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RAF Valley

Aircraft Movements

1966

CREDITS:

National Archives/Manchester Aviation Society/Yorkshire Air News
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UPDATE V2

Additional 4 FTS movements.
Additional Unit movements: 58/98/204/210 Sqn.
Additional Gnat details by Mike Bursell.

SUMMARY

The frequent nearly scheduled visits of the DH Heron G-ASUU were in connection with the construction of Wylfa Nuclear Power Station.

Abbreviations

[F]BW	[Fighter] Bomber Wing [USAF]
CAACU	Civilian Anti-Aircraft Co-operation Unit
CASEVAC	Casualty Evacuation
CAW	College of Air Warfare
CCCF	Coastal Command Communications Flight
CFS	Central Flying School
CN&CS	Central Navigation & Control School
ECM	Electronic Counter Measures

ETPS	Empire Test Pilots School
FCCS	Fighter Command Communications Squadron
FTCCS	Flying Training Command Communications Squadron
FTS	Flying Training School
GCA	Ground Controlled Approach
HQ CCCF	Headquarters Coastal Command Communications Flight
HQ FC	Headquarters Fighter Command
MCS	Metropolitan Communications Squadron
MoA	Ministry of Aviation
MOTU	Maritime Operational Training Unit
MPC	Missile Practice Camp
MU	Maintenance Unit
NAS	Naval Air Squadron
NCS	Northern Communications Squadron
OCU	Operational Conversion Unit
PD	Practice Diversion
QRA	Quick Reaction Alert [aircraft scramble]
RAFC	Royal Air Force College
RAFFC	Royal Air Force Flying College
RRE	Radar Research Establishment
Sqn	Squadron
TRW	Tactical Reconnaissance Wing [USAF]
TTF	Tanker Training Flight
UAS	University Air Squadron

In 1966 Valley were using these frequencies: Valley Ground 269.5 Valley Tower 384.4 Valley Approach 374.1 Valley Director 250.4 Valley Talkdown 254.3 Aberporth Primary 250.5/Secondary 272.8	
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January/Early 1966 [RD]

These are a set of photographs taken by Ray Deacon of Valley Gnats visiting RAF Little Rissington in January and early 1966.				
XR541	34	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	



Seen on the visitors pan in early 1966. [Ray Deacon]

XS110	62	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
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Parked alongside Vampire T.11 XD550:32 of CFS in early 1966. [Ray Deacon]

XS102	58	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
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Parked on the visitors pan in early 1.66. [Ray Deacon]

Monday 3rd January 1966 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP530 delivered from CFS to 4 FTS – became '64'				

Tuesday 4th January 1966 [BJ]

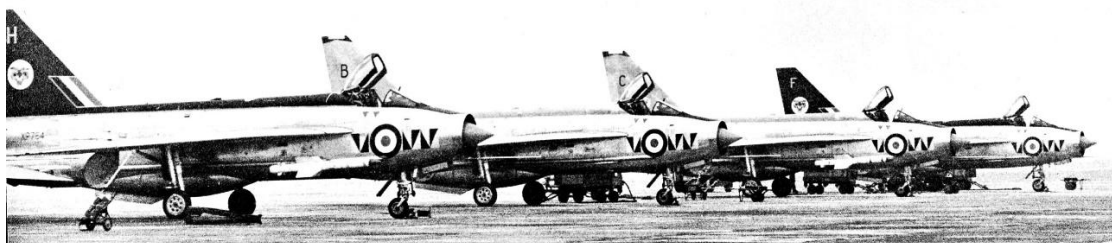
G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Wednesday 5th January 1966 [AIR 27/3047]

XL386	-	Vulcan B.2	27 Sqn	PD F/L M J Morrissey, air test.
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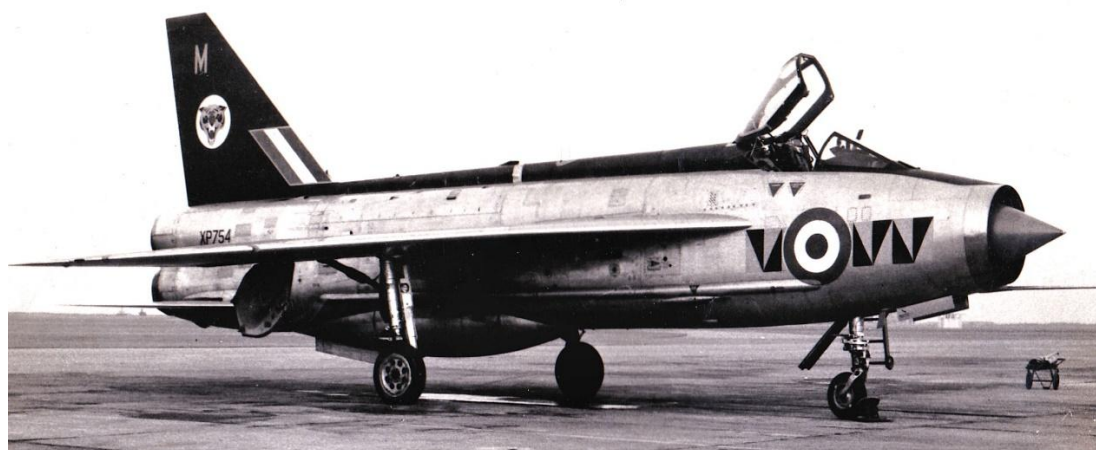
Sunday 9th January 1966 [Pprune MAINJAFAD][AIR 27/2952][AIR 27/3102][AIR 27/3039][DW]

74 Sqn arrived from Leuchars for their MPC.
74 Sqn MPC 9-31.1, 5 Firestreak missiles fired.
74 Sqn's first MPC in 3yrs.



[Don Williams]

XP751	B	Lightning F.3	74 Sqn	MPC [F/L H R Ploszek]
XP702	C	Lightning F.3	74 Sqn	MPC
XP698	F	Lightning F.3	74 Sqn	MPC
XP764	H	Lightning F.3	74 Sqn	MPC
XP754	M	Lightning F.3	74 Sqn	MPC



Seen here on the FCMPC flightline. [Don Williams]

		Lightning F.3	74 Sqn	MPC
-				
XP353	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Marooned person near Ellesmere Port, recalled enroute as the person had already been				

rescued.

Wednesday 12th January 1966 [DF][AIR 27/3137]

XL189	-	Victor B.2	100 Sqn	PD S/L J M Price
WJ627	[-]	Canberra B.2*	RRE	



*From and to Pershore, Thunderbird Missile ECM trial with TERA, Ty Croes.
Possibly this is the same aircraft seen at Llanbedr in 1963. [Tudor Rowlands]

Thursday 13th January 1966 [AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3203][AIR 4/218]

XL359	-	Vulcan B.2	617 Sqn	PD G/C Mawer
XP664	42	JP T.4	2 FTS	Beckley
NAVEX from & to Syerston.				
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Top cover provided for the delivery of wages from Holyhead to RAF Valley.				

Friday 14th January 1966 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR982:51 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU/CWP.				

Monday 17th January 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XR953	29	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
Landed safely with port wheel retracted. 22 Sqn scrambled Whirlwind HAR.10 XJ429 [F/L Scott] which flew alongside the Gnat as it landed. The 2 Gnat Pilots were then flown to the Sqn Headquarters.				
	F/L	Cloke		Ok
				Ok

Tuesday 18th January 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Wednesday 19th January 1966 [Fred Butcher logbook*][AIR 27/3053][AIR 27/3071]

XH394	[X]	Javelin T.3*	27 MU	[ex. 11 Sqn]
27 MU was at Shawbury.				
WT515	-	Canberra PR.7	31 Sqn	F/L Longhurst from & to Laarbruch
WR959	G	Shackleton MR.2	42 Sqn	PD F/L W Armstrong

Thursday 20th January 1967 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP534:15 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 15.2				

Friday 21st January 1966 [AIR 27/3134][MB]

WK145		Canberra B.2	98 Sqn	M/P Duval
From Watton at 12:20 after a Northern Calibration Run.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR574:24 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60MU from 15.2				

Saturday 22nd January 1966 [AIR 27/3134]

WK145		Canberra B.2	98 Sqn	To Marham at 13:30
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Monday 24th January 1966 [AIR 27/3134]

WK162		Canberra B.2	98 Sqn	F/L Sykes 14:25
WJ620		Canberra B.2	98 Sqn	F/L Flint

Tuesday 25th January 1966 [AIR 27/3134]

WK162		Canberra B.2	98 Sqn	To Marham 12:05
WJ620		Canberra B.2	98 Sqn	To [Marham] 13:40

Wednesday 26th January 1966 [AIR 27/2942][AIR 27/3139][AIR 27/3077][AIR 27/3094]

XA911	-	Vulcan B.1A	50 Sqn	S/L A Wallace
XA906	-	Vulcan B.1A	50 Sqn	F/L G Rippin
Exercise 'Billion' and 'Kinsman' dispersals from Waddington.				
XH476	-	Vulcan B.1A	44 Sqn	Diversion F/L P W Mayes
WH869		Canberra B.2	98 Sqn	
WH796		Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	Diversion at 14:20 W/C Dixon
WJ825		Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	Diversion at 12:55 F/L Purchase
WT512		Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	Diversion at 13:50 F/L Holme
WJ815		Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	Diversion at 12:35 F/L Nixon
The 58 Sqn aircraft were all diversions from Wyton.				

