

# [Press release: Change of Governor of the British Virgin Islands](#)

2015 – present Cabinet Office, Director of Security and Intelligence, National Security Secretariat 2014 – 2015 Member, Royal College of Defence Studies 2012 – 2014 No 10 Downing Street, Private Secretary to the Prime Minister 2009 – 2012 Home Office, Head of Drugs and Alcohol and Head of Policing 2007 – 2009 HM Treasury, Delivery Manager, Prime Minister's Delivery Unit 2001 – 2007 Surrey County Council, Lead Manager, Children's Services

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## [News story: Service of commemoration for 7 World War 2 Royal Air Force \(RAF\) servicemen](#)

Crew members of 514 Squadron based at RAF Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire who died when their aircraft crashed killing all 7 onboard were honoured in a service of commemoration on Friday 28 April 2017 at Heverlee War Cemetery, Vlaams-Brabant, Belgium.

The Reverend Ashley Mitchell RAF delivers the Service of Commemoration. Copyright Danielle Roubroeks. All rights reserved.

The service, organised by the MOD's Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre (JCCC), part of Defence Business Services was conducted by the Reverend (Wing Commander) Ashley Mitchell RAF and supported by RAF Defence Staff based in Belgium. The ceremony was attended by British and Australian Defence Staff, 514 Squadron representatives and local dignitaries.

Flying Officer Lloyd Burgess RAF delivers the RAF Collect at the Service of Commemoration. Copyright Danielle Roubroeks. All rights reserved.

Beverley Simon, JCCC said:

It has been a tremendous privilege for the JCCC to have organised this service of commemoration for the 7 crew members of Lancaster NN775 and to ensure that the appropriate level of dignity, ceremony and respect has been afforded.

We are especially delighted that so many of the crew's families were able to attend the service, some from as far afield as the USA.

On 5 March 1945, the crew members of Lancaster NN775 took off from RAF Waterbeach for a raid on Gelsenkirchen, Belgium. While flying near Tirlemont, the aircraft suddenly went into a dive from which the pilot was unable to recover. All of the crew were buried together in a collective grave in Heverlee War Cemetery in Belgium.

The crew members remembered were:

Rank and full name	Role	Age	Place of birth
Sergeant Christopher George Hogg	Mid-Upper Gunner	20	South Yardley, Birmingham
Sergeant William Marsden	Flight Engineer	20	Chorley, Lancashire
Flying Officer Holman Gordon Stanley Kerr	Pilot	23	Lurgan, Co. Armagh, Northern Ireland
Sergeant Herbert Percival Thomas	Rear Gunner	23	Clarendon, Jamaica
Flight Sergeant Allan Olsen RAAF	Wireless Operator/Air Gunner	21	Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia
Flight Sergeant Sidney Smith	Navigator	21	Not stated
Flying Officer Frank Clarke	Air Bomber	Not stated	Not stated

Families of all of the crew were traced and 17 family members were present at the ceremony with wreaths being laid on behalf of all 7 crew by each of the respective families. Amongst the relatives who paid their respects included the niece of Sergeant Herbert Thomas (Joe), Paulette Thomas, who had travelled with her family from the USA to attend the ceremony. Joe's family were originally from Cuba but migrated to Jamaica. As Jamaica was under British rule in 1945, Joe was listed as a UK national.

Paulette Thomas said:

My uncle died long before my siblings and I were born but his essence was deep rooted in our family. It is awesome that there is a family thousands of miles across the ocean who knew him and can share with us memories and pictures of him. We honour his service and are proud to call him family.

Jeff Temple, nephew of Sergeant Sidney Smith said:

Our uncle Sidney was the Navigator on Lancaster NN775. My sister Susan and I were raised with Sidney very much present, with his photograph on the mantelpiece and our mother telling us stories of him fighting extremism. He was our hero, and gone, but not forgotten.

The excavation and the present commemoration have brought him to life for us, and we thank everyone involved for the opportunity to pay our respects to this young man, and indeed to all the crew. These young men are heroes to each of us, and remind us of our duty to continue with this fight for tolerance.

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## **News story: CMA refers Cygnet/Cambian merger for in-depth investigation**

Cygnet's merger with the Cambian adult services division of Cambian Group plc has been referred for an in-depth investigation.

On 21 April, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) said that it would [refer the merger for an in-depth investigation](#), called a phase 2 investigation, unless Cygnet offered acceptable undertakings to address competition concerns.

Cygnet has not offered any undertakings and the CMA will therefore now refer the merger.

The CMA's initial investigation identified competition concerns in relation to the provision of rehabilitation services to patients suffering from long-term mental health issues in 8 areas, and patients suffering from personality disorder in 4 areas.

