FROM NATIONAL SERVICE TO GOLF CLUB IN 34 YEARS

Warrant Officer Jim McInally of RAF West Raynham has retired from the Royal Air Force after more than 34 years service. Jim was called to National Service in the RAF in November 1956 and decided to stay on. He trained as a Ground Radar Fitter, after which his first posting was to Germany and Berlin; he returned to UK, to RAF Boulmer, in 1960 and after another 6 years went to the Imperial Iranian Air Force as an advisor. IN 1967 he joined 25 Sqn at North Coates operating the Bloodhound Surface to Air missile subsequently going with them to Laarbruch in Germany. The following tour was in Bishops Court, Northern Ireland, after which he returned to Bloodhound in 1982 at West Raynham.

Here,he has seen 6 Station Commanders come and go and the Bloodhound Force decline from operations at 6 Stations to the present 2 with even their future uncertain. He is a keen golfer and is heavily committed as Captain of one of the newer golf courses in the Kings Lynn area. His present plan is to stay in his house in Kings Lynn, with his wife Trudi.

Jim was dined out of the RAF by the Sgt's Mess at a Burns Night function on the 24th of January.

The photograph shows Jim with Group Captain D C Smith, the Station Commander, taking a farewell glass of wine.



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