Chairman Brian Flinn handing over new RAFPA Cup to Gp Capt John Whitmell, PM RAF

September 2010

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Views expressed in The Griff are those of the Editor and individual contributors and do not necessarily represent RAFPA policy.

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Who’s Who in the RAF Police Association - 2010

Hon. President
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The Griff
**BRANCH CLOSURE**

At the RAFPA Executive Committee meeting held on Saturday 10 April 2010 it was decided that, regrettably, the time has now come to close the Western Region Branch. Unfortunately the Branch had been relatively inactive for approximately 18 months or more with little or no prospect of revitalisation. The remaining two Branch Officers were unable to find volunteers to take on the other two positions required to keep the Branch active. Western Region Branch area covered Avon & Somerset, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire, which made gatherings difficult for members to attend, resulting in poor attendance. Due to the fact that the Branch was unable to discharge its functions through lack of support it was deemed necessary to close the Western Region Branch under Rule 25(6) of the Association Constitution & Rules.

The Wiltshire Branch was formed in July 2009. Any former member of the Western Region Branch who now wishes to transfer to the Wiltshire Branch should contact the Branch Secretary, Mike Archer, on miketarcher@btinternet.com or on 01249-657456.

Any other former members of the Western Region Branch wishing to join another Branch nearer to their home can contact the National Secretary, Lynne Williamson, on secretary@rafpa.com or on 01302-831205 or the Membership Secretary, Dave Wardell, on membershipsec@rafpa.com or on 01202-747176 for the details of their nearest Branch Secretary.

Submitted by: Brian Flinn

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**NATIONAL SECRETARY RETIRES - WELL ALMOST!!**

At the 2010 Annual General Meeting in April, David Wardell, our National Secretary announced that he had been in post for a long time and had decided it was time to step down. David was elected into the post of National Secretary in 1998 and has worked alongside five different Chairmen and four Treasurers during his time in office.

After 12 years in post he decided he would like to have a bit of a rest - so what does he do? Does he hand over all the paperwork to our newly elected National Secretary, Lynne Williamson, breathe a sigh of relief, pour himself a whisky and sit back with his feet up to relax? No - he creates a new job of Association Membership Secretary, volunteers to take it on, is duly elected into post and takes on part of what he has been doing for the past 12 years! Some might say he is a glutton for punishment.

In 1998 David was awarded the Alan Rusling Memorial Award and in 2008 he was elected as an Association Life Vice President. There are not very many ways that a member can be rewarded for his or her services to the Association and I believe David would be the first to say that he has not done it for any form of reward or recognition.

Although it may seem somewhat inadequate under the circumstances, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the RAF Police Association, to propose this formal recognition and vote of thanks to David Wardell for his 12 years of dedicated service to the office of National Secretary.

Submitted by: Brian Flinn
LHC Branch visit to Ightham Mote

On 13th May this year, seventeen members and friends enjoyed the Kentish countryside with a visit to Ightham Mote, a Grade 1 listed building and Scheduled Ancient monument, a moated manor house near Sevenoaks. It also has the distinction of the only Grade 1 listed kennel in the UK. (Being ex – Provost, unable to comment on QPD accommodation !!)

The building, medieval in appearance and constructed largely from oak timbers and local ragstone was in private ownership until the early 1950’s when, threatened by demolition or re-development, was purchased by three local businessmen. An American, Mr. Charles Henry Robinson purchased the house from these men and in 1985 he bequeathed the property to the National Trust; an anonymous benefactor provides an endowment. In 1989 a major repair programme expecting to last about eighteen months was initiated. It so happened that the refurbishment took eighteen years and cost 10 million pounds. This delightful house is now a National Trust showpiece.

After light refreshment we were taken on a conducted tour by a very knowledgeable guide who was able to supply facts and figures not normally available to the casual visitor. After the guided tour we were able to wander the well tended grounds and partake of additional refreshments in the café. An enjoyable day and well worth a visit if you are in the area.

