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WITH THE SUMMER OVER AND A SUCCESSFUL OPERATION IN SUPPORT OF THE OLYMPICS BEHIND US, IT IS TIME FOR ME TO SAY FAREWELL.

This is my final edition of one-to-one and by the time this edition hits your desk, I will have completed hand over of command of RAF Coningsby to Group Captain Johnny Stringer - he is a very lucky man! It is fantastic to see that whilst the individual stories are different in my last edition of one-to-one, the theme is no different from the first edition I had the pleasure of introducing; RAF Coningsby remains a vibrant, busy and successful operational base, and for the Typhoon Force, your support of OnetoOne and our RAF Regiment colleagues undertake OOA and we wish them all a successful deployment to Afghanistan. This and similar articles in previous editions help highlight the nature of the work we RAF Regiment colleagues undertake OOA and we wish them all a successful deployment and safe return to RAF Coningsby.

The next edition of OnetoOne in December will be my last as Editor as I prepare for pastures new if you are interested in taking over the role or joining the editorial team, please do hesitate to call me on ext 7939. Also, please forward me all your articles for the next edition by 16 Nov, no doubt there will be plenty more successes and achievements to report on!

Best wishes

Editor's Foreword • Sqn Ldr Ian Heath

Squadron News

3(FT) SGN 06
XI SGN 10
29(N) SGN 14
7 FP Wg 18
BBMF 19

People & Achievements

Padre’s Piece 20
Coningsby Wives Choir 20
Airplay Summer Success 22
Burger Man Helps Keep Aircraft Safe 23
HIVE Information 24
Media Officer Retires 25
Olympic & Battle Of Britain Hero Commemorated 25

FORCE DEVELOPMENT

Aeronautical Society 28

STATION SPORT

RAF Rugby Cup Final 30
EX TIFFIE TACTIC:
3(F) Sqn Normandy Staff Ride

The trip was also co-incident with the annual visit to Normandy by the Typhoon Entente Cordial Trust members who travel over each year to lay wreaths at memorials and remember their lost comrades.

After a few interesting last minute changes of programme we finally left the 3(F) Sqn HAS life at 1700L on Thursday 24 May 2012 with the JENGO, Alex Wood, not quite tearing his hair out. It wasn’t long (passing Grantham) before one of the cars, containing the boss, had to turn around due to the plastic green mattresses in multi-man barrack rooms. The next day saw the team travel to Dover Castle, ultimately to catch the ferry, however the morning was spent warming up to the idea of the Staff Ride by visiting Dover Castle where the Holding Officer, Fg Off Neil McFarlane, gave such a good account of the location in which we would be spending the night that a number of veterans for lunch and some excellent reminiscences.

The second team spent the morning at JUNO beach to experience one of the sites where the campaign began and another excellent stand from the team. That afternoon the team joined up for more wreath laying memorials before travelling to the Château de Baron d’Huard in Monts-en-Bessin, where the 814 and TECT were hosted for dinner. That afternoon the team were treated to a briefing on the modern applications of Air Power, all in all it was felt that the objectives of the Staff Ride had been completely satisfied and a good time had been had by all. This combined with the appreciation of the TECT for the involvement of RAF Coningsby in their annual visit made the whole thing very worthwhile.

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The weather had been perfect and we had all gained a much greater appreciation of the events of 1944. Combining this with the Stands allowed us to see what we had learned in a context appropriate to the modern applications of Air Power, all in all it was felt that the objectives of the Staff Ride had been completely satisfied and a good time had been had by all. This combined with the appreciation of the TECT for the involvement of RAF Coningsby in their annual visit made the whole thing very worthwhile.
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ISSUE 4 2012

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BUSY TIMES FOR XI Sqn!!! IN THREE MONTHS THERE HAS BEEN ONE XI Sqn ASSOCIATION DAY, A DEPLOYMENT TO NORTHOLT, THREE VALUED SQUADRON PILOTS HAVE DEPARTED, TWO NEW PILOTS HAVE ARRIVED AND 47 OLYMPIC MEDALS HAVE BEEN WON...SWEET WORK!

