INSIDE: 
SWIMMING | MOVEMBER | MEDMENHAM PATCH | GOLF | CADETS AND MUCH MORE...
The Old Plow
Bistro and restaurant at Speen

“The Old Plow has the best seafood, fresh from Devon”, Jay Kay of Jamiroquai

“The Old Plow houses some of the best food within an hour of London”, Jeremy Irons.

AND its on your doorstep!

Slow braised short ribs of Hereford Beef Bourguignonne with a rich red wine sauce, button onions, mushrooms, fondans, carrots and potato dumplings.
Grilled lamb” kidneys and bacon with a seed mustard sauce and pea bubble and squeak.
Grilled sustainable Norwegian fish fillet topped with cheese and breadcrumbs with a Toulouse-style cassoulet of flageolet beans.
Slow cooked Keralan-style lamb & coconut curry with achari, grilled flat bread, tomato & apple chutney.
Roasted breast of Norfolk farm chicken with braised Pay lentils and smoked sausage Cotswold style.
 Tagine of slow cooked vegetables with grilled flat bread and mango chutney.
Roasted rack of prime English lamb & mint jelly with potatoes of the day (£3.00 supp.)

Each bowl £8.50

This menu is available on request until 30th April 2013
When booking please quote ‘Winter Warmers’ and bring this invitation with you

Public footpaths crisscross the valley around the Old Plow and walkers are welcome should they wish to stop off for something from the Light Bites menu. Now winter is here, log fires are lit and hot mulled wine is available at the bar. For more tempting treats and information about private functions, contact Olivia directly on 01494 488300.

Web: www.supportbob.co.uk
Call: 0300 999 0135

The Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust, launched in June 1999, provides a life saving service for the counties of Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire. The Trust is a Registered Charity, and is not funded by central Government or the National Lottery and relies entirely on donations from the public to fund its annual running costs.

The air ambulance, a Eurocopter EC135, which has been aptly named BOB (to represent the three counties it covers), is based at RAF Benson, Oxfordshire. It carries a full range of life saving and medical equipment and is manned by a pilot and two fully qualified paramedics, who are often supported by a small team of doctors who volunteer their time. BOB has the capacity to transport one patient with the ability to treat and care in the air.

The helicopter is operated during daylight hours and is on call seven days per week. On average it is tasked three times per day to emergency situations involving road traffic collisions, equestrian and sporting accidents and the onset of acute illnesses such as heart attacks and strokes. Each mission costs over £2,000 in operational costs such as fuel and flying time.

The key benefit of the air ambulance is its ability to bring rapid medical intervention to a life threatening situation in order to give primary care to patients and, if required, airlift them to the most appropriate hospital within the “Golden Hour”.

As a small, flexible and highly manoeuvrable helicopter, BOB can reach areas that a ground vehicle could not access, such as remote rural areas, golf courses, railways and rivers.

The air ambulance can land at the following hospitals: Wexham Park Slough, John Radcliffe Oxford, Stoke Mandeville Aylesbury, Milton Keynes, Northampton, Reading, Great Western at Swindon and other specialist hospitals, as necessary.

To date BOB has now answered 13,700 emergency calls within Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, saving many lives.

The Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust needs your help to raise the necessary funds to maintain this life saving service.

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Winter Warmers Menu
The Old Plow at Speen

Slow braised short ribs of Hereford Beef Bourguignonne with a rich red wine sauce, button onions, mushrooms, fondans, carrots and potato dumplings. Grilled lamb’ kidneys and bacon with a seed mustard sauce and pea bubble and squeak. Grilled sustainable Norwegian fish fillet topped with cheese and breadcrumbs with a Toulouse-style cassoulet of flageolet beans. Slow cooked Keralan-style lamb & coconut curry with achari, grilled flat bread, tomato & apple chutney. Roasted breast of Norfolk farm chicken with braised Pay lentils and smoked sausage Cotswold style. Tagine of slow cooked vegetables with grilled flat bread and mango chutney. Roasted rack of prime English lamb & mint jelly with potatoes of the day (£3.00 supp.)

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Submission Deadline...

All articles for the SPRING issue 2013 edition to be sent to the editor no later than 22nd February 2013 to HWY-editor@wycombeworld.co.uk. Please send all your written documents with separate photos in the jpeg format with highest possible quality to DE: Comet 1, LVP-Mentor-4-HWY@mod.uk.

Welcome to Wycombe World
RAF High Wycombe

“Happy New Year to all our readers and thank you for all your contributions to Wycombe World over the course of 2012...

This year will bring much change to RAF High Wycombe, with a lot of work for us all, as our structures change and personnel and their families move in and out. In all of this, I ask that we remember the people this affects, and that we do all we can to help each other.

In this edition of Wycombe World, you will see the events which took place towards the end of 2012; Remembrance, Sports, Force Development and a few matters sure to be of interest. Do think back over the awesome year we have had and do keep the articles coming through 2013!”

BY: GROUP CAPTAIN MARK HEFFRON

HELEN JORDAN, EDITOR

“Happy New Year to you all and I hope you had a good Christmas. Looking through this issue, there was clearly lots going on towards the end of the year and it’s good to see so many people actively involved in all the various activities.

I, personally, found the Lady Gardener very informative and will try to find time to follow her advice, although there always seem to be so many other things to do and gardening gets pushed down the list. I don’t know about you, but I seem to spend too much time doing what I have to do and not enough time doing things that are good for me. I don’t make New Year’s resolutions because they just get broken, but it’s important to allow ourselves the time and I’m going to try to remember to do that. I hope that 2013 will be a good year for you.”

Wycombe World is now available to view online www.wycombeworldonline.co.uk

FORCES

WA Discussing the important issues of the day.

www.wycombeworldonline.co.uk

RAFA Round-Up

As we approached the end of 2012 and I reviewed what had been achieved by, not only the RAFALOs (RAF Association Liaison Officers), but also the Station, I was amazed and very proud of what we, as a team, have accomplished, both as individuals, and through the support of everyone at RAF High Wycombe and HQ Air Command.

While I have only been in post for 9 months, I have been amazed at the success of various initiatives and the strategies that have been followed in terms of Fundraising and Recruitment. At the time of compiling this article, I can confirm that the following has been achieved:

Recruitment: 54 new members

Fundraising:
- Station Events £6,133.86
- Other Events £13,371.79
- Total £19,505.65

From the above you will see that 2012 has been a fantastic year for the support that has been given to the RAF Association. Of course none of the above would have been possible without the assistance and backing you have provided to the RAFALOs.

This is, I believe, extremely important and has already resulted in the RAFALOs raising in excess of £3,000 through assisting the local Branch in street collections. In addition to this, over £4,000 of the funds raised by the RAFALOs (on Station) has been paid to RAFA HQ and will be attributed to the local Branch Wings Appeal, taking their total raised to in excess of £12,000.

You will see from the above that the RAFALOs have worked very hard and their achievements have been a result of their dedication and proactive approach that they display, both individually, and as part of a team. From discussions with RAFA Central Headquarters, I know that they are extremely grateful to RAF High Wycombe and very interested in how we have achieved so much in only nine months.

