



CHEERIOOO



The Newsletter of No 46 Squadron RFC and RAF

Issue No 19

July 2014

HALTON HOUSE NEAR RECORD ATTENDANCE

SERVICE DINNER

No 46 Squadron RFC and RAF
Air Marshal Sir Frederick
Sowrey presided at the 97th
consecutive reunion dinner of
No 46 Squadron RFC and RAF
held on Saturday in the Halton
House Officers' Mess, RAF
Halton. Flt Lt Terry Rourke
also spoke.

Daily Telegraph. Monday 9 June 2014

We had a great Reunion at Halton House. Historic venue, excellent food and wine but most importantly outstanding company. We had the best turnout since the 90th with 66 sitting down to Dinner of which 52 were members! Thanks again go to our benefactors whose kind donations defrayed the admin and entertainment costs as well as providing free drinks all evening. Again a special thank you goes to Steve Day for his incredibly generous donation. Thanks also to Charlie Appleyard for the silver model Hurricane presented in memory of his father Gus. Terry Rourke made a fantastic toast to

the Squadron, entertaining and heartfelt. Finally, Carole and I would like to thank you all for the wonderful presents you gave us to mark the 25th Reunion that it has been my pleasure to organize.

Photographs of the Reunion are at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/53681045@N07/sets/72157645048055988/>

Press Ctrl click to go there. Please add titles, comments tags as you wish.

Next year's Reunion will be back at Wolfson College Oxford on Saturday 6 June 2015.

Dinner:

The following members took dinner:

David ADAMS	Andy ADAMS	Chris ALCOCK	John AUSTIN	Dougie BARR
John BARTRAM	David BENNETT	John BOYD	Dave BRAY	Chris CARRINGTON
Keith CHAPMAN	Andy CLARK	David CRWYS- WILLIAMS	Bernie DONDERS	Ian DOW
Bob EVANS	Vic FAULKNER	Jim GATHERER	Colin GOWER	Jimmy JAMES

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Eric KING	Graham LAURIE	Derek LIDDELL	Tim LILES	Derek LONG
Eric MARSH	Ian MASON	Peter MILES	Adrian OBERTELLI	Denny O'BRIEN
Paul OSBORN	Alan PARKER	Bob PETERS	John PLUMLEY	Laurie POULTER
Stuart PRIEST	Bob RICHARDSON	Steve ROBSON	Terry ROURKE	Jeff SAUNDERS
Keith SAUNDERS	Mac SIBBALD	Chris SIERWALD	Freddie SOWREY	Rusty STEELE-MORGAN
Tony STEPHENS	Ken TEAL	Mike TOM	Dick WARD	Des WHITE
Russell WILSON	Keith WILSON			

The following guests took dinner:

Giles Bennett	<i>Guest of</i> David BENNETT
Stuart Gatherer	<i>Guest of</i> Jim GATHERER
Ian Salvage Tom Swinscoe	<i>Guest of</i> Eric MARSH
Alastair Mason	<i>Guest of</i> Ian MASON
Graham Turner	<i>Guest of</i> Adrian OBERTELLI
Gp Capt John McCarty	<i>Guest of</i> Bob RICHARDSON
Marcus Saunders	<i>Guest of</i> Keith SAUNDERS
Mark Sibbald	<i>Guest of</i> Mac SIBBALD
Peter Sowrey	<i>Guest of</i> Freddie SOWREY
Jamie Wilson Tim Wilson	<i>Guest of</i> Russell WILSON
Dr Vic Robinson	<i>Guest of</i> Dougie BARR

Supper:

The following Ladies took supper:

Judy Bartram	Maggie Sibbald	Sylvia Teal	Caroline Wilson
	Melissa Sibbald	Melanie Barnett	

Benefactors:

The following members kindly made donations:

Andy ADAMS	David ADAMS	Chris ALCOCK	Charlie APPLEYARD	
Dick ARSCOTT				
Dougie BARR	John BARTRAM	Derek BENDALL	John BOYD	John BRANSBURY
David CARTER	Dennis CONSTABLE	Peter CROUCH	Steve DAY	Dave DRAKE
Geoff DRYLAND	Steve GARVIN	Mark GILSON	Don GRAHAM	Alan GREEN
Frank HUDDLESTON	Ian LASCHKE	Graham LAURIE	Derek LIDDELL	Tim LILES
Derek LONG	Tony MALLETT	Eric MARSH	Brian MEINKE	Brian MERRITT

