



Bruntingthorpe Aerodrome

Bruntingthorpe Aerodrome is home to the Cold War Jet Collection including a Victor, Hunter, Canberra, Comet, 2 x Lightnings, Starfighter, Mystere, Sea Vixen, 4 x Buccaneers, 4 x Jet Provosts, Super Guppy, Iskra and a Jaguar. April 2010 saw a Nimrod MR2 arrive at the airfield. The latest aircraft to join the museum fleet was a Sea Harrier and an ex Boscombe Down 2 seat Jaguar that both arrived in April 2012.

The final flight by a Vickers VC10 came to an end when the last RAF refuelling tanker to be retired from service landed at Bruntingthorpe Airfield on Wednesday 25th September 2013. It was more than 50 years ago that aviation engineers and enthusiasts watched the prototype VC10's maiden flight from the Vickers factory at Brooklands.



These beautiful aircraft generate much interest and nostalgia, however, they rarely fly anywhere these days. However, the Cold War Jets Collection at Bruntingthorpe Aerodrome maintains several of the aircraft in fully serviceable order.

The aircraft fleet is maintained with the support locally based, volunteers who work on or around the aircraft or ground support equipment.

Work on construction of RAF Bruntingthorpe was started in 1942 for use by the heavy bombers of World War II. Its role as a heavy bomber base continued throughout World War II. After the War the airfield was used for the top secret test flying of the jet propelled aircraft by Frank Whittles' Power jets Ltd company.

During the 1950s, the Ministry of Defence redeveloped Bruntingthorpe and it was used by the United States Air Force (USAF). Its newly-constructed two-mile-long runway is still one of the longest in the UK and was essential for the USAF's largest nuclear bombers. These were deployed here as part of the Cold-War defence of the Western world against perceived threats from the communist Soviet Bloc.

At the end of the long and tense Cold War, Bruntingthorpe's role changed. In 1973 after Chrysler UK had taken over the Coventry-based Rootes Group car company, it acquired the site for vehicle testing. This continued until 1983 when the Walton family bought the airfield and the proving ground. C.Walton Ltd is keen to maintain the link to the aviation heritage of the site and as a result has encouraged the growth of the Cold War Jets Collection. Consequently it is open for visits by members of the public on every Sunday throughout the year. The jets are mostly maintained in full working condition and twice a year they are taxied under full power at the Cold War Jets Open Days.



THE RUTLAND FLYING HORSESHOE

Dates For your Diary

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Information</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 Sept 2015 | Adam Lowe | First World War | 'The Ruler', a research piece that opens a doorway into the owner, his family, his military service. An opportunity to commemorate through remembrance one, remember everyone that served during the Great War. |
| 2nd Sept 15 | 75 th Anniversary of VJ Day (WW11) | TBD | |
| 4th Sept 15 | Canal Boat Trip | Leicester to Mountsorrel | Cost of trip excluding lunch will be £12.50 per head, please pay at September meeting Cheques to Rutland RAFA. |
| 9th Sept 2015 | Beating Retreat and Reception | Oakham Market Place | The Parachute Regiment Band |
| 14 – 20 Sept 2015 | Wings Appeal Week (B of B Sunday 20th September) | | See Melton Mowbray page 3 |
| 27 Sept 2015 | 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain | Peterborough Cathedral | |
| 7 Oct 2015 | DETUS Cadets Loughborough Uni. | Monthly meeting | Speaking on The American Air Force Academy Colorado |
| 22 Oct 2015 | The Salon Orchestra of The RAF Central Band | Rutland County Museum | RBL Oakham Poppy Appeal Launch Enq. David Smith 01572 770442 |
| 4th Nov 2015 | WO Heywood | Monthly meeting | 2 MT Wittering |
| 5th Nov 2015 | RAFA Invited to Bonfire Night at RAF Wittering | RAFALO's | |
| 2nd Dec 2015 | RAFA Christmas Dinner | Greetham Valley Golf Club | |



The President, Jennifer, Lady Gretton JP
and members of the Leicestershire & Rutland Committee
of
ABF The Soldiers' Charity
Request the pleasure of your company at

A BEATING RETREAT AND RECEPTION

The Band of The Parachute Regiment will Beat Retreat in Oakham Market Place followed by a Reception in The Rutland County Museum, Oakham
on
Wednesday 9th September 2015

Beating Retreat: 6.30pm - Reception: 7.30 to 9.30pm - Dress: Lounge Suit



THE OAKHAM BRANCH OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

INVITES YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS TO

A Reception to launch the 2015 Poppy Appeal
with

The Salon Orchestra of The Central Band of The Royal Air Force

Thursday 22 October 2015 at 7.30pm

in
Rutland County Museum
TICKETS £25:00 available from

Music and More, Oakham High Street, (01572 756578)
Uppingham Sports & Book, High Street, (01572 822211)
or by post using slip printed below.

Enquiries to David Smith (Branch Chairman) on 01572 770442 or
david@cricketlawns.co.uk

THE RUTLAND FLYING HORSESHOE



Welfare Waffle

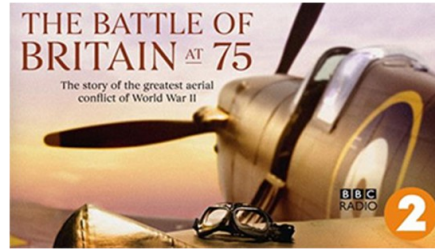
Our Less Active Members

If you wouldn't mind visiting members who may be a little less able and who would like to chat about yours and their RAF days, perhaps they could drop me an email.

May I also remind you that there are still Wings Breaks available.

Many thanks,

Richard HWO



On Friday 18 September, Radio 2 will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain with a day of live broadcasts from Biggin Hill, including a special "Friday Night Is Music Night presents The Battle Of Britain at 75" concert, held at Biggin Hill, which will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 2, BBC Red Button and will be screened live to around 300 cinemas across the UK.

Presenters Dermot O'Leary, Jeremy Vine and Sophie Raworth will be joined by the BBC Concert Orchestra, musicians from the Armed Forces and guest singers as they share compelling stories from the battle, re-enacted by a cast of actors.

The evening will also feature aerial displays from Spitfires and Hurricanes.

The concert will be screened live at cinemas across the UK so [book your tickets](#) today.

Profits from the event will be donated to the RAF Association and other RAF charities.

See more at: <https://www.rafbf.org/event/battle-britain-75-concert>

Commemorating the 75th anniversary

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. The 15 September 1940 was officially named Battle of Britain Day as it was the day when RAF Fighter Command claimed what proved to be a decisive victory over the German Luftwaffe. - See more at: <https://www.rafbf.org/battle-of-britain#sthash>.

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





The Gazette

Dates For Your Diary



| | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2nd September | Adam Lowe | First World War |
| 7th October | Loughborough University , RAF DTUS Cadets | Summer Activities |
| 4th November | WO Heywood | 2 MT Wittering |
| 2nd December | RAFA Christmas Dinner | Greetham Valley Golf Club |

Personal Notices.

If you have any **Personal Notices** you would like including in **The Flying Horseshoe**
Please contact the Editor at the Contact details below.

Branch Meeting

Branch Meetings are First Wednesday every month Venue:
Cottesmore Sports & Social Club 7.00 for 7.30pm

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 derval.bury@yahoo.co.uk

Social Secretary: Derek Bury, Tel 01572 755969, email derval.bury@yahoo.co.uk

Standard Bearer: Francis Humphreys,

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