A decision on the merger will be made by a group of independent panel members supported by a team of CMA staff. The deadline for the final report will be 17 October 2017.

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## **News story: ATM merger faces in-depth investigation**

Both companies – Cardtronics plc (Cardtronics) and DirectCash Payments (DCP) – are independent ATM deployers supplying cashpoints to site owners, such as convenience stores and pubs.

Independent ATM deployers face competition from banks and building societies to supply ATMs to large site owners in high 'footfall' locations such as

supermarkets, shopping centres or transport hubs. However independent ATM deployers also supply smaller non-corporate customers whose cashpoints typically have lower numbers of transactions and are often pay-to-use.

Cardtronics and DCP supply both free-to-use and pay-to-use ATMs.

Following its initial investigation, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) believes that, in those local areas where there is insufficient competition from rival ATMs, the merger could lead to increased surcharge fees for customers withdrawing cash. Given the potential lack of suitable sites and the cost of supplying new ATMs, entry into these local areas by competitors would not be sufficiently likely to prevent an increase in fees.

The merger will now be referred for an in-depth phase 2 investigation by an independent group of CMA panel members – unless Cardtronics is able to offer undertakings which sufficiently address the substantial lessening of competition in relation to supply of ATMs to users on a local basis.

Cardtronics has until 10 May 2017 to offer undertakings that might be accepted by the CMA. If no undertaking is offered or accepted, then the CMA will refer the merger for a phase 2 merger investigation. Further details on the investigation can be found on the [case page](#).

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## **[Press release: March 2017 Price Paid Data](#)**

HM Land Registry Price Paid Data tracks land and property sales in England and Wales submitted to us for registration.

This month's Price Paid Data includes details of over 96,500 residential and commercial land and property sales in England and Wales lodged for registration in March 2017.

Of the 96,565 sales lodged for registration:

- 67,893 were freehold
- 14,849 were newly built
- 33,024 sales took place in March 2017
- 510 were residential sales in March 2017 in England and Wales for £1

million and over

- 305 were residential sales in March 2017 in London for £1 million and over

## Number of sales lodged for registration by property type

Property type	Number of properties
Detached	20,569
Semi-detached	22,796
Terraced	24,779
Flat/maisonette	21,160
Other	7,261
Total	96,565

The most expensive residential sale in March 2017 was of a terraced property in the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea for £11,250,000. The cheapest residential sales in March 2017 were of a terraced property in Blyth, Northumberland and a flat in Weymouth, Dorset each for £10,000.

The most expensive commercial sale in March 2017 was in Bristol for £52,880,562. The cheapest commercial sales in March 2017 were in Lancing, Woking, Corby, Chesterfield, Benfleet and the London Borough of Waltham Forest each for £100.

[Access the full dataset.](#)

## Notes to editors

1. Price Paid Data (PPD) is published at 11am on the 20th working day of each month. The next dataset will be published on 30 May 2017.
2. [Price Paid Data](#) is property price data for all residential and commercial property sales in England and Wales that are lodged with HM Land Registry for registration in that month, [subject to exclusions](#).
3. The following information is available for each property:
  - the full address
  - the price paid
  - the date of transfer
  - the property type
  - whether it is new build or not
  - whether it is freehold or leasehold
4. Price Paid Data can be downloaded in txt, csv format and in a machine readable format as [linked data](#) and is released under [Open Government Licence \(OGL\)](#). Under the OGL, HM Land Registry permits use of Price Paid Data for commercial or non-commercial purposes. However, the OGL does

not cover the use of [third party rights](#), which HMLR is not authorised to license.

5. Price Paid Data includes Standard Price Paid Data (SPPD) for single residential property sales at full market value and Additional Price Paid Data (APPD). The information available for each property will indicate whether it is APPD or SPPD and the record's status – addition/change/deletion (A/C/D). This includes transactions previously excluded from SPPD such as:
  - transfers to a non-private individual, for example a company, corporate body or business
  - transfers under a power of sale (repossessions)
  - buy-to-lets (where they can be identified by a mortgage)
6. The [Price Paid Data report builder](#) allows users to build bespoke reports using the data. Reports can be based on location, estate type, price paid or property type over a defined period of time.
7. As a government department established in 1862, executive agency and trading fund responsible to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, HM Land Registry keeps and maintains the Land Register for England and Wales. The Land Register has been open to public inspection since 1990.
8. With the largest transactional database of its kind detailing over 24 million titles, HM Land Registry underpins the economy by safeguarding ownership of many billions of pounds worth of property.
9. For further information about HM Land Registry visit [www.gov.uk/land-registry](http://www.gov.uk/land-registry).
10. Follow us on: