

SoFFAAM Members Day at the Fleet Air Arm Museum Yeovilton

By John Heath

We are pleased to announce the return of SoFFAAM Members Day at the Fleet Air Arm Museum, Yeovilton on Wednesday 11 June 2025.

We have an interesting programme lined up though we are limited to 32 places so return your application form as soon as possible.

This is the programme for the day.

- 10:00** Gather in the Museum Auditorium with tea and coffee
- 10:25** Welcome to the day by our Chairman Malcolm Smith
- 10:30** Overview of FAAM by the General Manager Marc Farrance
- 10:35** Plan for the day by the event organiser John Heath
- 10:45** Attendees will be split into groups of 8 and leave for activities
- 11:00** Groups 1 & 2 Cobham Hall for the small collections/Archive Groups 3 & 4 Auditorium Barracuda with Museum Curator Dave Morris
- 12:00** Groups 3 & 4 Cobham Hall for the small collections/Archive Groups 1 & 2 Auditorium Barracuda with Museum Curator Dave Morris

- 13:15** Lunch is provided in the Auditorium
- 14:00** Sea Harrier with Bill Covington in the Auditorium and Concorde Hall
- 15:15** Closing remarks Auditorium
- 15:30** St Bartholomew Church visit led by the base Chaplaincy
- 16:45** Disperse to home addresses

Please note that although we are visiting Cobham Hall, there is NO ENTRY to the aircraft collection within. The reason why will be described during the welcome speeches.

Each group of 8 will be accompanied by a SoFFAAM Member who will drive the group to Cobham Hall along with a volunteer driver from each group, to suit the limited parking at this location.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Cobham Hall: The collections stores house the Museum's artefacts not currently on display to the public. We'll see examples of uniform and flying clothing, ship's bells and aircraft models and archives spanning the history of naval aviation. The staff will demonstrate how they care for the items held in its collection stores. This tour will not include the Aero Hall.

SoFFAAM Members' Day Application Form - to be held at the Fleet Air Arm Museum Yeovilton on Wednesday 11 June 2025

Barracuda Live: The session will cover a project update presentation in the Auditorium about this ambitious and unique rebuild project to create the world's only example of a Fairey Barracuda Torpedo Dive Bomber.

Cdre Bill Covington: Anecdotes from a lifetime in the Fleet Air Arm and its Heritage. Bill was a Sea Harrier pilot during the Falklands War. He continued with the SHAR, commanding 801 and

899 Naval Air Squadrons. He served as a Commander (Air) as Commodore Yeovilton and Joint Force Harrier. So we can expect a lot of fascinating insights from Bill of an extensive career in the Fleet Air Arm

St Bartholomews Church: The Yeovilton base Chaplaincy will guide us through and recall the history and place that this Memorial Church holds within the Royal Naval Air Service and Fleet Air Arm.

Only SoFFAAM Members are allowed on this Members' Day.

We will start promptly at 10:25 and you can park at the museum in the usual way. Please enter the Museum via the ground floor entrance (go past the usual entrance stairs) and ring the bell if the gate is closed. Please abide by any instructions given by the Museum Staff.

Payment is by either BACs or PayPal at **£30.00** per person.

BACs Payment

Society of Friends of the Fleet Air Arm

Museum.

Sort Code: 30-99-98

Account No: 00857987

Reference your payment SURNAME/MEM Day.

PayPal - Please email soffaam.joinup@gmail.com to obtain a link which will be emailed back to you to enable you to make the payment

Please complete the application form below and email to John Heath at heathjohn1955@gmail.com by Friday 30 May 2025

Name

Address

..... Post Code

Email

Tel No Membership No (if known)

If you have any questions, you can email John Heath at heathjohn1955@gmail.com or by phone at 07743 483356.

This form can also be downloaded from the SoFFAAM website, go to www.fleetairarmfriends.org.uk