

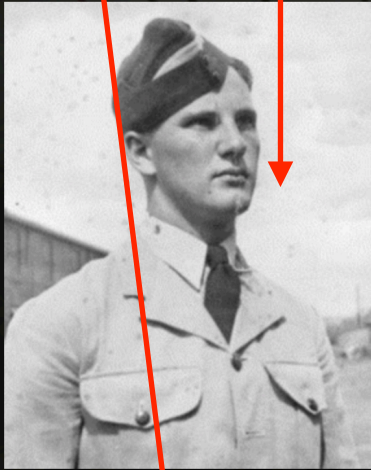
# Virtual War Memorial Australia - Example Profile

The image gallery contains only relevant photos, and the clearest and most appropriate has been used as the key image.

All known details are correctly entered and link to various units, cemeteries and memorials elsewhere on the site.

## Tasman Leonard WILLIAMS

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### Links and Documents

Research Links

- [AWM: No. 466 Squadron RAAF](#)
- [AWM - Roll of Honour](#)
- [CWGC Sage Cemetery Link](#)
- [Last Post Ceremony: Pilot Officer Tasman Leo...](#)
- [NAA Repatriation File](#)
- [NAA Service Record](#)
- [I have digitised newspaper article - DEVONPO...](#)
- [WW2 - Nominal Roll](#)

Add a Link or Document

## WILLIAMS, Tasman Leonard



Personal Details	Service History	Personal Stories
<b>Service Number:</b> 408462		
<b>Enlisted:</b> 19 June 1942, Hobart, Tasmania		
<b>Last Rank:</b> Pilot Officer		
<b>Last Unit:</b> <a href="#">No. 466 Squadron (RAAF)</a>		
<b>Born:</b> Derby, Tasmania, 12 July 1923		
<b>Home Town:</b> <a href="#">Derby, Tasmania</a>		
<b>Schooling:</b> <i>Not yet discovered</i>		
<b>Occupation:</b> Clerk		
<b>Died:</b> Killed in Action (flying battle), Jackstede, Germany, 15 October 1944, aged 21 years		
<b>Cemetery:</b> <a href="#">Sage War Cemetery</a> 3:C:13		
<b>Memorials:</b> <a href="#">Australian War Memorial</a> , <a href="#">Roll of Honour</a> , <a href="#">Derby WW2 Roll of Honour</a>		

Show Relationships

### Biography

*contributed by Ned Young*

This biography was originally a home page story posted on the 75th anniversary of Pilot Officer Williams' death.

Tasman Leonard Williams grew up on Main Street in Derby, Tasmania. He was the son of John James Williams and Lavinia Mary Williams. He enlisted in the RAAF in Launceston on the 19th of June 1942 at 18 years of age. He trained as a Wireless Operator/Air Gunner (WAG) under the Empire Air Training Scheme (EATS) in Australia and Canada.

In May of 1943, Tasman was promoted to Pilot Officer. Later that month, he embarked from Sydney to the United Kingdom. He arrived on the 6th of July, 1943. His initial posting was at No. 11 Personnel Dispatch and Reception Centre (PDRC) in Brighton. Pilot Officer Williams was then transferred to Dumfries in Scotland, where he continued his training at No. 10 Advanced Flying Unit (AFU). The remainder of his training was completed with No. 20 Operational Training Unit (OTU) at the Royal Air Force Lossiemouth airfield in north-eastern Scotland. No. 20 OTU was used to train night bomber crews. The instructors at Lossiemouth operated in Halifaxes or Wellingtons. It was here that Pilot Officer Williams was taught to operate the machinery inside a Halifax heavy bomber. He most likely operated on the newer of the Halifax aircraft, which entered into service in early 1944, and housed only one 0.303 inch machine gun on a flexible mount. This adjustment was made to the Halifax bomber so it could carry its full bomb load of 13,000 pounds (5,900 kg).

Pilot Officer Williams was first posted to No. 102 Squadron (RAF) (nicknamed 'Ceylon' Squadron) on the 24th of May, 1944. The main job of the Squadron in 1944 was to attack rail targets in France in preparation for the D-Day invasion. Tasman was still attached to the Squadron during the invasion of Normandy. In August, Pilot Officer Williams was transferred to No. 466 Squadron (RAAF) at RAF Station Driffield, Yorkshire. No. 446 Squadron had spent much of June and July supporting ground forces in Normandy, as well as attacking V1 flying bomb and V2 rocket launch sites. When Tasman arrived in August however, the Squadron had returned to their main role as strategic bombers against Germany.

All links are relevant, and include important links such as the Service Record and Roll of Honour.

The biography acts as a summary of the serviceman's life, chronologically detailing his service history in a way that expands upon his basic details rather than repeats them.