



**THE ROYAL AIR FORCES
ASSOCIATION**
Rutland Branch
THE FLYING HORSESHOE



Branch Newsletter

September 2012



Battle of Britain Parade

On a breezy but bright day the Melton Mowbray Battle of Britain parade was held on Sunday 16th September. Francis took the branch Standard to support the Melton RAFA Branch with their standard and the parade was led by the famous Melton Toy Soldiers band. 4 squadrons of cadets joined the parade plus veterans and wreath layers, an excellent full parade, through Melton to the Memorial Gardens, where a brief service and wreath laying ceremony

was held, led by the Mayor of Melton Mowbray and the representatives of the armed forces

Prior to this the Melton RAFA paid their annual visit to the cemetery and wreaths were laid, on the graves of 6 RAF servicemen buried there, including the young Marcin Wojtak who died 3 years ago in Afghanistan.



Angie Humphreys

Wings Appeal 2012



Hello all, just a few words from your friendly Wings Appeal Organiser. As you probably know RAFA has been in the throws of Wings Appeal fever once again over the last few weeks or so. As always our branch has actively been involved with collections, be they house to house, home collection boxes, street collections or stood in a supermarket foyer. We have also carried out our usual collections in Uppingham

and at the 'Pump' in Oakham. Unfortunately this year, our collection in Oakham coincided with Rutland Day which was being held at Rutland Water, and given the excellent Saturday weather it drew a sizeable crowd at the expense some what to our 'Pump' collection total. Another challenge which faced us in Oakham was that the weather attracted other fundraising collectors onto our usual 'patch' so to speak, including bands, ponies and clarinet players so as you can imagine we had our work cut out.

What I would like to say is an enormous thank you to all members of the branch who did their bit for the cause which saw us raise £1482.41 which is a preliminary total as there are further monies to be accounted for, which should see us pass the £1500 mark. Can I ask that anyone who still has a home collection box to get it to me at the next meeting so that I can provide a definitive total,

thank you. A break down of monies raised over the Wings period will be available upon request from me at the next meeting. I cannot finish also without saying a heart felt thank you from the cadets and staff of our local ATC Squadron who came out in uniform to help in Oakham. In summary, I would like to reiterate my thanks for your support in what has been my first (of many I hope) Wings collection as organiser. I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting on the 3rd October.

David Craven

Wings Appeal Organiser

A Trip to Remember

Another sunny day heralded our latest canal boat

trip which was if nothing else eventful. First of all after a somewhat boarding delay by passengers we eventually got under way .Our journey to Syston was eventful until we sighted our missing passengers waving to us from the bank. We understand they were delayed by traffic however, I am told that someone's navigational skills have somewhat gone rusty over the years. Never the less once on board we proceeded up the canal to our intended hostelry where we participated in a welcoming drink and meal. After lunch we returned to the boat to find that it would not start. The crew and other people looked at the engine but could not find the fault until an engineer finally arrived and the fault was found to be a fuse on top of the starter motor. Two members of the party who had other commitments were taken back to Thurmaston Marina by an off duty skipper. It had been suggested that we would return to the marina by taxi but in the nick of time we were mobile although about two hours late. The trip back to Thurmaston was uneventful and the late comers were dropped off at Syston. It would be boring if everything went to plan.

PS Bob Tacey has written the complete picture. The last distant scenic picture I took was of the famous Leicestershire Falls. It's a shame Derek had to miss such an 'eventful' and enjoyable trip.

Thank you Derek from everyone. **PT**

Robert Tacey, photos Peter Thomas



Our Helpful but baffled crew!



Now what do we do?

Branch Notice board

Speakers Needed

Dear All, No article this month but I have been asked by your Committee to create this short Survey to find names of people you would like to hear speakers or topics that you would like to learn about at future meetings. What interests you?

You will recall over the past two years or so that I have been Speaker Secretary I've tried to create a varied programme of topics that would be interesting to both members and lady members. We

also wish to encourage more people to come along to our monthly RAFA meetings.

There have been a number of speakers who have been willing to come back to us to talk on a second topic. How would you feel about this or would you prefer new faces? I'm sure that there are some of our own members who have interesting topics to talk to us about. Would you like to speak?

I try to find people that we are interested in hearing speak and that do not ask for a fee . To date only one speaker has been paid but a small amount of money is available should it be asked for. So please don't be put off, fill in the questionnaire below and lets have an interesting 2013.

The questionnaire is below so please send it back to me ASAP as it takes time for things to be arranged. Email me at peterivy42@btinternet.com or send your completed questionnaire to me via the editor.

