



ABOUT THE IBCC

The IBCC serves as a point for recognition, remembrance and reconciliation for those who served, supported or suffered the bombing campaigns during the Second World War. Providing one of the most comprehensive records of the Command in the world, the IBCC ensures that generations to come can learn of their vital role in protecting the freedom we enjoy today.



THE PEACE GARDENS

The IBCC features two peace gardens set across 10 acres of landscaped grounds. Each offer quiet, contemplative space and are free to access

THE LINCOLNSHIRE PEACE GARDEN

Includes 27 native trees marking each of the operational Bomber Command stations in the county during the war. Interpretation, both digital and physical, will help you to trace the history of each station and the Squadrons that were stationed there.

THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDEN

Pays homage to the 62 nations who served or supported the Command. Covering 5 continents, the stories of their involvement is one that is rarely known. Featuring planting native to each continent. Use the IBCC app to discover more about the range of nations and the contribution they made.

THE MEMORIAL SPIRE & WALLS

At the heart of the International Bomber Command Centre are the Memorial Spire and Walls of Names.

The Spire commands stunning views across Lincoln, with a focus on the City's ancient Cathedral, which served as a sighting point for crews flying from Lincolnshire. For many of the men named on the accompanying walls, the Cathedral provided their last sight of Britain.

THE SPIRE

- The Spire is the tallest war memorial in the UK
- It is 102ft (31.09m) high, the wingspan of the Avro Lancaster bomber
- 16ft (5m) wide at the base, the width of a Lancaster wing

THE WALLS

- Hold the names of nearly 58,000 men and women who perished during WWII
- The only place in the world that memorialises every loss in Bomber Command
- Walls arranged around the spire in concentric circles



THE CHADWICK CENTRE

The Chadwick Centre brings to life the experience of those involved or affected by the fight to preserve the freedom we enjoy today.

The Centre uses state-of-the-art technology and interactive displays to tell the story of Bomber Command, through the eyes of those who witnessed events first-hand. Interviews with veterans of both air and ground crew, and support staff from around the world, come together to create an Orchestra of Voices. There are accounts from survivors of the Allied bombing campaign, members of the Resistance Movement and people affected by the influx of thousands of service personnel into their communities.

In the 21st century, it is possible to commemorate the bravery of those who served, while recognising the complexity of the issues surrounding the targeting of civilian populations.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Vital to the aims of the project will be the provision of educational facilities where the younger generation can learn about the brave individuals who came before them.

A full time staff will ensure their experience of the Centre is enjoyable, but also that it leaves them with memories and thoughts to stay with them through their lives.

Whether visiting as a part of a formal school group or as part of a family, there are numerous engaging activities and trails available.

There are free-to-download resources for schools ensuring you can maximise the student's experience and learning from a visit.

More on Learning at the IBCC can be found at www.internationalbcc.co.uk/learning

CHADWICK CENTRE HIGHLIGHTS

- Opening Times – 9.30am to 5pm, closed Mondays
- Reference and research library
- Three exhibition galleries with state of the art interactive and immersive exhibits
- Extensive programme of events throughout the year
- Temporary and touring exhibitions – an exciting programme of temporary exhibitions taking place throughout the year
- Hub Café – an extensive, locally sourced menu, fully licensed, friendly & helpful staff
- Shop – a range of souvenirs, books, models, and gifts, for enthusiasts, & families alike



VISITING THE IBCC

The International Bomber Command Centre is both educational and fun, allowing both children and adults to learn through experiencing the exhibition galleries with their interactive displays and exhibits, the Peace Gardens and the Memorial.

Pick up a trail for children to follow and complete, as they explore.



TO DO

- Visit the exhibition galleries
- Operation Bomber Command, Home Fronts and Remembering Bomber Command
- Spend time in our tranquil Peace Gardens
- Visit the Spire and Walls of Names and trace the stories of those honoured
- Follow one of our trails through the free IBCC app
- Use the archive and losses database to trace your family heritage
- Take part in one of our many events and family days
- Enjoy delicious Lincolnshire food and drink in the Hub Café
- Meander through our shop to stock up on gifts and memorabilia



DISCOVER

- What it was like serving as aircrew, or providing support to Bomber Command
- What it was like to take part in a mission
- What it was like to be involved in a bombing raid
- The story of the civilians building the planes
- The impact of the raids on the targeted populations
- The debates in the War Cabinet about the wisdom of campaigns
- The struggle for recognition by those who served Bomber Command
- How modern media portrays Bomber Command



