



# ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

NUMBER 460 SQUADRON



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Russell Offices, CANBERRA ACT 2600, AUSTRALIA

I2010/00110

**The Village of Stadil**  
STADIL  
DENMARK

*Dear Villagers of Stadil*

It is my great honour, as the Commanding Officer of Number 460 Squadron (RAAF), to personally thank you for your thoughtful and diligent care for the resting place of the crew of Lancaster EE138 of 460 Squadron.

The crew of Lancaster EE138 represented the best and brightest of Australia and England, each sacrificing their lives for the values that we hold dear. Number 460 Squadron (RAAF) lost 1018 men in pursuit of these values, and RAF Bomber Command overall lost 55,000. This was a great sacrifice, and these men demonstrated remarkable courage to fly into the maelstrom each day facing odds of 50 per cent survival.

Your meticulous care for their resting place, under the scrutiny of the Germans at the time and up until today, illustrates the depth with which you share the values of honour, courage and freedom. It also demonstrates your commitment to remembering those who fought under extreme danger, as did the people of Denmark, to uphold these values.

These men will forever share the earth of Denmark with you, and the way you have wholeheartedly embraced them has been a source of great comfort to the relatives of the Australian and English crew members of Lancaster EE138.

I wish to extend the gratitude of 460 Squadron members, relatives, and friends to the people of Denmark and especially the villagers of *Stadil*, as we in 2011 again commemorate the sacrifice of the eight crew of Lancaster EE138.

*Minde over faldne allierede Flyvere* (In memory of fallen Allied airmen), lest we forget.

Yours faithfully,

*Rob Elliott*

**R.J. ELLIOTT**  
Wing Commander  
Commanding Officer  
Number 460 Squadron - *Strike and Return*

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