



When the weather is fine then you know it's a sign for messing about on the river

Not quite, however the weather was fantastic and the members of the RAFA Rutland were in fact on the Grand Union Canal on a branch outing on Wednesday 16th July 2014.



The trip from Pilling's Lock nr Quorn to Normanton on Soar was on board the Baldwin Trusts canal boat "Dandelion". The boat was steered by the appropriately named Jeremy Skipper, supported by his crew of volunteers.



Travelling North at a leisurely pace the boat moved sedately along the canal moving out of the Marina preceding up the Grand Union Canal towards Loughborough. Approaching Loughborough you could hear the steam trains in the background running on the Great Central

Many thanks to all our contributors for some good stories and observations. Perhaps we can print your story next month.

Heritage mainline railway track. Wild life was in abundance on the canal with swans and cygnets' coots, ducks and ducklings all coaching their offspring in the basics of canal etiquette, or so it was suggested.



Proceeding through two locks we passed the Bishops Meadow Lock House and the nearby Meadow Nature reserve. Further along the Church in Normanton on Soar came into view. The church its river frontage being well known in the area for both its setting and its history as a boatman's Church.

Shortly afterwards we landed at The Plough Inn jetty in Normanton on Soar, our lunch venue. After a lunch we made our unhurried way back to the Marina. On the way some eagle eyed member of the group spotted a crane on the river bank.

During our time on the boat we were served with morning and afternoon tea, coffee and biscuits which complemented the relaxed atmosphere on board.

Finally arriving at Pilling's Lock everyone agreed that it had been a lovely tranquil, restful day out. An outing, which if possible needs to be repeated next year.

Note ; it was not till after the trip I found out that a memorial plaque to four members of the RAF who were killed when a Wellington Bomber crashed in the Village on 19.04.44 has been erected, beside the Village Hall. It was unveiled, on 4th June 2012.
Derek





THE RUTLAND FLYING HORSESHOE

Well known to many servicemen and woman,
Where is it?



The Rutland Show

RAFA was well represented at the Rutland Show: Our photograph shows W.O Steve Heywood, Senior RAFALO RAF Wittering, Mrs Sharon Heywood Duncan Manderson, Chairman RAFA Rutland Branch, Katie Heywood and Mrs Val Bury RAFA Rutland. The day if in a poor position raised £341

(Photo Derek Bury)



Waddington Air Show

Having booked tickets last November, members Gerry Beadle, Steve Turville & Peter Hart enjoyed the 2014 Waddington Air Show from the Lincoln Enclosure. It's the only way to watch the show. This may be the last Air Show for some time as repairs to the runway and the station are shortly taking place .

The Central Band of the Royal Air Force

**Saturday 18 October,
7.30pm
Memorial Hall, Uppingham
School,
Uppingham, Rutland**

To launch the
Royal British Legion
2014 (Oakham Branch)
Poppy Appeal

And Support the RAF Music Charitable Trust



THE RUTLAND FLYING HORSESHOE



RAFA Secretary Briefing



New TV channel about the Armed Forces launches in the UK

A new and unique television channel all about the armed forces has been launched on the 10th June.

It's called 'Forces TV' and will be broadcast free to air on Sky satellite, Virgin Media and Freesat.

The new factual channel focuses on the work of the armed forces and the world of defence. It is produced by SSVC, the independent charity that runs the British Forces Broadcasting Service (BFBS) for UK military personnel and their families.

Forces TV's output consists of news, live events, features and documentaries about every aspect of the armed forces including operations, equipment, training, welfare, sport, charity fundraising and forces family life. Both Sky and the BBC are supporting the channel and providing it with content.

The channel's primary target audience is the UK 'forces community' which is estimated at more than 12m individuals – serving personnel, their families and friends, reservists, cadets, veterans and their dependants, and those who work alongside the forces and raise money for their charities. The channel is also aimed at the general public too.

Forces TV is available on:
 Sky satellite channel 299
 Virgin Media channel 244
 Freesat channel 652

I have watched the channel and found it very interesting if a little repetitive—Recommended. Editor

Dates for the diary

Sat	2 Aug 14	March from Oakham to Langham
Sun	3 Aug 14	Oakham Service to Commemorate WW1
Mon	4 Aug 14	Nation Commemoration for WW1
Mon	4 Aug 14	Uppingham commemoration WW1
Wed	10 Sep 14	Beating Retreat in Oakham
	21 Sep 14	Freedom parade 504 Sqn Royal Aux Air Force
Sat	18 Oct 14	Poppy Concert RBL – Oakham School
Sun	9 Nov 14	Remembrance Sunday
Tue	11 Nov 14	Oakham Commemoration Armistice Day

HEMSBY CHALETS

Season Commenced on 5 May 2014

EAST MIDLANDS RESERVE FORCES & CADETS ASSOCIATION are looking for volunteers



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
 To Commemorate the Centenary of WW1**

The Band of The Parachute Regiment
 will Beat Retreat in Oakham Market Place
 followed by A Reception in Oakham Castle
 on Wednesday 10th September 2014
 Beating Retreat: 6.30pm ~ Reception: 7.30
 to 9.30pm ~ Dress: Lounge Suit

To apply for tickets for the Beating Retreat and
 Reception at Oakham on 10th September 2014:
 email Janet Britland
 at
 eastmidlands@soldierscharity.org
 Tel: 0115 9572103 Cost of tickets £25.00



The Gazette

Dates For Your Diary



6th August	Derek Bury	Quiz Night
3rd September	Jackie Towl	RAF Widows' Association
1st October	TBA	

From the Membership Secretary.

We have to advise you that Mr Bob Kirkpatrick MBE, has died this month. Bob and his wife Dorothy joined Rutland Branch and attended meetings for a while. Bob was a Royal Marine and also Standard Bearer for Oakham Royal British Legion for a few years. We know that many locals will know Bob so hope this sad news can be circulated to all members.

We welcome the following new members and invite them to come along to our meetings. I have dropped them an email to alert them to our meetings dates and NL distribution etc.

Mr Richard Curtis 504aux-catjnco01@mod.uk

Mr David Bailey specylecky@sky.com

Mr Sam McTrustery samchef5156@gmail.com

Angie

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 peterivy42@btinternet.com

Speaker Coordinator:

Wings Appeal Organiser :

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

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

Meetings Coordinator: Bob Tacey, Tel 01572 812455, email taceybob@hotmail.com

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