

	<p>THE ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOCIATION</p> <p>Rutland Branch</p> <p>THE FLYING HORSESHOE</p>	
	<p>Branch Newsletter</p>	<p>March 2011</p>

OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Was held at
THE COTTESMORE VILLAGE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB
on **WEDNESDAY 2nd MARCH 2011, 19:30 HRS**

The minutes of the meeting have been sent to members. If anyone has not received their copy could they let the secretary know?

Duncan Manderson

The RAF has 3 main bands but the oldest one is The Central Band Of The Royal Air Force

Music has been a part of the Royal Air Force since 1912, when the Service existed as the Royal Flying Corps. In 1918 the Royal Air Force was formed and by 1920 The Central Band of the Royal Air Force was established. Dr Walford Davies was appointed as the first Organising Director of Music.

The Central Band has several notable achievements in its history. In 1922 it was the first military band to broadcast on BBC radio, remaining to this day the most frequently featured military band in that medium. It was also the first military band to make a long-playing record. In April 1955, HMV released a recording of what is to this day the most requested piece in their repertoire; Eric Coates' music for the film '*The Dambusters*'. Over the years the Central Band has recorded many albums but one in particular has become more popular than all the others. 'Salute to Heroes', released in 1990 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. It sold over 60,000 copies in just two years and was awarded a silver disc. The band is also internationally renowned, having the distinction of being the first band outside the USA to be awarded the 'John Philip Sousa Citation for Musical Excellence'.

As with all members of the Royal Air Force Music Services, Central Band musicians are required to support British forces on operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Musicians continue to be deployed as 'force protection', guarding installations and supporting helicopter and air transportation squadrons.

Changing times have necessitated new recruitment and training policies but, despite reductions in numbers, standards remain exceptionally high. The aim of the band is to reflect the excellence for which the Royal Air Force has become renowned over its distinguished history.

The Central Band are having a 'Music for Heroes' concert on the 24 June 2010 at the De Montfort Hall in Leicester.

Taken from www.raf.mod.uk

*PRESIDENTS NIGHT 2011
CHARITY BRASS BAND CONCERT*



FORESTERS BRASS 2000

IN AID OF HELP FOR HEROES AND ROYAL AIR FORCES

ASSOCIATION WINGS APPEAL

Memorial Hall - Uppingham School

Saturday 2 April 2011

Ticket Price £12.50 (to include a glass of wine)
7pm for 7.30pm

Tickets available from Margaret Simpson 01572 823465
margaret@rmjsassociates.co.uk

ROTARY CLUB OF UPPINGHAM
Club No 1952 District 1070



Charity Band Concert

The concert is in aid of branch Wings Appeal as well as Help for Heroes.

If you wish to purchase tickets contact:-

Phil Marston,
Branch Secretary.

ROYAL AIR FORCE
in Concert

'A Festival of English Music'
Performed by the The Royal Air Force Bands

Peterborough Cathedral
Friday 15 April

Lincoln Cathedral
Wednesday 4 May

Ely Cathedral
Wednesday 18 May

Musical Highlights:
Greensleeves
Scarborough Fair
Crown Imperial
The Planets
Nimrod

Tickets on sale
0800 107 1940 airtattoo.com/concerts direct from the Cathedral
Ticket prices: £16.00, £12.00, £6.00 - (£6.00 ticket excludes Ely)
Performance commences at 7.30pm

A Festival of English Music Cathedral Concert Tour

By the Bands of the RAF

The concert bands of the RAF wish to invite you to celebrate their 'Essence of Englishness' in their spring concert tour.

The spring tour will reflect on England's rich heritage of music through the ages by featuring both classical and contemporary pieces.

For more information email
www.airtattoo.com/concerts or
telephone 0800 1071940

Trip to the RAF Waddington International Air Show

The proposed date for the day out is **Sunday 3rd July**. Having made enquires with Waddington I am informed that the ticket price this year is **£20.00 per adult**. Some of you may want to go into the Lincoln (Veterans enclosure) To use this facility is an additional £6.00. Details of the Lincoln enclosure can be seen by clicking on this link <http://www.waddingtonairshow.co.uk/lincoln-enclosure>

There will be transport costs in addition to the above. This will be as in previous years and I have asked VAR for a costing of a 14-seated coach. A member of the branch has agreed to drive the coach. Should you wish to go please advise me soonest, so I can get an idea of the number of tickets I need to order.

