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**Cross & Cockade International**  
The First World War Aviation Historical Society

## Wind in the Wires

Welcome to the seventh quarterly newsletter from **Cross & Cockade International**, bringing you all that's new and interesting in the world of WW1 aviation.



The winter edition of the journal will be leaving the printers this week, sporting on its cover Colin Ashford's gorgeous and very seasonal painting of a Morane BB. Everyone in the UK should receive their journal over the next few days. If you're overseas and subscribed via airmail, you'll probably get yours next week. However, if you live outside Europe and subscribe surface mail, I'm afraid you may have a much longer wait - and might want to consider subscribing airmail for 2014. The postal services are positively discouraging surface post - in the US and Australia delivery can up to an extra 10 weeks. To encourage overseas members to subscribe by

airmail, we've tweaked our subscription rates for 2014 to make that option more attractive.

As usual we have a fine selection of articles - check out the [web site](#) for full details.

**Cross & Cockade International 2014 Seminar**

I'm sure I've mentioned this before! The **2014 Seminar** will be held over the weekend of **13th to 15th June 2014** at the **Park Inn Hotel** in the centre of **Bedford**. Guests and partners are (as always) welcome - there's plenty to do in the town for those "less interested than is normal" in WW1 aviation, and of course the train to Central London takes only 30 minutes. A provisional list of ten speakers includes Peter Hart, Peter Dye, Norman Franks and a fine selection of well-known and respected authorities on our subject - from the UK and the rest of Europe. Email [seminar@crossandcockade.com](mailto:seminar@crossandcockade.com) for more information or check out the web site at <http://bit.ly/1f1OvQ4> - where we're now accepting deposits. The cost to members is being subsidised by the society, allowing us to maintain prices at the same level as those charged for the 2012 event in York.

If you're into social networking, please join us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).



## **Stow Maries – Saved for the Nation**

Thanks to a £1.5million grant from National Heritage Memorial Fund, Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome Trust has secured the future of Europe's only remaining unaltered First World War Aerodrome. Alongside the grant from the NHMF, additional support was also obtained from Essex County Council, Maldon District Council and English Heritage.



## **Warneford VC – Update**

The lead item in Wind in the Wires 6 was the controversy surrounding the possible non-commemoration of certain WW1 VC winners, who had not been born in England, in their home towns. We reported on the case of Indian born Lieutenant Reginald "Rex" Warneford RNAS and the efforts of Exmouth to ensure that his feat of bringing down a Zeppelin was suitably honoured.

Communities minister Baroness Warsi

Dame Jenny Abramsky, Chair of NHMF, said: "*Stow Maries gives us fresh insight into the pivotal new role that aviation played in the First World War. The National Heritage Memorial Fund was set up as a memorial to those that gave their lives for this country and so with the centenary starting next year, our Trustees felt Stow Maries had to be secured now for future generations.*"

The purchase of the site not only secures the long-term future of the aerodrome as it currently exists, but also paves the way towards the phased on-going restoration of Stow Maries back to its former glory with permanent hangars and original First World War aircraft on display.

<http://bbc.in/1am3GOB>

<http://bit.ly/HQPg2g>

In other Stow Maries news, I note that Stow Maries' very own Russell Savory has joined the Southend Airshow and Military Festival 2014 team to assist in their WW1 centenary plans.

<http://bit.ly/19jEUOa>



has now confirmed that the Government are happy to provide (East Devon Council) with a commemorative paving stone. Rex's nephew James Corkery said: "*We are delighted the Government has changed its mind. Exmouth was the only home Rex knew.*"

Read more: <http://dailym.ai/1aoWm7L>



## Northern Aeroplane Workshop Winds Down

On 10 September 2013, the *Batley & Birstall News* reported the winding down of the Northern Aeroplane Workshops ("NAW"), based in Batley, after 40 years. NAW built WW1 replica aircraft from original drawings, a Sopwith Triplane, which has been flying at Old Warden for 21 years and a Bristol MIC monoplane. The third aircraft, a Sopwith Camel, has been transferred to the Shuttleworth Collection for completion.

<http://bit.ly/1i8Zxoi>

Please also see the inside front cover of CCI's 2013 Spring Journal 2013 (Vol

## 100 Years At Halton

At April's AGM, Francis Hanford, the curator of the Trenchard Museum, presented the Leaman Lecture: "First Landing – the first arrival of aircraft on the Halton Estate". On 29 September 2013, the *Thame Gazette* reported on the centenary of that event, which took place on 18 September 1913, when an Henri Farman F.20 touched down as part of the army manoeuvres. Francis was interviewed for the article and provided details of these early days of military aviation and the development of what subsequently became RAF Halton.

