

# THE ALDWARE CHRONICLE

Newsletter of the Royal Air Forces Association York Branch



Branch Headquarters:  
3-5 Aldwark  
York  
YO1 7BX

Telephone: 07495 651849

Our Website: [www.rafayork.org](http://www.rafayork.org)



Club opening hours: Thu: 7.30 pm to 10.30 pm Sat: 11.30 am to 3 pm.

Branch Charity Number 500974

Current membership: 461

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## YORK BRANCH & CLUB OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS FOR 2021-22

President:	Mr R W Gray
President Emeritus	Air Commodore W G Gambold RAF (Retd)
Life Vice-Presidents:	Mr H R Kidd OBE Mr J J Mawson
Vice-Presidents:	Mr J Allison BEM Ms S Richmond
Branch Chairman	Mr B R Mennell <i>chairman@rafayork.org</i>
Branch Vice-Chairman	Mr R Ford
Branch Hon. Secretary	Mr A M Bryne <i>secretary@rafayork.org</i>
Branch Hon. Treasurer	Mr D Pollard <i>treasurer@rafayork.org</i>
Membership Secretary	Mr R Woods
Welfare Officer	Mr R Ford <i>welfare@rafayork.org</i>
Wings Appeal Organiser	Mr I Smith <i>wings@rafayork.org</i>
N. Area & Annual Conf. Rep.	Mr R Ford
Branch Standard Bearer	Mr G Murden
Deputy Standard Bearer	Mr A Gunn
Public Relations Officer	Mr A M Bryne
Buildings Officer	Mr R Webster
Website Manager	Mrs M Barter <i>webmaster@rafayork.org</i>
Club Chairman	Mrs D Edgar
Club Deputy Chairman	<i>Vacant</i>
Club Hon Secretary	Mr S Edgar
Club Hon. Treasurer	Mr A Ramsbottom
Club Bar Manager	Mrs J Snelling
Club Deputy Bar Manager	Mr S Edgar
Club Fundraising Officer	<i>Vacant</i>
Club Social Secretary	Mr J Forrester
Club Tea Bar Manager	Mrs D Mennell
Club Trustees:	Ms S Richmond, Mrs K Woods , Mr R Webster
Aldwark Chronicle Editor	Mr A M Bryne

**Please address all general enquiries to the Branch Secretary.**

***On the Cover:*** RAF F35 aircraft of No 617 Sqn embarked on HMS Queen Elizabeth, take part in Exercise Strike Warrior in May 2021.

## CONTENTS

Branch & Club Officials	2	Branch & Club closures 2021	11
Editorial	3	HRH Flypast over York	12
Branch Chairman's Musings	4	Unusual airline announcements	13
Turning of the Page - June	5	Two memorials	14
Obituary - Norman Berryman	6	Step back in Time	16
ELMS Remembrance Ceremony	9	Tornado Tribute Team	18
Annual Joint Church Service	10	Forthcoming events	20
2021 Wings Appeal	11		

### DISCLAIMER

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## EDITORIAL

By the time this edition of the Chronicle is published, our Branch Club will have just reopened. The Club was last open during August and September last year (Thursday evenings only) but another wave of the Pandemic put paid to any chance of keeping the facility open. However, with care, we should be able to enjoy the Club facilities once more and also take part in future events, including entertainment and fund-raising. So far this year, it might seem that all has been quiet, but this has not been the case. Turning of the Page ceremonies have continued (albeit severely restricted to just one attendee) and the Wings Appeal volunteers, led by our indomitable Wings Appeal Officer, Ian Smith, have done a superb job in raising funds, despite the restrictions. These subjects may be found in this newsletter.

Another news item, on page 11, covers the number of Branches and Branch Clubs that have closed during 2021. For some branches and clubs, the COVID-19 Pandemic has probably been the "final straw" but the list still doesn't make for pleasant reading. The increasing age of members and the difficulty in finding volunteers for committee duties was a problem before the Pandemic and it could easily happen to us. So please support your Branch and Club more than ever. We look forward to getting together again.