Thursday 27th January 1966 [AIR 27/2942][AIR 27/3139][AIR 27/3082][AIR 27/3094]

XA911	-	Vulcan B.1A	50 Sqn	To Waddington, see 26.1
XH497	-	Vulcan B.1A	101 Sqn	F/L Gleeson 'Exercise 'Kinsman'
XH479	-	Vulcan B.1A	101 Sqn	F/L Prideaux 'Exercise 'Kinsman'
XB290	[X]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	'RRR0325' F/L M H Letton
Routed: Waddington-Valley-Abingdon, Exercise 'Kinsman' support.				
WH796		Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	To Wyton at 08:15
WJ825		Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	To Wyton at 10:20
WT512		Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	To Wyton at 10:40

WJ815		Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	To Wyton at 10:30
WH869		Canberra B.2	98 Sqn	To Watton

Friday 28th January 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/2942][AIR 27/3199]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
XA906	-	Vulcan B.1A	50 Sqn	To Waddington, see 26.1
XH497	-	Vulcan B.1A	101 Sqn	To Waddington, see 27.1
XH479	-	Vulcan B.1A	101 Sqn	To Waddington, see 27.1

Saturday 29th January 1966 [AIR 27/3082]

XB287	[T]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	F/L J A Young
Routed: Abingdon-Valley-Waddington-Abingdon, return of Exercise 'Kinsman' support.				

Sunday 30th January 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Some Territorial Army Officers based at Birkenhead were flown from RAF Mona to RAF Valley to discuss the possibility of a visit of 95 men at a later date.				

Monday 31st January 1966 [AIR 27/3102][AIR 27/3189]

74 Sqn MPC				
1x Firestreak fired [Lightning F.3]				
XK699	699	Comet C.2	216 Sqn	'RRR2469' F/L Underwood
Possible diversion whilst routing Benina-Lyneham ?				

Tuesday 1st February 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3189]

XK699	699	Comet C.2	216 Sqn	To Lyneham, see 31.1
G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke

Friday 4th February 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Tuesday 8th February 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3077]

XA912	-	Vulcan B.1A	44 Sqn	PD F/L P W Mayes
G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke

Wednesday 9th February 1966 [AIR 27/2921][AIR 27/3152]

XM605	-	Vulcan B.2	12 Sqn	PD F/L M F S Melville
WR979	D	Shackleton MR.3	120 Sqn	PD F/L W H Smith

Thursday 10th February 1966 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR537:37 repairs complete and back to 4 FTS, see 10.12.65				

Friday 11th February 1966 [AIR 27/3019][AIR 29/4540]

Valley MRT called out for a search for a missing Vulcan. This was Vulcan B.2 XH536 9 Sqn which flew into Bwlch Chwyth Mountain, South of Sennybridge [OS 141/912216] while on a low-level NAVEX in bad weather, all 5 crew were killed.

The crew were:

Pilot: F/L John Donald MacDonald
 Co-pilot: F/O Graham Howard Sutcliffe
 Nav Rad: F/L Roger Clare
 Nav Plot: F/L Brian Waring
 F/L Geoffrey Edward Fuller

XJ780	-	Vulcan B.2	230 OCU	PD F/L Stannard
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Saturday 12th February 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP352	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Involved in the search for the missing Vulcan [see 11.12] commenced searching from St Asaph heading South but recalled as a Chivenor based helicopter [Whirlwind HAR.10 XP347 22 Sqn] had located the wreckage.				

Saturday 19th February 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Paul
Capsized dinghy with 3 persons onboard, on arrival 2 persons had swum ashore and the remaining person signalled that he had the dinghy under control. Escorted the dinghy to calm water near Holyhead and safety then returned to Valley.				

Sunday 20th February 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Paul
2 men in the sea off the Broadway Hotel, Morecambe, informed enroute that the men had been rescued safely.				

Tuesday 22nd February 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Wednesday 23rd February 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
Yacht in difficulty off Beaumaris, on arrival yacht had been taken under tow by Lifeboat, returned to Valley.				

Thursday 24th February 1966 [AIR 29/4540]

XH556	-	Vulcan B.2	230 OCU	PD S/L Woodward
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Friday 25th February 1966 [AIR 27/3039][AIR 29/4540]

XH558	-	Vulcan B.2	230 OCU	PD F/L Meadows
-				
XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Scrambled to search for a Cessna aircraft missing since 22.2 Refuelled at Blackpool Airport				

but developed hydraulic problems enroute, landed at Warton where this was rectified. Unable to continue the search due to severe turbulence and stopped overnight at Blackpool. See also 26.2

Saturday 26th February 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Departed Blackpool [see 25.2] for Valley but diverted to Ternhill to refuel for a CASEVAC. Patient and Doctor flown from Shrewsbury Barracks to Battersea Heliport, London. Remained in London overnight.				

Sunday 27th February 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Flew from London [see 26.2] to Shawbury where the Doctor from the previous day's flight was dropped off and after refuelling continued to Valley.				

Monday 28th February 1966 [AIR 29/4540]

XH559	-	Vulcan B.2	230 OCU	PD S/L Woodward
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Tuesday 1st March 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Tuesday 8th March 1966 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR567:17 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 23.6.65				

Thursday 10th March 1966 [AIR 27/3212][MB]

Visit by Commandant D J Healey, Chief Instructor Irish Air Corps.				
VP955	[-]	Devon C.1	MCS	M/P Dixon from & to Northolt
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP513:13 repairs complete and returned to 4 FTS, see 6.7.65				

Tuesday 15th March 1966 [IBCCA]

WJ886	23	Varsity T.1	CFS	F/L Coombes
From & to Little Rissington.				

Tuesday 22nd March 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Thursday 24th March 1966 [Pprune snakecharmer Father's logbook*]

XH591	-	Victor B.1A*	57 Sqn	PD from Honington
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Monday 28th March 1966 [Pprune snakecharmer Father's logbook*][AIR 27/3212]

XA930	-	Victor B.1*	57 Sqn	PD from Honington
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WV704	[-]	Pembroke C.1	MCS	M/P J Miller from Northolt.
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Tuesday 29th March 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Thursday 31st March 1966 [BJ]

G-AREB	-	Cessna 175B	Private	From Speke
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April 1966 [RD]

A couple of photos taken by Ray Deacon of Valley Gnats visiting RAF Little Rissington 4.66

XR997	25	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
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[Ray Deacon]

XS104	44	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
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Parked in the Varsity hangar at Little Rissington whilst night stopping.

[Ray Deacon]

F/L S Beckley started flying training on the Gnat in April 1966. He flew the following Gnats April-August 1966, his logbook is held at the National Archives under AIR 4/218

XP500 XP502 XP504 XP515 XP516 XP531 XP533 XP537 XP538 XP539 XP540 XP541 XR535
XR537 XR538 XR539 XR541 XR567 XR571 XR572 XR573 XR574 XR951 XR952 XR953 XR955
XR977 XR983 XR984 XR997 XR998 XS103 XS104:44 XS105 XS106 XS109 XS110

Saturday 2nd April 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
4 youths missing on a mountain walk, nothing seen, later informed that they were safe.				

Sunday 3rd April 1966 [Prune MAINJAFAD][AIR 27/3011]

5 Sqn arrived from Binbrook for their MPC.				
MPC 4-26.4, only 2 Firestreak missiles fired out of 5, mainly due to shipping on the range.				
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC S/L B J St Aubyn
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC F/L P J Ginger
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC Capt J V Barr [USAF]
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC F/L B C Allchin
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC F/L R N Davidson
		Lightning T.5	5 Sqn	MPC F/L W G Gambold

Monday 4th April 1966 [AIR 4/218][MB]

Beckley trained with 4 FTS 4.4-10.8 flying in the following Gnats: XR541 XR573 XR574 XR997 XS104				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP536:27 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R. [repaired on site by Contractors Working Party [CWP] from 5.4]				

Tuesday 5th April 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
		?		
AOC 19 Group Annual Inspection, arrived by air ?				
-				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
Boy reported missing between Rhoscolyn and Trearddur Bay, nothing seen.				

Wednesday 6th April 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise with Porthdinllaen Lifeboat.				

Thursday 7th April 1966 [AIR 27/3011]

From the 5 Sqn ORB it seems the Sqn returned to Binbrook for Easter?				
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	To Binbrook
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	To Binbrook
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	To Binbrook
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	To Binbrook
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	To Binbrook
		Lightning T.5	5 Sqn	To Binbrook

Saturday 9th April 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise carried out with Llandudno Lifeboat.				

Monday 11th April 1966 [AIR 29/3795]

22 Sqn Open Day				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
SAR Open day at 22 Sqn. Gnat and a helicopter static display. The helicopter carried out a dry winching display. During its demonstration it was scrambled to a capsized dinghy at Ravenspoint, on arrival a small boat had taken the survivors onboard and had the dinghy on tow.				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Dinghy reported in difficulty off Ynys Las Island, nothing seen.				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Small boat with 3 occupants in distress 2nms off Llandudno, nothing seen. Landed at the Llandudno Lifeboat Station and directed to a point off Llanfairfechan, contacted the Lifeboat there, no assistance required.				

