

Mission Mistress Memorial Unveiling Ceremony

Tuesday 6th January 2026
at 2.00 pm



ORDER OF SERVICE

Officiated by Lt Col Stahl,
Chaplain, 48th Fighter Wing, RAF Lakenheath

OPENING REMARKS

Clive Springett for The Mission Mistress Memorial Trust

UNVEILING OF THE MEMORIAL

PRAYER

Let us commemorate and commend to the loving mercy of our Heavenly Father, the Shepherd of Souls, the Giver of Life Everlasting, those who have died in the service of our country and its cause.

We remember today those crew members that paid the ultimate sacrifice and those that survived the crash but carried the lasting memories of friends lost.

We remember those killed in action:

1st Lt Jack W. Collins (KIA)

2nd Lt Gordon F. Henry (KIA)

Sgt Clinton R. Halman Jr (KIA)

S/Sgt James F. Tate (KIA)

Sgt Raymond J. Von Bokel (KIA)

We now remember those who survived and are no longer with us:

2nd Lt Robert J. Doran

Sgt Ony M. Carrico

Sgt Nicholas A. Urda

Sgt Cecil H. Schermerhorn

THE DEDICATION

read by Nigel Wolstenholme from the Royal British Legion

We remember before you, O Lord, and entrust to your keeping
these brave souls who, in the service of their country,
died in defence of justice and freedom.

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.

Response: We will remember them.

TAPS

David Ellis

THE SILENCE

REVEILLE

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

THE PLACING OF THE WREATHS

under direction of Nigel Wolstenholme

COMMITMENT

We pledge ourselves anew to our work in support of the wartime generations and to all those in other conflicts since. We promise to do everything possible to help where there is a need, and to ensure that they may enjoy the years that lie ahead in comfort and dignity and contentment.

Response: We will not break faith with you.

PRAYER

Remember, O Lord, all those who have died the death of honour and are departed in the hope of resurrection to Eternal Life, especially the officers, men and women of our Sea, Land and Air Forces, to whom it was given to lay down their lives for the cause of freedom and justice.

In that place of light, whence sorrow and mourning are far vanished, give them rest, O Lord, the Lover of Men.

Grant this for Thine only Son, Jesus Christ's sake.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

said by 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.**

THE NATIONAL ANTHEMS

sung by all.

United Kingdom

God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King;
God save the King.
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us.
God save the king.

United States of America

O say, can you see,
By the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed
At the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars
Through the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watch'd
Were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare,
The bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night
That our flag was still there,
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

PRAYER

Padre Canon Tiffer Robinson

FINAL BLESSING

Joe Hawes, Dean of St Edmundsbury Cathedral

CLOSING

*The Royal British Legion dismisses the standards,
the United States Air Force Colour Squadron marches off
and the service ends.*

*Refreshments will be served in
Moreton Hall Community Centre,
Symonds Road, Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EE.*



CHRIS ARGENT (1968-2019)

Chris was a founding member of the memorial trust, who sadly passed in July 2019. We remember Chris today.

Chris Argent, a lifelong resident of Bury St Edmunds with a passion for history and model planes, discovered his interest in the Mission Mistress after finding a crash relic during a walk in Home Covert. This discovery led him to spend many hours metal detecting, recovering numerous plane parts now displayed at Rougham Tower. Chris also connected with relatives of the crew in America, a gesture that meant a great deal to him. His dedication has helped preserve the memory of the Mission Mistress, in our hearts for now and future generations, and his contributions are deeply appreciated.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Mission Mistress Memorial Trust would like to thank the following people, companies and organisations who have assisted us throughout this project, and without their support, we could not have made this happen:

Mission Mistress Memorial Trust Members

Past District and Town Councillors

Councillor Birgitte Mager's Town and District Council Community Budgets

Dave Ellis, Bugler

Jewson's, Moreton Hall

AJN Steelstock

Shelbourne Reynolds, Stanton

West Suffolk College Staff and Students

Moreton Hall Community Centre

Moreton Hall Post Office

USAF Mildenhall and Lakenheath

Rougham Tower Association

Royal British Legion

L Fulcher



For those interested in learning more about the 94th Bomb Group at Rougham and Mission Mistress, Derek Wilson will be delivering a presentation on these topics on Thursday 8th January 2026 at 5.45 pm at the University and Professional Development Centre, 73 Western Way, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3SP.

To reserve your free ticket, please scan the QR code below:



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