



The AnyFace Association

Q2/23 Newsletter

June 2023

Hello members.

The first of our quarterly edition newsletters and a lot has happened since March! I hope everyone is keeping well and for those in the UK it looks like summer has finally arrived.

Membership update

A huge welcome to our newest member **Brian Whittingham** who joined the Association last month. Brian was an aircraft engineer on Balliol, Sea Prince, Vampire, Sea Hawk, Scimitar, Buccaneer and most significant to the Association, was the MOD(PE) Project Manager for the Sea King MK 2 in 1982, playing a significant role in the success of Project LAST. You can read more about Brian's involvement in Project LAST in the 'Down Memory Lane' section below.

We've had around a quarter of members pay their subscription for 2023. Renewal subscription is £5 for Full and Associate members; there is no need to complete another form.

Grateful if Full and Associate members could transfer £5 to the following account.

AnyFace Association

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Ref: Surname Mem 23

Overseas membership is free of charge so I will assume that all 2022 members wish to remain on the books – please drop me a line if this is not the case.

Committee Update

During the AGM we voted in a new committee member, **Chris Jones**. Chris has had a fantastic career to date, serving on the Sea King Mk7 and the Crowsnest Merlin aircraft. He is currently the Commanding Officer of 824 NAS, the training squadron for Merlin ASW and Crowsnest – a hugely demanding role and we are extremely grateful that Chris could find the time to support the Committee. You can read more about Chris on the website here [Committee Members](#)



Events Update

17 August 23 - FAAOA Phyllis Court Lunch

If anyone is interested in forming an AnyFace Table at the lunch then please RSVP here [Phyllis Court RSVP](#) You do not have to be a member of the FAAOA to attend. A lovely event, in a fantastic location and fingers crossed that the Navy Wings Wasp will make another appearance this year. Times and costs tbc.

14-17 September 23 - 849 Gannet Reunion

For more details please contact Mike Penn at mike@gmpwin.co.uk



12 November 23 - Remembrance Sunday Cenotaph Parade

We have been allocated **20** places for this year's RBL Parade at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday and it would be great if we could fill our allocation. The Parade will be followed by the traditional Fly Navy Federation Service at the FAA Memorial and this year we will return to the In and Out Club for lunch, which will be subsidised.



The following members have RSVP'd:

David Bartlett
Richard Bickerton
John Brotherton
David Burton
Danny Daniell
Jan Cox
Floppy Hoper
Dave Lambourne
Dicky Lewis

If you would like to join the AnyFace platoon then RSVP at the following link [Remembrance Sunday RSVP](#). For those interested in attending the RBL Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall on 11 November, tickets for RBL members go on sale for the evening performance on 25 July and the afternoon performance on 1 August.

Reunion – every 2 years or 5?

The Committee are still considering the frequency of the AnyFace Reunion. We'd be grateful for your views so please drop me a line or complete the 'quick poll' pop up on the desktop version of the website.

Down Memory Lane

Project LAST – The MOD (PE) Story

Richard Scott recently met with **Brian Whittingham** and **Ron Jones** who relived their experiences from 1982. Richard has subsequently written a fascinating article that adds more colour to the story of Project LAST. You can read the article on the website here [Project LAST - MOD \(PE\)](#)

Mike Farmer, Thorn EMI.

Staying on the subject of Project LAST, I was recently contacted by Kate Farmer, the daughter of Mike Farmer, an engineer at Thorn EMI in 1982. Mike's family remain hugely proud of his involvement in Project LAST and they still have a plaque that was presented to Mike by **Peter Flutter** and **Brian Whittingham** in 1989. It reads;

YOU HAVE BEEN A PROJECT WARRIOR WHOSE OUTSTANDING CUSTOMER COMMITMENT TO THE SERVICE IN ITS HOUR OF NEED ENABLED THE REBIRTH IN 1982 OF ROYAL NAVY AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING.

