

21 September 2015

Vulcan XH558 Visit

Visit to Vulcan XH558 – A Date for Your Diary We have arranged a visit to see Vulcan XH558 in her original cold war hanger at Robin Hood Airport (formerly RAF Finningley), Doncaster, on Thursday 29 October, starting at 11:00. The Chapter will subsidise the visit, which will also include a small buffet lunch and time to explore the aircraft and hanger, at a cost of £10 to you. There will also be a talk on the EW fit of the Vulcan from Julian Grenfell (who was AEO leader when I flew with 101 Sqn, back in the day) and Phil Davies will provide an incredible insight into his experience of flying XH558 as AEO over the past 7 years. Members of the Defence Electronics History Society will also hopefully join us. It cannot fail to be a memorable day – in the presence of XH588 and some of the aircrew and ground crew who maintain her in her last year flying. There are still some places left - there is a registration form and more information at the end of the newsletter. 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, the visit opportunities and how to support them.

DSEI 15-18 September ExCel London – Volunteers Thank You! We had a great time at DSEI, meeting old friends and making new ones. In one surreal moment I found myself in the largest gathering of AEOs I’ve experienced since 1979! John Wise MBE has included some notes in one of the attached papers. We recruited 8 new Chapter members and 2 others and had an excellent stand and good footfall, where we explained about EW, the AOC and UK Chapter. Many thanks to Chapter Members Gerhard Taljaard, Marcus Rabe, Les Worth, Michael Baker, Professor David Stupples, John Wise MBE, Julian Grenfell, and Directors Dave Peck, Roger Hannaford, Phil Davies and Chris Howe MBE.

PEWSE Many members attended the Partner EW Support Element meeting held at DSEI, organised by new member Wg Cdr Philip Lamb RAF, UKTI DSO; the Chapter helped out by informing all members of the late-breaking meeting which included excellent briefs from Captain Paul Abraham CBE RN JFC Joint User, Dave Hewitt MBE RN CO JEWOSC and Paul “Reg” Varney. A lively discussion ensued. A copy of the slides was sent to all attendees – if you missed it and want a copy let me know and I will seek approval to forward one to you. I had another surreal moment at the end of the meeting. Having been invited to give a short brief on the AOC in a bid to sign up new members, I asked for a show of hands of current members – and the hand of every single person in the audience shot up! Exit stage right

New Articles from Chapter Members I am delighted that John “Jacey” Wise MBE has found the time to write another great article, this time on Radars in Iran and Rwanda together with a commentary on DSEI which is attached to this newsletter. In addition, Julian Grenfell has written an excellent technical note, the second of a series, on Blackbody Radiation (attached). Both of the authors would no doubt appreciate any feedback, (as would I, your long-suffering author of these newsletters) – if you are moved to respond please send your comments to me at jonclif@aol.com and I will distribute them to the appropriate person.

Note From the Membership Director As those of you reading this are well aware, our main means of communication with our members is by email. Unfortunately not everybody notifies us of a change of email address and so we lose contact. The following is a list of names of current members who fall into this category – where the failing email address is a corporate one I have appended that information although I appreciate that it may be years out of date. If any of you are in contact with any of the members in the list will you please ask them to advise me of their new email address at piscene1@gmail.com.

Michael Grahame-Dunne – Syncorp	Andy Bennett – e2v
Alan Bryon – ESL Defence	Jason Wilkes
Timothy Lyon	Barry Knight
Victoria Cope – Babcock	Michael Dodd
Christian Checkley – Raytheon	Ken Clarke – e2v
Adrian Cunningham – L-3	Robert Barrey – Selex
Philip Burns-O’Brien - Babcock	

DEHS Autumn Symposium The theme for the 2015 autumn symposium, scheduled for 7 October at the Defence Academy, Shrivenham, is Air Power and Military Electronics, with 6 presentations: http://www.dehs.org.uk/events_AS15.html. Chapter members are most welcome to attend.

