

The **RAF Stories Big Weekend** gives the public their chance to visit a local venue and have their memories of the Royal Air Force, or their family stories recorded by a team of volunteers armed with the RAF Stories app. This national weekend will see the capture of hundreds of stories relating to the RAF across the country.

Launched last year, the event saw 10 organisations across the country record and submit over **150 stories** across the weekend. Local volunteers who used the RAF Stories app to record the stories, contributed over 530 hours in volunteer time.

This year the RAF Stories Big Weekend will take place on **6th & 7th June** during Volunteer's Week.

Could your organisation join us?

The Royal Air Force Museum is looking for new partner organisations to help expand our reach, creating more local venues for those wanting to share stories to visit. Last year a mixture of Universities, Museums, Archives, Charities and RAF Air Cadet Squadrons took part.

RAF Stories is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. To find out more about the project visit www.rafstories.org



Feedback from participating organisations suggested that their venue benefitted from additional interest, that local people enjoyed sharing their stories and that the event was a great experience for volunteers.

"We think it is a great idea and the contributors fully enjoyed their experience."

"A great opportunity to engage with the community"

"This was a great experience for our student volunteers."

"The event helped to generate additional interest in the Centre."

Your organisation will be fully supported by RAFM and be provided with;

Promotion

Last year both our inhouse PR team and an externally hired team promoted the RAF Stories Big Weekend. This will be repeated for this year, along with more focus on local media. Press releases, print material and social media support will all be available.

Training

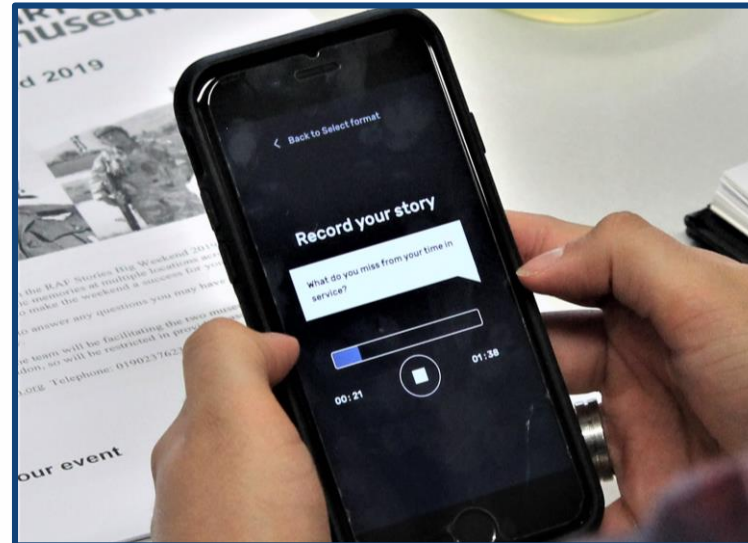
A training session may be available for your venue or the facilitator can attend a 'Train the Trainer' event at one of the RAF Museum sites (travel & subsistence reimbursed). A downloadable training pack is also available for all facilitators & volunteers.

Expenses

The RAF Museum will reimburse costs such as lunch and refreshments for volunteers, refreshments for the public, and may be able to help with venue hire costs if these are a barrier to participation.

Equipment

The RAF Museum has a limited number of tablets pre-loaded with the RAF Stories app, which can be lent out to participating venues. If your organisation already has tablets or volunteers with smartphones, you may look to use these.



You will need;

Venue

An accessible venue where the public can visit to share their story. Somewhere quiet and away from main areas would be ideal. Access to WiFi although not essential is a beneficial during the event.

Facilitator

A member of staff or volunteer who can act as the organiser for your venue. They should be present during the event and able to support volunteers.

Volunteers

Utilise existing volunteers or recruit volunteers to help out during the event. The majority of venues found 4-6 volunteers per day adequate.

Interested?

If your organisation is interested in participating in the RAF Stories Big Weekend please contact Jess Boydon by email: jess.boydon@rafmuseum.org or call 01902 376237