

Heritage Report 31Group ROCA July 2019

Our ROC Displays at **Ulster Aviation Heritage Site** are doing very well indeed with constant visitors showing great interest.

We had a visit from **RBL Branch Poyntzpass Co Armagh** last month when nearly **30 Members** attended. Everybody was extremely impressed with everything they saw and complimentary to Paddy on his explanations of the ROC Displays. We had been trying to get them along for some years.

One of them is also former ROC and has now **joined 31Group ROCA**.

Alistair McCann (Portadown Post) again added to our displays- an **ROC Post Radio which is now on display**. This was very generous of Alistair.

Portadown Post (Alistair) continues to open to the public on occasions during the year with great attendance and interest from all. **Coleraine Post (John Graham)** is almost complete after restoration **by John Graham and Alistair**. Very well done indeed.

Richard Stuart 31Group ROCA donated colour slides he took during the final year at 31Group Ops Room Training which **Alistair** very kindly got digitilised on to a CD for our Displays.

Cyril Leathers 31Group ROCA, Ardglass presented us with a nice model of a **Soviet Blinder** now suspended over the Ops Table.

David Hill 31Group ROCA L'Derry presented an excellent model of a **Victor Bomber** which he made over the last few months in white anti-flash which complements our **Valiant and Vulcan Bombers** thus now completing our **"V" Bomber** display in a cabinet. A very generous donation.

David Hill often wins the **UAS Annual Model Aircraft Competition** with UAS.

We recently obtained another **fine display cabinet** from the UAS upon our request which is **now illuminated**. A great addition.

The other cabinets will soon also be illuminated.

We have the use of three rooms and a passage joining the two giant hangars which is very encouraging.

Our recently received **RAF Ben Fd Roll-up Display** is now permanently on display.

Paddy will now forward an article on “**ROC Seaborne Ops**” to the UAS monthly Magazine. He also sent a copy of his article on “**Sandra Lights and the ROC**” to RAFA “**Airmail**”. They responded saying they were very interested but could not promise when it might be published.

I have now sent updated photos of our displays to the UAS Webmaster for even better publicity at our UAS Heritage Site.

Both Alistair and Paddy have copies of Mark Dalton’s “**ROC Underground Monitoring Posts**”. Paddy often lends his copy to UAS Members for information purposes and also informs our voluntary UAS Tour Guides.

We are **very grateful indeed to our 31Group ROCA Member Hugh McGrattan** for finalising his “**History of 31Group ROC**” which is a most accurate record of the 31Group ROC.

Our next 31Group Reunion will take place in Jan 2020 in Portrush and our special guest will be Wing Cdr Tara Scott MBE RAF Public relations while HM Lord Lt Joan Christie CVO OBE has just stood down from the position but still wishes to come and join us again anyway.