



THE ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOCIATION

Rutland Branch

THE FLYING HORSESHOE

Branch Newsletter

August 2008



Uppingham Fete, Flower & Produce Show



Once again the members of the RAFA Rutland Branch got together to provide a stall at the annual Uppingham Flower and Produce show on Sunday 3rd August. In the morning it was generally sunny but became overcast at times. However, once the sun went behind the clouds it was noticeably chilly. Fortunately the weather held (Hurray) the rain kept away and it became a pleasant afternoon. As usual at this prestigious event in the local calendar a number of stall holders were at the show displaying their merchandise. The show competitors tent had many different sections of exhibits, vegetables, floral decorations, cakes, photography, art work and many other different classes.

The full afternoon's programme of entertainment included music by the Melton band. A five a side football tournament was an addition this year to the many events. The fete main proceedings took place in the parade ring. The afternoon tempo was improved by the increased number this year of entries in the dog show. As the saying goes every dog has its day, only a dog with a broken tail has a weak-end.

During the afternoon many customers visited the RAFA stand attracted by the superb display of prizes on the Tombola. Brisk sales were also noted on the bric-a-brac side of the stall which helped to increase the takings. The RAFA stand had many visitors, members being on hand to talk about the branch and its activities.

Thanks must once again to all those Branch members who supported the event by all their hard work on the day. To the members who provided such marvellous prizes for the Tombola your generosity once again is acknowledged. Many Thanks. **Derek Bury** (Photograph by Peter Thomas)

STAMP COLLECTING

I would be obliged if you could mention in the next NL when printed that I am collecting used **British & Foreign postage stamps** all year round in aid of RAFA Wings Appeal, and would welcome members' support by bringing along to the meeting stamps with approx. one quarter of an inch of envelope left around the stamp. If not attending the meeting hand to any committee or phone me and I will happily collect. Many charities collect this way so we might as well give it a whirl!

Angie Humphreys

Harrier Pull



On Friday 22ND August 2008, three local Squadrons of Air Cadets from Stamford, Melton and Oakham came together at RAF Cottesmore for the sponsored Harrier Pull. This charitable event idea was shaped some months ago by Cpl Cadet Tom Newell from Uppingham in aid of the Air Ambulance and the Royal Air Forces Association.

After months of planning the individual Squadrons of Air Cadets competed in pulling the aircraft over a set distance at which they were timed. Cheered on by family members and friends the cadets went about the task in a determined manner. After a close result the eventual winners Stamford Air Cadets received an

engraved shield from Mrs Pat Carter to mark the occasion. Representatives from RAFA Rutland and the Air Ambulance also turned out to give their support.

The Officer Commanding 2248 (Rutland) Squadron Air Cadets Flt Lt Jackie Lawrence thanked all the sponsors' families, and all other contributors to the afternoon. She acknowledged the support given by the Force Commander RAF Cottesmore and his team for making the event possible.

The sponsorship of the event raised over £1500.00 and is increasing. Once the sponsorship closes the sum raised will be handed over to the charities concerned at a future date.

The Air Cadets would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who sponsored the event in aid of this worthy cause. Your patronage is appreciated.

Derek Bury

(Photographs by Derek Bury & Peter Thomas)



OPERATION MARKET GARDEN 2008 takes place over the weekend of September 12-14 at Spanhoe Airfield, near Uppingham, in association with 315th TCG (Troop Carrier Group). The event is in honour of those people who fought during the Operation Market Garden campaign in Holland in September 1944. There will be living history, re-enactments, static exhibits, museum, military and civilian vehicles, agricultural and steam displays and various trade stalls. The event will also include an air show with Dakotas, Spitfire, Hurricane and Mustang with the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight. There will be a

battle re-enactment scenario on Saturday and Sunday based on the Arnhem battle for the bridge. A remembrance parade and service will take place on Sunday morning accompanied by a memorial fly-past.

