

## The Dambusters Inn Heritage Centre Scampton



Situated in High Street Scampton just 500 metres from Scampton Church, the building has been painstakingly sculpted into a heartfelt tribute to all the men and women who were serving at RAF Scampton with 617 Squadron Royal Air Force, when the - now legendary - Operation Chastise was launched.

The personally gathered collection of memorabilia, photographs, documents and artefacts comprise the remarkable decor to the interior of the pub; hardly a square inch of wall will not engage your eye with something of interest. This aspect of the pub has yielded many emotional encounters when visitors, many from far afield, have discovered some item that has some direct connection with a family member who served with the RAF during those terrible war years 1939-1945.

### Opening times:

Tues - 12noon - 9pm

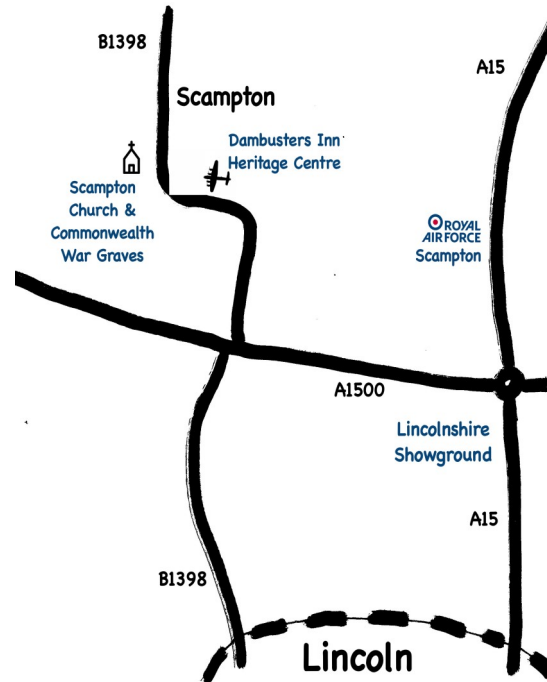
Weds - Sat - 12noon - 11pm

Sunday - 12noon - 7.30pm

Monday - Closed

[www.dambustersinn.co.uk](http://www.dambustersinn.co.uk) Tel: 01522 731333

## Finding us



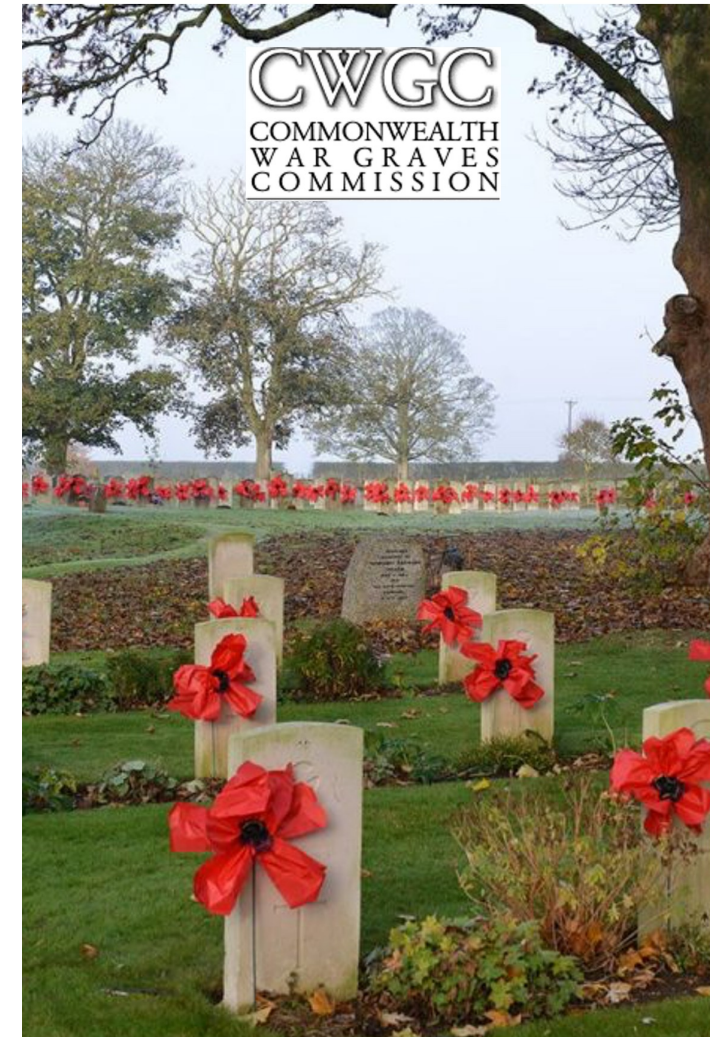
Scampton Church  
(open all day every day)

High Street  
Scampton

Lincoln LN1 2SE

email: [info@scamptonchurch.org](mailto:info@scamptonchurch.org)  
[www.scamptonchurch.org](http://www.scamptonchurch.org)

## Scampton Church Commonwealth War Graves & The Dambusters Inn Heritage Centre



*Photo credits—Jane Harrison and Curiosity Creators*



### War Graves

Scampton churchyard contains 64 Commonwealth and eight German war graves from the Second World War, and a further 43 graves of personnel who died on active service.

During the Second World War there was a Royal Air Force Station at Scampton, and in the early months of the war a plot of land lying to the right of the church entrance was set aside for the burial of servicemen. In 1941 it became necessary to reserve further ground for this purpose and a plot in an extension of the churchyard north of the church was used. The war graves in this burial ground are therefore in two sections and these are linked by a footpath.

A project conceived by members of the church congregation invites visitors to go to [www.scamptonchurch.org/war-graves](http://www.scamptonchurch.org/war-graves) and click on a grave to read the personal stories of those who gave their lives serving their country.



### RAF Chapel

The association between Scampton Church and RAF Scampton goes back to 1916, when Air Station Brattleby Cliff opened as a Home Defence Flight Unit. It was staffed by personnel of the Royal Flying Corps, prior to being renamed RAF Scampton in 1918, making the Station one of the RAF's oldest.

After a short interruption the Station became home to 617 Squadron (known as the 'Dambusters') from where they flew their most famous mission - Operation CHASTISE.

Post war RAF Scampton was the home of the Vulcan bomber, and is currently the home of the Red Arrows aerobatic team.

The church building houses a lady chapel dedicated to the RAF which contains the original squadron shields and roll of honour boards from the officers' mess at RAF Scampton.



### One story of the many here...

John Hannah (centre of picture above) was the youngest recipient of the Victoria Cross in WWII. He trained as a wireless operator/air gunner and was posted to 83 Squadron at RAF Scampton.

On 15th September 1940, he and his crew took part in 'the Battle of the Barges'. This was an operation to disable German barges that were preparing for an invasion of Britain. Flack struck their Hampden bomber and it quickly caught fire.

The navigator and rear gunner bailed out but Hannah stayed aboard, fighting the fire. The pilot, Clare Connor, brought the very badly damaged aircraft back to Scampton. Hannah was awarded the VC at just 18 years of age. He had suffered serious burns and never fully recovered. He died in 1947.

To keep his memory alive at Scampton Church the Hannah Rose was developed. It grows in a bed on the left as you enter the churchyard.

**Their name liveth forever more**