

Title: RAF-100 Celebrations Odiham 2018

Medium: Oils

Size: 20"x30"

Date of the event – 9th June 2018



The painting composition is based on a series of 25 photographs I took on the day. Anyone who attended will recall that the aircraft, artillery, vehicles and RAF personnel were spread over the High Street from The Frame Gallery up to Lloyds Pharmacy. It required a little artistic licence to manoeuvre the subject matter into some order to create a 'narrative' of the occasion.

The figures featured are facing the camera; this a deliberate ploy to create a balanced picture of the key characters in order to tell the story of the event. There is one character who is attired in the WW1 flying kit, I felt he was necessary to provide the 1918 starting point for the narrative but not necessarily the point which lead the eye into the painting. I believe the eye is drawn in at the left and works round to the characters at the Dispersal Point in the foreground on the right. Two Chinook helicopters from RAF Odiham can be seen approaching from top right.

The eye stops on the Spitfire to take in the detail of the young boy in the cockpit receiving instruction from an RAF Cadet. The Spitfire replica is approximately half scale, all other components of the painting are full size to scale.

The RAF personnel and Cadets were very accommodating, allowing me to point the camera at them although they would not have known my objective!

Len Murrell