Entertainment is to be provided throughout the weekend and on Saturday night there will be a ticket only big band dance with music provided by the acclaimed Ray McVay and the Glenn Miller Orchestra. Live entertainment will also be provided on Friday evening. Caravan and camping facilities are also available on site. The event will be strictly non-profit making and the main charities supported are The Royal British Legion, Help for Heroes, Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance. Booking forms and information available from the website:

www.operationmarketgarden2008.co.uk

Museum of Science and Industry (Aviation)



If you happen to be in Manchester and its raining (sure to happen once in everybody's life time) visit a "gem" of aviation history housed in one of the buildings of the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester

The Aircraft in the museum together with a wide range of exhibits include a Avro Shackleton AEW.1 WR960, Supermarine Spitfire XIV MT847/AX-H, Trident cockpit and a Morphis simulator. The gallery includes interactive displays. The contribution made to aviation development in the local area by the Avro Company, through its

factories at Woodford and Chadderton, is well presented.

Although a major renovation of the MOSI started in 2007 is still taking place, the work should be completed by 2012. This major renovation should not stop your enjoyment of visiting the exhibits

So no need to buy an umbrella while in Manchester just head for cover under the wing of a Lancaster bomber. **Derek Bury**

Visit web site at <http://www.aeroflight.co.uk>



Concert and collection for Wings Appeal on Sunday 14 September 2008

**Market Overton
Sunday Afternoon Concert
Presented by OKMC**

On the second Sunday afternoon of every month the Organ & Keyboard Music Club presents a concert at the Market Overton Village Hall. The concert will be two hours of a variety of easy-listening music from jazz to classics played by one of the top professional entertainment organists on the UK circuit. These very talented musicians have the ability to play any style of music and, with the latest technology at their fingertips, can accurately reproduce the sounds of anything from a solo instrument to a full-size symphonic orchestra or big-band. On Sunday 14 September the concert is by Penny Weedon from Llantwit Major in Wales, one of the top-female artistes on the circuit. The concert commences at 3.00 pm and will finish at 5.30 pm approximately, with a thirty-minute interval for free light refreshments.

Admission is normally just £5.00 but £4.00 for RAFA members at this concert. To commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Royal Air Force a collection will be made at this concert in aid of the Wings Appeal. We can assure you of an enjoyable afternoon. All are welcome. Please give it your support.

Albert Ratcliffe Club Chairman 01572 755724

Penny Weedon

from Llantwit Major, Wales

playing the YAMAHA EL900

Albert Ratcliffe Club Chairman 01572 755724

Carols by Candlelight Concert – 11 December 2008



For the very first time, to coincide with 90th Anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Air Force, the RAF Association (RAFA) will be holding a special carol concert in Peterborough Cathedral on 11 December 2008 entitled 'Carols by Candlelight'.

Music will be provided by the Band of the Royal Air Force Regiment, together with other special guests. The cathedral has the capacity for 820 seated guests.

Details & Timings

- Doors open at 7pm, the concert will commence at 7.30pm and will be approximately 1½ hours long.
- Tickets will be available from 11 October 2008 from the Peterborough Tourist Information Centre at a cost of £10 each.
- Included in the ticket price will be a souvenir programme and refreshments. All funds raised from the event will go towards the RAF Association's Wings Appeal.
- Mulled wine, soft drinks, tea & coffee and mince pies will be provided after the service.
- It is hoped that the concert will be attended by a few familiar faces as well as senior RAF personnel and other dignitaries.
- Further updates will be given when available.

CARTRIDGE COLLECTION

The RAF Benevolent Fund can now convert your used inkjet printer cartridges into money which helps to fund our valuable welfare work. Recycling also helps to conserve our planet for the future. The Fund receives £1 for each inkjet printer cartridge we recycle! 'Empties' to **Peter Thomas** please - **No Epson or Laser cartridges thank you.**

BRANCH NOTES

The **Flying Horseshoe** is prepared by the end of each calendar month. Contributions can be sent to either:

Phil Marston at 12 Seaton Road, Uppingham, LE15 9QX (joyphilmarston@btinternet.com) or
Derek Bury at 39 Lonsdale Road, Oakham, LE15 6LP (rafarutland923@yahoo.co.uk).

It is your newsletter and needs your support. If there is anything you like or dislike (colour/font etc) please let us know.

November Meeting will be held on 12 November 2008(note date change)

All meetings will be in the **Cottesmore Village Hall Sports & Social Club** until further notice.