# LINCOLNSHIRE MARKS THE 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE RED ARROWS



Lincolnshire is proud to be home to The Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team – The Red Arrows and spring each year sees the beginning of training for the season, initially flying in pairs and slowly building to the start of the display season to their full complement of nine. Occasionally they will take to the skies with 10 aircraft – the tenth carrying their official photographer. Formed in late 1964 – they gained their name from two previous display teams – The Red Pelicans and the Black Arrows. Their base was RAF Little Rissington in Gloucestershire, home of the Central Flying School (CFS). The following year they moved the short distance to RAF Kemble which remained their home until the CFS moved to Lincolnshire and along with it The Red Arrows in 1983 to RAF Scampton - (the base from which 617 squadron flew for The Dams Raid in May 1943). And so the county's love affair with The Red Arrows began.

Their stay at Scampton was interrupted by a "defence cuts" planned closure of RAF Scampton prompting a move to the south of Lincoln to RAF Cranwell in 1996. A further review led to the resurfacing of the runways at Scampton and a return to their spiritual home in 2000. Further reviews led to the closure of RAF Scampton and after a period of uncertainty – and Lincolnshire public pressure – The final Red Arrows hawk jet took off from RAF Scampton for the short trip to RAF Waddington on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022.



The Red Arrows – their hallmark Diamond 9 formation Over RAF Scampton (Image – RAF with permission)

## The Red Arrows bell



Stow Minster – regarded as "The mother church of Lincoln Cathedral" lies to the north west of RAF Scampton, and with the millennium approaching , along with the centenary of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was looking to augment the six to eight. Funding came from the Millennium Commission and the new treble was donated by The Red Arrows Trust, the bell bears the inscription

**GIVEN BY** 



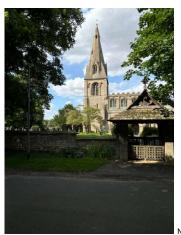
## THE RED ARROWS

The first peal on the augmented bells was Plain Bob Triples – on 5<sup>th</sup> September 1999 – rung by a local band plus the Guild Master with footnotes marking the first peal on the 8, the guild's centenary year and also the death of a stalwart of Lincolnshire ringing – Jack Millhouse.

To mark the long association of The Red Arrows with Lincolnshire in their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year a peal and quarter peals were arranged. The peal at Stow to commemorate The Red Arrows bell. The quarter peals at North Rauceby, Waddington and Hackthorn being rung at the nearest ringable towers to The Red Arrows Lincolnshire bases – RAF Cranwell, RAF Waddington and RAF Scampton respectively. In addition a further quarter peal was rung at Billingborough

## North Rauceby Lincolnshire

St Peter Friday, 26 July 2024 in 47m (13-2-21 in F)



North Rauceby Church – image Keith Butter

**1260 Doubles** (1p/1v/4m) being 60 Stedman and 240 each of Grandsire, April Day, St Simon's, St Martin's and Plain Bob

1 Sylvia M Bird 2 Claire Holbrook 3 Alan D H Bird (C) 4 Joanne Pearson 5 Keith C Butter

Rung to mark the 60th anniversary year of The Red Arrows - one of three rung at the closest ringable tower to each of their Lincolnshire bases. - In the case RAF CRANWELL



Image RAF with permission

#### Waddington Lincolnshire

St Michael Friday, 26 July 2024 in 42m (11-1-25 in F#)



Waddington Church – image Keith Butter

1260 Plain Minor (2m) being 720 Single Oxford and 540 Double Oxford

1 Claire Holbrook 2 Sylvia M Bird 3 Joanne Pearson 4 Alan D H Bird 5 Keith C Butter 6 Christopher P Turner (C)

Rung to mark the 60th anniversary year of The Red Arrows - one of three rung at the closest ringable tower to each of their Lincolnshire bases. - In this case RAF WADDINGTON



Image Tony Walker

Hackthorn Lincolnshire St Michael and All Angels Friday, 26 July 2024 in 41m (8-0-8 in G)



Image Keith Butter

1260 Minor (2m) being 720 Cambridge and 540 Plain Bob Minor

1 Alan D H Bird 2 Keith C Butter 3 Sylvia M Bird 4 Claire Holbrook 5 Joanne Pearson (C)

6 Christopher P Turner

Rung to mark the 60th anniversary year of The Red Arrows - one of three rung at the closest ringable tower to each of their Lincolnshire bases - In this case RAF SCAMPTON First as conductor in more than one minor method



Stow Lincolnshire St Mary Saturday, 27 July 2024 in 2h 49 (9-2-0 in *G*)



Image – stock photo

5058 Lincolnshire Surprise Major Composed by Don Morrison no 3560

Keith C Butter
G William Shanks
Martin F Mitchell
Derek J Tysoe
Alison R Elwess
Christopher P Turner (C)
P Ian Till
Owen G Peters

Circled tower - 3. First Lincolnshire - 8. Rung to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Red Arrows.

The treble bell was given by the Red Arrows in 1998 and it is inscribed with the Red Arrows logo.



Image Chris Turner

Billingborough Lincolnshire St Andrew Friday, 26 July 2024 in 45m (7-3-11 in Ab)



Image – stock photo

#### 1344 Rutland Surprise Major

1 Valerie S Wild 2 P Barry Jones 3 Joanne Pearson 4 James E Benner 5 Robert Simpson 6 Anthony D Walker 7 Michael Maughan (C) 8 David Braunton

First Rutland - 5 Rung to mark the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Red Arrows.



**Keith Butter**