Unfortunately, I am due to retire from the Service earlier than planned and will be handing over the post of OIC and Srn RAFALO to Sqn Ldr Morris (OC PMS), who has a wealth of knowledge and experience in the working of the RAF Association. This will certainly benefit the Committee and I am sure will result in further great achievements in terms of Fundraising and Recruitment.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all of you, across RAF High Wycombe and HQ Air, for the support that you have provided personally and to my Committee of RAFALOs. Without this, we would not have achieved what we have and I ask that you please support Sqn Ldr Morris. Thank you for all your support during 2012 and best wishes for 2013.

Phil Caswell, Warrant Officer
Deep in the woods, we still Remember them

On Friday 9 November, 14 personnel from RAF High Wycombe travelled down to Cowleaze Woods, for the Act of Remembrance for the Crew of Halifax LW579 of 51 Sqn, RAF Snaith. Alongside the local group of veterans and volunteers that maintain the memorial, we made our way through the woods to a small clearing, known to be the site of the crash. Now, all that remains is a small stone memorial, engraved with the names of those who lost their lives.

On the 31st March 1944, the Halifax bomber LW579 crashed in Cowleaze Woods, killing all seven members of the crew. They had been on a bombing raid on Nuremberg in East Germany, one of the many that took place that day. Tragically, after surviving the raid and flying back thousands of miles across Europe, they crashed here, so close to home. Contrary to the weather forecast, there was brilliant moonlight that night. Unfortunately, we will never know why they didn’t make it.

It was a privilege to be part of such an occasion and our thanks must go to the volunteers who maintain the memorial and organise this important Ceremony every year.

Sub Aqua Remembrance

At 1100 on 11 November 2012, members of RAF Expedition Barbary Bubble to Gibraltar, took time out to remember their lost comrades and other Servicemen. The expedition members all wore poppies on their dive gear, as a mark of respect, during that and preceding days’ diving.

London Poppy Day raises smiles

On Thursday 1 November, 50 personnel from RAF High Wycombe travelled to London to take part in the Royal British Legion’s London Poppy Day.

At a time when pride in our Armed Forces has never been higher, the London Poppy Day aimed to raise £1 million in one day, all in support of Armed Forces and their families. Sent to three busy London Stations, including Oxford Circus, the High Wycombe contingent spent the day coaxing the London commuters out of their hard-earned cash, all for a good cause of course! Collecting from 6am until 7pm, it was a long, but very rewarding, day.

RAF High Wycombe Station Commander, Flt Capt Jeffron visited his personnel throughout the day. "Personnel from High Wycombe were proud to support such an important event, and take time out of the office to show support for the Royal British Legion. It truly reinforces the strong ties that exist between Service Personnel and the Public."

Despite the sore feet and cold noses, the smiles stayed bright. A fantastic day was had by all!
Heritage walk

On the 13th of November, the Information Systems Wing (ISW) took part in the WW2 Heritage Walk in London, as part of a Force Development day. The day was enjoyed by all and it felt fitting that ISW personnel could remember and reflect on all the military personnel who gave their lives during WW2.

The day was concluded with a visit to the Bomber Command Memorial on the edge of Green Park, where there were many touching stories and poems from relatives of Bomber Command Personnel who died during WW2.

The three children of Armed Forces parents at Halton and Naphill, Bobby Brettell and Dylan and Rhys Cheedy, joined about 40 from around the south of England for the first Innocent Victims Memorial service of its kind in Britain. With them, to mark the occasion, were Buckinghamshire County Council Chairman, Marion Clayton, and Roy O’Neill, founder of the Service Children’s Support Network and Chairman of Governors at Hatton Combined School. The memorial service was led by the Abbey’s Canon Jane Hedges and the Vicar of High Wycombe, the Rev Hugh Ellis.

The Innocent Victims’ Memorial service was a significant milestone for Reading University Professor, Mattie Parsons, whose research over 30 years into the impact of war on children has convinced him they are forgotten, invisible victims of conflict.

Prof Parsons, who worked with the Abbey, to hold the memorial service, said: “There is no such thing as war-related trauma in children that it simply cannot be ignored. The idea of this service is to make people more aware of the effects that war has on children and to get parliament and local authorities to adopt November 20 as a Royal Child Remembrance Day, as it is in some other countries.”

County Council Chairman Marion Clayton, whose family was evacuated to Norfolk in 1939, was delighted to have been invited. Marion, who is also Champion for the Armed Forces in Buckinghamshire, said: “The impact of children of war is immense and being open about it happens to be in the public domain at long last. I'm thrilled to have been overheard the calls for action. I hope this is the beginning of an annual event promoting the awareness of the impact of war on young people.”

Bobby’s mother, Helen Brettell, from RAF Halton, who accompanied the children to the Abbey, said: “It’s really good to have service families and children involved in what’s happened today at the Abbey. It’s particularly important for service children to understand that they have happened to them.”

Dylan’s and Rhys’s mother, Emma Cheedy, from RAF High Wycombe, who accompanied the children to the Abbey, said: “It’s important to remember children whose lives have been affected by recent conflict, especially service children whose parents have been killed or injured. It’s important for the opportunity to bring our own children whose Dad is currently away on active service, to pay their respects on behalf of their peers.”

As the group of service children admired the focal tributes, Jo Gill, whose daughter Tegyn, herself a service child, attended the service, said: “It’s wonderful to be here to take time to remember children affected by war.”
RAF High Wycombe Swimming Club

RAF High Wycombe Swimming club has been running since Oct 2011, with myself as OIC. I have secured funding from the Stn Sports Fund, for the last year, for members (of all standards) to train at Risborough Springs and have recently managed to obtain a slot at RAF Halton swimming pool on a Thursday morning from 0800-0900 hrs, with MT leaving High Wycombe’s MT yard at 0730 hrs. To train at RAF Halton swimming pool on a Thursday morning from 0800-0900 hrs, with MT leaving High Wycombe’s MT yard at 0730 hrs.

The aim of the club is to enter a team annually into the water polo, diving and swimming Inter-Station Championships, where we can be competitive and, maybe, introduce some more willing and able swimmers to the RAF Regional championships, or even try our hand at open water swimming.

A team of 10 personnel visited RAF Cranwell on 15-16 November to compete in the Inter-Station Championships. Wg Cdr Martin Rendall, Sqn Ldr Daisy Hirst, Flt Lt Alistair Pearson, Flt Lt James Scarlett, FS Ed Headford, SAC Mel Findler and SAC Donna Jackson, (none of whom had ever swum in open water) entered the tournament where we came joint 5th. On the next day, in which Sqn Ldr Hirst, Flt Lt Scarlett entering the competition, the next day, in which Sqn Ldr Hirst won a silver medal and the team came 2nd. We all had at least 3 events in the swimming and entered all the relays, which resulted in the main team coming 4th and the female team 1st. We were extremely successful, coming in 2nd place out of 11 teams and managed to accrue a healthy 5 silver medals between us. Our efforts were acknowledged and highly commended by the RAF Swimming Association (RAVSA).

