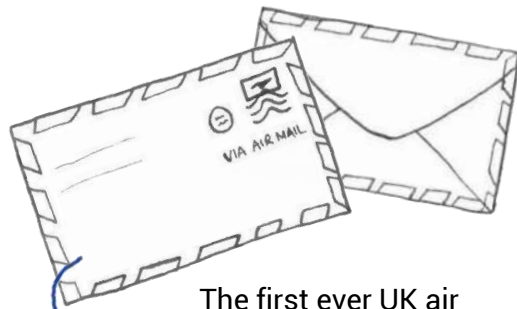


LONDON AERODROME 1911-1939

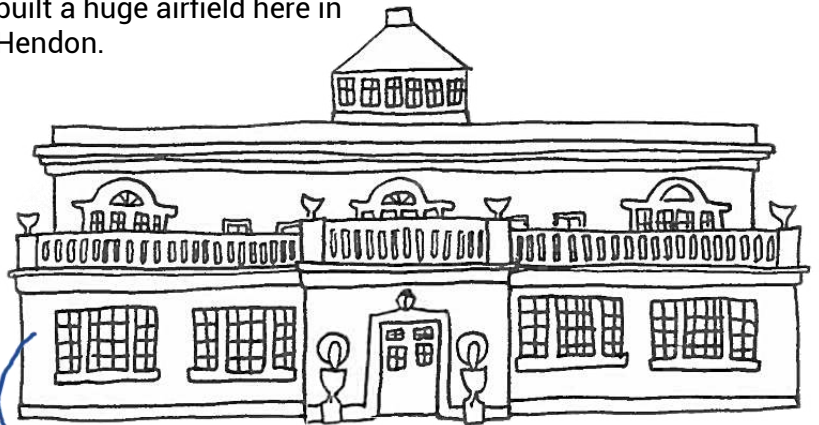
Colour in the
pictures to
bring history to life



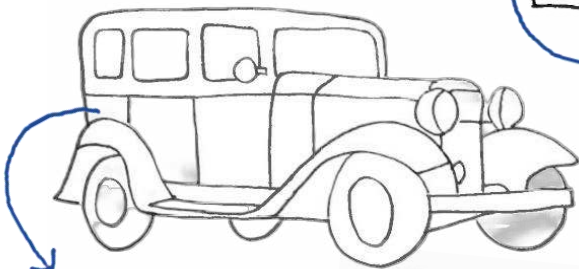
This is Claude Grahame-White. He was one of the first people in Britain to get a pilot's licence. In 1911 he built a huge airfield here in Hendon.



The first ever UK air mail was sent from the London Aerodrome in September 1911!



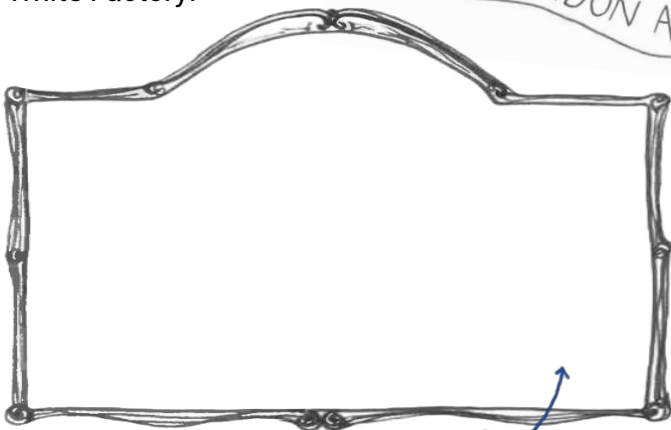
This is Claude's factory. It still stands at the RAF Museum today as the entrance to Hangar 2. During the First World War (1914-18), lots of aircraft were made here. Claude had 3,500 employees! Pilots were also trained here on the airfield.



Between 1918-22 cars were made in the Grahame-White Factory.



There were air displays held at the London Aerodrome on most weekends. Huge crowds came to see the new technology and tricks on show.



