



Newsletter - June 2018

Welcome to the first Air-Britain e-Newsletter! As you will know, we have been going through a significant period of change over the past few years in response to a variety of issues. Those who manage Air-Britain's various functions have increasingly recognised that we may not have fully communicated with the membership generally in a timely fashion to share with you the underlying rationale behind the various changes and what we have to offer. Our communications have been limited to a few all too brief words in our quarterly magazine, Aviation World and also in our formal Annual Report, combined with a review of our affairs at our AGM, where inevitably only a small proportion of you can attend.

So, what is the purpose of this e-Newsletter? It will, I am sure, evolve but principally, we intend to use it to tell you what is going on within Air-Britain. We will also seek to invite and encourage you to do things for us and for the general good of Air-Britain and its membership. In addition to this newsletter, we will use our new Message Board to stimulate discussion and thoughts as to what can be done to improve our offerings. We hope that this will reverse the sometimes expressed remarks or perception that we have become remote from you, our members.

Please let me have your views and thoughts and I will ensure that they are shared within our management groups. Feel free to contact me [HERE](#) or post to the [Newsletter](#) thread on the Message Board

Malcolm Fillmore
Chairman



70
Air-Britain
2018 FLY-IN
70 YEARS OF AIR-BRITAIN

All Aircraft Welcome at the "Friendly Fly-In"

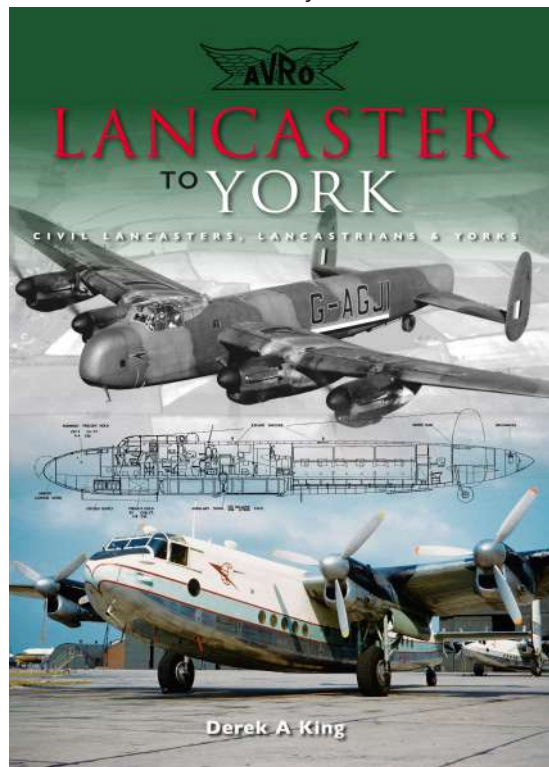
30 JUNE & 1 JULY 2018 - NORTH WEALD
Air-Britain (Events) Ltd In association with The Squadron
AIRBORNE ARRIVALS STRICTLY PPR Tel: +44 (0)1992 524510 to arrange PPR
NO LANDING FEES - AIRFIELD OPEN 09.00-19.00

VELKOMMEN TIL OSS! ALL KAPKOMMEN! ALLES WELKOMMEN! TOUTE BIENVENIR! ALLES VERWELKOMEN! ALL WELCOME!
GATES OPEN 09:00 - Vehicle + Driver £12 - Other Adults \$8.00 each - Under 18's FREE
Air-Britain members, who attend on Saturday, will get Sunday entry for only \$5.00 (Membership card required)

AIR-BRITAIN SALES STAND SALES AND EXHIBITION STANDS ALL DAY BAR-B-Q & CATERING
Fish or Chicken & Chip Supper (Sat evening - tickets sold on day) - Free Camping facilities available
For further information: +44 (0)1376-344441 www.air-britain.com/flyin-about

Supporting the Air-Britain Trust and ESSEX and HERTS AIR AMBULANCE TRUST

We have a number of new books, currently at the printers and available shortly.



