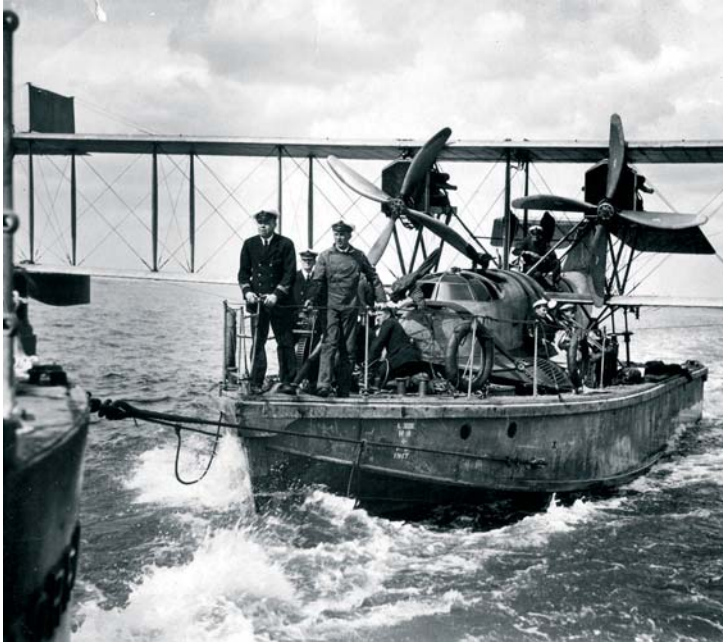




# Heritage Trust



**The Fleet Air Arm's Heritage Trust is working on an ambitious Development Programme to create a vibrant Shop Window of Naval Aviation bringing together all aspects of our Naval aviation heritage, past, present and future to promote the importance of air power from the sea to a maritime nation.**

The project, which will build on the success of the Fleet Air Arm Museum at Yeovilton as a national attraction, also aims to inspire, excite and educate young people particularly students of engineering and technology.

"Our Naval aviation heritage is a huge asset" said Michael Ryan, a Trustee of the Museum. "Every bombing raid in history, from land or sea, since the First World War and every aircraft carrier can trace its pedigree back to the pioneering endeavours of the early Naval aviators. The achievements, innovation and sacrifices of Naval aviation are a valued and important part of our national heritage."

The plan, which includes augmenting the Royal Navy Historic Flight with a mix of additional iconic aircraft to more fully represent Naval aviation through the decades is almost entirely dependent on income generated by the Fly Navy Heritage Trust. Commodore Bill Covington and his fundraising team are planning to make 'new' aircraft available to the Flight over the coming years taking the Flight from the early Swordfish through to jets and helicopters.

"With your support the Trust is planning to make these vintage aircraft more resilient by spending on increased spares as well as federating other historic naval



**"Our Naval Aviation heritage is a huge asset and it is the responsibility of each and every one of us to preserve and develop it for future generations."**

The importance of preserving and promoting our Naval aviation heritage cannot be underestimated. Our Fleet Air Arm Heritage is common to us all and the Royal Navy Historic Flight and unrivalled collection of aircraft in the Fleet Air Arm Museum is an asset of incomparable value.

Keeping our historic aircraft flying, however, is increasingly expensive and with stringent defence cuts on the horizon, looking after our aviation heritage is going to fall to each and every one of us.

Heritage is something we do rather well in this country. The National Trust and English Heritage have standards of scholarship, conservation and explanation that lead the world. They are not only successful but the shops and restaurants associated with the attraction thrive too. It is important that we take pride in being custodians of all that our predecessors achieved and work together to ensure that it brings inspiration, knowledge and pleasure to future generations.

Rear Admiral Simon Charlier  
Chief of Staff Aviation and Carriers  
Rear Admiral Fleet Air Arm





aircraft in a flexible manner as the opportunity occurs" said Bill. "A single benefactor has meant a 2 seat Sea Fury is nearing completion. A Wasp helicopter is also being flown and we envisage a Walrus and other much loved aircraft such as the Sea Vixen also flying with the Historic Flight from time to time."

A separate £3Million Heritage project under consideration, which will greatly enhance the Shop Window concept, would incorporate a spectacular new entrance to the Fleet Air Arm Museum redolent of the bow of Queen Elizabeth Class carriers, a new exhibition hall, visitor centre, restaurant, dining and conference facilities.

The striking feature of the new exhibition hall would be the Museum's 1917 seaplane lighter, the world's oldest surviving 'aircraft carrier' from the early days of the Royal Naval Air Service, carrying its Sopwith Camel fighter on deck. Graham Mottram, Director of the Fleet Air Arm Museum said "We have over 100 Naval aircraft in our collection but the Sopwith Camel

on the lighter says everything about flying from ships at sea."

Eventually the hope is to co-locate the Historic Flight in new facilities adjacent to the Museum so that visitors can have close access and see and smell the wonderful old aircraft as part of the whole Shop Window experience.

"It is important that we build on the success of Fly Navy 100 and move Naval aviation heritage up the agenda" said Commander Sue Eagles, Communications Director for the Centenary of Naval aviation. "The Centenary year brought the Fleet Air Arm family together highlighting both the value of what previous generations have left us and the huge well of support that we should be harnessing. Most people simply think of 'heritage' as old aircraft but in fact it is everything that defines us as a Service, including the ethos and spirit of the Fleet Air Arm, St Bart's the memorial church and the direct contribution currently being made by Naval Air Squadrons in operations around the world."



## FNHT SUPPORTERS CLUB

Like many Heritage organisations Fly Navy Heritage Trust relies on a body of members, supporters and volunteers to keep our Heritage alive. A standing order of £20 a year means a significant amount to the Trust and will help assure the future of **YOUR** Heritage. Our supporters doubled during the Centenary Year but it is essential that we sustain that growth in order to fulfil our development plans for the future. As a supporter you will receive regular newsletters and details of events. You don't have to be an aficionado to support Naval aviation but if you don't mind getting engine oil on your goggles so much the better! With many Naval aviation Anniversaries in the years ahead it is an exciting time to join. For a supporters joining form please contact the Fly Navy Heritage Trust on **01935 842005** or email **office@fnht.co.uk**

## EVENTS 2010

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|---------------------|--|
| <b>12 February</b>  | Dedication of The Channel Dash Memorial, Ramsgate Harbour, Kent, in memory of the unsurpassed bravery of 18 young men we will never forget                               |
| <b>10 March</b>     | Annual Swordfish Charity Auction Dinner commemorating the Fleet Air Arm participation and sacrifice made East of Suez during the Second World War, HMS President, London |
| <b>7 June</b>       | Swordfish Golf Tournament, Bowood Golf and Country Club, Wiltshire   |
| <b>10 July</b>      | Supporters' Marquee at RNAS Yeovilton 70th Anniversary Air Day   |
| <b>18 September</b> | Charity Flying Day RNAS Yeovilton  |
| <b>11 Nov</b>       | 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Taranto  |
| <b>Date tbc</b>     | FNHT Grand Raffle and Supporters' Party  |

