

Annual Re-Dedication of the New Forest Airfields Memorial

The Annual Service of Re-Dedication of the New Forest Airfields Memorial was held on Sunday 30th June at the Memorial in Black Lane, on the western edge of the WWII airfield at Holmsley South.



The Service was conducted by the Rev. Canon Bill Rogers and led by John Brooks, Founder Trustee and former Chairman of FONFA. The Parade Marshal was Lucy Eden and the following guests attended:

Sir Christopher Chope. MP for Christchurch and Lady Chope

Dr Julian Lewis MP for New Forest East

The Deputy Mayor of Christchurch, Cnllr Sue Bungey and her husband Cnllr Colin as Consort

The Deputy Mayor of New Milton, Cnllr Keith Critze and Town Clerk Graham Flexman
Sqn Ldr Cameron Robottom, representing the Royal Australian Air Force
F/O Alan Bradshaw OC 171 Sqn Air Cadets from Christchurch with 2 Standards (Air Cadets and RAFA)

A representative from the Royal British Legion Christchurch with Standard
A representative from the Royal British Legion Lymington with 2 Standards (RBL and Mountbatten).

Visitors from the Royal Naval Association.

Wreaths were received from the Merchant Navy and from the Czech Embassy.



We encourage all members of the public to attend the Annual Service, which honours the dedication and sacrifice of all who served on the New Forest Airfields in the 1939-1945 period, both civilian and military personnel, in any capacity.

Without their sustained and courageous efforts, in that time of great national peril, when democracy was existentially threatened, the freedoms that we enjoy today would not exist.