



CHEERIOOO



The Newsletter of No 46 Squadron
Issue No 10 *October 2004*

ANOTHER GREAT REUNION

Whilst not up to last year's record numbers, the sixty-seventh was well attended with 64 members and guests sitting down for dinner and 18 ladies taking supper. Feedback on the evening was very encouraging with people commenting on what a great time they had. As usual, the food, wine, service and music were first rate and thanks to our benefactors we drank all evening at no extra cost.

Photographs of the reunion are at the end of the newsletter and at www.No46.Reunion.Pictures.fotopic.net; last year's collection had 150 hits which proves someone is looking at them! You may need to disable your firewall to view.

The sixty-eighth will be held at Lyneham on Saturday 4 June 2005, please get it in your diary now. Next year is the 30th anniversary of the last Squadron disbandment – let's prove that the Spirit of 46 is still alive by

Dinner:

The following members took dinner:

Andy ADAMS	David ADAMS	Gus APPELYARD	John AUSTIN	Dougie BARR
John BARTRAM	Derek BENDALL	Sam BOOKER	John BOYD	Dave BRAY
Vic BURT	Chris CARRINGTON	David CRWYS-WILLIAMS	Bernie DONNERS	Dick EASTMENT
Colin EDWARDS	Bob EVANS	Vic FAULKNER	Colin GOWER	Pete HOOD
Mick HOWE	Frank HUDDLESTON	John KANE	Derek LIDDELL	Tim LILES
Derek LONG	Eric MARSH	Dougie MORGAN	Chas MORGAN	Denny O'BRIAN
Laurie POULTER	Stuart PRIEST	Steve ROBSON	Terry ROURKE	Jeff SAUNDERS
Colin SCARTH	Mac SIBBALD	Rusty STEELE-MORGAN	Tony STEPHENS	Steve STEVENSON
Ken TEAL	Mike TOM	John TRITTON	Bill TURNBULL	Roger UNWIN
Pete WALLINGTON	Pete WALSH	Bob WARD	Dick WARD	Tony WARNER
Gus WEEDON	Jim WHITE	Des WHITE	Peter WOODHAM	

The following guests took dinner:

Charlie Appleyard	Capt James Wakefield	<i>Guests of</i>	Gus APPELYARD
Eddie Bendall		<i>Guest of</i>	Derek BENDALL
Ian Salvage		<i>Guest of</i>	Eric MARSH
Mark Barnett		<i>Guest of</i>	Ken TEAL
Stuart Turnbull	Keith Plastow	<i>Guests of</i>	Bill TURNBULL
Christopher Woodham	Jonathan Woodham	<i>Guests of</i>	Peter WOODHAM

Supper:

The following Ladies took supper:

Carolyn Adams	Judy Bartram	Jan Robinson	Brenda Evans	Julia Gower
Adrienne Howe	Sylvia Huddleston	Jean Liles	Muriel Morgan <i>Audrey Ursell</i>	Chris Morgan
Maggie Sibbald	Julia Steele-Morgan	Sylvia Teal <i>Melanie Barnett</i>	Heather Unwin	Elaine Ward
Brenda Weedon				

Benefactors:

The following members kindly made donations:

David ADAMS	Andy ADAMS	Gus APPLEBYARD	Dick ARSCOTT	Dougie BARR
Derek BENDALL	David BENNETT	Sam BOOKER	John BRANSBURY	Walter BRIGINSHAW
Alan BRINDLE	Mike BROOKES	Chris CARRINGTON	David CARTER	Harry CHAMBERS
Keith CHAPMAN	Andy CLARK	Dennis CONSTABLE	Peter CROUCH	Bernie DONDERS
John DUCKERS	Vic FAULKNER	Tony FEATHERSTONE	Howard FITZER	Jeff FORRESTER
Geoff GANDER	Mark GILSON	Mike GREENLAND	Harry GRIFFITHS	Jack HAZELL
George KIRK	Ian LASCHKE	Graham LAURIE	Tim LILES	Eric MARSH
Ian MASON	Brian MEINKE	Brian MERRITT	Peter MILES	Paul MINDNER
Dougie MORGAN	Ian MUIR	Adrian OBERTELLI	Anthony PARKER	Alan PARKER
Alan PARSONS	Arthur PORTER	Stuart PRIEST	Mike RAYSON	Leslie ROBINS
Les ROCKEL	John SCAMBLER	Jock SHAW	Mac SIBBALD	Graeme SMITH
Paul SNOOK	Rusty STEELE-MORGAN	Steve STEVENSON	Chris TAYLOR	Ken TEAL
John TRITTON	Bill TURNBULL	Roger UNWIN	Pete WALSH	George WARDEN
Tony WARNER	Bert WEBSTER	Tony WELLER	Bill WHITER	Russell WILLIAMS
Russell WILSON	Keith WILSON	Adam WISE	Lefty WRIGHT	

