

Oranges & Lemons

COVER STORY: RAF Halton



The Friends of St Clement Danes

Issue No. 41
Spring 2016

The Friends of St Clement Danes

Registered Charity No. 1048757

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O&L Bulletin

Izabela Seabrook (*Editor*) & Daniel Kettle Esq (*Manager*)

The Friends of St Clement Danes

Bulletin
No. 41
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“Enabling the sacrifices of the past to support the challenges of the future”

Editorial Note

Iza Seabrook



Welcome to the spring issue of Oranges & Lemons. There is a lot to read about in the following pages. I hope you enjoy the articles and photographs.

If you have articles or pictures you wish to submit for the next issue, please email me: iza.seabrook@gmail.com

THINGS TO DO

- **Tell your friends and neighbours about us**
- **Visit us whenever you are in London**
- **Pray for all who work and visit here**
- **Help out on one Sunday a year**
- **Become a guide to a group of visitors**

Please contact us: 020 7242 8282 or **stclementdanesh1@btconnect.com** or through the website if you can help out, especially on a Sunday; be a sidesman / woman, macebearer or read a lesson; we can support and encourage you in your new duties.

Chairman's Letter

Group Captain Mark D Heffron CMgr FCMI RAF



Welcome to the new edition of Oranges & Lemons and another year in which we are able to support the Central Church of the Royal Air Force, its congregation and all serving and former serving RAF personnel. You will be pleased to know that at our last AGM members endorsed a change in our Constitution to bring us into line with the main St Clement Danes Church Trust body. It will reflect the work we do to support the church.

Thank you to all those who attended our Annual Concert last year, it was a huge success yet again. We saw the newly appointed Director of Music, Simon Over, perform with the choir and we achieved a first: the Band, organ and choir all performing together. It lifted the roof. We saw performances by musicians and choir which were inspiring, and garnered comments that indicated this was the best concert to date. I take that as a challenge for our next concert on the 24 November 2016!

Our biggest challenge this year however, is highlighting our work to current and former RAF personnel. This will be the mail drive for Friends in 2016. We have begun by establishing 'representatives' on all RAF stations and units. They will keep personnel up to date on events and we hope that will encourage new members. We are also engaged with other military charities which can reach those who used to serve. Please help us to spread the word and thank you for all your support over the years and into the future.

From the Resident Chaplain

The Rev'd David Osborn RAF BD AKC PGCE



Typically January weather as I write this; cold and clear, but hopefully by the time you read this we shall be into spring and close to Easter.

Our church has seen lots of activity over the past few months with many big services and large numbers of visitors. Even Hollywood has been here (not the baker, the real deal) and we hope to be able to tell you more about that in our next issue. The biggest news is that we have appointed Mr Simon Over as our new Director of Music, only the third

director since the church was re-opened in 1958. Simon comes to us with a huge wealth of experience and we are very lucky to have him at St Clement Danes.

I do hope that you will be able to visit us over the summer months but if you are not able to then thank you for your continued support and prayers 'from a distance'. It means a lot to those who worship and work here to know that they have so much goodwill from so many people.

With best wishes for the season of Easter.

COVER STORY: RAF Halton

Group Captain Adrian Burns MSc MA BSc RAF

Royal Air Force Halton: not as old or as venerable as St Clement Danes but with a proud Royal Air Force pedigree as one of the three pillars established by Lord Trenchard to deliver the very best trained airmen (and airwomen) to the Front Line. A Station steeped in tradition, we seek to be forward-thinking as we adapt training as times change. The buildings look the same, the beech trees and



Chiltern Hills that form a natural amphitheatre around it remain the same but the requirement and type of training has changed. Not better, not worse; just different!

Royal Air Force Halton has the standard set-up of a Royal Air Force Station – you recognise the design of the guardroom, the barrack blocks and so on. However, in general appearance it is more a sprawling country estate than a military base. Indeed, there is a village and canal in-between elements of the Base. Located near Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire, Halton was originally the estate of Alfred de Rothschild who inherited the estate in 1879 and loaned it

to the War Office as a training ground at the outbreak of World War One. This meant that in 1916 the Station was home to over 20,000 troops many destined for the Somme. It also became a centre for training aircraft mechanics with over 14,000 trained in 1917. When Alfred died in 1918 his nephew took over the estate but sold it to the War Office shortly afterwards. Due to Halton's already recognised engineering training pedigree Lord Trenchard naturally established the RAF Apprenticeship on site whereby boys between 15 - 16 were examined and served a three-year apprenticeship.

Technical training has since moved to Royal Air Force Cosford but Halton evolved while retaining its historic focus upon excellence in training. So what is Royal Air Force Halton and what does it deliver now? Firstly, and foremost it is the gateway to the Royal Air Force for all airmen and airwomen joining the Service. Officers enter through Cranwell but almost all airmen and airwomen through Halton. The exception is Royal Air Force Regiment airmen who currently enter direct to Honington in Suffolk. However, this changes on 1 April 2016 (a fitting date for change in the Royal Air Force) and Halton will become the single gateway for all airmen and airwomen entering our Service. However, Royal Air Force Halton is also where all airmen return to for the command and leadership training upon them obtaining each and every promotion. Additionally, with specialist training on Station and home for sport responsibilities for over 17 sports, a large percentage of the Royal Air Force visits Halton each year. Conservatively, in my 2-year Command tour over a third of the Royal Air Force will pass through Halton's gates in one way or another. Morally this is a significant responsibility. How we act, how we look after people and how well we deliver Defence outputs, impacts upon how our personnel feel that the Royal Air Force values their training and hence them.

