

Dave Lindo 431

1964-67

RAF Honington, Victor BMk1, delighted to get a detachment to RAAF Butterworth for a month, starting New Year's Day 1965 to recover Victor which had centreline closure. Met Pete Evans enroute at Changi.

Flight refuelling course when the Valiant mainframes cracked and were scrapped.

Victors deployed to RAF Marham (El Adam with grass).

Married, lived in a holiday caravan at Marham for six months while on PWRs.

Got my first tapes.

Helicopter course at St Athan (put on a charge for not going to breakfast), followed by a Napier Gazelle course for posting to Singapore on Belverderes.

1966-70

66Sqn at RAF Seletar (best posting in the RAF). Good fun a/c, but dangerous. Sqn disbanded in Sept 69, posted as i/c prepacking section on 390 MU.

1967-78

Third stripe, posted to RAF Lyneham on C130s. Enjoyed lots of detachments, exercises etc. all over the world.

1978-85

Crew chief course, posted to 617Sqn RAF Scampton, Mickey Finns etc. 617 running down in preparation for temporary disbandment for re-equipping with Tornados, so posted to 44Sqn at RAF Waddington.

1982 it hit the fan, deployed to Widewake at Ascension Island on Operation Black Buck. Saw off the reserve a/c (Flt Lt Martin Withers, Capt), which actually took over and bombed Stanley runway. Flew home Vulcanair flight refuelling.

1983 Vulcans scrapped. Went around the country making the sold gate guard a/c safe. Lollled around in Waddo's eng control for a few months, refused a one year extension of service and for my pains got a last year of service posting to RAF Cranwell, running the engine bay. The added bonus was running the air experience flight too - outside in August playing with Chipmunks. Fortunately all this time in Lincolnshire we kept the same home.

1985-Date

Resettlement courses, Technical Authorship, Sales. Left and looked for work around Lincoln - hopeless, lots of redundancy.

Applied for and got an authorship position at BAe Filton writing (amending) Concorde manuals and then Airbus A320. Promoted to Tech Pubs Manager. Retired at 60 in 2005.

Lived at Chepstow for 35 years and moved to Papworth Everard in 2021 to be near family.