Soon to appear is our new volume on the Avro Lancaster transports and the Avro York. This takes us back to the time when World War II victory was still uncertain and production of the Lancaster bomber in full flow when the Avro company launched a versatile four-engined transport aircraft, the York.

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.

Its primary role was to fly service personnel between the UK and its far-flung territories. Some aircraft were luxuriously fitted for use by VIPs.

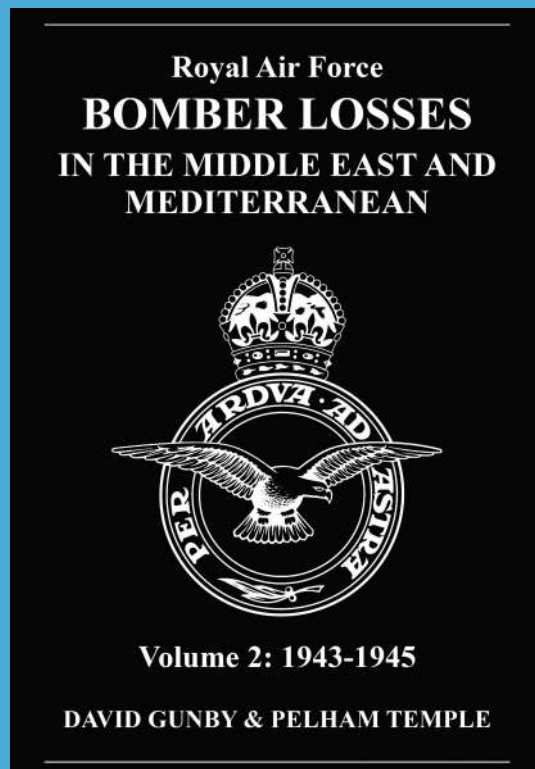
RAF Yorks played a crucial role in the Berlin airlift, taking vital raw materials into the besieged city and bringing refugees out. At pain of interception by Soviet fighters, the Yorks were confined to narrow corridors. Had western Berlin fallen, the subsequent history of the Cold War would have been quite different.

The state-run British South American Airways and British Overseas Airways Corporation used the York extensively, notably on long-distance routes where there were few navigational aids. The York was also used by British independent airlines and operators around the world into the 1960s.

Commercially less successful was the Lancastrian, which was 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.

These are only the principal themes of Derek King's exhaustive study. The book includes detailed individual aircraft histories, more than 800 photographs (160 in colour) and colour side views. There is much to fascinate historians and anybody who was involved in aviation during those tumultuous years.

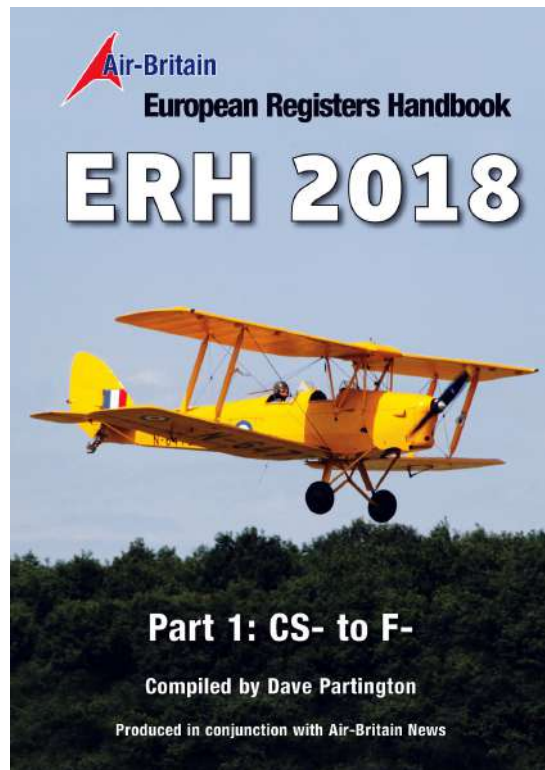
Prices are £34.95 for members and £47.50 for non-members.