Submitted by: Brian Sutton

Royal Air Force Police Association Annual General Meeting 2011

To be held at the Nottingham Belfry Hotel April 15 to 17, 2011

Price: Two night stay £262 per couple on DBB including Gala Dinner on Saturday

Single supplement £30

Booking prefix: Royal Air Force Police Association

Telephone Central Reservations 0845074 0060 10% deposit required

Any further information contact Bernard Lamb on 01623 798856

Remembrance Day Service on Thursday 11 November at the National Memorial Arboretum. It is intended that a wreath be laid on the main memorial for those RAF Police who were killed or died in service since the second World War. Lunch afterwards at the RBL club at Alrewas. Please contact Brian Whitaker for details Telephone: 0115 921 5599 or e-mail on: bhw1958@talktalk.net
Just received my copy of The Griff and note the ‘attack’ on my integrity, truthfulness etc. at the bottom of page 20 by a Chuck Agar. Ye gods, pistols at dawn. During the 50’s 102/149 Squadrons at RAF Gutersloh flew Canberras. The probability however my article refers to, was one of 59 Squadron (renumbered from 102 Sqn) that was there during 1956 –1957. Chuck is a member of the N Yorks Branch so I can have my revenge at our next meeting. (Confrontation). Pity him for I understand that he spent too much time on RAFP DH duties and not enough time on investigations and truthfulness in reports. Too much time teaching animals to jump thro’ hoops and wee with a cocked leg!!. Retractions please next issue.

Submitted by: George Brookes aka ‘Badger’

I would like to respond on the comments made by Chuck Agar. I cannot comment on the veracity of the story by Gerry Sanderson, but I can advise Chuck that the Canberra which was the first jet bomber in the RAF, entered service with 101 Squadron, at RAF Binbrok on the 26th May 1951. It served in various roles, including Nuclear, for 55 years. It was finally disbanded when with 39 Squadron at RAF Marham on the 28th July, 2006.

Submitted by: Peter Bacon

In response to Chuck Agar’s question about the Canberra…. It was in service with the RAF long before 1960 as he suggests…here is the gen: The resultant Canberra B2 first flew on the 21 April 1950, and entered squadron service with RAF 101 Squadron in May 1951. In a testament to the aircraft’s benign handling characteristics, the transition program consisted of only 20 hours in the Gloster Meteor and three hours in the dual controlled Canberra trainer. With a maximum speed of 470kt (871 km/h), a standard service ceiling of 48,000 ft (14,600m) and the ability to carry a 3.6 tonne payload, the Canberra was an instant success. It was built in 27 versions which equipped 35 RAF Squadrons and were exported to Argentina, Chile, Equador, Ethiopia, France, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Peru, Rhodesia, South Africa, Sweden, Venezuela and West Germany.

Submitted by: Steve Davies

I wish to draw your attention to the entry about the ‘Last Post’ and it’s origins featured on page 18 of the May 2010, edition of The Griff. The story relayed bears more of a resemblance to the US Civil War legend of the origin of their ‘Taps’ and not to the ‘Last Post’ that we have come to recognise as being played at the Cenotaph, etc.. The ‘Last Post’ has records showing it’s origins in the 1800’s and being in the area of the Napoleonic Wars, Belgium, Holland and Northern France etc.. A small point of history I know but still one that is worth rectifying.

Submitted by: George Brookes aka ‘Badger’
Any Branch or individual member who wishes to send ‘Shoeboxes’ to the RAFP personnel in Afghanistan should direct them to FS Matt Chapman for onward distribution. He will ensure that they get to the personnel on the ground. Please bear in mind that there are still a large number of female RAFP in theatre so items in the boxes should take this into account.

Submitted by: Brian Flinn

On 18th April the Brighton Marathon took place and Matt Rhodes, a blind physically handicapped former NCO PTI from St. Dunstans, which is occasionally supported by the RAFPA, agreed to ‘run’ the event over two days, which he did, with a sighted guide to help him on his way.

To meet him at the end of his endeavour (raising money for guide dogs) was the former International athlete, Steve Ovett – who had also officiated at the start of the race. In the photograph is a cheque being presented to Matt by members of the South Downs Branch for the sum of £425, this amount is to be used for a specific project at St. Dunstans. As you can see several SD Branch members are at the end, but sadly were not at the start.

Submitted by: Ted Hellewell

Ex Vice Chairman finds himself working with skeleton staff during recent cut backs.

