



4 Apr 1944 - Stirling IV and Horsa Glider Crash – 3 Pl, A Coy, 7th Bn KOSB

*“At the going down of the sun,
and in the morning,
We will remember them”*



The History. In 1943 the 7th Battalion, King's Own Scottish Borderers (KOSB) was converted to the Airborne Infantry role, utilizing Gliders. The Battalion was part of the 1st Airlanding Brigade within the 1st Airborne Division. Through 1943 and 1944 exercises took place to prepare the 1st and 6th Airborne Divisions for parachute and glider borne operations in support of D-Day and subsequent operations in NW Europe. On the night of 4th April 1944, the Battalion was part of Exercise ‘Dreme’, a large glider borne exercise in which the gliders with their Stirling IV ‘tugs’ conducted a circuit from RAF Keevil in Wiltshire to East Sussex and returning to release their gliders over RAF Brize Norton in Oxfordshire. Stirling IV LJ-842 of 196 Squadron RAF was towing 1 HGSU, Horsa 1 glider, LG999 containing the two glider pilots (GPR) and members of No. 3 Platoon, 'A' Company, 7th (Airborne) Battalion, KOSB. The night was very dark and with low cloud forcing the pilots to fly low and with no ambient light as the blackout was in force. Tragically the Stirling struck a tree to the East of Warnford Park. The Horsa Glider crashed in the fields of Warnford Park killing all 27 on board (24 x KOSB, 1 x RAMC and 2 X GPR). The Stirling flew on with catastrophic damage and crashed near Romsey; also killing all 6 of the RAFVR & RAAF aircrew.

The Memorial Plan:

- 4 April 2022 (78th Anniversary of the crash) at 11.00am
- Memorial Dedication
- Peake Farm (near Warnford, Hampshire), overlooking the crash site, adjacent to the South Downs Way

KOSB Association Fundraising Target £2300

