

103rd Entry Association



Newsletter

No. 23
October 2004

Editor: Bob Procter

Editorial

We are getting on well with planning for a Reunion next year to mark the 40th anniversary of our graduation. We hope to see as many of you there as possible - full details appear later.

Nick Smith relinquished the post of Association Treasurer at the end of 2002 due to pressure of work. Mick Woodhouse agreed to try out the role and was so successful that the Committee agreed unanimously that he should take the job on a permanent basis! We would like to record a huge vote of thanks for the sterling work that Nick has done over the years to set up and run the Association account, and for all his other work on the Committee.

“Known but not Paid-Up”. We have quite a few colleagues who are “known but not paid-up” members of the Association - some 45 in all. You know who you are and we urge you to consider joining a very proud and active Association for a mere £5 a year. To encourage you, a bank standing order mandate is included with this Newsletter.

The RAFHAA Triennial Reunion took place on Saturday 25th September 2004 and attracted a good crowd overall. However!! The 103rd was represented by the grand total of 5! The day’s activities were as enthusiastic as ever, despite the wet weather, although it did clear for the march from the airfield to the church. The day ended with the traditional march up the hill and a sunset ceremony on the parade ground. We had a resounding success on the day in recruiting Brian Lee to the Committee. Brian, welcome - it’s good to have you on board.

There’s quite a bit of **news about colleagues** this time.

Simon Keen is now the landlord of the Black Prince in Princess Risborough (the first pub in the town when travelling from High Wycombe):

Black Prince
86 Wycombe Road
Princes Risborough
Bucks HP27 0EN

Dick Ball has left Britannia.

Kevin Sheehan has a new phone number - 01302-843487.

Tony Shevels new address & tel no are:
Holly Lodge, Chestnut Mews
Main Street, Tickton
Beverley, East Yorks HU179RZ
01964-501763

Jess & Lesley Myers address & e-mail address are:
Blinco Road
Rushden
Northants NN10 0DT
jessiessmm@aol.com

I left the RAF in April 2003 after 40 years plus, and we moved to Devon. I now have my own Aviation Safety Consultancy in partnership with a former RAF colleague. If you are ever in the area, pop in and see us:

Barry & Ruth Neal
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Has anyone had any contact with Bob Peele, or perhaps knows of his whereabouts? You will remember that we had an Entry Flag and it was last known to be in Bob’s care. All our attempts to track him down have failed, and we would like to see the flag again. We have, however, no knowledge of its fate.

Occasionally, we find that colleagues’ **e-mail addresses** “disappear”. Please could you let us know as and when you change your e-mail address so we can keep our records up-to-date.

As ever, we are desperate for **Newsletter Articles!** The reunion material has made up most of this Newsletter; without it we would have been a bit short of copy! Please, please, put pen to paper and send your articles to Bob Proctor who will be delighted to publish your news.

And finally, some **unhappy news**.

Alan Collard died at home on 9th December 2002 from coronary thrombosis and coronary atheroma.

Dick Turkhud died on 13th June 2003 in Abu Dhabi

Colin Worth is no better although no worse. There is very little hope of recovery for him, and he is now in a home.

Our thoughts and condolences are with families and friends. Time is obviously taking its toll; however, it is still very sad to hear such news.

Committee Members' contact details are as follows:

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01865-340535

and me!

Barry Neal

103rd ENTRY REUNION **SATURDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2005**

A Reunion to mark the 40th anniversary of our graduation will be held on Saturday 12th November 2005 at the Falcon Hotel in Stratford upon Avon. It will be held in the Romeo Room and adjacent Garden Bar; they have both been reserved for our exclusive use. It will be an informal 'buffet-style' evening - a format that worked very well at the King's Head in January 2003. We will be putting a generous sum of money behind the bar, and will subsidise all paid-up Association Members with between £10 and £15 per head. Non-Association members will not receive the subsidy but will, of course, be eligible if they choose to join the Association at the princely sum of £5 per year.

For past Reunions the Association Fund has been used to enable colleagues to attend who may otherwise have found the cost prohibitive, and we are offering that facility again. Anyone who would like to take advantage of the offer is asked to contact Mick Woodhouse who will treat any enquiry in the strictest confidence.

Attached are full details, including costings. Part 1 of the Booking Form should be returned to me so that we can monitor attendance and finalise funding. Reservations should be made directly with the Falcon Hotel using Part 2 of the Booking Form. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at yet another auspicious anniversary of those career- and character-forming, and influential years!

Barry Neal

Reunion Costings

Dinner, B&B 2 nights, Friday & Saturday - £120

Dinner, B&B; Saturday night only - £77

Dinner, B&B; Friday, Saturday & Sunday - £160

Dinner only on Saturday night - £19

All these prices are per person sharing a twin/double room, and include VAT. There are 4 single rooms in the hotel and once these have been booked, there will be a supplement of £12 per night for twin/double rooms for single occupancy

Check in Time - Bedrooms will be available from 2.30pm; however, if you wish to arrive earlier, please do and the hotel will look after your luggage. A wide range of bar snack lunches are available in the hotel bars and lounges.

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