Air-Britain

The World’s leading organisation for aviation enthusiasts and historians

CATALOGUE

SPRING 2019

New QRs available

Special Offers on RAF Registers
Welcome

This the first of the 2019 book catalogues. We have a good programme scheduled for this year. The first of our normal range of QRs and Annuals BizQR and UKQR have already been published and AFQR will be available in March. The other Annuals will come out during the year and we will advise their publication on the Website, Newsletter, AB-IX and of course in future catalogues.

We aim to repeat the success of the Auster book with the publication of ‘Scottish Aviation Bulldog – Trainer for the World’. This should be published in spring 2019; see below. As the 100th anniversary of the founding of the RAF draws to a close, why not complete your library with our range of RAF Registers available now at a discounted rate.

Looking forward to later in the year, we intend to have a new edition of the Piper book titled ‘Piper Aircraft – Freedom of Flight’ by Roger Peperell.

Other titles that are moving forward include the second volume of ‘British Aircraft Specifications’ covering 1950 – 1976. Work is well underway on what will be the definitive book on the Vickers VC10. A book on the Bristol Beaufighter is presently being edited and should be published later in the year. Further down the track, we hope to have the second volume of ‘Jet Airliners of the World’.

Other projects moving forward include a detailed production history of all Auster aircraft to complement the first Auster book. Also planned is a history of Sikorsky fixed wing aircraft, and book dealing with the Short Skyvan family of aircraft.

Our latest softback book covers the story of the Bulldog from its inception at Beagle, the move to and production by Scottish Aviation and its service in air forces around the world. Subsequent use by private owners is also detailed. It gives the reader everything he or she needs to know about this aircraft. The book is by Tom Wenham (author of our Beagle book). It is profusely illustrated with colour and black and white photos. There are new and highly accurate three view line drawings by Paul Jackson, excellent colour side views by Juanita Franzi, and of course a full production history. The book will be launched in May this year.

COMING SOON!

Cover photo: BAe Sea Harrier F/A.2 ZH803 ‘004/N’ of 801 NAS on the final day of operations of the type, RNAS Yeovilton, 28 March 2006. (Lee Howard)
Business Jets & Turboprops Quick Reference 2019 – BizQR
Compiled by Ton van Soest and the Air-Britain News Team

Business aviation activity continues to grow and statistics from GAMA (The General Aviation Manufacturers Association) show that the worldwide business aviation fleet at the end of 2017 was 82% greater than in 2000 with a total of 37,282 jets and turboprops in service. This volume, which includes all active business jets and turboprops worldwide, follows Air-Britain’s familiar format and includes details of the larger business airliners such as the Boeing BBJ and Airbus ACJ. The information is correct to 2nd January 2019. It can be updated regularly by subscribing to Air-Britain News (ABN), which contains dedicated business jet and business turboprop sections listing all known changes each month.

Softback, 192 pages
Members £9.95    Non-members £12.50
AVAILABLE NOW!

British Isles Civil Aircraft Registers 2019 – UKQR
Compiled by Don Hewins and the Air-Britain News Team

Contains UK, Ireland, Isle of Man, Guernsey and Jersey current civil registers. Also UK and Ireland current military serials, UK based US military serials, and detailed listing of over 1,000 overseas registered aircraft resident in the UK and Ireland. Includes all aircraft, gliders, microlights and balloons. List of airfields and strips where UK and Irish registered aircraft are based and those aircraft located there at time of going to press. The airfields are listed geographically by County. UK and Irish museums and aircraft preserved at them. Aircraft carrying only military or period markings are cross referenced to their UK registrations.

Softback, 168 pages
Members £9.95    Non-members £12.50
AVAILABLE NOW!

Airline Fleets Quick Reference 2019 – AFQR
Compiled by Terry Smith and the Air-Britain News Team

AFQR, our most popular annual, lists the fleets of all operators worldwide who operate jet and turboprop airlines down in size to the small twin-engine turboprop types. Over 40,000 airliners are covered from nearly 170 countries and 1700 operators that are likely to be seen at any major airport. For each entry the data, presented in a two column layout, includes the current registration, type and c/n (msn) plus an indicator if the entry is new and a tick box as an alternative to underlining the entry. The listings include all known deliveries due in the current calendar year. There is a further listing of Corporate and VIP airliners.

Quality printed on quality paper the ideal companion for the travelling enthusiast!
Over 36,000 entries listed, both civil and military.

Softback
Members £9.95    Non-members £12.50
AVAILABLE LATE MARCH
Auster – The Company and the Aircraft
Tom Wenham, Rod Simpson, and Malcolm Fillmore

Auster Aircraft has a long and distinguished history. In World War II more than 1,600 artillery spotter Austers were built for the British and other air forces. After the War the Autocrat and its successors were successful, all over the world. Using the same basic airframe, the Auster changed its shape and the Husky of 1960 was very different from the original 55hp Taylorcraft Model C. Austers undertook many tasks including crop spraying, aerial advertising and joyriding. This is the story of an iconic aviation company and classic light aircraft which live on in the hands of enthusiastic owners today.

