



THE HORNET

The Newsletter of the 100 Squadron Association

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Newsletter 107 - November 2014

Dear Members,

In this month of remembrance it is fitting that we have several articles about new memorials being unveiled to 100 Sqn aircrews who were lost over France and Holland and many thanks to those who let us know about these. Also in this issue there is news of the Canadian Lancaster. I was fortunate to see Vera in flight at Bournemouth Airport when she was en route to Goodwood in company with the BBMF Lancaster. This made up for the disappointment of not seeing her at the Bournemouth Airshow when she was grounded for several days with engine trouble.

Wishing all our members a merry Christmas and a happy New Year and do please keep the articles coming in. They are most gratefully received.

Nina Crane (Editor of The Hornet)

Reunion 2015

At this year's AGM on 14th June at RAF Leeming, it was agreed that I should look into the prospect of holding the reunion in 2015 at a hotel near to the RAF Museum at Cosford so that a visit to the museum could be part of the reunion; the committee has agreed my plan which is outlined below.

Norman Bonnor



Friday, 19th June: members to gather at the RAF Museum Cosford by 1200 for an early lunch; the museum has a good restaurant which offers a two-course meal for groups at £8:50. Visiting the museum is free, but they charge for parking - £2:50 for up to three hours and £3:50 for over three hours - we would certainly need the latter. We will visit the museum in the afternoon where volunteer guides are available.



Depart the museum at 1630 and proceed to the Buckatree Hall Hotel to check in and then gather in the Sir John Bayley Suite for pre-dinner drinks at 1900 for dinner at 1930. The hotel has offered

a group rate for the Reunion Dinner, Bed and Breakfast of £50 **PER PERSON** for double/twin occupancy and £65 single occupancy for Friday, 19th June 2015. This appears to be an excellent price. I stayed in the hotel earlier this year and can confirm that it is of a high standard and is situated in a country area close to The Wrekin, should anyone want a morning or evening walk. It has easy access from Junction 7 of the M54/A5. I will visit the hotel in the spring to agree a menu, which will need to be pre-ordered nearer the time.

Saturday, 20th June: take breakfast and then gather for the AGM at 0930 (probably in the Sir John Bayley suite). Hopefully finish by 1030 and depart. There are lots of places to visit in and around Telford itself, so people might like to go on to the Victorian Village at Blists Hill or other venues in the area before heading home.

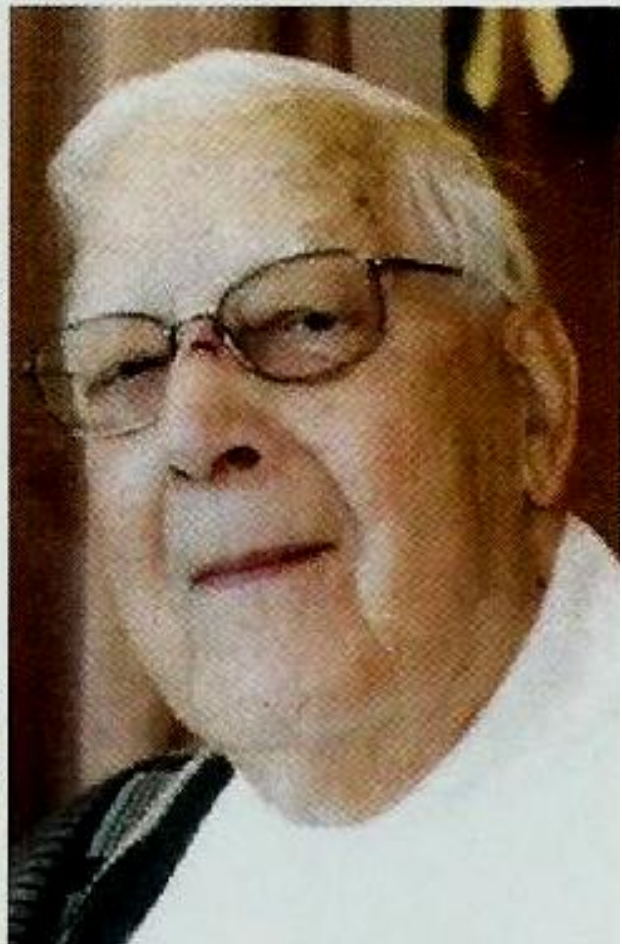
For those wishing to have a full weekend break, the hotel is offering Bed and Breakfast **ROOM** rates for Thursday, 18th June and Saturday, 20th June of £65 for double/twin and £55 for single occupancy. To avoid any confusion and double-booking, the hotel would prefer that these additional nights are booked as a group, but the extra cost paid by individuals on check-out. I have therefore included lines in the Reunion Application form for these requests, but please don't send me any money to cover these additional nights.