LEARN

- Discover what it was like to be on a bombing raid with our immersive experience
- Be a member of an operational aircrew with our interactive aircraft table
- Build a plane puzzle – can you beat the clock?
- Find out about the role of women in WWII
- Travel the world with the 62 nations who served in Bomber Command
- What did Children do during the war?
- Learn about navigation and how it was used
- Hear the stories of the people who were there
- What it was like to spend time in a shelter

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON VISITING GO TO INTERNATIONALBCC.CO.UK/YOUR-VISIT-EVENTS

A STORY OF DISCOVERY, EDUCATION & REMEMBRANCE | INTERNATIONALBCC.CO.UK



INTERNATIONAL BOMBER COMMAND CENTRE

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

Whether you have an interest in military and aviation history or you are tracing your family history the IBCB Digital Archive and Losses Database provide a powerful tool. They provide a fascinating insight into the people involved, the spirit of the era and the lives that followed. Through interviews, personal and official documents and photographs the story of Bomber Command is brought to life.



DIGITAL ARCHIVE

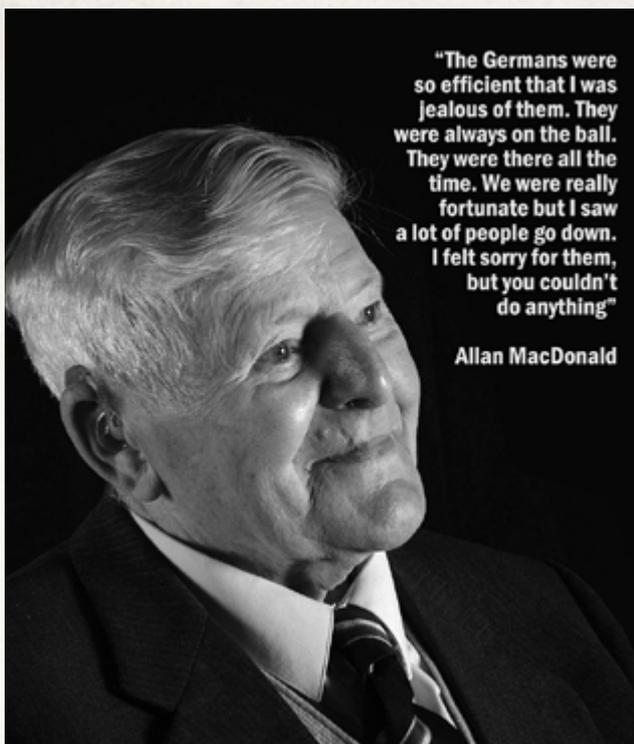
The most comprehensive research resource in the world covering the Bomber Command story. It is being created as part of this project to ensure that the story of the unit and the bombing campaign is preserved in perpetuity.

The Bomber Command Digital Archive is preserving documents, from all over the world, including log books, photographs, letters and service citations. The archive also contains oral histories of those involved, from all sides, ensuring that their first-hand experiences are preserved before it is too late.

The archive not only ensures the heritage is preserved but it helps to bring those involved to life through their personal documents and stories.

The Digital Archive is free to use and is a fantastic resource for anyone with an interest in aviation heritage, military heritage, 20th century history and those doing family research. To access the archive please visit internationalbcc.co.uk/digital-archive

If you have documents that you would like preserving please email us on archive@internationalbcc.co.uk



"The Germans were so efficient that I was jealous of them. They were always on the ball. They were there all the time. We were really fortunate but I saw a lot of people go down. I felt sorry for them, but you couldn't do anything"

Allan MacDonald

RECORDING MEMORIES

The IBCC has been running a comprehensive oral history programme for the last 3 years and has preserved the memories of hundreds of those involved, on all sides, in both audio and video interviews. Including memories of air crew, ground staff, WAAFs and other support personnel, survivors of the bombing campaigns, factory workers involved in the design and manufacture of the aircraft and recipients of humanitarian aid through Operation Manna.

All of these memories are made available through the Digital Archive and many are incorporated into the exhibitions within the Chadwick Centre.

These interviews will enable users of the archive and visitors to the IBCC to understand, through the first-hand testimonies of those involved, what it was like to be part of one of the darkest periods in our modern history.



LOSSES DATABASE

The IBCC Losses Database records the details of every Bomber Command death during WWII.

It provides the most comprehensive record of these losses in the world. It comprises over 2.5 million pieces of information from the full name through to what caused their loss.

Over 50 volunteers have worked for the last 4 years to complete the work.

To access the Database please visit internationalbcc.co.uk/losses-database

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF BOMBER COMMAND AND THE ARCHIVE AT
[INTERNATIONALBCC.CO.UK/HISTORY-ARCHIVE](https://internationalbcc.co.uk/history-archive)

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