O

n 17 May, XI Sqn hosted its annual Association Day and AGM. The 33 members of the Association that could attend were hosted by RIlt Dunc Wylie who ensured they a fun-packed day. The day consisted of guided tours of BBMF and XI Sqn, then the Association members were treated to a personal air display by the BBMF Spitfire. Clearly such a prestigious event would not be the same without a suitable dinner and social drinks to conclude the day. The praise, history and ethos of XI Sqn remained visibly prominent amongst both old and new members and it is the continuation of these Association Days that will continue to set XI Sqn as an identity and not just a Squadron.

The deployment to RAF Northolt has been a busy period for the XI and 3(F) Sqn Engineers and Ops staff alike. Standing up a detached QWI was no mean feat, and it was with the support of RAF Coningsby that our role in the Olympic Games was achieved with such a high degree of professionalism. Thank You. One of the highlights of this deployment for XI Sqn had to be the appearance of RIlt Alex ‘I won’t let it go to my head’ Thorne on the BBC’s The One Show. He did the Sqn proud and is now ‘ready at a moment’s notice’ should an agent call….

The Sqn have now all returned back to RAF Coningsby and are busy preparing for an action packed 9 months, including a deployment to RAF Northolt as part of the rectification team for Op PROTEGO Aircraft.

**Update**

**Issue 4 2012**

Been one XI Sqn Association

Busy Times for XI Sqn!!! In three months there has been one XI Sqn Association Day, a deployment to Northolt, three valued squadron pilots have departed, two new pilots have arrived and 47 Olympic medals have been won...sweet work!

Johnstone (Johns) is going to the FAF to fly the Rafale.

RIlt Giles Craft (Crofty) (not Shalhangy’s brother) arrived on XI Sqn in July and has immediately started to save up his frequent flyer miles; soon he will be able to cash them in for a travel waffe (BAE’s sponsored of course).

Sqn Ldr Matt King (Kingy) joins the Sqn as QWI A FI. Formally of 3(F) Sqn fame, Kingy brings with him a huge depth of knowledge on the aircraft and tactics. One of the founding QWIs on the Typhoon, he will be now commanding A FI on XI Sqn.

The near future brings an increase in tempo for the Sqn. With Sonny Roe finishing off his QWIs and moving on to Ops staff alike. Standing up a detached QWI was no mean feat, and it was with the support of RAF Coningsby that our role in the Olympic Games was achieved with such a high degree of professionalism. Thank You. One of the highlights of this deployment for XI Sqn had to be the appearance of RIlt Alex ‘I won’t let it go to my head’ Thorne on the BBC’s The One Show. He did the Sqn proud and is now ‘ready at a moment’s notice’ should an agent call….

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29(R) SQN UPDATE
(JUN/JUL/AUG 2012)

**FLT LT JAMIE NORRIS**

**ANOTHER EXTREMELY BUSY 3 MONTHS ON CONINGSBY’S TANTEST SQN DURING THE MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST WE HAVE GRADUATED:**

- **REFRESHER COURSE 11** (Sqn Ldr Billy Cooper (3F) Sqn), FltLt Gary Starcky (29R) Sqn)
- **REFRESHER COURSE 12** (Wg Cdr Rice (1(F) Sqn), Sqn Ldr Andy King (29R) Sqn)
- **REFRESHER COURSE 13** (Wg Cdr Mike Bowkett (6 Sqn), FltLt Giles Croft (3(F) Sqn), Fg Off Scott Holliday-

To replace our outgoing pilots we are pleased to welcome:

