



YEOVIL BRANCH

12th May 2009

BRANCH SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2008 TO 2009

Branch Membership

Branch membership over the past year has been essentially static. We have a number of applications for Society membership going through what now appears to be a very slow process of acceptance. We were saddened to lose a long standing member of the Branch, Ted Roadnight, who served on the committee from 1994 to 2005

The Branch successfully requested Presidential invitations to Fellowship of the RAeS for the AgustaWestland Chief Executive Officer, Giuseppe Orsi and the AgustaWestland Managing Director Operations, Bruno Spagnolini.

Branch Activities

During the year, Rebecca Brodie, assisted by Christine Jackson and a number of enthusiastic young AgustaWestland engineers have prepared and run two Engineering Days at Buckler's Mead school. The days generally include a short presentation about *What Engineering Involves*, followed by a couple of *Design, Build and Test* activities. The aim is to encourage young people into taking engineering as a career. Please see the Autumn Newsletter (attached) for details of one particular day's activities.

The branch also tapped into the main society's Cool Aeronautics initiative with the Bristol RAeS branch, and participated in an event that was run at the "@Bristol" venue. The initiative aims to educate 9/10year old children about engineering. The Yeovil branch is currently looking to host a similar event this autumn.

Anyone wishing to know more about these initiatives to encourage young people into engineering should contact any member of the committee.

Medals & Awards

The following RAeS medals and awards were won by AgustaWestland employees, and Branch members, in 2008:

Rob Harrison: Bronze Award

Christine Jackson: Alan Marsh Award

Hannah Nobbs: N E Rowe Medal

Karen Sollars: Herbert le Sueur Award

Lectures

Fred Ballam organized a full lecture programme for the 2008 – 2009 Season. The Young Members Competition for the Reginald Brie award again produced an excellent standard of presentation which says much for the calibre of young engineers working at AgustaWestland. The Henson & Stringfellow dinner and lecture was attended to full capacity. The lecture programme for next year is in preparation, and a provisional programme is attached (please see Appendix B). The lecture programme for the Yeovil Branch, and other branches, can be viewed on the Main Society website (www.raes.org.uk), and on our newly revamped Yeovil Branch website: www.yeovil-raes.org.uk.

Yeovil Branch activities within the Society

Our Honorary President, Richard Case, continues to serve on Council, and is Chairman of the External Affairs Board.

Our Joint Chairman, Alan Vincent, continues to serve on the Medals & Awards Committee; and our other Joint Chairman, Jeremy Graham, is now serving on the Rotorcraft Committee.

Steve Whittaker continues to be a member of the Non-Corporate Grading Committee and is a Professional Review Assessor for those seeking IEng registration.

Alisdair Wood represents the Yeovil Branch on the Branches Committee, and in Council.

Fred Ballam continues to serve on the Society's Historical Group Committee.

Tim Bartley is providing very useful liaison to this committee in his capacity of both RAeS and IMechE membership, and his committee role on the latter's Western Aerospace Centre based at Bristol.

The Branch Honorary Secretary, Jonathan Hamm, represented the Yeovil Branch at the 2009 annual branches conference, which this year took place in Munich.

Publicity

David Belt is now responsible for the Yeovil Branch Website (www.yeovil-raes.org.uk), as well generating the posters for the Branch meetings, and updating the Branch Diary pages on the HQ website. He has also had some success in publicizing lectures in local newspapers.

Despite transferring to Cascina Costa, Hannah Nobbs has produced one issue of the Branch Newsletter (see Autumn issue attached).



Honorary Secretary
RAeS Yeovil Branch

AGUSTAWESTLAND YEOVIL-RELATED ANNIVERSARIES IN 2009

Original Date	Occasion	Anniversary
Early 1924	Harald Penrose joined the Westland Aircraft Works design team from university to gain experience.	85 th
May 1934	Westland F7/30 mid-engine fighter went to A&AEE Martlesham Heath for assessment against other fighters to that spec, including the Gloster Gladiator which was eventually successful in the competition.	75 th
November 1959	The Queen's flight at RAF Benson received two Whirlwind HCC 8 helicopters.	50 th
May 1969	First flight of the first production Sea King HAS 1.	40 th
April 1979	First flight of Westland 30.	30 th
November 1979	Memorandum of Understanding signed by UK and Italian governments for what would become the EH101.	30 th
November 1984	849 NAS reformed at Culdrose with Sea King AEW 2A.	25 th