None of us had really done it’s always worth a go. This is the perfect example that anyone can get involved in a sports event a go, this is the perfect example that it’s always worth a go.

If you would like to be a member of the club and hopefully join us in our success over the coming years, or would like to get involved in open water swimming, please contact SAC Jackson on Ext 6368 or email Air Ops2Gp-A3 CAG CIR.

Swimmer | Event | Medals won
--- | --- | ---
Wg Cdr Rendall | 100m Breaststroke | Silver for Diving
Sqn Ldr Hirst | 50m/100m Backstroke, 50m Freestyle, Diving | Silver for Diving
Flt Lt Hubbard | 400m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle | Silver for 50m Freestyle
Flt Lt Lendonale | 200m Freestyle, 100m Breaststroke, 50m Freestyle | Silver for 50m Freestyle
Fg Off Price | 4x25m IM, 100m Freestyle, 100m Butterfly | Silver for 100m Butterfly
Fg Off Scarlett | 100m Freestyle, 50m Butterfly | Silver for Diving
Flt Off Pearson | 50m Butterfly, 4x25m IM | Silver for Diving
FS Headford | 100m Breaststroke, 50m Breaststroke | Silver for 50m Breaststroke
SAC Findler | Breaststroke 4x25 relay, Freestyle 4x25m relay, Medley 4x25 relay | Silver for Diving
SAC Jackson | Breaststroke 50m, Backstroke 50m | Silver for Diving

On Tuesday 2 October 2012, the RAF High Wycombe SSAFA In-Service Committee held a ‘Big Brew Up’ Coffee Morning to raise money for SSAFA, the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association. The main event was held in the Oakeshott Centre and cakes were also taken around some of the offices.

Committee members and volunteers sold tea, coffee and cakes and various stalls were available to start people off with their Christmas shopping. The Big Brew Up was hugely successful and we would like to thank Keith Shelley, from Serco ESS, for donating so many delicious cakes to the event and also all the kind volunteers who baked cakes and brought them along on the day.

We were very lucky to be entertained by our very own RAF High Wycombe Military Wives’ Choir who made their debut at the event and who, despite feeling very nervous, sang beautifully. We look forward to hearing more from them in the future.

Due to the generosity of so many people, we were able to raise the fantastic sum of £1,100 with money still coming in. All the money raised by the committee and volunteers at RAF High Wycombe stays on the station and is used for serving personnel and their families.

If you would like to know more about how SSAFA could help you or if you would like to become a Community Volunteer, please contact Tracey Clark at the HIVE on 01494 497831 or by e-mail at raftycombbehive@btconnect.com

WYCOMBE WORLD JANUARY 2013

RAF High Wycombe
THE BIG BREW UP

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WYCOMBE WORLD JANUARY 2013

RAF High Wycombe
THE BIG BREW UP
Medmenham Patch

The Lady Gardener

Now that Christmas and New Year are over and you are, perhaps, feeling a little down after overindulging in all the festive spirit, it is a good time to start planning for the gardening year ahead.

January is often the coldest month and your garden could need protecting from frosts, gale-force winds and heavy rain. Check fleece, stakes, ties and other supports for damage and consider moving plants in pots to a sunnier spot to maximize the light they receive.

Think green, and if you had a real Christmas tree, consider taking it to the local Household Waste and Recycling Centre, where it will be composted down to make soil improver to go back on the garden. For information about your local centre visit www.wycombe.gov.uk/council-services/environment/waste-and-recycling/household-recycling-centres/household-recycling-centres.asp. Some garden centres also set up recycling projects, more information can be found on the above site in January.

If you live in the sunshine and certainly brightened up the play park. After the project was finished, Dani said: “The team worked hard to transform the park for the children and it looks really lovely now. This was ‘team work’ at its best, with lots of agencies working together for the good of the community.”

Spring Baking from Medmenham

**Shortbread Hearts**

**What you need**
- 250g butter – softened
- 50g caster sugar
- 250g plain flour
- 125g cornflour

**How to make it**
1. Pre-heat oven to 170°C/325°F/Gas Mark 3.
2. Cream the butter and sugar together until pale and fluffy. Sift the flour and cornflour into the mixture until you have a smooth dough. Wrap the dough in cling film and chill in the fridge for at least an hour.
3. Unwrap the dough and roll out onto a floured surface until about 1.5 cm thick. Cut heart shapes using a cookie cutter. If need be, gather up the left over dough and roll out again. Assemble your leaves and make sure they are arranged on top of the dough cutout. Place on a baking tin and bake for 10-15 minutes in the oven until pale and golden. Transfer to wire trays to cool.

**Chocolate Guinness Cake**

**What you need**
- 110g butter – softened
- 275g light soft brown sugar
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- 200ml Guinness
- 175g plain flour – sifted
- 50g cocoa powder
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 1 tsp cream of tartar

**How to make it**
1. Pre-heat oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas Mark 4.
2. Line a 2lb/900g loaf tin.
3. Cream the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy. Beat in the eggs one at a time. Add the Guinness and stir well.
4. Sift the flour, bicarbonate of soda and cream of tartar into the mixture and stir well. Mix in the flour mixture into the wet ingredients. The mixture is quite thick so don’t worry if the mixture looks a bit lumpy. Pour the cake mixture into the loaf tin. Place in the oven for 1 hour or until skewer comes out clean.
5. Leave to cool for 10 minutes, then remove from the tin and place on a wire rack to cool.

Medmenham Patch

Forces families at Medmenham get a boost

Tanya Abrams, MHS, as part of Customer Service Week, has set her team the task of re-invigorating a tired play park on the base’s families estate at Medmenham.

The team, consisting of personnel from Modern Housing Solutions (MHS), was joined by RAF High Wycombe’s SSAFA Senior Practitioner and Hive Information Officer and Dani Bowman, the Community Development Officer. They all enjoyed an afternoon in the sunshine and certainly brightened up the play park.

After the project was finished, Dani said: “The team worked hard to transform the park for the children and it looks really lovely now. This was ‘team work’ at its best, with lots of agencies working together for the good of the community.”

**How to make it**
1. Prune hardy evergreen shrubs in January. 2. Start to mow the lawn on a sunny day in January. 3. Prune the roses and other supports for damage and check fleeces, stakes, ties and any rot. 4. When pruning, carefully separate out the bulbs to increase your stock, and discard any rotting material.

[Image 1098x1052 to 1378x798]
Hockey Masters

In what has, undoubtedly, been the most memorable summer of international sport for a generation, Snr Ldr Dave ‘Rosie’ Oatley, from HQ Air Command, spent the two weeks between the Olympics and Paralympics chasing his own sporting dream.

Oatley, now in his second season with the England Masters Over 40s Hockey Team, was competing in the inaugural International Masters Hockey World Cup Tournament at Canterbury Hockey Club in Kent. This is the first time such a tournament has been given full FIG (Federation of International Hockey) approval. For Oatley, the tournament was made even more special as he was also given the added privilege and responsibility of being the Vice Captain.

