



CHEERIOOO

The Newsletter of No 46 Squadron
Issue No 11 August 2006



ANOTHER GREAT REUNION

There was a surprisingly good turnout for the Eighty-Ninth; 64 members and guests took Dinner and 15 ladies enjoyed Supper. The Mess continues to excel itself with an outstandingly understanding staff serving an excellent meal in wonderful surroundings.

There were quite a number of new faces which bodes well for the Ninetieth which will be held on 2 June next year. Please get the date in your diaries now; it should be a fantastic evening.

The Squadron reacted splendidly to the appeal to fund the Royal Air Force Memorial at Chichester Cathedral. The memorial will be dedicated on Friday 15 September 2006 at 11:30. Tickets can be obtained from the Cathedral Office on 01243 782595; however, the Office has asked that requests are made as soon as possible.

It was with deep regret that just a few weeks after the Reunion, we learned of the death of Gus Appleyard. Gus had been recovering well from cancer and had had a thoroughly enjoyable reunion. I understand he died from a heart problem. The funeral was well attended by Squadron members. His son Charlie was a regular attender at Reunions and has asked if he could be still be invited; I have of course told him we would welcome his company.

Dinner:

The following members took dinner:

Horst ABROMEIT	Andy ADAMS	David ADAMS	Gus APPELYARD	Dick ARSCOTT
John AUSTIN	Dougie BARR	Derek BENDALL	David BENNETT	John BOYD
Vic BURT	Keith CHAPMAN	Andy CLARK	Peter CROUCH	David CRWYS- WILLIAMS
Bob EVANS	Vic FAULKNER	Jim GATHERER	Mick HOWE	Frank HUDDLESTON
Mike KEMP	Graham LAURIE	Derek LIDDELL	Tim LILES	Derek LONG
Eric MARSH	Ian MASON	Dougie MORGAN	Chas MORGAN	Alan PARKER
Laurie POULTER	Simon POYNDR	Stuart PRIEST	Mike RAYSON	Terry ROURKE
Jeff SAUNDERS	Mac SIBBALD	Rusty STEELE-MORGAN	Tony STEPHENS	Steve STEVENSON
Ken TEAL	John TRITTON	Bill TURNBULL	Pete WALSH	Dick WARD
Gus WEEDON	Jim WHITE	Des WHITE	Russell WILSON	Keith WILSON
Peter WOODHAM				

The following guests took dinner :

Charlie Appleyard	James Wakefield	<i>Guest of</i>	Gus APPLEYARD
Alan Kemble		<i>Guest of</i>	Graham LAURIE
Paul Burns		<i>Guest of</i>	Eric MARSH
Cary Sand		<i>Guest of</i>	Ian MASON
Paul Morgan		<i>Guest of</i>	Chas MORGAN
Cdr Ken Jones RN retd		<i>Guest of</i>	Alan PARKER
Dick Graham		<i>Guest of</i>	Stuart PRIEST
Mark Barnett		<i>Guest of</i>	Ken TEAL
Stuart Turnbull		<i>Guest of</i>	Bill TURNBULL
Jamie Wilson	Timothy Wilson	<i>Guest of</i>	Russell WILSON
Christopher Woodham	Jeremy Woodham	<i>Guest of</i>	Peter WOODHAM

Supper:

The following Ladies took supper :

Ursula Abromeit	Jan Robinson	Mary Crouch	Brenda Evans	Hilma Gatherer
Adrienne Howe	Sylvia Huddleston	Jean Liles	Rosemary Rayson	Maggie Sibbald
Julia Steele-Morgan	Sylvia Teal <i>Melanie Barnett</i>	Elaine Ward	Brenda Weedon	

Benefactors:

The following members kindly made donations:

