Kenneth Hodgson





Runnymede Memorial

Photo courtesy of Bill Berry and Jack Hodgson

Rank: - Flying Officer (Navigator)

Number: - 154238

Regiment: - Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve 582 Squadron

Died: - Missing 29 October 1944.

Cemetery: - Runneymede Memorial, Surrey. Panel 206.

Batley News, 27 Oct 1945 (Roll of Honour)

Kenneth was born in 1923 the third son of George and Rhoda Hodgson nee Craven, who had married on 11 Oct 1919 at Brownhill, St Saviours Church. Eric was born in 1920 followed by Jack in 1922. In 1939 the family was living at 10, Back Coal Pit Lane, Carlinghow.

The 582 Squadron was formed at Little Staughton in April 1944 from detachments of 7 and 156 Squadrons. It was one of the squadrons of No8 (Pathfinder) Group and disbanded in 1945.

Kenneth along with F/O LF Croft, F/L. E S Dawson, F/S R.C. Mahoney, P/O R L Pocock, Sgt. WJH Roberts, Sgt D D Wilson, F/S. W T Witty set out from Little Staughton, in day light hours, in Avro Lancaster 111 PB 630 60-A in a raid on the heavily defended island of Walcheren, off the Dutch- Belgian coasts.

A force of 358 aircraft (194 Lancaster's, 128 Halifax's, and 36 Mosquitoes) attacked 11 enemy positions. Visibility was good and all targets were considered to have been hit. Only one aircraft was lost.

Kenneth was awarded the Air Crew Europe Star; 1939-45 Star; 1939-1945 War Medal.

He is remembered at Royal Air Force Association, Batley Runnymede Memorial.



Thanks to Bill Berry.