After a successful unbeaten defence of the Home Nations in Edinburgh earlier in the Summer, and having won the International Masters Hockey Tournament in Singapore last November, the team approached the competition justifiably confident, despite the teams in the World Cup being a tough prospect, with many of them having several players with full international and Olympic Games experience. The teams were to play in two groups of 4, and England’s group consisted of old home nation rivals Wales, South Africa and the old A selection, who were out for revenge after losing to England in Singapore. The first game, against Wales, could be a problem, as the team knew the England side well and would look to pack their defence, making it hard to score, then look to hit England on the break. However, England had prepared well and they dispatched their Welsh opponents with a 5-0 win.

The next game was against South Africa, who were an unknown quantity, but, like all southern hemisphere teams, were fully expected to be physical and fiercely competitive. They did not let the tournament down on either count and being physically bigger in every position on the park, started the game at a very high tempo, putting England under enormous pressure. England responded well and their high-paced forward line tore the South African defence apart, scoring almost at will. Finishing with a comfortable 6-1 scoreline.

With the other results in the group games going England’s way, they came to their last game, against Australia, knowing that they had already qualified for the semi-finals. On what was the hottest day of the year, playing in 32 degrees, the old rivals went into battle with Australia scoring the first goal, but England fought their way back into the match, equalising just before half time. During the second half, England played well, creating three chances, but these were not converted and Australia, encouraged by these misses, went on to score four days off and then into the semi-finals with England, pitched against Germany, keen to make amends for the Australia defeat. They played the game with a newfound intensity, and saw the Germans ragged, creating chance after chance, only to see the Germans scramble defence to keep the score line goalless. As with an England v Germany semi-final in the World Cup, it went to penalties. Thankfully, unlike their footballing counterparts, the England men won 4-3, to play Australia, who had beaten Scotland 2-1 in their semi-final, in the final. The opportunity of winning a Gold Medal in a World Cup in their home nation was not lost on the players. England were outstanding from the off and quickly took the lead. Australia soon equalised, but the England guys played at the top of their game, competing for every ball, out passing and playing the Australians all over the park. With approximately 10 minutes left on the clock, England got the breakthrough with, arguably, the goal of the tournament, as the English inside left dived full length to deflect a smashed cross over the advancing goalkeeper into the Australian net. England played out the remaining minutes to rapturous cheers from the crowd, securing a well-deserved victory and becoming the Over 40’s World Champions.

For Oatley, who has, once again, returned to the RA F Men’s 1st team this year, helping them regain the Inter-Service crown, he became a World Champion and scored in the World Cup final. This was, without doubt, the highlight of his hockey career, as he became a World Champion and scored in the World Cup final. When asked, Snr Ldr Oatley said that he could not have achieved such sporting success without the support of the RA F Association, the RA F Sports Board and RAF men’s juniors, as well as a very understanding line management, for whom he will always be grateful.

In August and October this year, a group of 9 people took part in a tandem sky dive in aid of the charity Help for Heroes. It was a mixed group, comprising civilian and military personnel, including four members of RA F High Wycombe and two MPS High Wycombe.

My journey started at 4pm on August 25th, as I headed to the North London Sky Dive Centre in Cambridge, where all 9 participants met up to carry out our sky dive. Some of us were terrified, some of us were excited. I am unsure as to which category I fell into, if I honest.

On arrival, we were separated into 2 groups and taken through the tutorials. Then it was just a waiting game.

Our turn was delayed due to heavy clouds. Our group, consisting of Tony Rickard (event organiser), LPL Chris Lunnon, Corporal James Randall Cox, SAC Dave Bolton, and myself, Pte Scott Whitehead, was finally called. Each of us was paired up with an instructor to jump with and, after getting kitted out, we made our way to the plane. We finally took off and I can safely say I was nervous by this point. As the first green light went, the first pair jumped, then it was my turn and before I could prepare myself, there was no choice... we had gone.

It did not feel like we were falling. Randoms were stroking my neck as we went through the clouds and there was just a feeling of speed. Nothing more, nothing less. The parachute was then pulled and we floated through a gap in the clouds, spinning and spinning to avoid the person below us. I lifted my legs and we landed. Although somewhat nauseous from the spinning, this was a truly amazing experience.

Sadly, the other group, consisting of CPL Chris Nuba, SAC Andy Parry, Kirsty Kirkham, and Paul Kirkham, did not get to jump that day, due to the bad weather homing in, but they later returned on the 4th October and all successfully completed their jump.

Altogether we have raised over £800 and still collecting donations. This was a fantastic opportunity for us all and a whole lot of fun was had by all who took part. ■

‘We would like to thank everyone who donated generously for this fantastic charity.’

PARACHUTE JUMP: By Pte Scott Whitehead

A sky dive in aid for Help for Heroes

HELP for HEROES
Support for our Wounded

‘Would we like to thank everyone who donated generously for this fantastic charity.’
Attention all RAF High Wycombe Personnel!

RAF High Wycombe SIF Minibus

Did you know that the Station SIF has a self-drive, 15-seater minibus available for all service personnel with the correct driving qualifications, to hire for a nominal fee?

If it isn’t available and a private hire minibus looks like the only option – why not see if the SIF vehicle is available first? Force Development, Adventurous Training, Sport, even department days out – it’s your minibus – use it!

Costing: £50 for 24 hrs/£30 for 12 hrs

For more information please contact FLt Lt Reynolds on Ext 6843 or Sgt Mackay on Ext 7642.

Know your PA: By Vanessa Varley

Mrs Vanessa Varley, PA to 2Gp ACOs

Name, job
Vanessa Varley, PA ACOs

Pressures of the job?
Short notice changes, quick turn arounds, cancellations, on the spot telecons and VTC’s.

Joys of the job?
Having a good Boss and Team that you can get on with, and can ask the relevant questions.

Your dream career would be?
(Apart from the current one!) I really would like to have my own Garden Centre unless of course I win the lottery.

Advice to those wanting to be a PA?
To have a good ear of human and to have lots of patience and general knowledge of Air Command.

Outside interests?
Listening to music (a bit of a rocker I’m afraid)... Gardening especially in my Allotment.

Favourite Food?
Italian and Spanish and a really nice fillet steak.

Holidays - beach, city or countryside?
Beach, love lying in the sun, relaxing with a cold beer.

Pets?
Jack Russell Puppy called Ronnie and two goldfish

Where do you see yourself in 5 years?
Still working at Air Command until I retire, with maybe a return to the Civilian workplace.

Houses of Parliament: By FLt Lt Newton-Jones

It was a crisp, sunny morning, late in September 2012. A 20-strong group of all ranks from the Joint Force Air Component Headquarters left High Wycombe, bound for Westminster. The objective – Core Competency Development. Ahead of them lay a guided tour of the Palace of Westminster, followed by an exhibition on Parliament Past and Present, then a visit to the Cabinet War Rooms and the Churchill Museum.

As the party moved into the Great Hall of the Palace of Westminster, the learning began. Our guide was a fascinating former architect, who had worked on projects within Westminster Palace and who had a passing resemblance to the Alastair Moody character from the Harry Potter Film Franchise. The tour moved through St Stephen’s Hall to the Central Lobby, then on to the Queen’s Robing Room and the Royal Gallery. At times, the combination of grand, classical gothic corridors and blazer-clad tour members was reminiscent of the Harry Potter film franchise. The tour moved through St Stephen’s Hall to the Central Lobby, then on to the Queen’s Robing Room and the Royal Gallery. It was unfortunate that the group had to move on to the next location shortly before the Secretary of State for Defence addressed the House on NATO’s strategy for Afghanistan.

