

RAF100 - CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ATTEND DINNER AT BRISTOL AEROSPACE MUSEUM

Back where it began for No.33 (HD) Squadron at Bristol Filton Airfield

Saturday 12 May 2018



Despite a rather late notice invitation to Association members to attend Abbeywood's RAF100 salute to the city of Bristol and the part that it has played in the development of British military and civil aviation, the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman managed to persuade their ladies to accompany them to what turned out to be a rather excellent evening down in the West Country. The Association had been invited because 33 was the first RAF squadron to be raised there, on 12 January 1916. LOYALTY readers will have read in the recent edition just how the first commanding officer of the Squadron, Philip Joubert de la Ferte, felt about that honour!



The dinner took place in the Concorde Hall, a magnificent setting for such an important night. On arrival the guests were able to walk through the passenger version of Concorde, a far more pleasant experience than the test bed version at Duxford, which set everyone up nicely for a first class evening of food and entertainment. Guests enjoyed a three course meal of confit of duck, braised shin of beef and chocolate torte while listening to a local Military Wives Choir and hearing vignettes about Bristol Filton's history from various speakers around the Hall, all to a backdrop of a film projected onto a giant screen showing the aircraft built at Filton and the RAF's history from World War One to the present day. I am pleased to say that there were several good clips of the Puma in action.



It was a pity that we were unable to look around the collection of aircraft in the other parts of the Museum, which included some flown by 33 Squadron during its 102 year history - perhaps an Association day trip for the future?