Andy ADAMS	David ADAMS	Chris ALCOCK	Gus APPLEYARD	Dick ARSCOTT
Dougie BARR	David BENNETT	Sam BOOKER	John BOYD	John BRANSBURY
Dave BRAY	Chris CARRINGTON	David CARTER	Tom CONLON	Dennis CONSTABLE
John DANIELS	Bernie DONDERS	Dave DRAKE	Colin EDWARDS	Bob EVANS
Vic FAULKNER	Howard FITZER	Geoff GANDER	Jim GATHERER	Iris GIFKINS
Mark GILSON	Colin GOWER	Don GRAHAM	Mike GREENLAND	Dave HIGGS
Ron HOBBS	Chris HOOPER-SMITH	Mike KEMP	Eric KING	George KIRK
Ian LASCHKE	Graham LAURIE	Joe LYONS	Tony MALLETT	Eric MARSH
Brian MEINKE	Brian MERRITT	Peter MILES	Paul MINDNER	Chas MORGAN
Denny O'BRIAN	Alan PARKER	Arthur PORTER	Mike POWELL	Stuart PRIEST
Don ROBERTS	Robbie ROBERTSON	Leslie ROBINS	Steve ROBSON	Les ROCKEL
Keith SAUNDERS	Jock SHAW	Mac SIBBALD	Paul SNOOK	Dennis SOUTHGATE
Freddie SOWREY	Rusty STEELE-MORGAN	Bob SUTTON	Chris TAYLOR	Mike TOM
John TRITTON	Bill TURNBULL	Roger UNWIN	Pete WALSH	Bert WEBSTER
Gus WEEDON	Tony WELLER	Bill WHITER	Russell WILLIAMS	Russell WILSON
Keith WILSON	Adam WISE	Lefty WRIGHT		

Regrets:

The following members were unable to attend :

Chris ALCOCK	Graham BAIRSTOW	John BARTRAM	Chris BLAKE	John BLENKINSOP
Peter BOLEY	Mike BOLTON	Sam BOOKER	Trevor BOOTH	John BRANSBURY
Dave BRAY	Mike BROOKES	Adrian BROWN	Victor BUNTING	Stan BURT
Roy BUTLER	Chris CARRINGTON	David CARTER	Harry CHAMBERS	Don CHAPMAN
Dudley CLARKE	John CLEMENTS	Tom CONLON	Dennis CONSTABLE	John DANIELS
Bernie DONDERS	Dave DRAKE	Colin EDWARDS	Howard FITZER	Geoff GANDER
Iris GIFKINS	Mark GILSON	Colin GOWER	Don GRAHAM	Alan GREEN
Mike GREENLAND	Peter GRIMSHAW	Ian HAMPTON	Dave HIGGS	Ron HOBBS
Pete HOOD	Chris HOOPER-SMITH	Terry JOHNSON	Eric KING	George KIRK
Ian LASCHKE	Brian LOVE	Joe LYONS	Tony MALLETT	Brian MEINKE
Brian MERRITT	Peter MILES	Paul MINDNER	Kenneth NICHOLS	Denny O'BRIAN
Dave OCTON	Arthur PORTER	Mike POWELL	Don ROBERTS	Robbie ROBERTSON
Leslie ROBINS	Steve ROBSON	Les ROCKEL	Keith SAUNDERS	Jock SHAW
Chris SIERWALD	Des SKINNER	Graeme SMITH	Paul SNOOK	Dennis SOUTHGATE
Freddie SOWREY	Al STOUT	Chris TAYLOR	Dougie TEW	Mike TOM
John TOWLER	Neil TREDRAY	Roger UNWIN	Pete WALLINGTON	Bob WARD
George WARDEN	Bert WEBSTER	Tony WELLER	Bill WHITER	Russell WILLIAMS
Sandy WOOD	Lefty WRIGHT			

Obituaries :

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

Bunny CURRANT 38-40
Hurricane

Tony FEATHERSTONE
71-74
Andover

Jeff FORRESTER 44-45
Beau Mosq

Geoff JARVIS 58-60
Javelin

News, Gossip and Scandal :

Members report :

John BARTRAM

John is still working in Singapore for UK Department of Transport and covering Far East and Pacific. He is travelling quite a lot and making the most of the location. Wishes everyone a great reunion.

Derek BENDALL

Derek is now working for Netjets flying Cessna Citation Excel.

David BENNETT

Dai is still going to work by boat.

Sam BOOKER

Sam greatly regrets he is unable to attend the reunion as he has damaged his right knee joint. Sends best wishes to all.

Trevor BOOTH

Trevor can't make it this year as he is going to see his daughter in OZ who is expecting second baby later in the year. He is still happy in retirement and sends best wishes to all.

Adrian BROWN

Adrian sends regards to all.

