

BOMBER COMMAND MEMORIAL

Fourteen Orcadians, who died serving in Bomber Command during World War 2, waited 67 years after the war ended to get their own memorial. The Queen unveiled the memorial in Green Park, a short walk from Buckingham Palace, on 28th June 2012, her Diamond Jubilee year. The Bomber Command Memorial is “Dedicated to the 55,573 Airmen of the United Kingdom, British Commonwealth and Allied Nations who served in Bomber Command and lost their lives over the course of the Second World War.”

Brief details of the 14 Orcadians are shown below, with the [type of bomber](#) flown by their squadrons at the time of death shown after the local memorials they are commemorated on (or born there).



Gordon Baikie

Flight Sergeant R. GORDON BAIKIE

Flight Sergeant FRANK BUCHAN

Flying Officer FREDERICK BUCHANAN

Corporal THOMAS H. CHALMERS

Flight Sergeant JOHN R. CURSITER

Pilot Officer JAMES L. HARCUS

Flight Sergeant AUBREY HOGG

Corporal GEORGINA H. MASON

Flight Sergeant ROBERT M. MATHIESON

Flight Sergeant NORMAN PEACE

Flight Sergeant WILLIAM SKEA

Flight Sergeant LEONARD SUTHERLAND

Flight Sergeant JAMES VELZIAN

Flight Sergeant BLAIR WOOD

Also

Harry Reid, born in Toronto of Orcadian parents, was killed on 30th July 1944 when his 106 Squadron Lancaster crashed in Salford. He is buried in Kirkwall St Olaf's Cemetery.

114 Squadron RAF, 5th December 1942, age 22, (Evie). [Blenheim Mark V](#)

97 Squadron RAF, 24th September 1944, age 23, Holm. [Lancaster I & III](#)

78 Squadron, RAF, 3rd February 1943, age 27, Kirkwall. [Halifax II](#)

77 Squadron, RAF, 7th January 1945, age 26, Kirkwall. [Halifax III](#)

35 Squadron, RAF, 23rd May 1944, age 20, Stenness. [Lancaster I & III](#)

7 Squadron, RAF, 3rd June 1942, age 29, Sandwick. [Stirling I](#)

103 Squadron, RAF, 23rd April 1944, age 23, (Westray). [Lancaster I & III](#)

Women's Auxiliary Air Force, 7th April 1945, age 35, Westray & Stromness.

106 Squadron, RAF, 21st July 1942, age 21, South Ronaldsay. [Lancaster I & III](#)

76 OTU, RAF, 15th January 1945, age 19, Kirkwall. [Wellington](#)

166 Squadron, RAF, 7th October 1944, age 19, Shapinsay. [Lancaster I & III](#)

15 OTU, RAF 27th August 1942, age 21, Stromness.

178 Squadron, RAF, 7th May 1944, age 19, Stromness. [Liberator VI](#)

227 Squadron, RAF, 4th December 1944, age 20, Sanday. [Lancaster I & III](#)



Frank Buchan



Jack Cursiter



Norman Peace



Leonard Sutherland



Thomas Chalmers



Robert Mathieson



William Skea



Harry Reid



Blair Wood