

RAF COLLEGE CRANWELL



The Old Cranwellian Association
Volume 3 - 1980 to 2026



A Joint MVS and CHS Publication



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Preface

The Old Cranwellian Association (OCA) was formed on 14 July 1926, largely at the instigation of graduates who had recently undergone officer training at the RAF College.

These ambitious young men were pioneers in every sense - military aviators in the making at a time when flight was still very much a perilous occupation; impressive young leaders, each of whom would go on to excel in their chosen profession; the high achievers who would become the very personification of the RAF's core values of *Respect, Integrity, Service and Excellence*. Despite the rigorous and strictly disciplined training regime endured for two intensive years, they had developed such an affection for their *alma mater* that they felt highly motivated to sustain their unique camaraderie by forming an "association of officers" unique to the College - *Cranwellians*.

A young Pilot Officer George Beamish - later to become a talented Irish and British Lions rugby international, the College's 11th Commandant and a distinguished Air Marshal - wrote to the College Journal Editor alerting him to the growing consensus of recently graduated cadets advocating the formation of such an association. It seems young Beamish and his fellow alumni were pushing at an open door. Within twelve months the then Commandant, Air Commodore AE Borton, brokered an inaugural meeting which agreed the purpose and constitution of the OCA. Through the medium of the College Journal magazine - very much the social mouthpiece of the College and its alumni at that time and in the decades to come - the OCA recorded its progress on maintaining contact with and between College alumni. Though contributions to the Journal waned from the 1970s, as did the Journal itself in later years, the OCA continued to support College alumni and to hold well attended Annual Reunions that maintained the bond between retired and serving Cranwellians, and the cadets undergoing their officer training. In April 2015, reflecting that the College had established itself as the single point of entry for *all* RAF officers, the members adopted a new constitution establishing the Cranwellian Association (CA), as it was to be renamed, as a registered charity.

This album depicts the story of the formation and development of the OCA. It is both chronology and reference manual constructed in three distinct volumes, reflecting the evolving officer training schemes at the College. Taking extracts from successive issues of the RAF College Journal, this album charts the progress of alumni, their careers, their sporting achievements and pastimes, their domestic lives and ultimately their passing. Their personal, unrivalled contributions to historic events (e.g. record breaking flights, air races like the Schneider Trophy, overseas conflicts such as WWII and Korean wars, etc) are recognised in Journal extracts - "*Old Cranwellian Notes*" - that appeared in the majority of College Journals till 2016. We have added a few of the graduation photographs of the time, to help put faces to the more familiar Cranwellian names mentioned in the Journal extracts.

Researching the history of the OCA has not been easy. Much of what we have collated draws fundamentally on those "*Old Cranwellian Notes*" published in College Journals between 1925 to 2016 (not inclusive) and from information held on alumni in the College archives. The fact that we have been able to make any attempt at recording the OCA's formative history is down very largely to the generosity of a number of alumni (e.g. AVM HW Heslop, Richard Hamilton, Graham Pitchfork and Mike Allistone) donating their personal copies of College Journals, and the incredible dedication and patience of Cranwellian Mike Smith (91 Entry) to convert these old Journals into FlipBooks available at <http://www.cranwell-college.life/library/journals/libraryjournals-mobile.html>. Watch out also for the embedded underlined hypertext links throughout that offer additional information on Cranwellians from other websites.

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In the main, the College Journal Extracts of “*Old Cranwellian Notes*” contain news on alumni postings, promotions, honours & awards, and marriages and deaths. Particularly in the pre-WWII years, when powered flight was still in its infancy, there were also some interesting references to other notable alumni achievements. To make this album a little easier to read and to assimilate information, we list here some of the headline features and later an index by decade. The slide numbers to the right of the list contain hypertext links that enable access direct to the relevant slides. Each slide offers a link back to this page. We are hopeful that more Journals will be donated, so for now this is very much a ‘living document’.

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Introduction - Volume 3 1980-2026

Whether intentional or not, the graduation of the final Flight Cadet intake - 101 Entry - from the RAF College in March 1973 seemed to herald a new 'motivational' significance to the production of the College Journal, most noticeably in terms of content and frequency of production, and, as important, as a prime communication medium for College alumni. The two, sometimes, three year Flight Cadet system had been replaced by a Graduate Entry (GE) scheme whose Phase 1 (Initial Officer Training - IOT) and Phase 2 (Specialist Branch training) courses were completed within 12 months for Pilots and Engineers, even sooner for Secretarial and Supply Branch offices. Navigators would complete their three month IOT phase with their Pilot/ Eng/Sec/Supply/Regt cohort, but move to Finningley - now Robin Hood Sheffield-Doncaster airport - for their Phase 2 training, graduating there.

This album's editor, being a product of an early GE intake and having many friends and colleagues from the previous Flight Cadet era, believes this generated an unintended culture change in the training operation at the College. No longer were Directing Staff at the College responsible for academic, flying and officer training of younger 'ex-schoolboys', but they were confronted with allegedly more mature, often married university graduates in whom they were to instil military discipline and professional expertise in comparatively 'quick time'.

Whether or not this apparent culture change had any bearing on the production of a College Journal as the social medium to communicate with alumni, there is no doubt that the College was restructured and resourced differently to accommodate a significant change in training remit, curriculum and ethos. This was to be affected still further by the introduction of the Single Gate IOT (SGIOT) system - phased in between 1978 and 1980 - to replace the GE system and to train ex-university officer cadets and ex-airmen of *all* flying and ground branches at a much increased frequency - eight IOT graduations a year, of over 120 cadets rather than around 40, for over a decade - and in even quicker time. Comprising three terms of notionally six weeks, the modern age officer cadet of the IOT/IOTC/SERE era would spend only the final term in the iconic College Hall Officers' Mess (CHOM).

This editor believes that the consequential changes to the College Business and Training models, inherited from Henlow OCTU and driven by SGIOT, had a significant impact on College culture, and the IOT/IOTC/SERE cadet, to the extent that the former deep rooted feelings for 'alma mater' expressed by the flight cadets of Pre- and Post-WWII years were replaced by an overriding desire of the modern cadet to merely complete IOT, "ASAP". Fundamentally, the bond forged over an intensive two year period between CHOM residents and their iconic residence, their domestic as well as spiritual home, had been broken. In the 1970s, CHOM had entered a new era; the College Journal now an annual publication appeared to lose its 'driver' and in 2014, but for a commemorative edition in 2016, production ended. Even the OCA later reformed as the CA, to accommodate the changes at CHOM and the apparent relegation in need and status for an "association of officers".

Paradoxically, in 2022, the RAF launched Galaxy, a 'virtual' on-line alumni network for *all* ranks, serving and retired. At the time of writing, it remains to be seen how the CA and Galaxy will co-exist and the aspirations of the OCA Founders sustained as the CA looks forward towards its own centennial on 14 July 2026.

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College Journal Extracts - 1986/87 (1)

OLD CRANWELLIAN ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REUNION 1986

The weather forecast had been doubtful; however, we were blessed with a dry, warm and sunny weekend – with, of course, the normal Cranwell wind! One hundred and forty Old Cranwellians attended the Reunion and all were delighted to be back in the fully refurbished College Hall.

SPORT

Cricket On a bright but cold and windy day the OCA Team opened their innings with some fast deliveries from OC Barlow. Air Cdre Taylor was well beaten, and Gp Capt Squire was soon to follow, caught at leg slip. The score was then 14. Gp Capt Robertson, Wg Cdr Evans and Sqn Ldr Dawes all looked capable of providing a firm foundation. However, on 22 Gp Capt Robertson fell to Plt Off Collins, Wg Cdr Evans on 28 to OC Burton, and then Fg Off Kanhai started a marvellous spell of bowling, taking Sqn Ldr Dawes, Flt Lt Kirby and Gp Capt Thorn, and finally sending Wg Cdr Sturley back to the pavilion for nought. Fg Off Kanhai's tally of 4 for 11 was well deserved. The OCA final wicket fell at 1330, and it was time for lunch, with the College requiring 113 runs to win.

Plt Off Collins, who opened the batting for the College with OC Everall, carried his bat to the end, scoring 67 not out. However, all was not so simple at the other end. Gp Capt Thorn, with his attacking run up and undoubted speed, well supported by Air Cdre Taylor, was causing the remaining batsmen problems. OC Allen lbw for 3, after bowling OC Everall on one, OC Burton 10 and Plt Off Rillie nought, soon added to his tally but Flt Lt Hewat's 22, before falling lbw to Air Cdre Taylor, decided the day and the College won by 4 wickets.

Overall, it was a keenly contested match with the Old Cranwellians active in the field, giving their younger opposition much to think about.

Squash The OCA and the College fought an entertaining and highly competitive match on the hottest day of the year thus far, the

temperature in the courts being well into the eighties. The OCA were well placed in having Sqn Ldr Morris, the Chief Executive of the Squash Rackets Association, playing at No 1. He also played in the cricket, and so forfeited part of his lunch interval, but beat the College Captain Flt Lt Sutherland by 3-1. At 8-1 down in the fourth game he was reminded that the cricketers were about to retake the field and so he took the serve, and then the game 10-8, and with it the match without losing another point. Playing well down the order (captain's privilege!), Sqn Ldr Parker, the OCA Captain, was too strong for Fg Off Kirkwood and ran out a comfortable winner by 3-0. He shortened the time of play considerably by insisting upon running to pick up the ball between points and his sheer exuberance in the stifling heat of the glorious June afternoon left his opponent bemused. Gp Capt Saye, playing at No 3 for OCA, succumbed in three games to the guile of Wg Cdr Williams; and, playing at No 5, Sqn Ldr Haller also went down in three to SO Diack. A good battle was fought out by the fourth strings Wg Cdr Gooding for OCA and Sgt Downie for the College, with the College taking the first two games, going down in the third to a spirited revival, but coming back strongly in the fourth to clinch a 3-1 victory. The most entertaining match of the afternoon came with the confrontation at No 2 between Fg Off Adair and Wg Cdr Wood. Fortunes changed continually, with the final game going to the College after 40 minutes of exciting play. The OCA No 7, Flt Lt Pratchett, was forced to withdraw injured. The College No 7 and College reserve, SO Hodggett and OC McVickers, stood by for possible loan service should the match be tied, but in the event it was not necessary, the College securing a victory by four ties to two.

Golf In glorious weather, with a cooling breeze and fast greens, Sleaford Golf Club once again proved an excellent venue for what was a hard fought seven-game golf encounter.

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In the opening game, ex-RAF Champion Gp Capt Duckett and Sqn Ldr Roberts shot out of their blocks early on and were never caught. Duckett's sinking of some long putts in the opening holes sapped the confidence of the young College pair who duly succumbed 4 and 3. In the second game, the improved form of Air Cdre Carver and the long-hitting Fg Off Mason provided another win for OCA by 3 and 1. OCA were then two up; however, this was cut back in the third game when Air Chf Mshl Sir Thomas Kennedy and Air Cdre Atherton fought all the way but just lost on the 17th. The fourth game proved a close affair with Air Mshl Sir Roy Austen-Smith and Sqn Ldr Chamberlain securing a good half. A further boost was given to the OCA cause in the fifth game when some inspired putting by AVM Price and Air Cdre Graydon enabled them to gain victory by one hole.

With OCA leading 3½-1½ the stage looked set for a rare victory in this annual encounter. Alas, it was not to be. AVM Brownlow and an out-of-practice Wg Cdr Riley went down 4 and 3, and in the final game AVM Robinson and Flt Lt Pennell lost 4 and 2. This was due to a nett 65 (off 11 handicap) by one of their opponents, DIOT's Flt Lt Guest, who was barely able to contain his embarrassment during the after-match festivities. So the final outcome was a halved match 3½-3½, and a fitting result to a most pleasant afternoon of golf.

Clay Pigeon Shooting The Clay Pigeon Shooting match against the College remains as popular as ever, and such was the reponse that OCA fielded two teams of eight. The shooting ability of each member was not considered when the teams were divided and this sporting gesture was much appreciated by the almost traditional underdogs. Although the weather was fine, strong and blustery winds made shooting conditions very tricky. As ever, the OCA had strength in depth but, despite the form book, the College team was more consistent and, for the first time in a number of years, they were eventual winners. The team results were:

College 111
OCA B 92
OCA C 69

Good scores were returned by a number of shots, and Sqn Ldrs Chalkley and Johnson scored very creditable 17/20. The High Gun Trophy was won by Flt Lt Taylor with 19/20. He normally shoots for the OCA but, as OIC Clay Pigeon Shooting and a member of the DIOT Directing Staff, he felt duty bound to shoot for the College. At the end of the day, everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves, and no doubt next year the OCA will be determined to avenge their defeat.

Tennis The match was played in splendid conditions and, unlike the cricketers on the Orange, the players were well sheltered from the chilly NE wind. In uncanny, yet traditional fashion, the match finished on the stroke of 1800 hrs to coincide with the opening of the bar.

Sqn Ldr Boreham and Sqn Ldr Pallister proved too strong for Fg Off Cairns and Fg Off Heald, running out 6-0, 6-1 winners. However, the OCA pair could not maintain the momentum in their match against the College first string and lost 6-0, 6-4. After tea, they recovered some of their composure and took the match against Sqn Ldr Rodgers and OC Wood into a third set before the latter pair ran out comfortable winners.

On Court 2 Flt Lt Scroggs threw up his usual ration of several lobs per game. Although he and Sqn Ldr Middleton lost to the College first and second pairs, they deservedly beat the third pair in the final rubber.

Last year's partnership of Wg Cdr Head and Flt Lt Reynolds was continued for the OCA and they were also convincing winners over the College third pair 6-3, 6-2. Despite losing their other 2 matches, they deserve a mention in dispatches for their efforts against Flt Lt Wood and Fg Off Pearce. They very nearly snatched the first set against the College first pair, but let them off the hook.

The College won the match by six rubbers to three. Many thanks to all players for contributing to an entertaining afternoon's tennis played in the appropriate spirit.

RECEPTION AND DINNER

A total of 138 members and guests assembled in the Rotunda before dinner was announced by a fanfare of trumpets from the RAF College Band. As usual the meal was excellent and the port outstanding.

COMMANDANT'S ADDRESS

Following the Loyal Toast, the Commandant delivered what in the past had been described as the "Headmaster's Report", but on that occasion he considered a more apposite description to be the "State of the Nation Address". He started by welcoming everyone back to College Hall and expressed himself well pleased with the refurbishment work. Before reviewing departmental activity, he offered a warm welcome to the Guest of Honour, Air Commodore Sir Frank Whittle. He said that Sir Frank's recent appointment to the most coveted Order of Merit had given immense pride and satisfaction to his many friends and colleagues in the Royal Air Force. As the first Old Cranwellian to be so honoured it was also a matter of great distinction that he should be their Guest of Honour. There were words of welcome to Monsignor Canon Benjamin Donachie, the Guest Preacher; Air Chief Marshal Sir David Craig, who was dining for the first time as CAS; Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy, who had recently retired as AMP; and Air Chief Marshal Sir Wallace Kyle, a distinguished past President of the Association. He further extended a particular welcome to the President, Air Chief Marshal Sir Neville Stack. Before commencing his review, the Commandant recorded his sorrow for the passing of a handful of members, most notable among them Air Vice-Marshal "Bull" Cannon on 27 January 86 at the of age 81.

Starting with the Department of Initial Officer Training, since the last reunion 808 junior officers had graduated, among them Prince Feisal of Jordan. Recruiting was again buoyant and IOT had fully subscribed courses once again in residence. In spite of some scepticism the current officer training regime compared favourably with that ex-

isting in former days, although the course was considerably shorter. Historically, only 48% of the less mature cadets, those under 21, passed the course first time round and it was in order to address that problem that the pre-Initial Officer Training Course, (PIOT), lasting 3½ weeks, had been introduced on a trial basis. The aim had been to develop confidence, self-discipline and awareness in the younger cadet. Early indications were that the trial was working successfully.

Turning to the University Air Squadrons, the Commandant said that they were moving into a period of consolidation following the significant changes of the last 12 months. First indications were that the 55 newly-recruited females were proving enthusiastic and capable VR members, some 2/3 of them having already flown solo. The introduction of flying for ground branch undergraduates proved very popular, so much so that some were already seeking transfer to the GD Branch. The light blue presence at RMCS Shrivenham continued to consolidate its position with 58 students under training, 35 more than at the same time last year. Although there was no prospect of establishing a dedicated flying squadron at Shrivenham, he hoped to be able to report next year the formation of the RMCS Air Squadron which, flying apart, would give their people the focal point and identity they currently lacked in the predominantly "khaki" environment. He was pleased to report that the UASs continued to be attractive to university students and recruiting figures into all squadrons remained healthy. All in all, it had been a good year on the UAS front, and with CAS as an ex-UAS member, he was confident that with such a formidable champion at court the squadrons could look forward to a rosy future.

The Department of Air Warfare had had another busy year with some 700 students undergoing professional training. The newly-designed GD Aerosystems Course had begun late in 1985, and the first students to experience the new syllabus were due to graduate that month. The first of the new

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Navigation Specialist Courses, designed to prepare navigators for instructional duties and the natural successor to the old Staff Navigation Course, took place earlier in 1986. Interest in electronic warfare was continuing to mushroom, particularly amongst Middle Eastern countries, many of whom were seeking DAW support for their EW plans and training. The RAF Aerospace Briefing Team had given briefings in Rome, The Hague, Bonn, Lisbon and Paris, on the European front, and wider afield had lectured in Bangladesh and Delhi.

Turning finally to the Department of Specialist Ground Training, where the new Director, Group Captain Troughton, had taken over from Group Captain Walker, the Commandant reported that MOD had approved plans to split engineering training into a two-part sandwich course. The first of the new initial courses entitled Engineer Officer Training Part 1 would commence in September with the second part of the sandwich, EOT 2, being introduced some two years later. Members would find it interesting that Lady Shirley, widow of Air Vice-Marshal Sir Thomas Shirley, had opened the new DSGT Presentation Room in Trenchard Hall named after her late husband.

The Commandant concluded his remarks by saying that he had tried to give a flavour of the busy life at Cranwell. The South Brick Lines had finally been demolished and changes continued to occur, but he assured members that each new scheme owed its origins to the genuine and considered belief that it would improve both training and ultimately operational efficiency. No longer were they able to enjoy the freedom to perpetuate any scheme simply because it had always been done like that. Policies that might have been admirable in their day could not be guaranteed immortality simply because they might be traditional. Every syllabus, every lecture, every tutorial and every exercise thrived only because it contributed in a measurable and observable way to the ultimate aim of the course of which it was part. There was no slack and few frills, but there was much determination, application and endeavour, and, thankfully, considerable fun, achievement, pride and satisfaction.

GUEST OF HONOUR'S ADDRESS BY AIR COMMODORE SIR FRANK WHITTLE, OM KBE CB RDI FRS FEng MA(Cantab) RAF Retd

Sir Frank Whittle began by saying that when he had first arrived as a cadet in 1926 there were many things he had not foreseen. Not least of those had been that he would be the Guest of Honour at an OCA Dinner. Neither had he expected to fly as a commercial passenger from Washington to London in 3½ hours, a journey which he had carried out two weeks previously. He then expressed some misgivings about the enormous size of modern passenger aircraft like the Boeing 747, now flown regularly by his son as a civil airline captain. He went on at some length to describe his involvement in the development of the modern jet engine. In particular, he wished to pay tribute to the assistance he had received from the Royal Air Force. He was especially grateful for his Service training: three years as an aircraft apprentice; two years as a flight cadet, for which he had been accepted only after Lord Trenchard's personal intervention; four years of flying duties, including time as an instructor and a test pilot; two years on the officers' engineering course, followed by an exceptional selection to read for the Mechanical Sciences Tripos at Cambridge University. That had been followed by further year's postgraduate study, making a total of more than ten years of training provided by the Royal Air Force, without which his subsequent work would have been impossible. He then expressed the hope that his experience would not be unique in the future, and that others might continue to receive similar postgraduate training.

Sir Frank went on to describe how he was indebted to the uniformed side of the Air Council, the then Commandant of CFS, and in particular an ex-cadet with whom he had shared accommodation, Rolf Dudley Williams (later to become Sir Rolf Dudley Williams, Bart, MP for Exeter 1951-1966). It was Dudley Williams who, after invaliding from the Service, together with Teddy Tinning's brother, raised £2000 in 1936 and founded Power Jets Ltd to develop the Whittle Engine. Sir Frank related several amusing incidents during the development of his

engine leading up to 15 May 1941 when the E28/39 aircraft took off from the South Airfield using only about 600 yards of the long main runway. Two years later, on 5 March 1943, the first Gloster Meteor made its maiden flight from Cranwell, after which the rush was on to get the aircraft into full production. Sir Frank Whittle said that in his work he had always insisted on simplicity but once, when demonstrating his engine to the Chief Executive of Rolls Royce, the comment had been, "We shall soon design the simplicity out of that"; which, he claimed,

they promptly did! Before resuming his seat, Sir Frank touched on future development in space travel; he expressed himself to be unhappy about some of the basic engineering aspects of the American Space Shuttle system. His view was that the way ahead lay with HOTOL as the most promising method of taking man into space and returning him safely on a regular basis.

After recounting several more amusing stories and personal anecdotes, Sir Frank sat down to loud and prolonged applause.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Over a hundred members attended the Annual General Meeting.



The minutes of the 1985 meeting were approved. The Chairman reported that the President had purchased the Port on the Association's behalf, and that it was safely racked in the cellar. He explained that it had cost rather more than the £2000 voted but

that the excess amount, which had not been inconsiderable, had been donated to the Association by the President. In addition, the Chairman explained that the final total for the Bill Collishaw Retirement Fund had come to £432, and that he had presented the

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final 'Top Up' cheque in February. There were no other matters arising.

The current committee was ratified and the balance sheet for the period ending 31 December 1985 was approved. The Chairman explained that the Association's finances were healthy, but there was no room for complacency and the Committee would continue to monitor expenditure and investments.

The cost of producing and distributing the Journal had been kept down to £1812; however, with increasing costs the Chairman asked for up to £2500 for the '86 Journal. The proposal was supported without dissent.

The Chairman reported that the Association had 1462 full members, 76 associate members and 14 honorary members.

The Chairman explained that because of a lack of funds the Association had not been able to commission a new painting for some years. He believed that the Association could now consider a portrait for display in the Lecture Hall. The meeting agreed that the President would consult with the senior members and make a proposal at the next AGM as to subject, artist and costs.

NEW OCA HON SEC



Wg Cdr Ian Wilkie (left) hands over the OCA tie to the new Hon Sec, Wg Cdr Stuart Fowler.

OLD CRANWELLIAN NOTES

The details received since the last issue of the Journal are as follows:

1920 Entry (Feb) Lieutenant Colonel C J Stone - It is too far for me to come to the "Reunions". I have had an accident and cut my leg very badly but am now out of hospital. I fear I am about the last of the First Entry. I take such an interest in Cranwell. I will try to find some press cuttings of the 1920 era but they are very scattered in my books. Next year perhaps I will come back - I am 86 now. Best wishes to you all.

1932 Entry (Jan) Group Captain A V Sawyer DFC - Emigrating to almost permanent sunshine this summer! Contemporaries visiting the Island will be most welcome, and a personally conducted tour of the 'attractions' will be arranged with much pleasure.

Address: 'Finca Quemada', 1 La Brena, Haria, Lanzarote, Canary Isles.

1934 Entry (Jan) Air Vice-Marshal A G Dudgeon CBE DFC - Book, very well reviewed and entertaining, called "The Luck of the Devil" - opens with some pretty irresponsible pranks of cadets 50 years ago. Leads into an almost unknown battle in Iraq, fought by 39 pilots in obsolete or obsolescent aircraft, where we came within an ace of losing the war according to Lord Tedder, who called it "An RAF Epic".

47 Entry Squadron Leader N Chamberlain AFC MBIM MRMA - Manager of Recreational Facilities in the London Borough of Hillingdon. These include 3 golf courses, with a fourth under construction. Unfortunately I am usually too busy to play!

47 Entry Air Vice-Marshal W J Herrington CB FBIM - Retired April 1982. Since then Aviation Adviser with International Military Services Ltd. Vice-Chairman (Air) Central Council of the TAVRA; member of the Committee of the Officers' Pension Society.

55 Entry Group Captain E J Bannard - having been the Military Executive at the Corporate HQ of Smiths Industries for 5 years, my duties now include Project Director of our EH101 businesses. Tel: 01-458-3232.

56 Entry Wing Commander D M K Atherley - Now Council Officer to the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, London.

58 Entry Air Marshal Sir Michael Armitage KCB CBE - Took over as AMSO in Feb 86, and after four years in Intelligence finding out about other Air Forces, I am now catching up on my own.

58 Entry Air Commodore J M Pack CBE - Sorry not to have sent my regrets for last weekend; finished as Air Commander Gibraltar (after 3 super years) on 25 Apr 86, and drove home touring W Europe en route. Leave the Royal Air Force on 1 Aug 86. In the meantime, doing very little but house-repair after 3 years of uncaring tenants. Hope to get to the reunion next year. Best wishes.

60 Entry Air Commodore Duncan Allison CBE - PVR in 1985. Now District General Manager South Warwickshire Health Authority. Tel: 0926 499754 - Westgate House, Warwick. Interruptions welcome.

61 Entry Air Commodore J G De'Ath MBE MA - I have departed a little early from Military life and swapped uniform for gown to become Bursar at Jesus College, Oxford. I would be happy to welcome any passing Old Cranwellians of my acquaintance to the "Dreaming Spires".

61 Entry Squadron Leader M L Sinel - Called to English Bar before retiring at end 1970. Called to Jersey Bar in 1971. Now senior partner in firm of Advocates active in offshore finance centre. Would be pleased to hear from any 61 Entry or thereabouts.

62 Entry Wing Commander M A Howells BA MBIM - I am now working for British Aerospace (Air Wpns Div) at Hatfield as Product Support Logistics Manager. Just like being a Supplier again!

62 Entry Air Commodore C P James - "Posted" from North Thames Gas to South Western as Controller Supplies and Transport.

63 Entry Squadron Leader R W Millward AFC MRaE S - Since retiring hurt in 1970, worked with Britten-Norman as test-pilot and Sales Manager, Aspenair and VDTS Ltd as Sales Director, with British Airways as Senior Air Safety Investigator, and for YTV on the "Airline" series. Chairman of AOPA Owners/Pilots Committee 1979/82. Seriously injured in vintage aircraft accident Apr 83, now General Secretary of Swimming Pool and Allied Trades Association, in Surrey (shortly moving to Andover).

65 Entry Air Commodore T R Morgan - Retired in Nov 85 and after a brief spell working in London, am now Bursar of the College of St Paul and St Mary in Cheltenham.

66 Entry Group Captain P Carter - Retired from RAF in 1985. Appointed District General Manager to Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde Health Authority.

68 Entry Wing Commander E J E Smith OBE - Director, Rolls Royce (China) Ltd. Based in Beijing, China. Delighted to see any OCA visitors. Tel: Beijing 334923.

71 Entry Group Captain M V P Harrington BA FBIM - Returned from Offutt AFB Nebraska USA in 1984 where I was SACEUR's Representative to the Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff. Station Commander at the RAF School of Recruit Training, RAF Swindon 84-86. Now posted to Singapore as Defence Adviser.

79 Entry Squadron Leader C J Booth - Happily returned to No 8 (AEW) Squadron this year but unsure whether Shackleton or your Correspondent will reach pensionable age first!

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79 Entry Wing Commander R E Nickson – Now serving as OC Ops and Trg Wg at RAF Waddington after 5 years in the wilderness of MOD(PE).