Peter MILES	Paul MINDNER	Kenneth NICHOLS	Denny O'BRIEN	Alan PARKER	
Bob PETERS	Bob RICHARDSON	Jenny SEDDON	Mac SIBBALD	Des SKINNER	
Paul SNOOK	Freddie SOWREY	Rusty STEELE-	Steve STEVENSON	Ken TEAL	
Pat THOMAS	Bill TURNBULL	Roger UNWIN	Jim WHITE	Des WHITE	Keith WILSON
George KIRK					

Regrets:

The following members were unable to attend:

Charlie APPLEYARD	Dick ARSCOTT	Derek BENDALL	Jeff BETHRAY	John BRANSBURY
David CARTER	Don CHAPMAN	John CLEMENTS	Dennis CONSTABLE	Peter CROUCH
Dave DRAKE	Geoff DRYLAND	Dick EASTMENT	Steve GARVIN	Mark GILSON
Don GRAHAM	Alan GREEN	Pete HOOD	Chris HOOPER-SMITH	Chris HOSEA
Frank HUDDLESTON	Mike KEMP	George KIRK	Ian LASCHKE	Tony MALLETT
Brian MEINKE	Brian MERRITT	Paul MINDNER	Dougie MORGAN	Kenneth NICHOLS
Les ROCKEL	Jenny SEDDON	Des SKINNER	Paul SNOOK	Steve STEVENSON
Chris TAYLOR	Pat THOMAS	Bill TURNBULL	Roger UNWIN	Pete WALLINGTON
Tony WARNER	Jim WHITE	George KIRK		

Obituaries:

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

John GREEDY 71-75 Pete WALSH 54-58
Andover *Met Jav*

News, Gossip and Scandal:

Members report:

John BARTRAM John is happily retired and living near Keevil on the edge of Salisbury Plain. Judy and he became grandparents in February 2014 - a beautiful baby boy, Lucas Edward. So, the youngest member of 46Sqn RFC/RAF is now a Gramps!!

Derek BENDALL Unfortunately, Derek is unable to attend as he will be sailing in Turkey, but plans to be around for the 100th anniversary.

David CARTER Dave will be in France with his wife who is now through chemo, so is looking forward to the holiday. However this is over the reunion date so he is unable to attend.

Andy CLARK Carolyn and Andy are fortunate to have the health and the means to continue with the things we enjoy in retirement including lots of walking and dancing.

John CLEMENTS John says last time he was at Halton was a Summer Ball and on the lawn there were rides in a tethered hot air balloon - great fun!

Dennis CONSTABLE Dennis sends his warmest and most heartfelt wishes to all for a very enjoyable reunion.

Peter CROUCH Peter is still mobile and enjoying life at 91, but is lonely without Mary.

David CRWYS- WILLIAMS David is still travelling a great deal and the rest of the time spent as a trustee of various charities. Lucky to be in good health - but not counting chickens (we have nine!).

Steve DAY Steve made another remarkably generous donation without which this year's Reunion would have been seriously over budget.

Ian DOW Ian is retired but still working in A320 simulators for a variety of different airlines. He sees Adrian Obertelli regularly at CAE's training centre at Gatwick.

Dick EASTMENT Dick writes: I am very disappointed to have to report that, due to family reasons, I am unable to attend our reunion this year. I really would have liked to have been there. I finally retired as an AEF pilot in March, so I must have been one of the last Sqn members to have been flying Her Majesty's aircraft. After 46 years of military flying it has been something of a wrench! I still do some consultancy, mainly for the MoD, and do not want to retire just yet! I hope you all have an outstanding re-union, and hope to see you all next year.

Charlie APPLEBYARD Charlie regrets he cannot make it this year but is determined to make the 98th. He asked me to present a silver model of a Hurricane to the Squadron in memory of his much missed father Gus.

Mark GILSON Mark's house is on the market and we hope to move back down south. Gilly thinks it's to be nearer the family, but it's really to be nearer Rourke!!

