

Andrew 'Andy' Ireland DFC

Andy Ireland

It is with sadness that we report the death of Andrew 'Andy' Ireland DFC, aged 89, a chief timekeeper and at the time of his death the president of both Humberside AA and Humberside Schools AA. Andy was instrumental in setting up the latter body having previously worked with Yorkshire Schools. Although initially a field judge he saw the light and became a timekeeper.

During the war Andy completed three tours, as a navigator of Lancasters. This included two back to back tours as part of the Pathfinders force. He was awarded the DFC for his work on bombing the Ruhr valley in a mission which could have been a disaster but for the bravery of the crew. Andy rarely spoke of his wartime experiences but one day, on a coach to Lincoln, he asked the driver to slow down as they passed RAF Scampton. He wanted to check the Lancaster which then stood at the gates. It was the one he flew in. Later he wanted to see whether this aircraft had been taken to the RAF museum at Hendon and last year he fulfilled that wish to be reunited with his old aircraft..

Andy's funeral will take place at St Peter's Church, Wawne nr Hull at 1.00pm on Monday June 15th This is to be followed by cremation at Chantlands Avenue Crematorium, Hull at 2.00pm and refreshments and drinks for Andy's athletic friends at the Waggoner's Arms, Wawne at 3.00pm. All are welcome.

Edwin Bellamy