

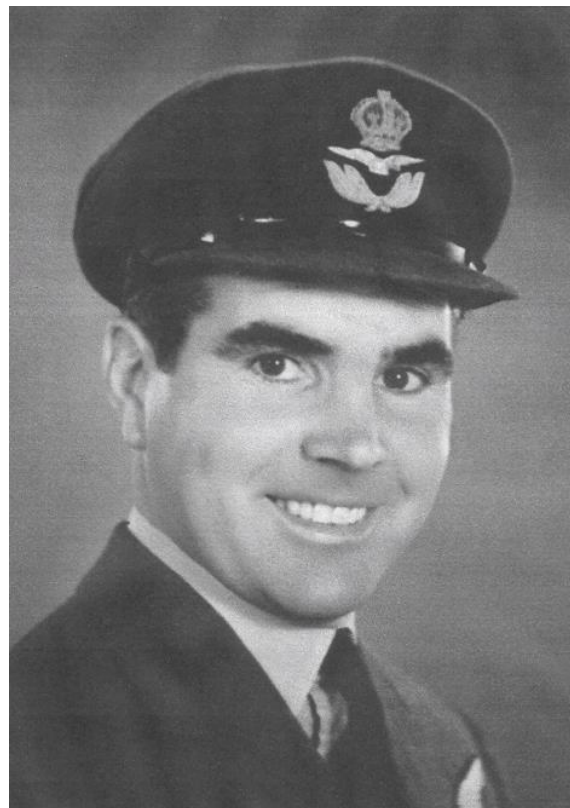


Sqn. Ldr. Stanley Booker MBE Legion D'Honneur RAF (Rtd)

Visits FONFA Heritage Centre, July 2023

Stanley Booker recently became a member of FONFA, just after his 101st birthday, and he has kindly donated his uniforms and other artefacts for display in the FONFA Heritage Centre. We were honoured to welcome Stanley to the Heritage Centre when he had an opportunity to see his uniforms and the rest of the displays.

Stanley was a navigator flying Halifax in 10 Squadron, RAF Bomber Command. He was shot down over France on 3rd June 1944. Having been picked up by the resistance, Stanley was betrayed to the Gestapo, interrogated in Paris and survived imprisonment in the notorious Buchenwald concentration Camp and Stalag Luft III. He was then held hostage by Russian troops until the end of May 1945. He finally returned home just under twelve months from the day he bailed out of the burning Halifax. Stanley went on to have a long and quite extraordinary career in the RAF and the Intelligence Services.



Stanley during his flying days.



Stanley with his uniforms on display in the FONFA Heritage Centre



Stanley with his Daughter Pat Vinycomb



Stanley received his special membership card from FONFA Membership Secretary Margaret Williams



Stanley with Heritage Centre Curator Sam Ruddy. Sam created the displays of Stanley's uniform.



Stanley with the FONFA team Curator Sam Ruddy, Secretary Dave Connor, Membership Secretary Margaret Williams, and Treasurer Steve Williams