Obituaries

John Stoner - We heard from his daughter that John David Stoner died in April aged 81 years; he had been suffering from cancer for some time. John served on the Squadron as a rear gunner on the Lincoln at Waddington from 1951 to 53.

Gerald Rozak - We have learned from Hendrik Cazemier that Gerald Rozak has passed away in Ottawa on 25th July aged 91. Gerald was the original mid-upper-gunner on the crew of Theodore Simpson, the crew that was killed when Lancaster ED555 crashed at Eelderwolde, The Netherlands. Gerald became ill halfway through his tour and was replaced by Clarence Gibb. Gerald visited Eelde twice, in 1995 and 2000, to participate in the local Remembrance Day ceremony.



New Honorary Member

At the Annual General Meeting of the Association held at RAF Leeming on 14th June 2014, it was agreed unanimously that Terry Tucker of Babcock Engineering should be offered Honorary Membership of the Association as recognition of his steadfast support of the Squadron and his most valued sponsorship of Association Reunions over many years.

Terry was delighted to receive this recognition and graciously accepted the offer. The picture shows Terry receiving the Honorary Membership Certificate from "The Boss", Wing Commander Tony Cann.



Memorials

New Memorial Plaque at Marly

After Wing Commander Tony Cann and five Squadron members visited Marly in France on 25th February 2014 to attend the memorial service to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the loss of JB 604, the Boss decided to commission a plaque to be placed in the village cemetery in front of the five graves of the Jones' crew. Our new member in Marly, Stephane Cottel, positioned the plaque as shown below on 18th August. A few days earlier he received a visit by the family of the wireless operator, Joseph H. Sullivan, the middle of the five graves.





Memorial to the crew of "Take it Easy" JB603

Paul Kurn's father - Roy Eastel Kurn - was a ground crew "erk" with 100 Squadron at Waltham, looking after JB603. He arrived at the Squadron almost at the same time as the aircraft, which became a "Centurion" before being lost on 5th January 1945 returning from to Hannover. Since his father passed away in 1998, he has researched the life of the aircraft and her crews. In 2012 with local help, Paul and his brother visited the site and since then have been planning a memorial to the aircraft and crew. The memorial was dedicated on the 4th of May and is located at the crash site in a farm field approximately 15km south of Deventer in the east of The Netherlands.



Fg Off R Barker – pilot; Flt Sgt A S Gordon – flight engineer
 Flt Sgt F S Elliott – navigator; Flt Sgt A A Law – bomb aimer
 Plt Off J M C Wilson – wireless operator; Sgt E Gillen – gunner
 Sgt B G Aldred – gunner



Memorial to the crew of ED362

The pictures below show a memorial to the crew of Lancaster ED362 which crashed on 29 June 1943 near Rijksstraatweg in Ridderkerk returning from an attack on Cologne. The monument is a tribute to the brave men who gave their lives for our freedom. The monument stands on the spot where the Lancaster crashed at the west side of the Rijksstraatweg.

Text on the memorial: In memory of the crew of the Royal Air Force Lancaster Bomber Mk III ED 362 HW-E2 of No. 100 Squadron RAF which crashed on 29 June 1943 during World War II.