Tuesday 12th April 1966 [AIR 27/3011]

5 Sqn arrived back from Binbrook after the Easter Grant to continue their MPC.				
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC

Wednesday 13th April 1966 [AB AMIL97][AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3039]

G-ASXG	-	Grumman Goose	Civil	Grosvenor Estates, to Speke
XP507	07	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
Crashed on the beach just short of Runway 08 at Valley whilst carrying out a PFL [Practice Forced Landing]. 22 Sqn scrambled Whirlwind HAR.10 XJ426 [F/L Ridge] 1 casualty was found lying face down in a stream on the approach to the runway and airlifted to Valley SSQ carrying out CPR. The helicopter then returned to the scene and after a short search located the 2 nd casualty on the beach, but he had already been declared dead, body was recovered to Valley SSQ [Station Sick Quarters – Medical Centre]. Both funerals took place separately at Holyhead Cemetery 16.4. the incident was attributed to incorrect trim setting.				
Instr	F/L	William Edwy Carrad Forse		Killed [buried Maeshyfryd]
Student	P/O	Peter William Stewart		Killed [buried Maeshyfryd]



Annotated as 'Bill' E C Forse
Maeshyfryd, Holyhead.
[Hywel Evans]



Maeshyfryd, Holyhead.
[Hywel Evans]

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XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Boy who had fallen down a mineshaft near Barmouth. On arrival, shut down as the boy had not reached the surface. Once on the surface the boy was CASEVAC'd to Walton Hospital, Liverpool with a refuel enroute at Llanbedr. Enroute informed that the Walton HLZ was unusable due to building work so landed at Aintree where an Ambulance was waiting.				

Thursday 14th April 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Woman had fallen on Moel Hebog, on arrival waited until the MRT brought the woman up to the top where the Doctor certified her dead, body and husband of the deceased flown to Beddgelert.				

Friday 15th April 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Scrambled at first light to search for 3 members of Bristol Grammar School Army Cadets missing in the Glyder Fach/Fawr area, due to weather conditions unable to fly into the Mountain area so returned to Valley.				

Saturday 16th April 1966 [AIR 27/3136][AIR 27/3071]

XM518	518	Britannia C.1	99 Sqn	'RRR6745' F/L J D Wilson
Diversion whilst routing El Adem-Lyneham, departed same day to Lyneham.				
WR953	B	Shackleton MR.2	42 Sqn	PD F/L Chalmers

Sunday 17th April 1966 [AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3071]

XF706	E	Shackleton MR.3	42 Sqn	PD F/L Eggleton
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	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise carried out with Royal Welsh Fusilier Company.				

Monday 18th April 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
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Reported aircraft crash, nothing seen. See 19.4

Tuesday 19th April 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3152]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
Further search carried out at first light for a Vampire aircraft. Endeavoured to get to Ternhill but turned back at Chester and landed at Hawarden due to poor weather. Eventually carried out 2 searches from Corwen but unable to get over the South ridge. Returned to Corwen to refuel and informed at 16:00 that 2 bodies had been found and the search called off. This was Vampire T.55 5C-YA which was destined for the Austrian Air Force. It had departed Hawarden just before midday 18.4 on an air test. Crash Investigators suspected an electrical failure due to the generator drive failing. The aircraft crashed on Mynydd Tarw and the pilot [Mr Alan Brandon] had probably survived the crash but died of exposure as he had ejected and was found 200yds away from the aircraft. The Observer [Mr Tony Chalk] was found in the wreckage. Shackleton MR.3 WR979:D 120 Sqn [F/L W Houldsworth] was also involved in the search, concentrating in the Irish Sea initially.				

Thursday 21st April 1966 [AIR 27/3011]

5 Sqn MPC				
1x Firestreak low level firing [F.6]				

Friday 22nd April 1966 [AIR 27/3011]

5 Sqn MPC				
1x Firestreak fired evening.				

Sunday 24th April 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Search for a man who had fallen into the River Clwyd at Rhyl, nothing seen.				

Tuesday 26th April 1966 [AIR 27/3011]

5 Sqn departed back to Binbrook post their MPC.				
		?x Lightning	5 Sqn	To Binbrook

Sunday 1st May 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
Capsized boat with 3 occupants in the Dee Estuary, enroute informed all had been rescued by Lifeboat, returned to Valley.				

Tuesday 3rd May 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Wednesday 4th May 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
Diverted from a training sortie to a beach North of Rhosneigr where a youth had fallen off a motorcycle. The youth was flown to RAF Valley Station Sick Quarters. Returned to the beach to recover the motorcycle as it was in danger of being submerged with the incoming tide.				

Thursday 5th May 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Top cover given to the delivery of wages from Holyhead to RAF Valley.				

Sunday 8th May 1966 [Pprune MAINJAFAD][AIR 27/3146][DW]

111 Sqn arrived from Wattisham for their MPC. 111 Sqn MPC 8-27.5, 2 Firestreak missiles fired, T.5 is in the course photo.				
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[XR711]	A	Lightning	111 Sqn	MPC
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Seen here on the FCMPC [later STCAAME] flightline. [Don Williams]

		Lightning	111 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	111 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	111 Sqn	MPC
XS450	[T]	Lightning T.5	111 Sqn	MPC

Monday 9th May 1966 [Pprune alamo][AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3082]

O-51116		VC-47D	MAAG	[45-1116] Brussels
Routed: Brussels-Manchester Ringway-Valley. [ManAS] [MAAG - Military Assistance Advisory Group]				
XH498	-	Vulcan B.1A	[50 Sqn]	Waddington Wing



Parked on the ORP [Operational Readiness Platform] at the Runway 32 end, plugged in ready for a scramble as part of the dispersal Exercise 'Mickey Finn' which involved 2 aircraft 9-12.5.66.

[Peter Middleton]

	-	Vulcan B.	[50 Sqn]	
XB284	[H]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	F/L J M Robinson
Routed: Abingdon-Waddington-Valley-Waddington-Brawdy-Abingdon. Exercise 'Mickey Finn' support.				

Tuesday 10th May 1966 [AIR 27/3146]

111 Sqn MPC 1x Firestreak fired [F/L Doyle]				

Wednesday 11th May 1966 [AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3082]

XB269	[F]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	F/O V C Holland
Routed: Abingdon-Valley-Waddington, return of Exercise 'Mickey Finn' support.				
		Sea Prince T.1		Emergency landing, see below.
-				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Scrambled to intercept a Sea Prince on one engine, aircraft located and escorted to Valley.				

Thursday 12th May 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Top cover given to the delivery of wages from Holyhead to RAF Valley.				

Friday 13th May 1966 [AB AMIL97][AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3039]

XR539	08	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
Loss of control in a spin and abandoned at 10,000ft. Crashed near Cnicht, Beddgelert. Whirlwind HAR.10 XP346 22 Sqn [F/L Martin] was scrambled for this and picked up both pilots returning them to Valley SSQ.				



[Dick Thomas Collection]

Instr	F/L	A F Banfield	Ejected, broken knee cap.
Student	P/O	J M Enston	Ejected, mild abrasions.

Saturday 14th May 1966 [AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3039]

XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Capsized dinghy in Penrhyn Bay, on arrival nothing seen, false alarm.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 4 FTS Waddington Airshow.				

Monday 16th May 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'ZULU46'
Exercise with Liverpool Fire Brigade, picked up at Liverpool Airport and flown to a tug in the Mersey Estuary.				

Tuesday 17th May 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Wednesday 18th May 1966 [Pprune snakecharmer Father's logbook*]

	-	Victor*	57 Sqn	PD from Honington
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Thursday 19th May 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Boy stranded on ledge beneath an overhang on the cliffs at Church Bay, boy located and winched to a nearby field.				

Saturday 21st May 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
SAR demonstration given at Chester River Carnival.				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
Canoe missing between Conwy and Penmaenmawr, area searched, and 2 bodies recovered and handed over to the Police on the beach.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Capsized boat off Old Colwyn Bay, boat located but informed by Llandudno Lifeboat that all survivors were accounted for. Due to weather the aircraft n/stoped at Llandudno Hospital.				

Sunday 22nd May 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
14 persons cut off by the tide at Hoylake, all 14 rescued. Landed at Speke to refuel and whilst there scrambled to the River Mersey where 12 persons were with capsized boats, 6 rescued by helicopter and taken to the Yacht Club whilst the other 6 were rescued by civilian surface craft. Due to adverse weather the aircraft remained at Llandudno overnight.				

Monday 23rd May 1966 [AB AMIL97][AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3212][DW]

VP965	[-]	Devon C.2	MCS	From Gaydon, M/P Dixon.
-				
XR570	22	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	

Hit high tension power lines and crashed into Llyn Celyn, Merionethshire. Whirlwind HAR.10 XP346 22 Sqn [F/L Martin] was scrambled and picked up the pilot delivering him to SSQ Valley. A 72 Sqn Wessex HC.2 [F/L J G Beattie] was involved in recovering the wreckage to a Queen Mary transporter. Don Williams the FCMPC photographer was flown in CFS Whirlwind HAR.10 XP394:W-C to the scene to record it for the subsequent Board of Inquiry.





[Both: Don Williams]



[Dick Thomas Collection]

Pilot	P/O	Terence Walter Jones	Ejected ok.
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Tuesday 24th May 1966 [AIR 27/3212]

VP965	[-]	Devon C.2	MCS	M/P Dixon.
After arrival it flew to St Athan and the returned later to Valley before departing to Northolt.				

Thursday 26th May 1966 [Fred Butcher logbook*]**[IBCCA]**

XH375	-	Heron CC.3*	27 MU	
WJ949	19	Varsity T.1	CFS	F/L Coombes
From & to Little Rissington.				

Friday 27th May 1966 [AIR 27/3039]**[MB]**

XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Capsized dinghy off Silver Bay, located dinghy and informed that the occupants were safely				

ashore.

