

Cockpit-Fest 2013 Visitor's Cockpit Award

Aircrew Equipment Display

Scott Bouchard, Rob Pettifer, Rich Fryer, Rob Brown

Scott Bouchard describes how the award winning display came about. "I have displayed my flying helmet collection at Cockpit-Fest for a few years, but in 2013 decided to step it up a gear, and invited some fellow collectors / re-enactors to join in and add their collections to make a large joint display. It worked very well, we had a good laugh and ended up winning the visitors award! - Thank you the visitors!



I had never met my displaying companions, Rob Pettifer, Rich Fryer and Rob Brown before; we had got in touch through the Flying clothing Yahoo! Group. We had a few chats on the phone to plan the display, we arrived at Newark Air Museum and began setting up the display, on the day we got on well, it all worked out!

I have been collecting helmets and aircrew equipment since I was 11 years old. It is a spin-off hobby from my time spent helping out at Cranfield, maintaining T5 Lightnings XS452 and XS458. Rob Pettifer and Rich Fryer also have similar backgrounds with aircraft preservation projects, Rob at Gatwick Aviation Museum, and Rich at Bruntingthorpe and Midland Air Museum, Coventry. Rich and Rob B met through Vietnam era re-enacting, Rob P is also part of a WW2 RAF re-enacting group.

Rob P's equipment collection is mainly WW2 RAF themed, Rich's is mainly American, with a strong helicopter theme, and mine is mainly fast jet cold-war era, from a variety of countries. Rob B also brought a nice collection of Vietnam era ground equipment - so all together we had quite a varied display which people took great interest in!



As usual, Cockpit-Fest was a great event, we all had a great time, met some fascinating people, shared stories and some beers! Looking forward to attending again in the future, the event really is an important date in the diary for any aviation enthusiast!

Collecting aircrew equipment for me stems from a mixture of an interest in engineering and technology, and a desire to learn how different countries developed their equipment over time. Always interested to learn and share new details and aspects of the equipment that allows our aircrew to do their great jobs. I love the opportunities to share my interest with other people, and Newark's Cockpit-Fest is the perfect event for it!"



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@ScottBouch and @MAEcolelction