

RETIREMENT CLUB NEWSLETTER

August 2014 No 300

Manton Lane MK41 7PF

Tel: 01234 350681

JULY WALK - Led by Mike Lock



18 walkers met at 'The Greyhound' public house in Haynes on a fine sunny morning. We set out through a narrow passageway opposite the Pub and out across cereal fields towards Deadmans Cross and the A600. We then followed the A600 south for a short distance before entering Rowney Warren, which is a very undulating conifer woodland with many paths and tracks. A portion of this area has been fenced off for use by cross-country cyclists. We eventually emerged into open countryside with the ex-Chicksands RAF station (now British Army Intelligence Corps) on the horizon. Passing a field of solar panels, we then walked on alongside several fields of mostly cereals to arrive at Appley Wood Corner where we joined the route of the Greensand Ridge walk. This took us along a quiet road and then onto a track up a hill to the 'Greyhound' where 17 of us enjoyed an excellent meal.

SEPTEMBER WALK

Details of the September walk will be published next month. There will not be a walk in August.

SENIORS MEETING - Tony Dickason (01234 824741)

There will be a meeting at the HORSE and GROOM pub in Clapham on the 1st of September at 7-30 pm. All are welcome.

ANNUAL LUNCH - Wednesday 1st October 2014

The Annual Lunch will be held on Wednesday 1st October at the Sharnbrook Hotel, MK44 1LX. The menu and a booking form are at the end of this newsletter.

JOHN TAYLOR BELLFOUNDRY MUSEUM AND WORKS VISIT

As you know this has been organised for the 23rd October with the tour due to start at 1.30pm with the cost of the tour £10. We will need to pay on the day for the full numbers we have given.

The visit lasts about 1.5 hours and involves a lot of standing and walking over uneven ground so strong shoes must be worn and open toed sandals are prohibited.

22 people have booked so far and I will be contacting them later with directions to the foundry and information for the optional lunch at The Three Nuns, Loughborough. We will need to pre-book this.

If anyone else would like to be included please contact Chris Lock (01234 353779 email chris.lock24@gmail.com).

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF AVIATION AUGUST 1914 contributed by John Cherry

It is reported that by the end of the year it will be possible to telephone by wireless from London to New York.

Reporting on the first month of the war which everyone now believes will be over by Christmas.

1st Industrialists including Louis Bleriot have today bought out the bankrupt Deperdussin Aeroplane Company.

Today France has requisitioned 50 Morane-Saulnier two-seat parasols that were destined for export to Turkey. They will be used to equip French escadrilles MS23 and MS26.

2nd There is much debate on the use of aeroplanes to observe enemy troop movements, but Generals Foch and French have little faith in these flights. The bombing of military targets and towns is outlawed under the 1899 Hague Convention, but this was before aeroplanes or dirigibles existed. Brigadier-General Sir David Henderson director of military aeronautics said "no enemy would risk the odium such action would involve".

German military forces have today invaded Luxembourg.

3rd Today Germany has declared war on France and a German aeroplane has flown over Luneville and dropped six bombs, only slight damage was caused.

German forces have today invaded Belgium after permission for free passage of its troops through Belgian territory was denied.

4th Britain has declared war on Germany after refusing requests by the Germans to approve its forces entering Belgium.

8th the German Zeppelin Z6 dropped by hand some 440 pounds of artillery shells on forts around Liege, Belgium but was driven off by gun fire. Having leaked a large quantity of hydrogen lifting gas the Z6 was a total wreck in a forest near Bonn. The Etrich Taube monoplane that is capable of 62mph and an altitude of many thousands of feet presents more of a problem for the gunners than the slow flying Zeppelins.

The first French casualty of the war happened today when the observer of a French aeroplane on a reconnaissance flight was wounded by a German rifleman.

11th The RFC personnel left Southampton today for Amiens to prepare for the arrival of the RFC aeroplanes.

12th Today Oberleutnant Reinhold Jahnow of the German Air Service is the first German to lose his life on active service, he was killed at Malmedy, Belgium.

Today 2nd Lt R Skene and R Barlow of No3 Squadron are the first members of the RFC to be killed on active service. They crashed their Bleriot monoplane whilst flying to Dover for the crossing to France.

Sgt Bridou has become the first French aviator to be killed in action, he had an accident when returning from a reconnaissance mission.

13th Numbers 1 and 2 Squadrons of the RFC have today arrived in France, Squadrons 3 and 4 are to join shortly. The first aircraft to land is a Royal Aircraft Factory BE2a piloted by Lt H D Harvey-Kelly.

14th Two French airmen, Lt Cesari and Corporal Prudhommeau flew across the German border today in a raid on the Zeppelin sheds at Metz, taking off at 5-30 pm from Verdun in Voisins. Approaching Metz they encountered very heavy gunfire, soon they were over their target at 7,500 feet, they used a device invented by Captain Mauger-Devareennes to release 155mm shells scoring direct hits on the hangers.

17th In San Diego, California Captain Lewis Goodier flying a Martin T seaplane has begun official test of the Scott bomb dropping device.

19th The RFC saw its first wartime action today. Flying from Maubeuge France, into Belgium Captain Joubert de la Ferte of No 3 Squadron flying a Bleriot XI-2 was to reconnoitre the Nivelles and Genappe area 16 miles south of Brussels for Belgium troop movements. Lt Mapplebeck of No4 Squadron in a BE2b was to report on a possible big German cavalry presence near Gembloux 19 miles south-east of Brussels.

They took off at 9-30am and were to fly together to Nivelles but soon lost each other.

