



We mark the passing of those who have served this country. Contributions from comrades and families welcome. Contact robin.ashby.ukdf@gmail.com

The last of the Few

Group Captain John Allman 'Paddy' Hemingway DFC 17 July 1919-12 March 2025 One of only ten Irishmen to fight in Battle of Britain.85 Sqn Hurricanes First victory May 10, 1940. Shot down May 11th after another part victory. Wounded when shot down same day near River Meuse. Walked to Brussels. Then Lille to rejoin 85 Sqn RAF Debden. Shot down August 18th 1940 and August 26th. February 1941 night fighting, Havocs. Damaged Heinkels. 1452 Flight RAF West Malling Flight controller. April 1945 C/O 43 Sqn Spitfires Italy. Bailed out April 23rd, smuggled through German lines by partisans. Italy, Austria C/O 244 Wing. Greece. SHAPE C/) RAF Leconfield as Gp Capt.

Apologies to readers - these are in blocks rather than a single alphabetical list for the whole 6 months

AIREY Maj Gen Sir Christopher John Airey KCVO CBE 8 March 1934 - 7 April 2025 Grenadier Guards. Malta awaiting deployment to Suez. Cyprus. Adjt 2nd Bn Windsor, UK. Cyprus. War Office. Personal MA to John Profumo C Scots Guards bn. Belfast. Brigadier 5th Field Force Germany. 5th Infantry BRigade (to Falklands) Cdr Household Divn as Major General. Private Secretary to Prince and Princess of Wales

AITKEN Major Kenneth Blake Dixson Atken died 5 Feb 25 aged 84 4th Royal Regt and GCHQ

BATT Trooper Kenneth Douglas Henry Batt 25 SEptember 1921 - 30 April 2025 Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry Palestine, Syria El Alamein (as part of (AB) Italy

BOND Lt Brian Bond 17 April 1936 - 2 June 25/ National Service Royal Artillery. Later Professor of Military History Dept of War Studies KCL

BOOKER Sqn Ldr Stanley Albert Booker MBE 25 April 1922 - 26 January 2025 Apprentice clerk, observer, navigator. Bomber Command 8 missions NW Europe shot down Comet Line betrayed, Gestapo HQ Paris. Buchenwald transferred to Stalag Luft III 2 days before due to be shot Transport Command 227 sortied during Berlin Airlift. Intelligence officer Later MI6 inc Op Gold

BOORMAN Lt Gen Sir Derek Boorman KCB 13 Sept 1930 - 25 April 2025 N Staffs Regt Korea, Hong Kong (48 Gurkha IB) later CO 51 IB Director of Army Public Relations , Director of Military Operations CO British Forces Hong Kong, DCDS (Intelligence) On retirement Lieutenant of the Tower of London

CADMAN CSM (Stuart) Roy Cadman 26 March 1923 - 3 June 25 5th Bn Royal East Kent REgt (the Buffs) Airfield defence RAF Manston half a "kill" Me109 No 3 Commando SBS . Gibraltar Op Husky. Wounded and captured Bay of Agnone. Escaped. D Day Sword Beach. Lovatt's Brigade towards Caen. Withdrawn to prepare for Japan, sent back for Battle of the Bulge. Op Plunder sniper . Occupation, Lubeck. Later Territorials 11 Para. Chelsea Pensioner

CHISWELL Maj Gen Peter Irvine Chiswell CB, CBE 19 April 1930 - 24 June 25. Devonshires. Kenya, Para. Cyprus (EOKA) Briefly Suez. I Para Bahrein, Berlin 3 Para N Borneo CoS 16th IPB. ACOS Ops Northern Army Group NATO Ground cdr N Ireland Cdr Wales

COCKROFT Major Barney Cockcroft LVO died 8 Feb 25 aged 88

COOLEGE Raymond Charles Coolege AFC died 23 Feb 25

CRESSWELL Wing Cdr John Stewart Cresswell OBE died 24 Feb 25 aged 92

DITCHAM Midshipman Anthony Greville Fox (Tony) Ditcham DSC 25 July 1922 - 2 Oct 24 HMS Renown June 1940 under air attack. HMS Holderness action against E Boats North Sea (DSC aged 19) HMS Scorpion Battle of North Cape sinking of Scharnhorst. D-Day Op Neptune . HMS Finisterre Pacific Fleet

DUMON Andree Dumon OBE 5 September 1922 - 30 January 2025 "Nadine" of Comet line, courier and smuggled downed airmen out of Belgium. Escaped from Gross-Strehlitz concentration camp. Ravensbrück. Liberated from Mauthausen 22 April 1945

