Holy Trinity Penn, WW2 Book of Remembrance



JESUS SAID: "Behold I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions & over all the power of the enemy: & nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not ... but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven." St Luke 10. vv 19 and 20.

But I saw a great white throne, and him who sat on it ... and I saw the dead small and great stand before God : and the books were opened : and another book was opened, which is the book of life : and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works." The Book of Revelation 20 : vv. 11 and 12.

THE KING'S MESSAGE

"And I said to the man who stood at the year: Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown! And he replied: Go out into the darkness and put thine hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to thee better than light and safer than a know way." *M. Louise Haskins*

Extract from the broadcast of King George the VI, on Christmas Day, 1939

Pilot Officer Harry Andrews, Royal Air Force

Son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. H.L.Webb of Hutchins Barn, Knotty Green, and husband of their daughter Sybil; educated at Trinity College, Glen Almond, Scotland. Aged 32 years.

Enlisted August 1940 - gained his commission in 1941 – was attached to 49 Squadron. On March 10th 1942 he was pilot of a Hampden Bomber in a raid over Essen and reported missing. Later the plane was found at the little village of Selm, 13 miles north of Dortmund, Germany. All four members of the crew were buried by the church of Selm.

Lance Corporal Albert Brooks, 2nd Battalion, The Hampshire Regiment

Son of Mr. and Mrs. A.H.Brooks of Widmere Cottage, Tyler's Green; educated at Penn Church School. Aged 23 years.

Enlisted on April 16th 1942 and went abroad on November 18th 1942. He served in North Africa, Sicily and Italy, taking part in the battles of Tunis, Salerno and the Gothic Line where he was wounded in August 1944, and was buried in Montecchio British Cemetery, Italy.

Driver Ernest Busby, Royal Army Service Corps.

Husband of Agnes Busby of The Lodge, Stampwell House, Penn, educated at Penn Church School. Aged 30 years.

Enlisted on November 28th, 1940, and went overseas in July 1941. He served in the Middle East, attached to 22nd Armoured Brigade and was captured in the Western Desert. Officially presumed lost at sea on November 14th, whilst being transported to Italy in the S.S.Scillon.

Sergeant Thomas Dilworth, Air Gunner, Royal Air Force

Son of Mr. and Mrs. M.T.Dilworth of Beauchamp Cottage, Penn; educated at Penn Church School. Aged 19 years.

Enlisted in May 1941 and went overseas on March 11th 1943 and served as an Air Gunner in 150 Squadron B.N.A.F. Whilst returning from operations on April 13th 1943, in conditions of low cloud and poor visibility the aircraft crashed. The whole crew were buried at Al Alea outside Algiers.

Captain Edmund Grove, Royal Army Service Corps

Husband of Mrs. Grove of Stone House, Penn; educated at Harrow School. Aged 50 years.

Enlisted on September 3rd 1939 and was commissioned in April 1940. He died on June 18th 1940 of illness caused by extreme exposure on duties connected with campaign in Norway, and is buried at Aberdeen.

Sergeant Merrick Hine, Pilot, Royal Air Force

Only son of Mr. and Mrs. H.Hine, of Forty Green; educated at Penn Church School and the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe. Aged 24 years.

Enlisted immediately on the outbreak of war in September 1939. Soon qualified as a fighter pilot and eventually served in 65 Squadron. He was killed in action in a single seater fighter over the English Channel, on December 12th 1940, having previously fought in the epic Battle of Britain.

Pilot Officer Basil Holland, Navigator, Royal Air Force

Elder son of Sir Alfred and Lady Holland, formerly of Nightingales, Penn; educated at Lancing College. Aged 24 years.

Enlisted in 1939 while a law student. Commissioned as a Pilot Officer in Coastal Command 233 Squadron. He was killed in action over the English Channel on March 15th 1942. later his body was found on the beach at St. Mawes and he was buried in the family grave at Seaford.

Flight Officer Ian MCIean D.F.C., Navigator, Royal Air Force

Son of Sir Donald and Lady Mclean of Beacon Hill, Penn, and husband of Mrs. Mclean of Cruckton hall, Shrewsbury. Educated at Gresham's School, Holt and Emmanuel College, Cambridge. Aged 34 years.

Enlisted on July 23rd 1940 and was Commissioned April 26th 1941. Distinguished Fly Cross on October 15th 1943, having lost his life as a result of air operations on the night of September 14th/15th 1943, when the aircraft in which he was Navigator crashed over Denmark. Buried at Esbjerg, Denmark.

Captain John Hedworth McCulloch, Seaforth Highlanders

Only son of Mr. and Mrs. J.W.McCulloch of The Crest, Penn; educated at Eton College. Aged 26 years.

Entered Sandhurst in 1935 and two years later was Commissioned in the Seaforth Highlanders. In 1942, his Battalion, which formed part of the 51st Highland Division, joined the Eighth Army in Egypt, and fought at the crucial battle of Al Alamein, where he was killed in action November 2nd 1942, and buried in the British Military Cemetery there.