Regrets:

The following members were unable to attend

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Horst ABROMEIT	Chris ALCOCK	Dick ARSCOTT	Graham BAIRSTOW	Trevor BOOTH
John BRANSBURY	Walter BRIGINSHAW	Alan BRINDLE	Mike BROOKES	Adrian BROWN
Victor BUNTING	Cyril BURTON	David CARTER	Harry CHAMBERS	Don CHAPMAN
Keith CHAPMAN	Rod CHRISTIE	John CLEMENTS	Tom CONLON	Dennis CONSTABLE
Peter CROUCH	John DANIELS	Dave DRAKE	Tony FEATHERSTONE	Howard FITZER
Jeff FORRESTER	Geoff GANDER	Mark GILSON	Peter GOODMAN	Mike GREENLAND
Harry GRIFFITHS	Peter GRIMSHAW	Ian HAMPTON	John HANRAHAN	Jack HAZELL
Terry JOHNSON	Mike KEMP	George KIRK	Ian LASCHKE	Graham LAURIE
Brian LOVE	Tony MALLETT	Ian MASON	Brian MEINKE	Brian MERRITT

Peter MILES	Paul MINDNER	Ian MUIR	Chas NICHOLLS	Adrian OBERTELLI
Dave OCTON	Anthony PARKER	Alan PARKER	Alan PARSONS	Bob PETERS
Arthur PORTER	Mike RAYSON	Leslie ROBINS	Les ROCKEL	Jock SHAW
Chris SIERWALD	Graeme SMITH	Paul SNOOK	Freddie SOWREY	Douglas STACEY
Chris TAYLOR	Dougie TEW	George TYLER	George WARDEN	Bert WEBSTER
Tony WELLER	Bill WHITER	Russell WILLIAMS	Russell WILSON	Keith WILSON
Adam WISE	Sandy WOOD	Lefty WRIGHT		

Obituaries:

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of:

Geoff BARNES 57-60 <i>Javelin</i>	Sir Kenneth CROSS <i>Hurricane</i>	Dickie DAWES 55-60 <i>Met Jav</i>	John DUCKERS 42-44 <i>Beau Idku</i>	Mike THATCHER <i>Andover</i>
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News, Gossip and Scandal:

Members report:

Horst ABROMEIT	writes: we have moved close to Berlin after my retirement last year. Our new address reads: Oberst a.D. Horst Abromeit Parkstraße 6 D-14469 Potsdam Tel.: 0049 331-9793488 Whoever comes to Berlin, please give us a call. Ulla and I would be delighted to show you around Potsdam or Berlin.
Chris ALCOCK	Chris was unable to attend as he is a sponsor at his grandson's confirmation on the same date. His eldest son, John is still in a coma after his accident in August 2003.
Gus APPELYARD	Gus Appleyard is pleased to report that his CT scans remain clear after suffering colon/stomach cancer and thanks all Association friends for their continued support and good wishes over the past year.
John AUSTIN	John retires from Mytravel at the end of the year but hopes to keep flying with a smaller airline.
John BARTRAM	John retired from the RAF in July 2003. He has now started his own consultancy business dealing with aviation, defence diplomacy and management primarily.
Derek BENDALL	Derek is now working for Babcock Defence Services at Oxford with Jeff Saunders flying a Skyvan on an MOD contract.
Alan BRINDLE	Al is now confined to bed permanently. He sends his greetings to everyone and asks that those attending have a drink on him.
Mike BROOKES	Mike is still involved with charity work in Nicaragua.
Adrian BROWN	Adrian has now retired and moved to Shropshire and writes. "You may remember that the Squadron used to have the nameplate from the 'Battle of Britain' class locomotive in the Crewroom (must admit I'd love to know where that ended up!!). Anyway, Hornby have just produced a model of the locomotive although it is in the form before it was named. Might interest someone to have one, and nameplates are available to fix to the model. Anyone interested needs a Hornby catalogue or contact me."
Victor BUNTING	Vic was taken seriously ill at the beginning of January and since then has been in and out of hospital. He sends best wishes to all for a successful and enjoyable evening and hopes to see everyone next year.
David CARTER	David had a prior engagement at a Garden Party doing a Dennis Thatcher.
Rod CHRISTIE	Rod was recently diagnosed with lung cancer. He is coping ok at present and sends fondest regards to all.
Dennis CONSTABLE	Dennis is still working for QinetiQ at Boscombe Down.