- Stefan Wurwal (6 Sqn)
- Williams USAF (29(R) Sqn), Flt Lt Giles Croft (3(F) Sqn), Fg Off Scott Holliday-
- Stefan Wurwal (6 Sqn)
- Williams USAF (29(R) Sqn), Flt Lt Giles Croft (3(F) Sqn), Fg Off Scott Holliday-
- Stefan Wurwal (6 Sqn)
- Williams USAF (29(R) Sqn), Flt Lt Giles Croft (3(F) Sqn), Fg Off Scott Holliday-

refresher course 13

Dan Jones, Flt Lt James Skinner, Flt Lt Giles Croft (3(F) Sqn), Fg Off Scott Holliday-
refresher course 12

Ldr Andy King (3(F) Sqn)

Wg Cdr Flewin (1(F) Sqn), Sqn Ldr Arthur Ivers (6 Sqn)

As well as continuing to turn the handle of the OCU sausage machine we have also found time to support 100 Sqn’s 95th anniversary celebrations and the QWIC enjoyed a week of heavy weapons training at RAF Lashamloch.

Sqn personnel have enjoyed a busy social calendar and would like to thank all our affiliated members, the Flavours of London, for sponsoring a Hog Roast/BBQ during August. This proved to be a very successful evening with an excellent turnout from the Sqn.

Looking to the future, we would like to shamelessly advertise a massive test that our personnel will be carrying out. By the time this issue has reached print, 11 of our Sqn members (pictures) will have cycled 600 miles from RAF Coningsby to French Air Force base St Dié in 6 days. If this wasn’t enough, there will also be the distance of the channel on 2的概念, 旋转机器车, 维持, 新技术, 产品.

In order to keep the Sqn together, we operated the exercise as a Force Development Staff Ride but the team are also hoping to raise money for 2 very worthwhile charities: Alzheimer’s Research and Cancer Research. Donations are still very welcome. For details of how to donate please visit www.600in6.co.uk

On that note, I am off to rub myself down in chamois cream and commit myself to what is, inevitably, going to cost in my hospitalisation.

**Until next time...**

**FLT LT LINDLEY**

**A GROUP OF 29(R) SQN PERSONNEL SPENT THE NIGHT AT RAF SPADEADEN IN SUPPORT OF THE TYPHOON QUALIFIED WEAPONS INSTRUCTOR COURSE (QWIC).**

On the day prior to the exercise, the QWIC students planned and executed a successful CSAR mission.

The idea for a surprise Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR) mission was put forward by Flt Lt Broder and FltLt Farrell, one of the QWIC ABM students on the way. The team were dropped in the middle of the range and quickly got into scenario. After ‘dressing for the occasion’ the team and crinkly tin foil blankets were put to good use in an effort to counter the low temperatures. The infamous ‘bivi tents and crinkly tin foil blankets were put to good use in an effort to counter the cooling temperatures. The Intermountain Spadeaden range Mijages were out in force and luckily Sqn Ldr Poele was well prepared (after a top tip from the local MPGS) with 2 flail bottles of Avon’s ‘Skin So Soft’ moisturising spray.

After a miraculously dry night the crew moved to a more secure shelter, found a few nicey chairs and tucked into some Ration Pack breakfast and a sachet of water packed in the 1990s…which tasted pretty good (surprisingly). After breakfast Sqn Ldr Poole taught some basic survival techniques running through the 4 basic principles of survival: Protection, Location, Water and Food. Flt Lt Lindley included training on how to source water if a clean source was not available. One technique was to use an ‘Iodine Straw’, the device appeared much like a Camelback, with an added iodine device in the straw to purify water as you drank. In the end the water from the peaty brown looking OK was filtered running through the range tasted quite nice.

The locals were assessed as friendly and we decided it was safe to gather materials from our surroundings to make certain guidelines to indicate our location. We created a large ‘E’ sign (see picture) that stood out from the landscape and clearly gave away our location to our inbound air ambulance rescuers. We communicated with our rescuers using PRC112B radios in accordance with Exercise SPInds (Special Instructions) written to mimic the actions required of downed Pilots. We established a contact patchdesk and dismantled the groundsign to indicate our ground. The mission was to be the cavalry had arrived to rescue us.