<http://bit.ly/171mC7N>

## Trenchard Signs In

Talking of Trenchard, Step Short, the Folkestone based charity marking the Centenary of WW1 recently announced the development of an online collection of 42,000 names of soldiers, nurses and others who passed through the town on the way to the Western Front. The names are listed in the visitors books kept at the Harbour Canteen. Major Hugh Trenchard signed the book on 5 April 1918, just after the formation of RAF, adding the initials CAS – for Chief of the Air Staff.

44/1) for more pictures of the Camel project.



## Wing Maker Still Flying High

There was an interesting piece in *The Northern Echo* on 11 September 2013, which highlighted the continued success of family-owned construction and joinery firm, T Manners and Sons of Bishop Auckland. The 153 year-old company has created new jobs to deal with an increase in project work. T Manners made wings for Sopwith Camel and SE5a fighter aircraft and the founder's grandson trained fighter pilots in WW2.

<http://bit.ly/HTp7ju>

See <http://bit.ly/1cncTbN>



### **Commemorating a US Ace at Home and Abroad**

Whilst dealing with events in the USA, I would recommend an article in the *Saturday Gazette-Mail* in Charleston posted on 9 November 2013. It commemorates two of the 1,120 West Virginians killed in action during WW1, one of whom was Louis Bennett Jr. the State's only World War I ace, and placed ninth on the war's roster of aces with 12 combat kills: three aircraft and nine balloons, including four in one day.

Bennett, of 40 Squadron, died as his plane was shot down by the Germans on 24 August 1918. His mother was determined that her son would be remembered and paid to have a chapel



### **Kilduff Research Reveals “Local” Udet Victim**

The investigative skills of another former Leaman Lecturer, Peter Kilduff, featured in the *New Britain Herald*, which is published in Connecticut, USA. On 3 October 2013, the Herald reported how Peter had solved the mystery of why Kentucky born Charles Lewis Wood Jr was listed as a local casualty of the First World War. Wood had been an assistant pastor in the local Methodist Church and it appears that he crossed the border to join the Royal Flying Corps in Canada in 1917. He must have given New Britain as his last address.

Wood flew on the Western Front between April and August 1918 and Peter uncovered details of his fate at the hands of German fighter ace, Ernst Udet. Wood was the 51st of Udet's 61 (or 62) aerial victories and died from his wounds in a

rebuilt in Wavrin, France, where Louis Bennett Jr. died in a German field hospital. She also commissioned a 7½ foot tall statue of him and donated her mansion to be used as a public library, named after her son.

Her greatest tribute to her son is the stained glass window that she paid to install in Westminster Abbey to members of the Royal Flying Corps. The window overlooks the grave of the Unknown Warrior in the nave. Its theme is flying men and wings and is in memory of the British (Royal) Flying Corps. At the top of the window is a figure of St. Michael, patron saint of airmen. Mrs. Bennett apparently gave the artist a photograph of her son because his portrait is the face of the angel holding the shield of faith.

<http://bit.ly/1dpB0HW>

<http://bit.ly/19k1S7X>



## The Red Baron: A Chronographic Tribute

The life and times of iconic WW1 aviator,

German hospital. He is buried in a military cemetery in Tournai, Belgium.

Peter's article on Wood appears in the summer edition of "Over the Front".

<http://bit.ly/1j4ow9S>



## Hawker's Spark Plug – An Irish Tale

Aviation pioneer Harry Hawker was born in Moorabbin, Victoria, Australia and local historian, Jim Dale, has been given the last-known piece of Hawker's plane in which he tried to circumnavigate Britain in 1913. According to the *Herald Sun* on 29 September 2013, the spark plug from Hawker's Sopwith Seaplane has been languishing in an Irish museum for many years.

The seaplane had landed near the small town of Loughshinny, County Dublin, for repairs on 25 August 1913, and locals stripped it bare. While Hawker was away to collect the parts he needed for the plane, it had drifted on to a sandbank and when he returned, there was nothing left.

Manfred von Richthofen, has been commemorated with a wristwatch from Zenith, a brand with over 100 years of pilot watch history, as the supplier of timepieces to Louis Blériot. The Pilot Montre d'Aéronef Type 20 GMT Red Baron limited edition has a dial design based on an early Zenith cockpit clock and the famous red of Richthofen's Fokker triplane is echoed in the crimson detailing, while the case back is adorned with a medallion depicting the aircraft in flight.