After lunch, the party moved on to King Charles Street, to visit the underground bunker complex used by Sir Winston Churchill’s Cabinet during WWII. It was inspirational to see how a small number of dedicated people utilised such basic facilities and equipment so effectively during those dark times, to lead a nation and an all encompassing military campaign. A visit is inspirational to see how a small number of dedicated people utilised such basic facilities and equipment so effectively during those dark times, to lead a nation and an all encompassing military campaign. A visit is recommended to all.

RAF High Wycombe Ladies Choir

The RAF High Wycombe Military Wives choir has enjoyed its first live performance, in support of the SSAFA Big Brew Up, which itself raised over £1,100 for the charity.

Willing members of the service community donated some amazing cakes to the event, which also attracted a number of stallholders to the Station’s Oakeshott Centre. To top it all, the RAF High Wycombe Military Wives Choir held their debut performance, attracting a huge crowd, as they took to the stage.

They started the gig with a slow number to entice the audience in, before moving on to a medley of modern upbeat songs – with the audience loving every minute. After the rousing rendition of “The Power of Love”, Squadron Leader Natalie Gudgeon, the organiser of the choir, said, “That was fantastic fun – we have worked so hard – it’s not just about the singing, it’s about feeling the song that you are performing.”

Emma Cheedy, co-ordinator of the choir, said, “The Military Wives Choir Foundation was so impressed by the performance that the RAF High Wycombe Choir are now going to be featured on the Album songs, as they shall be taking part in the massed MWC events as soon as they are ready! How exciting!”

It was a triumph for the RAF High Wycombe Military Wives Choir, who are ready! How exciting!”

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Know your PA: By Emma Cheedy

Wycombe Personnel!
You are now entering a Mo Zone...

If you were wondering why there seemed to be an influx of gentlemen in the community donning moustaches, the answer would be that RAF High Wycombe was taken over by Movember!

Movember, for me, is all about raising awareness. My uncle Paul developed testicular cancer, had one removed and then developed a tumour in the other, which was also removed. Thankfully, he fought it off, and has been in remission for a few years now! It’s not generally seen as a socially acceptable thing for blokes to talk about – but if it just encourages people to check themselves more often, then it’s worth looking like a reprobate for a month!

Each year, during the month of November, a charity called ‘Movember’ is responsible for the sprouting of moustaches on thousands of men’s faces in the UK and around the world. The aim of which is to raise vital funds and awareness for men’s health, specifically prostate cancer and testicular cancer. Movember effectively become walking, talking billboards for the 30 days of November and through their actions and words raise awareness by prompting private and public conversation around the issue of men’s health. With the permission of the Station Commander, gentlemen at RAF High Wycombe have been enthusiastically growing their ‘tashes’ and raising money, all with a little in-house competition along the way!

All male members of PSF were attempting to grow moustaches, under the team banner of the sprouting of moustaches on thousands of men’s faces in the UK and around the world. The aim of which is to raise vital funds and awareness for men’s health, specifically prostate cancer and testicular cancer. Movember effectively became walking, talking billboards for the 30 days of November and through their actions and words raise awareness by prompting private and public conversation around the issue of men’s health. With the permission of the Station Commander, gentlemen at RAF High Wycombe have been enthusiastically growing their ‘tashes’ and raising money, all with a little in-house competition along the way!

Not to be left out, the ladies in PSF were also volunteering – some catastrophic event that results in the annihilation of all the world’s razors. Very unlikely... barring the advent of Ron Jeremy. I mean, what an idol! Some catastrophic event that results in the annihilation of all the world’s razors. Very unlikely... barring the advent of Ron Jeremy. I mean, what an idol!

Great charity that raises awareness of men’s cancers, that’s normally a taboo subject among us blokes – it couldn’t normally be talked about! It’s a really good opportunity to raise awareness of an issue that is not generally talked about!

For me personally, I look very dapper and distinguished with my new found friend – perhaps they were lying?

I am considering keeping mine, at least until I go on Christmas leave so I can show the family!

I’m considering keeping mine, at least until I go on Christmas leave so I can show the family!

Keith Lemon one – There can be only one - Keith Lemon

I shall be having a shave at 0001 hrs on 1 Dec 12!

You’re not coming near me with that thing’ – My Kim Cherrington

From my friend: “It looks like an eyebrow came down for a drink!”

From my Wg Cdr: “SAC Knight, that is rubbish! I order you to try harder!”

SAC Nick Knight

The Man, the Myth, the LEGEND. Ron Jeremy. I mean, what an idol!

The One, The Only, Big Dave Seaman

No particular reason, other than it being a really worthwhile cause... and it being a chance to look a fool for a month!

Well done to all those involved; we are proud to have so many Mo Bros on Station!

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Who is your moustache hero?

Will you be keeping the tash after the big event?

What comments have you had about your tash so far?

Why do you feel it’s important to support Movember?

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Why do you feel it’s important to support Movember?
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Tel: 01628 532169

THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT
Marlow Bottom - Marlow
Tel: 01628 481601
On 19th and 20th September, the MPGS at RAF High Wycombe held the first MPGS Southern Challenge Golf Competition at the Hazelmere Golf Club, in aid of the RAF Benevolent Fund, with RAF High Wycombe Station Commander, Gp Capt Heffron, as guest of honour. 48 MPGS personnel made up the teams that came from as far afield as Linton-on-Ouse and RAF St Mawgan.

Everyone started on 19th for the meet and greet at Smithy’s Bar, and the following morning we set off at 0830, with the weather looking really promising for a good day’s golf. We arrived at Hazelmere Golf Club for our planned time of 0700, where we were greeted with the aroma of fresh coffee and lovely bacon rolls; a good start so far.

Beacon rolled, coffee downed, the first tee off for most of us was fast approaching and first up, at 0810, was Paul Creasey, Rolf Gay, Steve George and Dave Grant, showing us all how it is done, or not! Nicki Nevada Von Impe from Linton on Ouse, volunteered to be our cameraman for Nicko ‘Nicholson’ Van Inger, from Linton on Ouse, Gore, showing us all how it is done, or not!

The competition was fiercely fought, with many skirmishes along the way, many thanks to the Head Chef for a fantastic spread. Once again in his regiemenal mode, Sergeant Paul Creasey escorted the Station Commander to the dance floor to announce who would be crowned champions of the Taff Newcombe Memorial Trophy 2012. After a short delay, when you could actually hear a pin drop, Corporal Simon Auckland and Private Nil Purja, from RAF High Wycombe, were announced as the winners.