So, in considering our outputs, first and foremost my team are responsible for bringing civilians into the Service and preparing them for their professional training – militarising them in simple terms - this equates to over 2,000 individuals passing through Halton's gates for a 10 week training course in intakes of up to 120.

My team have worked hard to ensure that the student experience is



a positive one and one that guarantees we, as the Service, ensure the recruits meet our standard. This is not a 'shouty' course and instead the team work to develop the people we receive – the recruiting organisation has

already considered the people to have met the standard – it is our responsibility to develop them. In the last 18 months the team have increased first time pass rates to 87% with no reduction in standards. Their exceptional levels of training have been recognised by OFSTED in a recent inspection and is certainly recognised by the families during the 22 graduations a year where, with families, friends, flypasts and one of the Royal Air Force's bands, all are welcomed into the Service with due pomp and circumstance. There is not a graduation where the families do not thank my team for what they have done and commented how their son or daughter is more confident, more outgoing, taller and happier! From our perspective we remain convinced that our training is excellent but all we have done is polish what was already there – building on the bedrock that the families have given us.

Every graduation is enjoyable, but the one I love most is when the friendly 'show of force' flypast makes the crowd jump and then the marching troops are unable to hear the 'eyes front' commands, due to the noise of their friends and families. They will very quickly forget a missed drill movement but will remember for a very long time the sense of pride they had when their guests cheered for them.



I would also stress that Halton does not just welcome regulars and it is also the gateway for over 600 Reservists who complete their Phase One training at Halton. Indeed, we have worked very hard to integrate the Regulars and Reservists. It is right that we seek to inculcate a pride in the Royal Air Force into our new entrants but we also have to remember that the Royal Air Force of the 21st century is not just a Regular service. Indeed, I would argue that it never has been. As such, from Day 1 we are now trying to bring together our Regulars and Reservists. We undertake joint graduations twice a year and Reservists come back for a 'super graduation'. It makes sense because having the Reservists experience the pomp and circumstance creates a pride and sense of selflessness – of joining

something bigger than themselves - that helps them through their harder days.

Following this theme, Regular and Reservist training has also been partially merged with the last part of the Reservist course being a consolidation phase on an Exercise training area with their Regular colleagues. Here they are in tents running around with weapons and doing military things. Putting them together in such an environment and having them graduate together means that subsequently being



on operations together is a natural progression and not something new as it was for many previous generations. This is normalising activity because the more the Regulars and Reserves know and trust each other the better they will work together.

As I initially commented, Royal Air Force Halton does not just undertake recruit training and the work of Airmen's Command

Squadron but builds upon the previous work undertaken. We are acutely conscious that as an establishment that is predominantly about training we are one element of a pipeline. In the same way that the Recruiters have given us a product to mould during Recruit Training Squadron, when individuals come back to use on their management and leadership courses they have already proven their ability and promotion credentials; it is therefore once again for us to develop not judge. Also, it is again clear that the new generations coming through are different and hence learn differently. Consider, we have policy written by the Baby Boomers that Generation X teaches to Generation Y as the students! We need to be, and are, aware of this.



Where the instructors have done superbly is in reviewing the method of teaching with this in mind. We invest heavily in the skills sets of the instructors and their focus is not to teach

people how to lead or manage but instead how to develop their own styles of leadership and management. The team works hard to ensure that all students leave knowing more about the Royal Air Force and themselves than they did and have a view in their own mind as to what works best for them.

What this means is that Airman's Command Squadron, more than with the basic recruits, varies significantly between courses because

the characters and experiences of the members vary. Indeed, from the psychometric assessments of the students that they are given we have an understanding of how they are likely to behave and where their 'default' managerial or leadership-style will take them. We use this information in exercises to stretch student comfort zones and help them realise more about themselves. Unsurprisingly, as people get more experienced and come back to Halton on their Sergeant or Flight Sergeant courses, the level and type of training becomes more in-depth.



The best example of this is on Exercise Confident Command whereby the Sergeant training course has them managing individuals on a separate Corporals course. This exercise consolidates all of the theory used but has Sergeants in the headquarters briefing then managing corporals in the field; all under the watchful eyes of my commanders and instructors. The newly graduated airmen who are awaiting their Phase Two professional training are used as exercise injects and role-play anything from

hungry locals, through to media or other 'injects'. This exercise enables us to see how people react to additional stressors while having the benefit of letting the newly promoted Corporals and Sergeants see for themselves the calibre of the newly graduated recruits who they will very quickly be responsible for leading and managing. It also motivates and inspires the youngsters by introducing them to the people and ranks that they aspire to be.



