



29 March 2017

Chocks away for the RAF Centenary!

April 1 2017 marks 99 years since the Royal Air Force was founded. With the services 100th anniversary approaching next year, the RAF Museum is hard at work preparing for the historic occasion by delivering a £26m RAF Centenary Programme, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Forged in the crucible of the First World War, the story of the Royal Air Force has shaped the modern world. By inspiring technological development, pioneering cultural change and pushing the boundaries of human achievement, the RAF has touched the lives of millions around the globe.

The RAF Museum is a national award-winning museum telling the story of the RAF past, present and future, through its people and collections at sites in both London and Cosford. 2018 is a once in a life-time opportunity to mark the 100th anniversary of the RAF as well as recognising the on-going impact and contribution the service plays on the world today.

Through a national collection of aircraft and artefacts, the Museum will honour this important milestone through a £26m major transformation of its visitor experience at its London site. Work is already underway to deliver the exciting plans that will celebrate and commemorate this anniversary as well as looking to the future, by creating a Royal Air Force legacy that endures and enriches future generations.

At London, new landscaping will welcome visitors to discover a new green heart of the community, reflecting the historic RAF Hendon airfield. New, innovative galleries will explore the first 100 years of the RAF, its roles today and entice visitors to imagine its future contribution and technology. Plus, a new digital sharing project will promote conversation with a global audience and help connect people to the RAF story, sharing information onsite and online.

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. The Cosford site will also be the focus of 'My RAF Story', which promises to be the largest collection of publicly sourced RAF stories.

The new exhibition halls at London will be opening in Summer 2018 as part of the wider calendar of national RAF events. Until then it's business as usual at both RAF Museum sites, open daily from 10 am....along with aircraft moves, exhibition construction, re-landscaping, design work and public events.....and not forgetting that admission is FREE!

Aviation fans can keep up to date with the centenary aircraft moves and on-going developments by signing up to the Museum's free e-Newsletter <http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/contact-us/newsletters.aspx>

Ends...

Notes to Editors:

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



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- www.rafmuseum.org
- 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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