



The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund

Reception

Imperial War Museum

14th October 2008

Background: The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund (RAFBF) provides financial and practical assistance to anyone who is serving, or has ever served in the RAF, and their partners and dependants too. It offers grants, care and mobility services to individuals, as well as funding large-scale projects such as RAF childcare centres, debt advice services and relationship counselling.

Lord Trenchard founded the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund in 1919 one year after forming the Royal Air Force. Its remit then was to provide direct welfare assistance to those of the extended Royal Air Force family in need or distress. Today, the Fund's purpose remains the same.

In 1999 the RAFBF was awarded a Royal Charter. The Fund offers assistance to all past and present Royal Air Force members who entered productive service and their dependants who are in financial distress, regardless of rank, job or length of service. Eligibility lasts for life.

Event: The Clerk and I were invited to the reception of the RAFBF along with many other Masters, Clerks and City dignitaries. The introduction was kicked off by the present Lord Trenchard (Grandson of the Founder), followed by Sir Robert Wright (Controller of the RAFBF) who gave an in-depth overview of the organisation. After which three of the RAF presentation team took us through an exciting multi-media presentation.



After the presentation we had supper and the opportunity to look around the museum. We were made extremely welcome and it was good to be part of such a gathering so soon after our initial Military Affiliation.