

## Types of aircraft flown in while in the ATC



**General Aircraft Cygnet, RAF Odiham in 1941**



**Westland Lysander, RAF Odiham also in 1941**



**Vickers Armstrong Wellington, RAF Wing in 1942**



**Avro Anson, RAF Wing also in 1942**



**Douglas Dakota, RAF Holmsley South**



**De Havilland Tiger Moth, also at RAF Holmsley South**

I accompanied my school friend Johnny Cook in the Wellington and Gordon Broomfield in the Dakota, as described in my article “My time with the ATC.” I had my first flight in a glider, some time in 1941, while working as an apprentice at RAK Kidbrooke. The ATC was

Commanded by Squadron Leader Furlong, an accomplished glider pilot, I flew with him in a Slingsby Falcon 111 glider in a field close to Kidbrooke, south London.

All the previous pictures are from my personal album, the next two are from the Web



**Slingsby Falcon 111 Glider**



**Lockheed Ventura**

The Ventura had only a short operational history with the RAF, sometime between May 1942 and September 1943, as it had not proved a very successful aircraft. It had been operated by 21, 467 and 487 Squadrons and eventually replaced by the DH Mosquito.

It would appear that none of these squadrons operated from any of the aerodromes I remember visiting, however, along with my friend Johnny Cook; we both remember flying in the Ventura. Johnny thought that this particular Ventura may have been used as a communication aircraft and therefore not part of a regular squadron. It could therefore have been operating anywhere during late '42 early '43. However Johnny is fairly certain that we flew in the aircraft at Odiham and had visited Odiham twice, again later in 1942. I cannot remember the Ventura on my first visit to Odiham and believe it was one of the last aircraft that I had flown in and certain it was not at Wing or Holmsley South, and so Johnny is probably correct that it was during a second visit to Odiham.

My ATC career came to an end in June 1943, aged 16, when I joined de Havilland. Johnny subsequently joined the Fleet Air Arm and Gordon the Army. We are very fortunate to be able to discuss this event 68 years later, although taxing our memories a bit!



**Me, Johnny and Gordon with their wives**