ACHF FLIGHT LOG

NEWSLETTER • ISSUE 01 • AUTUMN 2026



ONWARDS AND UPWARDS

Our CIO goes from strength to strength as engagement continues, the hangar project gains momentum, and we keep those aircraft airborne where they were made to be.

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FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to our first official newsletter for the ACHF. This is intended to be a quarterly newsletter giving you the highlights of our activities in each season. If you have any suggestions or additions, you'd like to add please don't hesitate to get in touch.

QUICK FACT

In September 1955, there were 171 Mk IIIs In-Service.



BLAST FROM THE PAST

3 of our committee members are featured in this picture taken at Weston-Super-Mare in 1975 – can you spot them?

For National Cadet Week, in October, we shared this and various other 'historic' cadet pictures from the archives on our Facebook page. The response was phenomenal. We'd love to see more of your pictures from the yesteryears.

WHAT A YEAR

As our first 'log' we want to share with you some of the highlights of the year and what better way to do this than in pictures.



PATRON PETER

In April, we warmly welcomed Air Marshal Peter Ruddock CB CBE FRAeS FCMI RAF (Ret'd) to Nympsfield for a flight in our barge. He had kindly agreed to become our patron before he'd even strapped in – a huge endorsement of the ACHF.

A patron in an organization is a high-profile supporter who lends their name, influence, and sometimes resources to enhance the organisation's credibility, public image, and fundraising capacity



Our kindly syndicated Mk1 Land rover doing what it does best.



Our first meeting with Royal Air Force Association Dursley & South Gloucestershire branch president, Jim Ball and Chairman Andy Markham

ACHF AT NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE CAMP



ACHF at National Air and Space Camp (NASC) – August 2026

L TO R – Flt Lt Tony Webb. Phil Woods, Graham Corner, Dave Woolcock, Geoff Beard



Our Mk III and Grasshopper sitting proud amongst the Viking fleet at RAF Syerston



It's not often the ACHF gets to display alongside the Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team

BEHIND THE SCENES

NASC was a pinnacle event for ACHF as it was a major steppingstone in building our critical relationship with the Royal Air Force Air Cadets.

Thank you to long-standing member Tony Webb for arranging and coordinating our attendance at this prestigious event and to the volunteers that helped make it happen.

FLIGHT NOTES & FORWARD LOOK

THE HANGAR PROJECT GETS UNDERWAY

Thanks to our contacts at RAFA, we have developed a great relationship with MSP Architecture in Dursley. With inputs from our Chairman Dave Woolcock, Vice-Chair Geoff Beard and Hangar Project Manager, Vaughan Castell, MSP have drawn up some fabulous plans for what our future hangar could look like. This will help to ensure full fundraising efforts can proceed, and we can show potential investors what we hope to achieve. We look forward to sharing more details with you at the AGM.

AIRCRAFT SPOTLIGHT

Kirby Cadet Mk III (XA310)

Delivered brand new to 87 GS in 1953 on 18th March.

Average Flight Time – 3.3 Minutes per flight.

Acquired in October 2000 and restored to current condition by 2002 by Al Stacey.

Chosen as our 'flagship' for our logo as the most recognized and likely to bring nostalgia to potential ACHF members

DATES FOR THE DIARY

08 NOVEMBER – Remembrance Sunday Parade Dursley
12 NOVEMBER – Annual General Meeting at BGGC
16-18 JULY 27 – Royal International Air Tattoo
TBC – SUMMER FLYING WEEK 2027

VOLUNTEER VOICES

Geoff Beard – Vice Chairman

Geoff was a Staff Cadet with 621 VGS in the 70s and returned to Air Cadet Gliding as a Civilian Instructor in 2013 after an exciting career flying airships and airliners. It was around this time he also re-soloed in the Barge and became a loyal and passionate member of the ACHF. Geoff volunteers heavily with the ACHF alongside his daughter, Joey.



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NEXT ISSUE

WINTER ISSUE – FEBRUARY

Copy deadline: 10TH January