AGUSTAWESTLAND YEOVIL-RELATED ANNIVERSARIES IN 2010

Original Date	Occasion	Anniversary
May 1940	First Whirlwind F1 fighter delivered to 25 Squadron at Filton.	70 th
October 1940	Contract placed with Westland Aircraft for the Spitfire F1.	70 th
January 1950	First Dragonfly HR1 delivered to 705 NAS.	60 th
May 1950	Dragonfly HC2 delivered to RAF for service in Singapore.	60 th
June 1950	BEA initiated first civilian helicopter passenger service between Liverpool, Wrexham and Cardiff, using WS 51 helicopters.	60 th
December 1955	First flight of XL722. The Gazelle engined WS 58 (Wessex prototype).	55 th
May 1960	Westland acquire Fairey Aviation Ltd.	50 th
February 1970	824 NAS formed with 6 Sea King HAS 1.	40 th
May 1970	First flight of the Rigid-Rotor Scout.	40 th
June 1980	EHI set-up by Agusta and Westland to design and produce the EH101.	30 th

**RAeS YEOVIL BRANCH
PROVISIONAL LECTURE PROGRAMME FOR 2009-2010**

- Thursday 17th September 2009. 14th *PENROSE LECTURE*
HMS Astute – Britain's Advanced Submarine
*Presentation by Peter Broadbent,
Engineering Director, BAE systems, Submarine Solutions*
- Thursday 19th November 2009. **Alcock & Brown's Transatlantic Flight**
Presentation by Peter Elliott
- Thursday 25th February 2010. 55th *HENSON & STRINGFELLOW*
- Thursday 22nd April 2010. *YOUNG MEMBERS LECTURE COMPETITION*
- Thursday 20th May 2010. *AGM PLUS LECTURE:*
Future Helicopter Flight Control Systems
*Presentation by Andy Handcock,
Technical Team Leader – Flight Control Systems,
AgustaWestland UK*
- Thursday 17th June 2010. **Facility for airborne Atmospheric Measurements**
Presentation by Dr Guy Gratton

Fred Ballam is always open to suggestions for lectures.

Engineering In Schools
Buckler's Mead Community School, 25th June 2008

A team of young engineers from AgustaWestland spent the morning with forty Year-7 pupils from Buckler's Mead School Yeovil, introducing them to the world of engineering as part of their celebrations of National Design and Technology week. The objective was to give the pupils an appreciation and understanding of engineering as a profession, and the activities were planned to give them an indication of the variety of skills, such as team working and designing, that are used by engineers.

The pupils were initially given a presentation by Mark Holton. The aim was to explain what engineering is and how it affects their lives. He introduced them to the key areas of engineering like aerospace and construction, and then highlighted the different roles of engineers within these areas and how they interact together.

Mike Kerr then took over to introduce the first of two team projects – a competition to design and build a glider.

He gave them an overview of the theory of flight and how it applied to their gliders. Armed with some templates and a lot of cardboard, the teams set about designing and flight testing their gliders. They then had two attempts to get their glider to fly the furthest. The winning team – Cereal – flew an impressive 11.50m.



Building the glider

After break, Mike Winder introduced the pupils to the second team project – a competition to design and build a water powered rocket. Using the information they received for the gliders, he explained how it also applied to rockets and emphasized the importance of each rocket part, especially the parachute for slowing descent. After a set time to build their rockets, everyone went outside where the rockets were then launched. Each team had one attempt to see how long their rocket could stay in the air. The winning team – Megabite – flew for 8.49s.



Rocket launching!

Each team was given a prize for winning and the overall winning team – The Gliders – were given a small trophy. One of the objectives of the project was to establish a format that could be used on a yearly basis with the school.

If anyone is interested in getting involved with future events, please contact RAeS (Yeovil) Young Member representative Rebecca Brodie on 01935 386256 or email rebecca.brodie@agustawestland.com.