79 Entry Group Captain G R Pitchfork MBE BA – Back where it all started 28 years ago. Now Director of Department of Air Warfare. Living in OMQs at 4 Bristol House Road. Colleagues please call in.



79 Entry Squadron Leader Saar MBE – Left the RAF in 1977 following Staff Course and a final short tour on BSC. Joined IBM as a trainee salesman; moved to a medium size US Computer Company, and was appointed UK General Manager in 1980. Following a takeover moved to Data Recording Instruments as Marketing Director and MD of overseas subsidiaries. Recently moved to CPU Computers as MD UK operations.



80 Entry Wing Commander L S Penny BA – Now an independent consultant to the Defense Industry and very busy. Live in central Florida which is truly beautiful. Old friends welcome. Call (305) 788-0949.



81 Entry Squadron Leader A G Pearce – Into 7th year as OC Flying and Senior Test Pilot at RAF St Athan. Looking forward to a posting and promotion some time during the next 7 years. Stopped having children (5), and concentrating now on breeding bantams and pheasants.



82 Entry Wing Commander A D K Campbell – Returning to Cranwell for the Air Warfare Course, which is scheduled to commence on 30 Jun 86, after 3 years in the MOD ACAS staff. Hoping next appointment will be either in or near to aeroplanes.

94 Entry Squadron Leader A C E Stacey MRCGP DAv Med – Medical Officer at Minbank Medical Services, PO Box 30209, Lusaka, Zambia.



99 Entry Squadron Leader W J R Kelly BSc – Currently OC MEAS, RAF Wattisham.



99 Entry Flying Officer C D Poate BSc MSc – Back in UK, after five years in Nigeria working in agricultural development. Now running a consultancy company. Always keen to hear from old friends. Our telephone is 0444-400701.



9 GE Squadron Leader R K Taplin BSc (Econ) MInstPS MIDPM MBIM – After punishment tour at RAFSCC Hendon (81-84), had most rewarding year as Initial Supply Course instructor (at Cranwell!) Now Advanced Course lecturer at Defence ADP Training Centre at Blandford Camp, Dorset. Regret unable to make this year's reunion.



16 GE Squadron Leader J G Stevenson MSc BSc CEng MIERE – Following a tour as OC No 6 Signals Unit, RAF Rudloe Manor, I am now at RAF Henlow as a member of the Support Command Signals Staff.



Assistant Commandant (Training) 1971 Air Vice-Marshal Alec Maisner CB CBE AFC – After a few years with industry, I am now director of the Industry and Parliament Trust concerned with bridging the gap of understanding which exists between industry and Parliament. We do this by arranging attachments of parliamentarians to industrial companies, seminars, publications etc. In fact, I am a sort of parliamentary Assistant Commandant (Training)!

The Officers' Association

48 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JY

Relieves distress among ex-officers or their widows and dependants, with financial grants, help in finding places in Residential Homes for the elderly, Nursing Homes and Convalescent Homes and, if necessary, assistance with fees. A clothing store is maintained for ex-officers in need.

It has a Country Home in South Devon for active elderly male ex-officers of limited means, and a bungalow estate in Hertfordshire for disabled ex-officers and their families.

The Employment Department is part of the Regular Forces Resettlement Services and helps any unemployed ex-officers to find employment.

If you hear of any ex-officers or officers' widows in distress, please tell them to write to:

The General Secretary, The Officers' Association, 48 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JY. (01-930-0125).

IN MEMORIAM

We record with regret the deaths of the following Old Cranwellians during 1985/86:

Flt Lt M Barnard 23GE; Flt Lt P J Blewitt 75B; Fg Off D V Browning 65 IOT; Flt Lt C J E T Chubb 90B; Fg Off R H Dennison 57 IOT; Fg Off D C Hyde 81 IOT; Fg Off M A Ramsay 50 IOT; Flt Lt I M Redwood 24GE; Fg Off M J Rowe 60 IOT; Flt Lt W Steele 29GE; Flt Lt L Stovin 41 IOT; Sqn Ldr J P Towl 7GE; Flt Lt M V Vaughan 42 IOT; Fg Off G B Ward 59 IOT; Flt Lt D P Wardell 44 IOT; Flt Lt B D Weatherley 34 IOT; AVM B C Yarde 24-26B.

OBITUARY

Air Vice-Marshal B C Yarde



Air Vice-Marshal Brian Courtenay Yarde, who has died aged 81, played a crucial role in the Berlin Airlift of 1948 after the Russians blockaded the city.

As commander of RAF Station Gatow, Berlin, he handled more than 900 aircraft movements a day at the peak of "Operation Plainfare".

When he took up the appointment in 1947, Gatow was a quiet airfield dealing with only a few passenger aircraft each day but during the airlift it became the busiest airport in the world. Altogether, nearly 116,000 aircraft, carrying more than 860,000 tons of supplies for Western Berlin, landed there.

He was later Provost Marshal and Chief of the RAF Police, Air Officer Commanding No 62 Group and, finally, Commandant-General of the RAF Regiment and Inspector of Ground Combat Training.

He was educated at Bedford School and won the Sword of Honour at RAF College, Cranwell. In the 1930s he was with the School

of Naval Co-operation and served in Iraq.

During the 1939-45 War he served in France, Malaya, and the Middle East. He also commanded the bomber stations at Lakenheath and Methwold and was mentioned in despatches three times.

In 1945 he was appointed deputy director of Bomber Operations at the Air Ministry. He was senior director of the RAF Staff College for a year before being posted to Gatow.

At the Coronation he led and commanded the RAF contingent in the procession.

He retired from the RAF in 1957 and was subsequently chairman of Courtenay Caterers, of Andover.

He was appointed CBE in 1949 for his services in the Berlin Airlift and CVO in 1953 for his part in the Coronation ceremonial.

He is survived by his wife, the former Marjorie Smith and their two daughters.

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College Journal Extracts - 1992 (1)

OLD CRANWELLIAN ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REUNION 1991

The Old Cranwellian Association Annual Reunion was held over the weekend of 22/23 June 1991.

SPORT

Squash. A welcome last minute entry by AVM Peters to the squash competition changed the course of events. Initially, there was a certain amount of doom and gloom at the College Hall Officers' Mess squash courts because of a power cut, but alternative arrangements had been made. Battle commenced with AVM Peters giving the cadets' number one, SO Bogg, a few lessons in guile and cunning. Youthful exuberance could not match tenacity and, although there were many long and hard fought rallies, it was the more patient stroke player who came out on top: Score 3-1 to OCA.

On the other hand, Sqn Ldr Lynch had to face defeat against OC Oswald. Although keen to run and accurate, Sqn Ldr Lynch was beaten 0-3 by a more potent combination of fitness and accuracy. Flt Lt Tyrell, our Arctic representative (Benbecula), although short of a racket, was not lacking in determination when he squeaked a victory 3-2 against a powerful but less agile SO Hirst.

Finally, Flt Lt Cunliffe, the author (so modesty prevails), beat a valiant SO Valentine 3-0 in an entertaining match: the competition was won 3-1 by the OCA. After the formal event, more squash was played by all and eventually, at 1700 hrs, the teams retired to a well deserved shower and looked forward to a pleasant evening.

Clay Pigeon Shooting. The teams were ready, the guns were loaded and everyone was set for another thrilling duel in the sun - avoiding the occasional rain shower of course! A good duel it turned out to be, with the final result of a win to the OCA by 414 points to the College's 353 points not really indicative of how close the match had been. The OCA team was minus Peter Balean recovering from an accident (again); however, AVM Ian Macfadyen did make it back in time from the Gulf. The President led the team and the friendly barracking when Martin Taylor lost the High Gun Trophy to Sean Jackson, 61 points. The College put out a strong contingent of cadets reinforced by staff as there were insufficient numbers of cadets who shoot clay pigeons. They produced consistent results. The best score was by Fg Off Derek Grimsley who

scored 48 points. The experience of the OCA team, combined with their cunning, was once again the deciding factor. A marvellous day was enjoyed by the teams, the spectators and the unsung heroes - the trappers and scorers. Our thanks to Graham Galbraith and Dennis Roberts for the impeccable preparation of the range and facilities and perhaps next year the College will have revenge.

Cricket. The annual cricket fixture against the OCA was held on the Orange with College Hall standing resplendent in the background. Having inspected the pitch, it soon became clear that runs would be hard to find and the Old Cranwellians, looking to apply pressure from the start, put the College in to bat. It seemed that the strategy would work as the students were restricted to 68 with only Shingles putting up any real resistance, scoring a creditable 34. Most of the damage was inflicted by Rogerson who bowled tightly for his 4-25. Support in the field was good with a number of the more senior members surprising the spectators with their agility! At the interval, Old Cranwellian spirits were high as the total looked well within reach. However, a combination of a variable bounce and some accurate bowling by OC Lumb (7-18) soon saw the Old Cranwellians in trouble and, despite some huge hits by Air Cdre Thorne, victory was denied to them as the last wicket fell with the score on 59, nine runs short of the College total. Discussions on the match continued over the post-match refreshments with a number of veiled comments being made about the future careers of Officer Cadets Lumb and Shingles.

The teams:

College: Richards, Smith, Shingles, Tiddy, Lumb, Gilmore, Jamieson, Godsell, Monroe, Poole, Parker.
Old Cranwellians: Rogerson, Holliday, Evans, Morris, Donnelly, Thorne, Rushmere, Sterly, Fryett, Brooke, Taylor.

Tennis. The players for this year's RAFC versus OCA tennis fixture assembled on what can only be described as a typical British summer day; sun and wind with intermittent showers. Undeterred by the weather and after a short introductory brief from the College Captain, SO James Treweek, the players took to the courts.

In the first round, the College first and second pairs scored victories over their opponents. The play in both games was characterized by some good rallies, although, ultimately, Cranwell power triumphed over the guile and touch of the Old Cranwellian pairs. The final game in the round saw the College third pair of Cooke and Walker up against the Old Cranwellians second pair of Head and Frater. After a confident start by the College side, the Old Cranwellians' pair began to gel and the game was eventually halved. The scores in the second round, when each pair met their opposite number, did not reflect the competitiveness of the games. Although the College won all games, there were some good rallies.

In the final round, the College pairs began to tire and, at times, became complacent, while the Old Cranwellians found a new lease of life. The tide began to turn. In this round, the Old Cranwellians' first pair (Jonklaas and Scroggs) won their team's first rubber and their second pair (Head and Frater) halved their game. Unfortunately, the Old Cranwellians' third pair (Parsley and Legg) struggled against a very strong second pair (Dunne and Timbers), eventually losing the rubber in 2 straight sets.

At the end of an enjoyable afternoon's tennis, staged in a relaxed but competitive atmosphere, the final result was RAFC 7 - Old Cranwellians 2. In mitigation, this year's College tennis team was probably the strongest team for a number of years and were full of confidence having beaten the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst for the first time in the recent history of the Inter-Collegiate Games. Overall, the final result was a triumph for youth and graphite over age and wood: as the Old Cranwellians' Captain was heard to say "We don't get any younger and we can't afford new rackets on an RAF pension!"

The teams for this year's game were:

College: Treweek and Smith (1), Dunne and Timbers (2), Walker and Cooke (3).

Old Cranwellians: Sqn Ldr Jonklaas (Retd) and Flt Lt Scroggs (Retd) (1), Wg Cdrs Head and Frater (2), Wg Cdr Parsley and Flt Lt Legg (3).

Golf. The College side was selected, based upon blend of youth and experience in an attempt to win this important fixture at Sleaford Golf Club. Despite a pre-match storm, the course was in good condition and the 2 sides prepared to do battle on what turned out to be a very pleasant day.

The College had found a Scottish International, Fg Off Mathers, to partner Air Cdre Speed in the opening match against MRAF Sir Keith Williamson and Air Mshl Sir Roy Austin Smith. The match began in great style with an eagle 2 on the first by Fg Off Mathers equalled by a birdie from the Old Cranwellians which prompted Sir Keith to offer some advice to Mathers about his short career in the RAF if such feats continued. The high quality golf continued throughout the match which the Old Cranwellians won 2/1.

The second match featured Air Mshl Sir Michael Graydon and Gp Capt Jeffers against a strong College pair of Sqn Ldr Davis and OC McKeen. Steady golf from the Old Cranwellians provided a healthy lead at the turn but the College fought back, with Sqn Ldr Davis parring 5 of the last 6 holes to bring about an exciting climax on the last green. Sqn Ldr Davis drove the green and scored a birdie 3 which left the Old Cranwellians pair to hole one of their putts to save the match. Air Mshl Graydon missed from 6 feet, but Gp Capt Jeffers, who was equal to the task, holed from 4 feet.

The third match paired AVM Brownlow and Air Cdre Duckett, a 5 handicap new member of the Old Cranwellians team, playing Flt Lt O'Hara and OC Dean. The College side played very well to halve the match as the Air Cdre was back in 34 shots with 4 birdies and finished with a gross 73, one over par.

AVM Dicken and Sqn Ldr Rogers provided the Old Cranwellians team in match 4 against Sqn Ldr West and OC Cook. The match was very exciting with the lead changing hands many times but, despite a good round of golf by Sqn Ldr West, the Old Cranwellian pair were too powerful, especially with Sqn Ldr Rogers course knowledge, and they were victorious.

Match 5, Air Cdre Carver and AVM Price against Wg Cdr Churms and Flt Lt Wright. The steady play characterized by the experienced Old Cranwellian team came to the fore here again; AVM Price birdied the 8th to provide a major turning point in the game retaining the advantage to win 2/1.

The last match paired Air Cdre Robertson and AVM Squire against Sqn Ldr Clark, the OIC golf, and Flt Lt Taylor. The match was very close throughout with many fine shots from all players but the College pair triumphed in the end to make the final match score Old Cranwellians 3 College 1 with 2 halves.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Over 140 members attended the Annual General Meeting on Saturday 22 June 1991

Following the Chairman's welcome to those members present, the minutes of the AGM held on 16 June 1990 were accepted. Moving to the balance sheet, the Chairman reported that the finances of the Association were healthy but pointed out that the cost of the 1990 Reunion compared with 1989 had risen dramatically. The rise was due partly to inflation and partly to the additional costs arising as a result of contractorisation of all engineering services at Cranwell. However, the additional costs of the Reunion had been offset by an increase in income from investments. The Chairman also pointed out that the previous ever-increasing cost of the College Journal had been pegged almost to that prevailing in 1989 and other expenses had been considerably reduced. Thus when the transfers to reserves were 'added back' income actually exceeded expenditure by £547. The Chairman summed up by pointing out that the total assets of the Association were a little under £25,000 of which £19,000 was readily realizable.

The Chairman then turned to Committee appointments and stated that, apart from himself, the only other committee members remaining and continuing in office from last year were the Secretary, Wg Cdr M H Codd, and the FTS member, Flt Lt N Huskisson. All the other members had, or were about to, change. Air Cdre B N J Speed had replaced Air Cdre M J Milligan, and the post of Treasurer had changed twice since the last AGM. The current incumbent was Flt Lt P Stewart. Sqn Ldr D A Slatter had replaced Sqn Ldr B J Tomsett, Sqn Ldr R A A Forster (DSGT) had taken over from Sqn Ldr A Rushmere and Wg Cdr R McLellan (TTTE Cottesmore) would shortly take over from Sqn Ldr F Simpson. Sqn Ldr L Pennell (FTS) would take over from Sqn Ldr A G Galbraith, whilst Wg Cdr R R C Parsley would replace Wg Cdr P R Martin-Smith with special responsibility for wines.

The Chairman also announced that Air Cdre P Millar had agreed to replace Air Cdre G A Robertson as Chairman of the Paintings Sub-Committee and would take over the reins within the next 2 weeks. Air Cdre Robertson then announced that, in accordance with members' wishes, Mr Trevor Stubleby had been commissioned to paint a portrait of Air Chf Mshl Arian Singh and that the cost to the Association had been less than £900. Air Cdre Robertson then unveiled the

portrait which won the approval of members present. The meeting agreed a suggestion put forward that following the publication of the Gulf Honours List, the Painting Sub-Committee would make recommendations to the OCA Committee as to a suitable Old Cranwellian worthy of a portrait painting. The OCA Committee would then seek the approval of the President and Past Patron before directing the Sub-Committee to commission the work.

The Chairman then announced that as agreed at last year's meeting, the Wines Member had purchased 7 cases of 1980 Vintage Port and 30 cases of claret had been ordered 'en primeur'. The Committee recommended that no further purchases of claret or port be made for the time being.

Air Cdre Speed, as Editor-in-Chief of the College Journal, then announced that although the accounts had not yet been finalised, the net cost of the 1991 Journal would be in the order of £2,700 despite postage and distribution costs of £1,000. This low cost had been achieved by a less elaborate format, increased revenue from advertising (£1,300) and by negotiating a very tight contract in the climate of recession (£3,000). Most importantly, production costs had been kept to a minimum largely due to the efforts of the editorial team and in particular by utilising the private computer of the Editor. Air Cdre Speed stated that he had carried out a detailed study of the financial and manpower aspects of both OCA administration and Journal production. The areas identified which would benefit significantly from the introduction of a computer were Journal editing, membership and accounts records. Air Cdre Speed pointed out that none of the systems in place at Cranwell met requirements. Therefore, the following elements would need to be purchased from a commercial source: computer, display unit, printer and software capable of handling the production of the Journal and OCA administration. He considered a maintenance contract essential since unwarranted failures could prove to be extremely costly. Putting together all the components would entail a package costing about £3600 plus £200 per year maintenance. Leasing had been considered, but the equipment costs would exceed the price of a complete package and a second-hand purchase was not recommended. A number of

suppliers had been approached and the recommended best buy (including maintenance) was from Anglia Business Computers, an MOD supplier with a proven record. Air Cdre Speed then summarised by pointing out that, although production costs of the Journal had been maintained well within the budget set, this had been due largely to the efforts of the editorial team (none of whom was an OCA member). Revenue was being lost due to inaccurate and incomplete membership records which were time-consuming to update. Computer support was therefore required but Service sources were not available. The meeting then agreed to purchase a computer system and associated software at a cost not exceeding £3600 together with an annual maintenance contract not exceeding £200 and that an IT replacement reserve be created by an annual subscription of 40p per member. This levy was to be met by reducing the levy to the wines reserve.

The meeting then agreed the Chairman's recommendation that the evening's Guest of Honour, Air Chf Mshl Sir Peter Harding be made an Honorary Member of the OCA. The Chairman then announced that the Committee had invited Sqn Ldr B J Tomsett WRAF (Membership Secretary 1988-90) and Flt Lt I G Smith (Editor of the College Journal since 1988) to become Associate Members of the OCA. In addition, the Station Commander, Gp Capt J D Lunt, had been invited to dine together with Gp Capt S M D Williamson-Noble (D DSGT), Maj B Irby USAF (Defence Studies DIOT) and Sqn Ldr D Clark (OIC Golf).

The Chairman reminded the meeting that for the last

COMMANDANT'S SPEECH - OCA DINNER 1991

The Commandant welcomed the distinguished guests and the 164 Old Cranwellians present. He mentioned in particular the Guest of Honour, Air Chf Mshl Sir Peter Harding - the Chief of the Air Staff, MRAF Sir Keith Williamson - the most senior member, Air Chf Mshl Sir Hugh Constantine who was on the earliest entry represented (1926), and the most recent member, Fg Off Poole, who had graduated 2 days previously. He mentioned the Entry reunions: the 17 members of 54 Entry, the 17 members of 53 Entry and the 12 members of 79 Entry.

He announced that he would follow the practice he had established last year and only give a brief resume of the

2 Reunions 5p and then 10p had been added to the price of drinks to raise money for the RAF Benevolent Fund. However, the amount raised (£25 and £50) hardly merited the administrative effort involved. Therefore, this year the Committee had decided to raffle a bottle of 1966 Dow Vintage Port. This was one of 5 bottles and was one of the 'bin ends' referred to at several previous meetings.

Under Any Other Business, the Chairman announced that Air Cdre Charles Suttle had retired after 25 years as organist to the College although he would continue to offer advice and assistance on the more prestigious occasions. The meeting agreed that the OCA would wish to be associated with a gift for Air Cdre Suttle and authorised the Committee to act accordingly.

The Chairman then pointed out that although, by tradition, the white wine at dinner was always Blue Nun, a better quality wine could be obtained for less cost and it was unanimously agreed that the selection of a white wine should, in future, be left to the Committee.

A proposal was then made from the floor that the Editor of the Journal be presented with a gift in recognition of the time and effort that he had devoted to producing the Journal over the last 2 years, and also for the use of his personal computer in the production process. The meeting readily agreed to the purchase of a decanter to be presented to Flt Lt Smith.

Finally, it was announced that the date for the next Reunion would be the weekend 20/21 June 92.

last year's events at the College; a written report had been printed and copies were available to members if required.

Group Captain Brian Cottam would shortly take over HQ UAS; Brian had recently been CI at CFS Scampton. Group Captain Adam Wise would move on to command RAF Benson and to be a Deputy Captain of The Queen's Flight. The only major change in the organisation of the 17 UASs was that a Flt Lt and a SNCO would soon be established for the Northern group of 4 UASs. This was a trial aimed at taking on more students - those who were interested in the ground branches rather than the GD - and the 2 extra staff

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would arrange adventurous and expedition training. Such students had been turned away in the past because the small staff of QFIs had insufficient time to look after them. If the trial was successful then work would begin to provide similar staff for the other groups of UASs, which should produce more recruits for the Service at relatively little cost.

Group Captain Al Ferguson had handed over the Directorship of DIOT and departed to command Finningley. The new Director was Group Captain David Wilby, who had come from OC Ops Wg at Laarbruch via the NATO Defense College in Rome. During the coming year the IOT syllabus would be reviewed by a 3-man Course Design Team led by Wing Commander Dick Parsley and it was very likely that they would recommend an extension of the course from 18 weeks to something like 24. HRH The Princess of Wales would represent Her Majesty at The Queen's Review in July - an event all were very much looking forward to.

The DSGT under Group Captain Miles Williamson-Noble continued to run 23 different courses for the initial and post-graduate training of Engineers and Suppliers and there was a continuous process of change to the courses to ensure they were producing what the Service needed. The Department also played a major role in the organisation of events to mark the 50th Anniversary of the first flight of the Gloster Whittle E28/39 from Cranwell on 15 May 1941. The RAeS Trenchard Memorial Lecture was delivered in the afternoon in the Whittle Hall when Phil Ruffles, Technical Director of Rolls-Royce, spoke on future gas turbine engines. In the evening there was a major dinner at which HRH The Duke of Kent was the Guest of Honour. Among the 80 guests were members of the Air Force Board; Commander of the 3rd USAF; Flag Officer Naval Aviation; Regimental Colonel of the Army Air Corps; Lord Tombs and a team from Rolls-Royce; Mr Eustace, the Financial Director of British Aerospace plus colleagues; and the Presidents of the RAeS and the I Mech E. Completing the guest list were Lord Kings-Norton and a number of the Reactionaries; Sir Frank himself had to cancel his trip from the US to attend, due to a major operation.

The Dinner, which was preceded by a fly-past of 10 significant jet-powered aircraft ranging from a Meteor through Harrier and Tristar to the Tornado, was a great success, a tribute to the organisational skills of our engineering staff and a fitting way in which to honour

one of the most distinguished Old Cranwellians.

The Department of Air Warfare continued to run 14 different courses under the direction of Group Captain Tony Chaplin. Tony was due to leave the Service within a few months and he would be succeeded by Group Captain Ian Dick. There was to be a study to determine the future need for reinstating the Air Warfare Course.

Finally, the last JP course had started at 3 FTS; deliveries of the new Tucano totalled 15 to date and the first Tucano course, having completed Ground School, would start to fly on the following Monday. Females were now a normal part of the student scene and Cranwell's 5th girl was on the first Tucano course. One had already graduated from BFTS, one withdrew after 30 hours and 3 were currently under training.

Field Aviation had taken over what was Engineering Wing and they are responsible for all aircraft engineering, MT and Supply Squadron. They were doing a good job, the majority of their employees being ex-Service, but the down side was that sports clubs and leisure activities were on the wane, the NAAFI struggled to break even and the combined effect of contractorisation and NMS meant that, for example, the provision of MT and a photographer for events such as the Reunion cost real money. If catering were to go out to contract, Cranwell would boast no more than 100 airmen.

Finally, Cranwell had provided a number of individuals as reinforcements during the Gulf War. The College Band went en masse to Saudi Arabia as hospital orderlies, and Cranwell accommodated 500 USAF medical staff when the Americans moved a field hospital into Nocton Hall. Cranwell hosted the RAF Gulf War debrief which more than 500 senior officers attended, including CAS, the AFB, the CinCs, AOCs and virtually every commander of an operational unit. It was possibly the largest such gathering since Sir Dermot Boyle brought together a similar number of commanders post-Sandys in 1958. That 1958 conference was called PROSPECT I!

The Commandant reported that the College was in good order and very busy. He added that his tour of duty ended in February 1992 but was delighted to announce that his successor would be Air Vice-Marshal David Cousins of 84 Entry who was currently DGA2 in MOD(PE).

CAS' ADDRESS AT THE OLD CRANWELLIAN DINNER

CAS opened his address by recalling that he had joined the Royal Air Force not as a Cranwell cadet, but as a National Serviceman although he had been a flying instructor at the College. This, he reminded everyone, was under the 'old' scheme, which was highly valued and, the desire of young people to go to university apart, it was a great pity that we had to do away entirely with the longer course. There had never been any doubt, in his view, that the ideals - the ethos - of the Royal Air Force had emanated from Cranwell and the cadets in the Service, where the same high standards set by former Commandants of the College were still demanded today. Nevertheless, it has been acknowledged that the current course was too short and work was in hand and money had been earmarked to remedy this.

Despite the many changes occurring in the RAF as a result of Options for Change, the rationale for Cranwell, both the Station and The College, had become stronger with the additional flying instructional task and the impending arrival of the Officer and Aircrew Selection Centre. Nor did CAS think that the RAF in general would suffer. Recent events in the Gulf showed how adept and quick the Service had been able to react to the challenge, and how magnificently the young men had acquitted themselves in battle, bringing out so very clearly all those ideals forged by Trenchard in the early days. For CAS, the Gulf War was more about people than equipment despite the rapid advances in technology and the scale of the Iraqi inventory. Modern equipment could not make up for well trained and motivated men and women, led by those who carried on the example set by the early founders of the Service. This had been vividly illustrated when CAS visited the Service men and women in the Gulf. He recalled going out of his way to reassure everyone that once the Gulf conflict was over it should be possible to ease back on the demands made on Service personnel given the changing threat. However, one young Tornado aircrew had remarked that, despite a sense of apprehension, he was ready to go to war for 2 reasons: firstly, an enormous respect for his aircraft and the rapid work that had been achieved to make it more ready for the Gulf War, and secondly - and more importantly - the demands of the senior hierarchy constantly to do better. The officer suggested that if the RAF did not continue to demand high standards, we might never again attain the level of combat readiness achieved in the Gulf.

CAS then went on to say that one of the problems facing the Services today, despite the Gulf, was convincing the public generally of the need for a credible defence force provided with the right people and the right equipment. The world, he added, would still be a dangerous place. Notwithstanding the collapse of the Warsaw Pact Treaty Organisation and the return of most troops to their homeland, Russia would still remain a formidable threat for the next 20 or 30 years. There were real risks of insecurity in Eastern Europe and the uncertain command and control of nuclear and chemical weapons. More than ever before, it was crucial to keep the USA locked firmly into NATO and Europe. There was the problem of the likely large-scale movement of people across the world, its population doubling by the turn of the century at the current rate of exponential growth. Ethnic groups were finding it more difficult to live in harmony and he cited Yugoslavia and the Kurds in Northern Iraq. There were many areas of great potential instability. There was a clear requirement to invest in the right technology and to maintain the Services' width in force capabilities. If we did not, this capability would be lost overnight and would take many years to restore. In most cases it would be too late if we waited for a different threat to materialise.