## BRANCH CHAIRMAN'S MUSINGS

Well, here we are again, still in lockdown (14th July) but less than a week now till the Prime Minister has agreed to withdraw most of the sanctions and we get some freedom. The wearing of face protection is no longer a criminal matter, but we are expected to wear it on public transport and in shops or where there are large crowds; that makes a lot of sense. We are told that Covid is on the increase as are hospital take-ups, but that, with schools going on holidays soon it is as good a time as any for an easing of the restrictions. With winter flu virus on its way in a few months we must take note of how that will affect the NHS as well as ourselves. We must start to live with Covid, as we have in the past lived with the flu virus and look forward to a better future than we have had in the previous 18 months.

One gleam of hope over the last few months has been the European Cup competition which I can honestly say has boosted the morale of so many English people, including me. An exceptional team of young talented players under the direction of Gareth Southgate played their hearts out and reached the final to play against Italy. On the day, we all sat down with hearts in mouths and within 2 minutes of the kick-off, England had scored. Unfortunately, that meant at least 88 minutes of high tension hoping that we could score again or that Italy could not. Unfortunately, England slowed down, and Italy scored to level things up. There followed extra time and the Penalties and an eventual win by Italy. We were, throughout the country saddened by this but not half as sad as to what we heard after the match. Fans storming into Wembley without tickets, the booing of national anthems, and most disgusting and disgraceful of all the racial hatred in messages to the three young black men in the English team who missed their penalties. England's chances of winning the chance of being able to host the World Cup at Wembley must now be zero.

Now onto things RAFA York Branch wise. We are please to be able to open the RAFA Club to our members on Thursday 22nd July 2021 at 1930 followed by Saturday 24th July 2021 at 11.30 followed by all future Thursdays and Saturdays at the same time or until Boris tells us to shut down again. There are just a couple of provisos to go with the opening. They are:

1. Members only – no guests for the moment.
2. All attending should be double vaccinated against Covid and will need to show their inoculation certificates at the door on their first visit. Without this proof members will be requested to leave until they can produce them. This is for everyone's safety.

We will have hand cleanser etc. around for members usage as required.

I look forward to your support in this re-opening and hope we can remain open for as long as possible. I look forward to meeting up with you all once we have opened.

Brian Mennell  
Branch Chairman

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### **TURNING OF THE PAGE – 12 JUNE 2021**

The second Turning of the Page ceremony for 2021 took place in York Minster on Saturday 12 June, to mark the Queen's official birthday, at Noon. The Book of Remembrance page turning was carried out by Branch Life-Vice President Ray Kidd OBE.



Again, due to current lockdown restrictions, no other members of RAFA York Branch could be present except to take a photograph. Prayers were said at the ceremony by Canon Vicky Johnson of York Minster.

*Photo courtesy of Ron Ford.*

## OBITUARY – NORMAN BERRYMAN



*Norman and Isobel at a York Branch lunch in July 2003.*

Branch member Norman Berryman passed away on 8 May 2021 aged 97. Until his health began to fail in 2019, Norman was a stalwart of the Branch Club Saturday socials, and his presence has been sadly missed. Norman served in the RAF as a Flight Engineer from 1942 until 1946. Later, he became a Methodist minister and served in several locations, including Gibraltar in the 1970s. Norman's wife, Isobel, died in 2010. Norman's funeral took place at York Crematorium on 11 June 2021.



*Norman in RAF Aircrew service during World War II*

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, attendance at the funeral was limited but the following York Branch RAFA members attended: Brian Mennell (Branch Chairman) and his wife Dorothy, Ray Kidd OBE, John Mawson, Fred Ullathorne and Ron Ford (who also paraded the Branch Standard). Additionally, 2 adult staff from the Air Cadet Organisation attended as did an RAF representative from Yorkshire Universities Air Squadron.

York Branch Life Vice-President, Ray Kidd OBE read the eulogy at Norman's funeral and some of it is reproduced here.

