



# CHEERIOOO



The Newsletter of  
No 46 Squadron RFC and RAF  
Issue No 23. August 2018

## Wonderful Wolfson

We had a splendid evening back at Wolfson. While, as expected, the numbers were down on last year's record, 50 Members, Ladies and guests enjoyed great food, fine wine, and lively company in idyllic surroundings. Thanks to the efforts of Denny O'Brian, we have been given permission to hold the 102<sup>nd</sup> in the historic Halton House Officers' Mess at RAF Halton on Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2019; hope to see you there.



The view from our Champagne Reception room



Our new Squadron Silver and model aircraft display.

### ***Dinner:***

#### ***The following members took Dinner:***

Andy ADAMS	David ADAMS	John AUSTIN	Dougie BARR	John BARTRAM
Dai BENNETT	Jeff BETHRAY	John BOARDMAN	Chris CARRINGTON	Keith CHAPMAN
Andy CLARK	David CRWYS-WILLIAMS	John DIMMOCK	Ian DOW	Dave DRAKE
Dick EASTMENT	Vic FAULKNER	Steve GARVIN	Frank HUDDLESTON	Derek LIDDELL
Derek LONG	Tony MALLETT	Eric MARSH	Adrian OBERTELLI	Denny O'BRIEN
Bob RICHARDSON	Steve ROBSON	Jeff SAUNDERS	Mac SIBBALD	Freddie SOWREY
Jim TAYLOR	Ken TEAL	Mike TOM	Russell WILSON	Keith WILSON

## *The following guests took Dinner:*

Giles Bennett

Tim Harding

Andrew Birrell

Tim Wilson

Matthew Tom

Nick Yerbury

Nyal Harding

Phillip Dove

*Guest of* Dai BENNETT

*Guest of* Derek LIDDELL

*Guest of* Adrian OBERTELLI

*Guest of* Russell WILSON

*Guest of* Mike TOM

*Guest of* Keith CHAPMAN



## *Supper:*

### *The following Ladies took supper:*

Judy Bartram

Sylvia Huddleston

Mavis Hopkins

Maggie Sibbald

Sylvia Teal

Caroline Wilson

Joanna Garvin

Jean Dimmock

Amy Williams

Julz Dove



## COURT AND SOCIAL



## Service dinner

### No 46 Squadron RFC and RAF

Air Cdre David Adams was the speaker at the 101st consecutive reunion dinner of No 46 Squadron RF  
RAF held on Saturday at Wolfson College, Oxford. Air Vice-Marshal David Crwys-Williams presided a  
Marshal Sir Fredrick Sowrey, the Squadron's Life President, was among others present.

## ***Benefactors:***

***The following members kindly made donations:***

Andy ADAMS	David ADAMS	Dick ARSCOTT	John AUSTIN	Dougie BARR
John BARTRAM	Derek BENDALL	Dai BENNETT	Jeff BETHRAY	John BOARDMAN
John BRANSBURY	Dave BRAY	Chris CARRINGTON	Tim CARTER	Keith CHAPMAN
Andy CLARK	Dennis CONSTABLE	John DIMMOCK	Ian DOW	Dick EASTMENT
Vic FAULKNER	Steve GARVIN	Mark GILSON	Don GRAHAM	Dave HIGGS
Frank HUDDLESTON	Eric KING	Ian LASCHKE	Graham LAURIE	Tim LILES
Derek LONG	Eric MARSH	Don MASON	Ian MASON	Brian MERRITT
Paul MINDNER	Richard MOORE	Richard MOORE	Adrian OBERTELLI	Denny O'BRIEN
Stuart PRIEST	Bob RICHARDSON	Steve ROBSON	Les ROCKEL	Jeff SAUNDERS
Keith SAUNDERS	Mac SIBBALD	Des SKINNER	Paul SNOOK	Freddie SOWREY
Tony STEPHENS	Chris TAYLOR	Jim TAYLOR	Ken TEAL	Dick WARD
Jim WHITE	Des WHITE	Russell WILSON	Keith WILSON	Paul OSBORN

## ***Regrets:***

***The following members were unable to attend:***

Chris ALCOCK	ALEXANDER	Charlie APPLEYARD	Dick ARSCOTT	Peter BARRETT
Derek BENDALL	John BLENKINSOP	Mike BOLTON	John BOYD	Geoff BRADSHAW
John BRANSBURY	Dave BRAY	Adrian BROWN	Dennis BUCK	Roy BUTLER
Tim CARTER	Tom CONLON	Dennis CONSTABLE	John DANIELS	Geoff DRYLAND
Nick EVANS	Mark GILSON	Don GRAHAM	Shelia GREEDY	Alan GREEN
Ian HAMPTON	Dave HIGGS	Chris HOOPER	Chris HOSEA	Eric KING
Ian LASCHKE	Graham LAURIE	Tim LILES	Jo MARVIN	Don MASON
Ian MASON	Brian MEINKE	Brian MERRITT	Peter MILES	Paul MINDNER
Richard MOORE	Richard MOORE	Bob PETERS	John PLUMLEY	Laurie POULTER
Simon POYNTER	Stuart PRIEST	Les ROCKEL	Keith SAUNDERS	Chris SIERWALD
Des SKINNER	Paul SNOOK	Tony STEPHENS	Chris TAYLOR	Pat THOMAS
Ralf TOGNERI	Bill TURNBULL	Roger UNWIN	Pete WALLINGTON	Dick WARD
Bob WARD	Jim WHITE	Des WHITE		

