

**RAFA Bexhill on Sea
Branch & Club**

The Albatross Club
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Charity Number 262348

*We are on the web at:-
www.bexhillrafa.co.uk*

In Memoriam

It is with regret that we announce the deaths of two members.

Ex-WAAF Joyce Eleanor World who passed away on the 2nd August our deepest sympathy to Michael & Philip. She will be sadly missed.

Stan Freestone DFC who died on Friday 10th August. We share our condolences with his widow Jo. May he rest in peace.

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**Copy for next issue to reach me
by 16th October 2007.**

John Leahy (editor)

The Albatross

**Issue No 82
Sept / Oct / Nov
2007**

RAFA Bexhill on Sea
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Battle of Britain Wings Appeal Fortnight

Brew For The Few

Saturday 1st September, from 3.00pm till 4.30pm at the Albatross Club. This informal gathering to promote some donations for The Wings Appeal. A cup of tea, a cake, and a chat. We hope to have present one of the fighter pilots who was one of The Few. Come eat, drink, and Donate. It's all for a good cause.

House Collection

Commences Monday 3rd Sept to Friday 14th Sept. Volunteers needed!

Sainsbury Collection

This starts on Thursday 6th till Saturday 8th Sept. Some volunteer collectors still needed please contact Geoff Brown see below.

Street Collection Saturday 15th Sept. Geoff Brown (212563) is organizing the Sainsbury collection. Ken Igglesden (215612) is organizing the other two collections.

Wreath Laying Ceremony

Sunday 9th Sept, at the War Memorial at 12.15 pm.

Battle of Britain Service

Sunday 16th Sept, Battle of Britain Commemorative Service will be held at The Sackville Road Methodist Church at 10 30am. Both ceremonies will be taken by our Padre the Rev David Renshaw. The Mayor will be attending, with the Charter Trustees. The Royal Navy Association and The British Legion and No 2262 Squadron of the Bexhill Air Training Corps have all been invited. Donations to Wings Appeal would be most welcome. Members who hold Home Collection Boxes are invited to bring them to the Club during September.

Thank you all in advance for your support. I would like to thank all those whose hard work make this possible.



Special points of interest:

- *Brew for the Few*
- *Memorial Sunday Parade*
- *Sainsbury Collection*
- *House to House Collection*
- *Street Collection*

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Regular Events

2nd Mon - Aircrew Association	11 00
Every Mon - Keep fit	14 30
Tuesday - Table Tennis	11 00
Friday - " "	11 00
1st Wed - Coffee Morning	10 30
2nd Wed - Welcome Group	10 30
4th Thur - Welcome Walk	09 30
Meet outside the Club, drive to start of walk, lifts can be arranged.	
1st & 3rd Thur WAAF/WRAF	11 00
1st Friday - Quiz Night	19 45
1st & 3rd Sat - (Usually Bingo)	20 00
4th Tue - Swing Night	20 00
2nd & 4th Friday Crib Night	19 45

Check Notice Board for details of other Activities. Please support the functions to keep us going. It's the same old cry. Use It Or Lose It

Welfare Holiday Home at Selsey West Sussex

R.A.F.A. S.E. Area have asked us to inform members that we have a welfare holiday home at Selsey in West Sussex. This is primarily available for welfare cases, which as you know can be subsidized if necessary by Branch Funds. When not being used for this it is also available for RAFA families. It sleeps five and is suitable for wheelchair users. Whilst we appreciate most families have already made their summer holiday

Club Opening Times

Monday to Saturday

Morning and Lunch Times.

11 00 to 14 30.

Evenings 19 00 to 23 00*

Sunday PM 12 00 to 14 00

***Closed Thursday and Sunday Evenings.**

Meat Raffles are held Friday Lunchtime. Buy tickets at the bar throughout the week. Weekly Raffles and 150 Club draw are held Lunchtime Sunday between 12 00 - 13 30 pm.

Coffee is served during opening hours. **Lunch is available every day except Sundays & Mondays. Exception 2nd Monday of the month.** Fresh Fish & Chips available on Fridays. Please place your orders early to avoid disap-

arrangements for this year, we would like to inform members that this facility is available for use of members, for a cheap late break, or an early spring break next year at prices about half the commercial rate. Your Hon Welfare Officer has all the necessary details to make any bookings. If you need any further information, please contact the Welfare Office at South East Office Hampton Wick. Telephone 020 8286 6667 . e-mail southeast@rafa.org.uk

Welcome Talk Group

Weds 12th Sept
Trip to Finland with Slides by Graham Albon

Weds 10th Oct Elsie Bowerman
"Survivor of the Titanic"
By Judith Bourke, M.A.

Weds 14th Nov "Anecdotes of working in a Physco Geriatric Hospital for 21 years" . By Elizabeth Leahy.

Weds 12th Dec Westminster walk-about With slides By Michael Hoad.

Starts at 10.30 admission £1.00 includes Coffee Tea and a biscuit.

If you have any suggestions for speakers for the welcome talk group please let Ken Igglesden know as our supply of speakers is getting low. Thank you.

The Few

It seems like only yesterday,
I heard the old man say,
When I was young and eager
And ready for the fray.

The sky was blue that summer,
the sun shone every day,
but death lurked in that sunshine,
And snatched young men away

We were always outnumbered,
In that battle for the sky,
It's hard to be courageous,
As you watch your comrades die.

There are not so many left now,
Those pilots I once knew,
but we must not forget them,
those ones they call "The Few".

Seen in a magazine Author unknown.

Thanks to Audrey Dickenson for the copy.

Table Tennis Section

We are having a rather mixed year, this year. We have had a number of new players who have joined, but our numbers are down compared with earlier years. The amount of money we have paid to the Club up to the end of July is a reflection of this. So far £215 which is over £100 down on last year. We need some new members to come and join in our Table Tennis and social mornings on Tuesday and Friday.

Geoff Brown & Myrtle Bennett. (organizers)

The Wings Summer Fair held on Sat 18th August netted a handsome £600. Thanks to those whose hard work made it so successful.

The Watch kindly donated by Eric Armstrong, last years Mayor, for a raffle, made £100 for the Bexhill Air Training Corps funds, Well done all who supported by buying the tickets, and the ones who sold them.