Air Cadet Historic Flight CIO – Trustee Report 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026

Objectives and Activities

The purpose and objective of the Air Cadet Historic Flight CIO (ACHF) is:

To preserve the Heritage of Air Cadet Gliding in the United Kingdom, in particular, but not exclusively, by the provision of a living museum of aircraft and equipment, preserving historical aircraft and associated equipment as used by the Air Training Corps, RAF Gliding Schools, RAF Volunteer Reserve (Training), Volunteer Gliding Schools and Squadrons and through this inform the public about that Heritage

In preparing this report the Trustees confirm they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, and the terms of our governing document, in carrying out the activities of the CIO.

During the year in question, we have had four areas of focus regarding delivery for the public benefit

- Awareness & Education of the Public
- Acquisition, Restoration and Preservation of the Collection
- Financial Security
- Building for the Future

1 -Awareness & Education of the Public

We attended several public events over the year, displaying our Gliders and Equipment, with information boards and ACHF Members available to answer questions and talk about the history and heritage of Air Cadet Gliding. In addition we have had substantial increase in our awareness through social media and have featured in a video program due to appear on internet streaming channels.

1. We attended the RAF Air Cadet "National Air and Space" camp at Syerston. This allowed us to exhibit alongside the RAF Air Cadets and other aerospace organisations informing young people about the history of the Air Cadets and Air Cadet gliders. As our first event alongside the Air Cadet organisations this is a significant step in increasing the scope of our relations with the Public and we were very pleased to also have a double page spread in the event literature.



2. We attended the Kemble Air Day, showing our gliders and vehicles to the public alongside information and display boards with CIO volunteers on hand to answer questions. We happy to have many discussions with Air Day visitors, informing them of the historic gliders and development of Air Cadet Gliding in the UK.

3. We were scheduled to appear at two further events, which were unfortunately cancelled at short notice due to events outside our control. The RAF International Air Tattoo (RAF Fairford) was cancelled at the request of the USAF, and the Abingdon Air and Country show cancelled by the organisers. We hope to appear at the next RIAT (now at Boscombe Down) in 2027.



4. Throughout the year we have hosted visits from interested members of the public from UK and abroad. We also hosted a very successful members week, with several guests and visitors attending to see the aircraft in operation.
5. We have used our Facebook and Websites to disseminate information on the CIO and our activities and we generate significant interaction between enthusiasts and ex-ATC members in the comments. In the past year we have had 117,000 comments on our posts and over 40,000 visitors to our website.
6. During the year we established relationships with the local RAF Association and hosted a visit from RAFA members. Subsequently the Dursley RAFA invited representatives of the ACHF to attend 2026 Remembrance Day and we laid wreaths at the ceremony.
7. During the 25/26 we were pleased to be able to announce that Air Marshal Peter Ruddock CB CBE FRAeS FCMI RAF (Ret'd) agreed to take on the role of "ACHF Patron". This is a non-Trustee honorary role which will assist us in developing the charity and help us promote our charitable objects.
8. Contacts from our new Patron led to the ACHF being featured in a future episode of "The Crew Room" (a series broadcast via YouTube) which was filmed at Nymspfield and will be broadcast early in 2027.

2 -Acquisition, Restoration and Preservation of the Collection



Over the past year we have continued to improve and expand our collection of ex-ATC gliders and associated equipment. Highlights for this year include:

1. Acquisition of a second example of the T31 Cadet Mk 3. Donated to the ACHF by Manston Museum. This aircraft is currently in need of restoration and we are in process of securing funds from two donors to cover the necessary materials to carry out this work
2. Acquisition, through donation by its existing owners of a 2nd Swallow. Not only is this example a genuine ex-ATC aircraft, but it is one of 3 Swallows donated to the ATC by the MacRoberts Trust. Alongside our other Swallow (currently undergoing restoration) on long term loan from D Cotton it means the ACHF now has two of these three historic aircraft in our care (the third we believe to have been destroyed). This aircraft will be restored to original ATC colours and airworthy condition
3. Work continues on our restoration activity, with short and long term projects giving us examples of the complete range of "wood and fabric" Air Cadet Gliders in a representative set of authentic colour schemes.