## ***Obituaries:***

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

Don CHAPMAN 57-58	Peter CROUCH 72	George KIRK 44	George TYLER 67-72
<i>Javelin</i>	<i>Andover</i>	<i>Beau Mosquito</i>	<i>Andover</i>

## ***News, Gossip and Scandal:***

### ***Members report:***

- Chris ALCOCK** I was hoping to come with two sons, but my age (84) is catching up with me and I felt I would not cope too well with the long journey and general festivities. I have deliberately delayed replying hoping for an improvement in myself but that has not happened so I shall skip this year and hope for next year. I think you know my eldest son John was in an accident while on police duty in 2003. He died last October after 14 years of coma. The police formally attended his funeral. The police carried him into the church and his brothers carried him out with a piper leading. So now I have 11 children, but also 20 grandchildren
- John AUSTIN** John is happy in retirement and busy with two grandchildren. I am 60 seconds from the Windmill pub in Ewshot, just outside Farnham. Any members passing - don't pop in!!!! 01252 851035
- John BARTRAM** John is still living near Keevil. Happy grandparents to Lucas.
- Derek BENDALL** Derek regrets he can't make it this year as he will be sailing in the Med. He sends regards to all.
- Dai BENNETT** Dai and Elizabeth have just completed 6 month, 5,500 mile tour of Morocco, Spain and Portugal in their motorhome.
- John BOYD** John's cancer issue returning recently. After a long operation most of it was cleared, but some still remains so having radiotherapy for 6 weeks, five times per week. Poor excuse for missing the reunion!! He had even booked his accommodation before cancer bombshell. Pat Thomas has been visiting.
- Adrian BROWN** Adrian sends best wishes to all. Sorry he can't make it but has mobility issues and can't drink!!
- Andy CLARK** Andy is still keeping busy in retirement, following Gloucester Rugby, Scottish country dancing and walking in the Cotswolds.
- Dennis CONSTABLE** Dennis sends warmest wishes to all.
- David CRWYS- WILLIAMS** David is still trying to shed his final charity commitments and trying to travel a good deal. Africa and New Zealand in the past year being the highlights.
- Ian DOW** Ian is still instructing and examining in A320 simulators and sees Adrian Obertelli doing likewise in Boeing simulators. Anyone else still actively involved in aviation?
- Chris HOOPER** Chris got married on the 1st of June. He is now just Hooper and is still living in Jersey.
- Chris HOSEA** Chris writes: Just to advise that unfortunately as much as we would have been delighted to attend the 101st reunion, Anne and I are already committed end of May through June. We both had a fantastic time at the 100th and we look forward to attending, god willing, other reunions in the future. Please pass on our regards to one and all @101st.



- Eric KING** Eric moved house on 27 April. He is going on his first cruise in May/June so unable to attend this year.
- Graham LAURIE** Graham is sorry to miss the Reunion as Jo is recovering from a broken back caused by a seizure during her cancer treatment. It is a long story but she is doing well and will attend the Aircrew Lunch at The Black Horse on Friday 28 September - let me know if you would like to join us all.
- Tim LILES** Tim writes, same old, same old but no mountains. Still in Budleigh Salterton, walking and playing croquet. Happy to meet up with anyone if you are in the vicinity.
- Tony MALLETT** Tony is still flying Piper Lance Warrior, thanks to friends or past students. Booked to helm a yacht on the veteran's race once more, then one more small ship (c.100 max) cruise of Biscay and Iberian coasts, finally up river to Seville.
- Ian MASON** Ian cannot make it this year. Hew trainee hearing dog arriving that weekend.
- Paul MINDNER** Paul cannot make it this year as celebrating 40 years with Sigrid on 1st June, family meeting. One of the various glasses will be raised to toast 46!! He wishes everyone lots of fun and good health.
- Bob PETERS** Bob is still in Cheltenham and reasonably fit and active. He has 12 grandchildren.
- Laurie POULTER** Laurie is unable to make the reunion as he will be swanning around the Balkans all summer in his motor home.
- Steve ROBSON** Steve continues to support various aviation groups around Bournemouth and is chairman of the New Forest Aviation Group and the Charles Rolls Memorial Trust which is now a registered charity and seeking funds to construct a heritage patio, celebrating Britain's first International Aviation Meeting as well as Charles Rolls. He also gives talks to local groups on aviation topics.
- Les ROCKEL** Les says it was such a great pleasure to catch up with so many old faces and 'bodies' at Benson last year. Certainly well worth 25 hours sitting in an aircraft! Pam and I are still doing well down under; later this year we are taking a 2 day excursion on part of the [old North Island Railway Line](#) using specially adapted golf buggies. If anyone passes this way please get in touch - all welcome. All the best for the 101st reunion.
- Keith SAUNDERS** Keith sends best wishes to all present at the Reunion.
- Chris SIERWALD** Chris and Nancy are getting married in May - 54 years after first meeting!
- Freddie SOWREY** It is good that the long term Presidency of the Squadron Association is now on such a firm basis. You do me a great honour in inviting me to be your life President which I accept most willingly and hope to see you all for many years.