CAS paid tribute to the resolution of the United Nations and the Security Council in the Gulf affair, but the resolution would have been absolutely useless if nations had not invested in the right mix of forces. He foresaw in the future the need for the technologically rich nations to develop arrangements, understandings, friendships, treaties whatever, in order to be able to come to one another's aid and to help the UN keep the peace in the world. CAS then examined where the RAF fitted in to this plan. Subject of course to adjustments that might be made if there was a change of government and how well the RAF did in the Treasury round, he felt confident. Accepting that we were going forward on the basis of Options for Change - which the Chiefs supported - the size and shape of the 3 Services would be affordable for the country and we should be fully manned. The overspend in the RAF budget should disappear over the next 3 years as we adjusted, and most importantly we should be able to keep our breadth of capabilities. For the future, the RAF would concentrate on multi-role capabilities ie getting the maximum width from one type of aircraft, eg the European Fighter Aircraft. Returning for a

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moment to the Gulf, CAS went on to put on record the fine achievements of all the elements of air power that had had such a decisive effect in the area - including the part played in support of Special Forces. He also paid warm tribute to the superb management of the air battle by the Americans and the way in which the UK forces were fully integrated into their plans. Out of the Gulf War there were many lessons to be learned and Air Chief Marshal Sir David Parry-Evans was undertaking, on behalf of all 3 Services, an evaluation of Operation Granby. Already, it was abundantly clear that people had been a key factor; furthermore, no one was left in any doubt about the crucial role of air power.

OLD CRANWELLIAN NOTES

1 Entry Gp Capt C J Collingwood OBE DFC celebrated his 90th birthday on 12 Jan and he is still mobile despite various bits and pieces beginning to wear out. Liver and kidneys OK; may be good to 100 years!

Sir Arthur Marshall OBE DL, in 1990, was made an Hon Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge and awarded the Order of El Istiqlal, First Class, Jordan.

1934 (C Sqn) AVM A G Dudgeon CBE AFC has written a book "The War That Never Was".

47 Entry Sqn Ldr D H (Dai) Williams (B Sqn) has retired from schoolmastering and together with his wife Joan spends much time in France playing golf at as many different courses as possible and negotiating concessionary green fees for Old Cranwellians and others. Telephone 0359 269279 if you wish to take advantage of his services.

Sqn Ldr J G Bourn FRAeS FRMetS FBIM (B Sqn) has finally retired after 22 years with the British Airports Authority and (latterly) BAA plc. The past 6½ years were spent at Gatwick Airport.

54 Entry Wg Cdr D A Cooper CBE AFC BA (B Sqn) has retired from the post of Chief Inspector of Air Accidents, Department of Transport. Would be pleased to see old friends at 7 Lynch Road, Farnham, Surrey. Tel 0252 715519.

55 Entry AVM Sir Richard Pierse KCVO CB (B Sqn) was appointed Gentleman Usher of the Scarlet Rod in 1990.

CAS concluded that the future for the RAF was sound. The Tornado update and EFA were on track and there was a range of programmes to modernise weapon systems. A great deal was happening for the Service man and woman and this was always a top priority. This brought CAS once again back to the value of people and to Lord Trenchard and the founder members of the RAF College who demanded excellence from the leaders of yesteryear, as we do today and our successors would tomorrow.

The President followed by thanking the Guest of Honour.

Gp Capt R J Bannard (B Sqn) having retired in Oct 81 is about to complete 10 years service with Smiths Industries Aerospace and Defence Systems at the London HQ as the Military Executive.

Sqn Ldr John Cochrane (B Sqn) retired from Cyprus Airways and is living as an off-shore company executive in Cyprus. Happy to hear from old friends and colleagues visiting Cyprus. Address: POB 2097 Lamaca.

58 Entry Air Chf Mshl Sir Michael Armitage KCB CBE (C Sqn) retired happily in 1990 and after 42 years it was high time! Writing and lecturing keep him in touch, but what they say about the lack of spare time in retirement is all too true.

62 Entry Sqn Ldr G M Turner AFC QC (B Sqn) If you have not already heard, he took silk in the Province of New Brunswick at the end of last year - is this a first for a cadet?

62 Entry Air Cdre M J Allistone CBE (C Sqn) notes that 62 Entry has never been renowned for reunions but, since Summer 1994 marks 40 years since commissioning, he asks that those interested in celebrating this otherwise unremarkable anniversary contact him at The Old Cottage, Church Lane, Sidlesham, Chichester, PO20 7RH Tel 0243 641774, with a view to attending.

69 Entry Air Mshl Sir Kenneth Hayr KCB KBE AFC (A Sqn). The post of Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Commitments) doubles as Director of Operations in MOD. As a result, the Middle East has consumed the best part of the past year.

70 Entry Gp Capt R F Robertson (B Sqn) retired in May 90 and is now with the International Staff at NATO HQ, Brussels.

74 Entry Gp Capt J G Saye (B Sqn) retired early and has been living in Alabama since 1989. Always pleased to see anyone passing through. Call (205) 260 0405

75 Entry Gp Capt C J Sturt OBE (C Sqn) retired in Nov 90, now works for CSE Aviation Ltd, Oxford Airport, Kidlington and Weston-on-the-Green.

76 Entry Wg Cdr R M Trowern (C Sqn) retired in Nov 89 to return to flying as a Chipmunk QFI at the AAC Centre, Middle Wallop in the company of 2 other Old Cranwellians; Hugh Rigg (67A Entry) who has been there since 1985 and Mike McKinley (81B Entry) who joined the Centre in Summer 1990.

77 Entry Air Cdre Norman Bonnor FRIN FRAeS (B Sqn) left the post of Deputy Controller of NATO Airborne Early Warning Force at Mons, Belgium in Dec 90 and retired from the Service in Apr 91. He then joined GEC-Marconi Electronic Systems Corporation of Newark, New Jersey as Director European Programmes.

Wg Cdr F G Allen (C Sqn) is project manager (until May 92) for a major IT project for spares procurement in support of Tornado and EFA. Based at NAMMA, Munich and thoroughly enjoying the multi-national environment. Hopes to return to Brampton in Jun 92 for a last tour of duty before retiring in the Cambridge area.

79 Entry Sqn Ldr Rod Saar MBE (A Sqn) has spent almost 5 years as managing director of a UK subsidiary of the Mannesman Engineering Group. Responsibilities are split between commercial activities in the UK and some other 20 countries stretching from Scandinavia down to South Africa and across to India. Occasionally, on his travels he bumps into ex-RAF colleagues and has the pleasure of sitting up front in a world far removed from the Shack or Super B16. Anyone in Sandhurst area very welcome - Tel 0344 778979.

Gp Capt R E Williams (C Sqn) after 102 graduation parades for over 13,000 recruits handed over command of RAF Swinderby in Jul 91. Now trying to find recruits as Deputy Director Recruiting at MOD.

Paul Jenner (A Sqn) left Hong Kong in early Feb this year. He can be contacted c/o IASCO Japan Airlines Ops Center Bldg, 1-1, Hanedakuko, 2-Chome, Ota-ku, Tokyo 144, Japan, Tel 81 03 747-3906 until around September when he will update with his permanent address.

81 Entry Gp Capt F J Hoare (D Sqn) moved in Feb 1992 to Barn House, Ham Lane, South Cerney, Glos, GL7 5UF. Tel 0285 860491.

82 Entry Wg Cdr A D K Campbell (B Sqn) has been Naval and Air Attache in Ankara since Jul 90.

83 Entry Wg Cdr David Robert Green OBE (A Sqn) retired in Dec 85 taking up a general management appointment with the Health Service in Cornwall running an organization of some 2000 staff including the County's Ambulance Service. On 1 Apr 87, introduced the first helicopter dedicated to accident and emergency service with any ambulance service in the UK. Since then has successfully applied to become one of the first wave NHS Trusts of which he is now the Chief Executive.

Gp Capt Dan Needham BA MBIM (C Sqn) has taken command of RAF Turnhouse/Pitreavie and moved to Edinburgh after 3 very happy years at SACLANTHQ, Norfolk, Virginia. At Turnhouse, one of his several hats is that of Director (RAF) Joint Maritime Operational Training Staff (JMOTS). JMC participants and OCA travellers through Edinburgh please note!

Wg Cdr A R Freeman (D Sqn) is Chief Pilot, Emirates, PO Box 686, Dubai, UAE. Tel (Office) Dubai 245112, (Home) Dubai 480886.

84 Entry Gp Capt M A Wood (A Sqn) took early retirement from the Royal Air Force at the end of 1990 and has now joined Lockheed Aeronautical Systems Company, based in the Corporate Office in London, as Director of International Requirements for Europe.


87 Entry Gp Capt P J Gooding has moved home to 31 Park Lane, Brampton, Cambs.

88 Entry Gp Capt R Dixon OBE (B Sqn) was appointed to command RAF Stafford, returning to the county from which he started his career in the RAF. Wg Cdr Dick Parsley (B Sqn) is now OC CDT, DIOT, RAF College, Cranwell.


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89 Entry AVMG A Robertson CBE BA (A Sqn) was appointed Dep Cdr, RAFG in Aug 91.




90 Entry Sqn Ldr Glynn Leaney (B Sqn) retired in Jun 89 and is now a senior adviser with Hill Samuel Financial Services.




92 Entry Gp Capt P R Jeffers (B Sqn) has returned from SHAPE and now commands the Joint Air Reconnaissance Intelligence Centre at Brampton.

Flt Cdt B Feater (D Sqn) The memory of FC B Feater lives on. When will 96 have a reunion and will he attend?




93 Entry Sqn Ldr Tim Benford BA (A Sqn) is Program Manager of USAF Fuels Automated Management System (FAMS) development project. Working for Century Technologies Inc, Dayton, Ohio. Old Cranwellians very welcome to call (513) 426-9220.



94 Entry Wg Cdr G J Goodman (A Sqn), following 7 years of desk jobs, is now thoroughly enjoying running the Air Navigation School at Finningley (in post until mid-summer 92).

Sqn Ldr A G Galbraith (B Sqn) left the staff of Cranwell (for a second time) and moved to Leuchars, in Nov 91, to command 27 Sqn RAF Regt.

Wg Cdr B R Neal (C Sqn) has proved the theory that you cannot have an exchange tour with the USAF unless you have had one before. He returned in Aug 90 to become OC 241 OCU at Brize Norton.




95 Entry Sqn Ldr Peter Slawson AMRAeS MBIM (B Sqn), unbelievably entering his eighth year of retirement, with his wife, Jenny, is well established in Central England close to the fount of Bass beer. Tel 0530 70605. do drop in if you are on the northern end of the new M42 - you will not be very far away. Springfield Farm, Chapel Street, Oakthorpe, DE12 7QT.

Some of you will have noted the imminent closure of units such as Brawdy, Abingdon and Kemble. How many of you recall the attempts, in 1969, to sell the assets of the RAF though an advert placed in the Times newspaper. The advert read:


LINCOLNSHIRE. Stately residence with impressive frontage dominated by own charming clock tower set in extensive grounds including own air-

field, stables and swimming pool. Off A17 near Sleaford. Inquiries 'phone 01 405 3434. Was there any connection with the graduation of 95 Entry? Ed.




97 Entry Wg Cdr A J W Boyd is currently with the Combined Task Force involved in Operation WARDEN, BFPO 598. On his return from that detachment, he is posted to 2 ATAF. He remembers his time at the College about 10 years ago and recalls obtaining some College commissioned Wedgwood plates. He is considering disposal of them with a contribution going to the RAF Benevolent Fund. Anyone interested should contact him direct.


1 GE Rumours exist of an incident involving shoes. It is understood that a 'fault' developed in shoes made by tailors trading at Cranwell. The shoes were to be labelled and collected, however, the labels mysteriously 'fell' off. Is anyone still looking for their left shoe?




4 GE Gp Capt P O Sturley MBE BSc MRAeS has completed his tour as Director of Air Staff Briefing and Co-ordination (DASB&C) in the MOD and is currently on refresher flying before taking command of RAF Cottesmore later this year.



5 GE Gp Capt R S N Perry MA moved to MOD Harrogate at the end of 1990 after a tremendous 3 years at HQ AFCENT, Brunssum. He has just returned from a spell at HQ BFME in Riyadh where he was ACOS Logistics - responsible for packing up the RAF Gulf forces and getting them back home.




16 GE Wg Cdr J G Stevenson MSc BSc C Eng MIEE has recently completed a very enjoyable 26 months as Station Commander of RAF Digby and is now a Chief Instructor in DSGT at RAF College Cranwell.




22 GE Sqn Ldr F M Simpson BA MIL ALCM RAF started a course at the German Armed Forces Staff Academy in Sep 91 and expects to return to the UK in 1993.

26 GE Neil Raynor has emigrated to Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada to take a Masters in Business Administration. A return to home for Heather, an adventure for the rest of the family. He would welcome contact with OCA colleagues - especially those from 26 GE: "look us up in the phone book!".




38 IOT Sqn Ldr A L Wilson BSc MSc MBCS (B Sqn) enjoyed a year on an MSc course at RMCS Shrivenham and is now halfway through his tour as Engineering Sponsor at MOD. He lives with his wife, Pamela, in Wimbledon.



42 IOT Sqn Ldr J M Guthrie is now the RAF Cdr at RAF Upper Heyford.

College Chaplain 1985-87 Venerable (AVM) Brian H Lucas QHC BA was appointed Chaplain-in-Chief to the Royal Air Force in Jul 91.



115 IOT Flt Lt Kerry Hutchinson BA MIL (B Sqn) is currently a language instructor at the Defence School of Languages and any ex-115 IOTC B Sqn cadets are welcome to drop in if passing through Beaconsfield. He is contactable on GPTN 800725 Ext 3287 (work).

Assoc Member 1974-79 Sqn Ldr Philip Boreham recently moved to Shottesbrooke, White Waltham. Since 1982, he has been working with British Aerospace as Director Defence Marketing with responsibilities for the sale of defence equipment in the Middle East, principally Gulf countries. Very busy period recently supporting RAF operations in the Gulf War. Several visits to Kuwait.

Asst Comdt 1973-74, Comdt 1980-81 AVM J B Brownlow CB OBE AFC is still enjoying the aviation scene with Marshalls of Cambridge whose wide-ranging activities provide much interest

Editor 1989-Present and Associate Member Flt Lt Ian Smith, after 3 years as an IOT flt cdr, remains at the College, having joined the College Secretariat in Jan 92, and it is hoped that he will unravel the mysteries of the OCA and commit them to computer prior to his leaving the RAF in March 1993.

Associate Member Air Cdre R C Allen lives at 33 Highover Park, Amersham, Bucks, HP7 0BP. Tel 0494 726964.

ODDS 'N ENDS

HORNETS Last year, the Commandant received a letter from Mr Lewis G Cooper, Woodpeckers, 7 Sidlands, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 8UE, who is engaged on a research project covering the full history of the Hornet fighter. After exploring many avenues, he learned that former Cranwell cadets had flown the aircraft and requested that an appeal for information be made. In particular, he has had great difficulty tracing former pilots of No 19(F) Squadron. He hopes to publish his results, on a non-profit basis, during 1992 so any information should be forwarded to him soonest.

COMPUTERS This is the first issue of the College Journal to be produced on the new computer. The process involves the Editor collating all the material from submissions made on disks. Since there should be no need to retype material, this dramatically reduces the time needed in formatting the text ready for the printing stage. Furthermore, those items which are standard parts of the Journal can be prepared well in advance, requiring only minor changes as they occur.

For the technically minded, the computer, supplied by ADACS of Andover, is a Twinhead 600 which has a 386DX processor, 100Mb hard disk and 4Mb RAM. It uses a SVGA colour monitor and outputs to a Mannesman Tally 24-pin printer. The software consists of ALDUS Pagemaker for the publishing, Wordperfect for general text work, Supercalc for the accounting and a database application for the membership data. The system uses Windows and is equipped with a mouse. For those who are baffled by the above - its a great bit of kit with lots of things to play with, is like a good colour TV with lots of channels and handles like a sports car. The only problem at present is the steepness of the learning curve due to immense capabilities of the software. Thanks must go to all the people who have given their technical expertise and their own time to help the Editor get the computer on line.

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provided boats, lifejackets, helmets and very capable guides for our excursion, making our day both enjoyable and exciting (especially when one of our party - yes, the instructor! - went "overboard"!). Each boat carried up to 12 persons and, although the river was at low ebb, some of the white-water still drew wary respect, especially when we learned that someone from a party ahead of us had, minutes before, died in the Sunshine Fall Rapids!

On Sunday 23 Aug the party split. The AOC & Commandant accompanied by Sqn Ldr John Long departed for Officer Training School (OTS) at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas on a similar mission to that at Colorado Springs. The junior officer contingent returned to the United Kingdom next day.

Lackland was found to be in a state of profound change. An amalgam of IOT and the Recruit Training School at Swindorby, OTS is capable of training 10,000 airmen and 2000 officers per year; however, OTS was being used as the "safety valve" of USAF training and was actually having a throughput of 10% of this. Moreover, in the 7 months from Feb to Aug, the status of the officer training element of Lackland had declined from that of a full school in its own right

with a col and 3 lt cols each running their own wing, to that of a group and, finally, down to a mere sqn with one lt col in charge. Indeed, on the second day of our visit we were invited to watch a large parade where we witnessed the formal handover and decommissioning of the group.

Nevertheless, OTS is a very professional organization and, in many ways, is more akin to the modern IOT than the USAF Academy. However, at Lackland they only train university graduates and ex-NCOs who have gained a degree part-time; a degree is the minimum entry standard for a commission in the USAF! The course lasts only 12 weeks and, interestingly, includes very little practical leadership although the RAF exchange officer (an ex-IOT flt cdr) is introducing more with the active encouragement of his superiors. Strangely, many of the exercises we saw were remarkably similar to those seen at IOT!

The briefings and the tour of Lackland were very interesting and several good ideas were picked up which will almost certainly be included in the IOT syllabus - which rather proves the value of exchange, does it not?!

OLD CRANWELLIANS ASSOCIATION WEEKEND SPORTS REPORTS

CRICKET: RAFC 204 FOR 9 (DEC) - OCA 126 ALL OUT

Due to essential repair work on the Orange the OCA Cricket match against the College side was played, for the first time, on the No 1 Pitch near to the splendid Qaboos Pavilion. Air Cdre Tim Thorn (OCA skipper) playing his 20th OCA match, put the College side into bat on a warm and very sunny morning. The College openers survived the pace of Keith Patrick and Tim Thorn making 61 before Plt Off Jeremy Richards was caught off the bowling of Thorn for 22. Just before lunch the OCA side made a significant breakthrough with Terry Earl taking the wicket of Plt Off Dave Catlow for an excellent 70 runs (105 for 2). Steady progress, after a delicious lunch in College Hall, soon faded when Thorn returned on a shortened run up and soon the College were struggling on 148 for 8. The College

captain, Flt Lt Gordon Pert, came to the wicket and turned the game to College's favour scoring 52 not out (including nine 4s and one 6). With the loss of one more wicket the College side declared on 204 for 9 wickets. In the field, Keith Minton took a magnificent catch, Paul Deakin held 2 difficult catches and AVM Squires showed some class behind the stumps. Bowler Terry Earl took 3 wickets for 34 and Tim Thorn completed 13 overs taking 6 wickets for 57 runs. The OCA side, with ages ranging from 43 to 65 years, suffered a number of casualties in the field with pulled muscles to Vince Yates (in the first minute of the game), Keith Minton, Keith Patrick and Paul Deakin. Notwithstanding their injuries, the OCA went into bat with Dick Parsley and Pat Pey looking confident until they faced the accuracy of the College bowlers.

Six wickets fell cheaply for 27 with only Earl reaching double figures. Patrick and Sturley put on a good partnership of 31 before Sturley was out for a supportive 9 runs. The College changed tactics and introduced "lob" bowling of which the "old boys" took full advantage with Minton scoring 21, Paul Deakin 25 and the Venerable veteran Richard Taylor 2 not out. The OCA managed 126 runs before the "11th" wicket fell just after tea, allowing sufficient time for the OCA to buy drinks for the worthy College winners.

The Teams:

College: Pert, Richards, Arnold, Boden, Catlow, Dean, Dowling, Hesketh, Joiner, Skirving and Stuchfield.

Old Cranwellians: Thorn (capt), Deakin, Earl, Minton, Parsley, Patrick, Pey, Squires, Sturley, P Taylor, R Taylor and Yates.

SQUASH: RAFC 0 - OCA 4

A resounding victory for the OCA did not seem likely when, at the eleventh hour, AVM Woodford's regrets were received. Success was left to the 4 remaining team members, Flt Lt Rod Cunliffe, Wg Cdr Peter Williams, Sqn Ldr Walt Lynch and Flt Lt Paul Whitelegg. The College team comprising Off Cds Dave Potts, John Robinson, Richard Moran and Richard Wells from DIOT had been training over the past few weeks and were keen to start. Each put up a valiant effort to contain the more crafty Old Cranwellians. However, in the second string match, Wg Cdr Pete Williams' power and quickly rediscovered timing proved too much for John Robinson, winning 3-0. Sqn Ldr Walt Lynch, playing third string, dropped one game to Richard Moran before winning 3-1 in a hard fought contest. Paul Whitelegg's inherent talent at squash (he said it had to be that because he has hardly played at all this year) was too strong for the enthusiastic Richard Wells, giving the OCA a 3-0 win. Finally, Rod Cunliffe's short legs seemed better equipped than Dave Potts' with a 3-0 victory in a close competition at first string.

Overall, the afternoon was a most pleasant diversion and many thanks go to all participants and those who came to watch.

TENNIS: RAFC 2 - OCA 2

With the sun shining down on a group of highly honed tennis players, the scene was set for the annual tussle

between the OCA and RAFC. History has shown that the guile of the more "experienced" OCA players can usually overcome the youthful exuberance of the RAFC team. However, with the current reduction in cadet numbers, RAFC was obliged to field 2 DIOT staff members to bolster the team and add a little guile of their own.

The first round started with the OCA first pair, Wg Cdr Head and Sqn Ldr Turnill, being surprised by the cut and thrust of the RAF second pair of Fg Offs Burton and Manns. After some high pressure tennis, Burton and Manns won the first set 6-1. Not to be deterred, Head and Turnill raised their game and with some consistent tennis, interspersed with very telling defensive lobbing, the wiser pair wore down their younger opponents and took the second set 7-5.

On the adjacent court the OCA second pair, Sue Reynolds and Tim Scroggs were up against the RAFC first pair of Sqn Ldr Lynch and Flt Lt Willis. The first set was a one-sided affair, with Lynch and Willis playing consistent tennis, while Reynolds and Scroggs were struggling to cope with their opponents power. However, Lynch and Willis did not have things all their own way. In the second set Reynolds and Scroggs put up spirited resistance to counter their opponents top-spin drives. The second set went to RAFC 6-2.

The second round saw Lynch and Willis pitted against Head and Turnill. In the interval, Head and Turnill had obviously secretly been "main lining" Sanatogen. Playing a game based on consistency and tactical lobbing, they neutralized the power of Lynch and Willis forcing them to make numerous errors, and they won a hard fought first set 7-5. Head and Turnill quickly consolidated their advantage in the second set and finally won the set 6-2.

Meanwhile, the second pair match again saw Reynolds and Scroggs being subjected to the power game, this time of Burton and Manns. However, not to be deterred, the OCA pair maintained their effort and held RAFC to a creditable 6-1, 6-2.

Following a cream tea in the Sultan Qaboos Pavilion, Head and Turnill and Burton and Manns were required to play the deciding set of their match. In the early stages, it appeared that Turnill's tea-time attempts to devour all the strawberry flans would give the College pair an advantage, as they took an early 2-0 lead. However, the OCA pair called on their carbohydrate

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reserves too and eventually overcame RAFC by 6-2. At the conclusion of an enjoyable afternoons' tennis, the result of a highly competitive match was: RAFC 2 OCA 2 - a most satisfactory result.

GOLF MATCH: RAFC 4 - OCA 2

Once again the College did battle with the OCA at Sleaford Golf Club in ideal weather. The lead match saw a new face in the College Team; Air Cdre Duckett, for many years a stalwart of the OCA team but now, as Asst Comdt, had been claimed by the College. He partnered OC Nixon and faced MRAF Sir Keith Williamson and AVM 'Black' Robertson. The College took the first 2 holes with pars, before the OCA duo responded in kind on the third and fourth. The match see-sawed to the turn but then AVM Robertson won the tenth and Sir Keith the eleventh with a fine putt. The next 3 holes were halved with par golf but Air Cdre Duckett played a fine tee shot at the difficult par 3 fifteenth and duly reduced the deficit to one hole. The OCA responded once again with Sir Keith chipping in from 30 yards at the sixteenth to put them dormie 2 up. On the seventeenth, OC Nixon was on the green in 2 and, with a shot, seemed well-set to take the match to the final hole. However, AVM Robertson, not to be outdone by his partner, chipped in from 25 yards, halving the hole and winning the match 2 and 1.

In the second match, Wg Cdr Churms and Sqn Ldr Clark, the previous OIC College Golf, played Sqn Ldr Brian Rogers and Flt Lt Brian Reader. This time the OCA struck first, with a birdie, but Wg Cdr Churms levelled the match at the second. He continued in fine form, winning 3 of the next 5 holes to be one under par gross at that stage. The OCA halved the eighth and ninth but lost the tenth and eleventh to fine birdies to go 5 down to a college pairing who were now 3 under par gross! But, the match was far from over, for wins on the twelfth and fourteenth, where Brian Rogers sank a long birdie putt, and then the fifteenth reduced the OCA deficit to 2 holes with 3 to play. However, they could only halve the next 2 holes and so the College won 2 and one to level the fixture.

In the third match, Air Chf Mshl Sir Robert Freer and AVM Price, both playing off 16, were in good form and ran out winners 5 and 3 against Sqn Ldr Tom Leech and OC Wray to put the OCA ahead. As well as being the lowest handicap player in the match and hence the 'donor' of strokes to both of the opposition, it is only fair to record that Sqn Ldr Leech was also handicapped

by having hosted, as PMC, the York House Summer Ball the night before(!).

The fourth match saw Sqn Ldrs Pennell and Clarkin, also 'survivors' of the Ball, play Air Mshl Sir Roy Austen-Smith and Sqn Ldr 'Chick' Chamberlain. The match was one of many missed opportunities, with few good putts being sunk, but the College pair generally prevailed and won 4 and 3, despite their fatigue, to level the fixture once more.

The fifth match was an evenly-balanced affair with Gp Capt Dave Wilby and SO Derbyshire facing AVM Brownlow and Gp Capt Sturt. For the first 4 holes, Gp Capt Wilby kept the College team alive, before they eased ahead on the fifth, a lead they were never to surrender. Despite being 3 down at the turn, the OCA pair fought back to be only one down on the fifteenth tee. However, they promptly lost that hole and then AVM Brownlow was left with a 50 ft putt breaking left to right on the sixteenth green to keep them in the match. The length was perfect but the ball lipped the cup to give another match to the College by 3 and 2.

The final match was also one of missed opportunities, with the OCA pairing of AVM Robinson and Sqn Ldr Lucking also never ahead. They lost 4 and 3 to give the College the match by 4 games to 2.

Once again, our sincere thanks go to the Committee of Sleaford Golf Club for allowing us to stage the match and to their staff for the efficient and friendly service.