Based noted:

Gnat T.1 XR982:51 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 14.1.66

Sunday 29th May 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Man injured in Snowdonia, located, and flown to Bangor Hospital but dead on arrival.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
Boat in difficulty off Rhosneigr, located unoccupied lilo 500yds offshore, picked up and returned to its owner, nothing further seen.				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Boat in distress between Cable Bay and Rhosneigr, nothing seen.				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Flashing 'SOS' seen 5nms W of Llanddwyn Island, nothing seen.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Injured man fallen in Snowdonia [OS 107/646532] Casualty brought down by MRT and flown to Bangor Hospital but where he was confirmed dead.				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
Red flares from a boat off Aberdaron, located boat which gave a thumbs up sign, no assistance required. Nefyn Coastguard confirmed it was the same boat.				

Monday 30th May 1966 [BAG 66/07]

Based noted:				
Gnat T.1 XS109:63 4 FTS to Church Fenton Airshow, static.				

Tuesday 31st May 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
Swimmer believed to be in distress between Little Orme and Rhos-on-Sea, recalled whilst enroute.				

Thursday 2nd June 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Top cover provided for the delivery of wages from Holyhead to RAF Valley.				

Saturday 4th June 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise carried out with Rhyl Lifeboat.				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Rigging platform off Blackpool in danger of collapsing, enroute informed that the men had been rescued, returned to Valley.				

Sunday 5th June 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
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Boat on fire 3nms E of Benllech, nothing seen. Possibly false alarm.
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Tuesday 7th June 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
2 boys trapped on South Stack, on arrival unable to rescue but stood by while the Coastguard lowered buoys and led them down to a gully where they were picked up by Lifeboat.				

Wednesday 8th June 1966 [BJ][ManAS*]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
TX192	[-]	Anson C.19*		'NWB50'
*Routed: Binbrook-Manchester-Valley-Manchester-Binbrook.				

Thursday 9th June 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Top cover provided for the delivery of wages from Holyhead to RAF Valley.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Call for help off West Beach Llandudno, on arrival a Zodiac craft could be seen towing a small boat with 3 occupants. Landed at Llandudno Hospital and ascertained that this was the same incident, returned to Valley.				

Saturday 11th June 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Flew W/C's Benwell & Turner to Snowdonia to reconnoitre an area for future survival exercise for Gnat students.				

Sunday 12th June 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Swimmers in distress 1nm SE of Skerries, on arrival saw 10 sub-aqua divers on a raft, all well so returned to Valley.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Capsized boat off Abersoch, boat and occupants sighted safe on beach, no assistance required. On return journey diverted to Holyhead Harbour where a sub-aqua diver had been missing for 1hr, informed the diver had been rescued by the second Rescue helicopter, see below.				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Sub-aqua diver in trouble in Holyhead Harbour, on arrival landed on beach and informed that the diver had arrived ashore and was being taken to Holyhead by car. Car stopped to confirm this was the diver, no assistance required, returned to Valley.				

Tuesday 14th June 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Wednesday 15th June 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'ZULU49'
Exercised with Liverpool Fire Brigade from Liverpool Airport and a tug in the Mersey.				

Saturday 18th June 1966 [AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3149]

Flying Display for RAF Valley Charity Fete at the Sports Field.				
		Gnat T.1	4 FTS	Solo display F/L R M Turner
		Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	SAR display
		?x Gnat T.1	Red Arrows	



This photo shows them displaying with 7 aircraft. [for the 1966 season it would appear they were using XR540/986/987/991/992/993/994/995/996 XS111] they wanted to fly a 9-ship for 1966 but the MoD declined due to the spares issue. However, it was then finally approved in April 1966 and flown in front of the Duke of Edinburgh at Little Rissington on 8.7.66. the first full 9-ship display in the UK was flown at Brawdy on 6.8.66, which probably explains the 7 ship here.

[John Martin Davies]

XR140	140	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4609' F/L Lovett
From Filton, Red Arrows support.				

Sunday 19th June 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3149]

XR140	140	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4609'
Routed: Valley-Cranfield-Fairford-Benson.				
-				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
3 persons cut off by the tide at Hilbre Island, on arrival Zodiac craft in attendance and no assistance required.				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Whilst on a training sortie diverted to Lligwy Bay where a person was drifting out to sea on a rubber raft, on arrival found person had been rescued by a small boat and no assistance was required.				
Whilst returning from the above rescue informed of a swimmer in difficulties at Llandanwg				

Bay North of Llanbedr. Due to low fuel state the aircraft returned to Valley to re-fuel, once completed proceeded to the area and carried out an extensive search in connection with a Zodiac craft but nothing seen. Later informed that the youth had been found dead on the beach.

Wednesday 22nd June 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039][AIR 29/3681]

XH593	-	Victor B.1A	TTF	PD F/L R J Russell
				
TTF - Tanker Training Flight. [Cyril Jones Collection]				
G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise with Beaumaris Lifeboat.				

Thursday 23rd June 1966 [AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3039][MB]

		?		
Commandant Central Flying School, A/Cdre F L Dodd annual inspection of CFS[H] detachment, by air?				
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise with Holyhead Lifeboat.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Scrambled to a mid-air collision 3nms SW of Newport, Shropshire. Whilst enroute recalled by Preston ATC as the bodies had been recovered and no assistance required. The aircraft involved were Chipmunk T.10's WK631 & WP834 of Birmingham UAS, both pilots in WK631 [P/O Geoffrey Wallace Dowd & P/O Robert Anthony Spooner] were killed and also the pilot of WP834 [Cdt Pilot Michael David Fox]				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
2 men in difficulties in Holyhead Harbour, on arrival 1 man was sitting on a buoy and the other on a capsized boat. The man on the buoy was airlifted to the Holyhead Coastguard Station and the second man was also airlifted to the same location.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott

Man seen waving from a small boat drifting out to sea, on arrival nothing seen.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Capsized boat in the Menai Straits with 2 persons clinging on to it, on arrival both airlifted to Caernarfon Hospital.				

Saturday 25th June 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
SAR demonstration at Llandudno for the Royal Artillery Association Tattoo.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
Dinghy in trouble off Silver Bay, nothing seen.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Scott
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Boy who had fallen down a cliff at Church Bay. Area searched and due to failing light XP347 was scrambled to join the search. XJ426 landed on the beach to obtain further information, informed by Police that this was most probably a hoax, both aircraft returned to Valley.				

Sunday 26th June 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Boat stranded off Aber Menai with 8 persons onboard, on arrival located people onshore who confirmed they were from the boat, no assistance required.				

Tuesday 28th June 1966 [AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3139][AIR 27/3082]

XH503	-	Vulcan B.1A	101 Sqn	F/L B D Pettit
XA912	-	Vulcan B.1A	101 Sqn	F/L J A Prideaux
Exercise 'Kinsman' Bomber Command dispersal exercise from Waddington.				
XM111	[D]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	F/L M Gale
Abingdon-Waddington-Valley-Abingdon, Exercise 'Kinsman' support.				
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise with Liverpool Fire Brigade.				

Wednesday 29th June 1966 [AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3139][MB]

XH503	-	Vulcan B.1A	101 Sqn	Local sortie F/L B D Pettit
XA912	-	Vulcan B.1A	101 Sqn	To Waddington, see 28.6
-				
XS110	62	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
Landed heavily in the undershoot of Runway 20, CAT 3 damage. Repaired on site by 60 MU.				
Pilot	F/O	P Chapman	Ok	
-				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Red flares seen 4nms NE of Porthdinllaen, on arrival nothing seen, left with the Lifeboat continuing the search.				
Based noted:				

Gnat T.1 XP541:41 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 8.7

Thursday 30th June 1966 [AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3139]

		?		
Visit by AOC Training Command Italian AF, Gen Cerutti, by air?				
XH503	-	Vulcan B.1A	101 Sqn	To Waddington, see 28.6

July 1966 [AIR 29/3795]

XP538	[38]	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	F/O S L Bottom
Starboard wheel would not lower on selection, landed safely, CAT.2 damage.				

Friday 1st July June 1966 [AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3082]

XB288	[U]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	F/O Holland
From and to Abingdon, landed 19:45 and departed 21:05.				
		?		
V/Adm Sir F Talbot visited whilst en-route to HMS Bulwark, by air?				

Saturday 2nd July 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3082][MB]

XB269	[F]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	S/L R Holloway
Abingdon-Valley-Waddington-Abingdon, landed at Valley 01:20 and departed 03:05.				
-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Boat sinking in Penmon Bay, on arrival a small motorboat had rescued the survivors, no assistance required.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Swimmer in difficulty off Llandudno Pier, nothing seen.				
Based noted:				
Gnat T.1 XR981:49 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU & CWP from 8.7				

Sunday 3rd July 1966 [AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3149][AIR 27/3062]

ROC Annual meeting, Flying display.				
WD476		Hastings C.2	36 Sqn	'RRR3908' F/L E J Shere
From and to Colerne, carried out ROC air experience flying.				
		Gnat T.1	4 FTS	Solo display F/L R M Turner
		?x Gnat T.1	Red Arrows	
		[Canberra]		
64-0895	-	F-4C	92 TFS/81 TFW	



Delivered to the Spanish AF in 1971. [Dick Thomas collection]

XP442	442	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4622'
Routed: Ouston-Valley-Fairford-Benson, [Red Arrows support ?]				
-				
		Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	SAR display
		Whirlwind HAR.10*	22 Sqn	
*Troop lift carried out with 4 th Battalion, Cheshire Regiment, nothing on location ?				

Monday 4th July 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Search for a boy reportedly fallen from a jetty at Fleetwood, recalled whilst enroute.				