Submitted by: Alan Millership

Seems to have affected his sense of haute couture. Socks with sandals, tut tut. Ed

Nominations for Association Officers

They need to be submitted to the Secretary Lynne Williamson to arrive no later than 31st December 2010. Please note, Chairman Brian Flinn and Vice-Chairman Alan Millership do not intend to seek re-election for another term. The remaining Officers have indicated they are prepared to serve a further term, if elected.
In early 1967 whilst stationed at RAF Changi myself and another dog handler, Flash Williams were detached to RAF Gong Kedah near Khot Bahru, North Malaya for 3 weeks. We were providing dog patrols on the airfield during Op Hastings, a withdrawal exercise, following an earlier exercise involving Vulcans from the UK and aircraft from RAF Tengah. The airfield was a dispersal airfield with no buildings on it other than a corrugated "shed" used as the Officers/ Sgts Mess, a bulk fuel installation and what I considered must have been the smallest Guardroom in the RAF at that time. It consisted of a wooden shed just big enough to hold a table and chair. In fact it was so small there was not enough room to pull the chair right out and you had to do a sort of limbo dance to be able to sit down. The only permanent staff were 5 RAF Police Auxiliaries (parented by RAF Butterworth) who provided 24 hr security for the fuel installation. However during the exercise, they were stood down.

Evan Williams was that man ‘Flash’ and his dog was Silver

Submitted by: Paul Ramsay

Jack Harrison (pictured far right) was thwarted in his efforts to escape. A Scot who is believed to be the last survivor of the "Great Escape" from a German prisoner of war camp has died, at the age of 97. Jack Harrison took part in the famous breakout from Stalag Luft III in 1944, an event later immortalised on film. He missed his chance to flee the camp when the German guards discovered the escape plot. Of those who broke out of the camp only three reached safety and of the 73 recaptured, 50 were shot. Mr Harrison was working as a Latin teacher at Dornoch Academy in Sutherland when he joined the Royal Air Force as a pilot. His first mission, in November 1942, was to bomb German supply ships at the Dutch port of Den Helder. But his aircraft crashed under fire from the ground and he was captured before being transferred to Stalag Luft III on the Polish border.

Submitted by: Steve Cattell
In May we had an opportunity to visit ‘Pompey’ Dockyard, and 18 Members and partners took part in a visit to a type 23 Frigate, HMS Iron Duke. This ship was involved a while back, in the biggest combined RN /US Coastguard “drugs bust” in the Carribbean for several years. After the crew of the drug runner had been evacuated by the US Coastguard, Iron Duke was requested to sink the drug runners’ ship. This was duly accomplished with the use of Iron Duke’s 4.5” gun, mounted on the fore-deck - this gun is aimed and fired from the bridge, and can fire a shell every two seconds, if required! A tour of the ship then followed, our party being guided by the two RN Police crew members. The technology was amazing, albeit a bit over my head, and the crews’ accommodation was somewhat cramped - by comparison, Netheravon in 1955 was luxurious!

Following this, for lunch, we visited the “Galley Pot”, the Dockyards’ self service restaurant. A good selection of good food, and very good prices!

We then climbed aboard the coach, provided by BAE Systems, for a tour of the Dockyard. Dennis, our BAE Systems guide was a mine of information (he’s worked there for 42 years, so knows his way about), and gave us a very interesting commentary on the various historic buildings we passed. Altogether a most enjoyable and informative visit, and our thanks to both the Royal Navy and BAE Systems for making it happen.

Submitted by: Dave Wardell
When items bearing the official RAFPA badge, were advertised for sale on eBay, without the authorisation of our Association, and by individuals not connected in any way to the RAFPA, our Executive Council decided to apply for Trade Mark Registration to protect the name ‘Royal Air Force Police Association’ and our RAFPA badge.

Initial enquiries revealed that it was not always necessary to have a Trade Mark, so we had no authority to stop individuals marketing items bearing our name or crest. Also, if someone else successfully applied to use our badge and name, we would not be able to use it again. The consequences; not being permitted to wear or use our own badge, or use RAFPA as our name, could not be contemplated. We would have to change our Standards, beret badge, blazer badge, ties and all stationery, not to mention changing the name of our Association.

With this in mind, a Trade Mark Application was submitted to the Intellectual Property Office (IPO), the operating name of the Patent Office, on 15th July 2009 by Alan Shaw (Chairman, London Home Counties Branch), who had volunteered to take on this project, on behalf of the RAFPA.

