

US Airman Commemoration – Major Glenn E. Hagenbuch (1918 – 1943)

In October 1943 an American bomber pilot sadly perished when his plane crashed close to Whipsnade Green just inside the Zoo boundary. His identity has been a mystery until recently; but now, in honour of him, Whipsnade Village and the church of St. Mary Magdalene will be hosting a commemoration event on the morning of **Thursday, October 9th** - the 82nd anniversary of the crash - which we hope many residents will be able to attend, joining with members of the Major's family who will be coming over from America.

Programme of events: **10.00 a.m.** there will be brief outdoor service held close to the crash site on The Green above Chequers Cottages which will include playing of the Last Post, observance of a two-minute silence, Reveille and *TAPS*. This part should conclude between 10.15 am and 10.20 am The commemoration will then continue with a special memorial service to be held in St. Mary Magdalene church starting at **11.00 am.** and with the event finishing with a reception for the family and all other attendees at The Old Hunters Lodge (*all welcome*), when light refreshments, teas, coffees will be available (*from 11.45 approx.*).

There will be a small display of photographs about the Major's life and flying career in the Village Hall which will be open from 9.00 am where parties attending the services can assemble before processing to The Green, departing the VH at 9.45 am. Alternative parking available as usual outside the Church. ***Please avoid use of Chequers Lane.***

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Click on the link below to review letters and other memorabilia which will give the reader a good sense of Major Glenn E. His friends called him "Buck". (*Photo: Back row, first on left*)

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/rn1qu3ijothwz5tk5299/AOidT4u8TYYk3q86_T1VScM?rlkey=p3zujeqtyobn1mds53t28vfr&st=1kbec036&dl=0