

Olaf 'The Breed' Priestley.

A pre war Auxiliary engine fitter, promoted to NCO rank. Frank Zieglers notes.

"Expected to be accepted for pilot training, found that it was a closed shop for the wealthy socialites, enjoyed the pre-war comradeship of the auxiliaries."

"No pre-war pilots were allowed, the first wartime ones, Bennett and Beard, then Feary, were treated badly, were not allowed in the crew room, it was an officers squadron. Only changed when Hughes-Rees arrived."

"We had an amazing welcome at Warmwell, table cloths in the AIRMENS MESS!"

"Darley was strict and meticulous. 'Don't fiddle man, get out of it'. A fine man, respected as such."

"Robinson was not much liked, a bit offhand, but his flying was respected. Considered a great honour to work on his aircraft."

"Richey was an excellent Flight Commander but a poor CO."

"Beamont was worshipped, as an understanding man and a great pilot."

"Avent was a will o' the wisp, not long with us."

"Bish liked belly aching, he was our first VR."

"Dundas, at first a fop or goon - P/O Prune type, smashed up several aircraft. Never looked at the instruments when running up, just looked around and smiled."

"Aggie was totally unafraid. Howell was like Baldwin. Joe a gentleman. Tidswell was a Smithfields butcher."