Following completion of prize giving, the main raffle was upon us, with the Station Commander picking the first ticket. All monies raised were donated to the RAF Benevolent Fund. Prizes ranged from golf bags, golf trolleys, balls, gloves and many more. No prize for guessing the overall theme (Golf). Phil Crawford won the golf trophy, who kindly auctioned to the crowd in order to raise more money (£20), with a significant amount of people digging deep for such a worthy cause. The final total raised from the raffle was £650. A sincere thank you must go to the main team (Phil Creasey, St Auckland, Chris Louden, Phil Crawford), to all who participated and finally to all who contributed to the MPGS Southern golf challenge 2012.

The food was provided buffet style; the RAF Benevolent Fund. This is such a worthwhile charity that supports all personnel within the RAF family, and at High Wycombe in particular, we have benefited in recent months from the generosity of the Benevolent Funds’ Airplay Project, which has provided a number of facilities across the Unit, including play parks and a youth world.

Here are the final standings of the day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taff Newcombe Trophy</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>65 Points</th>
<th>Staff Sergeant</th>
<th>Gordon</th>
<th>S-East &amp; Private N. Purja</th>
<th>High Wycombe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>77 Points</td>
<td>Corporal &amp; Private N. Purja</td>
<td>High Wycombe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>31 Points</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Leelac</td>
<td>Coningsby</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>36 Points</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Wallop</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>42 Points</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Purja</td>
<td>High Wycombe</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0-17</td>
<td>30 Points</td>
<td>Corporal</td>
<td>Rensy Carter</td>
<td>Middle Wallop</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>38 Points</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Darren &amp; Private N. Purja</td>
<td>High Wycombe</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>36 Points</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Darren &amp; Private N. Purja</td>
<td>High Wycombe</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>42 Points</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Purja</td>
<td>High Wycombe</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18-28</td>
<td>37 Points</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Oliver &amp; Private N. Purja</td>
<td>Middle Wallop</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>38 Points</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Darren &amp; Private N. Purja</td>
<td>High Wycombe</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>42 Points</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Purja</td>
<td>High Wycombe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On count back

3rd
Steve George & Private N. Purja
2nd
Sergeant D Green & Private N. Purja
1st
Sergeant D Green & Private N. Purja

Here are the final standings of the day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Longest Drive</th>
<th>Guest</th>
<th>Corporal Dougie Rae</th>
<th>High Wycombe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Longest MPG</td>
<td>Simon</td>
<td>Berry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nearest Pin</td>
<td>Guest</td>
<td>Sergeant Rob Faulks</td>
<td>Middle Wallop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nearest MPG</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Paul Creasey</td>
<td>High Wycombe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Golf: By Private Phil Crawford, AAC (MPGS)

Members of the Club donned their “Bollywood” outfits to hand over a cheque for £11,457.00 to Air Marshal (Retd) Chris Nickels, the Controller of the RAF Benevolent Fund, on his first visit to an RAF Station after taking up post. The cheque represents the money raised from the RAF High Wycombe Christmas Fayre, held in November 2011 and also from the very successful Bollywood Night, which was held in May 2012.

Lt Penny Brady, the RAFBF champion for High Wycombe said, “The main aim of the Bollywood Night and Christmas Fayre was to raise money on behalf of the RAF Benevolent Fund. The money collected will be recovered. After the last putt was holed, we were thoroughly looking forward to the evening function and the announcement of who would become the champions of the Taff Newcombe Memorial Trophy 2012. By kind permission of the Chairman of the Messing Committee (GAC), Warrant Officer Les Hotson, the Sergeant’s Mess was set back at RAF High Wycombe and ready to provide the evening function. Everyone was suited and booted for a 1900 start, with the flow of the evening being food, prize giving and, not to mention the most important part of the evening, “The Raffle” that would raise money for the RAF Benevolent Fund.

The food was provided buffet style, many thanks to the Head Chef for a fantastic spread. Once again in his regiemenal mode, Sergeant Paul Creasey escorted the Station Commander to the dance floor to announce who would be crowned champions of the Taff Newcombe Memorial Trophy 2012. After a short delay, when you could actually hear a pin drop, Corporal Simon Auckland and Private Nil Purja, from RAF High Wycombe, were announced as the winners.

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The RAF Benevolent Fund is the leading welfare charity that provides financial and practical support to serving and former members of the RAF, as well as their families, and the ladies of the Thursday Club were delighted to hand over the cheque to support the wonderful work they do.

The RAF Benevolent Fund have once again benefited from the hard work and generous efforts of the RAF High Wycombe Thursday Club.

Thursday Club continue their support of RAFBF
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Situated in Great Missenden, the 12th Century Abbey has a rich heritage; it has previously been a religious house, country mansion and after being bought by Buckinghamshire New University in the 1990’s, it has been a leading unique venue in Buckinghamshire for training, meetings and family functions. This year Missenden Abbey is venturing into new territory. Although Missenden Abbey is no stranger to events such as weddings, school proms and Christmas parties; however, there are new and exciting opportunities on the horizon for Public events. These include monthly afternoon teas through January and July 2013, Opera and Jazz evenings and family fun days for all local friends and family to enjoy.

The first open event starts with ‘Murder at Missenden’ on Friday 11th January and tickets are selling out fast. The murder mystery event starts with a complimentary reception drink as well as a three course meal to enjoy whilst the mystery unfolds. Watch out for more upcoming events on the website or call the team to reserve your tickets for this exciting event.

To support the more flexible social offering at the Abbey, Missenden Abbey have now launched a new private function area separate from the main Abbey - which means separate from the main Abbey prices! The Carrington Suite will be opened up for family functions and parties, to form a function area that won’t break the bank but still holds charm and privacy.

The Carrington Suite is flexible; if there’s an intimate event that you want to celebrate or a family function that you require a bar and private function area for, Missenden Abbey will be able to accommodate your needs.

If you’re serving in the RAF we can help you or your family members if you need us. To find out more call us now on 0800 198 2400 or visit www.rafbf.org
Ex Neptune Landings 24 – 28 Sep 12

Six personnel from the Joint Data Link Management Organisation (JDLMO) managed to escape the confines of the Air Command Bunker to undertake a 5-day Staff Ride to Normandy, from 24 – 28 Sep 12.

It began with a 0530 departure from RAF High Wycombe on the Monday, but despite the unsociable early start, morale was high as we coasted around a, surprisingly, busy M25, toll road payment gate for the Calais and soon into Normandy.

From the RAF High Wycombe on the Monday, we began with a 0530 departure to Normandy, from 24 – 28 Sep 12. To undertake a 5-day Staff Ride to the confines of the Air Command Bunker (managed to escape the Link Management Organisation) could not be used to bombard the Merville Battery and put its 9th Battalion, we learned of the Big Drop of the Allied 6th Operation OVERLORD, followed by a visit to Le Grande Museum, we headed across to the Caen Canal, a key Allied objective on D-Day, and our next Stand, Operation ELITE and a discussion about how the Okhradice and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry Company secured the bridge intact on D-Day, after landing nearby in gliders, the bridge intact on D-Day, and having gained a far greater understanding of the scale, complexity and risks of Operation OVERLORD and the remarkable efforts that went into making the complete liberation of Ouistreham. The bunker building has since been converted into the Atlantic Wall Museum, and we spent a good deal of time soaking up the displays.

