## Sgt. Donald Bagley 1109333 RAFVR



A 460 Squadron Wellington pictured at Breighton

Wireless operator Donald Bagley was one of eight men from 460 (Australian) Squadron killed when two Wellingtons were lost during a raid on Duisburg in the early hours of 26 July 1942.

His aircraft, Wellington IV Z1399, had left Breighton in Yorkshire a few minutes after midnight, part of a force of 313 bombers sent by Bomber Command to attack this key industrial city. Twelve were lost, including the pair from 460. It is believed Z1399 crashed in the target area and may have been a victim of the flak defences. There were no survivors.

Donald was one of two British airmen in the crew and came from Littleborough in Lancashire. He was the 21-year-old son of James and Jane Bagley and is buried with the rest of his crew in the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery.

The others who died were the pilot Flt. Lt. Clifford Burgess RAAF, navigator Flt. Sgt. William Nettle RAAF, wireless operator/air gunner Sgt. James Milligan and rear gunner P/O David Mills RAAF. All are among the 1,019 casualties from 460 Squadron remembered on the squadron memorial in Perth.

His name can be found on panel 004.

Sources: Aviation Safety Network/460 Squadron Association/Jim Petersen.