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**Editor’s Note -**

The 29(R) Sqn 600in6 personnel just before they set off on their marathon cycle ride to St Dié in France. The event, organised by FltLt Kev Broder in France, involves cycling 600 miles in 6 days. Planning for the exercise was kept secret until the QWIC students completed their penultimate mission. Immediately after landing Flt Lt Kev Broder was snatched, huddled around the Goose, stopping at sites of historical interest to 29(R) Sqn. The team are also raising money in support of Cancer Research UK and Alzheimer’s Research UK. Please visit their website www.600in6.co.uk for further information.
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**7 FP WG**

**FINAL PREPARATIONS**

7FP WG RECENTLY COMPLETED ITS FINAL PREPARATIONS BEFORE DEPLOYING TO CAMP BASTIAN IN OCTOBER ON FP DUTIES AS PART OF OP HERRICK 17.

The final training exercise and mission rehearsal took place during August at RAF Honington and at the nearby Stanford Training Area. The HQ Element, 15 Sqn RAF Regiment and No.2 Tactical Provost Sqn were all exercised in their respective areas of responsibility including dismounted patrolling, airfield defence, control of entry and deliberate planned operations. Personnel also undertook training in media facilitation for both local and national media representatives. In a visit to watch the troops in action, Gp Capt Sampson said it was good to see how cohesive the team was and that he was satisfied the Wg was well prepared for its role in Afghanistan. 7FP Wg displays with our best wishes for what is sure to be a challenging, interesting and varied tour and we look forward to their safe return next year.

7 FP WG recently completed its final preparations before deploying to Camp Bastian in October on FP duties as part of Op Herrick 17.

**THE RAF BBMF LANCASTER, PA474, HAS TAKEN ON A NEW IDENTIY AS 617 SQUADRON LANCASTER B1, DV385, "THUMPER MK III". THIS AIRCRAFT WAS ONE OF THE BRAND-NEW STANDARD LANCASTERS ISSUED TO 617 SQUADRON AS REPLACEMENTS AFTER THE 'DAMS RAID' IN 1943.**

DV385 was delivered to 617 Squadron in November 1943, whilst the unit was based at Coningsby, and then moved with the Squadron to Woodhall Spa in January 1944. The aircraft was retro-fitted with bulged bomb bay doors to enable it to carry a 12,000-lb 'Tallboy' 'earthquake' bomb internally, and it initially wore the code letters 'KC-A' (later on it was also coded 'KC-X' and then 'KV-T').

The "Thumper" nose art features the cartoon rabbit - from the 1942 Walt Disney cartoon 'Bambi' - holding a foaming pint of beer. DV385 flew a total of 50 'ops', of which 37 were successful (bombs dropped). 35 'ops' are shown on the 'bomb log' under the cockpit as per a wartime photograph. The bomb symbols include one with a 'D' for Operation 'Taxable' (the 'spoof' D-Day chaff mission on 5/6 June 1944) and one with a swastika denoting a kill against a German fighter.

"Thumper Mk III" dropped a total of 15 'Tallboys' and also dropped five 12,000-lb HC blast bombs. It was involved in many important missions, including the first 'Tallboy' raids against the Saumur railway tunnel on 8 June 1944 and many raids against 'V' weapon sites. Between February and August 1944, the aircraft was mostly flown by then Flying Officer (later Flight Lieutenant) Bob Knights DSO DFC and his crew (they flew 21 'ops' in 'Thumper' of which 23 were successful). On 2 August 1944, a 'skeleton crew' of Bob Knights and his Flight Engineer (Fg Off Twells) delivered the aircraft to Coningsby for modifications to be carried out (after this Bob Knights flew Lancaster LM492 'KC-Q').