CLAY PIGEON: RAFC 133 - OCA 173

The day dawned bright, despite the omens (and weather forecast) of the previous day, and by the start of shooting the wind had dropped to a gentle breeze and the warm sun made it a perfect shooting afternoon. The College team opened in grand style, with OC Nott killing 5 of the 6 "Springing Teal". Regrettably, the College team were not able to sustain this standard, and on completion of the "Springing Teal" stand, the OCA team had forged ahead. The "Driven Partridge" was shot next, and on this stand College performed much better, establishing a small lead and hopes of a favourable result. However, the OCA took their revenge on the "Pheasant with Pigeon on Report" stand and achieved an unassailable lead. The competition concluded with most of the guns performing well on the "Bolting Rabbit".

The High Gun Trophy was won by Sqn Ldr C G Vallance with a creditable score of 21 Ex 25. Air Chf Mshl Sir Neville Stack was a close runner-up with 20 Ex 25. Top scoring member of the College Team was Flt Lt Colin Hill with 17 kills.

OCA REUNION 1992 - AGM

The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking the members for attending. The minutes of the 1991 meeting were agreed subject to the amendment of a typing error. Under matters arising, the Chairman reported that because of the comparatively low numbers involved and the small amount of subscription, it had not proved possible to interest the banks in operating a direct debit system. There would be a substantial fee and the OCA would also incur considerable cost in converting to Direct Debit. Following a suggestion from the floor he undertook to explore the possibility of direct debit through the Giro Bank. The Chairman also reported that the gift of a decanter to the Editor of the College Journal had been very much appreciated.

The Secretary presented the balance sheet for the year ending 31 Dec 91. He firstly drew attention to the Income and Expenditure account and in particular the reduction in cost of the Annual Reunion and the College Journal. Subscription receipts had increased, but this increase had been offset by a drop in investment income as interest rates had fallen. He went on to point out that although the years trading showed a paper loss of £2,315, in fact £2,167 of this expenditure was in reality a transfer of money into wine, portrait and IT reserves thus the actual loss on the year's trading was £148. He also pointed out that a computer had been purchased during the year at a cost of £3,200. The Secretary then turned to the balance sheet and, dealing in round numbers, pointed out that the OCA was still operating within the guidelines put forward 4 years ago whereby there was adequate cellar stock for foreseeable needs amounting to some £4,800; reserve funds for future purchase of wine, portraits and IT replacement amounting to some £12,000 and a core of uncommitted capital of some £7,000. The latter figure was below the recommended £10,000 but, given the current trend, the position should recover in 2-3 years time. The Secretary pointed out that net assets remained at a little over £24K which was on a par with last year's figure. Assets had merely been moved around.

Once again the Old Cranwellians won the clay pigeon shooting, with a mature demonstration of skills acquired over more years than they would care to admit!

The Chairman announced the following changes on the Committee:

- a. **Vice Chairman.** Air Cdre R B Duckett had replaced Air Cdre B N J Speed.
- b. **Treasurer.** Flt Lt I Palmer had taken over from Flt Lt P Stewart.
- c. **Membership Secretary.** Flt Lt D C Cramp replaced Sqn Ldr D A Slatter.
- d. **Members.**
 - 1) Sqn Ldr P R Mercer had replaced Sqn Ldr R A A Forster.
 - 2) Flt Lt P D Hamilton had replaced Flt Lt N Huskisson.

The Chairman reminded members that at the last AGM it had been agreed that when the Gulf War Honours List was published, the Paintings Sub-Committee would make recommendations to the Committee as to those Old Cranwellians thought worthy of a portrait. There had been only one recommendation - Air Mshl Sir Bill Wratten. This recommendation had been concurred by the Past Patron and the President. The Chairman then called on Air Cdre Millar, Chairman of the Paintings Sub-Committee, to unveil the portrait and outline his proposals for the subject of the next portrait.

Air Cdre Millar suggested that in the near future it was likely that the appointment of CAS would be held by an Old Cranwellian; he suggested that the OCA might therefore wish to husband its resources with a view to commissioning a large portrait in 3 - 4 years' time. On the other hand, Air Cdre Millar pointed out that there had been 6 other gallantry awards to Old Cranwellians during the Gulf War. If one of the recipients was to be painted, the question arose as to which one? The recipient of the highest award or the youngest of the other recipients? Air Cdre Millar also suggested that the meeting might like to consider whether or not to extend the portrait gallery to include distinguished officers who were not Old Cranwellians.

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During the discussion which followed, it was suggested that to extend the proposal to include officers who were not Old Cranwellians widened the scope to such an extent that it would be almost impossible to select a subject. Moreover, the original decision had been taken to portray only Old Cranwellians, and a more recent decision had been taken to concentrate on the current generation of serving Old Cranwellians who had distinguished themselves during hostilities. Whereas the original thought had been that the OCA would have to comb the records of previous military actions, the scope now for selecting subjects was much wider. This view received the tacit approval of the meeting. The meetings' attention was drawn to the fact that the OCA had adequate stocks of wine and port for the next few years. However, there was considerable financial advantage in buying 'en primeur', and the Chairman sought approval for the Committee to purchase claret up to the sum of **£1,000**. This proposal was agreed.

The Chairman stated that he had received several favourable comments on the latest edition of the College Journal which not only had a colourful centrefold but more pages (80) than in previous years. The estimate of cost was **£2,900**. In comparison, the 1990 Journal, which also had a colour centrefold but contained only 64 pages, had cost **£3,876**. The Committee sought a budget of **£3,000** for the 1993 edition; this was agreed.

The Chairman stated that in accordance with the rules of the Association, an invitation had been extended to the Rev (Wg Cdr) Bob Bailey to become an Associate Member of the OCA. He had accepted and would dine with the members after the meeting. Invitations had also been extended to:

Gp Capt Peter Moore - Stn Cdr
Sqn Ldr Tom Leech - Cat Off
Sqn Ldr Chris McHugh RAAF - DAW
Father (Sqn Ldr) Alan Wilson - RC Chaplain

The Chairman said that following the sad death of AVM Desmond Hughes, a Memorial Service had been held in St Michael and All Angels Church. Appropriate hospitality had been extended after the service to the many very senior guests who formed the congregation. The cost had fallen to the College, and the Committee had agreed a donation of **£100** towards these costs. The meeting tacitly concurred the Chairman's action.

The Chairman stated that the introduction of the 24 week IOT Course later in the year would cause a movement of course graduation dates. Because of pressure on

accommodation, it suited to hold the OCA Reunion on the weekend following a graduation. Ideally, therefore, the 1993 Reunion should be held on 5/6 June; such a change of traditional date would reduce the workload on Mess staff. There were no objections from the floor to this change of date. However, following the meeting there was a representation from several members who, on reflection, considered that the Reunion should always be held on the third weekend in June as was traditional. **However, the President and the Chairman subsequently agreed that the 1993 Reunion should be held on 5/6 June as this was the only date convenient to the Guest of Honour.** Thereafter the Reunion would revert to the third weekend in June.

AOC & COMDT'S SPEECH

Air Vice-Marshal Cousins warmly welcomed all members of the OCA and in particular the Guest of Honour, Air Chief Marshal Sir John Gingell. In paying tribute to Sir John's long and distinguished career, the Commandant recounted tributes paid to him on his retirement from the office of Black Rod. The Commandant also welcomed the Guest Preacher, the Reverend Tony Smith, and other guests.

As the first Old Cranwellian to hold the appointment of Commandant of the College since 1985, AVM Cousins said how delighted he was to learn of his appointment and that he readily accepted the challenge of maintaining the standards, tradition and ethos of Cranwell which all Old Cranwellians had assisted in forging. He saw his task very much as managing change and improving standards.

Turning to the College itself the Commandant reported that all departments were in good shape and responding to the many changes in and around them. DIOT in particular was about to embark on the new 24-week course - a course which would endeavour to meet the ideals of a former CAS who once said, "*We would be wise to retain the objective of regaining something akin to the intensity of purpose of the Old Cranwellian system in Initial Officer Training*". AVM Cousins added that the aim of the longer course was to restore some of the tone and texture of Cranwell past, and to provide a little more depth and width to the syllabus.

Over the past 12 months the College had had some success in sporting fixtures against other military colleges and had participated in exchanges with former Eastern

Bloc countries. The first Hungarian cadet was due to start IOT, at Cranwell, later in the year. Another milestone would be reached in August when the OASC and DofR combined together at Cranwell to form the Directorate of Recruiting and Selection.

In summary the Commandant said that many enthusiastic young men and women were seeking to prove themselves at Cranwell, and he and his staff relished and accepted the responsibility of training them for their future role in the Royal Air Force.

SPEECH BY GUEST OF HONOUR

Sir John Gingell said that he was delighted to be invited for the second time to an Old Cranwellian Reunion although he had not been educated at Cranwell himself. It was a great pleasure to dine in such a splendid setting surrounded by the paintings of illustrious airmen; in particular that of Sir George Mills, the second Royal Air Force Officer to be appointed to the office of Black Rod and in whose footsteps he had eventually followed.

A recurring theme of his address was "damage limitation". He said that in his Service career he had had to face the consequences of Defence Reviews, and had also held several senior appointments where damage limitation had been an important element of his task. He suggested that the experience had been taken into account when he was offered the post of Black Rod; the House of Lords being, in a sense, a chamber devoted to damage limitation, particularly in its role of refining legislation proposed in the Other Place.

Sir John went on to describe the many facets of his duties as Black Rod and recounted a number of interesting anecdotes about his experiences.

Sir John said that to assist him in his duties as Black Rod, he had a corps of doorkeepers all of whom had been warrant officers in one of the 3 armed services; they were superbly loyal and efficient, and also knew a great deal about damage limitation. This had proved particularly useful, for example, during the 2 occasions when the Chamber had been invaded by protesters.

Sir John modestly attributed his successes, both during his Service career and as Black Rod, to being surrounded by very capable Servicemen or ex-Servicemen. He had decided therefore, that henceforth he would have to take retirement seriously.

Sir John concluded his address by paying tribute to some of the disabled ex-Servicemen whom he had met during his involvement with St Dunstons. They were people of whom everyone in the Royal Air Force could be proud, and to whom we owe a great deal. In cheerfully overcoming their disabilities, they had certainly demonstrated that they knew about damage limitation.

PRESIDENT'S REPLY

The President, Air Chief Marshal Sir Neville Stack welcomed Air Vice-Marshal Cousins back to Cranwell in the appointment of AOC and Commandant and thanked him and his staff for their efforts in organizing the 1992 Reunion. In particular, the President thanked Sir John Gingell for giving up his time to be the Guest of Honour. Sir Neville Stack then presented Sir John Gingell with an Old Cranwellian tie.

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WE RECORD WITH REGRET THE PASSING OF THE FOLLOWING CRANWELL GRADUATES WHOSE DETAILS WERE NOTIFIED TO US DURING THE LAST YEAR;

Wg Cdr A R Atkins Jan 34 A Sqn (12 Aug 92)
Gp Capt C E J Baines Sep 28 B Sqn (20 Apr 92)
Sqn Ldr R J Burge 39 IOTC (16 Oct 92)
Gp Capt J P Cecil-Wright Jan 29 B Sqn (31 Mar 92)
Air Mshl Sir Edward Chilton Sep 24 B Sqn (4 Aug 92)
Air Chf Mshl Sir Hugh A Constantine Jan 26 B Sqn (16 Apr 92)
Gp Capt D J Eayrs Jan 27 B Sqn (25 Sep 92)
(also Stn Cdr RAF Cranwell 54-56)
Air Cdre H Eeles Jan 29 A Sqn (15 Jul 92)
(also Comdt 25 Aug 52 to 15 Apr 56)
Sqn Ldr M Haverson 101 IOTC (26 Nov 92)
Flt Lt J D Henderson 92 IOTC (9 Jul 92)
Gp Capt H J Hobbs Sep 32 A Sqn (14 Mar 92)
Gp Capt S W T Holding Assoc (23 Dec 92) D HQUAS Nov 84 - Jan 87)
Fg Off E G Hordern Sep 23 B Sqn (7 Dec 92)
Sqn Ldr M P Legg 52 IOTC (7 Sep 92)
Flt Lt P W Martin 80 IOTC (30 Sep 92)
Sqn Ldr A D Meeks 64 Entry A Sqn (31 Jul 92)
Wg Cdr N B Norris Jan 26 A Sqn (19 Sep 92)
Air Cdre H M Pearson Jan 27 B Sqn (21 Nov 92)
Gp Capt H W Pearson-Rogers Jan 24 A Sqn (17 Aug 92)
(also Stn Cdr RAF Cranwell 46 - 48)
Air Cdre H M Probyn (24 Mar 92) Stn Cdr RAF Cranwell Jun 40 - Jul 44
Flt Lt S M J Roberts 94 IOTC (26 Nov 92)
Sqn Ldr B J Selby 70 IOTC (7 Nov 92)
AVM Sir Geoffrey L Worthington Sep 21 B Sqn (28 Apr 92)
AVM B P Young Sep 36 C Sqn (26 Jul 92)

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stairs which went straight up. At 1,951 metres we came to the first of 6 rest shelters, which come like blessed gifts from above. The rest shelters have local names (this one was Pondok Kondis) and have guides showing how long the average trekker should take to reach the next shelter. They also provide a welcome chance to rest and refill water canteens, as well as to enjoy the spectacular views. The seemingly never ending climb is punctuated at intervals with examples of exotic vegetation. For example, at the third shelter at 2,225 metres, Low's Pitcher plants can be seen. These plants are so-called because the end of each leaf is modified into a "pitcher" - a container of liquid which attracts unwary insects. These drown and as they dissolve their nutrients are absorbed by the plant. By early afternoon the group had reached Gunting Lagadon at 3,352 metres, which was the destination for that evening. Tired and sweaty, the group was in awe as they looked down upon the landscape of Sabah. Standing on terra firma, looking at the clouds passing by below, a wonderful feeling of achievement was felt by all. A cold shower and some hot noodles soon refreshed everyone and we spent that evening enjoying the sunset from 11000 ft. However, by 2000 hrs everyone was in bed because we planned to begin our final ascent on

the summit at 0230 so that we could watch the fabulous sunrise from Low's peak.

The following morning, having devoured tea and sandwiches, we set off. We all had torchlights and with a clear night sky our procession of small lights could be easily seen. Once more we were faced with a seemingly never ending flight of steps. In the darkness, the only indication of the height we had to conquer was from the tiny beams of light from those above us. After an hour the vegetation abruptly ended and we had to clamber over bare rock, or to use ropes for the really steep parts.

By 0530 our efforts paid off and we reached the peak. It was still dark and quite cold. Having signed the "Visitors' Book" at the summit we sat and waited for the sunrise. Shortly after 0600 the sun rose between the 2 peaks called "Donkeys Ears" to our right. As the sun continued to rise we looked down into the deep chasm called Low's Gully. Borneo was spread out beneath us. The coast away to the west, the peaks of the Crocker Range to the north east and, between them, the hazy blanket of the jungle. All that was left to do was to open our bottle of wine and raise toasts to the beautiful Mount Kinabalu and to 101 Basic Flying Training Course.

OLD CRANWELLIANS ASSOCIATION WEEKEND

SPORTS REPORTS

CRICKET: RAF College 173 for 8 declared - OCA 109 all out RAF College won by 3 wickets

The sun shone down on a resplendent Orange for this prestigious annual fixture. After a quick inspection of the wicket, the captains found it to be present and correct, and the College were asked to bat. OCA were off to a dream start when College captain Singleton, self-promoted to opener, was caught off Earl without troubling the scorer. When 4 overs later, Earl also dismissed Rawnsley the College were struggling

at 10 for 2. A bright 24 by Stuchfield restored some confidence before a stand of 40 by Slater and Dean saw the College through lunch. After lunch Slater achieved an impressive 52 before being deceived by an Aunger donkey drop. A swashbuckling Caribbean 36 by Brown (including five 4s and one 6) pushed the score on and quick runs by Griffin, Davies and Spence enabled the home side to declare on 173 for 8. The pick of the OCA bowlers were Deakin (2-67) and Abbott (2-30).

The OCA innings began steadily with Holliday (28) and Morris (9) seeing off the College

opening attack of Davies and Spence. The introduction of spin forced a breakthrough with Crane trapping Morris LBW and McLaughlin bowling Aunger. The wickets of Owen and Culpen quickly followed and only a resolute 27 by Deakin bolstered the middle order. Stubborn resistance by the OCA tail kept the result in doubt until the College's ninth bowler, spinner Brown, removed the last 2 batsmen on 109 with 3 minutes playing time remaining. The high playing standard in this fixture was no more aptly reflected than in the batting of the 2 current RAF players on show. Singleton and Aunger, a little out of their depth in this company, managed only one run between them.

GOLF MATCH: RAFC 5 - OCA 1

The OCA v College Golf Match took place once again at Sleaford Golf Club in excellent weather. The College was fielding a strong team, with 3 single figure players, and were confident of making a good showing.

The first match saw MRAF Sir Keith Williamson and AVM Price facing a 'guest' player - Air Chf Mshl Sir Patrick Hine - and Plt Off Allison, a 2-handicap player. The initial stages of the game promised a close battle but the College pair soon began to draw ahead. Sir Patrick supplied several birdies, using his caddy's advice and his unconventional putting style to good effect, while Plt Off Allison played steady par golf except for the 300-yard sixth hole. Here his drive finished in the rough by the green and could not be found. Suggestions by his opponents that the local Job Centre might be an appropriate place to search fell on deaf ears and the College pair went on to compile a better ball score that would do credit to a tournament professional. Not surprisingly, the OCA were unable to gain a foothold in the match, despite strenuous efforts, and lost 8 and 7.

The second match was a closer affair, with Air Chf Mshl Sir Thomas Kennedy and Flt Lt Reader going down 4 and 2 to another strong College pairing. The Chief Flying Instructor, Wg Cdr Dee, partnered Fg Off McNeill who claimed to have recovered from his Initial Officer Training graduation the previous Thursday. This was obviously the case

as he lived up to the standard of his 3 handicap and combined well with his partner.

The first 2 matches were played at a fast pace and gradually opened up a large gap on the third match where AVM Brownlow and Gp Capt Sturt for the OCA struggled to contain Wg Cdr Churms and OC Harvey. The College players each sank some long putts, with Wg Cdr Churms' nett birdie at the third and 25-footer at the thirteenth to take the match 6 and 5 being memorable. The OCA pair fought hard but could not stop the rot.

AVM Robinson and Air Cdre Atherton faced the Director of the Department of Initial Officer Training, Gp Capt Wilby, and SO Gault in the fourth match and came out on top for the OCA's first success. They played particularly well around the green and were 3 up at the turn. Honours were then shared until the OCA were dormie 3 up and feeling secure, but a fighting revival by the College ensured that the match went to the last hole, where AVM Robinson sank a tricky 20-ft downhill putt for a birdie to clinch the match.

Unfortunately for the OCA, the final 2 matches went to the College. The fifth match saw Air Chf Mshl Sir Roy Austen-Smith and Sqn Ldr Goodman going down 6 and 5 against Flt Lt Fallow and OC Covill. Gp Capt Neale and Dr Butler came close in the final match, coming back from 3 down early in the match to all square after 15 holes, thanks to memorable chip shots for birdies on the twelfth and thirteenth holes. However, they lost the sixteenth and then OC Rennie scored an excellent par 4 on the long seventeenth to seal the match.

Overall, the strong College team gained a convincing victory but all agreed that the matches had been enjoyable and more closely fought than the bare scores suggested. Our thanks go once again to Sleaford Golf Club for allowing us prime tee times, and also to the Catering Staff for their excellent service. Finally, for the 1994 match, slightly earlier tee times have been requested to allow the OCA members a little longer to prepare for their AGM.

TENNIS MATCH: RAFC 8 - OCA 1

A pleasant sunny afternoon in June provided the backdrop for the 1993 RAFC v OCA Tennis

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Match. In previous matches, the College had succumbed to the stealth, guile, gamesmanship and rank of the OCA team. This year, however, due to training commitment, Service representation and the greatly reduced cadet numbers, the College team consisted of 2 DIOT Squadron Commanders, 3 DIOT Flight Commanders, one DSGT student and, regrettably, only one cadet. It was with some justification, therefore, that the College team felt more able to cope with the plethora of knee bandages, elbow supports and dusty, trusty Maxplys fielded by OCA. Following a hearty lunch and the odd beer, the OCA team of Air Mshl Sir Kenneth Hayr, Air Cdre Bruce, Gp Capt Pinney, Wg Cdr Head, Sqn Ldr Hales, Sqn Ldr Turnill and Flt Lt Scroggs took to the College Hall Tennis Courts.

In the opening rubbers, Hayr and Pinney took Perilleux and Baptiste by surprise and won the first set 7-5 with a display of tenacity and agility that belied their years. The College pair was, however, able to redeem themselves by halving the rubber, taking the second set 6-1. Sqn Ldrs Lynch and Guest, the College first pair, managed to overcome the defensive lobbing of Head and Turnill, winning 6-2, 6-1. Willis and Hicks opened against Dales and Scroggs. Again, the defensive lob was much in evidence, especially from the racket of Scroggs, but Hicks' accurate passing drive-volleys proved too strong for the OCA pairing; RAFC took the rubber 6-3, 6-0. On Court 4 a singles match of note was played between Air Cdre Bruce and Fg Off Thurston. Although Thurston took the rubber by 2 sets to love, Air Cdre Bruce recruited him for the Peregrins Tennis Club and, consequently, felt he won a moral victory. The promise of a cream tea at 1615 hrs loomed large in the minds of the OCA team as the second rubbers began. Lynch and Guest playing an orthodox serve, drive and volley game outplayed Hayr and Pinney 6-1, 6-1. Head and Turnill were determined to ensure that only one set was played before tea, hoping that they could ply their opponents with sandwiches and sticky cakes during the interval. Much to Turnill's annoyance, the Strawberry Tartlets and Cream were not in evidence this year, so it was with bitter disappointment and a heavy heart (but empty stomach) that Head and Turnill lost the second set 6-0.

Having gained their second wind during the tea interval, Hayr and Pinney set about their third match with renewed vigour. Although they lost 6-1, 6-1, the score does not do justice to the effort expended, or the amount of court that both players covered. Again, the accuracy of Hicks' volleying proved to be the decisive feature of the match. On Court 2, a tussle of major proportions was taking place between Head and Turnill and Baptiste and Thurston, with the OCA pair taking the first set 6-4. RAFC fortunately summoned all of their reserves to halve the rubber. With the remaining rubber won by RAFC, the final score was 8 rubbers to 1 in favour of RAFC.

Overall, a splendid afternoon of tennis was enjoyed by all, and OIC College Tennis would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the event. Should the match report not accord fully with your individual recollections, remember that a good story should not be tarnished by the truth!

SQUASH: RAFC 4 - OCA 3

Having powered their way to an emphatic win in last year's match, the Old Cranwellians were brimming with confidence in the dressing-room during their pre-match warm-up. Last year, they did not drop a match and it looked as if history was going to repeat itself as AVM Woodford and Mr Weaver showed power, skill, cunning and deceptive speed to overwhelm cadets Parks and Cogley, by 3:0, in the first 2 games, giving the Old Cranwellians a 2:0 lead. Cadet Colin Pease at Number 1, then despatched Wg Cdr Duguid 3:0 with some consistent attacking stroke-play, and at Number 2 Flt Lt Rob Woods of DSGT played some attractive squash to beat Gp Capt P Gooding 3:0 and levelled the score at 2 rubbers apiece. Flt Lt Collier-Baker, also of DSGT, playing at Number 3, showed excellent court-skills to beat Sqn Ldr Walt Lynch, one of last year's victors, by 3 games to 0.

The College were 3:2 up with 2 to play, which meant that Flt Lt Simon Buckingham, minus his usual fluorescent cycling shorts, could have the match sewn up if he could beat AVM Cheshire. Buckingham took the first game, playing to a good length down the walls, but

AVM Cheshire soon adapted, took the ball early, and won the next 3 games to tie the match at 3 rubbers each.

So the match was to be decided by the final game between Flt Lt Cogley and Gp Capt Wood. Cogley took the first, but Gp Capt Wood dug in to take the second with some fine drop shots. Finally, youth won the day as Cogley took the next 2 games to win 3:1.

Overall, it was a keenly fought competition, and many thanks go to the players, markers and all concerned for an enjoyable afternoon's squash.

CLAY PIGEON: RAFC 134 - OCA 137

On 5 June 1993, as part of the Old Cranwellians' Association Reunion and Games, the RAF College competed against OCA at clay pigeon

shooting. The teams, each consisting of 10 men, assembled at the range at 1345 on a fine sunny afternoon and shooting commenced at 1400. The sporting targets were presented in 3 stands: the first was a pair of springing teal, the second a single driven partridge, and the final stand presented a rabbit target followed by a rising pheasant.

After the first stand, the OCA team were narrowly ahead by 5 points. On the second stand, the College defeated the OCA by the narrow margin of 2 points, thus leaving the match finely balanced. The OCA team won the last stand by one point and thus ran out overall winners by 137 to 134, the closest competition for many years. The High Gun Trophy was won by Gp Capt Forsyth with a score of 20+2/25 after a 3-way shoot off.

OCA REUNION 1993 - AGM

The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking the members for attending. The minutes of the 1992 meeting were accepted without reservation. Under matters arising, the Chairman reported that annual income would be increased by some £1800 if all members payed the correct subscription. The Chairman informed the meeting that on 16 December 1992 he had written to all those members not paying the correct amount and asked them to amend their Standing Order. As the Standing Orders were not payable until June 1, the response was not yet known.

The Chairman announced the following changes to the Committee:

- a. **Wines Member.** Wg Cdr I J Childs had taken over from Wg Cdr Parsley.
- b. **Secretary.** Sqn Ldr E A H Webb had taken over from Wg Cdr M H Codd.
- c. **Membership Secretary.** Flt Lt T L Annal had taken over from Flt Lt D C Cramp.
- d. **Members.**

(1) Wg Cdr M S Taylor had replaced Sqn Ldr P Mercer.

(2) Wg Cdr R J Ward had replaced Wg Cdr R McLellan.

The Treasurer presented the balance sheet for the year ending 31 Dec 92. He firstly assured members that the Association's account was in a healthy position, with a capital balance of **£11694.10p**. He then said the Balance Sheet had changed little during the year. A decrease in the cash figure by **£500** had been offset by a **£700** increase in the Stock figure, thereby providing a net increase of **£200**. The Reserve Account had remained generally static, because the Portrait Account income of **£1097** had been balanced by an expenditure of **£1067**. The income on the Wines Account was **£548**, but expenditure, on Import Duty for wine held in bond amounted to **£696**. no expenditure had been incurred on the Computer Replacement Account though income was **£548**. The Treasurer then went on to inform members that the Income and Expenditure Account showed a deficit of **£189.21p**. A fall in interest rates had resulted in a reduction in income from the Investment account and expenditure had increased on the Annual Reunion, the College Journal and as a result of a rise in Corporation Tax. The overall increase in expenditure had been partly offset

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by a slight upturn in revenue from the Subscriptions Account and by a reduction in sundry expenses. Despite the deficit, the Treasurer did not recommend an increase in subscriptions. He reminded the members of the Chairman's earlier comments which indicated that a significant proportion of the membership were not paying the correct subscription, resulting in a loss of revenue of approximately £1800. Should this revenue be recovered in the next financial year, then a healthy increase in capital could be expected.

The Chairman reminded members that in his letter of 16 December 1992 he had also raised the subject of membership rules for graduates and non-graduates. As a consequence of the replies received he had again reviewed the Rules and tabled 2 options for consideration by the meeting. The proposed new rule for non-graduates was carried with only one vote against and, after lengthy discussion, a large majority voted in favour of a new membership rule for graduates. The new rules are as follows:

Attendance of Non-Graduates on Special Anniversary Occasions. An entry or course wishing to mark a particular anniversary (for example, the 25th anniversary of their graduation) by inviting non-graduating colleagues may do so with the prior permission of the Commandant. Those attending as non-graduates will be required to pay an economic rate as decided by the Committee.