A4 hardback, 256 pages, a production list and registration/serial cross-reference, with in excess of 600 photos and many new line drawings.

Members £29.95   Non-members £39.95

Avro Lancaster to York
Derek A King

The York first flew in July 1942. It utilised the proven design of the Lancaster's wing and tail unit and harnessed the reliability of the Rolls-Royce Merlin. RAF Yorks played a crucial role in the Berlin airlift, taking vital raw materials into the besieged city and bringing refugees out. At pain of interception by Soviet fighters, the Yorks were confined to narrow corridors. British South American Airways Corporation used the York extensively on long-distance routes. The York was also used by British independent airlines and operators around the world into the 1960s. Less successful was the Lancastrian, basically an attempt to mould the Lancaster into an airliner. Nevertheless, the type enabled services to be opened to the (then) British Empire and South America immediately after the war.

A4 hardback, 390 pages, detailed individual aircraft histories, registration/serial cross-reference, over 800 photographs (160 in colour), and colour side views.

Members £34.95   Non-members £47.50

The Squadrons and Units of the Fleet Air Arm
Theo Ballance, Lee Howard and Ray Sturtivant

The result of unparalleled research using information gathered from a wide range of sources. These include Museum and National Archive records, Squadron and Flight diaries, Navy Lists, individual Flying Log Books, aircraft records, reference works, photographic records, contemporary newspaper reports, and websites of various naval and aviation historical societies and associations. This book is the most authoritative reference work on the subject. Much information has never before been published. There are brief histories of every Naval Air Squadron – including Australian, Canadian and Dutch squadrons where numbered in the 700- and 800-series, aircraft and helicopter capable ships, bases, Battle Honours, Trophies and Awards, detailed sections on helicopter flights and notes of many of the Schools, Sections and Units that have supported the Fleet Air Arm for more than eight decades.

A4 hardback, 492 pages superbly illustrated throughout by more than 800 photographs and, for the first time in one volume, over 180 squadron, ship and unit badges, mostly in colour.

Members £34.95   Non-members £47.50
Royal Air Force Aircraft
AA100-AZ999
James J Halley MBE

Aircraft within the serial range AA to AZ were delivered to the Royal Air Force between June 1940 and November 1943. The earliest being impressed civil types and aircraft which arrived from France in June 1940 to continue the struggle.

British types include the Defiant, Spitfire, Oxford, Wellington, Blenheim, Whitley, Hampden, Beaufort and Anson. American types covered include the Boston, Hudson, Ventura, Mustang, Baltimore, Harvard, Havoc, Airacobra, Tomahawk, Kittyhawk, Liberator, Catalina, Vengeance, Mohawk and Nomad. The extensive listing of these imports demonstrates that Roosevelt’s promise of December 1940 that America would be the ‘arsenal of democracy’ was not empty propaganda.

A4 softback, 127 pages and numerous photographs.

Members £10.00  Non-members £10.00

Royal Air Force Aircraft
DA100-DZ999
James J Halley MBE

Jim Halley’s indispensable review of the DA-DZ range particularly features Mosquitos, Sunderlands, Beauforts, several runs of Tiger Moths, Oxfords, Wellingtons, Halifaxes, Ansons, Masters, Typhoons, Lancasters and Wellingtons most of them delivered in 1942 and 1943. A run of Gloster F.9/40 prototypes hints at what is to follow, and a sprinkling of impressed civil aircraft adds to the variety.

A4 softback, 112 pages, 22 black and white photographs.

Members £10.00  Non-members £10.00

Royal Air Force Aircraft
XA100-XZ999
James J Halley MBE

This book covers the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. The huge range of types covered will evoke memories and nostalgia. Among aircraft included are icons such as the Beverley, Shackleton, Belfast, Hercules, Javelin, Vulcan, Victor, Sabre, Vampire, Valiant, Hunter, Lightning, Canberra, Buccaneer, Phantom, Nimrod, Harrier and Jaguar. There is coverage of helicopters from the period.

Aircraft serial and type, details of units that flew it and its final fate given. Batch headings show the period during which each batch was delivered, the production source and contract number.

A4 softback, 128 pages and numerous photographs.

Members £10.00  Non-members £10.00

Royal Air Force Aircraft
BA100-BZ999
James J Halley MBE

The aircraft in the BA-BZ range were delivered to the Royal Air Force between September 1940 and November 1944. They included very large numbers of Hurricanes and Spitfires, many of which were shipped overseas.

Other types covered are Liberators, Mohawks and Stirlings, plus various captured and impressed aircraft. There is a list of presentation aircraft and a selection of black and white photographs.

A4 softback, 144 pages and numerous photographs.

Members £10.00  Non-members £10.00

Royal Air Force Aircraft
EA100-EZ999
James J Halley MBE

This, the second edition of Jim Halley’s in-depth reviews of RAF aircraft, expands vastly on the original edition. This book gives the history of every aircraft in the EA-EZ sequence. As usual, it includes the squadrons and units served by each aircraft and their fate.

