

In 1931 Lawrence and Smith went to the rescue of a crew, of which 9 out of 12 perished, following the crash of a Blackburn Iris flying boat and Lawrence realised that there was not a satisfactory high speed launch available. Having commented on a suitable launch, the RAF200 class, Lawrence was seconded to British Power Boats Co. at Hythe to continue follow up work on development but a fire all but destroyed the works and Lawrence returned temporarily to Mountbatten. Follow up work on an armoured target version took him to Donibristle and Bridlington but on his return to Mountbatten and routine duties Lawrence asked to leave the RAF. An eleventh hour posting to the Marine Aircraft Establishment at Felixstowe gave him both interest and a heavy work load. Another spell at Bridlington took him to retirement from the RAF and he cycled back the 350 hundred miles by a circuitous route to his home at Clouds Hill, acquired near Bovington, during his army service.

During these retirement years Lawrence had been writing various works, some on his desert experience but also completing a translation of the Odyssey which he had begun in India. Throughout he had been short of money with occasional bright spots at publication dates. His interest in speed and particularly his Brough Superior motorbikes, dubbed as the Rolls-Royce of motor bikes, contributed to his untimely death on 19th May 1935 following a crash avoiding some young cyclists on a lane near his home.

FRIENDS OF THE NEW FOREST AIRFIELDS - FONFA -www.fonfasite.wordpress.com

The above has recently opened in their new (old) refurbished building in Sopley.

Opening hours have been restricted by a lack of people who can attend for even for the open days of 10am to 4pm but should be open 23rd and 30th October - it is worth a visit and currently has a mini exhibition about the Czech Air Force.

If you can help with a few hours on a flexible roster contact:

FONFA Chairman, Henry Goodall e mail fonfa2010@gmail.com

An illustrated talk by FONFA Chairman titled 'New Forest Airfields in WW2' will take place on Wednesday 19th October at Bransgore Village Hall at 8.30pm (follows Bransgore Residents Association Meeting at 7.30pm)
The November issue of Flypast has a short article (on page 15) about the opening of the new FONFA museum.

SOLENT SKY AVIATION ENTHUSIASTS' EVENING

Solent Sky Aviation Museum Wednesday 9 November 2016

Designing, Building and Flying the
Saunders-Roe Princess Model by Mike Roach

This evening event has been arranged as a special opportunity for members and friends of local aviation groups and societies to come along to the Solent Sky Aviation Museum and at the same time help to raise funds for the museum.

The evening will start with an introduction to Solent Sky Museum by Steve Alcock.

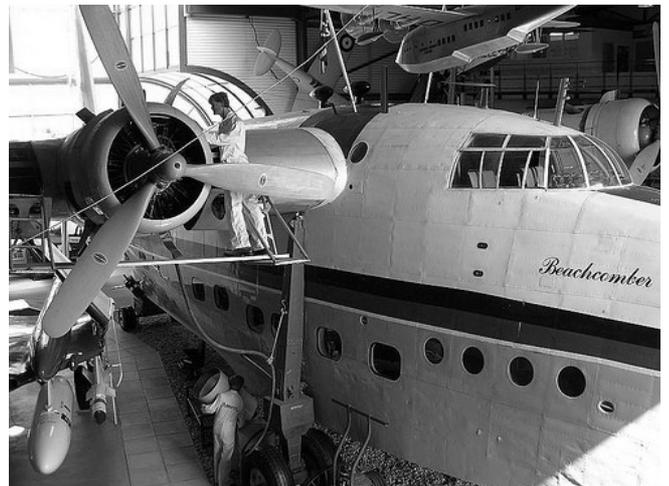
Mike Roach from the Christchurch and District Model Flying Club will give a talk about his Saunders-Roe Princess model and this will be followed by a video of the model in operation. Mike's Princess model will also be on show during the evening.

The other museum exhibits and the new museum facilities can be viewed together with Sandringham flying boat flight deck tours.

Doors open at 18.00 for a start at 19.00, there will be tea, coffee and biscuits available and the evening will close at 21.00.

Car parking is on the roadside in Albert Road South.

The entrance charge is £5.00/head. Please advise Gordon Bee at Solent Sky if you are planning to attend –
Tel. 02380635830 or e mail g.bee@spitfireonline.co.uk



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