Gp Capt Adrian Burns

While I have focused upon some of the key outputs directly under my Command, Halton like most stations now plays host to a number of lodger units that equally contribute to front line effectiveness. We host a number of Tri-Service establishments looking after Health and Safety through to media operations through to training of trainers and regional Policing and Security organisations. This ensures that we best fill the space left when we no longer needed a site built to accommodate a Royal Air Force of 100,000 – now it is 33,500 regulars. These are huge players in their own right with 5,000 students coming through Halton's doors just in their

areas. What this means and what I like is that Royal Air Force Halton is as much home to my Army, Royal Navy, Marine, Civil Service and contractor personnel as it is my Royal Air Force Regulars and Reserves. Such a Whole Force blend is the new normal and one that I for one am proud to be custodian of.

Minutes of the 22nd AGM of the Friends of St Clement Danes, held in the Crypt Chapel

Thursday 26 November 2015 at 4pm

Present

Gp Capt Mark Heffron RAF - Chairman
Mr John Bayles
Wg Cdr Di Bentley - Co-opted
Mrs E Collas
Mr Mike Collas
Ms Christine Davies
Gp Capt Mark Day
Wg Cdr Chris Hill - Membership
Mrs Mary Holtby
Gp Capt Peter Holtby
Mr Daniel Kettle - O&L Manager
Mr Peter Kettle
Mr Robin Law
Mr Chris Laws
Revd Dr Giles Legood RAF - Council
Mr Peter Neville-Lewis - Council
Mr James McKinley
Wg Cdr Mick Myer - Council
Sqn Ldr Em Rogers RAF - Treasurer
Mr Roger Round - Council
Mr John Rowling - Council
Flt Lt Ian Perring RAFVR (T) - Council
Mr C C K Priebe - Secretary
Mr David Savage
Ms Peta Walmisley
Mr E R G Youle
Mrs Jennifer Youle

Apologies

Sqn Ldr Sherry Jessup RAF - Council
Wg Cdr Tina Jessup RAF - Council
Revd David Osborn RAF - Resident Chaplain and Co-opted
Ven Canon Ray Pentland - President
Mr Barry Wallis

1. Prayer

Revd Legood opened the AGM with a prayer.

2. Apologies

Apologies were noted.

3. Chairman's Opening Remarks

St Clement Danes was closed during the first few months of 2015 to effect upgrades to all electrical systems throughout the church. The benefits of this work would be evident at the Friends Annual Concert. However, the closure also provided the Friends with a rare window of opportunity to provide much needed grants to the church for items that might otherwise have been difficult to install/implement. These include: carpeting and new furniture for the office areas of the church; bell hammers and overhaul of the carillon mechanisms and controls.

The arrival of a new Director of Music – Simon Over – also enabled the Friends to boost the musical programme at St Clements. In the past year grants have been made for: new robes for the Director of Music; refurbishment of the music catalogue/library; transportation costs of a grand piano on indefinite loan from RAF Music Services to the church.

A significant focus during the year was on how to increase membership of the Friends amongst serving and former RAF personnel. The sub-committee responsible, with the agreement of the main board of Friends Trustees, finalised revised literature/marketing materials and the challenge for 2016 would be to disseminate these throughout the RAF community and generate increased membership numbers.

Improvements had also been made to the Friends website.

The recommended amendments to the Friends' constitution would be dealt with later in the meeting.

4. Election of Officers and Trustees

The Chairman thanked Trustees for their service over the past year.

Gp Capt Holtby proposed and seconded the election of the following Trustees for the coming year:

Gp Capt Mark Heffron RAF - Chairman
Ven Canon Ray Pentland - President
Gp Capt Mark Day RAF
Wg Cdr Chris Hill - Membership Secretary
Sqn Ldr Sherry Jessup RAF - Joint Events Manager
Wg Cdr Tina Jessup RAF - Joint Events Manager
Mr Daniel Kettle - O&L Manager
Revd Dr Giles Legood RAF
Wg Cdr Mick Meyer
Mr Peter Neville-Lewis
Flt Lt Ian Perring RAFVR (T)
Mr Christopher Priebe - Hon Secretary
Sqn Ldr Em Rogers RAF - Hon Treasurer
Mr Roger Round
Mr John Rowling

Co-Opted

Wg Cdr Di Bentley
Revd David Osborn RAF - Resident Chaplain

The resolution was seconded by Mr Michael Collas and passed unanimously on a show of hands.

5. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last AGM (as published in the spring 2015 edition of O&L magazine) were made available and the Chairman asked if there were any questions. There being none, approval was proposed by Mr Robin Law, seconded by Wg Cdr C J Hill and passed unanimously on a show of hands.

6. Treasurer's Report

Copies of the Receipts and Payments Account for the year to 30 June 2015 were distributed (see Treasurer's Year End Report page 20).

