

2 April 2017

Visit to Reform Club and History Seminar

Visit to Reform Club The BOD, together with the Defence Electronic History Society and Cryptos (a group focused on military history at the Reform Club) has arranged a visit to the Reform Club (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reform_Club) together with a History Seminar on Friday 12 May. This visit and seminar is free for UK Chapter members as the BOD decided to fund the nominal luncheon costs. More information including the seminar programme and application form is attached below. Please act quickly if you wish to join the visit and attend the seminar. The deadline for applying is 23 April 17.

AGM The Chapter AGM was held on Thursday 16 March and was an excellent evening with a great presentation by Professor David Stupples, and a very convivial reception afterwards. A copy of the AGM Minutes is available on our website. The current UK Chapter BOD names are referenced in the Minutes.

100 Gp Badge Presentation Earlier on the day of the AGM the Chapter fulfilled a long-standing commitment to have 100 Gp recognised formally in the RAF Club. The BOD arranged to have a 100 Gp badge painted by the College of Arms. It was presented to Air Cdre Rick Peacock-Edwards, RAF Club Vice-Chairman, and will now take its long-overdue place on the Club wall alongside the other group and squadron badges. As many of you will know, 100 Gp was the first RAF organisation focused on EW to help protect the bombers taking the offensive to Germany. It was particularly interesting to have Phil James MBE, 100 Gp Association President, there and to hear him recounting his missions on 192 Sqn during the war. He joined aged 19 and completed a full tour as a Flight Engineer on Halifax aircraft. No 192 Squadron eventually became 51 Sqn. The RAF was represented by Air Cdre Rich Barrow OBE RAF, Air Commodore Air Staff. The Chairman of the 100 Gp Association also attended together with several Chapter BOD members and Chapter member Wg Cdr Garry Crosby RAF (Retd), former CO 51 Sqn.



100 Gp Association President, Phil James MBE, presents the new Badge to the RAF Club's Rick Peacock-Edwards.

The new 100 Gp badge.



Phil James recall's some of the missions he took part in, including finding the Tirpitz, enabling 9 Sqn and 617 Sqn to engage and sink her.

Email addresses The email addresses of the following members appear to have changed as we are getting non-delivery messages. If you have a current working email address for any of them please let Membership Director Ian Fish know by emailing him at piscene1@gmail.com:

- Mike Booth Ken Clarke Peter Forrest Terry Hall
- Roger Marriott Dave Marriott Richard Thurston Peter Stocken John Stratton

New Articles Jacey Wise MBE has provided a new article "The Radio Frequency Spectrum" – many thanks John for your prodigious and prestigious contributions. Don't be shy – please feel free to contribute an article to the UK Chapter. As a reminder these articles are only available as attachments to UK Chapter Newsletters – they are not posted on our website. Any views contained in them are the author's alone.

AOC Memberships Benefits – Webinars Chapter members can access the AOC's Live Virtual series of cutting edge webinars as well as the on-demand Virtual Series of presentations. Simply log onto the home page at www.crows.org and click on the webinar of interest. You can also access back-issues of JED - click on the "Publications" Tab then "JED" for more information.

Smallwood EW Trophy – Update Last month I reported that the BOD had been contacted by a former RAF man's family to try to find a photograph of the Smallwood EW Trophy. Thanks to Chris Howe, Roger Hannaford and the Station photographer at RAF Marham new photographs were sent to the family where they will be a treasured part of the family history. Roger also wrote a lovely letter to the family explaining the importance of the off-SLATE test equipment and providing background information. BZ to all concerned!

Finally That's all folks. I've listed a few dates below, where you might consider joining us and the wider AOC community in 2017. Remember, the UK Chapter is all about you, so please stay engaged and let the Board know what you want. Feedback is always welcome; otherwise we operate in a vacuum. We need more diverse and young members to become actively involved in what the Chapter does – any ideas are most welcome. In particular, please send ideas about recognising suitable individuals or organisations for AOC and/or UK Chapter awards.



John Clifford OBE
UK Chapter President

SOME DATES FOR YOUR 2017 DIARY

UK Chapter Visit to Reform Club and History Seminar – Friday 12 May 17 Details below.

AOC EW Europe 2017 6-8 June 2017, Olympia Conference Centre, London. www.eweuropa.com

DSEI Excel London 2017 – 12-15 September 2017 www.dsei.co.uk/

Visit to 30 Cdo Y Sqn Stonehouse Barracks Plymouth Date **September TBC 2017**

Visit to 11 EOD Regiment, RAF Northolt, Date TBD 2017

Check out our website at www.ukaoc.org

You can also check out **career opportunities** there too, by clicking on the Home Page "**EW Job Vacancies**" button.



UK CHAPTER

Visit to Reform Club and History Seminar

**THE REFORM CLUB - FRIDAY MAY 12th - ALL DAY CONFERENCE 10.30 TO 5 PM.
A CENTURY OF SIGNALS INTELLIGENCE.**

1. John Croft CBE will open the first day conference under the auspices of Cryptos at the Reform Club.

John is the last surviving cryptographer to have worked on the Lorenz machine at Bletchley Park. He is probably the last surviving cryptographer to have worked at Alford House on the Comintern Cipher (the decrypts of which went straight to Churchill). John is also the longest serving member of the Reform Club and joined before V1's dropped on London. Cryptos is proud to invite him to chair the conference.

2. WHAT CHURCHILL KNEW BEFORE HIS CHIEFS OF STAFFS,

Wing Commander John Stubbington, CEng

Admiralty Room 40, Zimmerman telegram, between the Wars, Bletchley Park - What we owe to Mr Churchill; moving on through the Cold War to current cyberspace.

3. THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SKY

Dr Phil Judkins, Leeds University

"History has not dealt kindly with Josef "Beppo" Schmid, head of Luftwaffe intelligence in the Battle of Britain, seeing him in contrast with the scholarly Wolfgang Martini, head of Luftwaffe signals and radar. Using the latest research, Dr Phil Judkins follows their careers through the whole of the Second World War, showing in this re-appraisal how a key decision by Schmid almost brought the RAF's strategic bombing campaign to a halt in the night skies over Germany in the winter of 1943-4"

4. SPYING ON SPIES.

Dr Arthur Bauer, Rotterdam Museum of Cryptology.

Little is known on the British interpretation and re-interpretation of their intercepts of Abwehr information, in particular of the Abwehr's two "Independent" agents, KLATT on the Eastern Front and OSTRO in Portugal. Arthur Bauer has re-worked the voluminous information with input from one of the last surviving Abwehr operators, Rudolph Staritz. He offers new perspectives on these agents, from and seen by the German military as among the most important of their sources, and on the British interpretations of intercepts.

The speakers will cover the use made of the SIGINT material and by whom, as well as the processes by which it was acquired.

To: John Stubbington

E-mail: john.stubbington@btinternet.com

I wish to attend the Reform Club visit and History Seminar on Friday 12 May 2017.

The deadline for applications is 23 April, as we have to inform the Reform Club of the number visiting.

Name:

AOC Membership No:

Telephone:

E-mail: