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Visitor Information •

Museum History -

· Fancy a flying saucer?

Up for sale is the museum's "Flying Saucer" – it's been on display outside since 2013 and has been popular with the younger visitors! It is made of wood, is four feet in diameter, and is heavier than you think! The paintwork will need some TLC though, and would make a great addition to any garden!

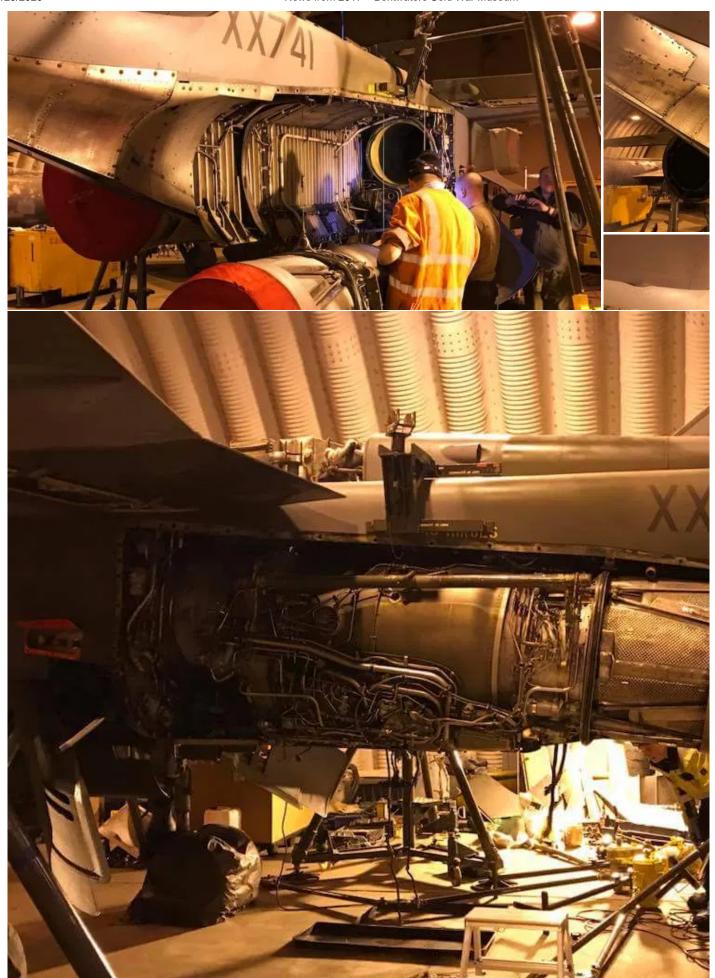
Anyone interested in the saucer should send a message via the museum's Facebook page with a bid, and the highest bidder will be selected on the evening of Sunday December 3rd. The successful bidder will be notified via Facebook, and will then need to make arrangement to collect the saucer from the museum on a Sunday or a Thursday evening.

Good luck!!



• Tremendous progress on Jaguar XX741!

On the weekend of November 18 & 19th, huge steps were taken to continue the journey to get Jaguar XX741 back to being able to taxi with the fitting of her 2 Adour 104 engines. These were fitted by the Jaguar team who have been working extremely hard to continue the restoration of XX741. Well done to all of them!



⁻ Special A-10 unveling at the BCWM on September 10th 2017 for a group of distinguished guests

A large group of ex USAF personnel who had worked within the 81st TFW at Bentwaters over the years gathered for a special unveiling of the newly restored A-10 at the museum on September 10th. The personnel who attended came from far and wide for the event – some making the journey from the US, and included crew chiefs, pilots, and even the last Wing Commander. Whom better should the recently completed A-10 restoration project be unviled for?! The day's event included the museum being open, a bus tour of the case, tour of the BCWM restoration HAS, and several speeches from Harry Eckes, Roger Radcliffe, and the BAS Chairman Graham Haynes. Lunch provided could only be a "hog roast" which was an extremely popular choice amongst all who attended!