Finally your speaker in October is Air Chief Marshal Sir Clive Robert Loader KCB OBE ADC FRAeS RAF who is retired but was CinC Air, Sir Clive is seeking the Conservative nomination for the Leicestershire & Rutland Police and Crime Commissioner. Elections will take place in November.

I'm still looking for a visitor for our November meeting.

Peter Hart

September 2012



Speaker Questionnaire	
NAME	
Your Main Interests	
Who would you like to as a speaker?	
Would you welcome our own members as speakers?	
Do you know of anyone who would be interesting and be available to be a speaker?	
Do you prefer not to have a speaker?	
Do you prefer to have fewer speakers?	
Would you like a past speaker to speak on another topic?	
Do you have any comments?	

- WHATS ON -

Forthcoming Events:

1. Friday 12th October – A Diamond Jubilee Celebration Concert Oakham – Band of the Parachute Regiment and the Minden Band of the Queens Division .Venue THE OAKHAM SCHOOL CHAPEL . *TICKETS (£15) Music and More, Oakham High Street, (01572 756578), Uppingham Sports and Books (01572 822211) and Uppingham School Theatre Box Office (01572 820820) .From 1 September 2012, also from Oakham School Box Office, (01572 758820)*
2. Also on Friday 12th October – Band of the Royal Air Force College RAF Swing Wing are at the LINCOLN DRILL HALL at 7.30pm. Tickets are £12 and £10 concession. Tel 01522 873894 or email www.lincolndrillhall.com for more information

For further details on forth coming events Tel: 01572 755969 or email rafarutland923@yahoo.co.uk
Derek Bury

DATES for Your DIARY

Wednesday 3 rd October	Air Chief Marshal Sir Clive Robert Loader KCB OBE ADC FRAeS RAF	Cottesmore Social Club
Wednesday 7 th November	TBA	
Wednesday 5 th December	<i>Christmas Dinner See menu below</i>	Greetham Valley Golf Club

Branch Meetings are 1st Wed every month – Next Meeting September 5th

Venue: Cottesmore Sports & Social Club – 7.00 for 7.30pm

Branch Contact Numbers

Duncan Manderson, Chairman, Pickwell Grange, Whissendine, LE15 7ER, 01664 474274

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Kathryn Manderson, Editor Flying Horseshoe, email: kathryn.manderson@hotmail.com

Peter Hart, Speaker coordinator, Tel 01572 756750 email: peterivy42@btinternet.com

Dave Craven, Wings Appeal Organiser , Tel 01572 759134 email: davecraven@hotmail.com

Members

We would like to welcome 2 new members to our branch.

Mr Leon Wisdom of Stamford and Mr Aiden Staunton also of Stamford. We look forward to meeting you both at our branch meetings.

As most of you will know one of our members Hector Wolley died recently. His family requested that family and friends give money for Rutland RAFA instead of sending flowers. In his memory a donation of £273.60 has been received We would like to thank Hectors widow Margaret for this generous donation.



RAFA Rutland Christmas Dinner
Greetham Valley Golf Club
Wednesday 5 December – 7.30 for 8.00
£21.00 per person (including gratuity).

MENU

A) Chunky winter vegetable soup served with parmesan croutons and chopped herbs

or

B) King prawn skewers marinated in lemongrass, ginger and coriander and served with a sweet chilli dipping sauce

From the Carvery

C) Roast breast of turkey, Horseshoe of honey and mustard baked ham Roast sirloin of beef all served with roasted potatoes, a chipolata, Yorkshire pudding, seasonal vegetables and pan gravy

or

D) Ricotta and spinach ravioli coated in a cherry tomato and pesto sauce and served with a rocket salad and crusty bread

E) Traditional Christmas pudding served with brandy sauce

or

F) Baked pear and honey tart served with rich clotted cream ice cream and drizzled with crème Anglaise

Coffee, tea and chocolate mints

RAFA Rutland Christmas Dinner Return Slip

Name	Starter (A or B)	Main (C or D)	Dessert (E or F)

Please complete the above with names of those attending (guests and friends welcome) together with the menu choice for each person. Send together with your cheque (payable to 'RAFA Rutland') as soon as possible, but **no later than 24 Nov** to: Roger Hyde, 25 The Pastures, Cottesmore, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 7DZ. Enquires: Tel 01572 813547 or email: g3zdw@btinternet.com **Raffle prizes would be appreciated, the more the merrier.**