Fg Off P J Pascoe RCAF – pilot

Sgt F Wheeldon – flight engineer

Sgt H H Gentle - navigator

Plt Off C B Wood – bomb aimer

Flt Sgt R D W Moulton RCAF - gunner

Sgt J Reffin – wireless operator/air gunner

Their graves are at Crooswijk Cemetery, Rotterdam.

The sole survivor was Flt Sgt R G Storr - gunner

Text: Marcel Jans & Ron Verhoogt; Photos: Jan Sintemaartensdijk & Ron Verhoogt



Memorial at RAF West Raynham

A memorial at the former RAF West Raynham base, near Fakenham, was unveiled on Saturday, 27th September 2014 by the fund's Honorary President AVM Leslie W Phipps CB AFC after a year-long campaign to bring the project to fruition. It was unveiled at a special ceremony which saw veterans travel far and wide to return to the base which was a major station of operations for fighter missions during the Second World War and throughout the Cold War. The stone memorial was dedicated to all those who served at RAF West Raynham between 1939 and 1994. 100 Squadron was based at West Raynham from 1 February 1972 to 5 January 1976 flying the Canberra B2, PR7, E15 and TT18."

This year marks 20 years since RAF West Raynham was closed by the Ministry of Defence. The homes that once housed the airmen and their families have recently been regenerated into a thriving new residential community called "The Kiptons", and the old technical areas are now occupied by local businesses and tradesmen as the West Raynham Business Park.



The Lincolnshire Bomber Command Memorial

Over the last year, the legibility of the names on the original design, "The Spire of Names", has been something that has been consistently raised as a concern by members of the public, consultation contacts and others. As a result, The Lincolnshire Bomber Command Memorial Trust has carried extensive testing on the sizing of the names and their visibility. They have concluded that there would indeed be issues with the ability to read names towards the top third of the Spire and as a result have announced a new Memorial design. The new design is based on two wing fragments, tapering as they rise towards the sky to form an asymmetrical conical shape echoing the church spires which are so familiar and prominent in the Lincolnshire landscape. The overall height of the memorial is 102ft, which is the wingspan of the Avro Lancaster; the width at the base is 16ft, which is the overall width of a Lancaster wing. The Spire and memorial walls will be constructed from corten steel, which was famously used in the construction of the Angel of the North. The walls will carry the names of all 25,611 names of those who sacrificed their lives as taken from the Rolls of Honour held in Lincoln Cathedral. The Memorial Spire will be clearly visible from the City and surrounding area reminding residents of their aviation heritage, and inspiring a sense of pride in what their county contributed to secure our freedom.

www.lincsbombercommandmemorial.com



New Sign at RAF Grimsby - aka Waltham



Hedges Chilled Distribution Ltd
The Airfield
Cheapside
Waltham
Grimsby
DN37 0HZ

25th October 2014

Dear Sir or Madam,

On behalf of RAF 100 Squadron Association and all those countless families who have a connection with Waltham Airfield, may we express our heartfelt thanks for the restoration which you have carried out on the sign at the former site entrance to the airfield.

It had been noted earlier this year on a visit that the sign was in dire need of some care and attention. Indeed my Brother and I had even considered taking the structure away and repairing it in some way ourselves.

On a recent visit to Coningsby at the end of September we met with our friend who helps out at the Waltham museum, and asked him about the sign. *"It's been done"*, he excitedly told us and in the week following sent us some pictures of the newly refurbished sign.

In an era which seems less and less concerned with our heritage and keeping these things in the memory we have to say that we are overwhelmed with the fantastic job you have done, and everyone whom we have informed about this has been delighted to say the very least.

The airfield is a frequent place of pilgrimage for my brother and I as we lost an uncle from 100 Squadron who flew off from Waltham on a Berlin raid in September 1943 never to return.

Many, many thanks for the work you have done, it is stunning!

Best regards,

Steve Hayton

RAF 100 Squadron Association member.

Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire.