THANK YOU



849 B Flt, HMS ARK ROYAL, Valetta circa 1971.

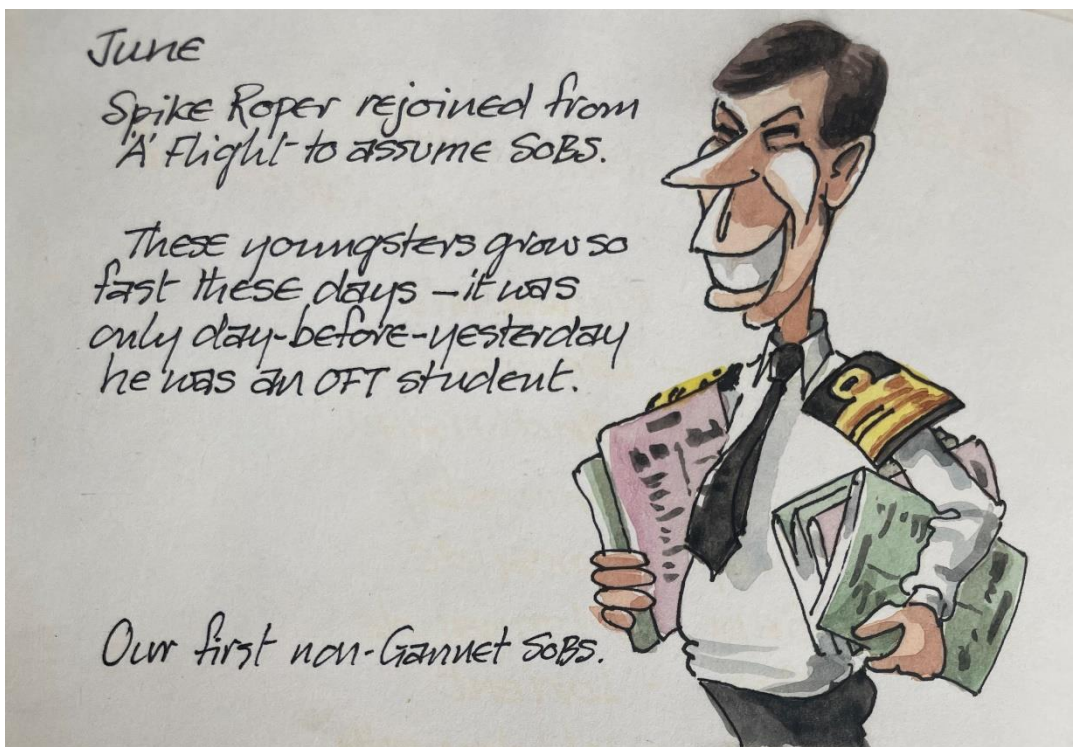
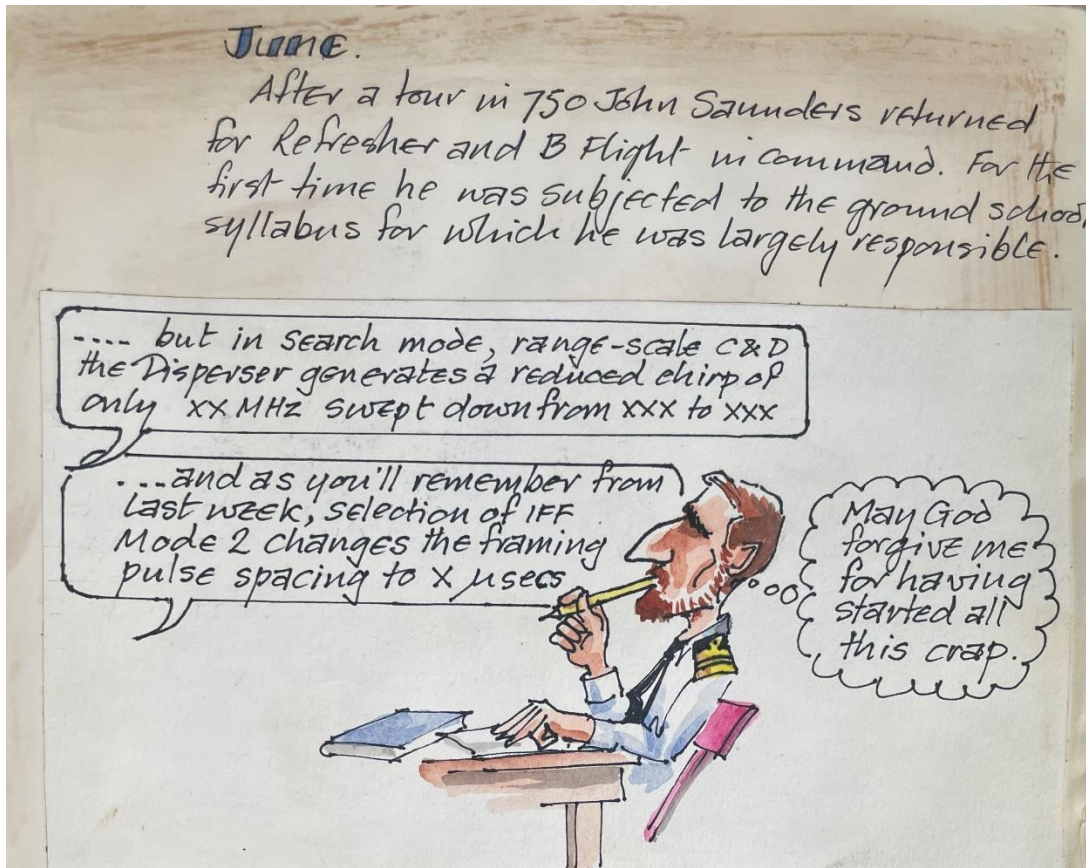
Andy Kirk (Former Crab Looker) had recently unearthed a photo of B Flt, HMS ARK ROYAL alongside in Valetta, with no less than 3 other RAF exchange officers on the Squadron. Andy has almost pieced together the front row with just one omission. Please do let me know if you can fill the blank.



Front Row L-R

Lt Doug Miller, Fg Off Rod Burges, Lt Colin Batty, Lt Phil Howarth, Lt Paul Cheesman, Lt Lamb, Fg Off Mike Straw, Lt Cdr Dick Schuette USN (SOBS), Lt Cdr Jack Holman (CO), Lt Keith Bainbridge (SP), unknown Lt, Fg Off Andy Kirk, Lt Paul Southon, Lt Roger Bowles, Lt Mike Parry-Evans, Lt Paul Morris, Fg Off Dick Hanson, Sqn Fleet Chief.

And to finish..... a couple of classic PAF Line Book entries from 1989 and 1990 respectively.



Yours aye,
Serena
Admin Director