<http://bit.ly/19k2VF4>



## Great Yarmouth Remembers Zeppelin Fighter

On 17 October 2013, the Great Yarmouth Local History and Archaeology Society dedicated two blue plaques in the town to commemorate the deeds of RNAS/RAF pilot Egbert Cadbury in the First World War. Cadbury, heir to the chocolate empire, based at RNAS South Denes, brought down Zeppelin L21 off Lowestoft in November 1916 and, together with

<http://bit.ly/1gJFe1u>

See also <http://bit.ly/1eLR1f6> for this summer's centenary celebrations in Loughshinny.



## Gothas Over Southend

The *Derby Telegraph* made a request for memories relating to the First World War and on 11 October 2013, led Douglas Jagers to recount a family anecdote. As a schoolboy, Douglas' late father's elder brother, Lionel, was a schoolboy in Southend-on-Sea. One summer Sunday, the beach was crowded with families enjoying the fine weather. They were watching aircraft flying overhead when, suddenly Lionel cried out: "*Those aren't British, they're German.*" He was told not be silly, but then bombs started dropping and many died. This would have been the raid on 12 August 1917, which caused over 30 deaths.

<http://bit.ly/1apfdzn>

Talking about air raids, I would draw your attention to Podcast 35 on the First World War Centenary website in respect of life

gunner Captain Leckie, destroyed L70 on 5 August 1918.

Cadbury's proud descendants, grandson Justin Cadbury and his great grandson Leander Cadbury, attended the ceremony to fix the plaque at his Kimberly Terrace lodgings, now part of the Carlton Hotel. A second plaque was unveiled at the former Royal Naval Hospital.

<http://bit.ly/1hFyoLW>



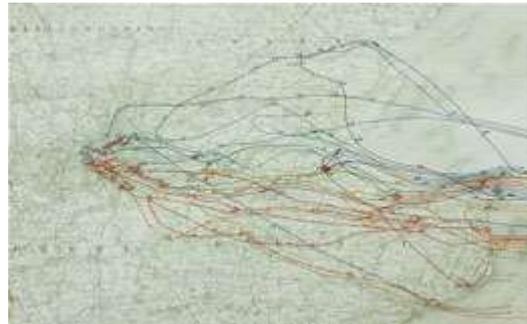
### Memories of a Zeppelin Raid

Thanks to CCI member Mark Tuffield for directing me to an article in the *Dorking Advertiser* on 7 October 2013, which celebrates the 100th birthday of local resident Fanny Hughes. She was aged just three at the time of a Zeppelin raid on her native Croydon, an incident which she believes was responsible for her mother's death.

Apparently, they were staying with a neighbour as their home had been hit a number of times. They were outside when

on the home front. There are some interesting eye-witness recollections of Gotha raids.

<http://bit.ly/1ckgloK>



### Rare Charts Show German Air Raids on Britain

To publicise a new book, "Mapping the First World War" by Dr Peter Chasseaud, details of photographs and charts chronicling German air raids on Britain were released on 7 November 2013. The most striking map (pictured above) shows the routes of German bombing planes over London, Kent and the Thames Estuary on 6 December 1917.

The chart was intended to help to improve air defences by indicating the routes the raiders used. The resulting chart shows the 16 Gotha bombers, flying in four detachments, entering British airspace over a wide area of Kent and Essex. Some bombs are dropped on coastal targets in Kent, but most are reserved for the capital with each bomb

the sirens went off and went indoors but the house took a direct hit and the marble mantelpiece fell on her mother's leg and broke it. Her mother died two weeks later, probably from shock.

Read more: <http://bit.ly/1fBkt5d>



## French Aces

Whilst on the subject of blogs, via Twitter I stumbled on two excellent postings by local military and history blogger, Ian Sumner. Entitled "Kings of the Air: Aces High" and "Kings of the Air: Aces High (2); In Combat" these blogs cover the renowned French pilots, Pégoud, Fonck, Guynemer amongst others, with quotes and illustrations. Well worth a read, as are Ian's other French WW1 aviation posts and, to celebrate 4,000 page views, he has just posted some wonderful pre and post war French aviation posters.

See <http://iansumner.blogspot.co.uk/>

being marked by a red dot on the map.

See <http://bit.ly/17ODv6i> for Jasper Copping's interesting article and accompanying video.



## Indra Lal Roy DFC – the First Indian Fighter Ace

WitW is pleased to give another recommendation for the Great War London blog, which posted a fascinating article on Lt. Indra Lal Roy DFC and his elder brother, Pte Paresh Lal Roy, on 9 October 2013. An Indian-born British subject living in London, Indra was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the RFC and initially flew with 56 Squadron before joining 40 Squadron in June 1918 as a temporary Lieutenant.