Our final day of visits was already at hand, and it started with a journey to Bayeux to see the Battle of Normandy Memorial Museum. After a Stand examining the planning and preparation for the D-Day invasion, we discussed how this might change in today’s operations and with current doctrine. We spent the rest of the morning engrossed in the Museum exhibits which provided a brilliant overview of the entire Normandy campaign. The afternoon saw us at Gold Beach, the landing area for the 50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Division and 6th Armoured Brigade. Following a Stand examining the landings in detail, we travelled to Juno Beach, the landing area of the 1st Canadian Infantry Division. At this Stand we discussed Operation NEPTUNE ULINE, the maritime element of the D-Day invasion, and looked specifically at the part played by the Royal Navy under Admiral Sir Ramsay.

All too soon, it was time to head home. We returned to High Wycombe having had a most enjoyable time and having gained a profound appreciation of the bravery and sacrifice of those who took part.}

“we’ve developed a profound appreciation for the bravery and sacrifice of those who took part.”

Terence Rattigan, whose famous plays include ‘French Without Tears’, ‘The Browning Version’ and ‘Separate Tables’, served in the RAF and a Coastal Command Air Gunner Leader during WW2. He drew on his experiences to write his seminal wartime play about Bomber Command, Flarepath, recently revived to great acclaim in the West End. Whilst still in uniform, he also penned the film adaptation, ‘The Way to the Stars’, filmed at RAF Catterick. Subsequently, he co-opted into the RAF Film Production Unit where he wrote the screenplay of ‘Journey together’, a recruiting vehicle for multi-engine crews and featuring a host of British actors, then serving in the RAF. This rarely-seen film was introduced at the special screening by one of Rattigan’s biographers and Society Vice-President, Michael Darlow, himself a former RAF National Serviceman. Michael Darlow was also the director of the acclimated 1999 BBC drama ‘Bomber Harris’, starring John Thaw in the title role. The occasion was an opportunity to meet Michael with actor, historian and former RAF pilot Robert Hardy, who starred in the drama in one of his many performances as wartime Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, and who took time out of a busy schedule to join the Society event. Together with members of the Society committee, Robert and Michael visited Air Chief Marshal Harris’ former office, now restored to its wartime configuration by a team from RAF High Wycombe and containing a number of original items of furniture and fittings.

In his introduction to the film, Michael Darlow poignantly commented, ‘it is a sobering thought that, had Rattigan been posted to Bomber, rather than Coastal, Command, he might have been one of the 56,000 lost aircrew who perished in action during WW2. It’s a sobering thought that, had Rattigan been posted to Bomber, rather than Coastal, Command, he might have been one of the 56,000 lost aircrew who perished in action during WW2. It is just as well that, had Rattigan been posted to Bomber, rather than Coastal, Command, he might have been one of the 56,000 lost aircrew who perished in action during WW2.

Said Group Captain Clive Montellier, Secretary to the Society, who organised the day, ‘It was a great privilege to be able to bring together such key figures from the world of film and drama to assist the Society in celebrating a great English playwright who, like many of us, was driven to serve his country in wartime. To be able to do so in the surroundings of the former Bomber Command HQ mess added a resonance to the occasion that our members felt genuinely moving.”

PICTURE: Left: Mike aerial and writer and biographer of Terence Rattigan, Group Captain Mike Montellier; Michael Darlow (writer, director and biographer of Terence Rattigan) and Robert Hardy behind Air Marshal Harris’ wartime desk. 

Society gathers at High Wycombe to honour wartime playwright Air Gunner

Some 50 members of the Terence Rattigan Society gathered at RAF High Wycombe Officers’ Mess on Saturday 29 September 2012, to celebrate the late playwright’s wartime service and watch one of the films he scripted for the RAF Film Production Unit.
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**EXPERIENCING THE EXPERIENCE**

Three work experience students visit RAF High Wycombe to get a taste of RAF life.

The experience gained from the week was educational and thrilling, as they visited the RAF Regiment and the Mobile News Team under the care of the ever-enthusiastic Cpl Tony Haworth and the wider RAF Media & Comms team.

When the three students, Sarah Rudge, Jack Rick, and Peter Hart, first arrived on the base, they were expecting to take part in general office work and shredding. They had no idea what Cpl Haworth had arranged for them. On the first day, they were sent to the RAF Regiment to learn more about what they do. When the three entered, they were greeted by 6 guns. The Regiment guys kindly allowed them on the DCCT range, which they were very pleased about.

As the excited trio entered their second day, they were told they would be with the Mobile News Team, which includes the highly-skilled RAF Photographers, who are excellent at what they do. As the guys told them about their job; it sounded like a very interesting profession. However, the three were asking themselves just how hard it can be to be a photographer? They soon found out by being put to shame by Helen Larrey - one of the professional photographers.

On Thursday, they travelled to RAF Halton, where they had a guided tour around the restored WW1 Trenches and Halton House. Jack said the whole day very interesting and very helpful for his history GCSE. Jack is looking for a career in the RAF but is still not sure which trade he wants to go into. Sarah said she found the whole experience very educational. But it just isn’t really my sort of thing, Sarah isn’t too sure what she wants to do yet, but it found the whole week very eye-opening. Peter who wishes to join the RAF Regiment after 6th form said he found it interesting to know how awful the conditions were, and how different things are now.

With thanks to the staff of:

**MOBILE NEWS TEAM**
**MEDIA Ops**
**PR**

**AND A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO CPL. TONY HAWORTH**

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

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**NEW ARMED FORCES PENSION SCHEME**

Following initial consultation at numerous units throughout the Armed Forces and the opportunity to comment on the Outline Scheme Design, final agreement has been reached with the Government on the overall design of the New Armed Forces Pension Scheme (currently referred to as the Future Armed Forces Pension Scheme).

The new scheme contains the elements detailed in the previously published Outline Scheme Design. In addition, there are some elements within the agreement that are new, which are detailed below.

What we already know:

- The move to a Career Average Revalued Earnings scheme will mean that the new scheme will be less generous for some, but will benefit others. It will remain a defined benefit scheme, which means that it will provide a guaranteed level of pension calculated as a proportion of a Service person’s salary, not an uncertain amount based on investment returns. It will also continue to provide valuable benefits such as State health and dependants’ pensions.
- The full effects of the new scheme will not be felt before 2035, i.e. by Service personnel who join after 2015 and leave at the new scheme’s Early Departure Payment EDP point 20 years later, and those joining the scheme will still join a pension scheme which is amongst the very best available.
- Service Personnel will not pay personal contributions when the scheme is introduced nor are there plans to introduce this for the Armed Forces.

What is new?

- The EDP will normally be paid as a combined monthly income and lump sum.
- However, in light of views expressed by Service personnel during consultation, the new scheme will also offer the choice to forego the lump sum and convert it into additional monthly income. This additional option is not currently available to members of any current Armed Forces Pension Scheme.
- Further work is being undertaken by the 3 Services to consider how terms of service (commission/engagement length) might be revised to reflect the changes to the EDP point and the Normal Pension Age in light of the introduction of the new scheme.
- The creation of an online calculator, to allow Service personnel to forecast their revised pension benefits, should be available in 2013.
- Further work, to be conducted through the New Employment Model Programme, will be undertaken to explore further ways of assisting Service personnel with house purchase.
- 71% of respondents to the consultation stated that they wanted to use their EDP to assist with home ownership.