Our Collection now comprises:

Airworthy Collection			
Description	***Asset ID***	***Location***	***Condition / Notes***
Cadet Mk3 (T31)	XA310	Nympsfield	Long term Loan (A Stacey)
Sedbergh TX.1 (T21)	WB922	Nympsfield	ACHF
Cadet MK2 (T8 Tutor)	VW535	Sandhill Farm	Long term Loan (D Cotton), currently being resprayed to authentic "Yellow" colour scheme
Prefect	WE992	Nympsfield	Long term Loan (A Stacey)
Grasshopper TX.1	WZ828	Nympsfield	ACHF– Airworthy, Requires C of A

Restoration Collection			
Description	***Asset ID***	***Location***	***Condition / Notes***
Grasshopper TX.1	WZ753	Nympsfield	ACHF - Spares airframe providing wings for Cadet TX.1 PD 637 project
Swallow TX.1	XS650	Nympsfield	ACHF - Awaiting respray to suitable colour scheme
Swallow TX.1	'XS651'	Nympsfield	Un-airworthy, not a genuine ex-ATC example. Future use for spares & donor parts

Swallow TX.1	XS652	Off site workshop	Nearing completion of extensive restoration (Long term loan – D Cotton)
Prefect	WE982	Nympsfield	ACHF -donated by RAF Museum Awaiting restoration
Cadet MK3	XN246	Off-site workshop	ACHF - Donated by Manston Museum, awaiting restoration
Grasshopper	BGA3741	Nympsfield	ACHF - Frame only - spares
Cadet “TX.1” fuselage	XE762	Nympsfield	Donor fuselage for MK1 PD637 project (Long term loan, D Cotton)
Cadet MK2	XE761	Nympsfield	Awaiting restoration (Long term loan, A Stacey)

Other Assets			
Storage Shelter	n/a	Nympsfield	
Land Rover	BRU 846T	Shaftesbury	In storage - To be sold, not genuine ex-ATC
Land Rover	PDE443G	Shaftesbury	Nearing complete restoration – to be sold, not genuine ex-ACT
Land Rover	JYJ 249N	Nympsfield	Roadworthy, on loan from ACHF Member syndicate
Wilde Winch	ACHFW1	Nympsfield	For restoration
Sedbergh Trailer	ACHFT1	Weston-super-Mare	Roadworthy, requires refurb
Grasshopper Trailer (metal)	ACHFT2	Nympsfield	Roadworthy, fittings for Grasshopper
Grasshopper Trailer (wood)	ACHFT3	Nympsfield (storage shelter)	Roadworthy, storing MK1 Project parts
AMF ex Viking Trailer	ACHFT4	Nympsfield	At A/D for Swallow storage during refurb. Roadworthy but needs servicing
Cadet TX.2 Trailer	ACHFT5	Sandhill Farm	Roadworthy
TX3 Retrieve Trolley	ACHFT6	Nympsfield	For restoration
Sedbergh Retrieve Trolley	ACHFT7	Nympsfield	For restoration

3- Financial Security

Membership



Growing our membership base is key to ensuring the long-term viability of the CIO – our aim is to be able to cover day to day running costs from membership fees & use donations and other one-off contributions to fund restoration activity and our planned build of a permanent facility.

As at the end of the financial year our numbers stood at 52 Full and Cadet Members, and 31 Associate members. Our target, over the first 5 years, is to increase to 75 Full and 100+ Associate members.

Donations & Fund Raising

We have set up two fund raising pages with “Go Fund Me” and have raised over £2,500 through this during the 25/26v financial year, driven mainly by our publicity on Social Media. In addition we have had several donations from members and non members, aided particularly by model maker Tim

Perry who directed the income from his second batch of Cadet Mk 3 models to charity with the ACHF being one of the beneficiaries.

These donations have both enabled us to cover our 25/26 operating costs and also to start to build a reserved fund which will be used to develop a permanent home for our collection at Nympsfield.

4 -Building for the Future



It is part of our long-term plan to provide a permanent facility that will Hangar the airworthy gliders, provide a dedicated space for maintenance and restoration and allow us to increase the access to the gliders and our work for the general public.

