

**4 July 2015**

## **July Update**

**Visit to Farnborough – Air Platform Protection** You have a unique opportunity to visit the Dstl Missile Evaluation Centre (DMEC) on Friday morning 17 July as there are some places remaining, but you will need to act now. Irrespective of your role or interest in EW and its many sub-divisions, a visit to this world class independent facility is certain to be interesting and lead to useful networking and maybe the cross-fertilization of ideas from across the endlessly fascinating world of EW. Mark Elson MBE, who was awarded the AOC's International Achievement award last year for his work with NATO on Air Platform Protection, has offered to host a Classified Chapter visit to the Dstl enclave at Qinetiq Farnborough on Friday morning 17 July 2015. The visit will include a tour of the DMEC in order to observe a NATO Trial in both the RF and EO areas and a tour of the Laser DIRCM Test Capability. Visitors will need a SC clearance. The numbers are limited to 20 members. More details on page 3 below. Thanks for the offer Mark and thanks to Doctor Sue Robertson for taking this forward.

**AOC Elections – Voting is now open until the end of July - Vote today!** The AOC Board of Directors election for the next AOC President after the current President Elect, Dave Hime, opened on 1 July 2015. It runs to the end of the month. You can also vote for 2 At Large Directors. There is generally a low turnout at AOC elections so your vote really counts.

**Visit to Vulcan XH558** We are hoping to arrange a special visit to see the last remaining flying Vulcan at Doncaster later in the year. I was working with several family members in Bristol recently and on Father's Day we took the afternoon off and went to see the flying display at Weston Super Mare, which is a magnificent vista for such a display. The Red Arrows were superb as were all the other current and historic aircraft involved. I saw a Chinook do things that I thought to be impossible! However, without a doubt, and as at so many displays in recent years Vulcan XH558 absolutely stole the show with a hugely impressive finale. Spontaneous applause burst out from the massive crowd repeatedly, especially when the Vulcan climbed steeply and the roar of the mighty Olympus engines triggered car alarms all along the sea front. To see the Vulcan do a power cruise climb up to the cloud base around 5,500 feet as it departed and slowly disappear was extremely moving. As the aircraft disappeared the final note of "Jerusalem", which had been playing on the Tannoy, rang out. An amazing coincidence, no doubt, but extremely joyful and terrific theatre. It was particularly poignant for me as I served 2 tours on 101 Sqn back in the day but even more so because for a variety of reasons this is the last season that XH558 will ever fly. UK Chapter Board member Phil Davies was operating the aircraft on that day as AEO along with pilots Martin Withers DFC and Bill Ramsey, who was Captain on the day. Many thanks and kudos to Phil and his family for an amazing 8 years of world-beating displays. To see where XH558 is due to fly near you for the last chance ever to see this amazing aircraft in flight check out <http://www.vulcantothesky.org/appearances.html> where you can also see much more about the "Vulcan to the Sky" charity and how to support it.

**New Article** I am delighted that John "Jacey" Wise MBE has found the time to write another great article, this time on "Passive Radars" which is attached to this newsletter.

**If EW history is your thing**, or you want to present a great gift to a colleague, we now have a limited number of AOC 50th Anniversary Books for sale. Originally costing \$60, the copies we have can be had for only £15 (plus P&P) and we will have copies at all Chapter events for sale – until the stock is gone. Please contact John Stubbington, our Treasurer, via the website if you are interested in purchasing a copy.

**RN Top EW Student Award** The AOC Award presentation to the top EW student this year came from the recent RN Petty Officer Qualifying Course. The presentation was made on Tuesday morning 30 Jun in a ceremony on the grass outside the EW school, MWC at HMS Collingwood. UK Chapter Board members Chris Howe MBE and David Peck attended along with Chapter member Craig Pauley. The well deserving winner was LS (EW) James (Jim) Hick and the photograph below shows Jim getting his AOC certificate of commendation and cheque from the UK Chapter VP & Awards Chairman, Chris Howe MBE. BZ to Jim for outstanding work during his professional course and the UK Chapter wish him and his fellow graduates well for the future.