Victor BUNTING

Vic is still affected by myeloma and on strong medication, including chemotherapy tablets. Currently, he is unable to walk because of severe pain which should ease following radiotherapy. He hopes this treatment will be successful and fully intends to be at the 90th. Best wishes to all Squadron members.

Chris CARRINGTON

Chris is still enjoying life in paradise, but a return to reality is drawing ever closer.

Andy CLARK

Andy is still trucking with, it seems, the same high regard for his lords and masters! Afghanistan and Iraq appear high in his "must do" short breaks. At great personal effort, he will bore anyone who wants to

listen on his views of the new "admin system". You have been warned.

- George KIRK** George is having eye trouble and unable to drive long journeys. He wishes everyone a wonderful evening
- Dennis CONSTABLE** Dennis retired from QinetiQ last August when Jenny and he moved to County Down in Northern Ireland. He seems to be engaged in ridiculous healthy activities like hill walking and diving. He also does charity work.
- Peter CROUCH** Peter is chairman of the Bournemouth branch of the ACA, with a great deal of help from Mary. They have 150 members. His President is Wg Cdr Paddy Mahon, father of Tony, known to many of you.
- David CRWYS-WILLIAMS** David has at last retired after 13 years as MD of SSVC and has now moved into a converted barn on their farm. Life is great after 48 years of full-time employment.
- Bernie DONDERS** Bernie is sorry to miss this year's Call to Arms. While on holiday in Switzerland last year he had an arterial thrombosis which needed operating on - he can thoroughly recommend the Swiss medical care!
- Colin EDWARDS** Colin has guests over from Australia and is therefore unable to attend the reunion this year.
- Howard FITZER** Howard became a guest of the Spanish Emergency Medical Services and is now the owner of 5 stents in his arterial plumbing system. Normal service is now resumed (too much good living it seems).
- Iris GIFKINS** Iris is awaiting the birth of her first great grandchild. She sends her best wishes.
- Mark GILSON** Mark recently had a heart attack but is recovering well. As a result he is, regrettably, unable to attend the Reunion.
- Colin GOWER** Sadly Julia has recently been diagnosed with advanced bowel cancer and is currently in hospital. The prognosis is not good - fingers crossed, see you all next year.
- Don GRAHAM** Don and Maureen moved to Faringdon in June last year and are well into house refurbishing. Unfortunately, Don broke a hip joint and pelvis in March and is undergoing extensive traction.
- Alan GREEN** Alan is returning to England in May after 10 years exile in France.
- Mike GREENLAND** Mike sends greetings and good wishes to all his friends from those happy years with 46 Sqn. He is extremely sad that he is not fit enough to make the journey to the reunions now or in the future.
- Ian HAMPTON** Ian intends to attend the 90th next year. He is still sailing with Eric King and trying to retire gracefully - but failing!
- Dave HIGGS** David and Loretta have just returned from a month in New Zealand returning home via a 46 day cruise.
- Chris HOOPER-SMITH** Chris flew for Euromanx as their training captain on the RJ70 last year. He is unable to attend the reunion as he is going on holiday in his boat.
- Graham LAURIE** Graham is going to Scotland after the reunion to show Horst and Ulla Abromeit where the rest of the Squadron were on 13 September '68. Graham informs us that Bill Coupar has died.
- Derek LONG** Derek is still flying and thinks he may be the oldest pilot flying in the RAF. He suspects the powers that be do not realise how old he is ! Not a mistake any of us would make !
- Tony MALLETT** Tony and Fiona are in good health, but a regatta in West Mersea over the reunion weekend demands Tony's attention. Also the recently acquired cottage in Brittany occupies a lot of their time as does the sailing boat in southern France.
- Ian MASON** Ian is still employed by the RAF working as an Ops Controller at Brize Norton. Mrs Mason would like him to retire as of yesterday.
- Brian MEINKE** Brian is still with Britannia Airways (now Thomson Fly) despite reaching retirement age. He spends a lot of time in Indonesia - working and leisure.
- Peter MILES** Peter is still Secretary/General Manager of Ellesborough Golf Club.
- Paul MINDNER** Paul sends regards and best wishes to everybody and hopes to make the 90th.
- Kenneth NICHOLS** Kenneth has recently received an amicable and acceptable offer for the core business of Egerton Nicholls Ltd. He will continue to work in semi-retirement from home.
- Dave OCTON** Dave is sailing in France over the reunion.
- Laurie POULTER** Laurie has just retired for the 2nd time; still 3 pensions are "nice to have".
- Stuart PRIEST** Stuart is still posting letters.
- Steve ROBSON** Steve is unable to make the reunion due to a family wedding.
- Les ROCKEL** Les is still gazing at real estate brochures for New Zealand but a lot of ifs and buts to address first. In the meantime he is the "Delivery Boy" for his local chemist.