Midland Counties published the first of two volumes detailing RAF Bomber Losses in the Middle East and Mediterranean during the years 1939 to 1942.

The demise of Midland Counties Publishing prevented the publication of Volume 2. Air-Britain has taken on the mantle and is pleased to confirm the upcoming publication of Volume 2 covering bomber losses by the RAF, RAAF, RCAF, and SAAF, as well as Polish and Greek units operating under RAF control in the Middle East and Mediterranean from January 1943 to the end of the war in Europe.

With maps drawn by Wg. Cdr. Jefford, David Gunby and Pelham Temple have completed a fitting record of the sacrifices made by Allied bomber crews operating far from home. A must for anyone interested in the aerial campaigns in this region. Excellent value at £19.99 or £14.99 for Air-Britain members.



The latest (33rd) edition of this annually-updated listing of European civil registers again covers all 46 countries west of Russia, except for the UK. Using official data where available, combined with additionally-reported material, it includes types, c/ns and full previous identities of the powered aircraft, gliders, balloons, ULMs and paramotors of each country as appropriate. Now published at A4 in two parts for ease of handling, ERH totals 648 pages and also includes a CD version for easy searching. Prices are £24.95 for members, £30.95 for non-members



Business Jets International 2018



1 : Production Lists

Produced in conjunction with Air-Britain News

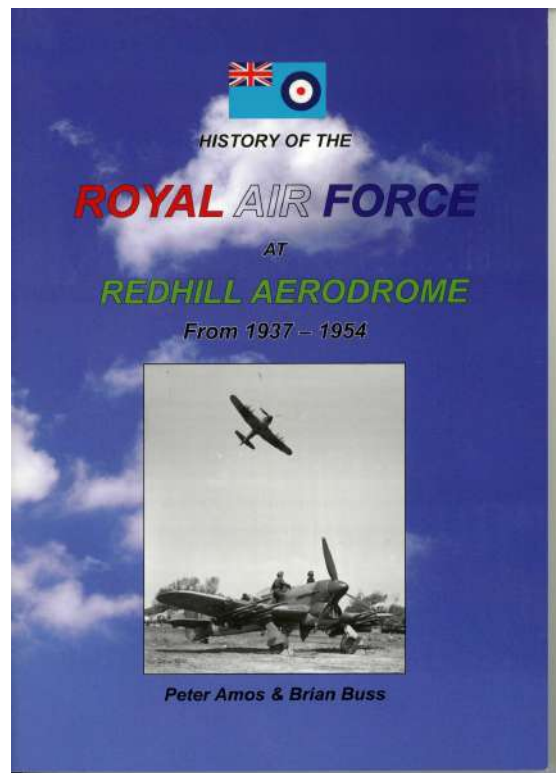
Now in its 33rd annual edition of Business Jets International, compiled by the same established team will be available at the Fly-in. It is still the only publication to provide full production listings for all purpose built Business Jets in c/n order, with complete registration/serial details and fates. Over 25,000 aircraft are included with our unique Master Index with over 101,000 registrations cross-referenced by c/n with all current marks highlighted.

Published together in hard-back form as a two-volume set with

- Volume 1 (432 pages) containing the production lists
- Volume 2 (320 pages) the Master Index plus the Gulfstream 1 and airliners built as dedicated business aircraft such as the Airbus CJs, BBJs and Lineage.

Prices have been held at 2017 levels - Members £21.50 Non-Members £27.00

From time to time, we also stock books from third-parties. A recent addition to our Sales site is



Back in 2012, Brian Buss and Peter Amos collaborated in publishing a history of Redhill Aerodrome from 1934 to 1940 intended for private circulation only and in digital format. Spurred on by their success in subsequently publishing a history of Southern Aircraft (Gatwick) Ltd which was made available via Air-Britain, they have now published the above 135-page A4 tome which 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 not only its use as a flying training school but also its operations as a night fighter station and by some 30 different fighter squadrons, not forgetting its hosting of one of the Group Support Units prior to D-Day. Included are details of individual aircraft based at Redhill but also lists of visitors, particularly in the post-war era up until 15 RFS closed down in 1954. The book is however not simply a listing but a very good read as well too! The price is £17.50.