Attendance at Annual Reunions by Graduates who are not Members of the Association. Graduates who are not members of the Association would be expected to join if they wished to attend the Annual Reunion. However, on particular anniversary occasions only, graduates who do not wish to join may be invited to attend with prior permission of the Commandant. They will be required to pay an economic rate as decided by the Committee.

On the subject of portraits the Chairman asked Air Cdre Millar to unveil the portrait of Sqn Ldr Simon Falla. Air Cdre Millar also informed the Committee that he was seeking a suitable successor due to his impending posting to RAF Germany. In response to a question from AVM Macfadyen, Air Cdre Millar said the intention

was to continue with the smaller portraits. Finally, on behalf of members, the Chairman thanked Air Cdre Millar for his efforts as the Chairman of the Portraits Sub-Committee.

On behalf of the Wines Member the Vice-Chairman informed the meeting that there was some £5000 worth of wine and port in the cellar which was expected to last until 1999. In addition, there was £3400 in the Wines Account. As 1991 was not a good year for claret, none had been purchased. Prospects for 1992 were not good either but, as stocks were at a satisfactory level, there was no great hurry to buy more claret. Nevertheless, there would be a requirement to purchase more wine next year because Cru Bourgeois took 5 years to mature. At present the 1980 vintage port was being drunk and, therefore, consideration would have to be given to buying one of the later vintages. The Vice-Chairman reassured members that there was enough stock for the next 7 years and money had been earmarked to replenish stocks when it was sensible to do so.

The Editor-in-Chief of the College Journal informed the meeting that the net cost of the 1993 Journal would be approximately £2700. Last year over 150 copies of the Journal had been returned by the Post Office. Unless new addresses for these members were received it was not planned to send them copies next year. This action would further reduce the printing and postage costs. The latter costs had already been reduced by some £200 by using the Post Office's Mailsort facility. The Editor-in-Chief also stated that he would be grateful for comments and suggestions on how to improve the Journal. In addition, he would welcome articles or anecdotes from members. Finally, approval was given to spend up to £3000 on next year's Journal.

Invitations to dine had been extended to Gp Capt D Wilby, DDIOT and Wg Cdr (Rev) I Thomas, College Cof E Chaplain. Both had accepted and would dine with Members that evening. The Membership Secretary explained that due to restrictions on the use of certain meat products, the traditional 'turtle' soup would be replaced by Beef Consomme.

The Chairman read out a letter from the President in which he announced that Air Chf Mshl Sir Thomas Kennedy would take over as Presi-

dent of the Association in 1994. The President thanked the Chairman and his 4 predecessors who, with their dedicated staffs had done so much for the Association and thus made his time as President trouble free. The Chairman advised the meeting that he had purchased an inscribed Dartington Crystal Bowl as a gift to the outgoing President.

Finally, the date for the next reunion was to be 18/19 June 1994.

AOC & COMDT'S SPEECH

Air Vice-Marshal Cousins extended a warm welcome to all members of the OCA to the 60th Annual Reunion Dinner. He also took the opportunity to welcome 67, 83 and 84 Entries who were celebrating anniversaries that evening. In particular, he welcomed the Guest of Honour, Air Chief Marshal Sir Patrick Hine and payed tribute to Sir Patrick's distinguished career.

The Commandant was pleased to record that the Inter-Collegiate games saw convincing victories for the College. Of particular note was the 22-3 defeat of a very strong French rugby team. The Commandant reported that the 24 week IOT Course had bedded in and, his initial impressions were that the course produced more confident and knowledgeable young men and women better prepared to face the challenges of their early years in the Service. However, he believed that a longer residential course would be required to inculcate a long lasting vocational sense within the student body.

The formation of the Directorate of Recruiting and Selection at Cranwell had proved to be of great value both to selectors and trainers alike. The re-formation of the Royal Air Force College Air Squadron was a most welcome initiative to provide air experience flying to those undergoing officer training.

Finally, the Commandant spoke about the President Sir Jimmy Stack. He recorded Sir Jimmy's close association with Cranwell from being a cadet in 1937, Sword of Honour winner in 1939, Commandant in 1967 and 1970 and President of the OCA since 1984. He felt that Sir Jimmy's enthusiasm for the College and the Association had been unsurpassed; he was a formidably effective President of the OCA. The Comman-

dant then wished the President a speedy recovery from illness. (Just before going to print, Sir Jimmy Stack passed away. His obituary follows this article).

SPEECH BY GUEST OF HONOUR

Sir Patrick Hine expressed his delight at being invited as Guest of Honour. He recalled his association with Cranwell which began when he was a National Serviceman in 1950. In particular, he mentioned some of the characters he had met and the contribution they made to the early part of his RAF career. Sir Patrick went on to describe some of his experiences in the Gulf War. He spoke warmly of his close working relationship with General Schwarzkopf and gave vivid accounts of events during some of the most critical stages of the War. Sir Patrick then said that the main lesson to come out of the Gulf War was that modern airpower, correctly applied, can actually enable you to win a major war against sizable forces decisively, quickly and with a minimum of casualties. Sir Patrick expressed his sadness that this lesson had, very largely, been ignored during recent changes to our own Armed Forces. He said that the RAF had lost 40% of its Strike Attack capability and a third of its Air Defence Fighter capability.

Sir Patrick concluded his speech by giving a personal view of the future of the RAF College. He felt that 24 weeks of Initial Officer Training were not enough to enable students to absorb properly the ethos, traditions and customs the Service, a fault of the system not any individual. In his opinion, there was a need to re-examine ways in which the RAF College could be reconstituted as an Air Force Academy.

PRESIDENT ELECT'S REPLY

The President Elect, Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy, thanked Sir Patrick Hine for being the Guest of Honour and for his excellent and thought provoking speech. In particular, he thanked the AOC and Commandant and his staff for their hard work in organising this year's Reunion.

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AIR CHIEF MARSHAL

SIR NEVILLE STACK

KCB CVO CBE AFC RAF

We record with deep regret that the President of The Old Cranwellians' Association, Air Chief Marshal Sir Neville Stack died on 26 January 1994.

Neville "Jimmy" Stack was born into the world of aviation, the son of a celebrated air pioneer and test pilot who had made the first flight to India in a light aeroplane. He was educated at St Edmund's College, Ware before coming to Cranwell, in 1937, in pursuit of a career which, with hindsight, seems predestined.



Awarded the Sword of Merit on Graduation in 1939, Jimmy Stack proceeded to Coastal Command where he spent most of World War 2 specialising in anti-submarine operations, although he admitted to having never seen one. Brief "rest" tours, spent instructing at the School of General Intelligence, separated operational tours with Nos 201 and 204 Sqns during which he flew from bases as far apart as the Shetlands and West Africa. The immediate post-war years saw him continue his maritime specialisation on the Staff at HQ Coastal Command and as Chief RAF Instructor at the Joint Anti-submarine School. In this role he was instrumental in developing the tactics and techniques needed to counter the rapidly emerging Soviet submarine threat.

In 1954 his career dramatically changed course when he was appointed to command the Far East Transport Wing, based at Changi. Here, the main role of his Dakota and Valetta transports was to support the counter-insurgency operations of the Army and in addition to the usual supply drops and casualty evacuations his aircraft also took part in psychological warfare operations, dropping millions of leaflets and broadcasting from loudspeaker equipped Dakotas to the villages and jungles of Malaya. In 1957 Neville Stack's contribution was formally recognized by the award of the Air Force Cross. Following this he served successively on the Staff at HQ Transport Command and in command of the transport forces in Cyprus during which time his aircraft played a significant supporting role in the stabilization of the Middle East in the wake of the assassination of King Faisal of Iraq. Then in 1961, following an appointment as Deputy Captain of The Queen's Flight, Gp Capt Stack again returned to the Far East and active service. In the Indonesian crisis, his expertise in air support was put to valuable use as Senior Air Staff Officer at HQ 224 Group at Seletar. In 1965, upon his return from the Far East, his became SASO at HQ Flying Training Command before being appointed Commandant of the Royal Air Force College in 1967.

In this cherished appointment Neville Stack was able to deploy his great personal charm and ability to put even the most nervous Cadet at ease. His relaxed and extrovert personality was ideally suited to the role and Stack was delighted to have the opportunity to command the College. After 3 very happy years Stack became Permanent Military Deputy at the Central Treaty Organisation in Ankara before returning, in 1973, to become AOC in C Flying Training Command and finally, from 1976 until his retirement in 1978, he was the last four star Air Secretary.

Characteristically, Sir Neville Stack sought new challenges outside the Service. He was director general of the Asbestos International Association for 11 years and was always active on behalf of the OCA, becoming President in 1984 and remaining in post despite the onset of his final illness.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Neville Stack served with great distinction, achieving high rank and public honours. He gave long, dedicated and distinguished service to The College and will be remembered with affection by all who knew him.

IN MEMORIAM

We record with regret the passing of the following Cranwell graduates whose details were notified to us during the last year:

Wg Cdr P H Atkin	58 Entry	D Sqn	(20 Aug 93)
Sqn Ldr A Dodd	53 IOTC		(8 Nov 93)
Gp Capt G Francis	Jan 25	A Sqn	(9 Aug 93)
Gp Capt R J Gosnell	Sep 30	A Sqn	(23 Apr 93)
AVM HAV Hogan	Jan 29	B Sqn	(28 Jun 93)
Wg Cdr P I Howard-Williams	Apr 39	C Sqn	(10 Mar 93)
Sqn Ldr J Hull	43 IOTC		(2 May 93)
Flt Lt P Jevons	54 Entry	A Sqn	(Aug 92)
AVM R I Jones	Sep 33	A Sqn	(25 Jun 93)
Sqn Ldr A M McKelvey	18 GE		(24 Jul 93)
Flt Lt S P McNally	99 IOTC		(27 May 93)
Fg Off J H Owen	121 IOTC		(27 May 93)
Flt Lt G R J Southard	59 IOTC		(27 May 93)

Obituary: Sqn Ldr K B E Roberts. Ken Roberts died suddenly on 15 October 1992, aged 60. He entered the College in January 1950, where he distinguished himself as a rugby player. His son, Matthew inherited his father's skills and became a member of the Junior England Squad. Sqn Ldr Roberts graduated from 56 Entry and went on to fly Javelins with 29 Sqn at Leuchers and, later, converted to Shackletons at St. Mawgan. He returned to Cranwell in 1962 as the College Adjutant before moving onto Staff College at Bracknell in 1964. Ken retired in 1971 whereupon he took up an administrative position with a well known veterinary practice. He leaves a widow, Shirley, 3 children and 6 grandchildren. He is sadly missed by family and many friends.

Flt Lt (Rtd) W E Woods 56/57 Entry

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INDIVIDUAL SPORTS REPRESENTATIVES 1996

Angling

MAEOp Vongyer - RAF
Flt Lt Payne - RAF

Athletics

Sqn Ldr Gammage - CS, RAF and Team Manager.
Flt Lt Coyne - CS, RAF.
Fg Off Ingram - RAF.
Plt Off Wills - RAF.
OC Booth - RAF.
OC Elliot - RAF.
OC Haxton - RAF.
Sgt Payne - CS, RAF.
Cpl Prestwood - RAF.
Cpl Southern - RAF.
SAC Paine - CS, RAF.
SAC Thompson - RAF.

Badminton

Flt Lt McKenzie - RAF.
Plt Off Hood - CS.
Sgt Metcalfe - RAF.

Basketball

Flt Lt Claringbould - RAF.
Fg Off Wyatt - RAF.
SO Westbrook - RAF.
OC Heede - RAF.
Sgt Swarbrick - RAF.

Canoeing

Flt Lt McDonald - RAF.
Cpl Goodsell - RAF.

Cricket

Fg Off Riddell - RAF
Fg Off Catlow - RAF
OC Harris - RAF U25.
Cpl Chapple - Comd.
Cpl Goacher - RAF.
Cpl Spray - RAF U25.
SAC Gray - RAF U25.
SAC Myers - RAF U25.

Cross-Country

Flt Lt Dazeley - RAF.
Sgt Payne - RAF.
SAC Paine - RAF.

Cycling

Sqn Ldr Daniels - RAF.
Cpl Kaye - RAF.

Equitation

Sqn Ldr Faulkes - RAF.
Flt Lt Rosier - Comd.

Football

Cpl Dawson - Comd.
SAC McIntyre - Comd.

Gliding

Sgt Crocker - Comd.

Golf

Sqn Ldr Griffith - RAF Ladies' Individual Golf
Champion.

Hockey

Sqn Ldr Griffin - RAF.
Flt Lt Parry - RAF.
Fg Off Gibson - RAF.
Fg Off Kellett - RAF.
Cpl Simpson - RAF.
SAC Dykes - RAF.
SAC Midgley - RAF.
SAC Nash - RAF.
SAC Orton - RAF.
SAC Watts - RAF.

Judo

Fg Off German - RAF.
SAC English - RAF.

Lawn Tennis

Flt Lt Doherty - RAF.
Sgt Swarbrick - RAF.

Motor Sport

Cpl Edwards - RAF.
Cpl Kenny - RAF.

Netball

Cpl Weir - Comd.

Road Racing

Flt Lt Coyne - RAF.
Flt Lt Dazeley - RAF.

Flt Lt Gilbert-Simpson - RAF.
MALM Watts - RAF.
Sgt Wilson-Evans - RAF.
Sgt Payne - RAF.
Sgt Young - RAF.
SAC Paine - RAF.

Rowing

Flt Lt Berry - RAF.
Fg Off Hunter - RAF.
Cpl Smith - RAF.

Rugby

Flt Lt Burn - RAF.
Flt Lt Cairns - RAF U21 Coach.
Flt Lt Lamb - RAF Coach.
Fg Off Cloke - Comd.
Fg Off Coffey - Comd.
Fg Off Marter - Comd.
Fg Off Race - RAF.
Fg Off Scourfield - Comd.
Plt Off Everett - Comd.
Plt Off Nelson - Comd.
Plt Off Parr - RAF.
SO Thorpe - RAF.
OC Matthews - Comd.
Cpl Grindrod - RAF.
Cpl Hermond-Halgh - RAF.
Cpl James - RAF.

Sailing Offshore

Flt Lt Blake - RAF.
Flt Lt Rossiter - RAF.

Sailing Yacht Racing

Sqn Ldr Chilvers - RAF.

Skiing Alpine

Sqn Ldr Mutch - RAF.
WO Palmer - RAF.

Squash

Cpl Goodings - Comd.

Swimming/Water Polo

Flt Lt Bauer - Comd.
Flt Lt Buchanan - RAF.
Flt Lt Smart - RAF.
Flt Lt Wilson - RAF.
Fg Off DONaldson - Comd.
Fg Off Hamilton - RAF.
Plt Off Ansell - Comd.
OC Barry - Comd.
OC Chesworth - Comd.
OC Higgins - RAF.
OC Leever - RAF.
Sgt Murphy - RAF.
Cpl Davies - RAF.
Cpl Goodings - Comd.
Cpl Grindrod - Comd.
Cpl Hamer - CS, RAF.
Cpl Simpson - CS, RAF.
Cpl Southern - RAF.
Cpl Watts - RAF.
Cpl Williams - RAF.
SAC Murphy - Comd.

Table Tennis

SAC Buck - RAF.
SAC Oldman - RAF.

Volleyball

Sqn Ldr Leighton - RAF.

OLD CRANWELLIANS' ASSOCIATION GAMES - SPORTS REPORTS 1996

Squadron Leader R D Gammage BSc, OC PEd Sqn, RAF Cranwell

CRICKET MATCH

RAF College 167 for 6
OCA 121 for 3

RAF College Won

With The Orange wicket lying fallow for at least 2 seasons whilst work is undertaken to restore it to its former glory, the 1996 Cricket Match was held on the College's Number One Wicket, adjacent to The Sultan Qaboos Pavilion. The limited overs match started early after the OCA lunch under a bright blue sky and glorious sunshine. A sizeable crowd

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had gathered to enjoy the sporting spectacle, played in excellent conditions. The College Captain won the toss and elected to bat, whereupon Plt Off Simon Gilbert and SO Stuart Lockyer were given the privilege of opening the batting. The opening partnership put on 35 runs before Gilbert fell to a 'slower' ball from the OCA's star fast bowler.

Although the next College batsman, Fg Off Wilson, was out to the following ball, the College amassed a challenging total of 167 before the end of their innings; SO Lockyer scoring 58 to lead the batting scores. The only wicket lost that involved an outfielder, showed Air Mshl Squire to be as nimble as ever as he removed the bails before OC Noble could ground his rear foot - owzat! The OCA had been set a difficult task. The stars of the OCA innings were undoubtedly Sqn Ldr (Retd) Morris and SO Deakin; Deakin remained unbeaten on 50 before retiring, to enable more of the OCA Team to enjoy a taste of the 'middle'. Although they always lagged a little behind the run rate required for victory, the OCA's sound batting kept them in the race up to the last. Nevertheless, the College victory was a fair indication of the ability of the 2 sides. The weather, crowd and sporting attitude of the participants had once again made for an exciting afternoon of cricket.



The OCA and College Cricket Teams for the 1996 Games

GOLF MATCH

RAF College 3 points - OCA 3 points
Draw

Blessed by excellent weather, the OCA versus RAF College Golf Match was once again competed for at Sleaford Golf Club. Indeed, in recognition of the excellent service provided to the College and OCA over many years, Air Chf Marshal Sir Jock Kennedy, President of The OCA, presented a bench to the Sleaford Golf Club Captain on behalf of the Association. The strict training regime of the College Team meant they were not allowed to partake of the sherry drinks to toast the Presentation, which may well have had some bearing on the final result.

The first match consisted of OCA Captain, Air Chf Mshl Sir Michael Graydon and Air Cdre Duckett, for the OCA, against Rev (Wg Cdr) Devany and OC Calder, for the College. In a close match, characterized by some excellent birdie putting, the College ran out winners, 2 up, one to play. The second and third matches were even more closely contested, with the OCA and College sides winning

one each. The OCA team of Gp Capts Buckland and Saye made a fine start to the fourth match, winning the first 4 holes. Despite the College golfers settling down later in the Match they were unable to pull back the OCA lead. The fifth match featured WO Palmer and SO Potter for the College against Air Chf Mshl Sir Robert Freer and AVM Price. Commendable College wins on the eleventh, thirteenth and fourteenth holes allowed them to



The OCA presented a gift to Sleaford Golf Club for their tremendous support over the years

win by 6 holes, with 4 to play. Both teams eagerly awaited the final match. The result was a win on the last for Air Chf Mshl Sir Thomas Kennedy and Air Cdre Atherton for the OCA. The overall match score was thus 3 points all, a draw being the most appropriate result after the close contest at Sleaford.

TENNIS MATCH

RAF College 80 points - OCA 85 points
OCA won by 5 points

The Tennis Match on the College courts also benefited from the bright, sunny weather which blessed the 1996 Games. The popular 'American Format' of previous years was once again agreed on by both teams and allowed flexibility and great enjoyment for all. The College Tennis Team's infrequent practices were quickly evident, although they made up for this with youth and enthusiasm. In contrast, the OCA Team was full of its usual mixture of experienced partnerships and competitive spirit. Playing consistent tennis, the OCA Team of Air Chf Mshl Sir Kenneth Hayr, Wg Cdrs Head and Rogers, Sqn Ldrs Deakin, Danks and Leaney and Flt Lt Scroggs quickly asserted their dominance over the College players.



The 1996 OCA Tennis Team

After a poor start by the College, the teams broke for tea which enabled the youngsters to capitalize on the OCA's appetites and claw back a few points after the break. Tactics were now playing an important part in the match, with ingenious lobbing and brave volleying serving to whip up team spirits.



The winning OCA Tennis Team serve/volley tactics helped them to win the match

Despite this, sound serving by the OCA enabled them to maintain the pressure and ward off the burden of the Danish pastries! The OCA went on to earn a notable and well deserved 85-80 win.

SQUASH

RAF College 1 point - OCA 3 points
OCA won by 2 points

The annual Squash Match soon showed the OCA's strength in depth over a College team left depleted by the recent graduation of key players. With quick OCA wins in the third and fourth string pairings, the OCA took an early lead. Indeed, AVM Woodford and Gp Capt Stephen (OCA Captain) achieved relatively straightforward victories over their College rivals. Superior technical play and skill had defeated fitness and courageous hard work by OC Duffy and SO Rafferty. The number 2 pairing were closely matched and the first 2 games were keenly contested; Sqn Ldr Deacon-Elliott managed to maintain the upper hand against left-handed SO Rolfe. Rolfe fought back to win the third 9-2, but the OCA Number 2 shrugged off his opponents' revival to win the next 9-3 and secure a win and overall victory for the OCA. The College managed to retain some pride to win the number one pairing, with Fg Off Peeters demonstrating

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superb technical ability against Wg Cdr Duguid's spirited play. The OCA had won 3 - 1 overall, a clear indication of their better ability and tactical experience.

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING MATCH

RAF College 209 points - OCA 251 points
OCA won by 42 points

The Clay Pigeon Shooting Competition was shot over 4 different standards of 10 birds each. Both teams fielded 9-man teams, the OCA captained by Wg Cdr Taylor and the College by Flt Lt Pearce. The first stand, the down-the-line, was evenly contested by both teams; Wg Cdr Taylor and Sqn Ldr Pearce (no relation to College Captain!) each shooting a straight 10. The second stand of 5 pairs of springing teal proved a more trying test with only Gp Capt Beney and Sqn Ldr Cole shooting straight 10s. By the start of the second half of the

Competition the OCA had pulled out a small, but insurmountable lead of 8 points. With 360 points still up for grabs the battle intensified. Stand 3, the single springing teal, followed by a right to left crosser, put the shooters to the test. Even the irrepressible Wg Cdr Taylor could only manage 9; most were happy to hit 5. By the start of the last stand, the rabbit and crossing bird, the OCA had eked out their lead to 9 points. Air Mshl Macfadyen opened with a splendid 9 from 10 starting a healthy rout from the OCA team. The much younger and less experienced College team buckled under the onslaught from the more experienced OCA shooters, the OCA picking up a massive 15 points advantage from this stand alone.

At battle's end the OCA had won by 42 points. Having lost for the last 2 years, the OCA captained by Wg Cdr Taylor were absolutely delighted to accept the Clay Pigeon Trophy from Air Mshl Macfadyen. The High Gun Trophy was closely contested this year with Wg Cdr M W Taylor narrowly beating the other 2 contenders to win with a very respectable 35 from 40.



The OCA won the Clay Pigeon Competition for the first time since 1993

The intended direct debiting system was seen as a valuable means of ensuring current subscription payment.

Although College Journal production costs were increasing because of reduced advertising revenue, those additional costs had been more than ameliorated by sales of the Journal to the Directorate of Recruiting and Selection. That will continue for 1996. Corporation Tax liability had decreased for the second year running. Sundry expenses had been reduced significantly through careful budgeting, and the Portrait, Wine and IT Accounts income had remained consistent with the slight downturn in subscriptions.

The proposal to accept the Balance Sheets for the Financial Year ending 31 Dec 95 was accepted without demur.

Paintings. AVM Elder briefly summarized the illustrious career of the late Air Chf Mshl Sir John Thomson, before unveiling the Stubble portrait commissioned by the OCA.

The Painting Sub-Committee had been tasked at the 1995 AGM to make proposals on the way ahead. It was proposed that future paintings should be considered in the following order:

Distinguished Very Senior Officers who are Old Cranwellians.

Old Cranwellians who have served with distinction or major achievement for their country (The Stubble Series).

Retiring CAS who were Old Cranwellians.

After considerable debate over these priorities, the consensus view was that these 'guidelines' were a very satisfactory base for pragmatic decisions.

It had been mutually agreed between the artist and CAS, that Andrew Festing would paint the portrait of CAS at a time convenient to CAS.

Gp Capt Phil Pinney had asked to stand down from the Sub-Committee. Wg Cdr Nick Barnes, currently



Air Vice-Marshal Stables and Old Cranwellians of 90 Entry on the steps of College Hall Officers' Mess

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serving on the Joint Staff College Project, had agreed to replace him, subject to approval. The meeting accepted the change without demur.

Cellar Stock. The Wines Member reported that claret and port stocks were ample. The 1995 claret vintage was reported to be excellent and the Wines Member intended to replenish the Association's claret reserves appropriately.

Dinner Guests. In keeping with custom, the Commandant had extended an invitation to dine with the OCA to those members of the Committee who were not themselves Old Cranwellians. Sqn Ldr Brooke and Flt Lt Brown had accepted the invitation.

Any Other Business.

Charity Raffle. Tickets for the raffle of the bottle of port had raised some £140 which would go to the RAF Dependants Disabled Holiday Trust. CAS drew the winning ticket, purchased by Wg Cdr Semple.

Cricket Pitch. The decision to use the No 1 cricket square, rather than The Orange, for the OCA versus College Cricket Match was discussed. The money to make The Orange wicket safe for competitive cricket, some £20000, was beyond the resource of either the OCA or the College Budget in the foreseeable future. Thus, the No 1 square would remain the venue. Thought would be given to relocating the mid-afternoon refreshments from College Hall to the Sports Pavilion in future years.

Date for 1997 Reunion. The Chairman briefed the membership on the continuing difficulties in finding a date around the traditional time of late June and proposed that the 1997 Reunion be held 26/27 Jun 97. This provoked significant discussion and a general consensus that the membership would have wished to secure a date closer to the end of June and invited the Committee to re-examine the possibility and to report back in a newsletter by end Nov 97. OCA Members will be aware that the decision has been made to hold the reunion on 21/22 Jun 97.

IN MEMORIAM

We record with regret the passing of the following Cranwell Graduates whose deaths were notified to us during the last year

Wg Cdr	A I	Alder	55 Entry, A Sqn	(12 Jan 97)
Gp Capt	T J	Arbuthnot	Sep 24, B Sqn	(31 Dec 95)
Sqn Ldr	P B	Balean	Jan 39, A Sqn	(31 Jul 96)
Wg Cdr	C V	Beadon	Sep 37, B Sqn	(14 Sep 95)
Flt Lt	S J	Burgess	92 IOTC	(13 Feb 96)
Sqn Ldr	N S J	Carter	45 IOTC	(25 Sep 96)
Gp Capt	J J R	Cohu	71 Entry, C Sqn	(4 Jan 96)
Gp Capt	C J	Collingwood	Feb 20, A Sqn	(20 Jan 96)
Gp Capt	L	Crocker	Sep 27, A Sqn	(18 Apr 96)
Gp Capt	R J A	Ford	Feb 23, B Sqn	(12 Dec 96)
Sqn Ldr	R H	Gidman	49 Entry, A Sqn	(1 Mar 96)
AVM	A D	Gillmore	Sep 23, B Sqn	(27 May 96)
Air Cdre	G W	Hayes	Feb 23, B Sqn	(15 Oct 96)
Air Cdre	S J	Marchbank	Sep 30, B Sqn	(8 Jan 96)
Air Cdre	E D	McK Nelson	Jan 31, C Sqn	(5 Dec 96)
Air Cdre	C C	Morton	Jan 30, B Sqn	(6 Nov 96)
Flt Lt	N R	Norton	44 IOTC	(28 Jun 96)
Gp Capt	J O W	Oliver	Sep 29, BSqn	(4 Feb 97)
Flt Lt	J R	Reeves	60 IOTC	(28 Apr 96)
Air Cdre	G N E	Tindal-Carill-Worsley	Sep 26, B Sqn	(28 Apr 96)
Air Cdre	Sir Frank	Whittle	Sep 26, B Sqn	(9 Aug 96)

OBITUARY

AIR COMMODORE E D McK NELSON CB DL

Air Vice-Marshal M D Lyne CB AFC** DL RAF(Retd)

Eric Nelson entered the College in January 1931 and thus starting his flying training in open cockpit Avro 504 aircraft under the most stark conditions. He did his advanced flying in Atlas biplanes, also without protection from the weather.

