

Erratum to Whensoever.

The research for 'Whensoever' was done without the benefit of the www and without reference to books such as 'Two Star Red'. Since its publication numerous other documents have become available as has the www and consequently this erratum is issued to correct those items that Troops have brought to the Mountain Rescue Association's (MRA's) attention

1. Pages 140-141 carry an account of the rescue that resulted in the award of the George Medal to Johnnie Lees. Unfortunately, the report quotes the use of a 500 foot rope, in reality these did not arrive until some months after this rescue. See Gwen Moffat's "Two Star Red" (published by Hodder & Stoughton 1964 pre ISBN) page 45, which states that 120 foot ropes were used. Gwen was Johnnie's wife, an accomplished climber and a mountaineering guide who went on to help train MRS personnel. The use of 120' ropes has also been confirmed by first hand statements from other members of the team including Vic Bray who actually assisted in that rescue and thus handled the knotted ropes and is backed up by the RAF's written but unpublished history of the MRS, author Sqn Ldr David Lofts then IMR at MoD Main Building. This correction is made at the request of Johnnie Lee's family following the release of previously unpublished papers and extracts from Johnnie's personal diaries made available after his death on 15th August 2002.
2. Readers might also care to note that Johnnie's personal diary for 21st August 1950 states that the RAFMA committee meeting, recorded on page 95, did not happen but had been 'created' as a means to qualify for train and bus warrants for a climbing meet!!
3. Page 73 Line 7, the actual departure base of the B-29 was RAF Scampton in Lincolnshire; the aircraft was on Berlin Airlift support, a more detailed analysis of this crash is on the [website](#) & has confirmed almost everything written about the crash including the diamonds – which are still missing! is correct.
4. a. Appendix 8 Page 323. Add Order of the British Empire (OBE) Flt Lt (Acting Squadron Leader) David Dattner 1st January 1954 for Services to Mountain Rescue.
b. Appendix 8 Page 323. Add MBE Flt Lt Peter Dawes 1952 Beinn Eighe
5. FS John 'Taff' Tunnah's record as a Team Leader in Appendix 6 has an error, he was not TL at Leeming in 1965 but the entry for him as TL at Stafford in 1965 is correct. Chris Shorrocks who was at Leeming in 1966 has confirmed this.
6. FS Archibald, page 94 – his nephew made the following comment ; it is sad that his untimely death on 9th June 1951 came so soon after his commission in January of that year (not 1952 as mentioned on page 94). He was returning to the mainland from RAF Aldergrove in an aircraft piloted by a Flight Lieutenant from the RAF Regiment (Robert Ward?). 7th Dec 2018

For further updates go to www.rafmountainrescue.com

Brian Canfer
ILR 1991-95
Chairman and Archivist RAF MRA
Dec 2018
brican@talktalk.net