

HAMILTON BRANCH RAeS MEETING

DATE: WED 22 AUGUST 2018

TIME: 19:30 hrs/7.30pm



VENUE: Glenview Club, Peacockes Road, Glenview, Hamilton.

SPEAKER: Lieutenant Commander RN (Rtd) Ian Pickering.

Ian joined the Royal Navy in 1991 as a warfare officer. From 91-96 he spent his time training at various UK Naval Establishments including the Naval College at Dartmouth, the Naval Engineering College in Manadon Plymouth and the Naval College in Greenwich. During this time he completed an in-service degree in Maritime Defence Management and Technology. In the same period he also spent some time in training roles in HMS Quorn (a mine hunter), HMS Brilliant (a Frigate) and HMS Liverpool (a Destroyer).

Thoroughly trained he was released into the submarine service in 1997 and served in nuclear armed and powered SSBNs and nuclear powered SSNs including HMS Victorious, HMS Vanguard, HMS Torbay and HMS Vigilant. His roles in these platforms included acting as the Navigator, the Tactics and Sonar Officer and the Operations Officer.

In his more senior roles he effectively planned and executed exercises and missions on behalf of the Boats' Commanding Officers. He attended the submarine Commanding Officer's course "Perisher" in 2007 but sadly withdrew due to personal reasons half way through the sea phase.

He then spent his last couple of years in the Navy working in the Fleet Headquarters in Whale Island Portsmouth where he had a range of not so exciting administrative responsibilities. Leaving the Navy in 2009 he worked initially as an independent Defence Consultant and recently, as a Subject Matter Expert and Business Development Manager in a small defence company producing sonar processing and other bespoke electronics systems and software products predominately for the UK MOD. He recently completed a MBA at Henley Business School where he learned that there were alternatives to shouting as a management technique.

Ian lives in a small village in Northern Buckinghamshire with his wife, two young boys and various animals. He is a keen railway enthusiast and also enjoys the engineering challenge of keeping a 27 year old Mini on the road.

NEWS: Thanks to all those (18) who came to last month's meeting, when Mr. David Love (Rtd) Grp/Capt. RAF gave us a very stimulating talk on "Security and Branch Support of RAF Operations" during the cold war period covering the keeping and storing of the nuclear weapons. Ensuring the safe custody of these weapons was no mean feat in various locations around the world and this talk was well received by all, as it wasn't known to many people. So well done David, and thank you.

On the local scene, we called into Raglan on Sun 12th which was a beautiful sunny day with just a light breeze, and at the airfield lined up under the trees were around 12 a/c, mostly microlights or home built and LSA's and one Gyrocopter, and an R-44 doing some training. The town was very busy with the local market day and a lot of motor-cycles and some classic cars, MG TF and a host of Mazda MX-5's obviously making the most of the good weather and enjoying the culinary delights of the cafes that make the seaside town so enjoyable.

Alan's AUGUST Jottings

Firstly, we sadly remember our late committee member, Jon Wenham, who passed away far too early recently and was farewelled at a well-attended funeral in the Hamilton Gardens.

On a happier note - If we ignore some of the misinformed world media hype about things like lightning strikes, depressurisations and interviews with "terrified" passengers, there have been a few news-worthy items about aviation recently. The Lockheed Martin test pilot performing aerobatic manoeuvres with the latest LM100J Hercules at Farnborough must have been a spectacular sight and certainly would have impressed spectators and any potential buyer.

Then we have the Bombardier Q400 stolen from the Seattle-Tacoma Airport recently, by of all people, a baggage-handler. He too performed aerobatic manoeuvres over Puget Sound before crashing fatally on an island. One wonders how the US aviation authorities will react to this?

There is also the latest "theory" of a stowaway on Malaysian Airlines flight MH370 who may have hijacked the B777. Me thinks there are people who know more than they are letting on.

And what about the RNZAF Historic Flight Harvard, NZ1015, which was forced to make a good belly-landing in a farmer's paddock when the aircraft suffered engine problems just short of the Ohakea runway? Fortunately both crew-members were uninjured, let's hope the aircraft can be repaired.

SUBS: I would like to thank those that have paid their subs and those whom choose to pay using online banking. Receipts are available on request. Subs for 2018 are now due. Brian.
SUBS; A reminder that payment of subs (still only \$25/yr, \$30 1st year for new members) are now due. Jan to Dec r finance period Can you please make sure, especially if you are paying on-line, that you include your name with the payment action (in the reference or particulars section) and what the payment is for. If in doubt, check with our Treasurer. Bank Account number 06-0317-0224109-00. Cheques are payable to the RAeS Ham/Branch, with many choosing to do this online banking.

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