

14 March 2017

Trustees march 130 miles for Museum!

Date: 8-12 May 2017

Time: 9am, depart RAF Museum Cosford

Two Trustees from the Royal Air Force Museum are set to walk a marathon a day for five days in order to raise funds for the Museum's £26m RAF Centenary Programme.

Alan Coppin and **Robin Southwell**, both Trustees of the RAF Museum will walk between the Museum's two public sites; from Cosford in the West Midlands to Colindale in North West London and aim to raise £100K along the way.

The **130 mile** walk will take-off from the RAF Museum Cosford at 9am on Monday 8 May after a sleepover in the Officer's Mess at RAF Cosford. Following a grueling 30 miles on day one, Alan and Robin aim to reach their first stopover point in Solihull by 9pm. There will be no rest for the wicked, as it will be another early start on day two for a 26 mile leg of the journey towards Leamington Spa in Warwickshire. Stopovers will also include RAF Halton and RAF High Wycombe on nights three and four respectively, before they eventually reach the RAF Museum London on the Friday evening, completing their marathon mission.

The money raised will go towards the award-winning RAF Museum's million-pound transformation of the visitor experience at its London site in 2018, coinciding with the centenary of the Royal Air Force. This £26m major transformation will celebrate and commemorate this anniversary with a national lasting legacy for the Royal Air Force, sharing the story of the RAF through its people and collections.

The new landscaping will welcome visitors to discover a new green heart of the community in Colindale, reflecting the historic RAF Hendon airfield. New, innovative galleries will explore the first 100 years of the RAF, its roles today and invite visitors to imagine its future contribution and technology. Plus, a new digital sharing project will promote a conversation with a global audience and help connect people to the RAF story, ensuring it endures and enriches future generations.

The development plans will also include new exhibitions at Cosford, exploring the first 100 years of the RAF and new aircraft displays which are already underway, to enable the RAF's story to be more comprehensively represented to Museum audiences in the Midlands.

RAF Museum Trustee, Robin Southwell said:

"It's an important time for the Museum and we are all excited at the opportunities that lie ahead. Our aim is to raise awareness and funds for the Museum's RAF Centenary Programme and we are grateful for the support from the Royal Air Force."

To sponsor the Trustees five marathons in five days and support the RAF Museum visit their donate page: <https://mydonate.bt.com/events/5marathonsin5days/423881> or for more information about the fundraising walk and the RAF Museum's Centenary plans, visit www.rafmuseum.org . The RAF Museum is a registered charity, number 244708.

Ends...

Notes to Editors:

The media are invited to the RAF Museum Cosford on Monday 8 May 2017 for interview and photo opportunities prior to the start of the first marathon at 9am. Please email michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org to confirm your attendance.

- Keep up to date with the latest news and event information by following us on:



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- Open daily from 10am
- Admission to the Royal Air Force Museum is free of charge.
- RAF Museum images & logo available at:
 - <http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/media-vault.aspx>
- For further information and all media enquiries please contact
 - LONDON - Ajay Srivastava on 020 8358 6410 or email: ajay@rafmuseum.org
 - COSFORD – Michelle Morgans on 01902 376212 or email michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org
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