**Reverend Norman Berryman**  
**By Ray Kidd OBE**

I am honoured to say a few words about Norman; he was a man whom I hold in high regard. One thing we had in common was that we were both "Scarborians" and I could see from my surroundings much of what motivated him to join those heroic fellow countrymen as they flew out over the North Sea on their dangerous missions almost daily in wartime. The Initial Training Wing (ITW) of the RAF was based at Scarborough and with it an abundance of young men in uniform. Out in the harbour was stationed a vessel of the Air Sea Rescue Service, frequently called upon to help and rescue our brave aircrew who had to ditch in the sea before they could make land on return from operations.

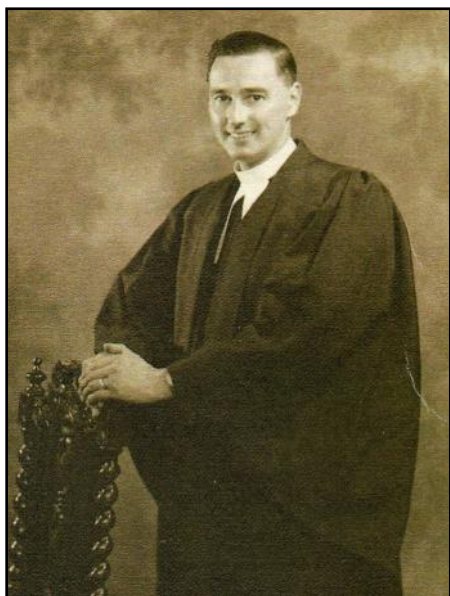
Norman was always keen on aeroplanes and joined No 313 (Scarborough) Squadron Air Cadets as a fifteen year old when the Squadron formed. Later Norman said, "This had a great influence on me and it also gave me a chance to advance educationally". Prior to that Norman had joined the Auxiliary Fire Service as a messenger on a voluntary unpaid basis.

In 1942 Norman volunteered for aircrew duties, having heard from the Air Ministry that a new category of aircrew, namely that of Flight Engineer, had been introduced and promptly remustered for that. He passed the basic training and qualified at RAF St. Athan, with further training at Vickers Armstrongs Factory. Having qualified and been awarded his brevet, he was posted to No XV Squadron at RAF Mildenhall, initially flying in Stirling bombers and then Lancasters. He completed a full and dangerous tour of 32 operations, which was no mean feat in those times, and then was posted to No 17 Operational Training Unit (OTU) first as a ground instructor, and later as a flying instructor. His final posting was to No 3 Glider Training School until his demobilisation in 1946.

On return to civilian life, Norman entered the Inland Revenue Tax office, became interested in and ran the local Church Youth Club. It was at this time

that he felt called to the Church and was ordained in the Methodist Ministry in 1957. His first church after being ordained was at Armadale in Scotland and it was there that the Reverend Berryman met and married his girlfriend, Isobel. His church duties also took him from Scotland to the northeast and later down to Queen Victoria Seaman's Rest in Victoria Dock, which was a mission for seamen, ex-Service men and the homeless run by the Methodist Church. It was as a result of his being so involved there that he was offered a church at Wesley House on Gibraltar, where he was appointed Officiating Chaplain to all HM Forces stationed on the Rock. Clearly this experience motivated him to volunteer later for the Homeless Centre in Peasholme Green, York.

He was always ready to help those around him both locally and nationally



and when in York he also returned to the Air Cadets, serving as the Chaplain to No 2434 (Church Fenton) Squadron. It was here that someone asked if there was a common thread running between his wartime service and his involvement with the church and the Air Cadets, to which Norman replied, "It has been the spirit of comradeship experienced throughout that has been a major factor in shaping my life and the decisions I have made".

*Norman after his ordination as a Methodist Minister.*

Typically, he also joined the RAF Association where he was a loyal and active member and also became a member of the Yorkshire Air Museum at Elvington on the site of the former RAF Station. He shared the chaplain's duties with The Reverend Leonard Rivett and stalwart of the museum, Derek Reed commented that Norman always proudly wore his Flight Engineer's brevet when he was attired for his ecclesiastical duties. He also spent many hours with his friend and RAFA colleague, Maurice Vaux reconditioning some of the older aircraft at the museum and frequently their wives would accompany them when they



would be busy with old uniforms and archive work. It was also here that Norman attended a special ceremony with several other valiant men when they were presented with their Legion d' Honneur medals for their contribution to the liberation of France.