Don GRAHAM Don is overcommitted for prep. of son's wedding!

Chris HOOPER-SMITH Chris is now divorced and living in Jersey. Sailing his boat in June as usual, so will sadly be unable to attend.

Chris HOSEA Bob Evans writes: I have recently spoken with Chris Hosea & he expressed his regret at being unable to attend this year due to ongoing health issues. He did however, ask me to pass on his very best wishes to all association members, & he hopes to be present at the 100th

Mike KEMP Mike's last contact with Meteor crew from RAF Odiham was with Pete Woodham and Pete Walsh at a reunion a few years ago. Alas, both are now gone.

Ian LASCHKE Ian in retirement is busier than when in full time employment! He wanted to get there this year but just not enough time. Best wishes to all. Hope I can make it next year.

Graham LAURIE Jo and Graham spent a week before Christmas with Horst and Ulla. As usual, much wine, beer and gluhwein consumed - even had some myself!!!

Tim LILES Tim is still walking Scottish mountains (slowly), playing croquet (not always well) and living in Budleigh Salterton.

Tony MALLETT Tony is again committed to the Classic Yacht Regatta in Antibes so is unable to attend the Reunion. His 80th last summer in the West Mersea Yacht Club 'went with a bang'; not so an earlier flight and landing in a Piper 28 which was, of course, as smooth as silk. Now he has grown up and is leaving sailing and flying behind and so will definitely be attending next year.

Peter MILES Gwen is recovering from a cancer scare, otherwise he continues a busy life in retirement.

Paul MINDNER Paul writes - nothing new really. "Little daughter's" 30th (!) birthday has just reminded him that the number of birthdays increases steadily for everybody! Have fun and stay fit!!!

Kenneth NICHOLS Kenneth writes: It hardly seems 60 years have passed since Colin Gower and I stepped through the gates at RAF Odiham from the OCU at RAF Leeming in the summer of 1954. I hope there are still many survivors of that time. Congratulations to them all and have a great Reunion.

Alan PARKER Alan is looking forward to seeing all those attending on the 97th.

Laurie POULTER Laurie is looking forward to returning to Halton. He was, in turn, an apprentice and a flight commander - during the latter tour he lived in Halton House.

Les ROCKEL Les writes: Pam & I are coming to the UK later this year, but not until the end of July, to do the proud Grandparents bit, so we will have to miss this one I'm afraid. We are most definitely looking at the big 100th, in three years' time, that is if we cannot get to one before that.

Des SKINNER Des is still dominating OZ Bowls but hastens to add not on the bowling greens. "I have hardly played for a couple of years through a succession of troublesome issues - tennis elbow followed by a frozen shoulder then a sciatic nerve problem. All under reasonable control but has prevented me from playing as often as I would like. I am now into my 8th year on the Board of Bowls Australia, my second as President. Never has there been a better time to be in that position. Our National teams (Men and Women) are number 1 in the world and I get a freebie to the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in July for 10 days or so. I am also heading to Scotland in May for a couple of days for meetings relating to the Games, World Bowls and the Commonwealth Games Association. I am looking forward to making serious plans to attend the 100th, but will not make this one.

Paul SNOOK Paul is having a knee replaced so is unable to attend this year. Best wishes to all and hope to see you next year. Have a super night.

Freddie SOWREY Sir Freddie sends many thanks for all your wonderful cards on his 90th. The new chain saw from the family is performing well - lots of logs! Freddie presented the Squadron with a copy of the book "The Sowreys"; the remarkable record of one family's sixty-five years of distinguished RAF service. If you would like to borrow it please contact Dougie.

Ken TEAL Ken bumped into Nigel Watson recently - living in Ford near Colerne.

Bill TURNBULL Bill (and Stuart) send their best regards to the chaps for 7 June.

Roger UNWIN Roger reports all going well after the latest "physical" setback. Many thanks to all who sent best wishes for a speedy recovery. Still planning on being in the UK after sale of the villa here. Am afraid not even an "ATHLETE" now, never mind "finely honed". Best wishes to all.

Pete WALSH Pete died on 4 Sept 2013. His wife, Georgina, ask me to thank the Squadron for the great time Pete had at our Reunions. She said that the Reunions meant a lot to him.

