



27 October 2014

## New Chief Executive Officer Appointed

**The Royal Air Force Museum is pleased to announce the appointment of its new Chief Executive Officer: Maggie Appleton MBE**

Maggie Appleton has over twenty years' experience in the heritage sector. She is passionate about the difference that museums and culture can make to people's lives and, after beginning her heritage career at the Royal Armouries (when it was based in the Tower of London) she focused her work in community museums, at Stevenage (1991 - 2003) and in Luton (2003 - 2008).

Maggie has led significant heritage initiatives and developments, notably the £6.2million development of Stockwood Discovery Centre which opened in July 2008, and securing the medieval Wenlok Jug for Luton and the nation after it was export stopped in 2006.

Since August 2008, Maggie has been the Chief Executive of Luton Culture, a values-led charity that comprises museums, arts, libraries and community centres. Maggie is currently a Heritage Lottery Fund Committee Member for the East of England and a Board Member for the Museums Association.

In 2012, Maggie Appleton received an MBE for Services to Museums and Heritage.

As CEO she will be responsible for leading the Museum through a major period of transformation in terms of infrastructure, exhibitions and activities which will also cover the period of 2018 which marks the Centenary of the RAF.

**Commenting on her appointment as Chief Executive of the RAF Museum, Maggie said:**

*"I am thrilled to join the RAF Museum's team in the run up to the RAF's centenary in 2018. The opportunity to lead a National Museum with collections of international importance telling stories of global significance is a huge privilege."*

Reporting to the Board of Trustees of the Royal Air Force Museum, Maggie will also be an ambassador for the Museum within the local community as well as nationally and internationally and will enhance the visibility, growth of visitor numbers and reputation of the Museum.

**Museum Chairman Air Chief Marshal Sir Glenn Lester Torpy GCB, CBE, DSO said:**

*"I am delighted that Maggie Appleton is joining the Museum as our new CEO. She brings a wealth of experience from her previous appointment and the Trustees are very much looking forward to her arrival."*

...ends...

### Notes To Editors:

- [www.rafmuseum.org](http://www.rafmuseum.org)
- Maggie Appleton will formally take up the post of CEO from January 2015
- First World War In the Air opens December 2014
- Follow us on Facebook – The Royal Air Force Museum
- Follow us on Twitter – @RAFMUSEUM
- Follow us on Instagram – rafmuseum
- 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](mailto:ajay@rafmuseum.org)
  - COSFORD – Michelle Morgans on 01902 376212 or email [michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org](mailto:michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org)
- All images used should be credited: '©Trustees of the Royal Air Force Museum'
- Admission to the Royal Air Force Museum is free of charge for media