Norman was a fine person for whom nothing was too much trouble when helping others.

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## WORLD WAR II ESCAPE LINES MEMORIAL SOCIETY (ELMS)

### ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE EVENT



On Saturday 26 June 2021, a few members of ELMS held a small gathering at the 'Helper Memorial' at Eden Camp Museum near Malton to remember all the helpers and veterans of the escape lines of the Second World War. The gathering was small compared with the usual Annual Commemoration as COVID-19 regulations required restricted numbers for an event, so only local members attended the short service officiated by the ELMS Padre, the Rev Canon John Manchester. Bugler Ben Laws, from the Royal Fusiliers Cadet Band played the Last Post and Reveille, four standards were paraded: RAF Association (Ron Ford), The PARA Regt, ELMS, and APOWEC), and four wreaths were laid (ELMS, RAFES, APOWEC and Eden Camp).

*Via Ron Ford.*

## ANNUAL JOINT CHURCH SERVICE 2021

The Royal British Legion and Royal Air Forces Association York Branches Joint Annual Church Service took place at All Saints Pavement Church on Sunday 27 June, at 1030 hrs. This was the first joint service for the branches as last year's event was cancelled due to the pandemic restrictions in force at the time. Although restrictions had been lifted to some extent, the congregation was limited in number due to social distancing and face masks had to be worn. The congregation was also unable to partake in singing, which was a little frustrating, but this was the rule in force! Nonetheless, it was a very heart-warming service. The congregation was welcomed by the Revd David Simpson and the sermon was delivered by the Revd David Hobman. Both ministers are also members of RAFA York Branch.



*RBL & RAFA Standards on parade.*

*Revs David Hobman & David Simpson.*

*(Editor)*

A total of 8 members from RAFA York Branch attended: Branch Chairman Brian Mennell and Dorothy Mennell, Standard Bearer Gordon Murden, Fred Ullathorne and Jean, Andy Bryne and Patricia Harrington. Brian Mennell read the first lesson and Mark Hogan (Royal British Legion York Branch Chairman) read the second lesson. The Act of Remembrance exhortation was given by Denise Edgar, President, York Royal British Legion. 2021 is also the Legion's centenary year. Although numbers attending were low due to restrictions, it was very good to be able to meet and celebrate this annual event in a lovely York church once more.



## 2021 WINGS APPEAL TOTAL

The first major Wings Appeal collection took place on Friday 11 June at Monks Cross Shopping Centre. A total of £482.82 was collected for Wings Appeal funds. This was followed by a collection at Morrisons supermarket on Foss Islands Road on 18 June. This resulted in an additional impressive sum of £688.48 to add to the total.

Saturday 26 June was Armed Forces Day and our Branch had permission to carry out a street collection for the Wings Appeal. The City was quite busy on the day, with many people out and about. This was good news as our collectors managed to raise the sum of £2195 towards this year's Wings total; a very impressive effort indeed.

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## BRANCH & CLUB CLOSURES IN 2021

The 2020-21 Pandemic has affected all of us in some way or other and it probably hasn't helped by increasing the number of Branches and Branch Clubs that have had to close or amalgamate with other branches in 2021. In most cases, the reasons for closure or amalgamation appear to be the inability of some branches to form a committee and/or due to an increasingly shrinking and disinterested membership.

Some branches and branch clubs have managed quite well (dare I say that York is one of them?) but some RAFA branches and clubs have not survived. Hopefully, there will be some improvement when branches can participate in events again and branch clubs can reopen.

The list of Branch and Branch Club closures so far in 2021 is as follows.