Terry JOHNSON Terry sends regards to all.

David CRWYS-WILLIAMS David continues as MD of Services Sound and Vision Corporation supplying BFBS radio and television worldwide, CSE shows, cinema etc. A busy year has meant visits to the Falklands, Bosnia, Kosova, Kuwait, Iraq, Cyprus, Germany and Belize and Gibraltar. Spare time is taken up as a Trustee of the RAF Museum, British Forces Foundation and various other charities.

John DANIELS John and Marion were cruising to the West Indies.

Bernie DONDERS Bernie's wife died early last year and he has recently remarried a lovely lady called Barbara.

Bob EVANS Bob is currently serving with 1359FH (HRA) RAuxAF

Tony FEATHERSTONE Tony's health has not improved, but Val has made a complete recovery from breast cancer. They are always delighted to see any 46 members should they be in the area. He sends best wishes to all for a successful weekend.

Alan GREEN Alan is winding up the property letting company in Provence and is thinking of retiring for the fourth time

Ian HAMPTON Ian is carrying out post-retirement research into fine wines, scotch and golf! Wishes he'd done it 30 years ago.

John HANRAHAN John will be on holiday in Italy

Graham LAURIE Graham visited Horst and Ulla in Potsdam just before Xmas in company with the "Masons". Gnome reached 60 at Easter!

Tim LILES Tim owns up to becoming Munroist 2543 back in June 2001. He still loves being on the hill and hopefully not over it!

Derek LONG Derek sends regards to all.

Tony MALLETT Tony attended the Cranwell reunion celebrating 50 yrs since commissioning so was unable to attend the Call to Arms.

Peter MILES Peter is now general manager of Ellesborough Golf Club (in Chequers land) wef 1 Jan 2004. Working for a living - 60hrs/week including weekends.

Paul MINDNER Paul had just retired when he got caught by "old-men's cancer" which has been operated on, hopefully successfully - he hopes to attend next year's reunion.

Kenneth NICHOLS Kenneth sends best wishes to everyone, especially to those who enjoyed the honour of 46 Squadron reforming in 1954. Have you all seen Valentino Rossi's racing number?

Dave OCTON Dave is still alive doing golf, sailing, gardening and work, in that order.

Alan PARKER Alan is still enjoying himself in Greece and hopes to make it next year - family permitting.

Steve ROBSON Steve's house in Spain is up for sale, see www.e.propertytravel.info, but until that time it can be rented. Steve continues trend monitoring Avro RJ/BAe146

Les ROCKEL Les retired from Monarch Airlines in 2002 after 25 super years, 5 on 1-11, 14 on 757 and 6 on DC10. He now sits in front of his PC longingly scanning NZ real estate pages!

Tony STEPHENS Tony retired at the end of June 2003 from Air Historical Branch (RAF). Ronnie and he are enjoying rural life in Dorset - all old friends welcome to visit (between Shaftesbury and Sherborne)

George WARDEN George has moved to Canada, hopefully permanently, to be with his wife. Kind regards to all.

Jim WHITE Jim is shortly retiring from CAA, but not quite ready for the knacker's yard yet. Any offers?

Russell WILLIAMS Russell continues to be the Vice President of The Old Cranwellian association and civilian Chairman of 1260 Sqn ATC at Newark. Visitors to Lincs call 01400 250441.

Russell WILSON Russell is expanding UK healthcare business! Awaiting 2nd transplant. He is the author of life coaching book - see OK50.com. Building half-price villas with pools in Cyprus - 46 members get special deal.

Keith WILSON Keith is doing navy work for a builder neighbour. Good for the muscles and highly educational in a basic sort of way!

Adam WISE Adam continues to work for The Officers' Association giving invaluable help to colleagues. The OA number is 020 7389 5217.

Lefty WRIGHT Lefty sends good wishes to all, especially his flat-iron flying friends.