Vera arrives back home in Canada

On Saturday, 27th September, the Canadian Lancaster returned home. The following pictures are taken from the website of Vintage Wings of Canada; well worth a look.

<http://www.vintagewings.ca/VintageNews/Stories/tabid/116/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/488/Thunder-and-Triumph.aspx>



During the six weeks the Canadian Lancaster was here, everywhere it went there were huge crowds, but some were disappointed. This was first due to the weather on August 17th when high winds were the problem, then on August 29th while on a flight out of what used to be RAF Middleton Saint George, now Durham Teesside Airport, an oil leak developed on the No.4 engine which had to be shut down. This resulted in the need for an engine change; the BBMF provided a spare engine, which was quickly transported north whilst the damaged engine was removed from the airframe. Although everyone worked hard over the weekend to get the engine changed and the aircraft test flown, it was decided to cancel the '3 Lancs' event at East

Kirkby on September 2nd as a test flight could not take place until the morning of the event. Before all this happened, there was a display at Clacton, and the Avro Sisters (2 Lancs and Vulcan) event at Waddington which brought the A15 to a standstill. Dunsfold on the Saturday and then at Little Gransden on the Sunday, which had its largest crowd ever with over 10,000 people. "Children in Need" will be getting a nice cheque this year, as this is what the event raises money for. After the engine change, the Canadian Lanc was up and running for the weekend of the 6th/7th of September, but sadly the weather stopped them from flying on the 6th, but all was OK for the 7th when they displayed at Prestwick and the second '3 Lancs' event at East Kirby, which had now become the first due to the engine change. The following week was a busy one with a show on Jersey on the 11th, and a move to Bournemouth from where they took part in the three days of the Goodwood Revival. Then on the 14th on their way back from Goodwood they displayed at Duxford, which saw the largest crowd for many years. After the



Lancs left Duxford they went to East Kirkby for the rescheduled '3 Lancs' event postponed on the 2nd.

Over the weekend of the 20th/21st September, the 2 Lancs spent two days at the Southport Air Show, with their last flight together being over the Derwent Dam on the 21st. Then the engineers were busy doing another engine change, taking the BBMF loaned engine off and putting a spare brought in from Canada on. Vera departed on Wednesday 24th September to fly back to Canada, a day later than originally planned.



The Lancaster's crew for the flight across the Atlantic was (L-R) Dave Rohrer, Glen Manchester, Don Schofield, Graig Brookhouse, Randy Straughan, and Leon Evans. Their feat of airmanship is the equal of wartime ferry pilots, perhaps even greater as the aircraft was 70 years old. The tour throughout Great Britain was an accomplishment that could be shared with many others who crewed it, maintained it and sold memorabilia throughout the trip.

Photo: Peter Handley

Our Liaison Officer

Flight Lieutenant Tim Clement

Tim Clement was born in Swansea but, following a family move at eight years old, he grew up and was educated in Aberdeen at Robert Gordon's College. His further education was at Edinburgh University, and this is where he joined East Lowlands University Air Squadron (ELUAS) based at RAF Turnhouse. Tim was sponsored as a pilot and joined the RAF full time in 1997. Following Fast Jet (FJ) streaming, Tim was selected to be a 'Creamie' first tourist Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI) on the Tucano at RAF Linton-on-Ouse. He spent three and a half years there and upon re-joining the FJ system was sent to the Jaguar flying on 16, 41 and 6 Squadrons from 2004 to 2007. Within this time he moved from RAF Coltishall to Coningsby and remained Jaguar flying until the fleet was retired from service. Following this disbandment, Tim was selected to join the Typhoon Force and went on to serve five years from 2007-2012 as a Qualified Pilot Instructor (QPI) on 29 Squadron. He was lucky enough to be selected as the RAF Typhoon Display Pilot in 2010 and 2011. Tim and his family then moved North to join 100 Squadron. He now flies the Hawk and is an Air Combat Instructor (ACI) and line pilot.