### **Clubs:**

Coventry  
Yaxley  
Newark  
Bishop Auckland

### **Branches:**

Coventry  
West Bromwich  
Bishop Auckland  
Dartford  
Oxted and Limsfield  
Walton and Weybridge  
Wymondham  
Warminster RMG

## **Other changes:**

Dover Branch became a Registered Members' Group (RMG)

Littlehampton Branch merged with Bognor Regis Branch

Shoreham by Sea Branch merged with Worthing Branch

Haverfordwest Branch merged with St Davids & Solva Branch

Burnham on Sea Branch merged with Weston super Mare Branch

*Source: Minutes of RAFA Area Council Meetings 2021. (RAF Association Portal Website)*

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## **FLYPAST IN HONOUR OF HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH**



On the day of the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral at Windsor (17 April 2021) three Tiger Moth aircraft from the Tiger Moth Experience flew over the City of York to honour his passing. The weather was excellent and it was a fitting tribute to a man who enjoyed the thrill of aviation amongst his many skills. A keen airman, Prince Philip took his first flying lesson in 1952 and went on to become a qualified pilot. At the controls of North American Harvard KF729 he made a memorable flight over Windsor Castle on 4 May 1953, accompanied by instructor Flt Lt Caryl Ramsay Gordon. The Duke flew 59 different aircraft in 44 years, accruing almost 6,000 hours. The RAF Benevolent Fund Tiger Moth Squadron is based at nearby Sherburn in Elmet airfield.

## SOME MORE UNUSUAL AIRLINE ANNOUNCEMENTS

On landing, one airline cabin stewardess announced, "Please be sure to take all your belongs with you when you depart. If you're going to leave anything, please make sure it's something we'd like to have."

During a safety announcement prior to the aircraft departing, "In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, oxygen masks will descend from the ceiling. Please stop screaming, grab the mask and pull it over your face. If you have a small child travelling with you, secure your own mask before assisting with theirs. If you are travelling with more than one small child, then pick your favourite."

A weather announcement from the Captain prior to arrival, "Weather at our destination is 50 degrees Fahrenheit with some broken clouds, but we'll try to get them fixed before we arrive. Thank you and remember, nobody loves you, or your money, more than Southwest Airlines."

During the Captain's welcome message to passengers, "Delta Airlines is pleased to have some of the best flight attendants in the business. Unfortunately, none of them are on this flight!"

After a very rough landing in Phoenix, Arizona, The Flight Attendant announced, "Ladies & Gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Captain Crash and the crew have brought the aircraft to a screaming halt against the gate. Once the tyre smoke has cleared and the warning bells have been silenced, we'll open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the Terminal."

From a Southwest Airlines employee, "Welcome aboard this Southwest Airlines flight. To operate your seat belt, insert the metal tab into the buckle and pull it tight. It works just like any other seat belt and, if you don't know how to operate one, you probably shouldn't be let out in public unsupervised."

Part of a flight attendant's arrival announcement, "We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today and, the next time you get an insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurised metal tube, we hope you'll think of US Airlines."

*Via Joy Morettini*

## TWO MEMORIALS



**British Normandy Memorial**



**Stanway Village War Memorial**

## **British Normandy Memorial**

On Sunday 6 June 2021, the 77th anniversary of D-Day, the British Normandy Memorial was officially opened. The Opening Ceremony was broadcast live to an audience at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire, where more than one hundred Normandy Veterans gathered. The British Normandy Memorial records the names of the 22,442 servicemen and women under British command who fell on D-Day and during the Battle of Normandy in the summer of 1944. This includes people from more than 30 different countries. Inscribed in stone, their names have never, until now, been brought together. The site also includes a French Memorial, dedicated to the memory of French civilians who died during this time. The opening of the Memorial included the special ribbon-cutting moment, the laying of the first wreath and a flypast by the RAF Red Arrows. His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, is the memorial's Patron and he addressed Normandy Veterans and relatives of the fallen gathered on the occasion of the official opening of the British Normandy Memorial on 6 June 2021, at the National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire. Due to the restrictions imposed by the Pandemic, travel to Normandy was severely restricted, hence the "virtual" opening.

The seeds of the memorial were sown with a suggestion from a Normandy Veteran. In July 2015, George Batts met the BBC broadcaster Nicholas Witchell. George pointed out that the United Kingdom, alone among the principal Allied nations of World War Two, did not have its own national memorial in Normandy recording the names of all those under British command who died on D-Day and during the Battle of Normandy. So, the Normandy Memorial Trust was established and work began to bring together the key players. One of the first was the architect Liam O'Connor, designer of the British Armed Forces Memorial in Staffordshire, and the Bomber Command Memorial in London.