The EA-EZ sequence included large batches of Halifaxes, Whitleys, Oxfords, Lancasters, Meteors, Stirlings, Ansons, Blenheims, Tempests, Typhoons, Beaufighters, Masters, Tiger Moths, Liberators, and Harvards.

A4 softback, 136 pages and numerous photographs.

Members £10.00  Non-members £10.00

Royal Air Force Aircraft
T1000-V9999
James J Halley MBE

Although there were a few ‘one-off’ aircraft in the T and V serial ranges, they were mostly devoted to huge batches delivered in the earlier years of World War Two, with training types such as the Tiger Moth, Master, Magister and Oxford particularly evident. Also to be found are Hudsons, Lysanders, Blenheims, Wellingtons, Beaufighters, Defiants, Westland, Albatross and Hurricanes.

This second edition greatly expands the detail on crashes and takes advantage of numerous official files that were discovered by the author James J Halley MBE.

A4 softback, 156 pages and numerous photographs.

Members £10.00  Non-members £10.00
Grumman Amphibians – Goose, Widgeon and Mallard
Fred J Knight and Colin R Smith

This book documents the development of the Goose, Widgeon and Mallard. It gives detailed coverage of world-wide military and civilian operators, with full details of the many modifications and conversions carried out on all three types. Multiple illustrations include, maps, advertisements, brochures, timetables and philatelic items. Appendices cover the detailed history of each of the 721 airframes built, including the French-built SCAN-30 Widgeons. This is the most comprehensive coverage of these iconic aircraft yet.

A4 hardback, 448 pages, 625 photos and numerous line drawings of each type.
Members £24.95  Non-members £39.95

Truculent Tribes, Turbulent Skies – The RAF in the Near and Middle East 1919-1939
Vic Flintham

In 1920 the fledgling Royal Air Force was tasked with enforcing British rule in Mesopotamia, an area roughly corresponding to modern-day Iraq and Kuwait. This involved flying in extreme climate – over perilous terrain – dealing with tribes that were often hostile, and struggling to keep inadequate aircraft operational. It is arguable that the RAF’s success ensured its survival as an independent air force.

This book covers the whole of the Middle East, Egypt and East Africa. It includes the RAF’s support for the pioneer long-distance flyers and early airline services.

A4 hardback, over 560 photos, 4 colour plates, 302 pages + index.
Members £34.95  Non-members £52.50

False Dawn – The Beagle Aircraft Story
Tom Wenham

Beagle emerged in the mist of a 1960 October dawn. It was the climax of Peter Masefield’s dream to overthrow the myth of Britain not being able to sustain a light air-craft industry. But the company only lasted ten years – a decade of mis-management, domination of the wrong designs and fearsome boardroom battles, all within a period of a national economic crisis.

The British Government stepped in to help but ultimately only to steer the company into receivership. The author has diligently researched his subject and has enjoyed unqualified access to company papers held within Masefield’s personal archive as well as extensive files held at The National Archives. The story of Beagle, long overdue in the telling, is covered in this definitive history.

A4 hardback, 464 pages, 630 images mono and colour + index
Members £39.95  Non-members £59.95
**Blackbushe - London’s Lost Airport 1942-1960**

Robert Belcher

This book contains a wealth of information on the operations of the various units based during World War II, including losses. It also covers the operations, trials and tribulations of the various independent airlines that started their lives at Blackbushe. There is full coverage of US Navy operations and aircraft at Blackbushe. Over 250 photographs, both colour and black & white. There are fleet lists for resident airlines during their time at Blackbushe, and a listing of other aircraft also based there over the years.


A4 Softback, 130 pages

£16.50

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**The History of the Royal Air Force at Redhill Aerodrome from 1937-1954**

Peter Amos and Brian Buss

This volume will tell you everything about the RAF’s time at this airfield. Well illustrated, it goes into significant detail of all the operations and units including its use as a flying training school, operations as a night fighter station, and by some 30 different fighter squadrons. Included are details of individual aircraft based at Redhill as well as lists of visitors, particularly in the post-war era up 1954 when 15 RFS closed down. Not simply a listing but a very good read too!

A4 Softback, 135 pages

£17.50

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**History of Southern Aircraft (Gatwick) Ltd, 1939-1962**

Peter Amos & Brian Buss

Set up in 1933 and moving to Gatwick in 1938 to undertake the sale and maintenance of light aircraft, Southern Aircraft became part of the Civilian Repair Organisation in 1939. It handled a large variety of different aircraft, besides designing and manufacturing components for RAF aircraft. Post-war, it refurbished and sold surplus RAF aircraft. This book, derived from detailed research and with full support of the founder’s (John Coxon) family, describes the history and growth of the company from 1933 to its final demise in 1962. It details all the aircraft handled. Included are many rare and previously unpublished photographs.

A4 Softback, 125 pages

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Mach III Publishing / Ian Carroll

£29.95

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