

Portivo Lounge

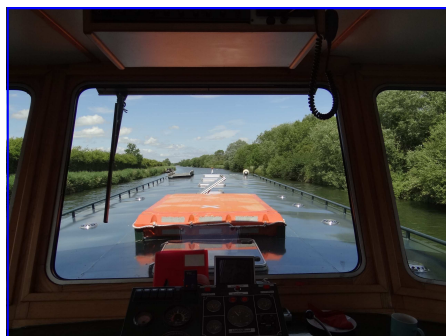
On Wednesday, 29 July 2015, 17 members met up at the Portivo Lounge, Gloucester Quays for an informal tea/coffee morning providing an opportunity for branch members to come together, meet up with old friends and make new ones. The event has proved to be popular and a meeting has taken place every month since.



The Portivo Lounge has on display the old RAFA Gloucester branch signage giving it the "old club" ambience. We meet up on the first Tuesday of the month at 11am. Next get together will be 5 January 2016. Why not come along and join in.

Willow Trust Boat Trip

On 5 September 2015 ten members enjoyed a trip along the Gloucester/Sharpness canal courtesy of the Willow Trust. Overcast skies did not dampen the enjoyment and as soon as we set off the crew brought out the sandwiches, cakes, tea and coffee. A good time was had by one and all.



Another trip is planned for 2016 so if you missed this one another will be along next June or July. Give Ray a call and get your name on the list.

Not Forgotten Buckingham Palace Tea Party

On the 11th June 2015, 3 branch members attended the "Not Forgotten" tea party at Buckingham Palace.

Here is part of David's account of the day:

Princess Anne and husband Timothy Lawrence arrived at 3.30. She looked very nice in a cream coloured jacket. Her husband wore his full Admiral's uniform. They strolled very slowly through the crowd and chatted with their guests. I admired their patience and unfailing courtesy. Eventually they reached the buffet area but still continued to chat and listen to their guests. At about this stage 2 pipers in full highland dress appeared on the lawn and entertained us with a Scottish medley. I enjoyed that - not so sure everyone else did.



The afternoon passed very quickly. At 4.45 the Royal Marine Band gave a marching display on the lawn which attracted much enthusiastic applause. They ended their performance by playing the National Anthem - a signal that the garden party was over. Everyone was reluctant to leave. Chloe, my grand daughter and I were among the last to make our exit.

Wings Appeal 2015



Wings Appeal this year raised £1,070.12 thanks to the efforts of Lorraine, our branch members and 181 (City of Gloucester) Air Training Squadron.

In addition to monies raised in Gloucester, RAFA members in Hereford raised £377.00 giving a combined total of £1,447.12.

Gloucester Cathedral Visit

On 25 August 2015, 8 members enjoyed a guided tour of Gloucester Cathedral. Martin Henshaw, a RAFA member and Cathedral guide ensured the group had an informative and enjoyable visit.



Don Say DFC, Legion D'Honneur Presentation



On 29 October 2015 Don Say DFC was presented with the Legion D'Honneur by Brigadier General Thierry Ducret at a ceremony organised by the Typhoon Entente Cordiale Trust at the Jet Age Museum.



181 (City of Gloucester) Air Training Squadron



10 cadets from 181 (City of Gloucester) Squadron Air Training Corps supported our Wings Appeal this year collecting a grand total of £514.42. As a show of appreciation the cadets were presented with certificates designed and printed by committee member Pam Blackhall.

The Squadron will be celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2016 and would like to hear from any past members to join in the celebrations. Please pass your details to Ray on 01452 415064.

Your Committee

President: Eric Ede

Acting Chairman: Noel Phillips

Treasurer: Chris Hill

Committee members:

Pam Blackhall

Ruth Aldridge

Social Events Coordinator:

Ray Bunnage

Honorary Welfare Officer (HWO):

Ray Bunnage

Ray can be contacted on 01452 415064

Mobile: 07717413813

Email: rafagloucester@gmail.com

Honorary Secretary:

Lorraine Wilson

Lorraine can be contacted on 01452

306005

email:lorrainecole@blueyonder.co.uk

Annual Conference 2016

The Wales, Midland and South Western Area Annual Conference and Reunion will be held over the weekend 4—6 March 2016 at the Cheltenham Chase Hotel, Shurdington Road, Brockworth, GL3 4PB.

If like me you have never attended an Area Conference then this must be the best time to find out what it's all about.

The full programme has yet to be announced but I do know there will be a dinner on the Saturday and a Parade of Standards for the Church Service on the Sunday morning. The weekend will also include the annual Standard Bearer's competition.

It would be good to see the Gloucester branch represented in large numbers so why not put the date in your diary.

Flowerdown House



Would you like a Wings Break at the beautiful Flowerdown House in Weston-Super-Mare?
Need Financial help then contact your HWO.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch at Bills Restaurant on 8 December at 11.30 am. Still time to book a place. Give Ray a call on 01452 415064 for further details.