Receipts for the year to 30th June 2015 totalled £12,148, versus £17,882 for the previous year. Payments were £22,096, against £14,759 last year. The Treasurer detailed the various sources of inflows and outflows. The excess of expenditure over income was £9,948 (reversing a £3,122 profit last year) and the year-end bank balance was £56,767, down from £66,714 last year. The overspend resulted from the increase in grants made during the year, to take advantage of the church closure.

In response to a question on whether recommended donations for attendance of the Friends Annual Concert should be increased to ensure the event turns a profit, the Treasurer pointed out that when all revenues attributable to the concert are included, a small profit resulted. Additionally, many audience members incurred significant travel expenses to attend, so a major increase was not recommended.

Approval of the accounts was proposed by Wg Cdr C J Hill, seconded by Gp Cpt Holtby and passed unanimously on a show of hands.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

Members were urged to pay for their subscriptions to the Friends by direct debit, if possible, as the easiest means of payment from an administrative perspective.

Subscription rates are due to be reviewed in 2016. Trustees will make a recommendation on whether or not to increase rates for approval by members at next year's AGM.

It was pointed out that the subscription rates shown on page 36 of the Autumn 2015 edition of Oranges & Lemons magazine were out of date and should have read £22.00 for single members and £33.00 for joint members.

8. Amendments to the Constitution

As notified in the Autumn 2015 edition of O&L Magazine, the Council proposed a number of changes to the constitution of the Friends to modernise and bring the terminology used into line with other charities and ensure its objectives dovetailed with those of the main St Clement Danes Trust and better reflected the support the Friends provides to the church, its congregation and RAF.

The proposed changes were summarised:

Members of the Council will in future be referred to as 'Trustees', with a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer elected. There is no requirement for these appointments to be titled 'Honorary'.

The Objectives of the Charity are adjusted to read as follows:

The furtherance of the religious, commemorative and charitable work of St Clement Danes Church.

Supporting the relationship between St Clement Danes Church, its congregation and the RAF community.

The restoration, upkeep, improvement and adornment of the contents, fixtures & fittings of St Clement Danes Church.

Approval of the changes was proposed by Mr Michael Collas, seconded by Mr Roger Round and passed unanimously on a show of hands.

9. Any Other Business

It was announced that Mr Peter Kettle would be stepping down from the Council and as manager of O&L magazine, to be replaced by his son, Mr Daniel Kettle. Peter was thanked for his six years of service to the Friends, not only for his excellent work in respect of O&L magazine, but also for all his efforts in developing the Friends website and other projects, such as printing Christmas cards.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 24 November 2016 at 4pm, with the concert to be held that evening at 7pm.

C. C. K. Priebe
Hon Secretary

Group Captain M. D. Heffron
Chairman

Trustees' Book

Located within the crypt at St Clement Danes is The Trustees' Book. The book contains the names of people who have died since leaving the Royal Air Force.

Names can be included at the request of family members of the deceased, for which a fee of £40 is payable.

To download the application for an entry in The Trustees' Book, please scroll to the foot of the following page within the St Clement Danes website:

www.raf.mod.uk/stclementdanefriendsofscd/friendstrustees.cfm

Financial Report for Year Ending June 2015

The CC16A, which records the income and expenditure categories on which we report to the Charity Commission at the end of the year, is shown below. The figures are rounded up or down to the nearest whole pound in accordance with Charity Commission guidelines and this rounding can induce errors of addition (usually of £1) within the accounts as displayed. Explanations of key areas are given in the paragraphs below.

Our total income was £12,148 (£17,882 last year) against a budgeted income of £15,400. Total donations for the year exceeded the £1,500 budget at £1,979 (£5,005 last year). Sales from Christmas cards, ties and other miscellaneous items held at the Church amounted to £974 (£1,293 last year); slightly below the £1,000 budgeted. The concert raised £2,165 (£2,405 last year) from ticket sales and £265 from contributions towards refreshments (£307 last year). Bank interest was £65 (£179 last year). Subscription income was markedly lower than the £7,500 budgeted and amounted to £5,749 (£6,908 last year). No fees were received from the main Church, as Guild contributions from weddings held (£250 last year) and £600 (£535 last year) were received from the Easter Service to offset the cost of flowers.


Expenditure for the year was £22,096 (£14,759 last year), against a start of year budget of £15,400. The main reason for this excess in expenditure was to respond to requests from the Church for grants to support the refurbishment project. These grants totalled £11,407 (£4,095 last year) against a budget of £5,100 and covered payments for new carpets, furniture and costs towards the repair of a standard. Payment for the issues of the O&L, including printing costs, postage and editor fees were just under budget at £4,864 (£4,488 last year) despite the upgrading to a full colour print for the

last edition of the magazine. The Concert and Friends Service were within the budget of £3,100 at £2,472 (£3,434 last year) and other costs for the Easter Service flowers amounted to £281 (£605 last year). Bank charges for the running of the BACS system for membership direct debits amounted to £374 (£693 last year). A further £1,757 (£972 last year) of miscellaneous expenditure was incurred for the purchase of Christmas cards (£1,705) and for general refreshment purchases (£52). Expenditure is completed by printing and stationery expenses (£252 compared to £8 last year), and the AGM expenses (£188 compared to £202 last year).

