



THE ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOCIATION

Rutland Branch

THE FLYING HORSESHOE

Branch Newsletter

September/October 2008



EDDIE ONLEY

It is with a great deal of sadness that I have to tell you that Eddie lost his tremendous battle for life after his very positive attempt to overcome his illness. Those of you who have been to the Branch's monthly social meetings will recall Eddie telling us all about what the medics were doing to him. The last meeting he came to was in May when he was confident that he was on the mend.

Since joining RAFA Rutland in January 2003, Eddie was a very loyal and supportive member of the Branch, rarely missing a meeting. He always listened to what our various speakers had to say with interest, whatever the topic, and invariably had some sensible questions to ask afterwards.

Eddie's Wings Appeal collecting support was very different. During his times on the street in Oakham, he attracted everyone to his collecting tin by bringing his lovely Newfoundland dog Harvey with him. Everyone wanted to make a fuss of Harvey and put some money in Eddie's collecting box.

On Remembrance Sunday, Eddie was always there, supporting the Branch as he joined in the Parade through Oakham. The

picture of Eddie was taken whilst on the march. There is no doubt that those of us Members who knew Eddie held him in high regard. We all send our very best wishes to Veronica and the family at this sad time.

Rob Toy

MARKET OVERTON ORGAN AND KEYBOARD MUSIC CLUB

The featured artiste at the September concert, organised by Market Overton Organ & Keyboard Club, was Penny Weedon, a recitalist, music journalist and accomplished organist. She commenced a magnificent afternoon's entertainment by playing the RAF March Past to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the Royal Air Force. Penny's enthusiastic personality matched her musical talent with two hours of easy listening music from jazz, radio shows and the classics. An afternoon of nostalgia, my own personal moment being the theme tune from Dick Barton Special Agent from the radio. Was there more? Well yes! A stirring rendition of the Dam Busters March. What more could you ask for to conclude an afternoon of good company and inspiring music. An event to be remembered.



Derek Bury

As Chairman of the Market Overton Organ & Keyboard Club, I would like to thank those RAFA members who attended the September concert and gave their support to our collection for the Wings Appeal, which raised over £83. Concerts are held on the second Sunday in every month commencing at 3.00 pm. Admission: - Guests £5.00 Members £4.00 - Membership is only £5.00 per 12 months. All welcome. Next Event: Liz Pipe on Sunday 12TH October.

Albert Ratcliffe

OAKHAM TOWN PUMP WINGS APPEAL STALL

On Sat 20th Sept at 07:45 am we arrived at Oakham Town Pump to set up a stall selling cakes, bric-a-brac and Tombola in aid of the 2008 Wings Appeal. Val Kelly had already arrived with a car full of cakes made by the RAF Cottesmore Chefs, and then Di Toy came with many more cakes from the W.I. Ladies and some from our RAFA Branch members. Even before the cakes were on the stall we became surrounded by the many Market Traders wanting to buy the cakes and savouries.

Pat Rogers soon arrived bringing more prizes for the Tombola and to help with the stall. Once the stall was set up we all stopped for a well deserved coffee break. On opening the stall, cakes were selling like hot cakes (excuse the pun). The bric-a-brac was doing well and people were actually queuing for the Tombola tickets. One notable customer was a small boy whose father worked on the market. Many market traders bought him tickets as he was trying to win a remote control car (a prize on the stall). At the end of the day the car had not been won, so as a nice gesture it was presented to him.

The Burger Bar Lady was desperate to win the big Koala Bear on show and spent much of her days profit trying to do so. Eventually her persistence paid off, much to everyone's delight.

Val, Di, Pat and I would like to thank all the kind people who made cakes and gave Tombola prizes. When the stall closed a total sum of £221.65 had been made for the Wings Appeal Fund. The remaining books and bric-a-brac was given to the Air Ambulance Charity.

Please remember that next year we will need many Tombola prizes.

Jo Tibbott.

