

4<sup>th</sup> October 2010

## James May's Airfix Spitfire: Back by popular demand!

The Royal Air Force Museum is pleased to announce that the Airfix 1:1 scale Spitfire model, as featured in James May's Toy Stories programme has returned to Cosford. Following maintenance and strengthening work completed by Gateguards in Cornwall, the giant model has now returned to the Museum and is on display in Hangar 1.

General Manager Alex Medhurst said:

*"We are pleased that the life-size Airfix Spitfire has returned to the Museum. The Toy Stories programme caught the imagination of viewers and we have constantly been asked when it would be back on display by our visitors. The work that has been completed on the model has ensured that it is stronger and will now be displayed for the long term."*

James May and his team of engineers, assisted by a group of local school children from Thomas Telford School, visited the Museum in 2009 and built a life-size Airfix model of a Spitfire over the course of three days. The construction work, which took place in the Museum's Hangar 1, involved the positioning of wings, the propeller and of course painting the correct colour scheme.

The programme was a series of six episodes which used some of Britain's best loved toys to capture the imagination of children today and show them alternatives to modern electronic toys. Other episodes featured favourites such as Meccano and Lego and looked at the history of the toys.

For more information, please call the Museum on 01902 376200 or visit: [www.rafmuseum.org](http://www.rafmuseum.org). The Museum is open daily from 10am – 6pm (last admission 5pm), entry is FREE.

...Ends

### Notes To Editors:

- Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP
- Open daily between 10am – 6pm (Last admission 5pm)
- FREE admission
- Photos opportunities available on request
- For further information and all media enquiries please contact
- Karen Crick on 01902 376208 or [karen.crick@rafmuseum.org](mailto:karen.crick@rafmuseum.org)
- RAF Museum Cosford images & logo available at:  
<http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/cosford/media-enquiries/downloads.cfm>