Wednesday 6th July 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3082]

XH123	[N]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	F/L Winter
XM111	[D]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	Capt J Jeffcoat
Both 47 Sqn aircraft were from and to Abingdon.				
G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise carried out with the Barmouth Lifeboat.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Small boy reported missing from a Caravan site at Ravenspoint, nothing seen. Later informed that the body of the boy had been found in a water sump near the site.				

Friday 8th July 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Small boat firing red flares near Barmouth, on arrival unable to search due to fog, returned to Valley.				

Saturday 9th July 1966 [AB Digest66][AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
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SAR demonstration at 100 th Anniversary of the Royal Aeronautical Society at Woodford.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Flew to Hawarden to conduct a search at first light [10.7] for a missing Jodel aircraft.				

Sunday 10th July 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22'
Informed the missing Jodel aircraft had been found, returned to Valley, see 9.7				

Monday 11th July 1966 [Pprune MAINJAFAD][AIR 27/3041]

23 Sqn arrived from Leuchars for their MPC.				
23 Sqn MPC 11-26.7, 5 Firestreak missiles fired.				
		Lightning	23 Sqn	MPC W/C Williamson
		Lightning	23 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	23 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	23 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	23 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	23 Sqn	MPC

Tuesday 12th July 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Wednesday 13th July 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

G-ATRW	-	PA-28 Cherokee Six	NEA	From Speke
NEA – Northern Executive Aviation				
G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Photographic sortie of RAF Valley undertaken.				

Thursday 14th July 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Boys in difficulty 4nms North of Barmouth, whilst enroute informed the boys were safe, returned to Valley.				

Saturday 16th July 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise with Llandudno Lifeboat, plus photos taken of Bangor University at the request of Wales University Air Squadron.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Scrambled to Morfa Bychan Beach where 2 people were reported in the water. On arrival nothing seen apart from a motorboat aground with 2 occupants. Winchman lowered and told that the 2 people onboard had walked ashore and no assistance required. On the return flight diverted to a small boat drifting towards rocky coastline, as the boat was out of fuel the 3 occupants were airlifted and landed at Cemlyn Bay. Lifeboat was contacted to				

recover the boat.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Capsized yacht, on arrival nothing seen, most probably a false alarm.				

Sunday 17th July 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

4 Lightnings diverted to Llanbedr due to weather at Valley.				
		Lightning	23 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	23 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	23 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	23 Sqn	MPC
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Flew servicing personnel and equipment from 23 Sqn to Llanbedr, see above.				

Monday 18th July 1966 [DF][AIR 27/3039]

WJ992	-	Canberra B.2	RRE	From & to Pershore
-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
A Married Couple in difficulties at Pensarn Beach, on arrival nothing seen. Landed and informed that the Wife had been rescued. Continued the search and at 15:45Z a body was seen and airlifted to a waiting Ambulance on the beach.				

Tuesday 19th July 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Man missing in a dinghy off Conwy, on arrival commenced a search along the sandbar at Llandudno West, a body was seen lying face down on the sandbar and with the help of 2 crewman from a Zodiac launch the body was put onboard the helicopter and flown to Deganwy and handed over to the Police.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Vessel requiring assistance near Rhyl Pier, recalled whilst enroute.				

Wednesday 20th July 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039][MB]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Capsized boat off Rhosneigr, located boat and airlifted 5 persons, 4 landed on the beach and the 5 th taken to Valley SSQ for attention.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Canoes capsized in Red Wharf Bay, on arrival located 3 persons in the water. All 3 winched to St David's Point, returned to base.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Capsized canoe in Red Wharf Bay, picked up 2 survivors and landed them on the beach, see above.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin

Capsized canoe off Hoylake, recalled enroute as it was in fact debris.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR573:20 4 FTS assessed CAT.3R repaired on site by 60 MU from 26.7				

Thursday 21st July 1966 [GP][AIR 27/3039]

TX191	-	Anson C.19	[NCS]	From & to Turnhouse. [Topcliffe]
-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Persons stranded on sandbank W of Llandudno, recalled whilst enroute.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Boat firing red distress flares 1nm off Ross Point, on arrival the boat was under tow by a Zodiac craft and no assistance required.				

Friday 22nd July 1966 [@MAR 12/15][AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Boat in distress at Penmaenpool near Barmouth. On arrival a number of Police were seen with 4 survivors on the riverbank, these were airlifted to Dolgellau Hospital. Returned to the scene where the search for another 2 was resumed, one of many small boats assisting located and recovered the 2 bodies.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Scrambled from a training sortie to 2 men in a capsized dinghy off Caernarfon. Found 2 men on a sandbank digging for bait, returned to Valley.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP515:55 4 FTS visited Chivenor.				

Saturday 23rd July 1966 [AB Digest66][AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Explosion and flares seen 7nms SW of Newquay, Cardiganshire. On arrival the Newquay Lifeboat was already conducting a search, landed at Brawdy to refuel but then told to return to Valley.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP530:64 4 FTS Culdrose Airshow, static.				

Monday 25th July 1966 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR574:24 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 21.1.66				

Tuesday 26th July 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039][MB]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
2 black objects seen in the sea off Rhyl, on arrival located a 45gal drum and a Zodiac was directed to it, returned to Valley.				

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR574:24 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU.				
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Wednesday 27th July 1966 [AIR 29/3795]

		?		
AOC 23 Group, AVM M D Lyne visited, by air?				

Thursday 28th July 1966 [ManAS*][AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
2 youths on Middle Mouse Island in a canoe with the possibility of getting them off safely doubtful. On arrival spoke to the 2 who declined any assistance. Then contacted the Coastguard at Cemlyn Bay who informed that a flood tide and gale was expected. Once informed of this the 2 youths were airlifted to Cemlyn Bay.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10*	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Doctor missing on Scafell, aircraft night stopped at Blackpool.				

Friday 29th July 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Search commenced at first light for Doctor on Scafell [see 28.7] after picking up the Leeming MRT at Wasdale. Search continued with a refuel stop at Blackpool Airport, nothing seen, returned to Valley.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Capsized boat off Colwyn Bay, on arrival located the boat drifting with an occupant on the top. Waited until the boat was ashore safely and informed Lifeboat.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Power boat drifting near Rhoscolyn, nothing seen then informed that the boat was underway, and no assistance required.				

Saturday 30th July 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039][GP]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Search continued for Doctor on Scafell [see 28/29.7] nothing seen.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Boy reported to have fallen down cliffs at Church Bay, nothing seen possibly a hoax.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP530:64 4 FTS Leconfield Open Day.				

Monday 1st August 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Shouts of help from Ravenspoint, Trearddur Bay. On arrival saw flashing lights on beach, then informed by Valley ATC that the Police had rescued the stranded people. Then saw a light 2nms out to sea, investigated but turned out to be a small fishing vessel which did not require assistance				

Tuesday 2nd August 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Rubber dinghy with 2/3 occupants waving their hands in the Red Wharf Bay area. On arrival nothing seen, continued search until short of fuel.				

Wednesday 3rd August 1966 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR571:23 4 FTS birdstrike, repaired on site by 60 MU from 9.8				

Thursday 4th August 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Capsized canoes at Rhoscolyn Head, on arrival informed both survivors had safely climbed the headland.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Waterlogged canoe in Cymyran Bay, on arrival located canoe and informed survivor had been taken onboard a yacht. Yacht located just offshore, and 2 survivors were ok.				
XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Search for 2 boys presumed drowned in Lake Padarn, Llanberis. On arrival informed by Police that 2 sets of clothing had been found, but nothing seen despite extensive search. Landed again and informed by Police that the boys were most probably stuck on a ledge and the sub-aqua team were on their way, aircraft no longer required and returned to Valley.				

Friday 5th August 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XJ426	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Search for a man from a capsized boat at Deganwy, search carried out for 65mins, but nothing seen.				

Saturday 6th August 1966 [AIR 29/3795]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 4 FTS displayed at Brawdy [F/L R M Turner]				

Monday 8th August 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

G-ARGK	-	Cessna 210	Private	From Speke
-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Capsized canoe off Penrhyn Mawr, 2 youths located a foot of cliff but unable to winch. 1 injured survivor carried to the top of the cliff by Police and flown to Valley SSQ.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Capsized boat at Trearddur Bay, on arrival no assistance required.				

Tuesday 9th August 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Photographs taken of the Menai Suspension Bridge for the Station's Christmas Cards.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Possibility of sailing boats in difficulty off Beaumaris, on arrival nothing seen. Then whilst refuelling after this sortie scrambled to search for a missing yacht 2nms W of Harlech. Turned out to be a false alarm.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
2 boys stranded on rocks at Rhoscolyn Bay, on arrival nothing seen. Informed by Valley ATC both boys were safe.				

Wednesday 10th August 1966 [AIR 27/3039][MB]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Catamaran with 5 occupants on the rocks at Trearddur Bay, on arrival found the vessel being towed by a Lifeboat, no assistance required.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR574:24 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 26.7.66				

Thursday 11th August 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Journalists from the 'Flintshire Leader' visited to prepare an article on C Flt, 22 Sqn.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Boy missing on Gt Orme's Head, informed by Valley ATC during search that the boy was safe. Whilst returning to Valley diverted to Penmon Head to investigate a boat in trouble. 2mins later task cancelled. Overhead Valley diverted again to search for a missing boy in Trearddur Bay, this turned out to be a hoax.				

Friday 12th August 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise carried out with the Porthdinllaen Lifeboat.				

Saturday 13th August 1966 [AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Search for 3 persons believed to be cut off by the tide at Min-y-Don, area searched, and 3 men located on beach. Landed and informed they had to wade through chest deep water to safety, no further assistance required.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 4 FTS solo display at Coventry [F/L Turner]				

Sunday 14th August 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
2 Meteorological Officers flown to Bardsey Island to inspect the automatic equipment there.				

