



## **Braunston War Memorial Re-Dedication**

On Easter Saturday 4th April, Braunston Churchyard and War Memorial was packed with people, who were there to witness the re-dedication of the War Memorial. As the daffodils danced in the breeze and the masses of pretty primroses dotted around the gravestones set the scene, a blackbird sang as the crowd bowed their heads in remembrance. RAFA Rutland Standard was accompanied by the Royal British Legion standard and two cadets with their ATC Squadron Standards. The Oakham Team Rector, Revd Canon Lee Francis-Dehqani referred to the event during his Easter Sunday address and said what a privilege it had been to take part in the re-dedication.



The reason for this event on this spring day was to add a young woman's name to the War Memorial. Gladys Walter was born in Braunston in 1898 and at the age of 20 joined the Women's Royal Air Force to support the war effort. She was stationed at No.39 Training Depot based in Grantham, which in those days was a long way from her home. There she worked as a rigger and lived in Wrights Cottage in Grantham with other young women from the base. Sadly within a short few months of joining the Royal Air Force Gladys became ill with pneumonia and tragically died on November 11th 1918 the very last day of World War I.

Her name was never included on the War Memorial because she was female and didn't die in combat. After 97 years the people of Braunston have now rectified this wrong and members of Gladys' family were joined by the Lord Lieutenant of Rutland, Dr Laurence Howard and the High Sheriff, Air Commodore Miles Williamson-Noble with other dignitaries. Army and Air cadets also took part in the event.

This service of re-dedication was a fitting tribute to this young woman from the village, her home, whose name is now recorded along with others from the village that died during this conflict.



After the service the Rutland cadets from 2248 Sqn were personally thanked for their attendance by the Lord Lieutenant of Rutland Dr Howard. Thirteen year old Cadet Isaac Crook said " This is my first parade; I think that it's really nice that the villagers today have honoured a lady they didn't know. I am really pleased to be part of it".

We will remember them.

The event received extensive coverage on BBC East Midlands Today later in the evening.



### Brew for the Few

The RAF Association's Brew for the Few is a fundraising initiative where you can raise money by holding your very own tea party.

Guests simply make a donation in return for a much-needed cup of tea or delicious slice of cake.

It's a great way to get involved in raising funds for the Wings Appeal whilst catching up with friends, family or colleagues at the same time.

You can even extend the event further and invite members of your local community to join you for a brew.

The name "Brew for the Few" comes from 'brew' – the term commonly used by RAF personnel for their cup of tea and 'few' – the name commonly given to the Battle of Britain pilots who sacrificed so much in World War II.

You can download a full resource pack giving you a guide on how to run a Brew for the Few from RAFA March News.



# THE RUTLAND FLYING HORSESHOE



## From a friend at Cranwell.

Some military bases share facilities with their civilian counterparts....

One day an aircraft called up requesting to know the time.

The Tower responded "Who is calling?"

Aircraft: "What difference does it make?"

Tower: "It makes a lot of difference....."

If you are a commercial aircraft it's 3.00pm.

If you are RAF, it's 15.00 hrs.

If you are Navy, it's 6 bells.

If you are Army, the big hand is on twelve, the little hand on three.

If you are Marine Corps it's Friday afternoon and 120 minutes until happy hour

Many thanks to all of your contributions. Perhaps we can print your story next month.

## Battle of Britain 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Area Event

As part of the ceremonies to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to commemorate the Battle of Britain, the Area Council has agreed that a sunset ceremony will be held at North Weald airfield in the late afternoon of 12 July 2015. Whilst it is appreciated that some of our Branch Standard Bearers will be attending the ceremony at Capel le Ferne on that day, the Area Council would like as many as possible of those Branch Standards not attending Capel le Ferne to parade at North Weald. Further details on the event at North Weald will follow but in the meantime Branches should note the event and plan accordingly.

## Welfare Waffle



### *Our welfare mission statement*

The Royal Air Forces Association is committed to providing confidential, professional and fair services to members of the wider RAF family from the youngest recruit to the oldest veteran and their families. On-going training and support for welfare volunteers and staff ensures services are consistent and of the highest possible standard. All will be treated with dignity and respect at all times.

**Richard HWO**



## SIR JOHN SUTTON MEMORIAL SERVICE Friday 22 May 2015

A Service of thanksgiving for the Life of Air Marshal Sir John Sutton, will take place in St Michael's C of E Chapel at The Royal Air Force College Cranwell on Friday 22 May.

The Service will start at 13.00 and guests will depart at 16.00. If you would like to attend please contact me.

Further information from.

Richard Foster  
Event Co-Ordinator





# The Gazette

## Dates For Your Diary



6th May	Royal Army Veterinary Corps	Dog display
3rd June	Air Com. Miles Williamson Noble	My year as High Sheriff
1st July	TBA	
5th August	No Speaker	
2nd September	Adam Lowe	First World War
4th November	TBA	
2nd December	RAFA Christmas Dinner	Greetham Valley Golf Club

### Personal Notices.

#### Rutland County Show

Your help is urgently required to help at the Rutland County Show on Sunday 31st May. The RAFA stand has been arranged by our RAFALO'S from RAF Wittering but they need Branch support; us. If you are able to help please get in touch with me at the details below.

Many thanks.

Duncan

Branch Chairman.

#### **Branch Meeting**

Branch Meetings are First Wednesday every month Venue:

#### **Branch Committee Members**

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

**Vice Chairman:** Gordon Diffey. Tel 01572 722068

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

**Treasurer:** Gordon Diffey. Tel 01572 722068

**Editor Flying Horseshoe:** Peter Hart, , Tel 01572756750 THECEDARS@Sky.com

**Speaker Coordinator:**

**Wings Appeal Organiser :** RAFALO Wittering

**Honorary Welfare Officer:** Richard Foster, Tel 01780 411020 lizrich5049@hotmail.co.uk

**Membership Secretary:** Angie Humphreys, email angelaandfrancis@talktalk.net

**Meetings Coordinator:** Derek Bury, Tel 01572 755969, email derek\_bury@hotmail.co.uk

**Social Secretary:** Derek Bury, Tel 01572 755969, email derek\_bury@hotmail.co.uk

**Standard Bearer:** Francis Humphreys,

**Christmas Dinner Organiser,** Roger Hyde, Tel 01572 813547 email g3zdw@btinternet.com