"Thumper Mk III" was modified with the threat of long range fuel tanks (increasing its fuel capacity to 2406 gallons) and the removal of its mid-upper turret. Subsequently, it took part in the two raids against the battleship Tirpitz in Tromso Fjord on 28 October and 12 November 1944, flown by Flying Officer John Castagnola, who claimed a direct hit against the ship on the last raid. The mid-upper turret was then re-fitted to "Thumper Mk III" for its remaining 'ops' up to March 1945. It survived the war and was scrapped after the war had ended.

The BBMF Lancaster’s new identity provides a link to different events of importance during World War Two and the people whose courage and skill made them possible.

The nose art was carried out by Clive Denny from Vintage Fabrics whilst it was based at the Eastern Airways Hangar at Humberside Airport.

**CHANGE OF FACE FOR THE LANCASTER!**

For the Lancaster, PA474, has taken on a new identity as 617 Squadron Lancaster B1, DV385, “Thumper Mk III”. This aircraft was one of the brand-new standard Lancasters issued to 617 Squadron as replacements after the ‘Dams Raid’ in 1943.

V385 was delivered to 617 Squadron in November 1943 whilst the unit was based at Coningsby, and then moved with the Squadron to Woodhall Spa in January 1944. The aircraft was retrofitted with bulged bomb bay doors to enable it to carry a 12,000-lb ‘Tallboy’ ‘earthquake’ bomb internally, and it initially wore the code letters ‘KC-A’ (later on it was also coded ‘KC-V’ and then ‘KV-T’).

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A Message for Harvest Time

Padre David Haslam

A friend of mine has recently returned from to the UK after working on a project to provide safe clean water to communities in Lilongwe, a group of small islands on Lake Victoria, Africa.

Listening to her experiences reminded me of how we take for granted safe, clean drinking water – at the turn of a tap. More to think on is how we readily, without thinking, use water e.g. water from the hot tap for washing, cool water from the fridge for drinking and central heating water to keep our houses and work environments warm in winter. We only notice when we feel great inconvenience when these systems have broken down and need repair.

Chaplaincy is involved in a toilet twinning project run by Cord Chaplaincy is involved in a toilet twinning project run by Cord, working on a project in some of the most remote areas of the developing world, communities, and in particular, those communities in Ukerewe, a group of small Islands on Lake Victoria, Africa.

The festival at Cheltenham will remind us all of the importance of good sanitation and the resulting in healthier communities, and the toilet twinning project run by Cord, working on a project in some of the most remote areas of the developing world, communities, and in particular, those communities in Ukerewe, a group of small Islands on Lake Victoria, Africa.

We all take things for granted. Expectations are not met. We expect the car to start and get us from a to b without breaking down, we expect the house hold appliances to function without fault, we make arrangements, plans and take leaves to go places. When we are away deployed we expect what happens at home to continue without us. We commit our lives to our work, social clubs and more...but we can find ourselves disappointed, upset and disheartened and it takes us aback if these things break down and need repair.

Harvest is a time to give thanks for God’s generous provision: for all things we have received and acknowledged of what we already have. During the first week of October you are welcome to come to the station church and make a contribution to the ‘harvest gathering of gifts’. Please bring your gifts (packet or tinned food) and place them at the display in church. Alternately you may bring them along with you to the service to which you are most welcome.

Our Harvest festival service will take place in the station church at 10.00 am on Sunday 7 October 12, during which the harvest gifts will be received.

The service the harvest gifts will be distributed for work amongst the homeless in Lincoln.

Blessings, Padre David Haslam
The Airplay Summer Activities Have Been a Great Success This Year.

After looking at feedback from previous years, activities and with having a relatively new staff team we decided this year to keep activities local and low cost and it obviously worked! With over 160 attendances throughout the 4 weeks of activities we can say it has been our best year yet.

Activities were themed on a weekly basis and took part on the afternoons of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each week. Week one was a week of Arts and Crafts held at the Clinton Park Community Centre, where young people were given the opportunity to get messy and make a variety of masterpieces to either take home or leave in a litter-free area near aircraft, to either take home or leave. These new bins have now been installed, along with extra signage on the importance of the design of bins to gain feedback in relation to developing Airplay holiday provision further. If you would like more information about Airplay at RAF Coningsby please contact the Community Development Officer, Lou Henderson on 01526 347865.

