

Beat: Local

Scotlands National Airshow 2016

Royal Air Force Station East Fortune

East Fortune, East Lothian, 23.07.2016, 20:10 Time

USPA NEWS - New additions for the 2016 Scottish National Airshow included the Cold War warrior the SB Lim-2 (MiG-15UTI), the award winning formation Swiss PC-7 Aerobatic Team and the nimble Red Bull Matador team.

East Fortune Airfield had an afternoon of breathtaking aerial displays. The RAF Red Arrows display team plus a host of aircraft old and new took to the skies. The Red Arrows was supported by two other RAF display teams including the Typhoon.

Joining the line-up for the very first time were the Swiss Air Force PC-7 Team in nine Pilatus PC-7 Turbo Trainers and the Norwegian Air Force Historic Squadron in a MiG 15 UTI and two de Havilland Vampires. The RAF Battle of Britain Memorial Flight brought the iconic Spitfire and Hawker Hurricane.

Other aircraft making an appearance were the Black Cats helicopter display team, a Catalina flying boat and three bi-planes; a Fairey Swordfish, a Stolp Starduster and a Bucker Jungmann.

The full line up

Hughes OH-6A Cayuse "Loach" Helicopter, Royal Navy Helicopter Display team - The Black Cats, Consolidated PBY Catalina, Bell UH-1H Iroquois 'Huey', Hawker Hurricane, Lancaster, Bucker Bü131 Jungmann, SB Lim-2 (MiG-15UTI), North American P-51D Mustang, Swiss PC-7 TEAM, Pitts S2S (Special), The RAF Red Arrows, Red Bull Matadors, Supermarine Spitfire, Stolp Starduster, BAC 167 Strikemaster Mk 82A, Fairey Swordfish Mk.I, Eurofighter Typhoon FGR.4, Vampire Pair.

Did you Know?

The foundation of East Fortune as an flying station pre-dates the creation of the RAF; East Fortune was established as a fighter and airship airfield in 1915. In 1919 the British airship R34 made the first ever return flight across the Atlantic and the first east-west crossing by air, flying from East Fortune to Mineola, New York. The flight took 108 hours and 12 minutes.

During WWII, RAF East Fortune was a flying training establishment, initially for night-fighter operations, changing to training for daylight operations from 1942, and eventually becoming a station for a group of de Havilland Mosquito aircraft. It was also made available as an emergency landing option for bomber aircraft.

Royal Air Force Station East Fortune or more simply RAF East Fortune is a former Royal Air Force station, just south of the village of East Fortune, a short distance east of Edinburgh in Scotland. The motto of the station was "Fortune Favours the Bold".

In the post-war era the runways have been taken over for local private aviation use, while the former RAF buildings have been used for the National Museum of Flight since 1976.

For more photographs click on the 'more information' link below.

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