ARNHEM
CEMETERIES & MEMORIALS

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ARNHEM OOSTERBEEK
WAR CEMETERY
Sometimes known as the ‘Airborne Cemetery’, many servicemen can be found here, including the 21 year-old Gronert twins from Cornwall. Thomas and Claude Gronert died together on the first day of Operation ‘Market Garden’, and they are buried side-by-side in Plot 18. Row A. Graves 17-18.

Upon their headstones is the inscription: ‘Winds of heaven blow softly here where lie sleeping those we loved so dear’

Lance Serjeant John Baskeyfield of the South Staffordshire Regiment. John died at Arnhem on 20 September while singlehandedly fighting advancing German Tiger tanks after his entire gun crew had been killed. For his actions he was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross. He is commemorated on Panel 5 of the Groesbeek Memorial.
Operation ‘Market Garden’ was the largest airborne assault in history and one of the most daring and ambitious Allied operations of the Second World War.

On 17 September 1944, Allied airborne troops landed behind enemy lines to capture vital river crossings in the Netherlands. The bridge at Arnhem was the furthest inside enemy territory and despite determined attempts, supporting ground forces could not reach their surrounded airborne comrades and secure the bridge. It became known as ‘a bridge too far’.

After ten days of desperate resistance around 2,400 airborne soldiers managed to escape, but more than 6,000 were captured.
After the war great efforts were made to find and identify the fallen. However, the final resting places of many service personnel remain unknown. Built within CWGC Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, the Groesbeek Memorial commemorates more than 1,000 personnel who died in north-west Europe from the summer of 1944 until the end of the war who have no known grave.

Over a third of the men commemorated here died during the ten day period of Operation ‘Market Garden’.

THE GROESBEEK MEMORIAL

The cemetery is extremely important to the local community and each year on the anniversary of the battle, local school children meet to lay flowers on the graves – a tradition that dates back to 1945.

ARNHEM OOSTERBEEK WAR CEMETERY

Constructed near the site of the airborne landings at Arnhem, this now peaceful and beautiful cemetery is where many of the Commonwealth and Polish troops who died in the Battle of Arnhem were laid to rest after the war.
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) commemorates the 1.7 million Commonwealth servicemen and women who died in the two World Wars. It operates at 23,000 sites worldwide and in more than 150 countries and territories.

The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation (CWGF) is our charitable foundation highlighting the work the CWGC does by telling the stories of those we commemorate.

Find out more at www.cwgc.org/support-us

THE CWGC EXPERIENCE
Take a tour behind the scenes at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The CWGC Experience is a unique new visitor attraction at the centre of the First World War battlefields in Beaurains, France. Take a look behind the scenes at the work of the CWGC, who care for the fallen of the two World Wars around the globe.

Email: cwgcexperience@cwgc.org

Ieper Information Centre
Located only metres from the Menin Gate, drop in and our friendly team will help you find out more about our local sites or undertake research on our casualty database. You can also pick up a souvenir or join our CWGF Supporter scheme.

www.cwgc.org