Some images from the day can be found below:

















• The BCWM's 10th anniversary open day! September 17th 2017

To celebrate the museums 10th anniversary we are holding a special open day. Highlights will include the first public showing of the museums A-10 'Tankbuster' after being put back into 81st Tactical Fighter Wing colours that it wore when based at Bentwaters in the 1980's. Other attractions will include Military vehicles, classic American and British cars, Lazy Company Cold War re-enactors. Keep an eye out for updates – Normal museum admission charges apply.



• Bentwaters Airfield Walk - Sunday August 13th 2017

Experience a chance to walk around Bentwaters and sample the atmosphere of a Cold War airfield and view the architecture of a former United States Air Force front line air base. The tour will start with an hour long visit to the museum to find out the history of the site and then a guided walk around the airfield going past and through different areas of interest including the museums restoration hanger and finishing back at the museum for free Tea, Coffee and Biscuits.

Cost will be £15.00 per person. All proceeds go to the Bentwaters Cold War Museum, charity No 1124197. Numbers will be limited to 25 people (sorry but no children under 12), dogs are allowed if kept on a lead.

The walk is about 4 miles long and is mostly on a hard surface.

The walk will be cancelled if weather conditions are extreme.

Instructions from the guides must be followed at all times due to Health & Safety factors. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of the walk.

Allow 4 to 5 hours for the visit, starting at 11am.

Thanks to Bentwaters Parks for their kind permission for airfield access.

Book and pay for your place at the BAS website to book your place

· Some recent photos taken at the BCWM at the end of May.

Whilst the sun was shining, it seemed like a good idea to try and capture the latest look and feel of the museum – we hope you like them!









· Photos from the BCWM at night event

Here are a selection of images taken during the recent night event held at the museum. Depite the rain (again!) there was a good turnout on the night, and you can get a feel for what was happening from the images below.



• Bentwaters Cold War Museum at Night Event - 18th May 2017

Following on from the 2 successful events last year, the Bentwaters Cold War Museum will be opening its doors in the evening of May 18th 2017 at 7pm to hold a special opening in the evening with floodlit aircraft and live re-enactment by museum staff in the Cold War Command Post Bunker who will bring to life the ominous prospect of impending war that the world faced when the superpowers of the USA and the Soviet Union opposed each other.

Guided tours of the museum will be available at intervals plus films and photo opportunities both in the Command Post and outside with the aircraft, all arranged to maximise the visitor experience.

Admission is the normal price of £5.00 with children free. Hot drinks will be available in the museum café.

Flog It! visits the BCWM...

The popular BBC1 programme Flog It! recently paid a visit to the museum, and undertook some filming with our very own Bob Hale. Some photos of the day can be seen below.



• Bentwaters Photography Tour Saturday 18th March,2017.

Graham Gilbert has arranged for access to the former RAF Bentwaters airfield and is organising a more in depth tour geared to photography to compliment the popular airfield walks that he also organises on behalf of the Bentwaters Cold War Museum.

This tour will be by car and will be stopping at various areas and go into buildings where Cold War era artwork is still visible, some WW2 structures still survive as well.

The tour will be limited to 15 places and cost £25 per person and last 4 to 5 hours.

Send Graham a message via Facebook if you are interested in booking a place or would like to know more.

· Winter work continues.

Yet again, staff at he museum do not rest on their laurels, and have started to refurbish our USAF bus. Work to undertake some repair and cosmetic issues began in January. Below is a quick photo of the work in progress.



· What's new in 2017?

Now we are just into 2017, Bentwaters Cold War Museum will be celebrating 10 years since it opened to the public. 2016 was a fantastic year for it saw the return of an A-10 to the Twin Bases.........If anyone was thinking of joining the Bentwaters Aviation Society (which runs the museum) for the first time or re-joining please, please do as the membership subscriptions are a huge funding cornerstone for the museum. And will provide us the means to get the A-10 restored quickly back into 81st TFW colours and continue to improve other exhibits to tell the story of RAF Bentwaters and RAF Woodbridge. Those of you who have visited the museum over the last 9 years have told us how impressed you have all been and that gives us all a huge sense of pride. Find out more about BAS Membership here.

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