In September 2009, our initial application was rejected by the IPO under a number of sections of the Trade Marks Act 1994 because our badge included the Royal Crown, which formed part of a specially protected emblem. This situation was eventually resolved because, thankfully, Alan Shaw was still in possession of the July 2001 letter, from the Norfolk Herald of Arms Extraordinary & Deputy Inspector of RAF Badges, giving the RAFPA authority to use the existing RAF Police badge with the additional word ‘Association’ in the roundel.

During the process, our application was legally required to be published in the Trade Mark Journal for a two month period. This allowed for any objections to be raised. Our application was published on 29th January 2010.

On 2nd February 2010 the Defence Intellectual Property Rights Office (Secretary of State for Defence) raised an objection to our application. This objection was because our badge was similar to one owned by the Secretary of State for Defence, namely the RAF Police Crest. This objection was subsequently withdrawn, because we already had authority to use the RAF Police badge, as mentioned above.

The authority for the RAF Police Association to use our own Trade Mark was finally given on 9th April 2010 and was promulgated in the Trade Mark Journal on 23rd April. Almost 9 months after the initial application.

The process of applying for our Trade Mark has been complicated, time consuming and has involved a multitude of written correspondence, e-mails and telephone calls to numerous government departments; IPO, the College of Heraldry, HM The Queen’s solicitors, The Lord Chamberlain’s Office and finally Buckingham Palace (for signatures on behalf of HM The Queen, to authorise the use of the Royal Crown on the RAFPA badge).

The total cost of obtaining a Trade Mark for the RAFPA badge and the name “Royal Air Force Police Association” was £1488.76. This may seem an excessive amount of money, but, to have ignored the situation and hope that no-one else decided that our badge was commercially worthy of a Trade Mark, would have been irresponsible on the part of the Association Executive Council. This cost quells into insignificance compared to the cost of replacing everything bearing our badge and name.
In order to satisfy the requirements of the IPO and the Queen’s solicitor’s, and also to maintain continuity within the RAFPA, the custodianship of our Trade Mark is held by our four elected Association Trustees, who are the signatories to the Official Agreement. In the future, any newly appointed Trustee, and part of the terms of being appointed as a National Trustee, will be required to sign that he/she agrees with the conditions of the Trade Mark agreement.

If any Branch or individual member wishes to produce items for sale within the Association, bearing our badge and/or name, guidance should first be sought from the National Officers or Association Trustees. This will help to safeguard the integrity of our Trade Mark responsibilities. Infringement of a Trade Mark can result in severe penalties under the Trade Mark Act 1994, especially with respect to counterfeiting - the individuals originally marketing items under our name on eBay, can no longer legally do so.

Our thanks to Alan Shaw for his meticulous attention to detail and his persistence during a long and complicated legal process which he, alone, has brought to a successful and very satisfying conclusion.

Submitted by: Brian Flinn

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**RAF Fairford Snowdrops, Bloom again after 40 years**

Over the weekend of the 14th to 16th May 2010 a group of ex RAF Police gathered together in Gloucester after some 40 years, we were kept under control, as we were 40 years ago, by ex Sgt. Eric Seymour. It was an excellent weekend with a formal dinner held at the Twelve Bells Restaurant in Gloucester on the Saturday 15th followed by a visit to RAF Fairford on the Sunday 16th. Our thanks go out to the Base Commander Lt/Col R J. PRICE (USAF) for allowing the visit and to The Community RelationsAdvisor, Jenny Collyer. We were escorted at all time by two USAF Security Personnel, Tech/Sgts Sean COCHRAN and John SWEENEY, a credit to the American forces serving at Fairford, they all gave up their Sunday off to be with us, very much appreciated. To be expected the unit had changed virtually beyond recognition. One building we found was just as if we had left it the day before and that was the old Police security building we used whilst looking after the safety of the many thousands of visitors that visited the unit to watch Concorde take off and land from the base whilst carrying out test flights. Never a day went by, except Sundays of course, that the car park provided for the public, was not full. Concorde only had to be towed out of its hanger, the word would go out and the public would pour in. Nevertheless, those of us that attended this reunion were more than happy that we made the effort, yes we are all a little older, and the talk sometimes tended to lean towards what sort of pills one was taking these days, but the enjoyable memories soon came flooding back once we all got together. To the ones that did not come along or make contact with me when I first suggested this little reunion, then you just don’t know what you missed.