- Keith SAUNDERS** Keith reports: My son and I have both inked in 2nd June 2007 as it will be a great occasion to celebrate my 75th birthday. I'll refrain from doing a long distance walk at the end of May next year. I'll be finishing the Dales way on 2nd June this year and I really must get back to see to my flock of sheep (now doubled to 14 with the addition of 2 sets of twins and one set of triplets). In September I'm off to do a challenge trek in the Namibian Desert to raise funds for SCOPE, the charity for people with cerebral palsy. It will be a hot, foot-wearying effort over dunes in sand and gravel in contrast to the 5 fundraising treks I've done since 2000 which have all been in mountainous regions. This will be my last such event and hope to raise over £3000 for SCOPE this time (the minimum I must raise is £2,600).
- Chris SIERWALD** Chris is fit and well after a triple by-pass last summer. He got engaged to Elly in the Taj Mahal just before Christmas - no date yet for wedding. Still living life to the full in glorious west Wales.
- Des SKINNER** Again I have to decline mainly on the grounds of distance and health. Unfortunately, due to the consumption of 40 a day for more than 40 years I am not in a really good position to undertake the trip. Serves me right really - the warnings were always around but in our day we were always "bombproof" weren't we? In spite of a bit of a lung problem I enjoy a great time here with the family. The environment is great, the lifestyle awesome and Maggie and I and the family want for nothing we need.
- Paul SNOOK** Paul's health has not been so good. He sends good wishes to all his old mates and hopes everyone has a good time at the reunion.
- Freddie SOWREY** Many thanks to the Squadron for supporting the proposed memorial in Chichester Cathedral to all those who served at Sussex airfields.
- Ken TEAL** Ken chatted to Paul Arscott who was the aircraft captain on Ken's flight to Cyprus. Paul is in good form.
- Roger UNWIN** Roger is still enjoying life in Cyprus and looking to entertain any 46-ers. He is sorry to miss the 89th but looking forward to the 100th!
- George WARDEN** George sends good wishes to all at the reunion.
- Tony WELLER** Tony is unable to attend this year's reunion as his daughter is getting married.
- Jim WHITE** After 2 years on a ground tour at BAE Systems, Jim is rejoining Loganair, following a 10 year sabbatical.
- Russell WILLIAMS** Russell remains Vice-President of the old Cranwellian Association and Civilian Chairman of No. 1260 (Newark and District) ATC. He wishes all his colleagues from RAF Thorney Island all the very best.
- Russell WILSON** Russ has had a second successful kidney transplant (from Caroline, his wife). His business enterprises continue to flourish with UK Healthcare expanding. He is also building luxury villas in Cyprus.
- Adam WISE** Adam is now retired thanks to redundancy. Not what one expects from a charity dedicated to ex-officers!
- Al STOUT** Al is back in touch. He had planned to come this year but had to cancel because of an urgent hospital appointment.
- Dennis SOUTHGATE** Dennis has been retired for 17 years from British Airways and enjoying every minute.
- Dougie BARR** Dougie is now working in Essex, programme managing a large IT system for Essex County Council
- Ron HOBBS** The Squadron and Ron are 89 this year.

Service dinner

No 46 Squadron RFC and RAF
Air Marshal Sir Frederick
Sowrey presided at the 89th
consecutive reunion dinner
of No 46 Squadron RFC and
RAF held on Saturday in the
Officers' Mess, RAF Lyneham.
Gp Capt Dick Arscott also
spoke.

The sharper members will note that David C-W actually presided; but I need to send the announcements long before I know who is coming.

Requests for Information;

I receive many requests for information about people or events connected with the Squadron. Below are the current bunch and if anyone can help then please let me know (or reply direct to the enquirer).

"I am looking for information on my father, John Peter Martin, who was a Javelin navigator on No 46 Sqn in 1958. rhysmartin@hotmail.com"