Monday 15th August 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
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Search for an overdue boat with 2 occupants, eventually located on Malltraeth Sands, no assistance required. The occupants were unaware that a full rescue was in progress.

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Search for man overboard from a dinghy, nothing seen.				

Tuesday 16th August 1966 [BJ][AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3137]

XL163	-	Victor B.2	100 Sqn	W/C W J Hetherington
Bomber Command Presentation. From and to Wittering, demonstrated to the FTS Students. Blue Steel missile equipped.				
G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Whilst on a training sortie the 22 Sqn helicopter was alerted to by Valley ATC of some children in difficulty on Cymyran Beach. 1 small girl with minor injuries was airlifted to Valley SSQ. A second girl was found face down in the water and was airlifted to Valley SSQ with CPR carried out. The search was continued with the help of 2 further helicopters from CFS[H] at Valley. At 14:40 the 22 Sqn aircraft refuelled and then continued the search, at 15:10 recalled to SSQ to fly the 2nd girl to Bangor Hospital, the girl had a very weak heartbeat and was accompanied by SSQ Medical staff. After landing at Bangor a call was received from Valley ATC to proceed to Rhos-on-Sea where 2 boys were adrift on a rubber raft, on arrival the boys were safely ashore, aircraft picked up the SSQ staff on the return to Valley. A further search for 2 children was carried out later in that evening, no sightings made though. The full 22 Sqn crew were F/L Ridge [Pilot], F/S Hannaby [Navigator] and F/S Young [Winchman] The two girls, Geraldine T & Margaret M, daughters of Sgt Vallely were swept out to sea by the fast-moving current. The son of C/T Montgomery [Robert D ?] went to rescue them but all three sadly drowned. The helicopter rescued another girl who was swept onto rocks. The Funerals took place 20, 24 & 26.8				
		Whirlwind HAR.10	CFS[H]	See above
		Whirlwind HAR.10	CFS[H]	See above

Wednesday 17th August 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
A further search carried out at first light in the area Aber Menai to Trearddur Bay, nothing seen, see 16.8				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Further search carried out late afternoon for the 2 missing children, nothing seen, see 16.8				

Thursday 18th August 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
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Search continued for the missing children in the Cymyran Bay area, nothing found, see 16.8
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Friday 19th August 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039][MB]

G-ATAF	-	Cessna F172F	Private	From Speke, Westair
-				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Search continued for the missing children in the morning, nothing found, see 16.8				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Search carried out for the missing children in the evening, nothing found, see 16.8				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP534:15 repairs complete back to 4 FTS 23.8				

Saturday 20th August 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Search continued for the missing children in the morning, nothing found, see 16.8				

Sunday 21st August 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin [Pilot]
Proceeded to Silver Bay where the body of one of the missing children [see 16.8] was seen. Located and uplifted the body in the net and handed it over to a waiting Ambulance on the Airfield, search area checked again but no sign of the other child. F/L Parsons [Navigator] F/S Young [Winchman]				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Missing power boat off Aberystwyth. Just before take-off told of second incident, a boy 11yrs old missing in the sea off Harlech Castle. Whilst enroute informed the power boat was being towed into Pwllheli Harbour, continued to Harlech. Informed by ATC that the boy was safe and well, whilst returning to Valley diverted to Malltraeth Bay to an overdue boat with 2 occupants, on arrival the boat was on the beach and no assistance required.				

Monday 22nd August 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Suspected helicopter crash in the Llanllechid, Bethesda area, nothing seen, informed by Valley ATC no helicopters missing.				

Tuesday 23rd August 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Flew to Rhoscolyn Bay where the 4th body of the Cymyran children [see 16.8] had been sighted, on arrival the body was retrieved and handed over to the Ambulance waiting at the Airfield.				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Capsized dinghy off South Stack, man picked up and taken to Valley SSQ suffering from shock.				

Wednesday 24th August 1966 [GP][AIR 27/3039]

G-ASUU	-	Heron	Private	
G-ASBH	-	Airedale	Private	
G-ARGK	-	Cessna 210	Private	
XS521	R:CU	Wessex HU.5	707 NAS	
XT458	Y:CU	Wessex HU.5	707 NAS	
[XL898]	[49:PR]	Whirlwind HAR.9		Hangered
		Whirlwind HAR.9		Hangered
These were possibly from HMS Protector which was the Antarctic survey ship prior to HMS Endurance.				
-				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
CASEVAC with a broken leg flown from Llanddwyn Island to Bangor Hospital.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 4 FTS XR538:01 XP502:02 XP504:04 XR535:05 XP537:07 XP509:09 XP512:12 XP513:13 XP534:15 XR567:17 XR545:18 XR572:19 XP536:27 XR954:30 XP532:32 XP533:33 XR541:34 XR537:37 XP538:38 XP539:39 XP540:40 XP541:41 XP542:42 XP531:45 XR998:47 XP500:50 XR982:51 XR984:52 XR983:53 XP515:55 XS100:57 XS102:58 XS103:59 XS105:60 XS107:61 XS109:63 XP530:64 Whirlwind HAR.10 C Flight/22 Sqn XP349 Whirlwind HAR.10 CFS Detachment. XP360:W-V XD163:W-X Meteor T.7 WA658 wreck Vampire T.11 XD385:15 wreck [never served at Valley]				

Thursday 25th August 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039][GP]

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Overdue yacht with 3 occupants at Trearddur Bay, after 20mins the yacht was found moored in Silver Bay, no assistance required.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP513:13 & XR951:26 4 FTS visited Leconfield.				

Friday 26th August 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Capsized boat at Llanaber near Barmouth, recalled whilst enroute.				

Saturday 27th August 1966 [AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Boat with 5 occupants onboard firing red flares off Towyn, Abergele. Recalled whilst enroute.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP512:12 4 FTS displayed at Lossiemouth [F/L Turner]				

Monday 29th August 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
SAR demonstration given at the Moelfre Lifeboat Flag Day.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Youth being swept out to sea off Towyn, on arrival informed the body of the youth had been recovered by a Zodiac craft.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Suspected boat in trouble in Cymyran Bay, on arrival located dinghy with 2 men in sub-aqua gear, no other boats in the area and no assistance required.				

Wednesday 31st August 1966 [ManAS*][AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Smith
Landed 20:20 at Manchester City Police playing fields [Platt's Green] having flown a seriously injured Army Officer from Bangor. Suffering from a fractured skull and broken neck after misjudging a dive into the sea at Rhosneigr, he was transferred to Manchester Royal Infirmary. The aircraft then flew to Manchester Airport for an overnight stop, returning to Valley via Bangor 1.9.				

September 1966 [BAG 11/66 & 12/66]

Gnats took part in the following BoB Days: Static display: Coltishall/Finningley/Leuchars Solo displays: Biggin Hill [F/L R M Turner] Gaydon [F/L K B Latton] 4 ship formation: Benson/Finningley/Gaydon [led by S/L R G Fox]				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 4 FTS XR538:01 XP537:07 [replaced XP507 see 13.4.66] XR567:17 XR545:18XR572:19 XR951:26 XR948:28 XR953:29 XR954:30 XP532:32 XR541:34 XP540:40 XR998:47 XR982:51 XR984:52 XR983:53 XS102:58 XS107:61 XS110:62				

Thursday 1st September 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
CASEVAC Army Officer with a broken neck from Bangor Hospital to Manchester Airport.				

Saturday 3rd September 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Boat in distress 2nms NE of Moelfre, on arrival a Lifeboat was towing the boat.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Capsized boat with 2 occupants off Trearddur Bay, on arrival the boat had been righted but waterlogged and drifting in heavy seas towards rocks, 2 rescued.				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Girl missing in kayak on River Conwy, found resting on the bank on arrival of the helicopter.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Man suffering from gas-gangrene flown from Lancaster to Glasgow Hospital, refuelled at Blackpool enroute, n/stop Glasgow Airport.				

Sunday 4th September 1966 [Pprune MAINJAFAD][AIR 27/3091]

56 Sqn arrived from Wattisham for their MPC. 56 Sqn MPC 5-21.9, 5 Firestreak missiles fired.				
[XS417]	[Z]	Lightning T.5	56 Sqn	MPC S/L Boyer & Anstess
[XR720]	E	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC F/L Kendrick
[XP695]	N	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC F/L Palin
[XP699]	O	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC F/O Ward
[XR748]	[M]	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC
-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Boat drifting 4nms SE off Moelfre, on arrival the Zodiac Inshore Rescue Craft had taken the boat under tow.				

Monday 5th September 1966 [AIR 27/3091]

56 Sqn MPC no range slots due to crosswinds.				

Tuesday 6th September 1966 [@MAR 08/18]

Based noted: Anson C.19 VV964 Station Flight visited Odiham.				

Wednesday 7th September 1966 [AIR 27/3091]

56 Sqn MPC				
[XP741]	K	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC from Wattisham, Maj Hall
[XR748]	M	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC to Wattisham, Maj Hall
[XM163]		Lightning F.1A	TFF	From Wattisham, F/L McDonald
Flown up to act as a target, possibly an F.1 ? Wattisham Target Facilities Flight.				
[XS417]	[Z]	Lightning T.5	56 Sqn	MPC to Wattisham
Flown back to Wattisham due to starter problems. Boston & P/O Lampard, Lampard was from London UAS.				

