

**PO Harold  
Charles Leeton  
Mackintosh  
RAAF 414052**

Harold Mackintosh was a 28-year-old Australian Lancaster pilot who died along with five of his crew when their aircraft was shot down by a



night-fighter during an attack on Stuttgart on the night of 20<sup>th</sup>/21st February 1944. It was their sixth operation together.

His aircraft, ND338 LE-Q of 630 Squadron, had taken off from East Kirkby, one of fourteen from the squadron joining a force of 598 bombers heading for the southern German city. An effective diversion led to only nine aircraft being lost although a second from 630 Squadron crashed on take-off.

ND338 was intercepted by a night-fighter fitted with upward-firing cannon, and crashed near the small town of Plittersdorf, close to the Rhine and the French border. The only survivor was the wireless operator, Sgt Angus Newson.

Harold and his crew had joined the squadron in December 1943. He lived in the Mayne area of Brisbane with his wife, Ila and was the 28-year-old son of Charles and Margaret Mackintosh. He is pictured above (front, centre) with his parents. His sister, brother (who also served in the RAAF) and his wife (second right) shortly before he embarked for England.

The others who died were the flight engineer Flt Sgt Elwyn Hughes, navigator Flt Sgt Geoffrey Slater, bomb-aimer Flt Sgt Owen Preston RAAF, mid-upper gunner Flt Sgt Stephen Tatai RCAF and rear gunner Flt Sgt Burton Howard RCAF. All were buried in Plittersdorf before being reinterred in the Durnbach War Cemetery.

Harold's name can be found on panel 066.

Sources: Australian War Memorial/630 Squadron Association.