Submitted by: Anthony B. Batchelor

See Page 23
On Fri 2 Jul 2010, DCPG Southwick Park held the graduation of RAFPIC 09/006. The graduation format was adapted somewhat, due to the foresight and generosity of the RAFPA. Some months back, the RAFPA articulated a desire through PM(raf) to fully acknowledge the hard work of a RAfpIC student by sponsoring an award for RAfpIC graduations. Following the approval of PM(raf), the RAFPA began preparations quickly to make the award as memorable as possible. Ted and Gill Hellewell were the primary lead on the project and began to scope ideas through local trophy shops, liaising with DCPG Southwick Park to produce a design for the trophy. In addition, they designed a RAfpIC roll of honour booklet that will document winners of awards at RAfpIC graduation ceremonies. Not content that the intrinsic satisfaction associated with RAFPA trophy was sufficient, they also purchased carriage clocks as a keepsake for the winner of the RAFPA award.

In order to streamline the honours and awards for the RAfpIC graduations, the RAFPA trophy has now been affiliated to the GPD award and it was awarded for the first time on 2 Jul to Cpl Smith, who has subsequently been posted into the RAF Flt at RAF High Wycombe. The graduation day was fantastic and it gave 20 members of the RAFPA the opportunity to see the graduation firsthand and play an active role in it. During the post graduation celebration, the RAFPA chairman awarded Cpl Smith with an engraved RAFPA carriage clock, a fantastic gesture from such a well respected organisation.

The RAFPA have wholeheartedly improved the graduation ceremony for RAfpIC students, allowing them to strive for the presentation of such a prestigious award and trophy. The hard work by the RAFPA, particularly Ted and Gill Hellewell has been superb. The generosity that you have shown to the next generation of RAfp NCOs is excellent and we all hope that we can move forward and recognise student performances on other RAfp courses.

On behalf of DCPG Southwick Park, I would like to take this opportunity to convey my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your generosity. Without you the acquisition of this trophy would not have been possible.

C J TILDESLEY
Flt Lt - Initial Training Squadron
OC RAfpIC
Waiting for inspection to start.

Provost Marshal and Flt Lt Chris Tildesley Initial Course CO, inspecting the recruits.

Provost Maershal’s Baton presented to Cpl Cluney.

Training Staff for Netheravon Flight
Sgt’s Edwards and Craven with Cpl’s Thomson and Bowd
Dedication Service two Lancaster Aircrews

Sunday 30th May 2010 at the Trent Valley Way in Hoveringham Pastures, Nottinghamshire. A dedication service was carried out today in the Nottinghamshire countryside at two memorial stones, hewn from Derbyshire limestone. The stones bear the names of 14 aircrew of two Lancaster bombers that crashed close to this spot in January 1944. In the base of each stone, now encased in concrete, is a handful of fragments from the Lancasters found in the surrounding fields. A total of 90 relatives of the aircrew from all over the world, together with representatives of the RAF, Australian, and the Canadian Air Force together with a bugler from RAF Cranwell supported by a crowd of over 200 people attended the service. Standards of the EMB, RAFA and ATC escorted by two members of the EMB, Bernard Lamb and John Limb added ceremony to the occasion.

Submitted by: John Curtis

NMA Third Anniversary

The third Anniversary RAFP/RAFPA Memorial Parade at the National Memorial Arboretum was on the 23rd June 2010. The NMA were celebrating the Armed Forces Week - 21-27 June 2010 - and our day was designated RAF day. Our members began assembling in the Café area from 0930 onwards, admiring the brand new RAFPA Best Recruit Trophy on display courtesy of the South Downs Branch. Attending were 52 members and their partners including seven Standard Bearers (one National and six Branches). Our guests were the PM (RAF), Gp Capt John Whitmell, Gp Capt (Rtd) Peter Clarke, Wg Cdr Leigh Spicer, Padre RAF Cosford and WO Bill Veazey, Parade Marshal. The RAFPA marched past the dais where the PM (RAF) took the salute and the service began at the Memorial site at 1200 in brilliant June sunshine lead by Wg Cdr Leigh Spicer. The seven Standards provided a magnificent back drop with all present in good and tuneful voice. Gp Capt Whitmell laid a wreath on behalf of the RAF Police, Gp Capt Clark laid a wreath on behalf of the association and a NW Branch member also laid a wreath. The last post was played by Capt David Keates (Rtd) MBE, RBL Corp of Drums, resplendent in full dress coat uniform.

