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# Window on history for RAF Club

## NEW MONUMENT

A HIDDEN GEM of commemorative art was officially dedicated at the historic Royal Air Force Club in London's Piccadilly on January 27, reports *Michael Oakey*. It takes the form of a stained-glass window depicting RAF history from 1918 to the present.

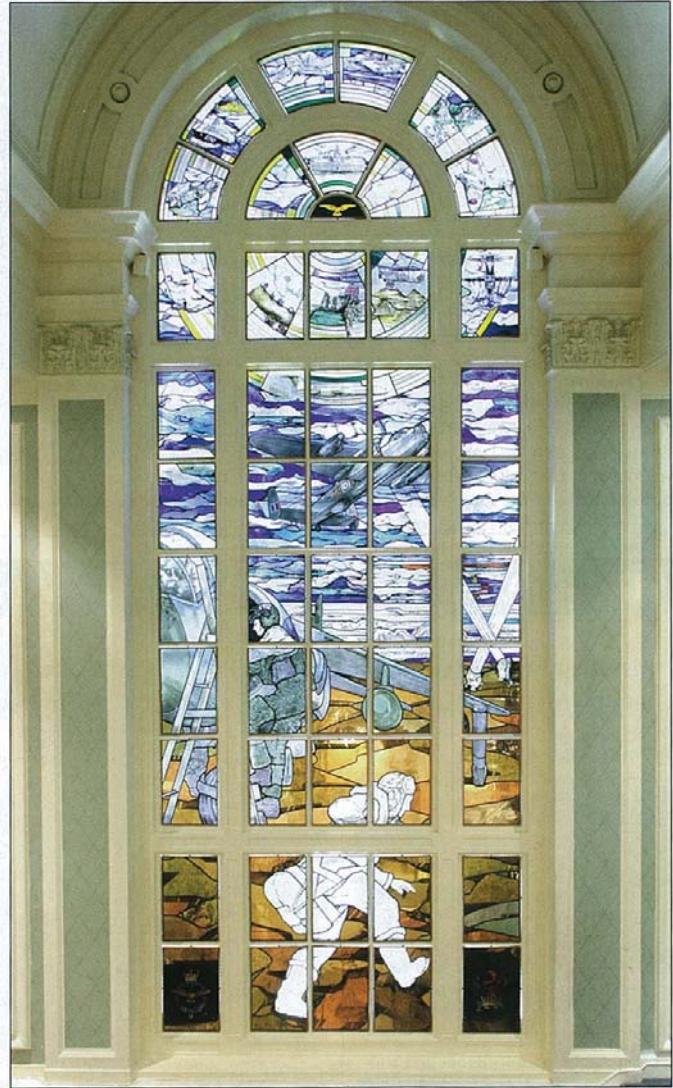
Created by artist Helen Whittaker and conservator Keith Barley of York-based Barley Studio, the window was funded by Club member Sqn Ldr Ivan Heath, who served in the UK, Egypt and Italy in World War Two and ran a highly successful

printing business post-war.

Historical and technical advice on the project was provided by RAF Club Trustees Gp Capt Tony Banks and Wg Cdr Michael Gilbert.

Since the window looks out on to a light-well, Helen adopted the highly innovative and effective approach of using opaque gilded panels in some of the lower panes to make the best use of internal and external light.

Although access to the RAF Club (and therefore to view the window) is normally restricted to members and their guests, this is nevertheless an important addition to RAF commemorative art.



## COMPETITION

THANKS TO THE Royal Air Force Club, 12 *Aeroplane* readers will be able to visit the Club on May 21 this year to view the new stained-glass window and enjoy a tour, accompanied by one of the Trustees and the Editor.

For your chance to win a place on this exclusive tour, send a postcard with your name and address to: RAF Club Competition, *Aeroplane*, Blue Fin Building, 110 Southwark St, London SE1 0SU, in time for the closing date of **April 9, 2009**. The first 12 entries picked at random from the editorial flying-helmet on that date will win a place – winners will be responsible for making their own way to and from the Club. Good luck!



**RIGHT** The window unveiled. **LEFT** From left: RAF Club Trustee Gp Capt Tony Banks, conservator Keith Barley, artist Helen Whittaker and RAF Club Trustee Wg Cdr Michael Gilbert.



**ABOVE** Junkers-A 50 c/n 3517 at Dessau during February. It is destined fly with the Classicflug fleet, which already includes a Focke-Wulf Fw 44 Stieglitz and a Waco UPF-7.

## Junkers 50 to fly in Germany

### OLDEST FLYER

JUNKERS-A 50 JUNIOR c/n 3517 VH-UUC is set to become the oldest flying Junkers aircraft in the world, following its arrival in Germany from Australia in late January. It has been acquired by the Classicflug organisation at Leipzig-Altenburg airport.

One of only three survivors of 69 built, VH-UUR is currently at the Hugo Junkers Museum in Dessau. Restora-

tion is due to begin in the spring. The 87 h.p. Armstrong Siddeley Genet engine will be overhauled by Motobende at Koenigswinter.

The A 50 was the world's first all-metal lightplane built for private use, the prototype flying in February 1929; c/n 3517 was built in 1930 and sold in Australia. In 1963 Malcolm Rose began a 13-year restoration at Richmond, New South Wales, but 'UUC has now been grounded for many years.