

28th April 2010

Comet to feature on BBC's 'The One Show'

The One Show – 4th May 2010
7.00pm BBC1

The de Havilland Comet was the world's first jet airliner. The Comet 1, an early example which is on display at the Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, will appear in a special feature on BBC's 'The One Show', covering the short but historic service of the aircraft.

The Museum's Comet will appear in the feature entitled 'The Day Britain Changed' which looks at a pivotal event on a certain date in history and how Britain changed as a result.

Friday's episode looks at May 2nd 1952, when the first ever jet airliner, the de Havilland Comet, began its maiden passenger flight from London for Johannesburg with 36 passengers on board. A world first, Great Britain was destined to dominate the changing world of commercial aviation. For a short period, Britain did lead the way, until a series of accidents caused by fatigue failure of the pressure cabin, grounded the fleet enabling rivals including Boeing to come onto the scene and dominate the air.

Al McLean, Curator says:

'It is hard to exaggerate the impact that jet air travel has had upon the world, the first flight of the Comet really did herald a great change.'

The de Havilland Comet is on display at the Royal Air Force Museum Cosford and can be found in the Museum's Hangar 1 together with other transport and training aircraft of that era.

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

...Ends

Notes To Editors:

- Photo (left to right: RAF Museum Curator Al McLean, RAF Museum Marketing Assistant Michelle Worthington, J M Ramsden former de Havilland Apprentice, Travel Expert/TV Presenter Simon Calder.)
- Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP
- Open daily between 10am – 6pm (Last admission 5pm)
- FREE admission
- Photos available on request
- For further information and all media enquiries please contact
- Karen Crick on 01902 376208 or karen.crick@rafmuseum.org
- RAF Museum Cosford images & logo available at:
<http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/cosford/media-enquiries/downloads.cfm>