At the end of the year we had exceeded our income by £9,948, resulting mainly from the Trustees decision to support the additional costs associated with the refurbishment of the Church. We ended the year with our Bank Accounts holding £56,767 (£66,714 last year).

In accordance with Charity Commission Regulations, as our income is below £25,000, we do not require an audit or Independent Examination. Your Trustees are content that the information presented herein is a true and accurate statement of the financial affairs of the Friends of Saint Clement Danes and therefore recommend that the financial statements be endorsed by the AGM without additional external scrutiny.

Therefore, if agreed by the members present, it is proposed to lodge the CC16A, as presented, with the Charity Commission.

	Charity Name			No (if any)		CC16a
	Friends of St Clement Danes Church			1048757		
	Receipts and Payments Accounts					
	For the period	Period start date	To	Period end date		
	From	01-Jul-14		30-Jun-15		

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted Funds to the nearest £	Restricted Funds to the nearest £	Endowment Funds to the nearest £	Total Funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 - Receipts					
Donations	1,979	-	-	1,979	5,005
Legacy Bequests	-	-	-	-	1,000
Christmas Card Sales	10	-	-	10	109
Ties and other Misc Sales	964	-	-	964	1,184
Concert Ticket Sales	2,165	-	-	2,165	2,405
Easter Service	600	-	-	600	535
Miscellaneous Income	265	-	-	265	307
Bank Interest	65	-	-	65	179
Guild Fees	-	-	-	-	250
Subscriptions	5,749	-	-	5,749	6,908
Sub total	12,148	-	-	12,148	17,882
A2 - Asset and investment sales, etc.	-	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts	12,148	-	-	12,148	17,882
A3 - Payments					
Grants to Main Church	11,407	-	-	11,407	4,095
Friends Service Payments	173	-	-	173	362
Friends Concert Payments	2,299	-	-	2,299	2,933
Easter Service Payments	281	-	-	281	605
Miscellaneous Payments	201	-	-	201	105
Oranges & Lemons	4,864	-	-	4,864	4,488
General Charitable Expenditure	1,757	-	-	1,757	972
Support Costs - Trustee Expenses	188	-	-	188	418
Support Costs - Printing & Stationery	252	-	-	252	88
Bank Charges	374	-	-	374	693
Sub total	22,096	-	-	22,096	14,759
A4 - Asset and investment purchases, etc.	-	-	-	-	-
Total Payments	22,096	-	-	22,096	20,607
Net of receipts/(payments)	-9,948	-	-	-9,948	3,122
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	66,714	-	-	66,714	63,592
Cash Funds this year end	56,767	-	-	56,767	66,714

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Deposit Account	11,003	-	-
	Unity Trust Account	44,896	-	-
	Current Account	868	-	-
	Total Cash Funds	56,767	-	-
	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Nil	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Nil		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Nil		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Nil		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		
	<i>Original Signed</i>	M D Heffron		26 November 2015
	<i>Original Signed</i>	E Rogers		26 November 2015

The Long Way Home

Jack Little, Scottish Saltire Branch, ACA

Completing my training as a Navigator at No 32 ANS in Canada, I returned to the UK for further training at AFU and then OTU at Abingdon and St. Eval. From April 1943, I flew anti-submarine patrols over the Bay of Biscay from our base at St. Eval. Then, by complete contrast, I was posted to No. 158 Squadron in June 1943, this time flying Halifax aircraft I was engaged in bombing missions over Europe.



On 16 July 1943, after completing 8 operations over Germany we took off on a further mission but, on this occasion we were attacked and shot down while nearing our target at Montbéliard in France.

Fortunately, I managed to bail out of the damaged plane and was able to land by parachute without being detected by German troops. Instead, I was picked up by French people who, at great risk to themselves, proceeded to hide us from the Germans. After eight weeks in concealment it was decided the time was opportune for a move. We were guided over the border into Switzerland, where we received some interrogation to establish our identity and we were eventually released from internment. Plans were then drawn up for our hopeful return to the UK and, considering the hostilities in Europe were at their height, we realised this might be rather a difficult process. This realisation proved to be correct and our return journey took us into southern France, onto Italy, over to Africa and eventually back to the UK in August 1944.

On taking off from Lissett in July 1943, little did we realise it would take us over a year to return home. In any case, my return led to further training. In May 1945, I embarked on an Empire A.N.S. Course at Shawbury. This led to my qualification as an Instructor and I completed my RAF service in this capacity at No.5 ANS Jurby until December 1945.

This article is reproduced courtesy of the Scottish Saltire Aircrew Association Archive

From the Registers

We are delighted to share in families' excitement when they come to St Clement Danes for a Wedding or Baptism.

