

V1 last updated 1.4.2024.
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RNAS Llangefni

CREDITS:

National Archives [ADM files]

My Airship Flights 1915-30 by Capt George Meager AFC.

CO	Commanding Officer
RNAS	Royal Naval Air Station
Maj	Major [rank]

Sunday 26th September 1915

Commissioned as part of 14 Group RNAS with 4 Airships.
First CO was Maj G H Scott CBE AFC FRAeS [killed in the 1930 crash of the R101].
Hangar 120x318ft long with workshops, hydrogen gas shed and barrack blocks.
Anti-Submarine Patrols carried out by SSZ [Submarine Scout Zero] Airships.
Patrols carried out between Bardsey Island, Dublin, IoM & Morecambe Bay.
Officers were accommodated at the Bull Inn, Llangefni.



Looking to the North West, the A5 can be seen lower left & right. [FAA Museum]

Known Airships operated at Llangefni:

SS18 SS22 SS24 SS25 SS33

SS Airships incorporated a BE.2C fuselage with a 70,000cu.ft envelope.

Wednesday 10th May 1916 [GM]

SS24		SS Airship		G Meager
1 st solo flight lasting 13 mins. 2 nd flight of 30 mins flown same day. During his training he flew with S/Lt E F Turner [SS22], S/Lt Scroggs [SS24] & S/Lt Kilburn [SS18]				

Wednesday 17th May 1916 [GM]

SS22		SS Airship		
Anti-submarine patrol with CPO Gwilt & AM Bingham as W/T Op. Flew over Amlwch, approach lanes to Liverpool & Great Orme, 4hrs in total.				
SS24		SS Airship		G Meager
Patrol carried out with S/Lt Scroggs.				

Friday 19th May 1916 [GM]

SS24		SS Airship		Airborne 05:55
Anti-submarine patrol covering Llanddwyn lighthouse-Tremadoc Bay-Penrhos-Criccieth-Porthmadog-towards Blaenau Ffestiniog-Lleyn Peninsula-Menai Straits-Base, 4h10m.				

Saturday 20th May 1916 [GM]

SS22		SS Airship		Airborne 17:00
Report of a Submarine in the Irish Sea. Patrolled to the West of Holyhead, 3h15m patrol.				

Sunday 21st May 1916 [GM]

Daylight Saving Bill comes into force, clocks go forward 1hr.				
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Saturday 27th May 1916 [GM]

SS22		SS Airship		G Meager
Patrol with AM Hallam as W/T Op. Bardsey Island-Mail boat route in the Irish Sea, 4h30m flown.				

Sunday 28th May 1916 [GM]

SS24		SS Airship		G Meager
Patrol with AM King as W/T Op. Skerries-Liverpool Bay-Point Lynas-Amlwch-Base, 3h30m flown.				

Thursday 9th November 1916 [GM][RS]

SS[18]		SS Airship		
On landing at Llangefni it hit a cow smashing the undercarriage and killing the cow. The W/T Op jumped clear, the airship was then blown out to sea and crashed into the Sea, the Engineer either jumped or was thrown clear at that point as the envelope and fuselage				

broke in two. Pilot managed to cling onto the wreckage and was picked up by a coal tramp.
Also quoted as 1915 ?

Pilot	S/Lt	A D Thompson	Ok
W/T Op		?	Ok
Eng	AM	J W Young	Missing, presumed drowned

June 1917

SSP Class Airship replaced the SS Class.
Known SSP Airships at Llangefni: SSP1 SSP5 SSP6

Wednesday 7th November 1917

A7654		DH.4	19 TS	
Stalled on approach to RNAS Llangefni.				
Pilot	2/Lt	B R H Carter	Killed, aged 19	
Obs	Cpl	H Smith	Badly injured	