During two weeks from 6 to 19 July 1918, he shot down ten enemy aircraft in just over 170 hours of flying. Flying SE5a number B180, he shot down three German aircraft on 8 July and two each on the 13th and 15th. On 22 July, Roy



## Humanity Amid the Horror

On 20 October 2013, the *Telegraph's* Jasper Copping reported on the story of the deaths of two British airmen and the compassion shown by their German opponents. Second Lieutenants Sydney Sutcliffe (observer - pictured) and Justin McKenna (pilot) of 11 Squadron, RFC took off in Bristol F.2B (A7138) on the afternoon of 2 October 1917 as part of an offensive patrol. On their way back to base, the flight encountered a group of German planes near Cambrai. A7138 did not return and the men's families were told they were missing.

The following month, the Germans dropped a note on British lines and explained that the two second lieutenants were granted a funeral with full military honours. Photographs of the event were taken and sent to the men's families, while the Germans also ensured that an account of the pair's heroic deeds, in a dramatic dogfight in which they were heavily outnumbered, also got relayed to the British via prisoners of war.

was shot down during a dogfight with Fokker D.VIIs from Jasta 29. It was not until 18 September that it was officially assumed that he had been killed in action. His body was subsequently found, identified and buried in Estevelles Communal Cemetery in France.

<http://bit.ly/16xYcme>

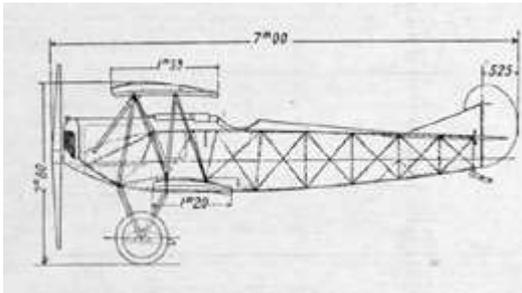
Norman Franks also did a piece on Indra Lal Roy in our own beloved journal in 1974, Volume 5 No 1, in conjunction with Douglass Whetton and Chaz Bowyer.



## Society Meetings

As well as on-line communication using [Twitter](#), [FaceBook](#) and the [Forum](#), we also offer the opportunity to meet like-minded folk face to face. We recognise that's not for everyone - but some of us are old enough to remember the days when a chat over a pint comparing "real"

See <http://bit.ly/17BOdsQ> It also transpires that McKenna's niece is Virginia McKenna, the actress and wildlife campaigner.



## Meet the Fokker

On 2 October 2013, the *Engineer* journal delved into its archives to an article it published on 4 October 1918, which looked at the Fokker "Single-Seater Biplane". The 1918 article, based on an analysis of an aircraft shot down over Hazebrouck, is quite detailed and sets out a comparison between British and German design and manufacture. The reporter at the time was clearly taken by the standard of German welding!

See <http://bit.ly/1aTmACb>



## Society Seminars

aircraft photos (as opposed to on the iPad) was the norm.

We hold regular meetings in **London** and **York**. Great locations - equally inconvenient for everyone.

**York:** we meet at noon, four times a year, in The Ackhorne, a real ale pub on St Martin's Lane, just off Micklegate. Sadly they no longer provide the excellent ham, eggs and chips of previous years, but there's a good sandwich shop nearby. Dates for 2014 have just been announced - 15th February, 7th June, 16th August and 1st November. We usually get a good spread of folk from all over the North and Midlands - it's well worth the trip!

**London:** as opposed to York's "chat over a pint" format, London does "proper" talks. We meet on an old "Q Ship" - HMS Saxifrage - now going under the alias of HMS President and tied up on the Embankment opposite the Oxo Building. An excellent season of talks were held there in 2013, and Jeff is working hard to put together a schedule for 2014. Watch the web site for updates.

Don't forget the next [AGM](#) & Social Day: starts 11:00 Saturday **26 April 2014** at the **RAF Museum, Hendon**.

Arrangements for the **2014 Seminar** are coming together; so here's another reminder to register. It's to be held in Bedford over the weekend of **13/15th June 2014**. We're taking deposits now - with prices subsidised by the society, to keep them down to those charged at York in 2012. Exact location, full cost information plus a mouth-watering list of speakers are on the web site at: <http://bit.ly/1f1OvQ4>

## Research Tools

A heads up that the National Archives has just launched a dedicated First World War portal bringing together all of its relevant resources in a single place. The website looks really good and my Editor informs me that ADM273 is now also fully on line, where RNAS officer's records can be downloaded. Of course, the equivalent AIR76 for RAF officers has been available for the past few years.