Baptisms

Oliver James Thistleton (23 August)
Lyndon Cole Eribo (4 October)
Maisie Alice McIntosh-Whyte (4 October)
Samuel Mathew Joseph Cordell (18 October)
Arthur Wilbert James Seddon (18 October)
Thea Bethany-Mae Bradley (1 November)
Constance Effie Clarke (1 November)
Jack Leonard Connolly (17 January)
Walter William Handley Wedge (17 January)

Weddings

Paul Nigel Hutton and Hannah Mary Maddison Collins (22 August)
Gareth Haydn Jones and Ashley Sarah Ettridge (19 September)
Cy Joshua Dodimead and Louise Patricia Dixon (3 October)
Michael Graeme Irons and Charlotte Turner-Kersley (17 October)
Dominik Kazimierz Nosalik and Kara Lee Dixon (22 October)
Thomas David Profumo and Matilda Forbes Watson (5 December)

Marriage Blessing

Jonas and Chloe Browne (19 December)

**Requests for Baptisms and Weddings should be made
to the Resident Chaplain**

Readings and Services*

Date	Service	First Reading	Second Reading	Third Reading
25 March Lent 5 Good Friday	Good Friday Liturgy	Isaiah 52.13-53.12	Hebrews 10.16-25	Passion according to St John
27 March Easter Day	Choral Eucharist	Isaiah 65.17-25	Acts 10: 34 to 43	John 20: 1 to 18
3 April Easter 2	RAF Formation Service			
10 April Easter 3 7006 (VR) Sqn 30 Anniversary	Choral Matins	Acts 9. 1 to 6	John 21. 1 to 19	
17 April Easter 4	Choral Eucharist	Acts 9.36-43	Revelation 7.9-17	John 10.22-30
24 April Easter 5	Choral Matins	Acts 11.1-18	John 13.31-35	
1 May Easter 6	Choral Eucharist and Baptism	Acts 16.9-15	Revelation 21.10,22-22.5	John 5.1-9
8 May Easter 7 ALMA Service	Choral Matins	Acts 16.16-34	John 17.20-26	
15 May Pentecost RAF Club TBC	Choral Eucharist	Acts 2.1-21	Romans 8.14-17	John 14.8-17
22 May Trinity Sunday	Choral Matins	Proverbs 8.1-4,22-31	John 16.12-15	
29 May Trinity 1	Choral Eucharist	1 Kings 8.22-23,41-43	Galatians 1.1-12	Luke 7.1-10

5 June Trinity 2	Choral Eucharist	1 Kings 17.17-24	Galatians 1.11-24	Luke 7.11-17
12 June Trinity 3 Friends Service	Choral Matins	2 Samuel 11.26- 12.10,13-15	Luke 7.36-8.3	
19 June Trinity 4	Choral Eucharist	Isaiah 65.1-9	Galatians 3.23-29	Luke 8.26-39
26 June Trinity 5	Choral Matins	1 Kings 19.15- 16,19-21	Luke 9.51-62	
3 July Trinity 6 St Thomas	Choral Eucharist	Habakkuk 2. 1-4	Ephesians 2. 19 to end	John 20. 24-29
10 July Trinity 7	Choral Matins	Deuteronomy 30.9-14	Luke 10.25-37	
17 July Trinity 8	Choral Eucharist	Genesis 18.1-10a	Colossians 1.15-28	Luke 10.38-42
24 July Trinity 9	Choral Matins	Genesis 18.20-32	Luke 11.1-13	
7 August Trinity 11	Choral Eucharist and Baptism	Genesis 15.1-6	Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16	Luke 12.32-40
14 August Trinity 12	Choral Matins	Jeremiah 23.23-29	Luke 12.49-56	
21 August Trinity 13	Choral Eucharist	Isaiah 58.9b-14	Hebrews 12.18-29	Luke 13.10-17
28 August Trinity 14	Choral Matins	Proverbs 25.6-7	Luke 14.1,7-14	
4 September Trinity 15	Choral Eucharist	Deuteronomy 30.15-20	Philemon 1-21	Luke 14.25-33
11 September Trinity 16	Choral Matins	Exodus 32.7-14	Luke 15.1-10	

18 September Battle of Britain	BOB Service	1 Samuel 17: 38 to 49	Ephesians 6: 10 to 18	
25 September Trinity 18	Choral Matins	Amos 6.1a,4-7	Luke 16.19- 31	

*all services start at 11am unless specified otherwise

Welcome to Group Captain Mark Day OBE RAF



We warmly welcome Gp Capt Day as a Trustee to the Friends of St Clement Danes.

Group Captain Mark Day is currently Assistant Director Plans and Transition at 22 (Training) Group based at MoD Abbey Wood in Bristol and is responsible for the successful delivery of programme transition as Defence's flying training changes from today's system to the future vision

of UKMFTS. Mark joined the RAF in 1987 as a Direct Entrant pilot from school and became operational on the Puma in 1989 having flown the Jet Provost Mk5, Gazelle and Wessex during flying training. He has completed four tours on the Puma, a tour on exchange with the Army Air Corps flying Lynx Mk 9 and 7 and is a Qualified Helicopter Instructor, with over 3300 hours flying experience.

He commanded the JHC Special Duties Squadron, as a Wg Cdr, flying Mi-17 HiPs and Gazelle, which had the dual role of training Afghans to fly in the UK and support to operations. He has operational experience in the first Gulf War in Iraq (Op GRANBY) in 1991, over five years service in Northern Ireland, both as a pilot and a staff officer in an Infantry HQ, as well as serving in Afghanistan both as a Commanding Officer and as an Air Commander. He retired from Regular RAF service in May 2014 and became a Full Time Reserve Service officer when he assumed his current appointment.