But as a keen sailor he may have already been prepared to put up with wet, cold and the misbehaviour of craft affected by the wind. At any rate he passed out with an 'Above Average' grading and went on to No 12 Squadron and then into the Fleet Air Arm, where catapulting, deck landings and floatplane flying were difficult skills to be learnt.

His career nearly ended here when he was towing targets for naval gunners and thought that their fire was getting too close to his aircraft. When he gave the order to let out 50 yards more of cable his scarf caught in the windlass and choked him. The airman in the back first cut the scarf and then leaned over to slap his face. Eric came to just in time to alight on the sea and then passed out again. The airman was doubly lucky - he saved his life and was not court martialled for 'Striking an Officer'.

Flt Lt Nelson was a leading boxer, holding the RAF Championship for his weight for 3 years. He was also a natural sportsman, doing the pentathlon and yacht and dinghy racing. In his Service duties he was a flying instructor and, in 1941, was sent with a team to Australia to start a training scheme. Here he did well with the local people and also became a good surfer by their standards.

After a hair-raising voyage back to England in 1943 he took command of a Lancaster Squadron involved in the Battle of Berlin. When promoted to Gp Capt in 1944 he went to Manby. In 1946 he had a happier Lancaster flight round the world on a technology mission.

His peacetime work included being Asst Comdt of Cranwell before starting the unique series of appointments to the pillars of Trenchard's Air



Air Commodore E D McK Nelson

Force, the Aircraft Apprentices School at Halton, the Staff College at Andover and finally as Comdt of the RAF College. No other officer held all of these Commandantships.

He retired in Lincolnshire and the attendance at his Memorial Service showed how beloved he and his wife Yvonne were in our County.

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CRANWELLIAN NOTES

38 Entry (B Sqn) - Air Cdre A M (Peter) Ruston CBE DFC. Flying boats throughout war - areas Atlantic, Mediterranean and Far East. Post-war Coastal Command, Staff College, Episkopi, OC Topcliffe and Director Flying Training MOD. Post RAF 3 years Airwork Riyadh. Current activities sailing from Keyhaven. Member Romsey Town Council and former Mayor.

46 Entry (B Sqn) - ACM Sir Jock Kennedy GCB AFC DL is trying to organize the fiftieth anniversary of the graduation of No 46 IOT Course. Please make contact: Garden Cott, Manton, Nr Oakham, Rutland LE15 8SY.

53 Entry (B Sqn) - Flt Lt D E Hobday retired from the RAF in 1968. Took up civil aviation, flying with Loganair, then with BUA, later to become BCAL. Later flew with BA after they took over BCAL. Retired second time in 1990. Now lives in Horsham, Sussex.

58 Entry (A Sqn) - Capt R E Pyrah retired at his 38/16 option in 1969 and flew for British Steel, RTZ, THF and retired finally after 12 years as Chief Pilot of a ME company completing 43 years of flying. Now living in Colwell Bay, Isle of Wight and getting in a lot of sailing to the West Country and Brittany. A delightful old stone cottage in lovely surrounds, the beach 5 minutes walk and the boat 5 minutes drive; what more could one ask for.

58 Entry (C Sqn) - ACM Sir Michael Armitage KCB CBE happily retired in mid-Somerset these past 5 years - after 43 years in uniform - it seemed long enough! The delights of retirement enhanced by 2 or 3 cruises in the Far East each year where I give talks on military and colonial history.

59 Entry (B Sqn) - Mr D D Mumby. Members of No 58 and 59 Entries have been holding dinners on alternate years at the RAF Club. The next dinner, with wives, is at the Club on 12 Apr 97. Any member of 58 or 59 Entry, with whom we are not already in contact, who wishes to attend should call Derek Mumby on 0115-941-7871.

70 Entry (C Sqn) - Gp Capt D C Scouller AFC MRAcS. Earning an honest crust as Chief Flying

Instructor and Aerodrome Manager at Old Sarum I would be very pleased to see any Old Cranwellians who fly/drive in.

71 Entry (B Sqn) - Wg Cdr C P J Coulcher has written a book 'A Natural History of the Cuckmere Valley' to be published by the Book Guild of Lewes in early 1997 with a foreword by Lord Healey of Riddlesden and superb illustrations by Frank Wooton OBE as the author.

74 Entry (B Sqn) - Gp Capt J G Saye retired in 1989 to settle in USA, having completed 3 exchange tours over there. Returned to UK in 1995 and, with his wife, owns and manages a Residential Care Home for the elderly in the New Forest. Anyone 'Waiting for God?'

76 Entry (A Sqn) - Sqn Ldr D Lawrence retired from the Service in 1996 (leaving only 2 members of No 76 IOT still serving - both Air Chief Marshals) to take up the appointment of Adjutant, University of Birmingham Air Squadron.

77 Entry (A Sqn) - Sqn Ldr Robin Geach retired in Nov 93 after 4 years at HQ STC dabbling in computers, IT budgets and financial planning under NMS. Retirement is indeed wonderful, with no time for 'proper' work! Joy and I would be delighted to see any ex-98 IOT Entry, D Sqn at GR TL782517 near RAF Stradishall (NMP Highpoint), Suffolk.

78 Entry (B/D Sqn) - Gp Capt E R Cox FRAeS currently Director of the Air League. I would be delighted to hear from ex-colleagues wishing to renew old acquaintances or from anyone wanting to know more about the League. I can be contacted on 0171-491-0470 most days.

101 Entry - Sqn Ldr (Retd) Richard Cullingworth DipSurv ARICS. May 1996 - 1997 Chairman of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire.

2 GE Entry - Wg Cdr Bratby M J BA MSc posted to Melbourne on Exchange Duties with the RAAF for 2 years from September 1996.



8 GE Entry - Sqn Ldr Andy Shaw BEng continues his wonderful time at RAF Linton-on-Ouse and had the pleasure of reforming and commanding No 3 Sqn at the RAF's only and first BFTS from 2 Oct 95.



16 GE Entry - Gp Capt J G Stevenson. After nearly 3 1/2 years at HQ Allied Forces Baltic Approaches, Karup, Denmark I have returned to the real world as Group Captain Systems Support, HQ Logistics Command, RAF Brampton.

No 42 IOT - Sqn Ldr J M Guthrie posted to RAF Akrotiri as OC Plans and Budgets wef 23 Sep 96.

No 48 IOT - Wg Cdr J K Wheeler OBE BA MIMgt was posted to the Organization Staffs at HQ Strike Command following a detachment in Italy as the Senior Administrative Officer. He was appointed an Officer in the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire in The Queen's Birthday Honours List 1996.

OCA NETWORK

OCA NETWORK is a Business Directory comprising information received from OCA members. Members are invited to send, to the Editor, details of enterprises in which they are engaged for inclusion in future editions.

CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Defence Infrastructure Consultancy
Air Cdre John Delafield (74B Entry)
Delafield Associates. Marketing activities for the Defence Industry with major clients in Aerospace, Construction and Energy Management. Tel:- 01865 374125

FILM & VIDEO PRODUCTION

Flt Lt Paddy Hughes (84D Entry)
Paddy Hughes Pictures Ltd. Award Winning maker of Corporate Videos and Commercials. Specialising in Aviation, Defence and Aerospace matters. Tel:- 0181 878 2854

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Sqn Ldr P R Slawson (95B Entry)
Partner J Rothschild Partnership
All forms of financial and tax planning. Tel:- 01602 242899

LOGISTICS

Logistics Consultancy
Wg Cdr M A Howells (62A Entry)
Tel:- 01582 881268 / 881611

TRAINING SERVICES

Wg Cdr Mike Stewart (Wg Cdr Cadets 1989 - 92)
Team Building, Leadership and Management Training for Commerce & Industry.
Contact: Top Team Tel: 01522 - 720548

Sqn Ldr M L Leedham (80 C Entry)
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Training in a wide variety of computer literacy and management topics using self-contained multi-media computer based training Courses which run on a standard PC.

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OLD CRANWELLIANS' ASSOCIATION GAMES - SPORTS REPORTS 1997

Squadron Leader R P Cunliffe BEd MILAM (Dip), OC PEd Sqn RAF College Cranwell

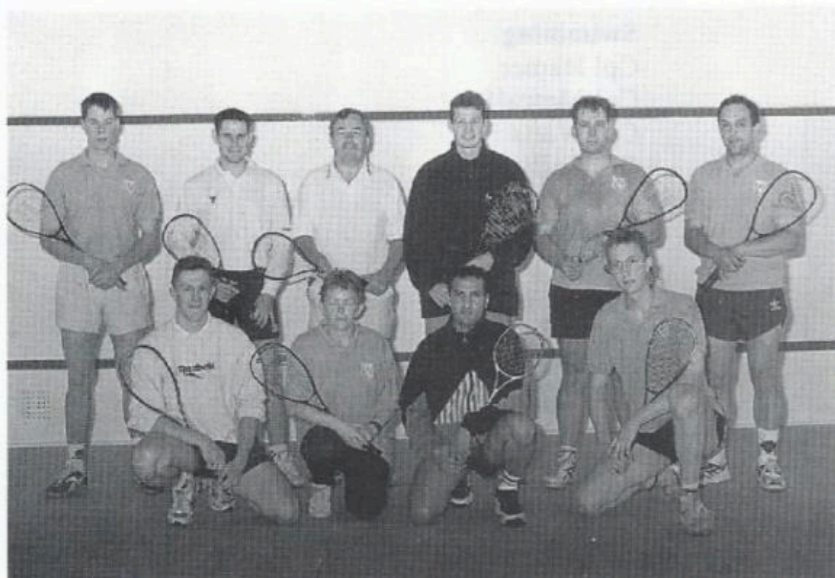
SQUASH MATCH

RAF College 3 points
OCA 2 points

RAF College Won

This was one event in which the abysmal weather was actually a benefit to the match. Unfortunately, the Old Cranwellian Association (OCA) only had one player, so 4 members of the 'washed out' RAF College cricket team switched allegiance and boosted the numbers of the OCA team. As Gp Capt Stephens was the sole 'genuine' OCA team member he willingly took the lead and played first string against Sqn Ldr Broom.

Sqn Ldr Broom quickly settled into his rhythm and Gp Capt Stephens clearly had a lot of work to do. Despite some good rallies between the 2 opponents in the first game, Sqn Ldr Broom eventually won 9-4. Sqn Ldr Broom soon proved to be the stronger player and Gp Capt Stephens struggled to match his opponent, losing the second and third games 9-0, 9-1 respectively and the match 3-0.



The 4 members of No 166 IOT Course swapped their cricket bats for squash rackets, worked out their string order and willingly took to the court for the OCA team against their RAF College opponents. Playing at second string was Fg Off Anderson (RAFC) v SO Forward (OCA). Although SO Forward ran out to a convincing 3-0 win, this was undoubtedly the most competitive match of the tournament. The players were very evenly matched and some exciting squash was played. Fg Off Anderson played a very strong tactical game and some long, hard rallies ensued, but SO Forward clearly had the edge and had a reply for every shot played by Fg Off Anderson.

At third string, Flt Lt Millar (RAFC) was paired against SO Khan (OCA). The opening game was a very close, tactical battle between the 2 players, but Flt Lt Millar's strength and experience soon shone through and he won 9-6. The second game, however, told a different story as Khan dominated the game to win 9-3. Flt Lt Millar went into the third game determined to make up for the second game defeat and comfortably won 9-4. The fourth game proved to be a one-sided affair as Khan struggled to match the quality of shots played by Flt Lt Millar, losing the game 9-0 and the match 3-1.

Fg Off Attack (RAFC) went into her match against SO Boardman (OCA) determined to win for the College and the female race! She started positively and raced into a 5-1 lead, taking control of the first game, eventually winning 9-5. However, SO Boardman fought back admirably in the second game and after some long tactical rallies he reversed the scores from the first game and won 9-5. The third game started with both players determined to take the initiative. Again, a very close game ensued, but SO

agility around the court contributed to a 9-6 win. Despite Fg Off Attack tiring in the fourth game, she took an early 4 point lead; however, she could not sustain her efforts and eventually lost the game 9-7 and the match 3-1.

The fifth string match was between Fg Off Clarke (RAFC) and SO Rose (OCA). During the warm-up period both players appeared to be very evenly matched and a close game appeared to be on the cards. However, as the match started, Fg Off

Clarke soon proved to be a superior player. SO Rose struggled to match his opponent, losing the first game 9-0. SO Rose continued to be run ragged by a very confident and fit opponent in the second and third games, losing 9-0, 9-1 and the match 3-0. Overall, the afternoon proved to be very sociable and successful, particularly for the College team! Congratulations go to all the players for producing good competitive squash in a friendly and sporting atmosphere.

COLLEGE

OCA 2

1	Sqn Ldr Al Broom	9-4	9-1	9-0	Gp Capt Tony Stephens	
2	Fg Off Bob Anderson	4-9	5-9	2-9	SO Jez Forward	
3	Flt Lt Sam Millar	9-6	3-9	9-0	9-0	SO Farid Khan
4	Fg Off Jan Attack	9-5	5-9	6-9	7-9	SO Stan Boardman
5	Fg Off Darren Clarke	9-0	9-0	9-1		SO Paul Rose

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING MATCH

RAF College 189 points
OCA 183 points

RAF College Won

On a day that was more suited to ducks, the Old Cranwellians' Association Clay Pigeon Shooting Team converged upon the College from far and wide. David Forsythe, the visiting team captain, decided early that, despite the weather, the shoot should still go ahead. After some early practice for those who wished, the 2 teams gathered after lunch and were subsequently confused by the organizer's brief of the stands to the shot. None the less, the match started on time and the Old Cranwellians' team shot themselves into a solid lead after 2 events. However, the home team came back with a vengeance on the third stand, that of quartering birds. For some reason this stand was not enjoyed

build up what was to prove to be an unassailable lead. There was some fine individual shooting from Andrew Young who also very kindly donated 2 shot-guns and some ammunition for the day. The best individual shot of the day was Colin Chester, without whom the home side might well have struggled. However, the Trophy now rests with the Royal Air Force College, who look forward to the challenge of defending it next year.



College Journal Extracts - 1998 (2)

TENNIS MATCH - RAINED OFF

The 2 Captains agreed that the match could not be played because of the inclement weather. However, during a break in the weather, some OCA brave hearts, 5 men and one lady (the wife of one), took to the courts. A doubles and singles match were played (one set only before the heavens opened again). The OCA team wanted to claim a win over the College by default and 2 sets to Nil, but this was considered unworthy by the Competition Secretary, even though the OCA team had endured the elements and had played with wet, fluffy tennis balls!

CRICKET MATCH - RAINED OFF

Sadly, the Cricket Match had to be called off. The Captains agreed to reconsider their earlier decision at 2 pm, but their main concern was the safety of the players. Not just the batsmen, but also the slippery underfoot conditions for each bowler.

GOLF MATCH

*RAF College 3 points
OCA 3 points*

Draw

This year's annual fixture was held at Sleaford Golf Club as part of the Old Cranwellians' Association Reunion on 21 June 1997. As players arrived at the Club, there was clear evidence that the weather was again going to play a keen part in the proceedings; unlike last year when the sun had taken its toll on the Course, this year it seemed as if we were being blessed with June's total rain allocation on the same day. However, the advantage was that the Course was looking particularly green and invitingly attractive. After some deliberations over coffee, it was decided that, as we all had waterproof clothing and umbrellas, a bad day on the Course was clearly going to be better than a good day anywhere else. With that in mind, we agreed that we would Tee-Off for at least 9 holes and allow the first pairing to make the decision on

whether to play 9 or 18 holes on the way round, depending on the severity of the conditions.

The tactical ploy by the College to change most of their pre-named side upon arrival was met with little objection from the Old Cranwellians' Association and eventually, after having the obligatory team photography with very nice jumpers, the first pairing, consisting of AVM Elder and Sqn Ldr Porter for the Old Cranwellians' Association against Cpl Wheldon and OC Squires for the College, donned their waterproof clothing and ventured on to the first Tee. The Old Cranwellians' Association got off to a fine start with both of them shooting drives straight up the middle, while the College pair decided to carry out an investigation of the local trees! This attempt to lull the Old Cranwellians into a false sense of security proved worthwhile, and as the match progressed the College team began to show their true colours and ended up winning the match. So a confident start was made by the College.

Second away for the Old Cranwellians' Association were Air Chf Mshl Sir Thomas Kennedy and Sqn Ldr Rogers, who were matched against Fg Off Dan Yeoman and our special guest in the form of the Sleaford Golf Club Asst Pro. The Old Cranwellians got off to a flying start, shaming the College by winning the first 3 holes. The College managed to claw their way back to one under by the ninth and that is how the game remained up until the seventeenth. It was here that the stamina of the College team began to show its worth and they went on to the eighteenth tee all square. Despite having struggled to keep a grip of their clubs earlier in the match and having forfeited several golf balls, things on the final hole were very controlled and, despite a brave effort by the Old Cranwellians' Association, the lead they held from the start was eventually sacrificed and the College emerged victors by one hole. By now the College players in the Clubhouse were beginning to smile.

The third pairing were Air Cdre Henderson and Flt Lt Wilson for the Old Cranwellians' Association matched against the might of Gp Capt Shields and Air Cdre McKay. The match was closely contested and it was difficult to separate the pairs for most of the game; however, the College finally scraped a win 2 up with one to play. As you can image, with 3 of the games

played and the College having won them all, spirits were high and the College could not lose.

The fourth match was contested between AVM Brownlow and Gp Capt Saye for the Old Cranwellians' Association and Flt Lt Doherty and OC Lawrence for the College. It was very much an up and down match, with the College pair going ahead at the first with a par but moving to one down by the third. The match was all square by the fifth, but consistent play from Gp Capt Saye produced a 2 hole lead for the Old Cranwellians, although 2 pars from Flt Lt Doherty squared the match by the eleventh. A birdie from Flt Lt Doherty at the thirteenth put the College ahead for the first time since the first hole. However, from then on Gp Capt Saye stamped his authority on to the game and succeeded in winning the next 3 holes. A missed birdie putt from Flt Lt Doherty at the seventeenth left the hole halved and the match won by the Old Cranwellians' Association 2 up and one to play.

The fifth group saw AVM Price and Gp Capt Sturt for the Old Cranwellians' Association pitted against Flt Lt John Wright and his partner for the College. Despite a determined effort and well-natured battle, the College pair eventually finished in second place.

The final pairing got off to a very amicable start. ACM Sir Robert Freer and Flt Lt Reeder managed

to half the first hole with their opponents from the College, the RAF Regt pairing of Flt Lt Andy Williams and Flt Lt Andy Dobson. The Old Cranwellians' Association team were obviously not put off by the weather or the extra distance of the white tees and from the second hole onwards began to develop a significant lead. Sir Robert Freer was not tempted to mimic the trick shots being so perfectly demonstrated by the Regt pairing, instead he consistently strayed no more than 5 metres from the fairway's centre line. Having realized by the seventh hole, and being 5 down, that their trick shots were neither assisting them, nor hindering the opposition, it was decided that it was time to change their tactics. It was, perhaps, here that we realized that our youth, fitness and ambition were going to be no match for the experience and consistency of the Old Cranwellians' Association pairing. In the end they managed to complement each other perfectly in their styles and, despite a brave fight back by the College pair in the middle, the Old Cranwellians' Association returned to the Clubhouse victorious, winning comfortably by 5 holes with 4 to play.

The final match score was thus: RAF College Cranwell 3, Old Cranwellians' Association 3. A fitting result after such a well-contested match and, despite the appalling conditions, all those that were lucky enough to participate had a thoroughly enjoyable day's golf.



The Golf Teams

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OCA REUNION 1997 AGM - RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The 1997 Annual General Meeting of the Old Cranwellian Association was held on Saturday 21 June 1997. Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy was present as were 130 Old Cranwellians. The Meeting was chaired by Air Vice-Marshal JH Thompson, the AOC & Comdt, and he opened the Meeting at 1910 hrs by thanking the members for attending and in particular he welcomed the large contingent from 76 Entry.

The minutes of the previous AGM which had been held on 27 July 1996 were accepted as a true record. The Chairman then turned to Matters Arising from the previous meeting. Arrangements for the introduction of Direct Debiting (DD) had been completed. The DD system offered a much simpler method of administering membership fees and the Chairman encouraged members to opt into the system. The first use of DD is intended to be in January 1998.

Appointments to the Committee. The Chairman announced that Air Vice-Marshal Michael Lyne had decided to stand down after many years as the Vice President. His insight and advice would be greatly missed, and the Committee had hosted a luncheon to honour the tremendous contribution of Air Vice-Marshal Lyne to the Old Cranwellian Association at Cranwell, at which a presentation had been made. Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon proposed a formal vote of thanks for the immense effort of Air Vice-Marshal Lyne and Air Chief Marshal Allison seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously.

Financial Statement and College Journals. The Treasurer presented her report, together with the Balance Sheets for the year ending 31 December 1996. There were no questions arising from these Balance Sheets and Air Marshal Squire proposed that the Accounts for the year ending 31 December 1996 be approved. The proposal was seconded by Air Commodore Simpson and was carried unanimously.

Paintings. The incoming Chairman of the Paintings Sub-Committee, Wg Cdr Barnes, presented his report on the way ahead. In discussing the paucity

of funds available for additional works, it was proposed that drawings or other media be considered. The Paintings Sub-Committee was tasked to investigate. Air Marshal Cousins proposed that, in line with the report, the funds remaining in the Information Technology Account be transferred in their entirety to the Paintings Fund, that the present 5% of Membership Income automatically allocated to the Information Technology Fund henceforth be added to the sum allocated to the Paintings Fund (making a total allocation of 15% to the Paintings Fund) and that the proposed way ahead be approved. Mr Keith Mans seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously.

Cellar Stock. In his capacity as Wines Member, Gp Capt Williams reported on the satisfactory state of the OCA wine stock.

Dinner Guests. In line with the tradition that the OCA invites those members of the OCA Committee who were not themselves Old Cranwellians to attend the Reunion Dinner, the Chairman announced that Flt Lt Brown and Fg Off Boyle would be dining with the OCA that night.

OCA Constitution - Membership. The Chairman introduced the next item by explaining that the previous Vice President had expressed concern over the existing Constitution in which Flight Cadets who had completed the full Flight Cadet Course at Cranwell and had graduated successfully, but had then been commissioned into a Service other than the RAF, were prevented from being members of the OCA. Over the years there had been a stream of eminently successful overseas Flight Cadets who had been denied the opportunity to join the OCA and it might be appropriate to amend the OCA Constitution to allow such previous Flight Cadets membership. After discussion on the appropriate wording for such a change, Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon proposed that paragraph 3a of the Constitution be changed to read:

'All past and present officers who graduated from the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell after training as Flight Cadets.'

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The motion was seconded by Air Marshal Hayr and carried unanimously. The Secretary was tasked to reissue the Constitution with the change incorporated.

Date for 1998 Reunion. The Chairman reported that finding space to accommodate the Membership overnight was becoming increasingly difficult. He outlined the many courses which had been subsumed into the Cranwell Campus and the pressure placed on the infrastructure. He invited the Membership to note the cross-section of Colour Sunday Parade members taking part the following day, which would illustrate the broader task of present day Cranwell. Nevertheless, he had been able to work with the Vice Chairman to adjust the 1998 Initial Officer Training programme to allow the Reunion to take place, as was tradition, during the third week in June. The Reunion date was to be 20/21 June 1998.

Unveiling of Portrait. Air Vice-Marshal Elder gave a short brief on the illustrious career of recently retired Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon, and then unveiled the Andrew Festing portrait of Sir Michael which was



Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy GCB AFC, Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon GCB CBE ADC FRAeS and Air Vice-Marshal J H Thompson RAF at the OCA Dinner.*

subsequently hung in place of honour in the College Dining-room.

Charity Draw. In keeping with tradition, the President drew the winning ticket for the bottle of Port. Some £50 had been raised which would, at the request of Air Vice-Marshal Lyne, be donated to Save the Children Fund. The Meeting adjourned at 1955 hrs.

IN MEMORIAM

We record with regret the passing of the following Cranwell Graduates whose deaths were notified to us during the last year

Flt Lt	H A	Bancroft-Wilson	55 IOTC	(6 Aug 97)
Sqn Ldr	A P	Brown	43 IOTC	(28 Mar 97)
Wg Cdr	R J	Burrough	Sep 32, A Sqn	(2 Jan 98)
Flt Lt	L A	Fox	74 IOTC	(22 Oct 97)
Flt Lt	C J	Herd	130 IOTC	(16 Feb 97)
Sqn Ldr	D J	House	58 Entry, B Sqn	(13 Apr 97)
AVM	I D N	Lawson	Comdt Dec, 64-Jan 67	(22 Jan 98)
AVM	M D	Lyne	Sep 37, B Sqn	(21 Dec 97)
Flt Lt	D N	Mills	113 IOTC	(16 Nov 97)
Wg Cdr	G A	Mills	Jan 32, B Sqn	(9 Feb 97)
Sqn Ldr	M J	Murphy	90 IOTC	(21 Jul 97)
AVM	W E	Oulton	Sep 29, A Sqn	(31 Oct 97)
Gp Capt	A J	Parsons	DDSGT, Mar 92-Nov 94	(8 Jan 98)
Gp Capt	M G	Philpot	Sep 25, A Sqn	(Mar 96)
Gp Capt	D R	Shore	Sep 30, A Sqn	(18 Sep 97)
Sqn Ldr	A W	Skinner	64 Entry, A Sqn	(27 Jan 98)
Flt Lt	C T	Smith	126 IOTC	(14 Sep 97)
Gp Capt	N C	Walker	Sep 28, A Sqn	(2 Dec 97)

OBITUARY

AIR VICE-MARSHAL M D LYNE CB AFC** DL MRAeS RAF(Retd)

The obituary has been reprinted by kind permission of The Daily Telegraph

Air Vice-Marshal Michael Lyne, who died on 21 December 1997 aged 78, was the first pilot to fly a jet from Europe to America by the polar route. Lyne's flight over the northern icecap was in 1955 and the longest non-stop flight by an RAF jet. His pioneering exploit led eventually to daily non-stop polar flights between Europe and the United States and Europe and the Far East. At the time of his flight Lyne was a Wing Commander and senior instructor at the RAF Flying College, Manby. He set off on June 24 1955 from Bodo, Norway, in Aires IV, a Canberra bomber. He was accompanied by Squadron leaders Duggie Bower and Bob Seymour. Their destination was the American air base at Ladd, 3,000 miles away, near Fairbanks, Alaska. Apart from the length of the flight, the hazards of navigation were considerable in the days before satellites. The flight was timed for a period when the sun and moon would be visible, thus permitting astro-navigation over the polar region.



AVM M D Lyne, photographed in a RAFAT Hawk at RAFC Cranwell, October 1997

After flying over the island of Spitzbergen, Lyne had no land reference for at least 2,000 miles, and in the Arctic Circle he could not rely on his magnetic compass. As he approached Ladd, he had the assistance of Wing Commander Ivor Broom (now Air Marshal Sir Ivor Broom) who, from a Hastings transport aircraft, communicated information on weather in Alaska. When they landed, Lyne and his crew were mobbed by the American press. Lyne, it was noted, had overtaken the sun on his East-West flight. Six hours after he left Norway, he arrived in Alaska earlier in the afternoon of the same day. The US Air Force gave a celebration dinner in honour of the Canberra's crew. Afterwards they played a game of basketball in the midnight sun. More celebrations followed in Canada, before Broom piloted the Canberra on the return flight home.