We have secured an agreement with the Bristol Gliding Club (Pty) Ltd. to base such a facility on land in the Northwest corner of the airfield at Nympsfield.

We have now engaged an Architect to develop our proposal and we are shortly carrying out a pre-planning assessment with Stroud District Council with a view to proceeding to full planning permission as soon as funds allow. To this end we have started a reserved fund for donations for this purpose and are building a volunteer team to take on the project.

Volunteers



We are wholly dependent on volunteer efforts and many members contribute to the running, upkeep and development of the CIO. Our thanks go to everyone who has helped with tasks such as

- Running the flying operation
- Maintaining the gliders and ground equipment (and all the associated paperwork!)
- Working on the management committee
- Assisting the committee “behind the scenes”
- Supporting our exhibitions and public interaction
- Building our social media presence
- Developing our plans for the future
- Fundraising
- Administration and membership support

..and, of course, our generous donors who provide us with the long term loan element of our collection and work diligently at expanding and improving that collection.

We always need more support, so urge any members who can help in any way to come forward.

Financial Review

Our financial performance for the for the period 1st September 2025 to 31 Aug 2026 is below. Note that prior year was not a full year (as the CIO was only established in January 2024) and included donation of the assets of the previous, non-charitable, 621 VGS Historic Flight.

As a CIO with a gross income below £250,000 we prepare our accounts on a "Receipts and Payments" basis as the Trustees believe this presents a fair view of the activity of the CIO.

Receipts and Payments

	Year End 24/25	Year end 25/26		24/25	25/26
Receipts			**Payments**		
Memberships & Solo Levy	£2,227.87	£6,353.30	Fund Raising PR	£132.55	£344.46
Donations - Members	£1,130.39	£1,800.00	Aircraft Hangarage / Workshop	£2,616.00	3610.00
Transfer from 621VGS Historic Flight	£6,346.53	£ -	Internet Hosting	£143.57	736.50 2
Donations – Other		£215.15	Maintenance: Aircraft & Ground Equip	£571.89	£507.70
Gift Aid claim		£ - 1	Insurances	£2,684.54	£2,878.24
Gofundme / PayPal Giving	£0.68	£2,541.72	Bank Charges	£25.50	£52.34
Bank Interest	£ -	£7.13	Other	£-	£195.08
Other	£40.00	250			
Gross Income	£9,745.47	£11,167.30	Total payments	£6,174.05	£8,324.32
Account Balances			Note 1: Gift Aid Claims will be included in 26/27 figures		
Bank: General Fund	£2,348.88	£2,388.77	Note 2: Payment for multiple years Internet & email service		
Cash: General Fund	£85.95	£85.95	Note 3: Paypal includes £1169 for Designated Hangar Build fund		
PayPal - All Funds	£5.52	£2,601.483			
Bank: Designated Hangar Build Fund	£1,131.07	£1,338.20			
Total Cash/Bank	£3,571.42	£6,414.40			

These show we generated a cash surplus in the first (part) year of operation, which is carried forward to our next financial year and split between cash to fund our ongoing operations and cash building a development fund which is treated as a "reserved fund".

Our objective is, through donations and other fund-raising activity, to continue to generate a surplus over the annual running costs to build our development fund.

Cash in Hand, Assets & Liabilities

Our cash is split between our General Fund for day to day operations, and during this financial year the Trustees established a (restricted) Hangar Build fund aimed at future developments.

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	Bank: General Fund	2,389	-	-
	Cash	86	-	-
	Paypal Account	1,432	1,169	-
	Bank: Hangar Build Fund	-	1,338	-
	Total cash funds	3,907	2,507	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted	Restricted funds	Endowment

Our assets as below includes those transferred to us from 621 VGS Historic Flight in the prior year, and new donations and transfers as listed elsewhere in this document. Valuation of aircraft and equipment is based on estimated market values.