Classified EW Symposium The 11th Classified (SECRET 5-Eyes) EW Symposium is to be hosted by the Defence Academy of the UK on Tuesday 8 and Wednesday 9 December 2015 at Shrivenham. It is run by Symposia at Shrivenham on behalf of Cranfield Defence & Security and Dstl, and is supported by the UK Chapter. The 2015 symposium title is very welcome and topical: Future Challenges for Joint Operations in the Electromagnetic Environment. More information and the call for papers at: <http://www.cranfield.ac.uk/about/events/listings/symposia/ew.html>.

UK Chapter Christmas Dinner and Awards Evening 2015 – Friday 11 December Last year's Chapter Christmas Dinner was great fun and gave us a chance to recognise the achievements of some of our members – it was also the largest in a very long time. We want it to be bigger and even better this December but places are limited so please book early. You will find more information and an application form below.

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 VTST Vulcan XH 558 Robin Hood Airport, Doncaster, 11:00 Thursday 29 Oct 2015, flyer below.

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.

Visit to RN Type 45 Destroyer, Portsmouth TBD 2015

DEHS Autumn Symposium, Wednesday 7 October 2015 UK Defence Academy, Shrivenham:
http://www.dehs.org.uk/events_AS15.html

AOC 52nd Symposium 1 - 3 December 2015, **New Venue** Marriott Marquis DC and Convention Center, Washington, DC - <http://www.crows.org/conventions/2015.html>

11th Classified 5-Eyes EW Symposium 8-9 December 2015, Defence Academy, Shrivenham:
<http://www.cranfield.ac.uk/about/events/listings/symposia/ew.html>

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

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

Check out our website at www.ukaoc.org

VISIT TO VULCAN XH558

Thursday 29th October 2015

Your Board is very pleased to announce that a visit to Vulcan XH558 has been arranged for AOC members and members of the Defence Electronics History Society. Owned and operated by Vulcan to the Sky Trust, XH558 is the only remaining airworthy example of the Vulcan. Sadly by the time we visit in October it will have made its last flight. The visit will commence at 11:00 and will include a tour of the aircraft with the opportunity to view the increasing number of historical Vulcan items and personal recollections on display around the hangar.



We shall also have the privilege of a presentation by chapter member Julian Grenfell with his experience of the EW fit of the aircraft. Phil Davies will also brief about flying the Vulcan as AEO over the past 7 years.

VISIT LOCATION

XH558 is based in hangar 3 at Robin Hood Airport, Doncaster Sheffield

VISIT COST

The visit will be subsidised by UK AOC chapter funds but there will be a charge of £10 per person (to include a buffet lunch), which will be collected on the day.

Members wishing to attend should send an email to Sue Robertson (sue@tpl.co.uk) as soon as possible. Numbers are limited so please act sooner rather than later and risk disappointment.

Please include the following information in your message:

Full Name:

AOC Membership No:

Mobile No:

Age range (under/over 65):





CHRISTMAS DINNER

Royal Air Force Club, 128 Piccadilly, London W1J 7PY

Friday 11 December 2015

The AOC UK Chapter Board is very pleased to confirm that the annual AOC UK Chapter Christmas Dinner will be held in the Royal Air Force Club, Piccadilly (Hyde Park end) on **Friday 11 December 2015**. All AOC members, their partners and guests will be most welcome at this very enjoyable festive occasion. Like last year, let's make this a grand occasion with as many as possible attending as we will also recognise the achievements of Chapter members and units.

The outline programme for the evening is:

1800: Pre-dinner drinks in the Victoria Bar.

1900: Christmas Dinner in the President's Room.

Carriages as required

Dress: Gentlemen, **Black Tie** preferred; Ladies, as appropriate.

The Dinner will cost £50 per head, including wine and port at the table, and will also be supported by a subsidy from Chapter funds. Members wishing to attend should complete the proforma below and send it by e-mail to Phil Davies no later than Friday 4 December 2015 (or simply send Phil the information via email). Payment on the night is preferred but, having made a commitment to the RAF Club, we regret that payment for the dinner will still be due in the event of a late cancellation by a member after 7 Dec 2015. If you would like to pay early and send a cheque please contact Phil and he will provide his address.

To: Phil Davies

E-mail: phildavie@aol.com

I wish to attend the AOC Christmas Dinner on **Friday 11 December 2015**.

Name:

AOC Membership No: Guest(s):

Telephone:

E-mail:

Any special dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian)?