In September 2016, Witchell, O'Connor and a colleague, Andrew Whitmarsh, found the perfect site for the memorial. It was on farmland overlooking "Gold Beach" close to the town of Ver sur Mer. In the months that followed they prepared a detailed feasibility study for the British government and discussions began with the then Mayor of Ver sur Mer, Philippe Onillon, and local landowners. In March 2017, the British government announced that it would contribute £20 million towards the construction of the British Normandy Memorial. Further substantial sums were raised from private benefactors. The Memorial site was formally inaugurated on 6 June 2019, the 75th anniversary of D-Day, in a ceremony led by the then British Prime Minister Theresa May and the French President Emmanuel Macron. Despite delays caused by the Covid pandemic, the memorial was completed in the

autumn of 2020, in readiness for its official opening (by video link) on 6 June 2021. The memorial includes an impressive bronze sculpture of three charging infantrymen by British sculptor David Williams-Ellis.

### **Stanway War Memorial Gloucestershire.**

Stanway village is dominated by Stanway House (listed Grade I) and its designed landscape, historic seat of the Earls of Wemyss and March. Two sons of the Earl and Countess of Wemyss had been killed during the First World War (the eldest, Francis Charteris, Lord Elcho, and the youngest, Yvo Alan Charteris). Lord Elcho had been killed in Egypt in April 1916 and Yvo in October 1915. It was their mother, Mary Wemyss, who commissioned this war memorial at a crossroads near Stanway House, on behalf of a committee of parishioners which she chaired, to commemorate the fallen of the villages. Mary appears to have been a driving force behind the whole project, which also included a memorial inside Stanway church.

The architect was Sir Philip Scott and the sculptor of the bronze George and Dragon, Alexander Fisher. The carvings on the memorial were by Eric Gill ARA. The memorial at the crossroads was unveiled by Lady Elcho on 30 October 1920 and dedicated by the Bishop of Gloucester following a service and unveiling of the new window and war memorial embrasure at the church. The inscriptions by Eric Gill have weathered with the passing of time. The front stone panel reads: MEN OF STANWAY, 1914 – 1918. FOR A TOMB, THEY HAVE AN ALTAR, FOR LAMENTATION MEMORY AND FOR PITY PRAISE (from the Greek poet Simonides). On the right side of the plinth are 6 names of Stanway men who were killed during the War and on the left side, 5 names. The reverse panel has the inscription, "For your tomorrow we gave our today." I have driven past this memorial on occasion for over 50 years (it is quickly lost to sight whilst travelling on the B4077 road) and only recently stopped to have a good look. It is, in my view, one of the most impressive small war memorials in the UK.

*Sources: British Normandy Memorial website, Historic England website, War Memorials Online website.*

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## **STEP BACK IN TIME**

Although the RAF's aviation achievements of the Second World War remain strong in the collective memory, for an increasing number of veterans, the 1950s and 1960s form an important period for reflection and nostalgia. It was certainly not a period of total peace. A couple of photos may help to stir the memory. The first photo shows Javelin all-weather fighters of No 33 Sqn at RAF Middleton St George (now Teeside Airport) in November 1962. It is



presumed that the dog's duties did not extend as far as flying with its master! The Squadron disbanded that same month but is now equipped with Puma helicopters.



Javelin FAW7s lined up at RAF Middleton St George in 1962.



Bristol Belvedere of No 66 Squadron at Kuching in 1962.

The second photo is a Bristol Belvedere helicopter. No 66 Squadron equipped with the Belvedere helicopter in September 1961 and spent much

of the rest of the 1960s in the Far East, based at RAF Seletar in Singapore. The photo shows a Belvedere at Kuching, Borneo, supporting British forces in Malaya. No 66 Squadron disbanded in March 1969. Only 26 Belvederes were built. The helicopter was originally designed for the Royal Navy as a torpedo carrier but the RN cancelled it and gave it to the RAF!