EMSON Lt Col Nicholas Embleton Emson MC 2 DEC 1945 - 14 May 25 Parachute Regiment (short service) Aden (MC) Coldstream Guards (Regukar) Mortar Platoon cdr. 2ic Guards Independent Parachute Company. N Ireland HQ Land Forces Cyprus. Camberley. BATU Alberta, Canada. CO Military prison Colchester. CO Warcop training area . Retired

ESTLICK Major Nigel John Lincoln Estlick RM died 17 March 25

GUNN Lt Col David Gunn died 19 June 25 aged 90

HAYES col David Hayes CBE Royal Gurkha Rifles died 18 June 25

HORNE Edward 'Ted' Horne BEM 26 June 1921 - 11 May 2025 & the City of London Regt (TA) pre Munich. Royal Artillery. 6 year secondment Palestine Police Force Met Police. Hendon instructor scene-of-crime forensics

LAVENDER Gp Capt B W 'Danny' Lavender AFC. OBE died 27 May 2025 aged 90

LONGSDON Col Robert Shaun Longsdon LVO died 23 May 25 aged 88

MANGHALL Col Nicholas John Manghall OBE died 5 June 25

MUIRHEAD Captain Roger Hedderwick Muirhead MBE RASC 17 April 2021 - 11 April 2025
50th Nurthumbrian Divn El Alamein Op Husky (Sicily) Italy (Bari) D Day (Gold Beach) ,
Netherlands (Battle for Antwerp) 14th Army Burma , Singapore, Malaya Later 2IC 525 Co
Scottish Divn TA and veterenarian

NEWMAN Lt Col Nigel Newman LVO died 15 June 25 aged 83RAEC

OSTROWSKI Lance Cpl Boleslaw Ostrowski 4 July 1919- 13 March 2025 Conscripted into Red
Army. Voluntered paratrooper-signaller 1st (Polish) Indelpendent Parchute Brigade. Op Market
Garden wounded. Germany army of occupation. Remained in UK after demob

RATAZZI Brig Rpy Elliot Ratazzi CBE died 6 June 25

REFFELL Adm Sir Derek Roy Reffell KCB 6 Oct 192823 May 25 Lt Crd detpryers, frigates,
minesweepers. Ajax. Saw boarding of Exodus. HMS Scarborough CO HMS Sirius Indonesia,
western Indian Ocean. Asst Dir Naval Warfar. CO HMS Hermes Falg Officer 3rd Flotilla Director
of Naval Warfar, Controller of the Navy (3rd Sea Lord) Later Govenor of Gibralter

THOMAS Gwenfair (Gwen) Thomas)(Later Carter) 17 Sept 1924 - 17 April 2025 WAAF
Pathfinders signals sectionaged 99TRAVIS Surgeon Capt Roy L Travis QHDS ded 5 May 25

Obituaries to March 25

ANDERSON Air Cdre Dempster Dobbie Anderson MBE Feb 22 1933 -3 Dec 2024 National

service. Commissioned into RAF Regt. 194 Sqn. Coronation Sqn. HQ 5 Wingsignals officer. Suez. Iraq. RAF Amman Jordan. Cranwell. .Commanded Prince Charles graduation parade. Cyprus 26 (Light Anti Aircraft) Sqn . RAF Changi (Indonesian confrontation) CO 63 Sqn RAF REgt. N Ireln. Cdr 5 Wing. Adviser to RAF Strike Command C in C - Falklanads ADC HM Queen

CANNON Cdr Timothy Kelsey Cannon QGM 18 June 1943 – 20 March 2025 Midshipman Malay Emergency. HMS Resolution. HMS Warspite senior engineering office. Fire in diesel generator threatened nuclear reactor, Rescued 4. Queen's Gallantry Medal. Bath, Devonport, Faslane

DRAKE Col Anthony John Mervyn Drake died 2 April 25 aged 91

FARNFIELD Captain Hugh Richard Farnfield RN 4 December 1937 – 16 Jan 2025 destroyer, minelayer HMS Trenchant CO HMS Sovereign. Trailed Soviet nuclear submarine for 10,000 miles without being detected. Naval Intelligence during Falklands, CO 10th Submarine Sqn.

