



PRESS RELEASE

September 2023

Teesdale Aviation Day 2023

Teesdale Aviation Day is to be held on Tuesday 26th September 2023 for its 28th year: An enduring memorial for those lost aviators and crashed aircraft in Teesdale, the Pennines and northern parts of the Yorkshire Dales.

Teesdale Aviation Day is set to remember and commemorate 80th anniversary aviation history on the 26th of September 2023, promising aviation stories from 1943 told by a new generation of RAF Cadets from Barnard Castle School, a surviving relative of a lost Royal Canadian Air Force Pilot who is flying in from Canada especially for this event and a once in a lifetime opportunity to view actual aircraft artifacts from one of these 80th anniversary stories.

Personnel from RAF Leeming, Barnard Castle School Combined Cadet Force, Veterans and Standards from Royal Air Force Association will all be in attendance for the event. This eagerly anticipated event, hosted by Barnard Castle Town Council, is set to be a poignant and interesting morning with a Service of Commemoration led by reverend Canon Alec Harding.

This will also be the first year the event will not be led by Co-Founder Tony Galley who passed away in February this year.

Chris Galley, [Retd Insp North Yorks Police], [Teesdale Aviation Day], expressed enthusiasm for the event, stating, "Teesdale Aviation Day is a testament to Tony Galley and John Yarker's enduring legacy and this memorial day will continue to be led by the Galley and Yarker families into the future with the support of Barnard Castle Town Council. It's an important opportunity to pay our respects and remember the ultimate sacrifice paid by those serving their country."

About Teesdale Aviation Day:

Set up in 1995 by Prison Officers from HMP Deerbolt Tony Galley and John Yarker, Teesdale Aviation Day is a memorial for the aviation history around Teesdale, the Pennines and northern areas of the Yorkshire Dales. This event commemorates not only lost Pilots and crew but also moments of extreme bravery and courage for which there are many. The event will feature an impressive lineup of attendees including Radio enthusiasts from BARAC and Vintage Pipers. Attendees will also have the opportunity to get up close and personal with artifacts from a Curtis P-40 Tomahawk which crashed near Battle Hill, Cotherstone in 1943 and have been kindly loaned to the event from Fort Perch Rock Museum, Wirral, Merseyside.

Cllr Laura Drew, Barnard Castle Town Mayor, stated, "Teesdale Aviation Day was moved into the care of Barnard Castle Town Council Memorial Gardens some years ago and we continue to host the event on behalf of communities throughout Teesdale. This year we will be joined by our friends from Reeth Town Council to jointly commemorate lost Aviators. It's truly inspirational to see young people from Barnard Castle School telling these amazing stories helping to build a new generation of awareness"

Notes for editors:**Event Details:**

Date: Sunday, 26th September 2023

Time: 10:30 AM – Midday

Location: Galgate Memorial Gardens, Galgate, Barnard Castle, Co Durham DL12 8BJ

Admission: Free

Facebook Page: [Teesdale Aviation Day](#)