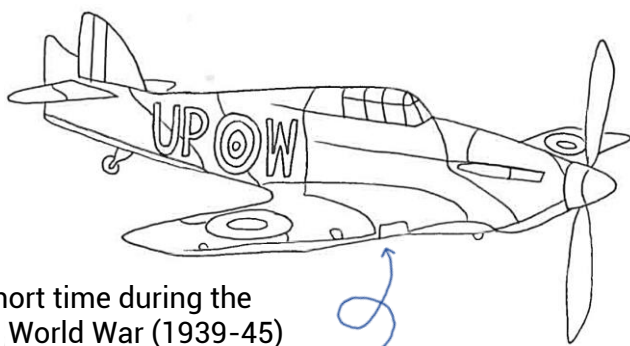
Fill this frame with your own drawing of a First World War aeroplane. You can see these in Hangar 2.



Between the First and Second World Wars, the Hendon airfield was mostly used by the London Flying Club and the Skywriting Corporation.

RAF HENDON 1939-TODAY

Colour in the
pictures to
bring history to life

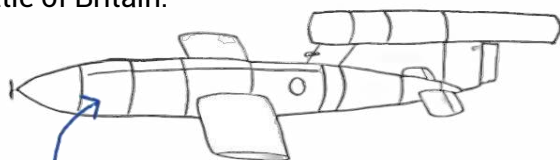


For a short time during the Second World War (1939-45) Hendon was a Fighter Command station. Hurricanes flew from here during the Battle of Britain.

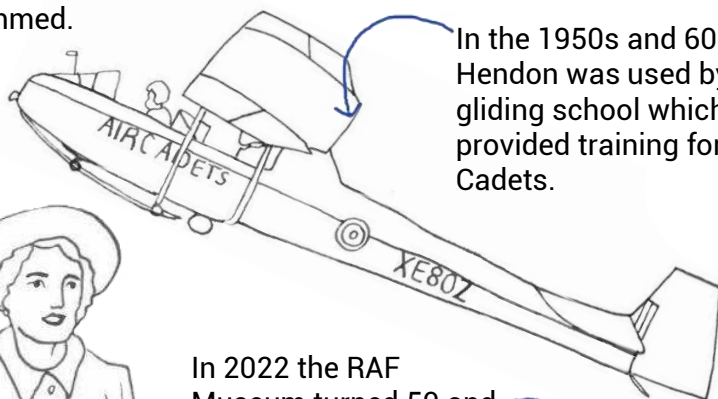


This is Ray Holmes. During the Battle of Britain he took off from Hendon in his Hurricane aeroplane.

He bravely took down a German bomber plane by ramming it with his own aircraft after his guns jammed.

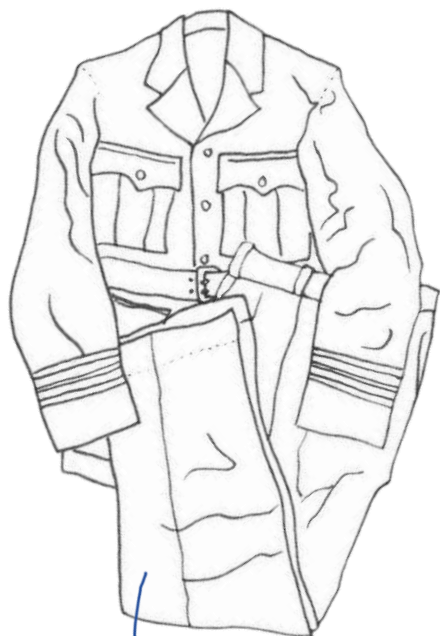


RAF Hendon was attacked by German forces from August 1940 onwards. The V-1 Flying Bombs ('Doodlebugs') caused the most destruction.



In the 1950s and 60s Hendon was used by a gliding school which provided training for Air Cadets.

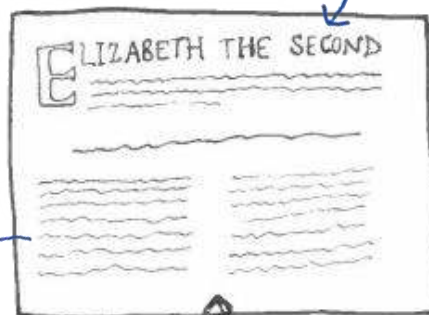
On 15 November 1972 the RAF Museum was opened by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.



The RAF Museum began collecting objects in 1965.



In 2022 the RAF Museum turned 50 and was honoured to receive a Royal Charter.



Can you find our Royal Charter in Hangar 3?