GLOVER Jack Charles Glover Atlantic Star, Arctic Star, Burma Star RN decoder Arctic Convoys; Op Dragoon; East Indies (Malaya)23 October 1923- 2 April 25 HMS Butser, HMSRoyalist

GREANY Lt Col John Martin Greany died 29 March 25 aged 91

HAYES Lt Col J P Roger Hayes, RE died 23 March 25

HENSHAW Brig Clinton Henshaw CBE died 3 April 25 aged 88

HINE Air Cdre Andrew Charles Hine OBE died 15 April 25 aged 58

LE TISSIER Lt Col Anthony Hedley Le Tissier MBE. Intelligence Corps (Sgt) Johore, Malaya Emergency . RMP commission. Cyprus. N Ireland. CO SIB Cyprus Sovereign base. BAOR (Asst Provost Marshal, Berlin) British Governor Spandau Prison at time of Hess suicide

MASON David Peter Mason 13 August 1951- 15 March 25 Welsh Guards Ceremonial duties, N Ireland (x3) Sultan of Oman's Armed Forces 22SAS; Berlin Later novelist and explorer

MERCER Col Charles Henry Mercer 14 November 1919 – 28 Feb 2025. Sussex Regt. 7thBn Nigeria Regt. Nigeria, India, Burma (Chindit) Op Thursday. MiD. Sussex Regt regular commission. RASC. RAOC.BAOR

NORMAN (later Sir) Torquil Norman 11 April 1933 – 19 March 2025 Fleet Air Arm (National Service) Sea Fury HMS Illustrious

OGILVY- WEDDERBURN Lt Col Sir Andrew John Alexander Ogilvy-Wedderburn BT 4 August 1952 - 9 April 25 Black Watch. N Ireland. Green Beret. 8th IB HQ Londonderry CO 1BW Hong Kong, QCVS Olympic bobsleigh 1976, 80 Later President Army Benevolent Fund Scotland

OSBORNE Victor Osborne 11 Nov 1918 – 1 Feb 2025 HMS Hood pre war (last surviving sailor). 11 ships and naval establishments, inc HMS Dolphin, HMS Eagle. Indian Ocean, S Atlantic, Mediterranean. Crete secret landing. Egypt. Coxswain, landing craft D-Day. Battle of Leyte Gulf , Battle of Okinawa (HMS Quality) Saw the flash of Nagasaki. Tokyo Bay for surrender of Japan

PAWSON Wing Cdr Thomas William Pawson died 23 March 25 aged 92

PERRY Major Dr Ian Charles Perry died 25 March 25 aged 85

PICKING Hazel (Mary Roberts) Picking 17 Jan 1925 – 14 Feb 2025 WRNS signaller HMS Rosemarkie HMS Hornet, Portsmouth Dockyard Signal Station,

PUGSLEY Lt Cdr John Anthony Follett Pugsley died 12 April 25 aged 91

SLINGER Wing Cdr Anthony Slinger OBE died 18 Feb 2025 aged 89

WARNE Pte Albert Warne RAOC/REME 10 Dec 1919- 3 March 25 18th Inf Div. Egypt, Singapore PoW Last known veteran on Burma Railway

WATKINS Lt Col Colin Worsley Watkins died 10 April 25 aged 87

WEBB (Charlotte Elizabeth Vine-Stephens) Betty Webb MBE Legion d'Honneur 13 May 1923
" 31 March 2025 ATS. Bletchley Park Posted to Pentagon 1945. Post war Territorial officer recruiter

EVANS Maj Dr Nicholas Rodney Hammond Evans died Jan 25 aged 73 Prince of Wales' Own Regt of Yorkshire

EYRE Major John Vickers Ayres died 11 March 25

FULFORD- DOBSON Michael Fulforf -Dobson CVO OBE RN died 15 Feb 25 aged 93

GEORGE Sqn Ldr Bruce George died 14 Feb 25 aged 96

GRAHAM Lt Col Conrad St John Graham OBE, TD died 1 Feb 25 aged 91

GREEN Dr Alain Green RAF died 16 April 25

HALLETT Captain Anthony (Tony Hallett) RN 11 Feb 1945 - 21 Jan 25 HMS Pembroke, HMS Hermes Hong Kong Caribbean HMS Eskimo Sec to Chief of Fleet Support later RFU

HARRIS Wing Cdr John 'Jack' Harris OBE, DFC 21 Jan 1920 - 9 Jan 2025 Last member of 550 Squadron Association, RAF Killinghole. 37 missions over NW Europe inc Dresden latterly Lancasters Post war Far East, France, West Germany, Air Ministry