1918

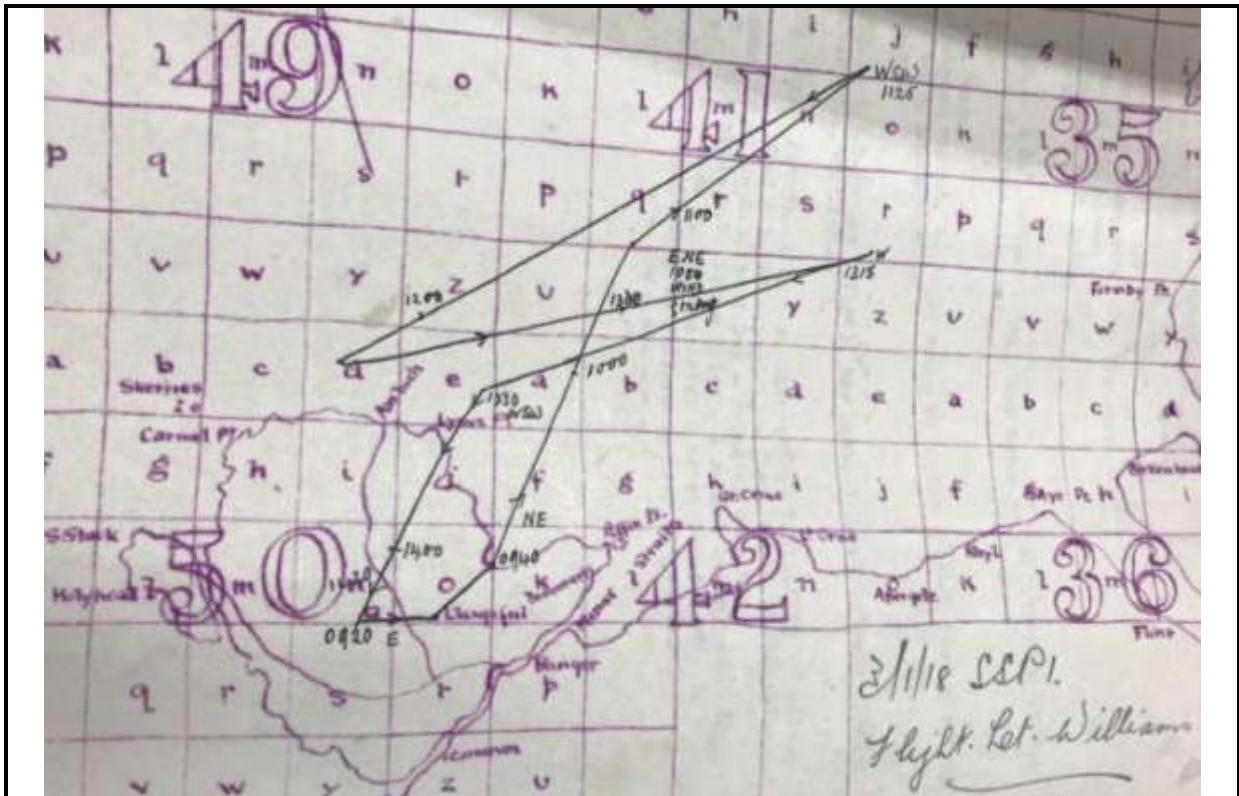
Airship Station Anglesey, detached unit of RNAS Malahide, near Dublin.
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Wednesday 2nd January 1918 [ADM]

SSP.6 unavailable awaiting a new envelope. SS.25 awaiting rigging.				
SSP.1		SSP Airship		Flight S/Lt Carver
200nm patrol 08:27-14:15				
SSP.1		SSP Airship		F/L Greenland
Search for submarine 16:00-18:20				
SSP.5		SSP Airship		Flight S/Lt Farina
07:45-07:55				
SSP.5		SSP Airship		Flight S/Lt Farina
Patrol 08:55-15:35				

Thursday 3rd January 1918 [ADM]

SSP.6 unavailable awaiting a new envelope. SS.25 awaiting rigging.				
SSP.1		SSP Airship		F/L T B Williams
09:20-14:20				



Patrol Route. [National Archives]

SSP.5		SSP Airship		Flight S/Lt Farina
09:15-09:40				
SSP.5		SSP Airship		Flight S/Lt Farina
14:05-16:05				

Friday 4th January 1918 [ADM]

SSP.6 unavailable awaiting a new envelope. SS.25 awaiting rigging.				
SSP.5		SSP Airship		Flight S/Lt Farina
07:55-13:50				

Saturday 5th January 1918 [ADM]

SSP.6 unavailable awaiting a new envelope. SS.25 awaiting rigging.				
SSP.1		SSP Airship		Flight S/Lt Carver
08:00-13:25				
SSP.1		SSP Airship		F/L Williams
Instructional flight 15:40-16:05				
SSP.5		SSP Airship		F/L Williams
07:43-11:50				

Sunday 6th January 1918 [ADM]

SSP.6 unavailable awaiting a new envelope. SS.25 awaiting rigging.				
SSP.1		SSP Airship		F/L Greenland
15:05-16:20				
SSP.5		SSP Airship		F/L Williams
15:30-16:35				

Monday 7th-10th January 1918 [ADM]

No flying due to bad weather. SSP.6 unavailable awaiting new envelope. SS.25 awaiting rigging.				

