



Press Release

For Immediate Release - 26/05/2025

SKIES CAME ALIVE AT STOW MARIES GREAT WAR AERODROME!

Crowds turned out to **Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome** on Sunday (25 May) for one of the Museum's most important events of the year, **Wings & Wheels**.

Over 200 magnificent classic vehicles, from car clubs and individuals from all over Essex and beyond, provided entertainment on the ground, while the afternoon air display wowed visitors with nail-biting low-level displays, and precision close formation flying.

Visitors to the sell-out event braved early showers and clouds to enjoy blue skies and sunshine by midday. Challenging wind conditions may have grounded the delicate Great War fighters – but the air displays went ahead with more robust aircraft filling the air above the popular museum. The Turbulent Display Team in their single-seater D31 Turbulents recreated the barnstorming excitement of the flying circus acts that toured Europe in the 1920s, flying as low as a metre off the ground. Aerobatic flying was provided by the mighty Russian YAK-52, the Air Coupe and the Stampe Formation Display Team, in one display after the other.

Wings & Wheels was the first in a series of major summer events that directly fund the ongoing work to preserve and protect Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome and support its battle for survival. Forthcoming major events include:

Saturday/Sunday 21 & 22 June: Back to the WW2 Farm. A celebration of WW2 farming with living historians, period vehicles and a **Battle of Britain Memorial Flight** flypast (weather permitting).

Sunday 6 July: The Sports Car Show. A new event in partnership with FD Racing, featuring the very best in mods, conversions and fast movers.

Saturday/Sunday 19 & 20 July: Living History Weekend – living historians throughout the ages, from 11th century to World War Two, will be recreating their era on site.

Saturday 23 August: Stow Maries Air Show. One of our most exciting dates, when, weather permitting, a host of aircraft will take to the skies, along with aviation themed ground activities.

For more information and ticket bookings, visit www.stowmaries.org.uk. The museum, the largest World War One aerodrome in the world, is open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 4pm and is situated at Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome, Hackman's Lane, Purleigh CM3 6RN.

-ENDS-

For more information contact comms@stowmaries.org.uk

Notes for editors:

- Essex County and Maldon District Councils led the acquisition of the site for the nation in 2013, following a generous grant from the Heritage Memorial Fund. It was placed in the care of Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome, a registered charity.
- Today the museum, still an operational airfield, is supported and maintained by over 100 volunteers. It is open each Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10am until 4pm
- More information about Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome can be found at www.stowmaries.org.uk