

Sarratt Local History Society AGM and 'The Battle of Britain' a talk by Chris Wren, Curator at the RAF Museum Uxbridge

The words 'Battle of Britain' might signify the 'Few' but luckily this did not apply to the attendance at our AGM in the Village Hall.

Pam Turner, our Chairman, noted that though we had fewer activities than the previous year the standard of talks had remained high. Unfortunately, through no fault of their own, a number of committee members have been forced to retire. We would welcome any enthusiastic volunteers for this non arduous and interesting job.

Our treasurer, Jackie Boughton, pointed out that costs of speakers, venues etc. had all risen so, although we were still in the black, it had been decided to raise, slightly, the membership and visitor fee. Our President, Dawn Pitts is valiantly seeking new and inspiring speakers.

The current committee all agreed to stand again and were duly re-elected.

Our speaker, Chris Wren, from the RAF Museum, Uxbridge, was rather in the position of an actor faced with the 'to be or not to be' speech in Hamlet. We all thought we knew the words and story already. Well maybe we did. But Chris, with not a single written note and a variety of unfamiliar photos, swept us through those perilous War years with such passion, detail (both personal and technical)



*The restored Operations Room
in the No. 11 Group
Battle of Britain Bunker*

and informed comment that no summary in this report can do justice to his performance. Suffice it to say that at his conclusion we felt both emotionally exhausted and mentally exhilarated.

We were also absolutely clear that 'the Few' succeeded because of the outstanding support and input by the many backroom men and women involved in the whole episode.

Angela Colman

The next meeting is on Tuesday 22 March 8pm in the Village Hall, when Eve Davis will speak on 'Bygone Hemel Hempstead'