WINGS APPEAL 2008 - CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to all of our members who helped in any way with our Wings appeal this year. In spite of being unable to collect outside Tesco's, for the first time since they opened, we were able to collect the sum of £1942.65.

Special thanks to many others for their help, the Ladies of the W.I Cottesmore and RAF Cottesmore personnel who made cakes. The Texaco petrol station in Oakham, Freeway Travel Agency in Uppingham, 2248 (Rutland) Squadron Air Cadets and the Market Overton Organ and Keyboard Music Club.

We will do even better next year!!!

Jim Tibbott

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE – SUNDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2008

The Service will be held at All Saints Church, Oakham and the Parade will assemble at 1.30 pm in Market Street, Oakham. After the Church service the Parade will reconvene for the March Past. The parade will end in the Rutland County Council car park.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Kennedy GCB AFC, Air Vice Marshal Nigel Sudborough CB OBE JP and the Chairman of the Oakham Branch of the Royal British Legion, Mr R. Rowe, would like to welcome everyone taking part in the Parade to tea and refreshments provided afterwards at the 2248(Rutland) Squadron Air Cadets Drill Hall centre in Penn Street.

To facilitate the catering arrangements it would be helpful if members attending the Parade or Church Service would pass their names on to the Branch Secretary 01572 755969 or rafarutland923@yahoo.co.uk by Friday 24th October 2008.



RAFA RUTLAND ANNUAL DINNER



Greetham Valley Golf Club.
Wednesday 3 Dec 2008, 7.30 for 8.00 pm.
£17.00 per person (including gratuity).

MENU

- A. **Homemade Tomato & Basil Soup** served with crispy croutons
- B. **Trio of Melon** with a fruit coulis & mango sorbet laced with schnapps
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- C. **Roast Breast of Turkey** served with a chipolata wrapped in bacon, traditional seasoning & pan gravy
- D. **Fillet of Salmon** with a prawn veloute  
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- E. **Traditional Christmas Pudding** with a brandy sauce
- F. **Brandy Snap Basket with Vanilla Pod Ice Cream** served with warmed black cherries
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**Coffee, Tea & Mints**

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### *RAFA Rutland Annual Dinner Return Slip*

| Name | Starter (A-B) | Main (C-D) | Dessert (E-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 16 Nov** to: Roger Hyde, 25 The Pastures, Cottesmore, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 7DZ. Tel No: 01572 813547  
email: [g3zdw@btinternet.com](mailto:g3zdw@btinternet.com)

Raffle prizes would be appreciated, the more the merrier.

### **RAFATRAD ITEMS**

If you want any Christmas Cards or 2009 Diaries this year please advise Sonia Sutton on 01572 813080 or by contacting Malcolm on [sut31.cottes@clara.co.uk](mailto:sut31.cottes@clara.co.uk). You can if you wish see the selection on offer at the RAFATRAD web site <http://www.rafashop.com>.

If you wish to place an order Sonia she will need the Reference No with the order which must be placed by 31st October 2008.

*Derek Bury*

### **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

### **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.**

**Peter informed the editor on 6 October 2008 that £30 has been raised in the first 2 months of the collection**

### **BRANCH NOTES**

The **Flying Horseshoe** is prepared by the end of each calendar month. Articles are submitted to the Editor (Phil Marston) and, when edited and compiled, are sent to Angie and Frances Humphries who reproduce hard copy for those without e-mail. Derek Bury then arranges for distribution of both e-mail and hard copy. We apologise for the quality of the photographs in the last issue of hard copy as there was a problem with the reproduction at RAF Cottesmore. Included in this combined issue of the September and October Newsletter is a fitting tribute to Branch Member Eddie Onley. As other copy had to be included before the next Branch Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2008. i.e. The Branch Christmas Dinner Menu and Remembrance Service and Parade details, it seemed appropriate to collectively collate all articles in this one issue. It is your newsletter and needs your support. If there is anything you like or dislike (colour/font etc) please let us know. Contributions can be sent to either:

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

**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.