We have received positive feedback from young people and parents and would welcome any constructive feedback in relation to developing Airplay holiday provision further. If you would like more information about Airplay at RAF Coningsby please contact the Community Development Officer, Lou Henderson on 01526 347865.

We also have a stunning collection of rustic and reclaimed pine furniture. Our contemporary range of solid wood furniture will make a clean and elegant addition to any modern home. We deliver to anywhere in the UK, but we also offer our customers chance to save money by collecting from our warehouse in Lincolnshire, beacuse, we have a vast collection of solid wood furniture. We offer some of the best bespoke pine, in addition to beech, oak, ash furniture. We also have a stunning collection of rustic and reclaimed pine furniture.

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Our contemporary range of solid wood furniture will make a clean and elegant addition to any modern home. There is also a collection of traditional solid oak tables and chairs.

Quality contemporary and traditional oak and pine furniture always in stock.

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HIVE INFORMATION SERVICE
HIVE is an information and welfare referral service available to all members of the Service Community and locally employed civilians. The HIVE offers an extensive range of information on: Relocation, Deployment, Local Area Information, Education & Childcare, Housing & Accommodation, Health & Wellbeing, Employment, Welfare Agencies and referrals.

CONTACT DETAILS:
Station HIVE 01526 347688
Coningsby HIVE 01526 342679

SSAFAS FORCES HELP
ssAFAS Forces Help provides a confidential service to the RAF community, dealing with issues including: relationship difficulties, bereavement and loss, childcare, housing, emergencies, and special needs. Benevolent Fund applications

CONTACT DETAILS:
Office: 01526 347846
Mob: 0777 594 8269
24 hours: 0207 463 9358
SSAFAS Volunteer Co-ordinator:
0776 899 6738

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE
As the MOD Police Officer at RAF Coningsby, PC Smith’s role is to provide a reassuring policing presence to the RAF community and service family accommodation estates in Coningsby and Fatfieldsham, as well as providing a link to the wider community and Lincolnshire police.

Contact details: 01526 345467
Mob: 07979 946712

SERVICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER
The role of the Service Community Support Officer (SCSO) is to assist in the provision of first line support to Service personnel and their families, including acting as an interface between SFA Occupants and the Housing authorities, coordinating stress management events in line with current policy, and ensuring that the interests of the single living in community are addressed.

Contact details: 01526 347193
Mob: 07919 301832

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
The role of the Community Development Officer (CDO) is to promote a sense of community and general wellbeing for personnel and families of people living and working at RAF Coningsby through: Networking and supporting access and development of community provision Enabling community provision is complying with best practice and government guidelines Managing the Airplay project and the Youth Engagement team.

Contact details: 01526 347865
Mob: 07979 273033

COMMUNITY CENTRE DIARY CLINTON PARK, TATTERTSBACH

Monday Parent & Toddlers 0930 – 1130
Monday Crafty Critters 1300 – 1400
Tuesday Step Aerobics 1830 – 1930
Tuesday Stretch & Tone 1930 – 2030
Wednesday Youth Clubs 8 – 12 yrs 1730 – 1900
12 – 15 yrs 1930 – 2100
Thursday Weight Watchers 1000 – 1100
Thursday Rainbows 1800 – 1915
Thursday Pilates 1915 – 2015
Thursday Zumba 2015 – 2100
Friday Community Support Clinic 0930 – 1130
Friday Parent & Toddlers 0930 – 1130
Friday CUPCAKE CAFÉ 0930 – 1100
Wed - Fri CUPCAKE CAFÉ 0930 – 1230