Michael Dillon Lyne was born on 25 March 1919. His father, a former Army captain, was hard put to send young Michael to the Imperial Service College (ISC), Windsor. Lyne's observation of the behaviour of privileged youth across the river at Eton engendered a lifetime of radicalism and a hatred of snobbery. From the ISC Lyne entered the RAF College, Cranwell. After passing out in July 1939 as an above-average pilot he was posted to No 19, the fighter squadron to be equipped with the Spitfire. In May 1940 the squadron was moved from Duxford near Cambridge to Hornchurch in Essex to help cover the evacuation of the BEF from Dunkirk.

On the squadron's first morning sortie over Dunkirk it claimed 13 enemy aircraft for the loss of four. Although his Spitfire was damaged by an Me 109 of the crack con Richthofen unit, Lyne managed to destroy a Ju 87 'Stuka' dive-bomber. On the afternoon of that day Lyne was cornered by two Me 109s and shot through the knee. After nursing himself and his severely damaged spitfire back across the Channel he crash-landed on the beach at Deal. His injuries were not helped by an over-enthusiastic ambulance driver, who collided with a lamp-post on the way to hospital. Though Lyne was to have a permanent limp, he was fit to fly again after a year and volunteered for the Merchant Ship Fighter Unit. This unit equipped cargo vessels with catapult-launched Hurricane fighters - a desperate measure introduced when losses during the Battle of the Atlantic were at their height. The aim was to protect Britain's lifeline with America - the convoys of merchant ship that were prey to German four-engined long-range Condor reconnaissance bombers. The pilots of "Hurricat" fighters were labelled "the Atlantic suicide squad" by the press. Once launched from the ships, far beyond range of land, they could only hope to bale out or pancake into the Atlantic when their fuel was exhausted.

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Lyne survived. In the course of four voyages his services were not required. Safely ashore again, he was posted in October 1942 to the British delegation in Washington. In December he returned to No 198, a night-fighter squadron station at Digby in Lincolnshire. One day he borrowed a Tiger Moth and flew himself over to Cheshire to marry Joy Buckley, a Wren radio officer whom he had met at a party in Liverpool while a Hurricane pilot.

In May 1943 the squadron moved south to the Kent coastal airfield at Manston, to help counter enemy fighter-bomber tip-and-run raids on seaside towns. A month later Lyne was posted to the Central Gunnery School as an instructor. From there he remained until beyond the end of the war. This posting became more agreeable when his wife persuaded the Navy to send her to Cairo, where she and her husband cohabited in breach of Service regulations. They also shared illicit Tiger Moth joy-rides over the desert. In August 1946 Lyne returned to Britain to command No 54 squadron, just as the squadron converted from Tempest fighters to Vampire jets. From November he began to form - covertly at first and bending the rule book - the world's first jet aerobatic team, the forerunners of the Red Arrows. When in 1947 an international air display was staged at Brussels, jets - let alone jet aerobatics - were so novel that Lyne's participating trio received a stupendous reception at the show and in the Belgian press. By then Lyne was on the ladder to air rank. Following further displays at home, he passed Staff College and served at the Air Ministry as personal staff officer to the deputy chief of the air staff. After completing a tour as a squadron commander at the RAF College, Cranwell, and commanding successively Nos 2 and 3 Initial Training Schools, Lyne was posted as senior instructor to the RAF Flying College, Manby.

The Air Ministry was eager to prove the potential of the RAF's first jet bomber, the twin-engined Canberra, and Lyne was selected to pilot the specially prepared aircraft, Aires IV, on its polar flight. After the successful accomplishment of this historic task, Lyne still only 37, the youngest group captain of his day, joined the directing staff at RAF Staff College, Bracknell.

From 1958 to 1960, he commanded the base at Wildenrath in Germany. There was still little contact between the British forces - essentially an occupying presence - and the German people. Lyne taught himself basic German and set about making friends. He went shooting with burgomeisters and for the first time invited Germans to an open day at the station. In 1961 the Air Ministry noticed that 15 years earlier Lyne had learned some Russian from an Italian prisoner of war while serving in the Middle East. By his own account it was this that led to his appointment as Air Attaché in Moscow. The Cold War was at its coldest. During the Cuban crisis Lyne had the disconcerting experience of wondering whether his friends in the RAF V-bomber nuclear deterrent force were about to obliterate him and his family. Even so he enjoyed the assignment: he travelled widely and developed a liking for the Russian people, which balanced his detestation of communism.

As a former cadet and instructor, Lyne was delighted to return after two years to Cranwell as the College's youngest commander. Lyne had a talent for inspiring the young without intimidating them. He sought to take some of the stuffiness out of Cranwell and to prepare it for a shift towards graduate recruitment. From 1965 until he retired in 1971, Lyne held three further RAF appointments, each related to training. Lyne might have been expected to be promoted to Air Marshal, but he was never at ease with the politicking high up in the Ministry of Defence. Instead he accepted the invitation of a friend, the Rt Rev Kenneth Riches, then Bishop of Lincoln, to become Diocesan Secretary. Lyne had always had a serious but private commitment to religion. For five years he devoted himself to Diocesan management. He also became president of the Grantham Constituency Liberal Association and actively supported his wife's work with the guides and the RAF Benevolent Fund.

In 1981 Lyne and his wife sailed the Atlantic in a 29 ft Westerly yacht. They lost the steering gear in a storm but survived the crossing with the help of navigational skills Lyne had acquired for his polar flight. Lyne was appointed CB in 1968 and Deputy Lieutenant for Lincolnshire in 1973. He had won the AFC in 1944, a Bar in 1948 and second Bar in 1956. He married in 1943 Avril Joy Buckley, the daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Albert Buckley DSO and Bar; they had two sons and two daughters. His son Roderic, formerly private secretary to John Major at 10 Downing Street, is British Ambassador in Geneva.

OLD CRANWELLIAN NOTES



Sep 37 Entry (B Sqn) - AVM M D Lyne CB AFC
DL was honoured at Valley by being asked to open the new HQ for No 19 Sqn. In celebration of the world's first formation aerobatics display he was a guest of the Belgians at Koksijde Air Display on 5 July (Fiftieth Anniversary).

52 Entry (A Sqn) - Air Cdre Bacon (Max). Retired from Marshall Aerospace in May 1996 and is now an aviation consultant, mainly with Middle East clients. Still very involved in Gliding and now with the PFA.



54 Entry (C Sqn) - Wg Cdr D Wood MIPD was 'invalided' from his second job as Registrar at the Harley (Tertiary) College, and had 5 'visits' to the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, during the period 1988 - 1995. For much of that time he was 'grounded' but in 1996 he regained his driving licence and is now '007'! He has also had a book published 'A Noble Pair of Brothers', detailing the history of No 38 Group.



55 Entry (D Sqn) (6 E & S) - Wg Cdr R H H Dauncey has now finally retired from the RAF Benevolent Fund and continues to live in Naphill.



55 Entry (D Sqn) (6 E & S) - Air Cdre D A Atherton retired from the position of Secretary to the Council at Cheltenham College in August 1997 - free at last from the dates of council meetings clashing with the OCA Reunion and the golf match!



56 Entry (B Sqn) - Sqn Ldr P Deaking (Peter). Continues to trip, not so lightly, round the squash and tennis courts of Amsterdam. Wonders which home-based member is going to organize a 50 years-on reunion in 2002, possibly combined with the other graduates of 1952.



56 Entry (D Sqn) - AVM A Beill CB retired in 1996 after nearly 10 years as the Appeals Secretary for King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers (Sister Agnes's).



76 Entry (C Sqn) - Wg Cdr R M Trowern left the RAF in late 1989 to join brother Fred and Hugh Rigg (ex 67A Entry) at the Army Air Corps Centre, Middle Wallop, instructing on Chipmunks. The

last 7 1/2 years have been very happy and rewarding. Sadly, he was made redundant and is now fully retired, living near Andover, Hants, but still enjoying life.

77 Entry (A Sqn) - Gp Capt R J Howard AFC. Retired for the second time in April 1997 after 2 years at Middle Wallop teaching Army personnel to fly the Chipmunk. Now making golf clubs - anyone need a new set? Tel: (01264) 790970.



81 Entry (D Sqn) - Sqn Ldr T Sindall (Tim). Captain Tim Sindall now holds the post of Head of the Flight Operations Inspectorate (Aeroplanes) in the CAA's Safety Regulations Group.



82 Entry (B Sqn) - Wg Cdr A D K Campbell retired from the active list in June 1996 and is now the RAF Liaison Officer for the SW region, with a commission in the Reserve. Living in Bath with an office at RAF Lyneham, Ext 6805.



83 Entry (A Sqn) - Air Cdre R B Duckett CVO AFC left the RAF in May 1996 and is now the Chief Executive of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution which is based in Oxford. Air Cdre R B Duckett CVO AFC is now living in Henley on Thames and wishes to remind all members of 83 Entry to meet up at the 1998 OCA Reunion to celebrate 35 years since graduation.




83 Entry (B Sqn) - Gp Capt T Eeles BA FRAeS retires in September 1997 and will be working as an Aviation Officer, full time reservist and as a QFI on CUAS, in the exalted rank of Flt Lt. He is looking forward to yet another flying tour, this one being 5 years long.




83 Entry (C Sqn) - Gp Capt D A Needham BA FIMgt. Dan and Margaret Needham are happily settled in Cramond, Edinburgh. Dan directs the Scottish Branch of the RAF Benevolent Fund, Margaret is sister-in-charge of a morningside nursing home. Dan finds time to play golf at Turnhouse and Dramahoy and would welcome instruction from any OCA members passing through Edinburgh.




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83 Entry (C Sqn) - Wg Cdr W S Erskine Crum OBE. Retired in June 1997 after 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ years in Israel and, as Cranwell did not offer a degree in his time, is planning to go to University to read Archaeology and, hopefully, get a BSc after his name like all the young officers! Still living in Wellington.




84 Entry (A Sqn) - Gp Capt M A Wood. Left Lockheed Martin Corporation in November 1996 having served 6 years as vice-president UK Sales and Marketing on programmes such as the RAF Hercules replacement C-130J. Formed his own lobbying company, Whitehall Adviser Ltd in April 1997.




86 Entry (B Sqn) - A visit by John Lanham to the UK from New Zealand, where he works for Rex Aviation, gave all graduating members of 86B the opportunity to dine together on 22 July, 1997 at the Royal Air Force Club. Ivan Childs lives in Martock, Somerset, and assists his son with a Picture Framing Business. Roger Davies lives in Olney, Buckinghamshire, and works as an instructor with Cabair at Cranfield. John Featherstone is still serving at HQLC and is due to retire in the near future. Peter Langham lives in Caterham, Surrey, where he provides a computer network advisory service, and also is a Surrey county councillor. Chris Moore lives on the Wirral and is secretary of the The Royal Liverpool Golf Club at Hoylake.


Is having a 100% turn-out of graduates for a squadron/entry reunion 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ years after graduation a record - or does someone know better!!?



88 Entry (B Sqn) - Gp Capt R Dixon OBE is now back in uniform, after taking early retirement, to command No 4624 (County of Oxford) Movements Sqn RAuxAF at RAF Brize Norton. He finds the challenge of working with Reservists and having a Sqn again most enjoyable and contact with the RAF is still continuing.




89 Entry (D Sqn) - Gp Capt S A Wrigley. Currently serving as the Air Attaché for Bonn and would be pleased to see any OCA members who are passing through on business or pleasure.




94 Entry (D Sqn) - Gp Capt M Mitchell. Assumed post of Defence Attaché Warsaw on 13 June 1997 and would be pleased to hear from any OCA members passing through.


95 Entry (B Sqn) - Flt Lt S J Green. Since November 1995, Flt Lt Green has been a Chief Instructor at BAe Flight Training (UK) Ltd. Enjoying a trip to Australia to visit sister establishment in November 1996, where he met Tim (D H) Mills (54? Entry) who now works as a Ground Lecturer at BAe Flight Training (Australia). He has also had contact with Pete Hoskins (95C Entry) who is now OC Northolt and Chris Morris (96C Entry) who is now OC Lyneham, as a result of BAe training RAF pilots for multi-engine conversion prior to OCU. Any members, especially from the last cadet entries, are welcome to look him up at Prestwick.




96 Entry (A Sqn) - Fg Off P M Akehurst CPLSM. Retired from RHKP as Superintendent on 5 June 1997 (before the handover). Now living in the Algarve 'Apartado 205', 8100 Loule, Algarve, Portugal'.



99 Entry (C Sqn) - Wg Cdr A S Humphries. In April 1997 a Supply Policy Branch was formed at HQ Logs Command to provide a focus for all RAF Supply matters and post-cold War strategic direction. As Supply Policy 1, he finds it a privilege to be in on the ground floor of such an auspicious event!




Asst Comdt Apr 64 - Feb 65 - AVM G C ('Larry') Lamb CB CBE AFC had a triple by-pass coronary operation in March 1996. He is now fit and back at work as Chairman of Yonex UK the Japanese Sports Goods Firm. Also Chairman of Lilleshall National Sports Centre and of British International Sports Development and Trust which looks after *inter alia*, the UK-South Africa Sports Initiative set up by John Major and Nelson Mandela in 1994. Briefed President Mandela on its work during his State visit to UK. On leaving Cranwell in 1965 he was posted to Borneo, went on holiday in 1997 to Kota Kinabalo but didn't recognize a thing!! Reading the OCA Painting Sub Committee proposals in the March 1997 issue of the Journal led him to wonder if being the first and only RAF officer to referee on an RFU international panel (Rugby) comes within the definition of a major achievement for their country (only wondering!!).



11GE Entry (A Sqn) - Sqn Ldr S J Oddy BSc BA. Has just returned to the UK after nearly 8 years working for British Aerospace in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and is moving with his family to Oxford to take up a flying instructor's post with the Oxford

Air Training School. Meanwhile, his aviation software company continues to be successful with orders from the RAF and overseas.

26GE Entry (A Sqn) - Sqn Ldr R N Raynor MBA BA BSc MRAeS CEng is currently employed as the Executive Director of Halifax Airport Authority, Nova Scotia, Canada. He is responsible for negotiating the purchase of aircraft from the Federal Government. He is greatly enjoying this new challenge and frequently sees RAF tankers and C-130s on the ramp. He would welcome hearing from ex-colleagues. Contact (902) 479-7225.



26GE Entry (A Sqn) - Sqn Ldr N Schulkins MBE BSc CEng MIMechE. Now Group Manager Maintenance and Logistics Engineering at BMT Reliability Consultants Ltd, where through an increasing amount of work for the RAF, he is keeping in touch with old friends and colleagues.

48 IOTC (D Sqn) - Flt Lt P Wheeliker. Four years into 'civvy street' and slowly but surely

climbing the corporate ladder. He is now the Group Training Manager for Leigh Interests PLC and old friends can contact Phil on 01785 712666.

72 IOTC (C Sqn) - Sqn Ldr P White (Paul). Following a productive 6 months in the Falkland Islands, Sqn Ldr Paul White returned to the UK in January 1997. In February 1997 he was appointed Officer Commanding Combat Support Sqn on the newly reformed No 1 Air Control Centre RAF Boulmer. Paul and Louise send best wishes to friends and colleagues.

SRI Aug 81 - Sep 82 - Gp Capt P A Ryan continues to be employed as an International Civil Servant within the Organization of the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), which finally became operational in May 1997. He and his family now look forward to a less hectic period and to finding the time to enjoy in full the delights of the Hague and the continent. PS, tennis now substitutes for squash.

OCA NETWORK

OCA NETWORK is a Business Directory comprising information received from OCA members. Members are invited to send, to the Editor, details of enterprises in which they are engaged for inclusion in future editions.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Flt Lt D Heath CFS (95A Entry)

Independent Financial Services. Flt Lt David Heath Director, Shire Taxation & Financial Consultants Ltd. All forms of tax and financial planning. Tel: 01530 417777.

BUSINESS SERVICES

Gp Capt R G Bowyer (58A Entry)

The family welcomes visitors! Contact: George Bowyer, Chairman. George Gale & Co Ltd., The Hampshire Brewery, Horndean, Hampshire. Tel: 01705 571212, Fax 01705 598641.

College Journal Extracts - 2000 (1)

OLD CRANWELLIAN ASSOCIATION (OCA)

19 JUN 99

Squadron Leader R P Cunliffe BEd MILAM (Dip), OCPed Sqn RAFC Cranwell

CRICKET

RAFC won by 8 wickets

The OCA had not beaten the College at cricket since 1990 and, captained by AVM Filbey, they fielded a very experienced side. The College, under the captaincy of SO Beckett fielded a somewhat weakened team, since several College players were unavailable due to course commitments.

The OCA won the toss and elected to break with tradition and bat on the slow, green pitch. Despite a steady start, they lost wickets regularly and were never in a position to dominate the bowling. Only AVM Filbey, with a fine innings of 43, offered any real resistance and marshalled a recovery from 50-5 to a total 127 all out.

The College attack was rotated to great effect and Flt Lt Lendon bowled particularly well to secure a figure of 4-19. SO Beckett also bowled tidily, taking 3 wickets for just 11 runs, and some keen fielding and sharp catching put the College firmly in control.

On a wicket that was becoming increasingly difficult to bat on, the RAFC lost an early wicket but never really looked in trouble in their run chase. Sqn Ldr Owens bowled tightly but runs flowed freely at the other end and Flt Lt Cowley held the innings together with some sensible batting, finishing on 66 not out. The College eventually reached its target of 128 for the loss of only 2 wickets, with 5 overs to spare.

This was a comprehensive 8 wicket victory for the College and a thoroughly enjoyable day's cricket.



The College Cricket Team

College Journal Extracts - 2000 (2)

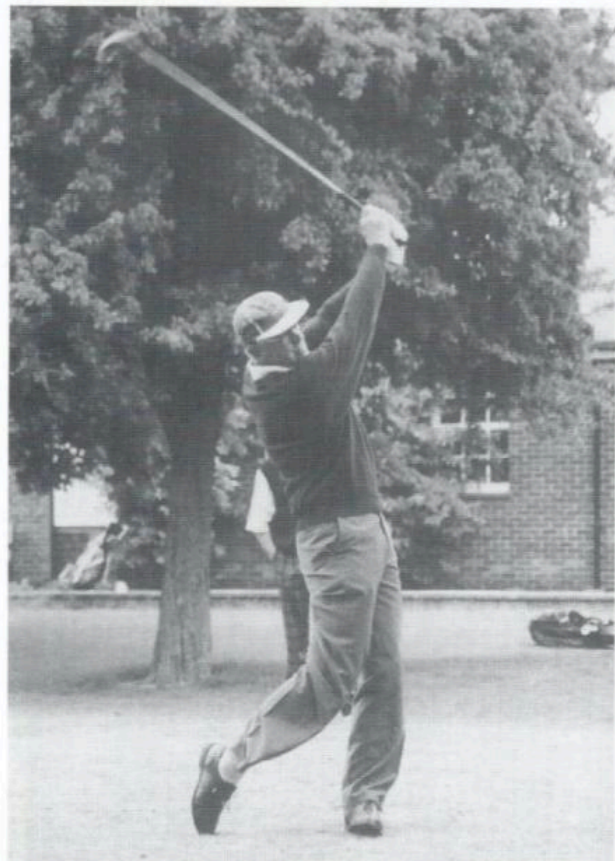
GOLF

RAFC won 4-2

This year's annual fixture was held at Sleaford Golf Club. The competition was promising to be fierce, and with the inclusion of 2 sub competitions (a Nearest To The Pin on the 12th, and a Nearest To The Pin in Two on the 18th), large sums of money rested on the day's outcome!

In Match 1 the OCA took the impetus and struck at the heart of the College golf campaign with Air Chf Mshl Graydon and Gp Capt Price splitting the fairway with their first drives. OC Hood opened up his shoulders winning the 14th and 15th hole and the match for the College, 5 and 3. OC Hood also won the Closest to the Pin competition on the 18th hole.

Second away for the Old Cranwellian Association were Air Chf Mshl Sir Thomas Kennedy and Air Cdre Atherton who were matched against Sqn Ldr Pennell and OC Noel. This was the final straw and



Gp Capt Price taking a shot

the College eventually closed out the match on the 14th hole winning by 5 and 4.

Group number 3 saw the pairing of AVM Robertson and Gp Capt Sturt challenge the partnership of Air Cdre Thorn and Flt Lt Skirving. Spirited resistance was not enough from the latter pair and the OCA finally wrapped up the proceedings at the 16th hole, winning the game 3 and 2.

The 4th group out consisted of AVM Price and Sqn Ldr Rogers for the OCA, and WO Palmer and SO Hughes for the RAFC. The scores were always quite close and after 12 holes, RAFC were 3 holes up with 6 to play. RAFC completed a nerve-racking 4ft putt at the 18th to secure victory. Sqn Ldr Rogers won the Closest to the Pin on the 12th hole, putting his ball only 18ins left of the hole.

Match 5 saw the partnership of AVM Price and Wg Cdr Herd for the OCA take on the youngsters of RAFC, Sqn Ldr Brinkworth and OC Miller. Eventually RAFC edged into the lead with a Birdie on the 13th by OC Miller, and with some solid golf from Sqn Ldr Brinkworth the match was all over on the 16th, with the RAFC recording a 3 and 2 victory.

The final match of the day teed off at 1150 Local with Gp Capt Heron and Flt Lt Wilson for the OCA taking on Flt Lt Reader and OC Leadbeater for the RAFC. Although RAFC put up a spirited fight, his playing partner could not counteract the ball loss rate of OC Leadbeater. Some solid golf in the final holes by Gp Capt Heron and Flt Lt Wilson ensured a victory for the OCA by 2 and 1.

The final score was RAF College Cranwell 4, Old Cranwellian Association 2. This was a fine result for the College and everyone who took part had a thoroughly enjoyable day's golf.

SQUASH

OCA won 0-1

There were only 2 players available for the squash match between the RAFC and the OCA. The match took place as planned with Sqn Ldr Lynch representing the OCA, and OC Stokel representing the RAFC. OC Cross acted as umpire and scorekeeper thus ensuring there would be no foul

play during the game. The match was to be decided on the best of 5 games.

At the start it looked as though the OCA was going to run away with an easy victory taking the game to 6-1 very quickly. RAFC came back, closing the gap to 7-6 before being defeated 9-6. Due to the heat on the court, light refreshments followed before commencing the second game.

In game 2, the experience of the OCA representative was evident as the score reached 8-0 very quickly. Unperturbed, the RAFC swept back to a respectable 8-6 before being beaten a second time 9-6.

After a further short break, the OCA took the first 2 points of the third game to which the RAFC replied with a 6-point rally. RAFC held the lead at 7-3 before OCA brought the game back to 8-8. OCA elected to go to 2 points and, after some well fought rallies, RAFC won 10-8.

As the fourth game was played, scores were tight at 4-4 until OCA produced a convincing win, the final score being 9-4.

TENNIS

OCA won 32-88

The Met man was wrong again, as usual! However, the rain did manage to hold off despite the dark cloud floating around. A full OCA team pitched up and provided the College with some stiff competition. Experience was definitely on their side. Instead of playing matches consisting of the standard sets, we played 9 games per match to ensure no players were milling around for too long. The teams split into pairs and continued to play until the bar opened, albeit having a spot of afternoon tea at the Pavilion. The College was no match for the experience of OCA. The final score in matches stood at 88-32; another OCA victory.

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

A marginal RAFC win

The Clay Pigeon Shoot is one of the most keenly contested events of the OCA weekend and this



The College Clay Pigeon Shooting Team


year's shoot was no exception. A source of much pride to the shooting members of the OCA, who have maintained an almost unbroken record of wins, and a spur to the flanks of the current students, the shoot is notable for its friendly rivalry and pleasant social atmosphere. The Old Cranwellians arrived confident that their successes would continue. The College team, comprising of a mixture of cadets and staff, were eager to reverse the trend and end a string of OCA victories. The deployment of their less-than-secret weapon Mr Chester, current holder of the title of best shot, and some last minute training bolstered their confidence.

The shoot was to be over a sporting layout in 2 rounds with shooters being challenged by a variety of birds appearing from different directions and at differing heights and speeds. Each group was finished by the appearance of a 'startled rabbit' clay bounding across the grass. After the first round, and despite a superb 24 out of 25 by Wg Cdr Taylor, the OCA shooters were 2 points behind the College team. The College team, flushed with the scent of victory, became careless and in the second round began to lose ground. By the time the leading shooters had finished the Old Cranwellians were ahead. At this point the College team resorted to weight of numbers. For some, the final result indicated a draw. However, a cunning process of team changes coupled with some highly creative accounting meant a win for RAFC.


Director DIOT, Gp Capt Middleton, who also availed himself of the opportunity to shoot a healthy round, presented the trophies. The trophy for best shot went to Wg Cdr Taylor of the Old Cranwellians and the team trophy was presented to OC Gill on behalf of the College.

College Journal Extracts - 2000 (3)


OLD CRANWELLIAN NOTES




46 Entry (B Sqn) – Air Chf Mshl Kennedy GCB AFC. Come on 46 Entry – support the OCA.




54 Entry (B Sqn) – Sqn Ldr A D R Dawes. Following the passing of my wife, Norma, after a long illness, I have since remarried and am now living in Bexhill-on-Sea and enjoying plenty of golf. Would welcome contact with any contemporaries. Telephone 01424 845378.




54 Entry (D Sqn) – Flt Lt M H D Broad. Regret I am unable to attend the 1999 Dinner of Old Cranwellians. I shall be flying to the UK that Sunday. Just received the 1999 Journal – *Excellent!*




71 Entry (B Sqn) – Gp Capt J D Heron OBE. Retired from Rolls Royce in October 1998 but retain active links with the Company as Chairman of the Bristol Branch of the Rolls Royce Heritage Trust and with the Service through the RAF Historical Society. Ensure plans involve travel, furniture restoration and reducing my golf handicap!




71 Entry (B Sqn) – Gp Capt Michael Harrington CVO BA. I hope that all members of 71 Entry will try to attend the OCA Reunion in 2000 en bloc. This will be 45 years from arrival at Cranwell. Please contact me on 01243 670116.



76 Entry (B Sqn) – Gp Capt David Packman FRGS. Still running the Council for Voluntary Service in High Wycombe but looking forward to second retirement in mid-2000 and some serious music studies. A craft-owning Freeman of the Waterman's and Lighterman's Company, and an active oarsman and rowing umpire.




78 Entry (A Sqn) – Wg Cdr T Cumberland is now retired from being Deputy Chief Executive St George's Healthcare, London SW17, and living quietly in Anglesey.




78 Entry (B Sqn) – Sqn Ldr Dick Woodhead MAP MECI (Retd). Would any 78 Entry interested in a

mini-reunion at the 2000 OCA Dinner please get in touch on Ext 6715 at Cranwell, or e-mail: PMST@Postmaster.co.UK.




83 Entry (B Sqn) – Gp Capt Tom Eeles BA FRAeS. Still thoroughly enjoying life as 'gamekeeper turned poacher' on Cambridge University Air Squadron where I am the CFI, in the exalted rank of Flt Lt, full-time Reserve. Much more time is now available for sailing and skiing expeditions.




88 Entry (A Sqn) – Wg Cdr Ian Gawn FCMA MIMgt MIPD. Continuing to enjoy life as Secretary of the Royal Lymington Yacht Club. Regrettably cannot get to the 1999 Reunion due to 2 regattas to host the same weekend, but hope to get to Cranwell next year.