A further DIN will be published, explaining more about accrued rights to pension benefits already earned. Accrued rights for most Service personnel have been covered so far in 2012 DIN (01-63) and 01-175, the next DIN will provide information on the accrued rights for most of the remainder (eg, pension commissioned from the rank, ill health and dependants’ benefits, pension sharing on divorce, AVCs, and Loan Service).

Once policy is refined, a further explanatory document and video about the Final Scheme Design will be produced.

Full details of the New Armed Forces Pension Scheme (Final Agreement is available through the Defence Intranet). Queries regarding pension policy should be directed to, or Staff in the first instance, however requests for individual pensions forecasts should be made directly to SPVA.
I am a member of the Air Training Corps at 332 Squadron, RAF Cranwell, between the 20th and the 27th October this year. I was given the opportunity to go on a RAF-based Autumn Camp at RAF Cranwell College. It was an opportunity not to be missed!

**RAF Cranwell Camp**

**Sentries & the BBMF**

I am a member of the Air Training Corps Autumn Camp at RAF College Cranwell. Between 20th - 27th October 2012, I was given the opportunity to go on an RAF-based, Herts and Bucks Wing Air Training Corps Autumn Camp at RAF College Cranwell.

RAF Cranwell was a great experience. I went on a fire engine trip. It ended up quite an interesting experience. There was a big camera in the front entrance which is believed to give you a free ride if you want to be an officer in the future. We were parked outside, and we were told to march on the parade square. We were then taken to the front steps, where we gave our final speech in Ryhope and then go through the front entrance.

Our first camp

Cranwell Camp 2012

From 20th to 27th October, we visited RAF Cranwell. Our accommodation was a standard barracks, in which the girls were upstairs and the boys downstairs. This wasn’t good for the girls, because we all had our hair cut. We got the same opportunities as young adults and teenagers can get the same opportunities as they do and achieve. It was very useful skills. We were very fortunate to have some of the opportunities, and the activities planned by our team of staff were exemplary; we were so lucky to have such helpful and caring staff.

Another exciting trip was to RAF Coningsby, the home of the Typhoon and the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, where we saw Spitfires, a Hurricane, a C47 Dakota in D-Day Stripes and the only flying Lancaster in the world. After seeing into the belly of one of the most prized planes of WW2, we had a guided tour of the hanger in which we had seen battle in the theatre of war.

A week-long visit to RAF Cranwell, between the 20th and the 27th October this year, produced some memorable experiences; one of them being an in-depth, behind-the-scenes tour of the E-10, a variant of the 176-84 aircraft. It is highly sophisticated, including advanced radar and avionics and large communication links. Another exciting trip was to Cranwell Coningsby, the home of the Typhoon and the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, where we saw Spitfires, a Hurricane, a C47 Dakota in D-Day Stripes and the only flying Lancaster in the world. After seeing into the belly of one of the most prized planes of WW2, we had a guided tour of the hanger in which we had seen battle in the theatre of war.

**Air Cadets**

**RAF Cranwell Camp**

**Sentries & the BBMF**

**An Opportunity not to be missed!**

Between 20th - 27th October 2012, I was given the opportunity to go on an RAF-based, Herts and Bucks Wing Air Training Corps Autumn Camp at RAF College Cranwell.

I am a member of the Air Training Corps at 332 Squadron, High Wycombe, and I get many opportunities like this. The camp has really opened my eyes, not just to RAF-based organisations, but to discipline, leadership and many other useful skills. We were very fortunate to have some of the opportunities, and the activities planned by our team of staff were exemplary; we were so lucky to have such helpful and caring staff.

There is one RAF squad unit at RAF College Cranwell, the 45 squadron, and they have young pilots to fly a King Air. About 15 cadets were lucky enough to go up in one of these, but due to poor weather and low fog, only one flight took place. We visited the squadron’s training grounds and pilots gave us a brief on what they do and achieve. It was very interesting. All cadets at the camp were split into flights. A Flight and B Flight, this allowed us to have healthy competition in everything we did. We filled, or wake up time was about 6:00am, at the latest, but to give us time to iron our uniforms, get showered, dressed and polish our shoes, all of my corridor were upstairs and the boys downstairs. From 20th to 27th October, we visited RAF Cranwell. Our accommodation was a standard barracks, in which the girls were upstairs and the boys downstairs. This wasn’t good for the girls, because we all had our hair cut. We got the same opportunities as young adults and teenagers can get the same opportunities as they do and achieve. It was very useful skills. We were very fortunate to have some of the opportunities, and the activities planned by our team of staff were exemplary; we were so lucky to have such helpful and caring staff.
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Lance Publishing Ltd
1st Floor,TAILITY HOUSE
Bath Rd, Kettering, NN16 8NL
Tel: 01536 521126
Fax: 01536 515481
Email: studio@lancepublishing.co.uk
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If you are interviewed for any service or criminal offence you are entitled to free and independent legal advice. Hine has a team of over 70 lawyers and a 24 hour phone number so we will always be able to assist. We are available to represent you in Military Law matters anywhere in the world.

**Crime and Fraud**

The consequences of a criminal conviction can be severe. Choosing the right legal representation is crucial and we understand this. As one of the largest legal aid providers in the country, Hine’s established criminal law department is second to none and our no-nonsense, plain talking professionalism gets results.

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We deal with all sales and purchases of residential property including new build property purchases, remortgage work and transfers of equity. We can assist where you are using the Long Service Advance of Pay (LSAP) and give advice relating to it. We can also assist leaseholders with lease extensions or to secure the freehold of the building.

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The breakdown of a relationship raises complicated emotional, financial and practical issues. Early guidance is essential. Hine’s sensitive and highly experienced Family team offers you straightforward, clear, common sense advice. Financial settlement on divorce is often complex, particularly for individuals with significant assets and military pensions. Our Family team’s wealth of knowledge and experience and our meticulous approach, will give you the best opportunity to achieve the right financial settlement.

On family breakdown, if you have children, no doubt their future happiness and security will be your first concern. Our Family team’s expertise includes advising on contact and residence disputes and all related matters. We appreciate that legal costs are a concern for our clients. The Family team offer all new clients a fixed fee initial meeting of up to 1 hour for £100 plus VAT. At that meeting we will take your full instructions and discuss the options available to you. A letter confirming our advice will be provided at no additional charge.

**Wills & Probate**

Nobody likes to contemplate their own mortality but a professionally written Will really is a necessity to ensure that the right people inherit your assets and children are taken care of. Our friendly Solicitors are qualified to advise fully on the legal and other aspects of Will Writing and Lasting Powers of Attorney. We can also help families in distress when there is a death in the family by offering advice and assistance with the legal formalities.

With offices in Beaconsfield, Bracknell, Cheltenham, Gerrards Cross, Oxford Summertown, Princes Risborough, Swindon and West Drayton our team knows the areas and the contacts that matter.