

### 3 - THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN LONDON MONUMENT

**The idea for the monument was conceived by Bill Bond, founder of the Battle of Britain Historical Society.**

His determination and single-mindedness was the driving force behind the building of what is arguably the finest war monument in London. Nowhere in the world was to be found a structure upon which all the names of The Few could be found inscribed, a lamentable omission in the eyes of many.

With its unveiling by Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall on 18 September 2005, this fine monument is ample testament to the courage and sacrifice of the 2974 aircrew who fought so tenaciously during the summer of 1940, and in doing so saved this country from invasion and subsequent occupation by the most heinous regime in the history of mankind.

The monument is almost eighty feet in length, over six feet high and almost six feet wide. The magnificent friezes depict both air and ground crew in action, as well as paying homage to civilians who also played such a big part in the war effort.

The bronze reliefs, by the sculptor Paul Day, are staggered either side of a walkway. The central feature of the relief facing the road represents pilots scrambling for their aircraft, bursting through the inscription "The Battle of Britain".

Others captured in the bronze include men and women of the groundcrews, radar systems, aircraft production, rescue services and the civilian population.

More than 1 in 6 of the 3000 airmen who flew in the Battle were from countries outside Britain. To emphasise this, the names of the airmen are grouped according to their country. Starting on the right hand side of the Fighter Command



#### Further Information:

**St. Clement Danes,  
Central Church of the Royal Air Force, Strand, London WC2R 1DH**

**Website:** [www.st-clement-danes.co.uk](http://www.st-clement-danes.co.uk) and  
e mail [stclementasst@btconnect.com](mailto:stclementasst@btconnect.com)  
**Tel:** 0207 242 8282

*No Admission Charge but a donation is always most welcome.*

**Service Times:** Daily Prayers at 0930 and 1200 (when chaplain present) Holy Communion Wed & Fri 1230, RC Mass 1st Tue in Month at 1230, Choral Eucharist or Choral Matins Sun at 1100. Please note that Special Services may be taking place on the day of your visit.

**Nearest Underground station:** Temple (Now open on Sun), Embankment, Covent Garden or Holborn  
**Buses:** 4, 11, 15, 23, 26, 76, 172, 341

**The Royal Air Force Memorial, Victoria Embankment, Westminster**

**Website:** [www.raf-benfund.org.uk/RAF-memorial](http://www.raf-benfund.org.uk/RAF-memorial)

**Underground Stations:** Embankment, Temple, Westminster  
**Nearest main line station:** Charing Cross  
**Buses:** 12, 53, 148, 453

**The Battle of Britain Monument, Victoria Embankment, Westminster**

**Websites:** The Battle of Britain Historical Society website:  
[www.battleofbritain.net/bobhsoc](http://www.battleofbritain.net/bobhsoc) and [www.bbm.org.uk](http://www.bbm.org.uk)

**Underground stations:** Westminster (Follow the signs to "The Embankment" (exit 1) turn left out of the exit and the monument is less than 1 min walk. Embankment, Temple  
**Nearest main line station:** Charing Cross  
**Buses:** 12, 53, 148, 453

**Statue of Sir Winston Churchill, Parliament Square, Westminster**

*Quotations from the speeches of Winston Churchill are reproduced with the permission of Curtis Brown Ltd, London on behalf of The Estate of Winston Churchill. Copyright Winston S. Churchill*

**Westminster Abbey, Westminster, London SW1P 3PA**

**Website:** [www.westminster-abbey.org](http://www.westminster-abbey.org)  
**Email:** [info@westminster-abbey.org](mailto:info@westminster-abbey.org)  
**Information Desk Tel:** 020 7654 4900

**Service Times:** Weekdays: Morning Prayer 07.30, Holy Communion 08.00 & 12.30, Evensong 17.00. Sat: Holy Communion 08.00, Morning Prayer 09.00, Evensong 15.00. Sun: Holy Communion 08.00, Matins 10.00, Sung Eucharist 11.15, Evensong 15.00, Evening Service 18.30.

*Visitor entrance to the Abbey is through the North Door. The Abbey has no other source of funding other than income from visitors, so admission charges apply: Adults £10, Concessions (under-16, students and 60+) £7, Families £24. Group details from the Abbey website. There is never a charge for worship at the Abbey (entrance via West Door at service times).*

**Nearest mainline stations:** Waterloo and Victoria  
**Underground:** Westminster, St James's Park, Waterloo and Victoria  
**Buses:** 3, 11, 24, 87, 88, 148, 211

*A Thanksgiving Service is held in September for the Battle of Britain. Should you wish to attend the service, the details are announced in the Daily Telegraph and the Times Newspapers, on the first Thursday in June each year.*

## A GUIDE TO THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN HERITAGE WALK



**'... the Battle of France is over, I expect that the Battle of Britain is about to begin. Upon this battle depends the survival of Christian civilization. Upon it depends our own British life, and the long continuity of our institutions and our Empire.'**

WINSTON CHURCHILL June 18, 1940