The recent edition of RAFA "Air Mail" magazine covered the 40th anniversary of the Boeing Chinook twin-rotor helicopter in RAF service. However, the Belvedere equipped the RAF many years before the Chinook came on the RAF scene. It must be said that the Chinook is a far more capable helicopter but was a slightly later design than the Belvedere (First flights: Chinook - 1961, Belvedere - 1958). The Belvedere could carry 19 fully equipped troops whereas the Chinook can carry up to 55. The Belvedere had, for the time, an impressive cruising speed of 138 mph (the Chinook cruises at 184 mph) but the Belvedere's load carrying capacity was somewhat limited. An RAF veteran who operated the Belvedere reported: *"The Belvedere suffered from a number of other problems, including a propensity to catch fire when the Avpin starter could explode on start-up. The Avpin 'initiator' was a three-cartridge breech giving, in theory, three starts before it had to be replenished. But all too often all three cartridges would go off together producing a helluva bang and usually an Avpin fire (Avpin is a monofuel so special fire fighting equipment and trained personnel were a pre-requisite to Belvedere operations). The first thing you were told on a Belvedere unit was never, never stand in line with the starter exhaust. The starter system for the front engine was right behind the pilots' back and the access ladder was left in place and the cockpit window open for all starts - just in case!"* Criekey!

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## **TORNADO TRIBUTE TOUR AT KIRKBY WHARFE**

You may have seen an article in *Air Mail* about the Tornado Tribute Tour. RAF veterans Mal Craghill and Martin Wintermayer are marking the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1<sup>st</sup> Gulf War by cycling 690 miles from the south-west to the north-east of England to raise money for the RAF Benevolent Fund. En-route they are visiting the graves of those in the Tornado squadron who lost their lives during that war.

On 26 June they arrived in Kirkby Wharfe to attend a short service at the grave of Squadron Leader Gary Lennox who, with his navigator, was lost during a low-level mission. Our Standard Bearer, Gordon Murden, took the standard and Sue Richmond went with him to represent the Branch. There is a small number of Commonwealth War Graves at Kirkby Wharfe, mostly of WW II casualties.

The service was conducted by a chaplain from Leconfield, and consisted of a few short prayers, a poem written by one of the cyclists and the laying of a



wreath. There were about 20 people there, including Sqn Ldr Lennox's widow. The rest of the "congregation" were mostly ex-16 Squadron personnel.

The day's journey was to end at Leeming Bar, although the end of the complete ride was at Washington, Co Durham. They were accompanied by a small number of local cyclists who would ride with them for one day.

The service was very simple and moving. We also noticed that one of the other graves at Kirkby Wharfe is that of Glen Goodman, a North Yorkshire Special Constable who was shot by an IRA gunman whilst on duty in

1992. Although not a war grave, it seems fitting that he should rest close to others who died in the service of their country.



Mal Craghill (on the right) and Martin Wintermayer with Mrs Anne Lennox, widow of Gary Lennox after the service.

*Article & photos courtesy of Sue Richmond.*

## Events for RAFA York Branch - 2021

Event dates will be updated on a regular basis on the Branch Website and Club Noticeboards.

Please note: it would be appreciated if you wish to attend any of the events listed below to inform the Chairman so that we know what numbers to seat/cater for. A limited lunch menu is available most Saturdays.

Fri 20 Aug	Wings Appeal Collection - Asda Monks Cross
Sat 18 Sep	Wings Appeal Street Collection - York City Centre.
Sun 19 Sep	Battle of Britain Service & Page Turning - York Minster.
Sat 9 Oct	St Crux.
Sat 16 Oct	2021 RAFA Annual Conference - Virtual format.
Sat 4 Dec	Wings Appeal Collection—Tesco Clifton Moor.

Regarding the **Wings Appeal** events listed above, the Wings Appeal Officer will contact those members who regularly volunteer prior to the collection dates.

Please note that themed “dining in nights” may be subject to change/cancellation in order to avoid clashing with other more pressing Branch activities or events so please check the website: [www.rafayork.org](http://www.rafayork.org). For timings etc, contact the Club on 07495 651849 (Thu evenings and Sat lunchtimes only).