Thursday 8th September 1966 [AIR 27/3091][AIR 27/3039]

56 Sqn MPC				
[XP744]	H	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC from Wattisham, F/L Palin
[XS417]	[Z]	Lightning T.5	56 Sqn	MPC from Wattisham
[XP695]	N	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC to Wattisham, F/L Palin
Based noted: Whirlwind HAR.10 [XP349] 22 Sqn to Manchester BoB Display.				

Friday 9th September 1966

Based noted:				



A staged photograph with Gnat T.1 XS107:61 4 FTS
[Dick Thomas Collection]

Saturday 10th September 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

22 Sqn provided a Whirlwind HAR.10 for Manchester BoB Display week until 18.9, see 8.9.
Total of 24 flights flown from Platts Field, Manchester.

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
MV 'Coldillia 11' drifting 6nms NE off Puffin Island, located ship and guided Lifeboat to it.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith

Capsized boat off Abererch Beach, Pwllheli, on arrival informed that one boatman had swum ashore and the other had been rescued by a local Zodiac craft.

Sunday 11th September 1966 [AIR 27/3091]

56 Sqn MPC				
[XP741]	K	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC from Wattisham, Maj Hall

Tuesday 13th September 1966 [AIR 27/3091][AIR 27/3039]

56 Sqn MPC				
[XS417]	[Z]	Lightning T.5	56 Sqn	MPC from Wattisham,
W/C Bidie & G/C Neubroch [Wattisham Station Commander]				
[XP744]	H	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC to Wattisham, F/L Kendrick
[XP695]	N	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC to Wattisham, G/C Neubroch

-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Oil rig in difficulties in the Dee Estuary, on arrival the crew had been taken off by Rescue boat.				

Wednesday 14th September 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3091]

No MPC due to weather at Llanbedr.				
G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke

Thursday 15th September 1966 [AIR 27/3091][AIR 27/3039]

56 Sqn MPC				
[XP744]	H	Lightning F.3	56 Sqn	MPC from Wattisham F/L Kendrick
-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Man on 'SS Azahar' reported at Moelfre Roads off Anglesey with serious head injuries requiring CASEVAC. On arrival at scene nothing seen, Ship was then reported as 10nms N of Rhyl and Lifeboat was proceeding to the scene.				

Friday 16th September 1966 [AIR 27/3091][AIR 27/3039]

56 Sqn MPC 1x missile fired [F.3][F/L Palin]				
-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
CASEVAC from US Naval Vessel to Hospital, further details were classified. [Possibly a submarine ?] A 210 Sqn Shackleton MR.2 WR964:[Q] [W/C Palmer] provided SAR escort cover for a Helicopter from Valley to N Ireland, possibly same.				

Saturday 17th September 1966 [BAG 66/10][AIR 27/3039]

The following 4 FTS aircraft attended the various annual Battle of Britain Displays.				
Gnat T.1 XS100:57 4 FTS Leuchars, static. Gnat T.1 XP503:03 4 FTS Biggin Hill, flying. Gnat T.1 XP540:40 4 FTS Gaydon, flying. Gnat T.1 XR951:26 4 FTS Coltishall, static. Gnat T.1 XP512:12 4 FTS Finningley, static. *Gnat T.1 XP502:02 XP506:06 XR952:31 XR953:29 4 FTS *Carried out flypasts at Benson, Finningley & Gaydon, led by S/L R G Fox.				
-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Capsized yacht off Porth Ceiriad, 5nms SW of Pwllheli. On arrival yacht seen to be tethered to a buoy, apparent it had capsized previously.				

Monday 19th September 1966 [AIR 27/3091][AIR 27/3039]

56 Sqn MPC 1x missile fired [F.3][S/L Boyer]				
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[XP349]	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	From Manchester, see 8/10.9
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
Boat off Wylfa Head in difficulties, on arrival only one boat in the area and not in trouble.				

Thursday 22nd September 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

		?		
AOC 18 Group, AVM Johnstone visited 22 Sqn by air.				

Friday 23rd September 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
To Woodvale for a meeting concerning the forthcoming Southport show.				

Tuesday 27th September 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
Aircraft crash reported 5nms E of Ffestiniog, crash kit and Valley SMO taken to the scene to discover that the aircraft was a pilotless Jindivik drone [A92-274 or A92-448] from RAE Llanbedr.				

Thursday 29th September 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Flew top cover for a service vehicle carrying wages from a bank in Holyhead to RAF Valley.				

October 1966 [RD]

These are a set of photos taken by Ray Deacon of Gnats visiting RAF Kemble 10.66				
XP540	40	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
				
Fellow 4 FTS Gnat T.1 XR955:43 can be seen behind. [Ray Deacon]				
XR955	43	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	



XR955 prepares to taxi out to the short runway at Kemble. [Ray Deacon]

XR999	56	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
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XR999 prepares to taxi to the short runway at Kemble, behind are Gnats [XR948]:28 4 FTS and [XR569]:90 plus [XM708:94] belonging to CFS. [Ray Deacon]

Monday 3rd October 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Capsized boat 1nm off Pensarn, Abergele. Later deducted to be a wooden log.				

Wednesday 5th October 1966 [AIR 27/3198][AIR 27/3039]

XM491	491	Britannia C.1	511 Sqn	'RRR6891' F/L J Johnson
From Lajes-Valley-Lyneham, diversion?				
		?		
SASO HQ 19 Group, G/C Stembridge visited 22 Sqn, by air ?				

Thursday 6th October 1966 [DF][MB]

WD482	-	Hastings C.2	RRE	From Pershore
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP536:27 repairs complete back to 4 FTS 7.10 – see 4.4.66 Gnat T.1 XR541:34 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 14.10				

Friday 7th October 1966 [DF][MB]

WD482	-	Hastings C.2	RRE	To Pershore
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR983:53 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 14.10				

Saturday 8th October 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
SAR demonstration at Southport.				

Sunday 9th October 1966 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR977:46 4 FTS assessed as CAT.4R [XR977 went to HSA Bitteswell 2.11 to be repaired]				

Tuesday 11th October 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Wednesday 12th October 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3183]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
WG558	[Y]	Shackleton MR.2	210 Sqn	S/L Kinch
The aircraft visited 4 times from Ballykelly.				

Friday 14th October 1966 [AIR 27/3198][AIR 27/3036][AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3082]

XL638	638	Britannia C.1	511 Sqn	'RRR6983' F/L M Martin
Routed: Gutersloh-Valley-Lyneham, support for 19 Sqn MPC.				
XB267	[B]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	'RRR3410' F/L R Wright
Routed: Gutersloh-Coltishall-Valley-Abingdon, 19 Sqn MPC support.				
-				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
American [F-103] in distress N of Point of Ayr, recalled after the [F-103?] landed safely at Warton. Possibly a F-100 ?				

Saturday 15th October 1966 [BJ][AB Dig66][AIR 29/3795][AIR 27/3036][DS]

19 Sqn arrived from Gutersloh for their MPC. 19 Sqn MPC 15.10-1.11, 3 Firestreak missiles fired. Aircraft staged through Wattisham before flying to Valley, 'T' in the MPC photo. Numerous sorties flown to Coltishall for radar repairs. As a result of this MPC, 19 Sqn won the 1966 Aberporth Trophy.				
		Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	MPC [W/C Cox]
		Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	MPC [S/L Caldwell]
		Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	MPC [F/L Blackley]
		Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	MPC [F/L Leach]

		Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	MPC [F/L Duckett]
XM991	T	Lightning T.4	19 Sqn	MPC [F/L Macfadyen]
-				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Smith

Involved in rescuing the Pilot of PA-28 Cherokee 140 G-ATJH which crashed near Cilcain, Mold whilst flying from Elmdon to Dublin. MRT also called out for search. Pilot had suffered head injuries and was taken by the Whirlwind to Liverpool [Speke] Airport and thence by ambulance to Hospital.



The crew of XP349 are seen here, from left to right:
M/Sig Joe Williams F/L Bill Parson F/L P P Smith
[via Damian Smyth]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO23' F/L Weaver
Also scrambled for the above emergency but recalled by ATC. The scramble had been delayed as the aircraft was unserviceable.				

Sunday 16th October 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Capsized boat drifting from Cemaes Bay to Carmel Head during the Skerries Race. On arrival the boat plus occupants were safely ashore, no further assistance required.				

Monday 17th October 1966 [Pprune MAINJAFAD][AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
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Boat with 3 occupants drifting out to sea off Deganwy, on arrival informed that the boat had been towed in by the Llandudno Inshore Rescue Craft. All occupants safely ashore.

Tuesday 18th October 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP540:40 4 FTS visited Little Rissington.				

Friday 21st October 1966 [AIR 27/3036]

19 Sqn MPC 1x missile fired [F.2][W/C Cox]				

Saturday 22nd October 1966 [BJ]

G-ARST	-	PA-22 Colt 108	Private	From Speke, Hacking & Leigh
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Sunday 23rd October 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Flew 2 injured climbers from a disused quarry [OS 107/548600] plus Doctor to Bangor Hospital.				

Monday 24th October 1966 [AIR 27/3036][AIR 27/3039][MB]

19 Sqn MPC 1x missile fired at night [F.2][F/L Leach] 1x missile fired at night [F.2][F/L Duckett] Night firing against a target at 50,000ft the explosions were visible from Valley.				
XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
CASEVAC from Bangor Hospital to the Orthopaedic Hospital at Gobowen.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR573:20 4 FTS repairs complete back to 4 FTS see 20.7.66				

Tuesday 25th October 1966 [BJ][DF]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
WG789	-	Canberra B.2	RRE	From & to Pershore

Thursday 27th October 1966 [AIR 27/3036]

19 Sqn MPC 1x missile fired [F.2][F/L Macfadyen]				

Friday 28th October 1966 [AB Dig67][AIR 27/3036]

19 Sqn MPC 1x missile fired [F.2][F/L Blackley]				
G-ATJM	-	Fokker Triplane	Private	From Halfpenny Green

Monday 31st October 1966 [AIR 27/3195]

XN853	853	Argosy C.1	267 Sqn	F/L H J Moffatt
Routed: Benson-Valley-Waddington-Benson.				

