



NEWSLETTER

JULY 1995

GRAND DAY AT DUXFORD

Inaugural meeting of the Old Dux Association

On the 16th May all roads led to Duxford (well some anyway) and those who made the journey were greeted by fine weather, old friends, and big smiles.

Jim Garlinge had painted a sign featuring the Dux (worthy of old master status) which, when propped up against a convenient waste disposal receptacle by the control tower served as a rally point for the meeting.

Each new arrival was greeted by Bob Hope and given an ID badge to wear, this ensured that there was much peering at the names to see who was who as memories of faces had dimmed with passing years.

Judging by the sound of laughter (Don, remember that cpl)? passers-by must have thought it was a comedians convention rather than a meeting of old pals reminiscing over old times. Eventually every one was brought together and a group photograph taken before moving to the classroom, kindly loaned by Steve Woolford, for a little serious business to take place.

It was unanimously agreed that Bob Hope should carry on as Chairman of the association aided and abetted by the two Jims. It was also proposed that a subscription be introduced to cover the costs of photos, mailings etc, which to-date have been borne by the individuals involved. After a brief discussion it was agreed that all members should pay the sum of £5 as an annual subscription. This in turn led to the need to appoint someone to organise the collection and look after the books, and in true democratic fashion Allan & Jenny McRae were volunteered for the job of treasurer.

Although the meeting was conducted in a light hearted manner it was inevitable that a degree of formality be introduced if the association is to grow but still be run and organised by volunteer members, therefore as if by natural selection, it would seem that a committee has been formed, this is:

Chairman, Bob Hope

V.Chairmen, Jim Garlinge

Jim Lynn

Treasurers, Allan & Jenny McRae

If the reaction of the members is any indication the first job of the committee will be to organise another meeting, when hopefully those unable to attend the previous meeting will also be able to come along. Another meeting if so when?, Bob has suggested Sat 17th Sept, what do you think?

16th Sunday 17th

After this bit of serious stuff it was time for members to have a look around, some toured the museum as they had not been back to Duxford since the IWM had taken it over. Another group, accompanied by Steve Woolford, revisited the old domestic site where Steve was provided with an insight into the daily working and social life of an active fighter station.

All afternoon the classroom, which was manned by Bob & Jim, saw members wandering in and out, and we are grateful to Steve for providing such a focal point, in addition Steve had brought along a collection of photograph albums relating to Duxford and its aircraft for all to pore over.

Eventually all good things come to an end, and so it was at Duxford, as members said their good-byes, and headed off to their homes (some a long way) all were sure that it had indeed been a grand day.

A message from the chairman

"I should like to express my thanks to Jim and Allan for helping getting it together, and to all those who came and made it such a successful day. Seeing you all meeting each other again, in some cases for the first time, made it all worth while. Thanks must also go to Steve Woolford of the IWM for his time and for arranging the use of the classroom and free access to the airfield. I hope that we can continue to make the association grow and look forward to another enjoyable event"

WANTED

Does anyone know where there is a spare Javelin or Meteor NF14?, it would be nice to see either one painted in 64 sqdn colours on display along side the 65 sqdn Hunter to represent the last aircraft to see service at Duxford. Several comments were made during the meeting as to the lack of Duxford memorabilia, considering how long it served the RAF it does seem a shame that there's no decent tribute to see.

The shop in the large hanger was no better, USAF sqdn badges aplenty, but no luck if you wanted an English one, they didn't even have a car sticker. General comment:

"Could do a lot better"

LISTS.

In the interests of economy, those of you who have the full list of names with addresses will in future only receive updates as and when there is sufficient to warrant inclusion in an edition of the newsletter. All newcomers will initially receive a full list, but subsequently will only get updates. All full additions, or names only should still be passed to Bob for inclusion in the next update.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

At the foot of the page is a tear off application form giving the subscription rates for those wishing to become fully paid up members of the OLD DUX ASSOCIATION and receive all the attendant benefits. It is hoped that the subs year will start on August 1st, so all forms and monies should be returned by that date. Unless specifically asked otherwise all receipts will be included with the next issue of the Newsletter. Forms should be returned to:

Mr A. McRae
28 Admirals Crest
Scholes
Rotherham
S. Yorks
S61 2SW

Visitors to Duxford for the inaugural meeting on 14-5-95

Mr & Mrs Benger
Mr E Bolitho & Family
Mr & Mrs Brinkley
Mr R Bruney
Mr D Chappell
Mr & Mrs P Collier, + Daughter & Son-in-Law
Mr T Collins
Mr & Mrs P Davies
Mr & Mrs T Dean
Mr & Mrs A Daws + Zenita Robertson
Mr J Garlinge
Mr & Mrs P Gates
Mr J Goldsmith
Mr N Green
Mr M C Hope
Mr A M Hope
Mr & Mrs M Knighton
Mr J Lynn
Mr & Mrs B Laidlow + Son & Girlfriend
Mr & Mrs A McRae
Mr B Robinson
Mr JD Smith
Mr G Wall
Mr & Mrs LW Woodward
Mr & Mrs J Oxberry
Mr E Vincent
Mr & Mrs D Winder
Mr & Mrs B Way

Fame for Ex-waafies?

At the time of the next meeting Steve Woolford (IWM) would like to take all ex- WRAF's of to one side and let them tell all their stories about life on camp from their point of view. Steve wants to record these tales for the future, so come on girls this is history in the making and you could be making it!.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE OLD DUX

NAME; Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____

ADDRESS; (Please Print) _____

POST CODE _____

TELEPHONE No _____

I/We wish to enroll as: Ordinary Member (Annual subscription £5.00)
Family Membership (Annual subscription £8.00)
Life Membership (Single payment £50.00)

I/We enclose Cheque/Postal Orders/£ _____

Please make Cheques/P.Os payable to Old Dux Association

