

Visit to Tangmere Military Aviation Museum

3 November 2025



Our coach dropped us off at the entrance where we split into our allocated group to take it in turn to attend the one hour presentation by Sheryl Green in the Neville Duke Hall. This focused on the special duty pilots and agents who trained and operated out of Tangmere during the second World war. This eloquent speaker later met us by the replica Lysander aircraft and explained how it had been modified to enable it to play a vital role during the second World war. In the Tangmere Hall where there were many exhibits illustrating the history of Tangmere from 1917 to 1970, there was a comprehensive exhibition devoted to the equipment, training and activities of the special SOE Agents and pilots who flew the Lysander aircraft from Tangmere to and from occupied Europe.

We were subsequently at liberty to explore other areas of the museum, including the aircraft both inside the halls and outside, try out a flight simulator, look at memorabilia displayed or sit and watch various films including the Douglas Bader story. Some would have liked more time to look around but all too soon we had to re-join the coach which took us on to the Anglesey Arms for our pre-booked lunches which lived up to expectation. We were allocated tables in a section of the pub so we could all sit together which made it a very sociable occasion. Sorting the bill/payments out afterwards was something of a trial but hopefully Nicola hasn't received any demands from the Management since for underpayment.

Most people decided to leave with the coach to go down to Boxgrove where we were set down to walk up the lane to see the remains of 13th century Boxgrove Priory and then into the adjacent church of St Mary and St Blaise. The stained glass windows are lovely, as was a poppy display in readiness for Remembrance Sunday. This was an added bonus to the outing

so far as I was concerned, as it is many years since I last visited (whilst cycling up through Boxgrove to the lovely West Sussex villages beyond).

A most enjoyable, well organised day out, thank you.



An enthusiastic Joanna sitting in the cockpit

Valerie Stringer