COMMUNITY CLINICS
CAB Clinic: Mondays (monthly) (By Appointment) Station Church, 1200 – 1300
Solitors Clinic Wednesdays Station HIVE, 1000 – 1100
Mortgage Clinic Wednesdays Station HIVE, 1000 – 1100
Community Clinic Fridays Station HIVE, 1000 – 1100
Support Team Clinic Thursdays 1200 – 1300

COMMUNITY SUPPORT TEAM BOARD
Chair Wg Cdr Beer
OC PMS Flt Lt Sarah Ginting
Station Medical Officer Wg Cdr Anderson
Station Chaplaincy Padre Eilidh, Padre Halsam
Air Cadet Liaison Officer FS Teraza
OC Police Fit L TS Sarah Ginting
OC PFS Fit L Sarah Brewis
Training & Development Officer Fit L Rachel Smih
Service Community Support Officer WO AI Jenkins
Youth Activities Liaison Officer Fit L Gary McCormick
Community Development Officer Lou Henderson
Personal Learning Adviser Mark Murphy
HIVE Information Officers Tina Proctor & Ann Parkinson
SSAFAS Personal & Family Support Worker Leon Povendenne
MOD Police Officer PC Pete Smith
Defence Infrastructure Organisation Kate Ellis

Olympic & Battle of Britain Hero Commemorated

NO 41 (RESERVE) SQUADRON AT RAF CONINGSBY HAVE CELEBRATED THE LIFE OF A FORMER SQUADRON COMMANDER WHO WAS ALSO A RENOWNED OLYMPIAN.

Don Finlay was Officer Commanding in the latter period of the Battle of Britain in 1940. As a pre-war athlete he had competed as a hurdler in both the 1932 & 1936 games, winning silver and bronze medals. After the war, in the London games of 1948, Finlay was the British Team Captain and was selected to take the Athletes Oath on behalf of all the other athletes competing in the games. During the Olympic opening ceremony this year that oath was taken by Sarah Stevenson, the British Taekwondo athlete. Don Finlay retired from the RAF as a Group Captain.

The achievements of Don Finlay have been recognised by his old squadron, who have painted one of their Tornado GR4 aircraft in a distinctive tail scheme. The design incorporates the squadron symbol, the Cross of Lorraine, with an image of a hurdler. The code letters EB-Z are a reference to the Spitfire aircraft that the then Officer Commanding 41, Wing Commander Mark Rodden, said, “Don Finlay had a remarkable career, both as an athlete and as a wartime leader. We are honoured to be associated with him, particularly at a time when we are sharing the excitement of the Olympics being held in our country.”

MRS CAROLINE HOOD: THE MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER AT RAF CONINGSBY HAS RETIRED AFTER 22 YEARS IN THE POST.

On Caroline’s last day, Tuesday 24 July, she was presented with a print from the station by the Station Commander Group Captain Tommy Sampson and Officer Commanding Base Support Wing, Wing Commander James Brayshaw.

Caroline joined the MOD Civil Service in December 1972 at RAF Coltford. Following a period of RAF Leuchars she arrived at RAF Coningsby in April 1976. During her very successful career she has received a Commander-in-Chief’s Commendation, 2 Air Officer Commanding 3 Group Commendations and was awarded an MBE in the 2004 New Year’s Honours list.

Caroline said, “I have been very fortunate to have seen many changes at RAF Coningsby starting with the Phantom aircraft, the Tornado F3 and finally the Typhoon. I have enjoyed my job immensely, most of all I will miss the people. I have been very lucky and have met many interesting people from all walks of life.” She continued, “My aim is to have more time for my hobbies; travelling, reading, visiting Historic Buildings and most of all spending more time with my family but first of all looking after my Grand-daughter Heidi during the school holidays. It will seem very strange not to be on 24/7 call anymore!”

Gp Capt Sampson said, “Caroline has had a career featuring dedicated service here at RAF Coningsby. On behalf of myself, and all of the Station Commanders who have gone before me, I would like to say thank you for everything you have done, and wish you a long and happy retirement.”

