



# ***e-DEFENCE ELECTRONICS NEWSLETTER***

THE e-NEWSLETTER OF THE DEFENCE ELECTRONICS HISTORY SOCIETY

No 10: May 2013

---

## ***'BEFORE EXOCET'***

Many thanks to those members who came to our revised Spring Lecture, '***Before Exocet***', on the development and use of guided missiles by the Germans during World War 2 – one classic example being the **Henschel Hs 293**. Those who attended enjoyed a great series of questions, observations and discussions after my talk, and we were able to applaud **Don Tomlin's** recent 96<sup>th</sup> birthday with Don present – a truly sterling performance in getting from Malvern to the lecture, Don! One result of the post-lecture discussions, which have continued by e-mail ever since, is that I have decided to serialise my talk just as it was given, to allow all members to join in and express their views and interest on the many items raised by the talk (and the new lines of enquiry these opened for me as the speaker). Our Burns Lecturer **M. Berger of Dassault Aviation**, will of course be speaking to us in October as part of our Autumn Symposium, and we look forward to seeing you there – **Booking Form attached – BOOK NOW!**

As all members will anticipate by now, **eDEN10** continues DEHS' policy of deliberately widely varied content – keep in mind our guidelines of 'DC to light'; absolutely ***anything*** military in which electronics are involved; and including tracing the stories of the people as well as the equipment. In this issue, **Tony Helm** contributes his account of his recent visit to **Arnhem**, to conduct aerial experiments there; more articles from members on this model – trips to museums, accounts of operating from historic sites – would be welcome. So also would historic articles of interest – in this edition, a description of **A.S.R.E. Tantallon** from their 1948 house magazine, sent to me by **Ronald Exeter**; the article is by his father, and I have added photos of the pre-D-Day trials at Tantallon. Following **Hans Jucker's** article last month on the NATO Cold War tropospheric scatter system '**ACE HIGH**', I feature photos of the last days of the UK station at Cold Blow Lane, Kent, by **Richard Stoodley**. I describe how you might go about finding out about the **service careers of WW1 Nurses** by giving two examples, including one of a nurse who in WW2 became a WAAF radar 'Queen Bee', and another sadly killed in action. In '**Ops Board**' note especially our own **Hugh Griffiths'** talk on **Bistatic Radar** at IET Savoy House on 23 May, and **GO ALONG!** I've

included an Obituary on an unsung hero of Blind Landing, and *Tailpiece* illustrates a truly astonishing **Catalina aerial array!** Finally, below are details of our **Summer Visit to Bletchley Park** – with continuing thanks to *Mike Diprose* for arranging it – **BOOK NOW**, as it is filling up rapidly.

Dr. Phil Judkins, DEHS Chairman.

## INDEX

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Editorial   | 1  |
| Index   | 2  |
| Arnhem Visit 2013 <i>Tony Helm</i>                            | 3  |
| Tantallon – A.S.R.E. Extension <i>G.A. Exeter</i>             | 4  |
| ACE HIGH: the NATO tropospheric link. <i>Richard Stoodley</i> | 5  |
| Before Exocet   | 11 |
| Tracing WW1 Relatives: Nurses - and a WW2 radar career!       | 18 |
| Ops Board   | 22 |
| Obituary: Lennard Barber                                      | 23 |
| Tailpiece: a Catalina aerial array – and then some!           | 24 |