Outside of work, Tim is a keen sportsman and will try most things once. He lives in the Yorkshire Dales and is married to Emma. They have two daughters Freya and Grace as well as two cats, Simba and Sabah!

A picture of Tim Clement carrying the Squadron Standard on Remembrance Sunday is shown on the next page.

Remembrance Sunday

On Sunday, 9th November, Association members and a good turnout of folk from the village gathered again around the memorial on the A16 layby at Holton le Clay. It was a bright sunny morning, and the Reverend Chris Woadden started the service promptly at 1200 noon. After the "last post" and the two minute silence followed by "reveille", Wing Commander Tony Cann stepped forward to lay the Squadron's wreath and, as he saluted, two Hawks flew past at precisely 1213. Colin Bell then laid a wreath for the Association followed by wreath layers from the Royal Observer Corps, the Holton le Clay parish council and the village hall committee.

After the service, we were eager to see the new Village Hall in Pinfold Lane; what a great facility for the village and such a contrast to the old church hall! Colin and Jean Johnson plus her helpers provided us with an excellent lunch. The memorabilia the Squadron and Association donated last year is now displayed prominently in an annex room at the side of the hall. Roger Stephenson brought further displays from the Waltham Museum for members to enjoy.

Norman Bonnor



The Boss and Tim Clement at the Memorial



The Village Hall sign
Note the bottom line!
"The Hornets' Nest"

Correspondence

Frank Ockerby wrote to say that he had been invited by Squadron Leader Dunc Mason to witness the arrival of the Canadian Lancaster.

“On 7th August my daughter Jayne and family took me to RAF Coningsby where I stayed in the Officers’ Mess overnight. Friday, 8th August started as a beautiful sunny day; the Canadian Lanc was due to arrive at 1330 hours and was to be joined by the BBMF Lanc, a Spitfire and a Hurricane to give an air display including the Red Arrows. Sadly, at 1315, the heavens opened and the display had to be cancelled!

Fortunately, the sky cleared and the Canadian Lanc - Vera - was able to land at 1430. Welcoming speeches were made by Squadron Leader Dunc Mason (OC BBMF), Air Vice-Marshal Stuart Atha (AOC No. 1 Group), Brigadier General Matthew Overton (Defence Advisor - Canadian High Commission, London) and Group Captain Johnny Stringer (Station Commander RAF Coningsby). The Group Captain then presented myself and some twenty other veterans with the Bomber Command Clasp.

Jayne and family and others were then invited to go inside the two Lancasters and were thrilled to bits.”

Frank



ASSOCIATION MEMORABILIA

Squadron Association Ties, blue and maroon	£12.50
Blazer Badges (specify King's or Queen's crown)	£12.50
"The Hornets Nest" History of 100 Squadron	£12.50
Supplement to above	£4.50
"Aircraft of 100 Squadron" Montage	£5.50
DVD "100 at 90"	£5.00

Postage and Packaging is included in all of the above. Please make cheques payable to "100 Squadron Association".

100 SQUADRON MEMORABILIA

Cloth 100 Squadron crest badge	£5.00
Cloth skull and bones badge	£3.00
100 Squadron crest zap	£1.00
Skull and bones zap	£1.00
100 Squadron print (blank)	£5.00
95th Anniversary Squadron print (signed)	£10.00
100 Squadron shield (wooden)	£33.00
Framed embroidered crest	£33.00
Mini hip flask	£5.00
Skull and bones baseball cap	£7.00
100 Squadron T-shirt Skull or Hawk (state size)	£10.00
100 Squadron polo shirt (state size)	£14.00
(Sizes of T-shirts and Polo shirts are S, M, L, XL and XXL)	
100 Squadron cummerbund (blue-yellow check - other side Skull and Bones white on black) (state waist size)	£33.00
100 Squadron bow tie (blue-yellow check) S, M, L	£15.00
100 Squadron engraved tankard	Price on application

Please make cheques payable to "ISS Defence" and mark the back "100 Sqn 203135".

To order any of the above, please contact the Treasurer.