END OF AN ERA AS MEDIA OFFICER RETIRES

Commence Letters
**Christmas Party Menu**

- Starters
  - Homemade cream of winter vegetable soup with butter croutons
  - Prawns, crayfish tails & smoked salmon in a Marie Rose sauce
  - Petite salad of stilton, walnuts & mulled wine poached pear

- Main Course
  - Roast Lincolnshire turkey with traditional trimmings
  - Slow confit of belly pork with herb-crushed potatoes & a cider jus
  - Oven-baked pave of salmon with a lemon & salmon roe buerre blanc
  - Potato gnocchi in a three cheese sauce with wilted spinach & mushrooms

- Desserts
  - Christmas pudding with brandy sauce
  - Baileys cheesecake
  - Chocolate & clementine torte
  - Black cherry & kirsch pavlova
  - Coffee & mince pies

£19.95
Coningsby started with apostate putting 24 unanswered points on the board in twenty five minutes with tries from Kellock, Craig, Ledger and Parkin, all conversions made by Clayton. Leeming’s Gordon claimed their first points in only the second time they had been allowed to venture into Coningsby’s territory, so commanding was the Coningsby defensive line. Just before half time Ledger scored his second as fast hands put him over in the corner. Some great work by Whitham saw his upper body strength get him over the line conversions again made by Clayton. Despite Leeming taking the game to Coningsby they were unable to make inroads into Coningsby territory. Coningsby’s backs were in no mood to take their foot off the gas and scored three more tries through Kellock, Craig and Parkin to lead 54-4 at the break. Leeming were first out of the blocks, and but for tackles by Hankinson keeping space between ball and ground, Leeming would have boosted their confidence to unlimited proportions. However Coningsby knocked that on the head and turned the screw as Kellock side stepped his way to score his third. Influential centre Andrade jinked his way through a number of would-be tacklers to get the converted try, closely followed by Craig with his third of the day. At 60 minutes Whitham made a line break and supplied Kellock with his 4th try. Leeming didn’t roll over and produced their best passage of play with Gordon breaching the Coningsby defensive line closely followed by Boatwright scoring from the kickoff. However, the Leeming resurgence didn’t last long as Hankinson made a cheeky chip over the Leeming line and ran onto the ball which pitched up perfectly allowing a score under the posts. With some great ball handling and good angles Parkin crossed the line for his 3rd try. With only ten minutes left on the clock a wonderful individual effort by Kellock gave him his 5th starting from the half way line and putting in a few angled manoeuvres to put down between the uprights for Clayton to put over his 10th of the day. Leeming closed the game with a consolation try from Harrison. As the clock ticked merrily away Coningsby became somewhat complacent and Leeming’s Harrison took full advantage for a consolation try, Cairns happily converted. The game finished 84 – 20.
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music, magic & mirth
with close-up illusions at your table

Sean Sparling, a man of many talents. He is not only a top cabaret entertainer but also one of the country’s leading close-up magicians. With an easy style and sharp delivery he performs at gala dinners and corporate events across the country including the House of Commons, the Grosvenor Hotel and the East India Club in London. Guests such as Sir David Attenborough, Michael Parkinson, Dame Judy Dench, the European Ryder Cup Team and the Royal Marines have been entertained by his wit and humour.

**Prize Draw**
VIP DAY with The Red Arrows
Saturday November 3rd 2012
The Petwood Hotel, Woodhall Spa
7.30 p.m. for 8.00 p.m.

Tickets £40 payable in advance Dress: BLACK TIE
To include a welcome drink and a specially selected menu of Lincolnshire Delights

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Air Ambulance 01522 548469
“I want people to know that if the worst happens the RAF Benevolent Fund is ready to help in any way it can.”

The RAF Benevolent Fund was there when Jacqui needed it most. When her husband Gary, a member of the RAuxAF with the RAF Regiment, was killed in Afghanistan we stepped in – providing financial support so that she didn’t have to worry about a thing.
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