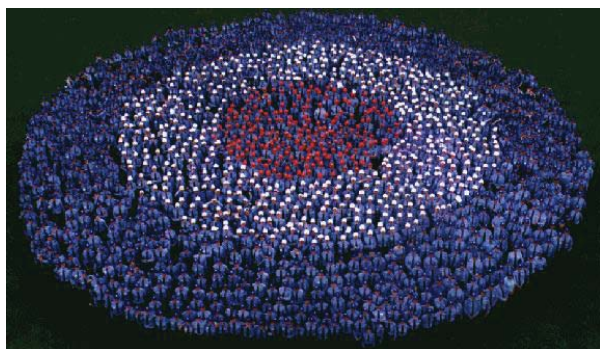
News from 296 (Stoke Newington) Squadron Air Training Corps

Cdt FS Jordann Webb



This year is a milestone for the Air Training Corps as it marks 75 years since the organisations' formation in 1941 when it set out to supply pre-trained young men for the Second World War and generate an interest in aviation.

The Air Training Corps was formed from its predecessor the Air Defence Cadet Corps (ADCC) on 5 February 1941 with King George VI as Commodore-in-Chief. It was issued with a Royal Warrant setting out the Corps' Aims.



By the end of the Second World War (and in the space of only 7 years since the formation of the ADCC) almost 100,000 cadets had joined the RAF to serve their country.

Since then the Air Cadets have grown to be the leading face of the Cadet movement, and are recognised as a distinguished Organisation.

This year we celebrate three quarters of a century of giving young men (and not until the 1980's - young women) the opportunity to better themselves and provide them with new learning experiences, which help them to join the Royal Air Force and other services in the United Kingdom, if they wish to do so.

The Air cadets today are made up of 42,000 young men and women all around the United Kingdom and abroad (between the ages of 12-19). The Royal Air Force being our Sponsoring Service gives young people of today a chance to develop their insight to the RAF as well as themselves so that they can achieve their ambitions.



In December 2015 the Air Cadet organisation announced that HRH the Duchess of Cambridge took over the role of Patron of Air Cadets, from HRH Prince Phillip the Duke of Edinburgh who held the position of Air Commodore-in-Chief for an amazing 63 years. The Duchess now has the responsibility for representing the 42,000 air cadets and 15,000 adult volunteers.

The Duchess's appointment to Honorary Air Commandant of the Air Cadets is her first military-linked role. The Duke of Edinburgh was presented with a Crystal vase from the Commandant Air

Cadets Air Commodore McCafferty on behalf on the Air Training Corps in Buckingham Palace.



296 (Stoke Newington) Squadron will spend a considerable amount of time this year recalling the history of the Squadron. This is important to cadets and staff, as we

remain the only Squadron in the London Wing who still parades in the same building since our formation.



Looking back over the pictures, you see all the cadets (even to this day) show the lively face of the Air Training Corps. I strongly believe this to be one of the

crucial factors that have made this organisation live for so long.

At 296 (Stoke Newington) Squadron we are currently planning our own 75th anniversary event which will bring cadets from many years ago back to the Squadron. It will be a call for celebration as we remember all the good that has come from being a part of the Air Cadets in whichever form that may be. We will bring past Commanding Officers to meet current Cadets and their own Cadets, whom they would not have (most likely) seen for decades.



In November last year, St Clement Danes held the Annual Friends' concert in which the Band of the Royal Air Force Regiment played music ranging from well-known pieces such as the theme from 'The Pacific' to the stunning 'Pathfinders March'.

Cadets from 296 (Stoke Newington) Squadron took pride in providing the Carpet Guard for such a prestigious occasion. Our duties that night also consisted of serving refreshments but more

importantly speaking to people who all share a common interest in the Royal Air Force.



The Annual concert is always an occasion I dearly look forward to as I personally enjoy listening to music, not to mention having the luxury of watching one of the Royal Air Force Bands.

296 (Stoke Newington) Squadron looks forward to seeing you again at the Annual concert in 2016.

On behalf of Cadets and Staff of 296 (Stoke Newington) Squadron, we would like to wish you a prosperous and Happy New Year.