88 Entry (D Sqn) – Gp Capt Bill Hedges CBE (Retd). Following the excitement of Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War, joined British Aerospace in Saudi, and 7 years' later is now based at Khamis Mushayt as the General Manager. Can be contacted on e-mail: bill.hedges@bae.co.uk.



94 Entry (A Sqn) – Air Cdre J C Jarron. From August 1999 will be Defence Air Attaché Moscow. Old friends always welcome. Contact via British Embassy.



20 GE (B Sqn) – Sqn Ldr Peter Weaver (Retd). Peter is now running his own company 'The Programme Support Office Ltd' and would welcome contacts with past colleagues. He will be moving house during 1999 so suggests e-mail: peter@the-pso.comm or on mobile phone: 0831 395 345.

Senior College Chaplain 1985-87 – Ven (AVM) Brian Lucas CB BA FRSA. While remaining the Rector of Caythorpe, earlier this year Padre Lucas was also elected Secretary of the Savage Club in London. He looks forward to 'Salvaging' his friends in the OCA at this August club!

IN MEMORIAM

We record with regret the passing of the following Cranwell Graduates whose deaths were notified to us during the last year.

Sqn Ldr	M T	Andrews	64 IOTC	22 Oct 99
Flt Lt	N	Arkless	154 IOTC	15 Aug 99
Sqn Ldr	I G	Aubrey-Rees	88 Entry, A Sqn	10 Aug 99
AVM	A M	Bentley	Sep 34, A Sqn	Oct 99
Flt Lt	S P	Casabayo	123 IOTC	14 Oct 99
Flt Lt	G N	Dunlop	59 IOTC	4 Jun 98
Air Mshl		Sir Donald Hall	55 Entry, C Sqn	12 Jan 99
Gp Capt	R P	Hallam	78 Entry, B Sqn	25 Apr 99
Air Mshl		Sir Maurice Heath	Sep 27, A Sqn	9 Jul 98
Flt Lt	G J	Hurst	106 IOTC	21 Jan 99
Sqn Ldr	B R	Kent	63 Entry, A Sqn	17 Jul 99
Gp Capt	D S	Kite	Jan 31, A Sqn	18 May 99
Gp Capt	J R	Lees	Chief of Staff, May – Nov 99	1 Nov 99
Gp Capt	K P	Lewis	Sep 27, A Sqn	20 Jun 99
Gp Capt	R C F	Lister	Sep 32, A Sqn	7 Mar 98
Gp Capt	C R D L	Lloyd	Sep 30, A Sqn	13 Oct 99
Air Cdre	A R D	MacDonell	Sep 32, B Sqn	7 Jun 99
Flt Lt	D S	Maisey	156 IOTC	14 Nov 99
Sqn Ldr	J D	Mallock	74 Entry, B Sqn	1 Jun 99
Air Chf Mshl		Sir Nigel Maynard	Sep 39	18 Jun 98
Sqn Ldr	D S	Morris	85 IOTC	10 Nov 99
Flt Lt	D M	O'Herlihy	76 Entry, C Sqn	6 Oct 99
Air Cdre	J M N	Pike	Sep 35, A Sqn	23 Mar 99
Sqn Ldr	F A	Robinson	Sep 38, A Sqn	19 Mar 98
Sqn Ldr	J A F	Ross	77 Entry, D Sqn	19 Jan 99
Sqn Ldr	G M	Scarrott	51 Entry, C Sqn	22 Jul 99
Air Cdre	R H D	Singh	Sep 33	30 Nov 99
Wg Cdr	R A	Streatfield	56 Entry, A Sqn	11 May 99
Flt Lt	M E	Tester	90 Entry, B Sqn	6 Oct 99
Flt Lt	S G	Todd	151 IOTC	22 Oct 99
Gp Capt	W P	Welch	Sep 29, B Sqn	1 Nov 99
Flt Lt	R A	Wright	132 IOTC	14 Oct 99

NB: List as at 8 December 1999

College Journal Extracts - 2011 (1)

Old Cranwellian Association Annual Reunion Weekend – 11-12 June 2010

Flight Lieutenant Litster, Aide-de-Camp to the Commandant, Royal Air Force College Cranwell

Considered by many to be the Royal Air Force College's best kept secret, the Old Cranwellian Association's (OCA) Annual Reunion gives officers who have graduated from the College an opportunity to socialise with old friends, revisit former haunts and perhaps most importantly, honour those friends and colleagues they have lost along the way. For the RAF College's incumbent officer cadets, the OCA Annual Reunion provides them with an ideal opportunity to brush up on their sporting skills ahead of the next Intercollegiate Games.

Planning for the 2010 Annual Reunion began with a yuletide meeting of the OCA Committee in Dec 09. Once the Committee's chosen Guest of Honour confirmed his availability in early April, invitation letters were soon circulating around the globe to each of the 540 OCA members. Unlike in previous years the 2010 Annual Reunion fell on the 2nd weekend of June and despite the date change proving too much for one Old Cranwellian tennis player, the Reunion was well subscribed. Although a special mention must be given to the largest and cheekiest (!) contingent, the 16 members of 77 Entry who were celebrating 50 years since their graduation.

As OCA members converged on the College on Saturday 11 June, they were greeted by an excited cadre of officer cadets keen to prove that youth and enthusiasm could win the day! Having settled into their rooms within College Hall Officers' Mess, caught up with old friends and successfully resisted all attempts to entice them into purchasing a new OCA tie, the Old Cranwellian sporting teams prepared to do battle.

The day's first sporting fixture took place on the neutral battlefield of Sleaford Golf Club. The competition was hard fought, with hole 4 proving a challenge for even the most experienced golfers. Nevertheless, after some excellent shots and despite the defection of Air Commodore Stevenson, with a final score of 4-1 the RAF College team proved victorious.

Encouraged by their early lead, not even the temporary removal of clay pigeon shooting from the list of available sporting fixtures could dampen the Old Cranwellians' fighting spirit. Hoping that youth and vigour would tip the advantage towards the College, a small but quietly confident RAF College team took to the squash courts. Undaunted, Squadron Leader Lloyd the OCA's only Squash player, set about giving the RAF College team a run for their money. On the opposite side of College Hall the OCA tennis warriors stepped out to face a well trained RAF College team keen to hold onto their winning streak. But despite the OCA tennis warriors being down a man they proved victorious winning 31-23.



77 Entry celebrate their 50th Graduation Anniversary



The OCA and College Golf Teams



The OCA and College Tennis Teams

College Journal Extracts - 2011 (2)



The OCA and College Football Teams

For the second year running, the football match saw a well-organised team from Icarus Football Club bolstered by the presence of a single OCA player, facing a physically robust RAF College team. During the first half both teams played well despite the warm weather and after each side scored a single goal apiece, both teams went into halftime with plenty to think about. The second half saw several changes to the RAF College team, allowing them to regain their lead on the hour and score a third goal in the 75th minute. A second goal from the OCA team within the last ten minutes set the nerves jangling, however, with 5 minutes to go Officer Cadet Toogood scored the College's fourth goal, putting the final result beyond doubt.

On the Orange, the RAF College's croquet team assembled ready for action. Known for their charm, wit and ability to withstand the effects of Pimms in the summer sunshine, the OCA croquet team approached the match with undisputed zeal. Captained by the croquet veteran Group Captain Williams, the OCA croquet team were last defeated in 2006. Consequently, the relatively inexperienced RAF College team knew this wasn't going to be the sedate game of croquet around the pin that they had hoped for!

As the ensign was lowered over College Hall the day's sporting fixtures drew to a close. Having won the golf, squash, football and drawn in the croquet victory clearly lay with the RAF College. However, it did not go unnoticed that whilst the

officer cadets retired for an early night, the Old Cranwellians prepared themselves for an evening of entertainment!

As in previous years the evening commenced with the OCA Annual General Meeting, which this year included the unveiling of the latest portrait commissioned by the OCA for College Hall. Naturally the portraits artist, Mr Theo Platt, and the portraits subject, Flight Lieutenant Michelle Goodman DFC, both attended the meeting and the annual dinner as guests of the OCA.

After some final adjustments to the seating plan by OCA members during pre-dinner drinks, OCA members were called to dinner. The

customary 5-course dinner was, as always, of the highest standard and praise must be given to Group Captain Williams for his fine choice of wines from the OCA cellar. Following an outstanding rendition of The Post Horn Galop by a young male bugler from the Royal Air Force College Band, OCA members were then treated to an inspiring speech from the Guest of Honour, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Dalton, Chief of the Air Staff.

As Sunday morning dawned, Saint Michael's and All Angels Church filled with Old Cranwellians and cadets from C Squadron, Initial Officer Training Course Number 20. During a short but poignant service, The Venerable (Air Vice-Marshal) Robin Turner gave a thought provoking sermon and the congregation paid their respects to those Old Cranwellians no longer with us. Following the church service there was a short parade in front of College Hall during which Air Chief Marshal Sir 'Jock' Kennedy presented the Jack Holt Memorial Pace Stick to Flight Sergeant Dean Betts of OACTU.

During post parade refreshments in the Rotunda, final farewells brought the Annual Reunion to a close. The event had been a resounding success, however, perhaps more importantly in returning to their spiritual RAF home, each OCA member had connected with the present and hopefully, imparted a little of their wisdom on the future officers of the Royal Air Force.



The Guest of Honour Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Dalton, with Sir Jock Kennedy and Air Commodore Uborn.

The Parade marches toward College Hall from St Michael's and All Angels Church.



The OCA Annual Reunion Dinner



College Journal Extracts - 2012

Old Cranwellian Association Reunion Weekend 9-10 July 2011

Flight Lieutenant C Litster RAF, Aide-de-Camp to the Commandant, RAF College Cranwell

In the 91 years since its official opening on 5 February 1920, the Royal Air Force College has trained in excess of 14,000 officer cadets. Whilst each of these cadets has a story to tell about their time at the College, only a select few return each year to attend what many consider to be the College's best kept secret, the Old Cranwellian Association (OCA) Annual Reunion Weekend.

This year, association members travelled to the College from as far afield as New Zealand, Canada and the USA to catch up with old friends and to challenge the present cadet contingent in several sporting fixtures. Whilst members of 53, 54 and 79 Entry gathered to commemorate the 60th and 50th anniversary of their graduation respectively, a small but lively contingent of members from 95 Entry remembered their admission to the College in 1966. With 18 members attending the Reunion to commemorate the anniversary of their admission into the College, 85 Entry were officially the largest, and perhaps noisiest, entry.

Having located their rooms, settled their mess bills and shrewdly avoided the Treasurers subtle efforts to convince them to purchase an OCA tie, association members prepared to do battle on the sporting fields. Keen to retain the title of sporting champions, the current College sports teams had been practising hard and were keen to demonstrate their sporting prowess to the 'old and bold' OCA members. Whilst the weather did not look especially favourable, it soon became apparent that it would take more than a spot of rain and strong winds to deter the competitors!

Having reassured the OCA team that the unprecedented change of location of the golf match was not a clever tactic employed by the College team to win the upper hand, battle commenced at Belton Woods Golf Course. Having started out strongly with a win in the opening match, the OCA team looked to be the obvious winners, but the College soon struck back and took a 2-1 lead. In the end it all came down to the final match, with the OCA team taking overall victory, 3 matches to 2.

Eager to even up the scoreboard, and hoping that the temporary absence of the OCA croquet team captain would give them the advantage they needed, an inexperienced but enthusiastic College team headed for the Orange. Although it soon became apparent that perhaps the OCA team

had a little more experience than they had originally suggested, the College team remained hopeful that they could steal a win. However, even the addition of a conveniently placed refreshments tent was not enough to overcome the cunning tactics and expert skills of the OCA team, who glided effortlessly to a 3-1 victory.

At Royal Air Force Digby, the Clay Pigeon Shooting competition saw 2 evenly matched teams battle it out for the title. With members from both teams shooting exceptionally well during the first round, it soon became clear that victory would be won or lost during the second 'game shoot' round. After a well fought competition, Range Officer Kirk announced the final scores and the OCA team claimed victory by the narrowest of margins - 5 targets.

At a faster pace on the College tennis courts, the College team awaited Wing Commander Head's OCA warriors with anticipation. Having calculated the average age difference between the two opposing teams, the younger, and possibly fitter, College team remained quietly confident. After choosing to play club tennis, each and every point was fiercely fought. But even the introduction of umpires and ball boys could not break the focus of the dynamic OCA team, who after eight impressive games grasped victory 20-34.

As the day's sporting fixtures drew to a close, OCA members headed into College Hall to sample the delights of afternoon tea. Having achieved a clean sweep, OCA members celebrated their victory whilst sharing a few words of wisdom with their exhausted cadet opponents. While the lowering of the ensign signalled the end of a busy day at the College, association members made a few final adjustments to the dinner's seating plan, before drifting back to their rooms to change ahead of the evening's entertainment.

After a short, but well attended, Annual General Meeting in the Longcroft Room, OCA members were treated to a surprise bagpipe serenade during pre-dinner drinks, courtesy of 54 Entry.

With the arrival of the Guest of Honour, Mr Michael Nicholson OBE, the annual formal dinner commenced. Whilst the new, lighter menu chosen by the OCA Committee proved a resounding success, an ensemble of the



The OCA and RAF College tennis teams along with umpires and ball boys.



Mr Michael Nicholson OBE, Guest of Honour at the OCA Annual Formal Dinner.

band of the Royal Air Force College once again impressed with their musical accompaniment.

Mr Nicholson made a heartfelt speech about his 25 year career as a Senior Foreign Correspondent for ITN. During his distinguished career he reported on 15 separate conflicts and was awarded both the Falkland Islands and Gulf Campaign Medals.

His witty account of his many exploits impressed association members; however, for most the highlight of Mr Nicholson's speech was his emotional account of his

time in war-torn Sarajevo, where he courageously rescued a 9 year old Muslim orphan named Natasha. On retiring to the bar, Mr Nicholson regaled OCA members with further tales and was much sought after by those who hoped to find out more about Natasha.

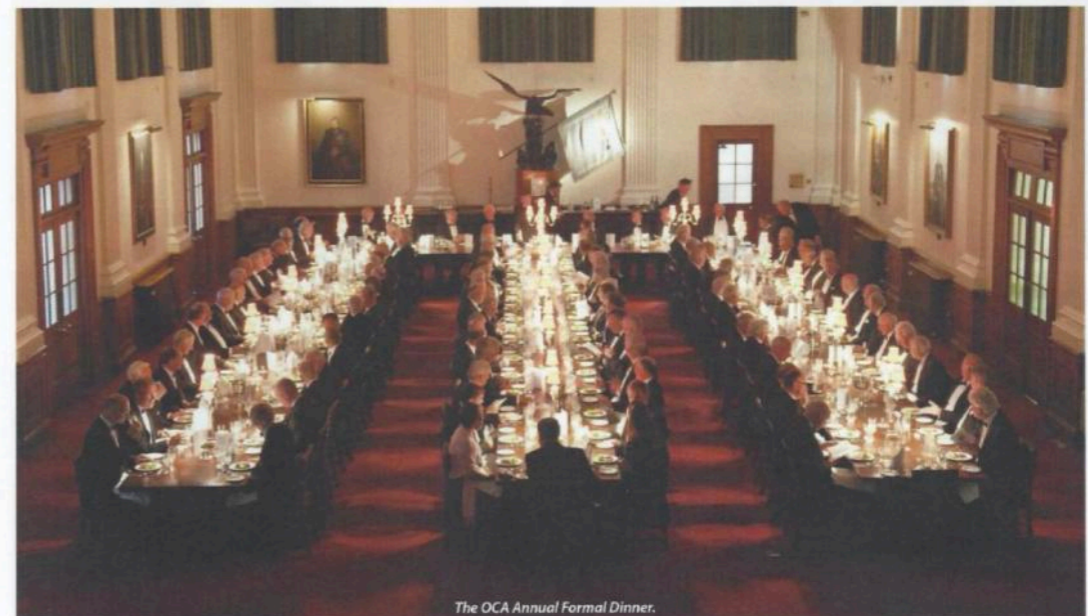
On Sunday morning, not even a late night could deter the faithful and Saint Michael's and All Angels Church filled with association members keen to remember those they had lost along the way. Following a poignant church service conducted by Reverend (Wing Commander) Gatrill, cadets from B Squadron, Initial Officer Training Course 25, proudly paraded in front of College Hall.

The OCA President, Sir Thomas Kennedy, presented the Jack Holt Memorial Pace Stick to Flight Sergeant Partyka of the Officer and Aircrew Cadet Training Unit. The Pace Stick is awarded to the Senior Non-commissioned officer engaged in Initial Officer Training who has by instruction and personal example done most to instil into the officer cadets the qualities needed of an officer in the Royal Air Force.

With final farewells and plans to meet up again soon, the Annual Reunion Weekend drew to a close. Since the formation of the OCA in 1926, the format of the Reunion has changed dramatically, but as the last association member departed the College on Sunday afternoon, it is hard to imagine a better setting in which to bring together the past, present and future officers of the Royal Air Force.



The OCA and RAF College golf teams.



The OCA Annual Formal Dinner.

College Journal Extracts - 2016 (1)

CRANWELLIAN ASSOCIATION REUNION 2015

In January, members voted for a significant change in how the Association goes forward in the future. With membership steadily increasing, we hope to continue to work towards our aim of setting the conditions for an association that honours the past whilst shaping future air power leaders.

This year's Annual Reunion took place on the weekend of 25-26 July. Once again the Reunion was able to bring together current serving and

retired members of the Association all within the magnificent setting of College Hall Officers' Mess. In addition to the various sporting activities and formal dinner, this year saw three significant course celebrations; 71 Entry's Diamond, 77 Entry's 55 years and 87 Entry's Golden anniversaries.

On the Sunday, the Jack Holt Memorial Prize was presented to Flight Sergeant Philip Holt during the Colour Sunday Parade.



CRANWELLIAN ASSOCIATION YOUTH COMMITTEE

Fg Off Ben Chergui - Cranwellian's Media Coord

The Cranwellian Association Youth Committee was formed in 2015 to inspire and attract the modern day Officer graduates of Cranwell to the legacy that lay before them. With numbers sadly dwindling within the Old Cranwellians' association, it was clear that a new approach had to be found to stop the association fizzling out. With this in mind, a rebrand to simply 'The Cranwellians' Association' took place, in the hope of attracting a steady demographic of members from all RAFC Cranwell graduates.

The Youth Committee is aiming to attract young serving officers to the Association. Through modern social media, facetime with cadets and word of mouth, the Youth Committee is working to increase the number of officers joining to become active members. The Reunion Weekend has always been the premier event of the Cranwellians' Association calendar, and the Youth Committee have been put in charge of the sports taking place this year on Saturday 23 July. With a range of team sports being played

against the newly expanded College, young officers are invited to compete during the afternoon; and then retire for dinner, drinks and a chance to meet other members in the CHOM bar. The integration between serving officers and older members is a fantastic opportunity to share stories as well as pass on experience that will benefit our Royal Air Force for years to come. Other events in the pipeline are being aimed to benefit young officers to give a platform to network with others, gain experience from retired officers, support during their career and boost job prospects after leaving the service. Details for the Reunion Weekend and future events will be available in due course.

The Youth Committee, made up of Junior Officers from a range of branches and backgrounds, including the University Air Squadron, meets regularly and is chaired by Fg Off Calum Morrison, based at RAFC Cranwell.

INAUGURAL AIR POWER LECTURE

with Sir Glen Torpy - 19 November 2015

Over 60 members and guests of the Cranwellian Association gathered at the RAF Club on Thursday 19 November for the first of a series of planned events. Those present enjoyed listening to Air Chief Marshal Sir Glenn Torpy reflect on his time in the RAF, through service in Gulf War 1, Op Telic and latterly as Chief of the Air Staff. He also spoke about his experiences as senior military advisor to British Aerospace and the increasing importance of the relationship between major British industries and the Armed Forces today. In a lively question and

answer session, Sir Glenn fielded questions about cooperation with foreign allies outside of NATO, the importance of our people, and the relationship with contractors.

After the lecture and Q&A session, a number of attendees joined Sir Glenn for an excellent dinner of steak and kidney pudding followed by sherry trifle. Many attendees have commented on what a pleasant atmosphere was generated by the mix of UAS, young serving officers and retired members.

College Journal Extracts - 2016 (2)

IN MEMORIAM

We record with regret the passing of the following Cranwell Graduates or Cranwellians whose deaths were notified to us during the last year.

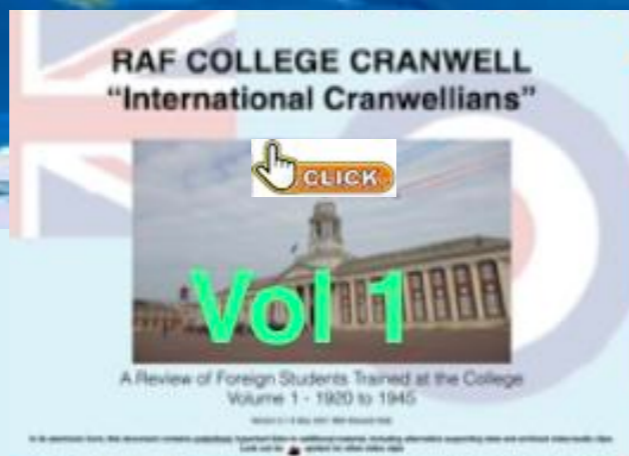
Air Cdre Tony Carver	Graduated 49C Entry
Sqn Ldr Mike Doggart	Graduated 95D Entry
Sqn Ldr George England	Graduated 61A Entry
Gp Capt Maurice Fenner	Graduated 49D Entry / 1 E&S
Sqn Ldr John Horsfall	Graduated 76C Entry
Sqn Ldr Bill Howard	Graduated 77A Entry
Gp Capt Richard Kidney	Graduated 70B Entry
Gp Capt David Luck	Graduated 51A Entry
Air Cdre Terence Morgan	Graduated 65C Entry
Air Cdre Brian Sills	Graduated 69B Entry
Gp Capt John Turner	Graduated 65A Entry
Gp Capt 'Tubby' Vielle	Graduated 32 Entry
Gp Capt Russ Williams	Graduated 79 Entry



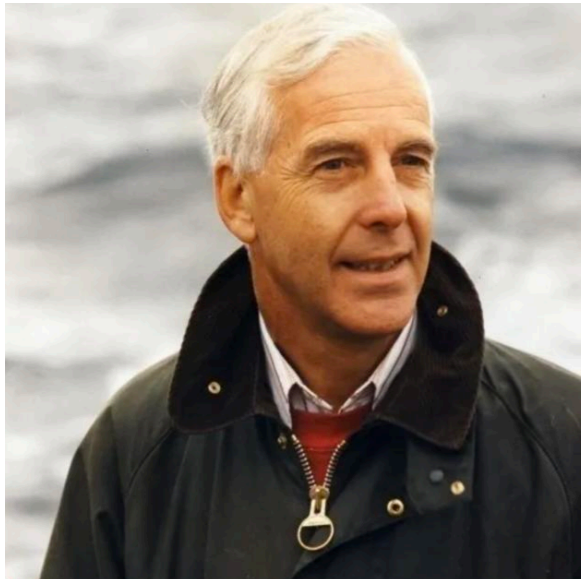
International Cranwellians

Over 1,900 Foreign Students from 59 Different Nations

Canada, Siam/Thailand and Persia/Iran show flags at the time cadets were trained.
The first international cadets in 1920 were from Siam and cadets from Thailand attended the College in 1957.
Similarly, cadets from Ceylon attended in 1953 and from Sri Lanka as recently as 2009.
There are a number of cadets (41) whose nationality we are unable to place at the moment.



The Cranwellian Association 2023



Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon, GCB, CBE

President

Sir Michael flew Lightnings in the 1960s, served at HQ AFCENT as PSO to the DCINC, in Joint Warfare at MOD in the 1970s, became OC 11 Squadron at RAF Binbrook then military advisor to the Chief of the Defence Staff in 1979. As a Group Captain, he became Station Commander at RAF Leuchars in 1981 and at RAF Stanley in the Falkland Islands in 1983. Promoted to Air Commodore in 1984 he became Senior Air Staff Officer at Headquarters No. 11 Group at RAF Bentley Priory in 1985; he took up post as Assistant Chief of Staff at the Policy Division at Headquarters SHAPE in 1986 on promotion to Air Vice-Marshal. In 1989 he was appointed Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief at RAF Support Command and was in post during the Gulf War. He became AOC-in-C Strike Command in 1991 overseeing major change in the RAF post Cold War. He was Chief of the Air Staff from 1992 to 1997 in which role he advised the British Government on the implementation of 'No Fly Zones' in Iraq and Bosnia and implemented the Front Line First initiative which contributed to reducing the RAF manpower from around 89,000 to around 57,000. He retired in 1997.

Air Marshal Sir Christopher Coville, KCB FRAeS

Chairman of the Executive Committee

Sir Christopher joined the RAF in 1964, at the height of the Cold War. Early in his career he flew Lightnings and F4 Phantoms. He assumed command of No. 111 (Fighter) Squadron in 1983 and then became Group Captain Air at Headquarters No. 11 Group. In 1986 he became Station Commander at RAF Coningsby, where he flew Tornado F3 and displayed Hurricanes and Spitfires on the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight. Promoted to Air Vice Marshal, he became Air Officer Commanding Training Units in 1992, Assistant Chief of Defence Staff Operational Requirements (Air Systems) in 1994 and Deputy Commander-in-Chief, Allied Forces Central Europe in 1998. In 2000, his NATO command was absorbed into the Regional Headquarters Allied Forces North Europe of which Sir Chris became the Deputy Commander-in-Chief. In March 2001 he became the Air Member for Personnel and Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Personnel and Training Command. He retired in 2003.



Air Commodore Andrew 'Chas' Dickens OBE ADC MA FCM RAF

Commandant RAF College Cranwell

Air Commodore Dickens was appointed Commandant RAF College Cranwell in November 2021. He is tasked to inspire, attract, train and develop the Next Generation Royal Air Force. He is the RAF Phase 1 Force Commander, Air Officer Lincolnshire, Head of the University Air Squadron Organisation and Chair of the Astra Trust.

Commissioned aged 18 as a Direct Entrant Pilot in November 1990, he completed flying training on the Chipmunk, Jet Provost Mk 38.5 and the Hawk before being posted to the Tornado F3 OCU in 1995. Staff appointments have included the Ministry of Defence Saudi Arabia Project, Air Capability, Joint Services Command & Staff College and twice within the Air & Space Warfare Centre. Operational appointments have included Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan as Chief of Staff (Operations) at 904 Expeditionary Air Wing and RAF Akrotiri, Cyprus as Commanding Officer 903 Expeditionary Air Wing on Operation SHADER.

Away from work, Air Commodore Dickens is married and has a teenage son. In his spare time, he enjoys keeping fit with cycling and flying Air Cadets with Number 7 Air Experience Flight when time and the weather permits.



List of Trustees

Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon, GCB, CBE

Air Marshal Sir Christopher Coville, KCB, FRAeS

Air Vice Marshal Gavin Mackay, CB, OBE, AFC, FRAeS

Air Vice Marshal Canon Paul Robinson OBE FRAeS

Philip Bright

Christopher Meynell

Christopher Saunby

Michael Horton

Charitable Objects

To promote the efficiency of the Royal Air Force by: -

Fostering esprit de corps and comradeship among serving and retired officers

Providing facilities and activities to foster and maintain links between youth organisations, officer cadets and officers

Advancing the education and understanding of the general public and serving / retired officers in the fields of leadership and air power

Preserving the ethos and heritage of the Royal Air Force and the Royal Air Force College in particular.