Submitted by: Alan Millership
Reunion...

Back in the midst of time at No 3 RAF Police District, RAF Hucknall was a band of young eager RAF policemen who were identified in the 1957 Autumn issue of the Provost Parade. Some moved on to greater things (Check out some of the names) and others are still carrying the flag, (that’s not a pun on my Standard Bearing!!) Anyway, in the Security Section were Cpl’s Watson, Curtis (both are in East Mid. Branch) and a young Clive (Taff) Oliver. In 1960, now married, Clive bought himself out from RAF Hemswell, and set up a few hair dressing salons in and around the Reading area. This year he was browsing through the Internet and saw the RAF Police Association site, checked the names listed and spotted mine and got in touch. Whilst travelling south with other members of the East Midlands Branch on a visit to the RAF Police Museum I called in to see Clive and spent a couple of hours swinging the lamp. The photographs will show that I have not changed, which cannot be said about Clive.

Submitted by: John Curtis

Netheravon 1956

Thought this might stir a few memories, age has taken it’s toll!!!
Can’t remember exact dates or any names, but I am on there.

Submitted by: Ken Needham
The dark reality of the girls who flew dangerous wartime missions

By GLENYS ROBERTS. Rich, beautiful and oh-so daring... the girls who flew dangerous wartime missions seemed to lead charmed lives. But a fascinating new book reveals a darker reality.

Luck played its part in her survival, but it was also a great feat of concentration and endurance. Flying in open cockpits, these brave women were often dangerously cold by the time they reached their destinations, but they went straight back to base on the train to ferry another plane the next day. And if the natural challenges weren't enough, some pilots took their lives wilfully in their hands. Ann Wood-Kelly, 24, once followed two male pilots up the Avon gorge and under the Clifton suspension bridge in a Spitfire.

The fact was that life in the air was glamorous. It was daredevil, it was cutting edge and the women flaunted their fascination with it and their feminity, often playing up to the men's direst fears. "My dear, I've got my first Hudson and I know I shall I crash and I've got a pain (cold, temperature, etc)," wrote one female pilot in her memoirs, parodying the attitude in the mess before they took off. Her parody continued: "They would totter out, leaving a trail of handkerchiefs, lipsticks, handbags, etc, which would be picked out by willing male hands. "They would then fly the aircraft superbly to its destination. " That of course was the point. These plucky women knew they could do the job and they were determined to prove it. For all of them the holy grail was the Spitfire, the brave little plane which men found so sexy they talked about it more as a mistress than a machine. Yet the iconic British single-seater fighter was in fact the perfect plane for a woman to fly. The cockpit was so petite that their smaller frames fitted in perfectly. Women who flew it used to liken the feeling to wearing a well-fitting dress. They loved its sensitive and powerful-performance, too. With its 1600 horsepower Rolls-Royce engines, it made the first post-war jets seem sluggish by comparison. The first woman to fly one was Margaret Fairweather, daughter of Liberal peer Lord Runciman, who joined the ATA in 1941 with 1,000 flying hours to her credit. Margaret was one of the unique bunch of women flyers called the First Eight, flying out of the tiny airport of White Waltham which still exists near Maidenhead, Berkshire.

The team was assembled by Pauline Gower, the first female even allowed to climb into an RAF plane, let alone fly one.

Gower, daughter of a Tory MP had no use for anyone who thought women too frail to fly, saying every girl should take lessons - they were "the best antidote to the manifold neuroses which beset modern women", usually because they had too little to occupy their minds.

**Final Part next Issue**
Armed Forces Day

Parade

Saturday 26 June, 10am Collum Avenue Scunthorpe. Armed Forces Day is an opportunity for the Nation to show its support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community. At 10am the parade of veterans and cadet forces marched along Ashby High Street on to Ashby Road, halting at The Priory. At 11am the parade reassembled at Quibell Park and marched into the Velodrome, where specially invited guests – including ACAS Air Vice Marshal Barry Mark North OBE, MA, RAF, Wg Cdr Alex Stylianides MBE, RAF, OC RAF Scampton, L/Cpl Ben Parkinson PARA Regt, Civic dignitaries and two Afghan and Iraq AFD widows took the salute. Scunthorpe Armed Forces Day Executive Committee – Chaired by Mr Doug Gawley (Ex RAF Chf Tech) in partnership with North Lincolnshire Council, this was their first attempt at such an event.

