



NEWSLETTER

November/December 1999

Annual Dinner

The annual dinner was adjudged a huge success by all 98 members and guests who were present at the dinner held in the Officers Mess on the 30th October.

Several new members met up with friends that they had not seen for a number of years and for them this was an opportunity to roll back the years and get an update on what had been happening since last meeting each other. I expect their partners also took the opportunity to update themselves on the latest news and gossip!

The turnout would have exceeded 100 but other commitments, holidays, weddings etc. kept some members away, so to avoid a clashing with other events here is the date for next years dinner: **Sat 28th October 2000**. The other date to note is **Sunday 14th May** this being the first meeting in 2000

*****Mark up your diaries now *****

The committee would like to thank all those who donated prizes for the raffle and to the generosity of those who bought the tickets. The proceeds from the raffle will help defray the cost of the wine which as you know was provided by the Old Dux in an attempt to avoid the excessive charges levied by the mess.

Book News

Enclosed with the newsletter is a leaflet from Dave Berry promoting his latest book "Specialist Aircrew". Old Dux members can get a copy post and packing free. One chapter is devoted to Dave's time at Duxford whilst he served with 65 Sqdn. A Christmas present for someone?

Merchandise

Our treasurer has now holds stock of lapel badges, ties (Blue and maroon), and headscarves complete with the Dux logo, so any member wishing to purchase these items should contact George Poole. Several members at the dinner were sporting their Old Dux ties and very smart they were too.

Defaulters

There were still some members who came to the museum on the Sunday but did not pay their attendance fee. Once you have booked to attend and your name is added to the attendance list then the fee is due even if you (or your guests) do not come to the actual meeting. As before the shortfall has been made-up by the treasurer from central funds.

Paris Air race

In a recent edition of the magazine 'Flypast' there was an article, written by Dick Leggett (who was W/Comm Flying at the time), about the London to Paris Air Race that took place in July 1959 and in which Duxford fielded the winning entrant. We have been given a copy of the original (uncut) manuscript and this will be serialised in the newsletter early in the new year. The article will be of interest to several of our members who took an active part in the running of the event.

Duxford Aircraft

Questions have been asked by new members about the historical aspect of Duxford and the lack of suitable exhibits depicting the Squadrons and units that have served there over the years. We have tried before to get the museum to show aircraft painted in the colours of the various Squadrons that have been based at Duxford in the past. Some obviously will not be available by virtue of their age, but other examples like the Meteor and the Javelin are still to be found. If you know anyone at the museum write and ask if this can be done, if we keep asking perhaps one day we may get listened to, after all the USAF have their own building!

Christmas

This will be the last newsletter of 1999 and the committee would like to wish all members, their families and friends, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

