

20th May 2014

Women in aviation half term at Cosford

26th to 30th May 10am to 4pm FREE entry

This May half term the Royal Air Force Museum Cosford will be celebrating the achievements made by women in aviation. From Monday 26th to Friday 30th May there will be a free trail for children to take part in, based around the pioneering women that have helped shape aviation history.

Whilst completing the trail, look out for female staff members who will be dressed as some of the most iconic female aviators including Amy Johnson who set numerous long-distance records during the 1930's and flew in the Second World War as part of the Air Transport Auxiliary. Staff will be speaking with families about their inspirational lives and the roles they played in history. You will find all of the characters within the Museum's Warplanes and Test Flight hangars between 10am and 4pm each day.

Greeting visitors on arrival in the Visitor Centre will be a small exhibition containing items from the Museums storage collection and on loan to the Museum, with a second display located in the Temporary Exhibition Gallery in the Museum's Hangar 1. The exhibition will be on display throughout May half term and items will include an original WRAF uniform, a replica flying suit of Harriet Quimby and a flying suit of the style worn by Jo Salter. Also on display will be medals, photos, a bracelet and diary from a member of the WAAF.

In addition to this, there is plenty for the whole family to enjoy at the Museum including getting a taste of the action in the 4D Experience. If you have ever wondered what it feels like to fly to the moon, participate in an intense mid-air combat or navigate through death defying canyons at supersonic speeds, wonder no more. Visitors to the RAF Museum Cosford will be able to experience all the thrills and exhilaration of powered flight by entering the Museum's 4D Experience. The 4D Experience combines cutting-edge 3D computer animation with the added fourth dimension of special environmental effects, including seat movements, water spray, leg ticklers and smoke effects.

The RAF Museum is a day out that everyone from small children upwards will enjoy whatever the weather. Children and adults alike will be fascinated by fun 'n' flight. Packed with hands on excitement, it's the easy way to answer all those questions about how aircraft stay up in the air. Whether you're learning how to fly a Spitfire, investigating air flow with 'The Blower' or guiding a Hercules to a drop zone you will be learning and having fun. Parents and grandparents will be equally as entertained during their visit, with over 70 aircraft on display including the World's oldest Spitfire, the mighty Vulcan bomber and the unique TSR2 to name but a few, there is something at the RAF Museum for visitors of all ages to enjoy!

'Women in Aviation half term' is FREE of charge and you do not need to book in advance. Children can pick up their trail from the Admissions Desk on arrival at the Museum. The Museum is open daily from 10am and entry to the Museum is FREE. For more information, please call the Museum on 01902 376200 or visit <u>www.rafmuseum.org</u>.

Notes to Editors:

- Follow us on Facebook The Royal Air Force Museum, Cosford
- Follow us on Twitter @RAFMUSEUM
- Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP
- Open daily from 10am
- Admission to the Royal Air Force Museum is free of charge.
- RAF Museum Cosford images & logo available at: <u>http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/media-vault.aspx</u>
- For further information and all media enquiries please contact Michelle Morgans on 01902 376212 or email <u>michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org</u>
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