The public enjoyed a day full of fun, adventure and ceremony, whilst getting up close to working military animals and watched in awe as a BBMF Spitfire and a Sea King Helicopter flew over – and all of this for free! - no entry charge was levied. The day was also an opportunity to honour the armed forces past, present and future, as well as raising money for the charity - Help for Heroes. Young and old enjoyed World War II re-enactments and military displays in the Velodrome while live music was played in the two entertainment areas throughout the day. Children of all ages loved the fairground rides and climbing wall, and with over 30 craft, speciality food and information stalls there was plenty to see and do in the gorgeous Lincolnshire sunshine – 30 degrees at one point. The day ended with the sunset ceremony at 6pm where the official Armed Forces Day flag and Standards were lowered to mark the end of Armed Forces Day, a lone Scottish Piper drew the remarkable day to a fitting close.

Submitted by: Alan Millership
A chance to pause for a minute in quiet contemplation for our friends and colleagues who have ‘passed away’.

Mr. Roy Millar - MAB
Mr. Donald Mackay – SNI
Mr. John Flint - EMB

On Sunday 28th March 2010 I went with my son and two friends to the 65th Anniversary Commemoration Service at the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery. This service was held for ‘ALL RANKS OF THE 6TH AIRBORNE DIVISION AND THE ROYAL AIR FORCE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES AT THE BATTLE OF THE RHINE IN 1945’. It was a short but very moving service and I was proud to lay a wreath at the memorial. This was part of a guided tour of Arnhem and the area of ‘Operation Market Garden’. My son, who is an ex Para and now a battlefield tour guide, gave us a very interesting tour.

Submitted by: Dave Hilton.
A specially designed RAFPA 2011 calendar in full colour on every page is available for purchase NOW. The cost is £2.50 plus £1.00 pp. Outside of Europe, postage is £3.88, within Europe £2.50. You may also purchase that special date, anniversary, birthday or memorial for an additional £1.00. There can only be one name per day, so first come, first served. Deadlines for the special reserved day is first week of October and any photographs you would like considered for the calendar is the same date.

Cheques should be made payable to RAFPA (H.D.&IOW Branch) and with the cheque, details of address to be mailed and ‘special date’ if applicable to be sent to Mitch O’Neill, 11, Florentine Way, Waterlooville, Hants., PO7 8JY.

Calendars will be sent out early to mid November 2010. If you have any queries please don’t hesitate to contact Mitch, electronically, ‘snail mail’ or telephone.

Name:.......................................................................................................................... ...........
Address:................................................................................................................................
................................................................................................................................................
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No. of Calendars required:                     Cheque for amount: £.........................................
bygone days

10 years... Following President Milosevic’s climb-down to NATO, RAFP are deployed with RMP to police Kosovo and assist UN Investigators in gathering evidence of genocide and human rights abuse.

20 years... RAFP selected to support the UK air force being assembled to force Iraq out of Kuwait and to provide the close protection of Senior Branch Officers.

30 years... Operation Ruddock – RAFP deployed to enhance security at Rolleston & Frankland prisons during National Prison Officers strike.

40 years... The RAF withdrew from RAF Seletar in Singapore.

50 years... First 7 RAFP Auxiliaries are trained as dog handlers on Cyprus.

60 years... King George VI approves the Griffin badge and motto, ‘Fiat Justitia’, designed by Wg Cdr Henniker-Heaton and Flt Lt McMahon, APM’s.

Welcome To New Members April/July 2010

MAB
Mr. Brian Lawrence – Worcs.

H.D. & IOW
Mr. Edward Hodges – Dorset
Mr. Christopher Norris – Wilts.
Mr. Allan Maule – Bournemouth

SNI
Mr. Iain Young – East Lothian
Mr. Colin Stebbing – Fife

EMB
Mr. John Siddall – Notts.
Mr. Steven Upton – Notts.

ESS
Mr. Peter Dennis – Ipswich

NOR
Mr. Tony Reeve – Thetford

NWB
Mrs. Sylvia O’Donovan – Cheshire

OSM
Mr. Joe Bagguley – New Zealand
Mr. Kenneth Smyth - Nederlands

Membership at 31st July 2010 1472

The Haverfordwest RBL and RAFA members visited the NMA and RAF Cosford Museum in July. Wreaths were laid on the National Memorial, Burma Star Association and the RAFPA Memorial.

