

- THE -
SIR KEITH PARK
 - MEMORIAL CAMPAIGN -



www.sirkeithpark.com - visit our website & find out more about our campaign

Dear Reader,

The Sir Keith Park Memorial Campaign was instigated to honour a forgotten hero of the Battle of Britain. Sir Keith Park commanded the Royal Air Force 11 Group Fighter Command - the squadrons which bore the brunt of the Battle of Britain. The failure of Nazi Germany to defeat the RAF in 1940 was Hitler's first major setback - and forced him to call off his planned invasion of Britain. We are campaigning for a statue to Park, the leader of 'The Few', to be erected on the Fourth Plinth in London's Trafalgar Square alongside Nelson's Column - a memorial to another British hero who defended our nation's freedom in her hour of need.

The Campaign was launched with a Spitfire in Trafalgar Square and has already been backed by many individuals following a range of high-profile events staged to highlight the need for a suitable memorial to Sir Keith Park. If you are already a supporter of the Campaign - thank you for your help and support so far.

Please do read through the information and contact us if you wish to. We need your help to continue to build on the excellent start to our Campaign and ensure we continue to apply pressure to the relevant authorities to achieve our aim of a suitable statue to Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Park on the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square.

The 'Sir Keith Park Memorial Campaign' website is continually updated with a list of individuals who have signed the website petition <http://www.sirkeithpark.com>. Please forward on our campaign details, or email the petition links, to anyone who you think might support us. You might also like to sign the petition on the No. 10 Downing Street website at <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/SirKeithPark/>.

There is a tear-off slip below that you can fill in and return to us FREEPOST here at the Campaign. Thank you again for your continued support.

Terry Smith
 Instigator of the Sir Keith Park Memorial Campaign



A Spitfire at dawn in Trafalgar Square on launch day 7th March



The New Zealand Cricket Team and two of Sir Keith Park's relatives show their support for the Sir Keith Park Memorial Campaign before the First Test at Lords

For further information contact:
 Karl McCartney, Campaign Director
 Sir Keith Park Memorial Campaign
 Level 3, 155 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3TQ
 Email: campaign@sirkeithpark.com
 Phone: 020 7200 7332 / 020 7200 7130
 Fax: 020 7200 7678

Support The Sir Keith Park Memorial Campaign - Return This Petition Slip

I am aware that there is no permanent memorial or statue to Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Park GBC, KBE, MC and Bar, DFC, RAF, who was in direct command of the pilots and all those who helped them defend London, the South East & the whole country from invasion during the Battle of Britain in 1940. I am aware that there is a statue currently being commissioned and agree that a suitable position for it to occupy is the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square, where Sir Keith Park would join other heroes.

Name:

Postal Address:

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Email:



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CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

Friday 7 March 2008 - Campaign Launch

Launch in Trafalgar Square of the Sir Keith Park Memorial Campaign with a full size replica Spitfire. Attendees included: WWII RAF Veterans; Leigh Park, the great great niece of Sir Keith Park; Terry Smith; Mark Field MP and RAF Representatives. The Campaign website was also launched and can be found at www.sirkeithpark.com. It includes an online petition, information on Sir Keith Park and various images of Spitfires and Hurricanes in motion. The website received over 2000 visits in the first week.

Friday 18 April 2008 - Unveiling of Statue Maquette

Battle of Britain Veterans, Sir Keith Park's great-great niece Leigh Park, Terry Smith, serving members of the RAF and other supporters attended a lunch and unveiling ceremony at the RAF Club in Piccadilly, London, showing the maquette - scale model - a representation of the final statue. The Campaign has also used the maquette to commission computer generated images of how the statue would look when sited on the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square.

Tuesday 29 April 2008 - Biggin Hill Fly-In

The Campaign organised for a Spitfire and a Hurricane, which both saw action in the Battle of Britain, to make a dramatic Fly-In to Biggin Hill Airport. Sadly, the British weather kept the Spitfire grounded, but a Hurricane and a Messerschmitt 109 made a spectacular fly past before landing at Biggin Hill. They were greeted on the airstrip by Battle of Britain Veterans, including Flight Lieutenant Bob Foster, who flew this very Hurricane during the Battle of Britain, under Park's command. The event attracted widespread media coverage, including a feature piece on BBC South East, which can be viewed online at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/7373727.stm>.

New Zealand Defence Minister Lends Support - followed by New Zealand Prime Minister

On 17 March 2008 Phil Goff, New Zealand's Defence Minister wrote to UK Defence Secretary Des Browne in support of the Campaign. Mr Goff confirmed his pledge of support for the Campaign when he met Terry Smith in New Zealand, in early May. In early June, Phil Goff delivered a letter to Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, from the Leaders of all New Zealand's political parties, including the New Zealand Prime Minister, in support of the Campaign.

Maltese Government Backs Campaign

During April, we also received the support of the Maltese High Commissioner, Dr. Michael Refalo. Sir Keith Park is revered in Malta. Following the Battle of Britain, he was responsible for the aerial defence of the island, and within a matter of weeks reversed a German onslaught which had hitherto made Malta the most bombed place on earth.

Parliamentary Early Day Motion '1206 Sir Keith Park Memorial Campaign'

Early Day Motion 1206 put down by Mark Field MP, has now received the support of over 50 MPs from all parties. To see further details of the signatories, please visit <http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/EDMDetails.aspx?EDMID=35432&SESSION=891>

No. 10 Downing Street e-petition

The Campaign's e-petition to the Prime Minister goes from strength to strength, with over 1,000 people having signed up. Please add your support by visiting <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/SirKeithPark/>



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Sir Keith Park Memorial Campaign
London
EC2M 3TQ