Mapplebeck in the faster plane overshot as far as Brussels he turned for Gembloux spotting a small enemy force but ran into thick cloud emerging over Namur and following the river Sambre down to Maubeuge, he missed by nearly 30 miles landing at Le Cateau and returned to base at noon. Joubert de la Ferte was less fortunate his flight took him to Tournai and Courtrai as well as Nivelles returning to Maubeuge at 5-30pm with little to report.

22nd Today RFC aeroplanes on reconnaissance duty locate von Kluck's forces as they advance through Belgium.

Today Lt V Waterfall of the RFC is the first British airman to be shot down when his Avro 504 is hit by rifle fire over Belgium.

23rd Today two Zeppelins have been shot down they are LZ22 (ZVII) and LZ23 (ZVIII).

24th Today the French airship **Dupuy-de-Lome** has been shot down mistakenly by French ground troops.

25th Today Lt H.D. Harvey-Kelly and two other RFC pilots flying unarmed BE2s machines have forced a German two-seat aircraft to land. They burned the machine before returning to base.

26th Staff Captain P.N. Nesterov of the Imperial Russian Army has today brought down an Austrian aeroplane flown by Lt Barron von Rosenthal by ramming it with his unarmed Morane Type M monoplane. The Austrian aeroplane had been attacking Nesterov's airfield at Sholkiv. Both pilots were killed.

27th Today Wing Cmdr C.R. Samson headed the first RANS Squadron to fly to France. The Eastchurch Squadron comprises a mixture of aeroplanes, including Sopwith Tabloids, Royal Aircraft Factory BE2s, Bleriot monoplanes, a Short seaplane, Bristol and Farman biplanes, and the Astra-Torres No3 airship.

30th Paris has been bombed today for the first time by a German Rumpler Taube monoplane flown by Lt Ferdinand von Hiddeson. The five bombs dropped near the Gare de L'Est rail terminal kill a woman and injured two others. Leaflets and a banner, weighted with a sandbag, fall to earth with the message: "The German Army is at the gates of Paris. There is nothing for you to do but surrender"

Did you know that the number plate on the motor car in which the Archduke Franz Ferdinand was shot was **11 11 18** the exact day, month and year that WW1 ended.

11th November 1918 ----- Spooky.

| FORTHCOMING EVENTS | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Monday 1st September 2014, 7:30 pm | Seniors Meeting, Clapham |
| Wednesday 10 th September 2014, 10:15am | September Walk - tba |
| Monday 22nd September 2014 | Bookings close for Annual Lunch. |
| Wednesday 1st October 2014 | Annual Lunch, Sharnbrook Hotel |
| Thursday 23 rd October 2014 | John Taylor Bell Foundry Visit |

Please send any copy for publication to me by the 15th of the month, Keith Rose

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The 2014 ARC Luncheon

We have made arrangements for a Luncheon to be held at
The Sharnbrook Hotel, A6/Park Lane, Sharnbrook. MK44 1LX
 on **Wednesday 1st October.**
12.00 for 12.30 pm
£19.00 per head

The venue, the 'Amalfi Suite', will be set with round tables, to seat 8 – 10 diners each, rather than the large rectangular table we had last year.

The Luncheon has proved to be a most enjoyable event so please come along and support it. Simply complete the booking form below with your choice of starter, main course and dessert, and do this for each member of your party. Your choices will be repeated on 'reminder cards' so you'll not forget! If you have any special dietary requirements please give the details on the form. Booking forms are to be returned, with a cheque, payable to the '**ARA Retirement Club**', to :-

T G Tumber, 16 Silver End Road, Haynes, Bedford. MK 45 3PP
 If you have any queries tel: 01234 381466 or email tandc.tumber@gmail.com

Please return your booking as soon as possible but no later than Monday, 22nd September

Luncheon Booking Form/Menu Choices

Name: Contact Tel. N^o.

| Name | Starter | | | Main | | | Dessert | | |
|------|---------|----|----|------|----|----|---------|----|----|
| | S1 | S2 | S3 | M1 | M2 | M3 | D1 | D2 | D3 |
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Please tick your choices

Special Dietary Requirements:

Cheque No. enclosed to the value £.....

Seating Request.....

These details will be repeated in the September Newsletter.



AIRCRAFT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION RETIREMENT LUNCH

12.30pm Wednesday 1st October 2014

The Amalfi Suite at The Sharnbrook Hotel
A6/Park Lane, Sharnbrook, Beds MK44 1LX
www.thesharnbrookhotel.com

Starter

- S 1 **Parma Ham & Melon** *served with olives & mozzarella*
- S 2 **Broccoli & Stilton Soup (v)**
- S 3 **Prawn Cocktail**

Main Course

- M 1 **Traditional Roast Beef**
with all the Trimmings!
- M 2 **Pollo alla Valdostana**
Butterflied breast of chicken topped with ham & mozzarella cheese
baked in a white wine and cream sauce served with parmentiere potatoes
and roasted root vegetables
- M 3 **Parmigiana di Melanzane**
Baked layers of aubergines, mozzarella & napoletana tomato sauce
Served with roasted and herbed new potatoes and seasonal vegetables

Dolci followed by Tea/Coffee & Biscotti

- D 1 **Caramel Apple Pie** *served hot with custard*
- D 2 **Trio Di Dolci** *homemade dessert taster of Vanilla Cheesecake, Tiramisù & a Profiterole*
- D 3 **Fresh Fruit Salad** *with vanilla ice cream*

The
Sharnbrook
Hotel ★★★