An Armed Forces Open Day was held at Cawdor Barracks (formerly RAF Brawdy).

Photo. On left Taff Evans (ex Dog Handler) Ken Humphreys. Both chaps served at RAF Laarbruch.
Submitted by: Taff Evans

Deadline for January 2011 Edition of “The Griff” will be 1st December 2010 ED.
## Subscriptions 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Members Renewal</th>
<th>£ 10.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### New Members Joining 2010

- **1st January to 30th June**
  - Joining fee: £ 8.50
  - Subscription: £ 10.00

- **1st July to 31st December**
  - Joining fee: £ 8.50
  - Subscription: £ 5.00

### Life Membership (incl: Joining Fee)
- Aged 55 years and over: £ 108.50

### Serving Members Scheme
- Membership for entire service
- One off payment: £ 20.00
  (Does not include Provost Parade or Members Directory)

### NOTE:
- Joint membership may apply to eligible spouses of existing members and to those joining as Serving Members.
- One normal joining fee plus: £ 1.00

### Life Conversion
- £ 100.00

## RAFPA Sales 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>White Beret</td>
<td>£ 10.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Please send cap size with order</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B4</td>
<td>RAFPA Lapel Badge</td>
<td>£ 2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B5</td>
<td>Beret Badge (RAFPA Crest)</td>
<td>£ 5.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B6</td>
<td>RAFPA Blazer Badge</td>
<td>£ 7.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3</td>
<td>RAF Police Tie</td>
<td>£ 7.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Navy blue with repeated Gold Griffins</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T4</td>
<td>RAF Police Bow Tie</td>
<td>£ 7.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Black &amp; Red Diagonal Stripes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T5</td>
<td>RAFPA regular tie</td>
<td>£ 7.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Navy blue with single RAFPA crest motif below knot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T6</td>
<td>RAFPA Tie</td>
<td>£ 7.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Black &amp; Red Diagonal Stripes with RAFPA Crest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T7</td>
<td>RAFPA Tie</td>
<td>£ 6.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Black &amp; Red Diagonal Stripes NO CREST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Please Note Clip on Ties are no longer available

| P1   | RAFPA Wall Shields, screen printed, light coloured wood base, 150 x 175 mm (5” X 7”) | £ 30.25 |

- All items inc. postage and packing and are available from the Treasurer.

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### 2010 Members Directory

The Members Directory will be available during October 2010. To save printing costs, etc., it is planned to only send a “hard copy” to those who specifically request one (electronic copies are freely available via the Internet). Requests for the printed version should be sent by post, or via e-mail (not by phone, please) to the Membership Secretary, Dave Wardell, 40 South Western Cres., Poole, Dorset, BH 14 8 RR, by the end of September 2010. If you’ve already elected to receive it by e-mail, there is no need to respond, as it will happen by magic.

Submitted by: **Dave Wardell**

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### The Griff

For those wishing to purchase items from Provost Parade shop a list of merchandise can be found on the main RAFPA Site at, [http://www.rafpa.com/ppms.htm](http://www.rafpa.com/ppms.htm)

A note for those purchasing berets, it is best not to shrink them, because they are not made with the same amount of material as the Service Blue issue beret. It is best to lightly spray with water, fit and shape to head and then let dry on an upturned basin, or similar.
Walk Down memory lane

My 'First Arrest'. Have lost my F466 with details of the arrestee!

Does this bring back memories for anyone?

RAF and RM Police in the yard of HQP & SS, Steamer Point, Aden, 1962

Basic Training at Netheravon, Sept/Oct 1960

This issue's Memory Lane contribution submitted by: David Hulse
RAF Fairford Snowdrops, Bloom again after 40 years

Cpl Smith first winner of the RAFPA Cup. Presented by Gp Capt John Whitmell PM RAF
Gp Capt John Whitmell PM RAF, Flt Lt Chris Tildesley OC Initial Training Course, Sgts Edwards and Craven, Initial Course Instructors, sitting with Passing Out ‘Netheravon Flight’, July 2010

Acknowledgements to Andy Sollars for permission to use photographs of the recent Passing Out Parade in The Griff.