

A Junkers JU88 Dive Bomber from the Luftwaffe's elite KG30 Unit and engaged in the first air raid on the U.K. of WW2, targeting HMS Hood was attacked and damaged by Spitfires from 603 Squadron, crashing into the waters of the Firth. Survivors from this, and a second bomber, KG30's leader downed moments later by 602 Squadron Spitfires, were rescued by local fishermen.

The Greenhills Area of the John Muir Way (named after East Lothian born US conservation and environmentalist) where the action took place is the focus for the volunteer Coastal Regeneration Forum, a group committed to marking the events of that day, telling of the fliers, sailors and fishermen involved.

**Storp's Junkers JU88*



**We invite you
to become part of the
Spitfire legend!**



*603 Squadron crest
Auxiliary Air Force*
circa 1939*

For further information:

The Coastal Regeneration Forum
c/o Suite 6, Cockenzie Business Centre,
East Lothian, EH32 0XL

*See web site for full details:
www.spitfire-project.com

Or contact: info@spitfire-project.com

**Our sincere thanks
for taking the time to read this.**

*Paintings Courtesy of Prof Dugald Cameron
- Designed by CJB Image & Design: 07952214043 -*



THE SPITFIRE PROJECT

**Where Six
Histories
Collide**

www.spitfire-project.com

Six World War II Firsts:

1st Air raid on U. K.

1st Spitfire success

1st Prisoners of war taken in UK (POWs)

1st Radar assisted air combat*

1st Royal Navy George Cross

1st R.A.F. Fighter Command D.F.C.

More than just beautiful and a delight to fly, the Spitfire is arguably the most significant aircraft ever built, National Icon and symbol of freedom from tyranny throughout the world, its dying designer R J Mitchell had not intended either - rather a 'Fighter'. And history shows that on October 16th, 1939, in the sky over East Lothian and Firth of Forth, a Spitfire fighter downed its first hostile aircraft.

*'Stickleback' Pat Gifford's Spitfire**



And not least, show how a common humanity in extraordinary circumstances, left among those concerned, a lasting heritage.

The City of Edinburgh's 603 and Glasgow's 602 Auxiliary Squadrons were later active in the critical victory that was the Battle of Britain thwarting Hitler's planned invasion. Truly these were the 'First of the Few.'

Andrew Crummy, renowned tapestry designer, and member of our Group features this incident together with the iconic 602's 'East Lothian' Humble Heinkel* (from KG26) in the Great Tapestry of Scotland.



*The Humble Heinkel**



*Badges of Luftwaffe KG30 bombers**



*Cruiser under attack near Forth Bridge**

With your help we shall create lasting memorials for visitors to the John Muir Way and mark for posterity this unique piece of history.

Pat Gifford just after the battle.



Pat Gifford was killed over France in May 1940. His body was never found

In association with
Prestonpans Community Council.