Friday 11th January 1918 [ADM]

SSP.6 unavailable awaiting a new envelope. SS.25 awaiting rigging.				
SSP.1		SSP Airship		Flight S/Lt Farina
09:42-12:00				
SSP.5		SSP Airship		Flight S/Lt Wigglesworth
09:32-14:20				

Thursday 31st January 1918 [ADM]

No flying due weather. SSP.5 unavailable awaiting a new envelope. SSP.6 unavailable awaiting rigging.				

Friday 1st February 1918 [ADM]

No flying due weather. SSP.5 unavailable awaiting a new envelope. SSP.6 unavailable awaiting rigging.				

March/April 1918 [RS]

SSZ Class Airship replaced the SSP Class.				
Known SSZ Airships at Llangefni: SSZ34 SSZ35 SSZ50 SSZ51 Malahide Detachment: SSZ72 SSZ73				

Monday 1st April 1918 [RS]

RNAS Llangefni transferred to the RAF

Monday 8th April 1918 [RS]

SSZ35		SSZ Airship		
7:30hr patrol Liverpool Bay.				

Friday 26th April 1918 [RS]

SSZ35		SSZ Airship		F/L T B Williams
Whilst on patrol near Formby the engine failed, taken in tow by a trawler and deposited on the beach at Llandudno. See 27.4				

Saturday 27th April 1918 [RS]

SSZ35		SSZ Airship		F/L T B Williams
After repairs, the airship underwent an air test but after 10mins the engine failed again. The Airship drifted towards Anglesey coming down near Cerrigeinwen near home Base. It was eventually escorted back to RAF Llangefni by the local population!				

Thursday 9th May 1918 [RS]

SSZ34		SSZ Airship		
Patrolled N & NW coast of Anglesey.				
SSZ35		SSZ Airship		
Patrolled Liverpool Bay & escorted troopship from Holyhead to Kingstown.				
SSZ50		SSZ Airship		
Patrolled Liverpool Bay for 4h50m.				
SSZ51		SSZ Airship		
Escorted troopship from Holyhead to Kingstown and escorted Mail ship back to Holyhead, 7:45hrs.				

Saturday 18th May 1918 [RS]

SSZ50		SSZ Airship		
Located a submarine near the Skerries, 100lb & 230lb bombs dropped.				

Sunday 19th May 1918 [RS]

SSZ51		SSZ Airship		
At 04:30 a submarine periscope wake was seen 12nms SW of Bardsey Island. A 230lb bomb was dropped and a position report sent.				
SSZ35		SSZ Airship		
Joined in the above attack with a 230lb dropped. 4 Destroyers [3 American, 1 British] then joined in dropping depth charges. Following this attack oil, bubbles & debris were seen on				

the surface, this was possibly UB-119.

Monday 27th May 1918 [RS]

SSZ34		SSZ Airship		
Dropped a 230lb on air bubbles/oil at position 53.3N 004.45W.				
SSZ50		SSZ Airship		
Searched for submarine in position 53.3N 005.28W.				
SSZ51		SSZ Airship		
Dropped 230lb bomb on large bubbles of oil W of Bardsey Island.				

Wednesday 29th May 1918 [RS]

SSZ34		SSZ Airship		
Worked with a Destroyer searching for a submarine.				

Saturday 29th June 1918 [RS]

SSZ35		SSZ Airship		F/L T B Williams
Left Base at dawn to set up an endurance record for a SSZ Airship. Routing N Ireland-Scotland-Isle of Man-Blackpool-Liverpool-Holyhead-Base. However, they dropped a small bomb on an isolated Island whose debris punctured the envelope! Airborne for 26h10m.				

Monday 11th November 1918 [RS]

		?x SSZ Airship		
Airships from RNAS Llangefni flew to Holyhead where they dropped bombs as a prelude to the Armistice celebrations to follow.				

November 1918 [RS]

		SSZ Airship		Maj Elmhurst
Flew an SSZ Airship under the Menai suspension bridge.				

Friday 22nd November 1918

RNAS Orchestra played at the Christmas Concert at the Gwalchmai Church Hall.				
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November 1920 [RS]

Base transferred to the Government Disposal Board, for sale. Purchased by Anglesey County Council. See separate Archive reference RAF Mona during and after WW2.				
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Saturday 6th December 1969 [GM][AIR 29/3798]

49th Reunion Dinner of the RNAS Anglesey Old Boys Association.

Plaque presented to County Council Offices by the RNAS Anglesey Old Boys Association.
Depicts SSZ34.

Friday 17th April 1970 [GM]

50th Reunion Dinner of the RNAS Anglesey Old Boys Association.