

Observer

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PAGE 4 Thursday, January 8, 2009 HANTS DIRECT MEDIA Tel: 01962 859559

A daytime celebration of British aviation history for all the family

Music in the Air®

WALLOP '08!

Saturday July 26th
Gates open 10.30am

With Flying Display
Featuring the Red Arrows, Airbus to descend from first 50 years of aviation

Music
Featuring the Band of the Army Air Corps with special guest star WIT Music

Activities
Eventhost games, pleasure flights, traditional fair, The 'Red' Cafe's Army & much much more

For more details and tickets go to: www.wallop08.com
Ticket hotline: 0871 271 6147

WIN TICKETS We are giving away family group tickets to 5 lucky readers of Winchester Observer. To be in with a chance of winning answer this question:
Q. Due to its multiple machine gun installations what is the trademarked nickname for the B17 Bomber?
Email your answers to: wallop08comp@hantsdirect.co.uk please add name, address and contact number.
5 x Family Ticket (2 adult & children under 16) to be won.



YOUR EDITORIAL CAN GO HERE

The Red Arrows are renowned throughout the world as ambassadors for both the Royal Air Force and the United Kingdom. Since the Team was officially formed in 1965, the Red Arrows have completed over 4,000 displays in 53 countries. The Red Arrows' reputation is built on the commitment and professionalism, combined with Royal Air Force skills, training and equipment. Many of the Red Arrows' pilots and support staff have recently returned from Afghanistan and Iraq and many will be temporarily detached on operations overseas during their time with the Red Arrows. We are proud to represent the values and professionalism of the Royal Air Force.

All nine Red Arrows display pilots are fast jet pilots from frontline Royal Air Force squadrons. In 2007, the Team has pilots from four of the Royal Air Force's frontline fast jets; Tornado GR4, Harrier GR7, Tornado F3 and Jaguar GR3. To apply for selection to The Red Arrows, pilots must first meet certain criteria:

- Have a minimum of 1,500 flying hours
- Completed a frontline tour
- Be assessed as above average in their flying role.

A short list of nine applicants are examined during a thorough selection week, and are put through a grueling flying test, formal interview and peer assessments. The Team Leader must have completed a three-year tour as a Team pilot earlier in his career, and is appointed in a separate selection process. Reds 1 to 5 form the front section known as 'Enki', and Reds 6 to 9 are known as 'Cygo'. The Synchro Pair, Reds 6 and 7, perform the highly popular opposition manoeuvres during the second half of the display sequence.

Wing Commander Jas Hawker (38) was educated at The Castle School in Thornbury, near Bristol. Whilst at school Jas was a member of his local Air Training Corps and gained a Royal Air Force Sixth Form Scholarship. He joined the Royal Air Force immediately after completing his A-Levels. After training, his operational flying career began on the Tornado GR1 ground attack aircraft. He was then posted to instructional duties on the Tucano Mk1 and became the Royal Air Force's solo Tucano display pilot for the 1997 display

season. Eager to return to the front line, he recommenced operational flying duties on the Tornado GR4 at Royal Air Force Bruggen in Germany. After a successful application to join the Red Arrows, Jas flew with the Team for the 2000-2002 display seasons, during which he was selected to fly in the Synchro Pair. On leaving the Team he returned to the Tornado GR4, this time as a flight commander on 31 Squadron at Royal Air Force Marham. Following this tour Jas was selected to be the Personal Staff Officer to a 3-star Officer in the Ministry of Defence. During his Royal Air Force career, Jas has been involved in military exercises all over the world and recent operations in the Middle East. He has amassed well over 4,500 flying hours to date. This will be his third year as Team Leader and Officer Commanding The Red Arrows, having taken command in October 2005. Jas is married to Cath and they have two children, Jess (12) and Molly (11). His hobbies include all water sports, especially kite-surfing and windsurfing, golf, occasionally playing the piano and taking his mad English Pointer dog on long walks. He is a proud supporter of Tottenham Hotspur FC.

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