Tuesday 1st November 1966 [AIR 27/3036]

With their MPC complete 19 Sqn flew local sorties over the Irish Sea.				
		4x Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	MPC

Wednesday 2nd November 1966 [AIR 27/3036]

With their MPC complete 19 Sqn flew local sorties over the Irish Sea.				
		4x Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	MPC

Thursday 3rd November 1966 [DF][AIR 27/3036][AIR 27/3149][AIR 27/3139][AIR 27/3060][AIR 27/3082]

19 Sqn departed back to Gutersloh post their MPC.				
		Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh
		Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh
		Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh
		Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh
		Lightning F.2	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh
XM991	T	Lightning T.4	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh
XN847	847	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4516' F/L Baker from Benson
WE147	-	Canberra PR.3	RRE	From Pershore
	-	Vulcan [B.2]	101 Sqn	Diversion F/L J A Prideaux
XJ825	-	Vulcan B.2	35 Sqn	Diversion F/L J M Morgan
XM612	-	Vulcan B.2	35 Sqn	Diversion F/L N B Baldwin
The 35 Sqn jets were diversions from Exercise Billion.				
XB263	[A]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	'RRR3425' Capt Jeffcoat
From Abingdon, N/stop.				

Friday 4th November 1966 [DF][AIR 27/3036][AIR 27/3149][AIR 27/3139][AIR 27/3802]

XN847	847	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4516'
Routed: Valley-Gutersloh-Benson, returning 19 Sqn MPC support.				
WE147	-	Canberra PR.3	RRE	To Pershore
	-	Vulcan B.[2]	101 Sqn	To Waddington, see 3.11
XB263	[A]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	To Abingdon, see 3.11

Friday 11th November 1966 [Pprune MAINJAFAD][AIR 27/3132][AIR 27/3195][AIR 27/3082]

92 Sqn arrived from Geilenkirchen, Germany for their MPC.				
92 MPC 14.11-2.12, 3 out of 5 Firestreak missiles fired.				
XN786	[D]	Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	MPC [W/C Gilbert]
		Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	MPC [S/L Cohu]

[XN728]	[B]	Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning T.4	92 Sqn	MPC
XB285	[C]	Beverley C.1*	47 Sqn	'RRR3426' F/L Howell
Geilenkirchen-Coltishall-Valley-Abingdon, 92 Sqn MPC support.				
XP441	441	Argosy C.1*	267 Sqn	'RRR4547' F/L J B Davies
From Geilenkirchen with 92 Sqn MPC support, later departed to Benson.				

Monday 14th November 1966 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR538:01 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 17.11 Gnat T.1 XR981:49 repairs complete to 4 FTS, see 2.7.66				

Wednesday 16th November 1966 [AIR 27/3212]

WD157		Valetta C.1	MCS	From Northolt, F/L Hick N/stop
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Thursday 17th November 1966 [AIR 27/3212][AIR 27/3132]

XN728	[B]	Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	F/L Stein
Undercarriage lowered on the emergency system.				
WD157		Valetta C.1	MCS	To Northolt, see 16.11

Friday 18th November 1966 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR571:23 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 3.8.66 Gnat T.1 XS110:62 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 29.6.66				

Saturday 19th November 1966 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP502:02 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R repaired on site by 60 MU from 28.11.66				

Sunday 20th November 1966 [@MAR 09/23]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 [XR536]:36 ex. 4 FTS wreck noted on the 71 MU scrap dump at Bicester.				

Monday 21st November 1966 [AIR 27/2942][AIR 27/3132]

		Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	MPC firing S/L Cohu
	-	Vulcan B.2	50 Sqn	PD, F/L R M Holmes.

Tuesday 22nd November 1966 [BJ][MB]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR544:35 4 FTS back from Bitteswell, see 24.3.65				

Wednesday 23rd November 1966 [BJ][DF]

	-	Chipmunk T.10	[Woodvale]	'KPU01' visited Speke
WJ679	[-]	Canberra B.2	RRE	From & to Pershore

Friday 25th November 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
CASEVAC from Towyn to Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham, n/stop Shawbury.				

Sunday 27th November 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Capsized boat in the Menai Straits reported by Caernarfon Police, nothing found.				

Tuesday 29th November 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
-				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Ridge
2 men reported stuck on a sandbank off Point of Ayr, nothing seen, later informed false alarm.				

Wednesday 30th November 1966 [AIR 27/3168]

WL753	Q	Shackelton MR.2	204 Sqn	F/L Walford from & to Ballykelly
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Thursday 1st December 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Request to pick up a Doctor from the Liverpool Bar Lighthouse Ship, initially told not to go but then told to go. 5nms to go to the ship and recalled to Valley.				

Friday 2nd December 1966 [AIR 27/3132][AIR 27/3039][AIR 27/3152]

92 Sqn departed back to Geilenkirchen post their MPC.				
XN786	[D]	Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	To Geilenkirchen [W/C Gilbert]
[XN728]	[B]	Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	To Geilenkirchen
		Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	To Geilenkirchen
		Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	To Geilenkirchen
		Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	To Geilenkirchen
		Lightning F.2	92 Sqn	To Geilenkirchen
		Beverley C.1*		
		Argosy C.1*		
*92 Sqn MPC support return.				
-				
XP349	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Ridge

Greek ship 'SS Nafsiporos' drifting ashore NW of Wylfa Head. On arrival winching was deemed too dangerous due to the ship movement of up to 45deg in roll and various wires on the ship. Both Holyhead and Moelfre Lifeboats were in attendance and the Ship's own Lifeboats were out-slung ready for launching. The helicopter was recalled at this stage, later informed that 15 of the crew were taken off by the Holyhead Lifeboat and 4 remained onboard. Ship later ended up in shallow water a few hundred yards offshore. Shackleton MR.3 WR989:K 120 Sqn [F/L W Houldsworth] & MR.2 WL787 204 Sqn [F/L R C McKinlay] were both involved in this SAR operation dropping dinghies as well as assisting with the Danish SS Vinland, did not use Valley though.

Saturday 3rd December 1966 [AIR 27/3195][AIR 27/3082][MB]

XN857	857	Argosy C.1	267 Sqn	'RRR4565' F/O J S S Baker
Routed: Benson-Valley-Geilenkirchen-Benson, returning 92 Sqn MPC support.				
XB285	[C]	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	'RRR3434'
Routed: Abingdon-Valley-Wattisham-Geilenkirchen, return of 92 Sqn support.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR535:05 4 FTS assessed as CAT.4R, repaired on site by 32 MU. [XR535 went for a further CAT.4R repair at Bitteswell on 7.2.67]				

Monday 5th December 1966 [SB]

XS867	065:E	Wessex HAS.1	820 NAS	Tony Bower, departed 9.12
XS116	060:E	Wessex HAS.1	820 NAS	Tony Bower, departed 9.12

Tuesday 6th December 1966 [BJ]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
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Wednesday 7th December 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Sortie flown around the NW coast of Anglesey for possible recovery of 7 life rafts dropped by a Shackleton to the Greek ship 'Nafsiporos'. A few small pieces seen and one damaged one in the possession of a local.				

Tuesday 13th December 1966 [AIR 27/3152]

WR989	K	Shackleton MR.3	120 Sqn	F/L D W Sames
SAR deployment due to icy runways at Kinloss, departed back to Kinloss 14.12.				

Wednesday 14th December 1966 [AIR 27/3039][AIR 29/3795]

XP533	33	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
Barrier engagement after an aborted take-off on Runway 32. A Whirlwind HAR.10 22 Sqn was not required for the incident itself but was tasked with taking photographs of the Gnat in the barrier.				

Friday 16th December 1966 [MB]

Based noted:				

Gnat T.1 XR541:34 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 6.10.66

Saturday 17th December 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
'Santa Claus' winched down to the waiting crowd at RAE Llanbedr as requested by the RAF detachment there.				

Tuesday 20th December 1966 [BJ][MB]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP541:41 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 29.6.66				

Wednesday 21st December 1966 [BJ][AIR 27/3039][IBCCA]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co	From Speke
WJ949	19	Varsity T.1	CFS	F/L Coombes
From & to Little Rissington.				
-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Martin
Scrambled whilst on a training sortie to Llanberis Pass [OS 107/605585] where Whirlwind HAR.10 XP345 had suffered an engine failure and forced landing. Two RN Lieutenants picked up and taken to Valley.				

Thursday 22nd December 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

		?		
AOC 19 Group paid a farewell visit, by air ?				
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	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
'Santa Claus' winched down at the Officers Mess Valley.				

Friday 23rd December 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Weaver
OC Valley, G/C R P Harding, Station Padre S/L Porter, and the Station photographer delivered the traditional Christmas hamper to the Skerries Lighthouse.				

Thursday 29th December 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

		?		
OC St Mawgan, G/C J R Saunders visited 22 Sqn by air.				

Saturday 31st December 1966 [AIR 27/3039]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Smith
Rescued Mr Mike Parry who was adrift in a dinghy in the Dee Estuary, located safely 2nms E of Mostyn.				