For more information about the Squadron please visit:

www.facebook.com/296squadron

 **ROYAL AIR FORCE** **AIR CADETS**
the next generation

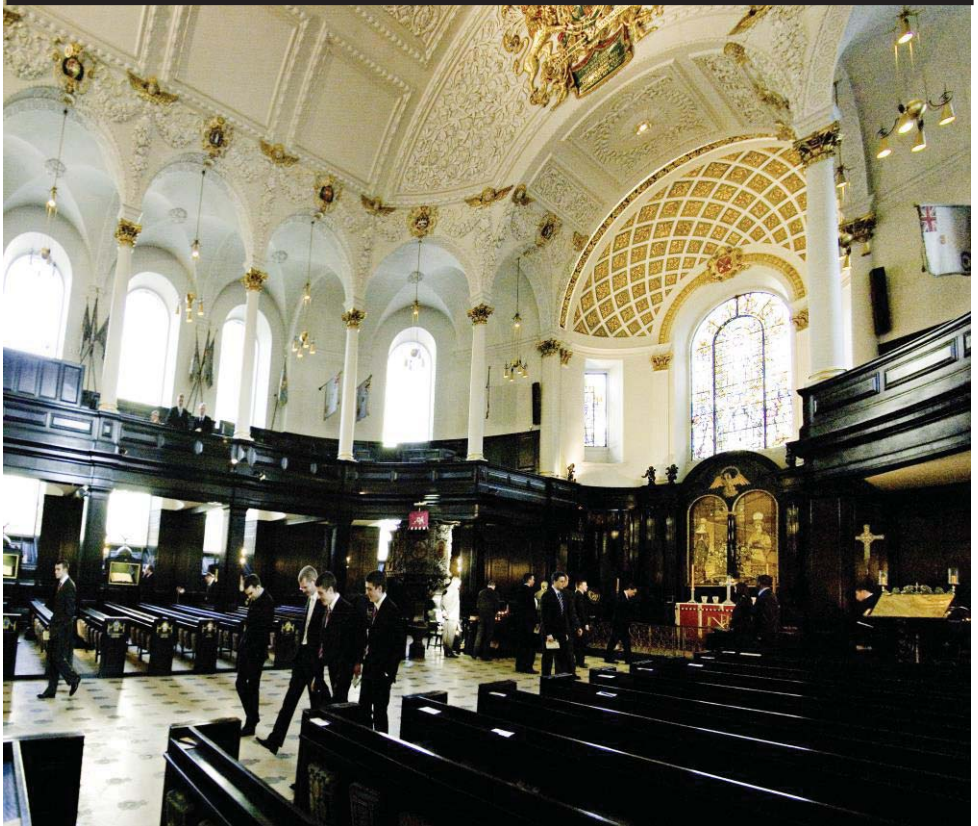
Legacy Appeal

If St Clement Danes is as important to you as the thousands of people it remembers within its walls, we would ask you to consider leaving a gift in your Will for the future preservation and maintenance of this beautiful sanctuary.

It is a simple process. You can request a free Legacy Giving Guide from the Church Manager.

More information is on our website:

raf.mod.uk/stclementdanesh



Application to become a Friend of St Clement Danes

Please complete and return to: The Friends of St Clement Danes,
Strand, London WC2R 1DH

Current Categories to join the Friends are:

Normal Membership by Direct Debit

Corporate Rates please contact the Membership Secretary at the church.

Serving RAF Personnel please contact your Station Representative

Membership renewals are made from 1 July each year. Part-year subscriptions may be made initially to cover an intermediate period.

Please tick the category that you are applying for:

- ☐ **I wish to join as a single member** and authorise a debit of £22pa**
- ☐ **We wish to join as joint members** and authorise a debit of £33pa**

*** From my account until further notice; I enclose a completed Direct Debit instruction (page 38)*

- ☐ I enclose a completed **Gift Aid Declaration** (turn page)

Name and Surname.....
RAF Rank (if applicable).....
Address.....
.....
.....Postcode.....
Telephone.....Email.....
Signature.....Date.....

GIFT AID DECLARATION

I would like The Friends of St Clement Danes to reclaim tax paid on all donations and subscriptions I have made to this charity since 6 April 2011 and any such future payments. I realise that I can only sign this Gift Aid certificate if I have paid enough in Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax to cover the amount that all charities that I donate to will reclaim for each tax year. Council Tax & VAT do not count and I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given.

I know I can cancel this declaration at any time by advising The Friends of St Clement Danes.

Signature.....Date.....



Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit



9 4 2 2 6 7

Originator's Identification Number

Please fill in the whole form and send it to: Hon Treasurer, The Friends of St Clement Danes, Strand, London, WC2R 1DH

1. Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

To: The Manager	Bank or Building Society
Address	Postcode

2. Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

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3. Branch Sort Code
(from the top right hand corner of your cheque)

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Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account.

4. Bank/Building Society account number

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5. Reference Number
(Hon Treasurer to complete)

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6. Instruction to your Bank or Building Society
Please pay The Friends of St Clement Danes direct debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with The Friends of St Clement Danes and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s)

Date

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Registered Charity No. 1048757

If you would like to help St Clement Danes, we invite you to make a subscription and become a Friend. That in itself will be greatly valued. Those who wish will be offered a warm welcome to this historic and beautiful church.

Members receive the bi-annual bulletin 'Oranges & Lemons' and can obtain access to special services throughout the year.

If you are unable to visit the church regularly, or even at all, your membership will still be very much appreciated.





Our mission is to encourage growth in the membership of the Friends of St Clement Danes through promotion of what St Clement Danes provides spiritually, socially and culturally.

Central Church of the Royal Air Force
Strand, London, WC2R 1DH
www.raf.mod.uk/stclementdaneshome



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