Order it from our secure website [HERE](#)

Air-Britain Travel

One of the services Air-Britain offers to its members is an exclusive travel service. Our first trip for this year was to Aero 2018 held at Friedrichshafen. Initially we flew to Milan Malpensa meeting our coach, which took us to Linate and Valbrembo where we were allowed access to the whole field. Then we routed to Zurich via Lugano and Locarno the latter of which gave us access everywhere including the military. From Zurich to Altenrhein where again an access all areas tour was granted followed by the Fliegermuseum being specially opened for our visit. Four days at Friedrichshafen with daily visits to Markdorf kept us rather busy and finally a complete ramp tour at Stuttgart brought the trip to a close.

An interesting exhibit at the Friedrichshafen show was HB-RIM, a flying replica of the Junkers G13 (M Fillmore)



The next trip in 2018 is to the US West Coast, including Fairbanks and Anchorage, with a final trip to Madrid later in the year. Details of tours for 2019 will be announced as soon as firm details are available.

AIR-BRITAIN NEEDS YOU!

Air-Britain relies on a large number of volunteers to keep our organisation running and to provide the services that members have become used to.

We are looking for

- a [Military Editor for Aviation World](#) and also a [Deputy Editor to oversee quality and production issues for the magazine](#).
- [an archivist to manage our digital images collections](#).
- a [Manager to take overall co-ordination of our photo collections and explore new ways of making Air-Britain's images available to the membership](#).
- [part-time staff and volunteers to help in our Distribution centre in Tonbridge, Kent](#).
- [an E-Bay co-ordinator to increase sales of our second-hand stock](#)

This list is not exhaustive and if you would like to help, we would be pleased to hear from you - please contact either [Rod Simpson](#) or [Malcolm Fillmore](#).

The Air-Britain Second-Hand Sales List

We regularly seek out and recover collections of aviation books and magazines from members. After keeping any that are needed for our archive, all others are available for sale via our extensive second-hand list.

This is updated on a monthly basis and is published on our website [HERE](#).

Stock may be viewed at our Tonbridge distribution centre on most Monday mornings and at other times by prior arrangement. Contact [Roger Birchall](#) to arrange a visit.

SPECIAL OFFER

Until 31 July 2018 ONLY– any book with a 'C' or 'F' Stock code will be available at half marked price plus postage and packing (subject to availability).

The 2018 Annual General Meeting of Air-Britain will take place on

Saturday October 6th at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford. As well as the AGM, members will be given free access to the museum site on the day. Further details will be announced in Aviation World and Air-Britain News, as well as the [Air-Britain Message Board](#), in due course.



This newsletter is just one element of Air-Britain's presence on the web. Most can be accessed from our [Main Website](#) which includes links to

- our secure [Sales site](#), where Air-Britain publications can be ordered
- [ABPIC](#) - Air-Britain's online photo gallery with well over 500,000 images. Open to members and non-members, all images are screened prior to acceptance. A great way of showing and sharing your images. You, the photographer, retain all ownership rights. Members are frequently asked to share their images with others.
- The [Air-Britain Message Board](#) where members can share on a range of subjects and where we will announce new publications and other news of the organisation, often in advance of the printed magazines. A guide on how to register can be found [HERE](#)
- Members Area - containing various files, including registers and listings previously published in Archive and Aeromilitaria only available to members. You can register to access these files [HERE](#).

In addition we have

- [AB-IX](#) - Open to members only, AB-IX is run as part of Yahoogroups. An online discussion forum for aviation research topics only. Members can set their own message preferences (single or daily digest) within Yahoogroups. For more details contact the [group owner](#)
- eABN - an electronic version of Air-Britain News, available days before the printed version. Available in single issue or on subscription via [Pocketmags](#).
- The [Air-Britain Facebook](#) page - where we share details of Air-Britain happenings, as well as other selected items related to aviation.

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