Dick WARD Dick has just retired after 16 years as a lay member of the Valuation Tribunal of England on reaching the age of 72 years.

Tony WARNER Tony is due to go in to Brompton Hospital for lung op, so will be convalescing.

Jim WHITE Jim is sorry he can't make it this year as somewhere off the Norwegian coast at the time.

Russell WILSON Russ remains as MD of Royal Bay Care Homes. He had a serious road accident in January this year - hit by truck. Multiple fractures and other injuries, but now out of wheelchair and recovering slowly.

Dougie BARR Dougie continues to work as a consultant assessing large Government and commercial projects. The house in France has been sold, so you missed your chance of a cheap holiday in the Cote d'Azur!

Steve GARVIN Steve made a very generous contribution of 24 bottles of bubbly for the Ladies. Although they did not drink all them, they did made a very impressive show trying!

Jon PLUMLEY Jon recently retired from working for Serco as senior Chinook instructor at medium support helicopter aircrew training facility at RAF Benson.

Aircrew Lunch. Graham Laurie is organising another of the hugely successful lunches for military and civil aircrew and partners at the Black Horse, Gozzard's Ford Abingdon on Friday 26 September 2014. Great value at £20 a head. Contact Graham for more details. 01494 863492, 07798 703022. graham@kitty4.co.uk

Squadron Website. I am having problems with the Squadron website. Please be patient as we try and fix it.



	Jimmy JAMES	Tony STEPHENS	Keith CHAPMAN	Bob PETERS	David C-W	Freddie SOWREY	Peter SOWREY	David ADAMS	Eric KING	Dougie BARR	Vic ROBINSON	
Rusty Steele-Morgan												Keith WILSON
Keith SAUNDERS		Ian SALVAGE								Dai BENNETT		Stu PRIEST
Marcus SAUNDERS		Eric MARSH								Giles BENNETT		Paul OSBORN
Colin GOWER		Thomas SWINCOE								Jon PLUMLEY		Terry ROURKE
Ken TEAL		Jamie WILSON								John AUSTIN		Bernie DONNERS
Mark BARNETT		Russell WILSON								Jim GATHERER		Mike TOM
Timothy WILSON		Jeff SAUNDERS								Stuart GATHERER		Derek LONG
John BARTRAM		Bob EVANS								Derek LIDDELL		Andy CLARK
John BOYD		Alan PARKER								Graham LAURIE		Andy ADAMS
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Chris SIERWALD		Chris ALCOCK								Adrian OBERTELLI		Bob RICHARDSON
Tim LILES		Chris CARRINGTON								Graham TURNER		John McCARTY
												Steve ROBSON

*The 97th Reunion Dinner of
No 46 Squadron, R.F.C & R.A.F
Halton House Officers' Mess
R.A.F Halton
7 June 2014*

Parish Notices 2013.

- Her Majesty has been gracious enough to reply to our Loyal greetings
- Cholsey Silver Band, although we pay a fee, none of the players receive any money. Big thank you.
- RAF Messes seem to have been bitten by the profit bug. I thought Odiham was expensive but we paid £20 a head just to use the Mess here and that was with a discount kindly given by the PMC. The good news is that Denny O'Brien is now an Honorary Member of the Mess and things should be considerably cheaper if we decide to come here again. In the meantime, I am delighted to announce that Wolfson College have agreed that we can hold our 98th there on the 6th of June 2015.
- Every year I highlight the generosity of our benefactors whose contributions defray the admin costs and allows us to drinks at no extra cost. The actual cost of tonight's dinner is £90, so you will realise what a huge contribution our Benefactors make to our enjoyment. Many of them tell me how much they appreciate receiving defaced menus with messages from comrades. Benefactors' menus have a highlighter in the corner so please sign.
- Yet again I'd like to acknowledge the particularly generous donation of Dato' Steve Day, a four figure sum which has made my book balancing task a lot easier.
- New entries to the scrapbook are:
Last year's pictures
Copies of the scrapbook that Normie Dimmock kept during his service with 46 in WW1. Kindly scanned by his son John. A really interesting set of pictures
- Sales stuff. Cufflinks are available at £10 a pair. CDs of the scrapbooks £5. Just email me