

ROYAL OBSERVER CORPS



GREAT BEDWYN
R.O.C. HERITAGE GROUP

NEWSLETTER

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM AND FOR MEMBERS

ISSUE NUMBER 9

JULY 2013



**Spitfire and Hurricane from RAF Battle of Britain Memorial Flight
'flying past' the Battle of Britain Memorial at Capel le Ferne .**

May

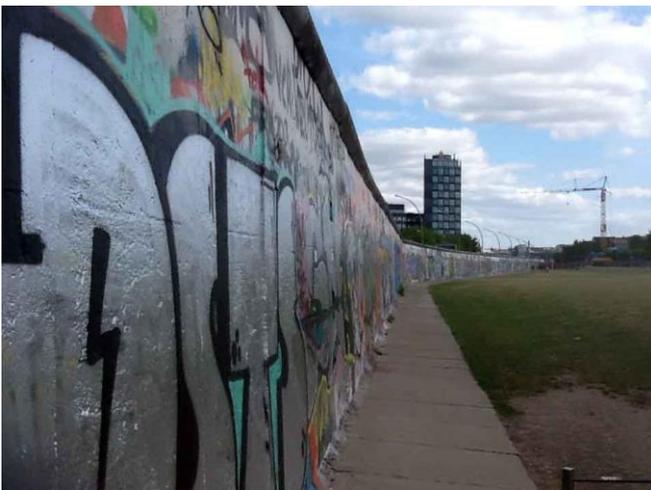
Gary, June, Errol, Gill and Rodney made their Battlefield trip.



Colditz Castle



Gary at Colditz



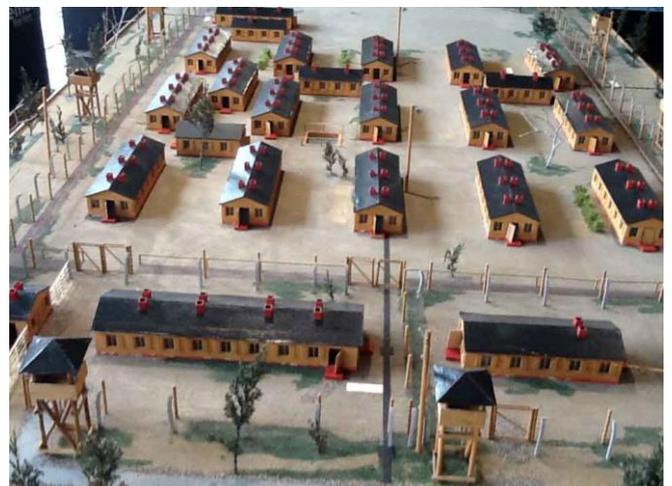
Berlin Wall



'Checkpoint Charlie'



Escape Tunnel



Model of Stalag Luft 3



Arnhem Memorial



Memorial erected at Colditz



The Grave of Guy Gibson and Jim Warwick his navigator



Intrepid travellers at the Mohne Dam



No information on this picture apart from the gravestones represent crews of a squadron of Lancasters



The Mohne Dam



Photo Break



Sorpe Dam

June 3rd

Wife and I holidayed 'up north'



Great campsite at Crowden in Derbyshire



For any Followers of 'Last of the Summer Wine' this is 'Compo's' grave in Holmfirth.



Sunset over Loch Lomond

June 10th

This was Oare Show attended by Gary and June



Both here , with accommodation.



Gary's truck with its new canvas



Wrong era for traffic cones surely

June 21st

I joined a group from Winchester area for a visit to the National Air Traffic Control Centre at Swanwick. This was to see and hear about the work of the RAF controllers who control the flying over all the 'Danger Areas' both over land and sea. In the Distress and Diversion Cell guidance and control is also exercised by them for aircraft in distress with controlled diversions. A very good visit and excellent 'subsidised' canteen.

June 23rd

This was the 14 Group ROCA AGM held at the Harestock Lodge Hotel. The Lunch again was very good and the venue adequate for the reduced numbers this year.

The committee and officers were re-elected on block . It was voted that the subscription should be increased to defray the dwindling income to be expected in coming years. Details to be discussed at committee.

June 23rd

Brian Davis joined a group of friends to visit Fawley Hall nr Reading , which is opened by the owner occasionally to raise funds for charity. He has a private railway of about a mile along which the little saddle tank engine pulls passengers in not the greatest of comfort.



30th June

Gary and June took their vehicles to Trowbridge 'Armed Forces Day'.



June's Land Rover resplendent in its new paint.

2nd July

My son Andy and I visited Bempton Cliffs in Yorkshire to photograph the gannets in the colony there.



6/7th July

Gary and June visited the Heddington and Stockley Country Fayre where Gary won a prize for the best military vehicle in show.

9th July

This was the date for this year's canal trip from Devizes Wharf complete with fish and chip supper all courtesy of Kennet and Avon Canal Trust. This years attendance was 34.



The Kenavon Venture



A lot of skin starting to push through the hair





Jenny obviously enjoying the trip.



Table is set



Bar's open



Tucking in



Gary and June, Robin and Mary.

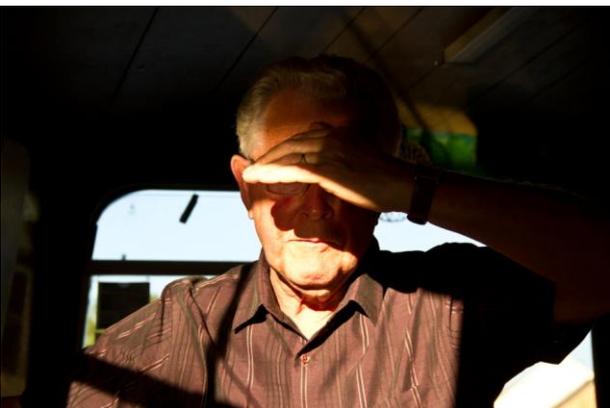


A very thoughtful Ivor (not indigestion I hope)

12th July

Wife and I visited Folkestone for a long weekend and the campsite was about halfway between Folkestone and Dover, right on the beach . Both breakwaters could be seen.

As it happened we were just below the Battle of Britain Memorial at Capel le Ferne where a ceremony is held annually to mark the anniversary of the start of the battle. This year it was 14th July. Unfortunately it was not



Not even hardships

possible to attend but having found out the timing of the flypast managed to be up along the 'nature trail' at the right time , and probably had a better view of the aircraft than many attending. The aircraft, a spitfire and hurricane returned later to give a flying display which again we had excellent view of from the site. What a sound.....



Martello tower above Folkestone



First approach for flypast



The Flypast.

Diary Dates

21st July – Cosford Trip

27th July – ROCA tour of Stoney Cross Airfield

10th August – Post BBQ

13th August – Monthly Mtg at Beckhampton.

14th September – ROCA – Day of Steam on the Isle of Wight

Sep 1st –Battle of Britain Museum at Bentley Priory opens for first time.

Sep 15th – Battle of Britain Service at Westminster Abbey

Oct 11th – 13th National ROCA Reunion

Nov 10th – Remembrance Parades.

Dec 8th – 14 Group ROCA Xmas Lunch