Roy BUTLER Roy's Gambut exploits are on the website

Dougie BARR Dougie and Carole offer use of their villa in Provence to members at greatly reduced prices. See it at villainprovence.info and provencevilla.fotopic.net; then call on 01491 614204

Request for Information:

I receive requests from many sources asking for information about the Squadron. I have detailed some of these below. If you can help, please reply direct to the enquirer, copy to me.

Info on Rhys Martin's father, John Peter Martin; a navigator in 1958. rhysbmartin@hotmail.com

From : Ian Pursey <igpursey@ipursey.freemove.co.uk>
Sent : 20 July 2004 22:18:53
To : <Dougiebarr@hotmail.com>
Subject : Sgt Peter Waghorn

Dear Sir

I am advised that my late uncle, Sgt Peter Waghorn, served with the squadron at North Weald late in 1940. He was posted in from 249 and then, in early 1941, out to 615. Could you possibly advise me if he did in fact serve with the squadron and if so any details? This is a blank area at the moment and, being ex-RAF myself, would like to fill in the missing details.

Yours sincerely

Ian Pursey

01604 631808

From: Alexander Koisser <a_koisser.qa@nextra.at>
Reply-To : a_koisser.qa@nextra.at
Sent : 04 July 2004 16:19:29
To : dougiebarr@hotmail.com
Subject : RAF in Austria

Dear Mr. Barr,

For a long time I am researching about the re-establishment of air transport in Austria after the war. Therefore I would be especially interested in the operations of the No. 46 Squadron during the immediate post-war years. Would it be possible to supply me with any more details concerning the Dakota operations (I suppose they had been performed under the aegis of the 110 Wing Command) to Vienna and their other destinations on the Continent.

You can imagine how difficult it is to get any "first-hand" information about that time. Therefore I would very much looking forward to get in touch with any former members of the No.46 who have served during this period.

I really do hope I am not bothering you too much with my requests. But as I am more or less the first person who is trying to save this period of aviation history in Austria, I have to rely on any possible source of information.

In that way I wish you all the best from Vienna and would be excited hearing from you,

Best regards,
Alexander Koisser

From : Mel Herman
<melherman@iafrica.com>
Sent : 09 June 2004 17:30:16
To : <Dougiebarr@hotmail.com>
Subject : 102 MU attached 46 Squadron

Hello Doug

I found your contact details on one of the RAF websites and am hoping you can help me.

I am researching the life of my uncle, Sgt Derrick Sykes, who died 25 June 1944 while serving as a Flight Engineer with 102 Squadron. Derrick joined the RAF as a "Halton Brat" at the age of 15 in 1936 and **spent most of the war with 102 MU attached to 46 Squadron**, first at RAF Digby, then RAF Acklington, then in the Middle East, starting at Abu Sueir in May 1941. In August '42, after moving to 108 MU, Derrick was hospitalised at 64 General Hospital

(don't know why - any idea how I could find out?). After a long break (almost 10 months) he returned to the ME but with 60 MU attached to 47 Squadron, before being accepted for Fl. Eng. training in January '44.

I have been very lucky in finding a lot of information about his (short) career as aircrew, but less successful in finding out about his ground crew days. Can you point me towards anyone who might remember life with 102 MU, or (perhaps!) even remember Derrick? Or are there any associations of ground crew veterans, particularly from the Middle East? Or can you perhaps fill me in on what life was like on those sand-swept bases - your movements, daily life, etc

Any info at all would be much appreciated.

Kindest regards
Melanie Herman
Port Elizabeth
South Africa

From : Vic Redmond <vic.redmond@ntlworld.com>
Sent : 14 May 2004 20:17:10
To : <dougiebarr@hotmail.com>
Subject : Andover at Masirah

Dear Group Captain Barr

I have just come across this site in regards to 46 Sqn and have noticed a photo of an Andover approaching the sand runway at RAF Masirah.

I am a member of Servicepals, and a contributor to a thread on RAF Masirah, having spent the obligatory Nine months there in 71/72.

I was wondering if you there were a possibility of getting hold of a copy of that photo for the thread, as there is not a lot regarding the Andover at Masirah on the site.

In fact any photo's of the Andover would be handy, my particular memory of these aircraft were that they would run up the engines on the pan opposite my room, usually after I had come of night shift in the tower, and I would end up with about two inches of sand all over me.

Regards

Vic Redmond

