



UK CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

December 2020



Season's Greetings

The UK Chapter Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members a very merry Christmas and a most prosperous, happy, and healthy New Year. It is sincerely hoped that 2021 will allow us all to return to something bordering 'normal' when we can once again resume our frequent gatherings, events and of course friendships. Please keep monitoring the website for any updates on such issues for the coming year.

Your Company Logo/EW Job Advertising on New Website!

Your Logo - Why not consider sponsoring the UK Chapter by placing your company logo on the UK Chapter Website? Costs are modest and will promote your logo to the UK EW Community and beyond. Not only will you be supporting your local Chapter's activities, but you will also be reaching an ideal target audience; that must be good for business.

Your Jobs - Looking for the right EW personnel to fill your vacancies? Then also consider using the new UK Chapter website, to not only reach the heart of the EW community, but at the same time keep your recruitment advertising costs low. Advertising a vacant position on the Chapter website has been priced extremely competitively for all Chapter members and cannot be easier to set up.

Interested in taking advantage of these opportunities? Simply contact the UK Chapter President for more information.

Looking for EW Employment?

A new initiative! - The UK Chapter Board would like to aid anyone currently looking for employment in the world of Electronic Warfare. So, if you are on the lookout for your next challenging role in Electronic Warfare, the UK Board are offering to facilitate a window to your availability by placing any relevant details you wish to share with the EW Community in the UK Chapter Newsletter. Perhaps just a short introductory paragraph about yourself plus relevant contact details. However, should you wish to remain anonymous, but contactable via the UK Chapter President or Board member, name and contact details can be omitted. Subsequently, any potential employer can talk to you direct and in total confidence or via a Board Member in the first instance. This assistance would of course be free of charge to any of our members! So, update your CV and get it out there.



UK - EW News

In September, Air Platform Protection Test and Evaluation Squadron (APP TES) received Royal Assent to use of a Sqn badge, as designed by the College of Heralds (**see image above**). This honour recognises the importance and contribution of this small unit to Electronic Warfare operations in the UK and overseas and underlines the continued value of dedicated EW squadrons within the UK Armed Forces. A specialist squadron of the Air and Space Warfare Centre, APP TES is charged with developing and assuring EW countermeasures for all UK military aircraft as well as supporting various foreign partners. The Sqn has a unique blend of expertise across military and civilian personnel and its personnel are rightly regarded as EW experts, leading development of electro-optic and radio frequency defensive systems in direct support of deployed forces around the world. The Sqn has a long history of success, first as the Air Platform Protection OEU and latterly as APP TES and will continue to be a cornerstone in UK capability. Current work includes projects alongside industry and government partners to revolutionise EW Test & Evaluation, incorporating the latest in Modelling and Simulation techniques to ensure a world-leading capability for the 21st century. Well done to APP TES

Future Events/Visits

UK Chapter Christmas Dinner – RAF Club, Piccadilly, Friday 11, Dec 2020 (Cancelled) Due to the ongoing circumstances and restrictions caused by the COVID-19 epidemic, very sadly, it will not be possible for this year's Christmas dinner to take place.

UK Chapter AGM 2021 – RAF Club - Friday 23 April 2021 has been agreed with the RAF Club for the next AGM. It is currently intended to hold a social event post AGM (bring your partners) which will also feature as an award giving opportunity to replace the Christmas dinner which of course had to be cancelled. Further details will be forthcoming in the New Year.

Proposed Visit to 30 Cdo Y Sqn in Plymouth. Date tba.

AOC EW Europe 2021 – Seville, Spain - [EW Europe 2021](#) is being planned for 25 – 27 May 2021 in Seville, Spain. Get the date in your diaries and we hope to see you there.

A Tour Round AOC International Region 1 Chapters

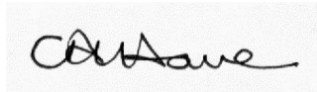
Full story is attached at the end of this newsletter, see what other AOC Chapters in our region have been up to.

Report provided by Dr Sue Robertson – Regional 1 Director and UK Board Member

Finally

Do remember, the UK Chapter is all about you, so please stay engaged and let the Board know what you want. Feedback is always most welcome; otherwise we are in danger of operating in a vacuum. We need more diverse and young members to become actively involved in what the UK Chapter does – any ideas will be greatly appreciated

Take care out there everyone and please stay safe, the UK Chapter Board wish you all a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Good luck in 2021.