All meetings, including the AGM, are **free for everyone**.

## Listen to the LVG

Finally, a thank you to London Meetings Organiser, Jeff Hargrave, for sending a link to Memorial Flight News, the blog of the non-profit organisation which restores WW1 aircraft to flying condition. The video clip of the first engine run of the LVG C.VI is great. Roar .....

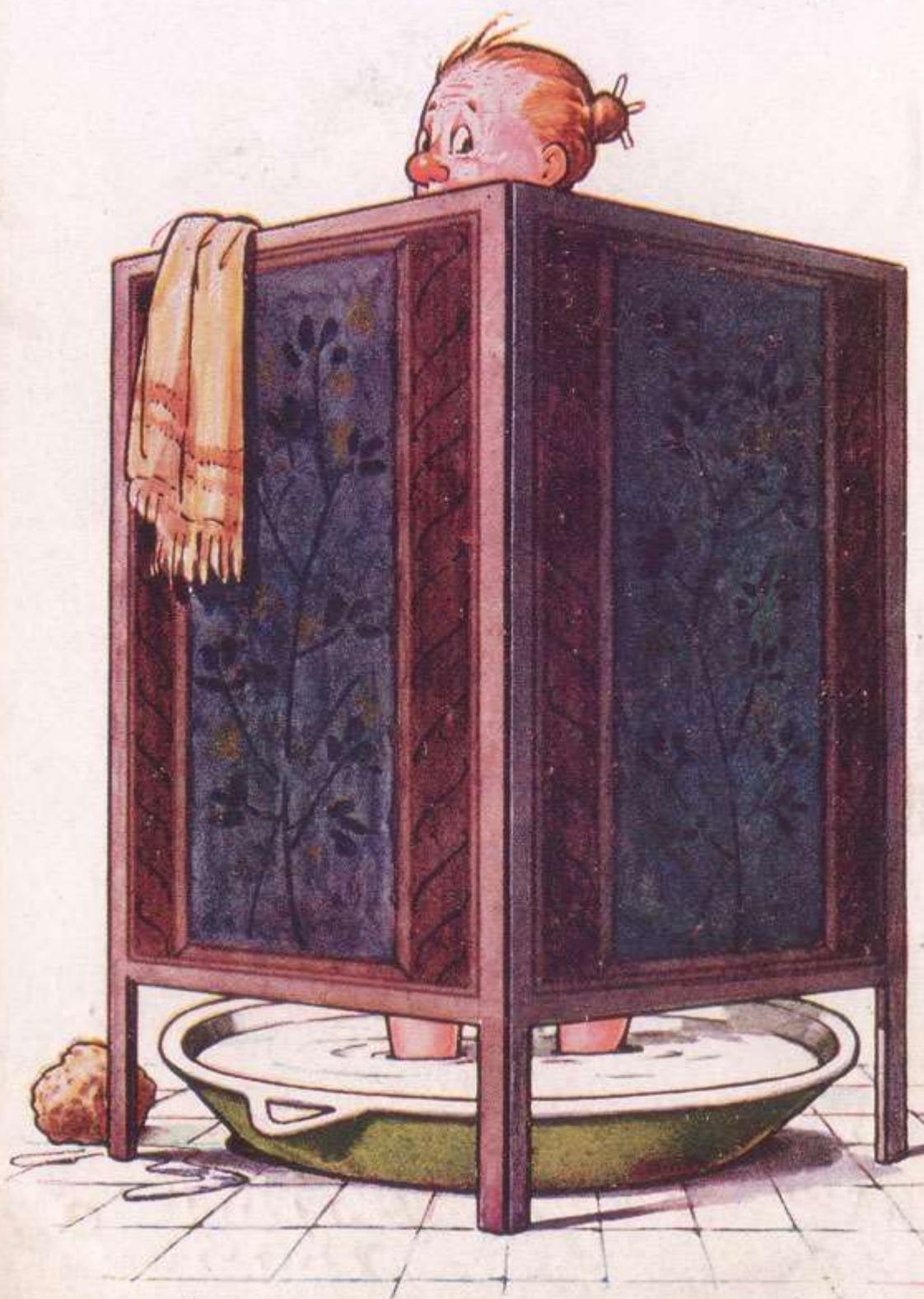
<http://bit.ly/HXWUao>

## WIND IN THE WIRES

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If you read your emails in Outlook I apologise for the oddities in the layout. This is unavoidably caused by Microsoft's lack of adherence to any accepted web layout standards ...

By gum! I should look soft  
if a Zeppelin came now.



Written by David Marks, edited by Andy Kemp  
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