	Details	belongs	Cost (optional)	(optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Heritage Assets	General	-	20,450
	Hangar Shelter	General	-	2,350
	Lwanmower	General	100	100
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document: **Constitution, using CIO Association Model**
How the charity is constituted: **Charitable Incorporated Organisation**
Trustee selection methods: **Trustees are elected by the CIO Membership**
Additional Information: **The Charity carries out its aviation related activities under the auspices of the British Gliding Association and the Bristol & Gloucestershire Gliding Club.**

The Air Cadet Historic Flight CIO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees. It is governed under the 'Association' model constitution and registered with the Charities Commission for England and Wales.

Trustees are elected under the provisions in the constitution. The initial CIO AGM was held on 05 June 2025, and the second AGM on 11th November 2026 to align with the financial year which runs to 1st September. At the 11 Nov. 2026 AGM 3 Trustees stood down (G Beard, A J Rees, A Clarke), as required by the CIO Constitution. All three offered themselves for re-election and as no further nominations were received were re-elected unopposed.

During the 2025-26 year the Management Committee and Trustees approved the following policy documents which will be filed with the Charities Commission:

1. Conflict of Interest Policy
2. Internal Financial Controls Policy
3. Ethical Fundraising Policy
4. Acquisitions Policy
5. Social Media Policy

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Air Cadet Historic Flight CIO
Other name the charity uses	ACHF
Registered charity number	**1211603**
Charity's principal address	c/o Bristol & Gloucestershire Gliding Club The Airfield Nympsfield Nr Stonehouse, Gloucestershire GL10 3TX

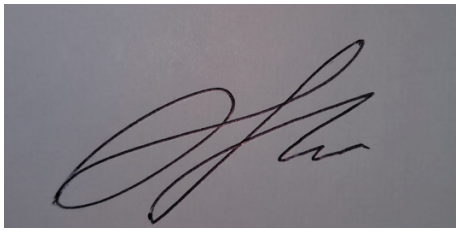
Trustees of the Charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	David Woolcock	Chair	Whole Year
2	Andrew Julian Rees	Secretary	Whole Year
3	Adam Clarke	Chief Pilot	Whole Year
4	Johnathan Richard Williams	Treasurer	Whole Year
5	Geoffrey William Beard	Dept. Chair	Whole Year
6	Daryl Paul Mansbridge	Membership Sec.	Whole Year
7	David Arthur Cotton	Trustee without Portfolio (Collections)	Whole Year
8	Allen Paul Stacey	Trustee without Portfolio	Whole Year

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature	
Full name(s)	Andrew Julian Rees
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary
Date	14 November 2026

Appendix: Progress Against Strategic Goals

In the ACHF CIO Business plan we identified four strategic goals, this table ranks our progress against those goals in the first year of operation:

Strategic goal	Business plan objectives	Status
A. Gather together and maintain a representative collection of the historic aircraft and equipment used by the ATC . To maintain the gliders in a flying condition so that (appropriately qualified) members and guests can fly the gliders and the public can see them in an operational environment	1.Continue to maintain and operate the existing fleet with at least four types in flying condition at any time.	**GREEN**
	2. Increase numbers of members and guests flown	**GREEN**
	3. Build up outreach program to educate & inform the wider public	**GREEN**
	4.Recruit new members to assist in outreach programme	**GREEN**
B Use this collection to provide a living museum to preserve the heritage of the ATC and RAF VGS. Use this to educate and inform the public and act as a resource for ex-Cadets and instructors	1.Fundraising to allow the building of a hangar, maintenance and display facility for the collection	**AMBER**
	2. Execute facility design, build and commissioning project	**GREEN**
	3**.** Build up 'inform and educate' capability to support regular public opening	**AMBER**
C. Preserve the aircraft and equipment and also, working through members, maintaining and operating the aircraft. Through this, preserve historic Air Cadet gliders and equipment together with knowledge and skills that would otherwise be lost	1.Restore the remainder of the fleet back to flying condition, so that we have at least 4 types airworthy at any time	**GREEN**
	2. Increase number of BGA inspectors and instructors as members	**GREEN**
	3. Build up skills and information resources to support long term sustainability of the fleet	**GREEN**
D. Ensure long term financial viability	1. Membership drive to increase full and associate membership numbers	**GREEN**
	2. Instigate member retention program	**AMBER**
	3. Set up ongoing fund-raising programmes to support development & restoration funds.	**AMBER**