Chris Howe MBE
AOC UK Chapter - President

Check out the New UK Chapter website at:
www.ukaoc.org

A Tour Round AOC International Region 1

by Dr Sue Robertson – Regional 1 Director

The international section of the AOC is growing fast and now accounts for more than 22% of the world-wide membership with chapters in 22 countries outside the United States.

International region 1 spans a vast area of the globe from Norway in the north to South Africa, and from India in the east to the western-most part of the UK. There are over 1500 members in our region and we now have 8 chapters in Europe.

All of the chapters in our region are very active. They hold meetings, educational events and social functions and keep our members connected by means of newsletters. The Red Baron Roost in Germany is typical of our chapters. They hold regular meetings at several locations in Germany allowing participation from their members from different areas and providing an impressive opportunity for members to connect with each other.



France – Lafayette Chapter	Norway – Arctic Roost
Germany – Red Baron Roost	Saudi Arabia Chapter
Holland – De Ooeivaar Club	South Africa – Aardvaarks
India Chapter	Sweden – Viking Roost
Israel Chapter	Switzerland – Swiss Crows
Italy – Pretorian Roost	UK Chapter

AOC International Region 1



The Board of Directors of the Red Baron Roost

A typical Red Baron meeting was held at the Fraunhofer Institute in Wachtberg near Bonn in April 2017. More than 40 AOC members enjoyed an interesting and informative evening with an excellent technical program on the theme of “Digitisation of Weapons Systems – Cyber Awareness”.

One of the most successful European chapters, the French Lafayette Chapter, celebrated their 20th anniversary in September 2017 with a splendid event held at the head-quarters of the Garde Républicaine.

The President of the La Fayette Chapter, Pierre Grandclément spoke about how the Chapter was born in 1997 and how it has evolved over the last 20 years. The chapter has organized several symposia and 120 conferences on EW technical or operational themes and produced 53 *Lettres d'information Guerrelec* and 3 books on EW

topics. During the birthday party in Paris it was a great pleasure to see the Lafayette chapter presented with the Award for Distinguished Small Chapter 2017.



Members of the Lafayette chapter at their 20th birthday party

The very successful EW Europe conference is held every year in May or June. In 2019 the conference location was Stockholm where over 900 delegates attended a program of presentations including plenary sessions and twin-tracks focusing on operations, equipment capability and industry innovation, alongside a large exhibition of EW companies. The event was honoured by the presence of the AOC president Muddy Watters and many distinguished international speakers. The local chapter “Viking Roost” played a prominent role in the proceedings.



AOC Past-President at EW Europe



Delegates at EW Europe

Every two years in November it is good to escape the wintry weather in the Northern hemisphere and pay a visit to the Aardvark Roost conference held at CSIR in Pretoria.

The outstanding presentations and well-attended exhibition are always a credit to the hard-working Board of Directors of the South Africa chapter, led by chapter president Ryno van Staden. Lunch-time poster sessions by students from Pretoria, Stellenbosch and Potchefstroom universities are definitely a highlight of the event.



Delegates at the South Africa Conference



Award winners at the EWKSA Conference in Riyadh

One of the newest chapters in our region is located in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This chapter also organises a biennial conference held at the King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology in Riyadh. In December 2017 the conference had an excellent technical content with 41 presentations, mostly by experts from Saudi Arabia. A well-attended exhibition accompanied the conference with over 25 international companies taking part.

At the eastern end of our region the India chapter holds a conference in Bengaluru every two years. In February 2018, the 3-day conference attracted more than 300 attendees and comprised over 76 technical papers and 10 invited talks. A pre-conference workshop day included courses by several eminent EW professionals from around the world.



Board of Directors of the India Chapter with the AOC President at EWCI 2018 Conferen

To finish our tour of international region 1 we return to Europe where our newest chapter, the “De Ooeivaar” chapter held their inaugural meeting in July 2018 aboard the frigate Zr Ms Tromp in the Den Helder naval base in the Netherlands.



The Board of Directors of the new De Ooeivaar Chapter

The main Board of Directors of the AOC recognizes the importance of the international regions of the AOC and is actively supporting efforts to set up new chapters in several countries including Portugal, Spain, and Turkey. It seems that we can look forward to making many more new AOC friends in the future!