**AOC Conferences** Further afield, I have lobbied the US side of the AOC to hold more events that are open to everyone, rather than simply making them US Only. There will be an inaugural 5-Eyes conference on Cyber Electromagnetic Activity (CEMA), 6-8<sup>th</sup> October 2015, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. More details can be found here: <http://www.crows.org/event/192-aoc-conferences/2015/10/06/34-cyber-electromagnetic-activity-2015.html>

**Chapter Website – EW Jobs** There are currently 7 jobs advertised on the UK Chapter for positions in 4 leading companies. You can find them on the UK Chapter web site under the “News” tab or by clicking this link: <http://www.ukaoc.org/ewjobs.html> If you are interested in seeing what EW jobs are available please check out the new page. If you are seeking highly qualified UK EW personnel to work with you then this is the most focused and inexpensive means of finding them. Please contact Chris Howe if you are interested. ([chris.howe@systematic.com](mailto:chris.howe@systematic.com)).

**Finally** That’s all folks! I’ve listed a few dates below, where you might consider joining us and the wider AOC community in 2015. Remember, the UK Chapter is all about you, so please stay engaged and let the Board know what you want. Feedback is always welcome.

John Clifford OBE  
UK Chapter President

#### **SOME DATES FOR YOUR 2015 DIARY**

**Visit to Dstl Missile Evaluation Centre**, Farnborough, Friday 17 July 2015 **SC clearance required.**

**Visit to RN Type 45 Destroyer**, Portsmouth TBD 2015

**Visit to VTST Vulcan XH 558** Doncaster Airport One Friday in September TBD

**DSEI AOC EW Pavilion/Stand** 15-18 September 2015, Royal Victoria Dock, London.

**RN EW Branch Reunion** Saturday 17 October 2015, GIs Association Whale Island, Portsmouth. Visit <http://navygollies.com/2015.php> for all details. The Association has once again invited UK Chapter members to attend.

**AOC 52nd Symposium** 1 - 3 December 2015, **New Venue** Marriott Marquis DC and Convention Center, Washington, DC

**UK Chapter Christmas Dinner** 11 Dec 2015, RAF Club, Awards Dinner, Black-tie preferred.

**AOC EW Europe 2016** 10-12 May 2016, Ahoy Conference Centre, Rotterdam, Netherlands.

**Check out our website at [www.ukaoc.org](http://www.ukaoc.org)**



## VISIT TO DMEC at DSTL Farnborough

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

Your Board is very pleased to announce that Dstl has offered to host a visit for AOC members on the day following the NATO Air Forces Armament Group Topical Meeting (NAFAG TM) to be held in July. The NAFAG TM related to Air EW capability and focused around a HWIL (Hardware-in-the-Loop) missile test will take place in Farnborough.

AOC have been offered a focused event on the morning of the 17<sup>th</sup> July immediately following the NAFAG TM. The visit will include a tour of the Dstl Missile Evaluation Centre (DMEC) to observe a NATO Trial in both the RF and EO areas.

### VISIT LOCATION

DMEC, under Dstl control, is located on the Qinetiq site at Farnborough.

### DRAFT AGENDA

09:00	Welcome and coffee
09:15	Introduction to NATO Air Platform Protection
09:30	MACE RCFM development Overview
10:00	Tour of MACE 18 Trial in DMEC
11:30	Overview of IRCM Activities
12:00	Tour of Laser DIRCM Test Capability
13:00	Wash up/Discussion
13:30	Close

### SECURITY CLEARANCE REQUIREMENT

**SC clearance is needed for this visit.**

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Members wishing to attend should send an email to Sue Robertson ([sue@gpl.co.uk](mailto:sue@gpl.co.uk)) as soon as possible – Sue will then provide contact details so that SC details can be forwarded. Places are limited and available on a first come /first served basis – if there is excess demand we may operate a reserve list.

Please include the following information in your message:

Full Name:  
Telephone:

AOC Membership No:  
E-Mail: