God all who served in Bomber Command, on the ground and in the air, and all those affected, especially all those who died, during the bombing campaign to cripple the intentions of those who intended to harm.

We remember those who have served in the Bomber role subsequently in theatres of war both far and wide, and who did not return.

We remember those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure.

- THE LAST POST •
- ONE MINUTE'S SILENCE •
- REVEILLE •

(The Trumpeter plays by permission of the Air Force Board of the Defence Council)

THE EXHORTATION

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

All:

We will remember them.

- WREATHS TO BE LAID AT THE MEMORIAL •
-

COLLECT

O God, our heavenly Father, we give you thanks for all who served in the Royal Air Force, particularly those in Bomber Command. For those who gave the ultimate sacrifice grant them the light of your eternal presence, where there is no conflict or strife, but harmony, peace and rest everlasting. And for those who served with courage and valour, returning bearing the scars both physically and emotionally, we pray your blessing of peace and healing over them. Empower all those who care for and support our veterans with your compassion and grace. May we forever honour and respect all those who have served, those who died and those who returned and live with the effects of conflict, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All:

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.

Then shall the Chaplain say:

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the wonder and joy of flight, that we
can 'mount up with wings like eagles'. Give us grace to use your gift
wisely and skilfully, and guide and guard the Royal Air Force that it
may continue to play its part in safeguarding all that we hold dear.
Guide and bless our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, our Homeland
and our Commonwealth.

Grant us peace, and give us courage and the spirit of self-sacrifice
that we, too, may serve our day and generation.

Amen.

Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage:
hold fast that which is good: render to no man evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honour all men;
love and serve the Lord; rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

BOMBER COMMAND REMEMBRANCE FUND

To continue to honour the memory of those who have bravely gone
before, we have created the Bomber Command Remembrance Fund,
to help the veterans they served alongside, and the serving personnel
who follow in their footsteps, going through difficult times today.

We support through the provision of practical, emotional and financial
support, that enables them to live with the dignity and independence
they deserve. We are committed to getting them through the toughest
times, whatever life may send their way. We will consider any request
for assistance, providing a tailor-made approach to each individual
situation.

From our Listening and Counselling Service and Telephone Friendship
Groups to our Advocacy Service and financial grants, through the
Remembrance Fund we provide a range of services for those who
have done their duty, and those who continue to serve today.

HOW WE HELPED JOHN



John joined the RAF in 1942 when he was 18 years
old and saw active service until the end of the
war. John served in Bomber Coastal Command,
flying Halifax bombers as a radio operator and
rear gunner, then Sunderland Flying Boats, seeing
operations in North Africa, the North Atlantic and
the Mediterranean.

When John was diagnosed with dementia and
could no longer live independently, his local
authority tried to move John to an unfamiliar care
home to reduce costs. John's family felt "frightened and confused" but
our advice and advocacy team was able to step in, taking the case to
the Ombudsman where the council refunded more than £45,000.

FIND OUT

MORE

For more information about the Bomber Command Memorial and the Remembrance Fund:

020 7307 3359

Hannah.Bower@rafbf.org.uk

rafbf.org/bcm

To tell us about RAF veterans or serving personnel who may need our support:

0300 102 1919

rafbf.org/help

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RAF Benevolent Fund is a registered charity in England and Wales (1081009) and Scotland (SCO38109)



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