**Roger UNWIN**

Roger cannot make it this year as he and Des Skinner are sailing in the Adriatic. It will be interesting to know who slit the others throat first! Roger presented the composer of our March, Lt Col Wayne Hopla with an inscribe baton. Note Roger's formal attire!





## **Obituaries 2018 - 101<sup>st</sup> Reunion Dinner No 46 Sqn RFC & RAF**

**George Tyler Andover Pilot 1967 to 1972 .** George joined the RAF at South Cerney in September 1964 from Manchester University Air Squadron. Basic Flying training on the Jet Provost 4 led to advanced training on the Gnat. He then served on Andovers at Abingdon and later Thorney Island. I only flew with George a couple of times in the early 70's, But Tony Stephens remembers an abortive Caribbean Trainer in late 1970 with George and Mark Gilson which only made it across the North Atlantic as far as the tip of Greenland before having to return via Keflavik. George left the RAF in 1980 to fly with BAF, one of the Caribbean airlines. According to his son he spent 'a fun 3 years flying from Trinidad to Tobago'. George did attend last year's Reunion but disappointingly I didn't get a chance to meet up with him and have a chat. I always remember his ready sense of humour – a point Tony Stephens also commented on. I'm grateful for the input received from Dennis Buck & Tony Stephens and from George's son Richard.

**Dan Chapman** was a Flight Commander of 46 Squadron **Javelins in 1957/8**, along with Jimmy James. According to Sir Freddie, Don was a laid-back individual and an outstanding pilot who was able to get the best out of the Javelin, particularly during its acceptance into squadron service.

**George Kirk - Beaufighter and Mosquito 1944.** George was one of our few remaining Beaufighter members. He was unable to attend reunions over a number of years because of his wife's illness. However he regularly supported us with his contributions to the fund. After his wife died in March 2015 he bravely attended that year's 98th Reunion together with a guest. He became unwell in 2016 and was very disappointed that in 2017 that he had become too frail and was unable to attend the 100<sup>th</sup>. George passed away on September 7<sup>th</sup> last year.

**Peter Crouch** died on 14 January this year. He was an active and supportive member of the Friends of the New Forest Airfields group, and my thanks go to Steve Robson for a copy of the eulogy from his funeral. Peter joined the RAF in 1942 and after training in Canada flew Whitleys and Albemarle, then onto Halifaxes towing Hamilcar gliders and doing parachute troop drops. After the war Peter stayed in the Air Force on 297 Sqn then with 47 Sqn to fly Hastings, which he flew on the Berlin Airlift. In 1949 he flew Ansons at the Air Navigation School before going on to CFS and instructing on Prentices, Harvards, Chipmunks, Meteors, Vampires and Hunters. After 2½ yrs as an Ops officer in Singapore, (during which he did 600 hours as the chief instructor with the Singapore Flying Club) he returned to the UK as an instructor on Argosies serving with 242 OCU; then back out to the Far East on Argosies with 215 Sqn and later to Cyprus with 70 Sqn. He returned to the UK in 1970 to join the Air Support Command Examining Unit checking crews on Argosy, Andover and Caribou aircraft. Never actually a member of **46 Sqn**, but one of that elite band who was invited as a close associate through his years as a Wing Pilot and Examiner. Peter eventually retired in June 1978 after a spell as Detachment Commander at Gander, Newfoundland. He had logged over 11000 flying hours, 75 different aircraft types, and was awarded the AFM in 1954 for his service as an instructor. He went on to fly as the Laura Ashley Company Pilot for 10 years and was one of the Founder Members of the Aircrew Association, became second Chairman of the Association, and was later honoured to become an Honorary Life Vice-President of the Association.

John Kane, Russ Wilson and Andy Clarke were among the many mourners at Peter's funeral in Bournemouth. My thanks go to Mark Gilson, and Andy Clark for adding to Steve Robson's input but time, and your thirst prevents me going into further detail.

**I would therefore ask you to rise and join me in a 'Toast to Absent Friends'**



Just a selection of photographs taken at Wolfson. The full set is available to view and to comment on at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/46-squadron/albums/72157700159148094/with/43480447074/>