Derek Bury

Speaker Secretary Report

After agreeing to take up the post of Speaker Secretary, to be honest I could see more testing appointments coming up, so I thought I would get in first.

I have gradually been finding, with your help, a variety of speakers to visit us for the coming year. Derek kindly sent me a list of people who had spoken to the Branch over the last 3 years. I have to say, over this period, we seem to have covered most aspects of the work of Royal Air Force and with recent cuts I think it's fair to say, perhaps, all of the Royal Air Force.

As you probably know since leaving the Air Force in 1984 I have worked in the Voluntary Sector, or to be politically correct The Third Sector. I therefore intend, if you are happy to try and dig out contacts from my past. For example Scouts, Youth Service, Make A Wish Foundation and those people involved with this area of our community. I have taken advantage of my work with the Royal British Legion and invited Richard Foster Manager for the Midlands to talk to us in July.

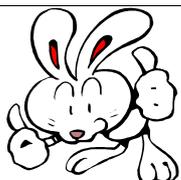
Again looking in a different direction I have invited the Principle of Welbeck Defence Sixth Form College to speak to us in February 2012 a meeting I'm sure will be of interest to our cadets. If you are not familiar with the college it has a good website www.welbeck.mod.uk give it a look.

The first of my speakers is Ken Walker a chap of circa 92 years young who has asked me on several occasions if he could come along to speak on the development of the Dart Engine. You may recall this is the power plant that powered the Viscount and Argosy aircraft. He will be with us next month, hence my request for an OHP. I think the one I have found must be the only one in Rutland. For the ladies I have included a talk on Herbal Medicine for our September meeting and following another request I have left August vacant for a Social evening.

I will add a full list of speakers for the coming year to the end of this article. Please pass on requests or ideas you may have. Don't forget the only silly one is the one you don't ask.

Peter Hart

DATES for Your DIARY

6th April 2011	Mr Ken Walker	Development of the Dart Engine on the Lancaster Aircraft
4th May 2011	Carol Roome	Help 4 Heroes Rutland
1 st June 2011	Inspector Rutland LPU	Confirmed
6th July	Richard Foster County RBL Manager Leicestershire & Rutland	His role in the welfare work of the Royal British Legion in Rutland and its surrounding counties
3rd Aug 2011	Social Evening	
7th Sept 2011	Julia Thompson	Herbal Medicine
5th Oct 2011	Rutland Willows	Bypass Spitfire
2nd Nov 2011	Dan Stellmacher	German Tornado Pilot TBC
30th Nov 2011	Christmas Dinner	
4 th Jan 2012	T B A	Happy New Year
1st Feb 2012	Tony Halliwell	Principal Welbeck The Defence 6th Form College. Cadets to be invited

Meetings are 1st Wed every month Venue: Cottesmore Sports & Social Club – 7.00 for 7.30pm

Branch Contact Numbers

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Phil Marston, Branch Secretary, 12 Seaton Road, Uppingham, LE15 9QX, 01572 822731

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

Peter Hart, Speaker coordinator, 01572 756750

TBA. Wings Appeal Organiser

OBITUARY

Tony Baker died suddenly on Sunday 6th March in hospital in Peterborough.

I like others visited Tony (Doughy to his friends) and let me say straight away he had gained my admiration, regard and respect for his stoicism and 'churchillian' attitude towards his failing eyesight and growing physical problems and limitations. I never heard him complain about his own problems only other peoples.

Tony joined the RAF as an apprentice on No. 58 Course in 1948 retiring as a Chief Technician (Air Frame) in 1976. He served at both home, near, middle and the far east.

Tony worked on a great variety of aircraft including the Piston Provost, Hastings, DH Hornet, Vampire, Hunters, Folland Gnat (Yellow Jacks pre Red Arrows) Shackletons etc. He has represented the RAF in cricket, boxing and hockey and maintained a particular interest in modern cricket. He will be missed

Peter Thomas