

RAF Football Association - E-Bulletin

RAF100 – A YEAR OF RAF FOOTBALL

As the RAF100 year ends the RAF FA and RAF Football look back at an incredibly busy and proud year supporting the 100th Anniversary celebrations. Over the year the RAF FA have completed 36 events across all facets of RAF Football, from the Senior Representative teams, Icarus and Veterans to Community events, overseas Charitable Appeals and events and interaction at the highest levels of English football, including at the FA Cup Final and through the England National Squad.

The RAF Football RAF100 commemorations began on 2nd November 2017 at RAF Shawbury when students and Instructors from the School of Air Operations Control (SAOC) held a Force Development Day with players and coaches from the England Disability Squads and ends on 2nd October 2018 when the RAF FA Ladies Senior Representative Squad meet with the England Senior Ladies Squad and watch their training session at St Georges Park National Football Centre. In the intervening months events have been held across the world, from match day interaction at Premier League clubs AFC Bournemouth, Brighton and Watford to overseas charitable deliveries in Nepal, Kenya and Nigeria, to national recognition at the FA Cup Final and Referees Association Dinners. The RAF FA also celebrated its Anniversary at its Annual Dinner at RAF Halton and at its home Senior Inter Services matches TNS and Shrewsbury Town. The year also saw the RAF FA support the FA Disability Finals weekend at SGP, the Scottish FA Cup Final and FA Cup final of Wales, the FA Community Shield and events at many clubs and events across the world. To coincide with Battle of Britain Day personnel laid wreaths at the National Military Arboretum and attended a match at Burton Albion FC.

This has been a hugely successful year for the RAF FA in which they have taken the RAF100 message across the globe raising interest and knowledge in the RAF old and new. The RAF FA is incredibly proud to have been able to cover all of these events, and in particular the fantastic amount of interaction at the 2018 FA Cup Final at Wembley Stadium with a crowd of 87000 and a worldwide audience estimated at half a billion people. Our thanks go out to all those clubs and organisations who have allowed us access during this milestone year and celebrated with us, linking the 100 years of the RAF to RAF Football.

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