Major David Iltid Nicholl Royal Artillery, London Scottish Anti Aircraft Regiment, General Staff, War Office

Only son of Lieutenant H. Iltid Nichol D.S.O. and Mrs. Nicholl of Little Orchard, Knotty Green; educated at Eton and New College, Oxford. Aged 36 years.

Enlisted May 1939 in the London Scottish Regiment and after several months gained his Commission from the ranks. Soon afterwards he served on the General Staff at the War Office as G.S.O.3 and later, as a liaison officer; he was torpedoed at sea in the SS "Ceramic". Officially reported as presumed killed in action at sea, 7th December 1942.

2nd Lieutenant Martin Sansome Preston, Oxford and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry

Son of Judge and Mrs. A.S.Preston of Cairo Egypt, and nephew of Mr. and Mrs. C.S.Preston of Knotty Green; educated at Marlborough College. Aged 21 years.

Enlisted on July 1st 1939 and Commissioned at once. During the retreat upon Dunkirk he was killed in action on the night of May 27th 1940 in the town of Hazebrouk, France. Whilst covering the withdrawal of other troops he ordered an N.C.O. to go back with the rest of the covering party and himself manned the machine gun post. When last seen he was rapidly being surrounded. Subsequently reported buried at Hazebrouck.

Flying Officer Charles Gordon Richards, Pilot, Royal Air Force

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Richards of Penbury Haven, Penn; educated at Marlborough College, Aged 23 years.

Enlisted in December 1939 and was soon Commissioned. Served in 182 Squadron in France as a pilot. Killed in action December 15th 1943 flying a single seater Typhoon. His mission was to bomb V2 sites situated in the neighbourhood of Dieppe. He did not return.

Sergeant Ronald Roberts, Air Gunner, Royal Air Force

Only son of Mr. and Mrs. E.J.Roberts of Stampwell Cottage, Penn; educated at Penn School. Aged 19 years.

Enlisted on July 17th 1942 and served with the No.10 Operational Training Unit as an Air Gunner. He was killed as a result of an aircraft accident on March 27th 1943 near West Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire, and is buried in Penn Churchyard.

Flight Lieutenant Hugh Langdon Webb, Pilot, Royal Air Force

Son of Mr. and Mrs. F.J.Webb formerly of Hutchins Barn, Knotty Green; educated at Malvern College and Clare College, Cambridge. Aged 23 years.

Enlisted on October 2nd 1940 and was Commissioned on July 19th 1941. As pilot of a Lancaster bomber on March 31st,1944, he was engaged in an important Pathfinding mission over Nuremberg, and on his way back was shot down near Coblenz. All seven of the crew were killed – and later buried in the Britsih Military cemetery at Rheinberg.

IN HONOURED AND GRATEFUL MEMORY OF A GALLANT AMERICAN BOMBER CREW

Who left Bovingdon Hertfordshire on August 12th. 1944, on a Mammoth Bombing Raid over Caen in France. Their Flying Fortress caught fire over Penn and avoiding dwellings they crashed in flames between Parsonage Farm and Lude Farm.

In this saving others themselves they could not save.

OFFICERS & CREW

First Lietenant Charles J, Searl Pilot of Tomahawk, Wisconsin

Second Lieutenant Albert L. Dion Co-Pilot of Worcester, Massachusetts.

Second Lieutenant Saul J. Kempner Navigator of Detroit, Michigan.

Second Lieutenant Leo C. Walsh Bombardier of Washington, D.C.

Technical Sergeant James A. Beaty of Benton, Arkansas.

Technical Sergeant Cecil E. Kennedy of Keokee, Virginia.

Staff Sergeant Orvill M. Wilson of Mount Vernon, Washington.

Staff Sergeant Albert W. Knight of Cleveland, Ohio.

Staff Sergeant Alfred Bueffel of Lynbrook, New York.

This book was compiled by the Reverend Oscar Muspratt, Vicar of Penn in 1953, who served as a Chaplain to the Forces during the war. It was designed and executed by Miss Rosemary Ratcliffe of the Society of Scribes and Illuminators and bound by Mr. William Matthews and was unveiled on Remembrance Sunday, 1953.

The cabinet in which it is contained was designed by Sir Ambrose Heal, F.S.A. of this parish.

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Extract from the Broadcast of King Garage VI on Christmas Day, 1939.

Royal Air Force

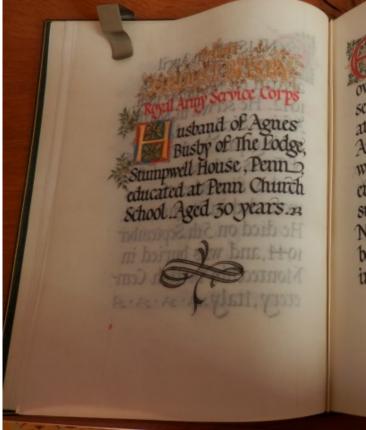
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