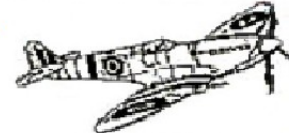




The Spitfire Society

SOUTH DEVON



FLIGHT

### **Get together Number 15**

Held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August at the Passage House Inn, Newton Abbot.

A group of 10 met for lunch at 12 noon and a very interesting talk was given by Alan Whittingdon about his re build of a Mark XIV Spitfire and the trials of bringing parts etc back from Thailand.

Photos of the progress as it was re built up to the day it was flown were shown.

Michael reminded everyone about the RAF Harrowbeer 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> August.

### **Get together Number 16**

Held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September at the Beefeater Inn, Plymouth at 7.30pm.

Apologies received from David Evans, Peter Channon, P.Mitchell, P. Smith (all from the Cornish Roundel) and Paul Brenton.

Alan Whittingdon repeated his talk, for those unable to attend on the 1<sup>st</sup> August to a small group of 12.

Update of the success of the RAF Harrowbeer 70<sup>th</sup> event, there were about 2,000 to 3,000 people attended on the Saturday and a staggering 8,000 to 10,000 attended on the Sunday. A Fairey Swordfish did a display on the Saturday, but the highlight was the display by a Spitfire and a Hurricane on the Sunday.

Probably the first time these two aircraft have flown over Harrowbeer since the 1940's.

In one of the dispersal bays there was a full size replica Spitfire Mark IX belonging to Spitfire Spares of Taunton with a working Merlin engine which was fired up at regular intervals and the propeller went round at 60 revs per minute.

The Spitfire Society was in attendance with a stall selling Spitfire memorabilia to raise funds for the Society.

Chris Brice, Secretary of the Spitfire Society 'Central' Leonard Stillwell Bequest Grant Fund, presented a cheque for £2000 to Michael, as Chairman of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Group, to assist with the funding of the event.

A granite memorial to all those who served at Harrowbeer was supplied by the Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust (ABCT) and unveiled by their Chairman. It stands just outside Knightstone Tearooms.

**Dates of next get togethers:**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November - 12 noon at the Beefeater Torquay.

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December – 7 for 7.30pm, Christmas meal at the Furzeleigh Mill, Buckfastleigh.

Menu attached – you are most welcome to bring a friend – please let us know as soon as possible whether you will be attending and your meal requirements, you can either have the two course or the three course.

A booking deposit of £7.00 per person made payable to Mr. M. Hayes (I can then send one cheque to the restaurant)

Furzeleigh Mill has B & B facilities if you are interested.

If you would like more information please do not hesitate to ring me.

Michael Hayes  
Knightstone  
Crapstone Road  
Yelverton  
Devon PL20 6BT  
Tel 01 822 853679