

2010 US-to-UK intern exchange
Debriefing 7-7-10

Interns Luke Thomson, William Murphy, Mosaab Zaki	FoF Barry Smith, Ann Averill
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Started with big tour of MBCC. Saw all parts that apprentices had done. This personal touch was so important.

- MBCC gets approx. 300k visitors/year. There were lots of school trips there, lots of little kids. Special events in a hangar.
- They started by working on the Hampden bomber: Mosaab did skin repair and Will and Luke learned wire splicing.
- Working on the fabric was so cool because it's woven the way it was back then. Nothing modern is used. Very historically correct.
- They got to make some pieces to bring back.
- Kyle and Martin were their teachers and they were exceptional. Learned better than from an adult. perfectionists about their craft (need to build something that is safe to fly in).

Culture shock

The shops all close at 5. Unless you drink and go to the pub after work, there's nothing much to do. They're used to staying up much later than 9:30 or 10.

Accommodations:

- Constable house has 3 stories. They were on the top floor and each had his own room.
- Ann Constable was an excellent hostess: took them places with lots of stops to discuss points of interest; lots of discussion about the English way of doing things.
- Major highlights included: staying with Tim and Rebecca, Tim & Rebecca's house, Tim's T6, Tim's shop where everything was "top drawer," and going to the air show. Also, their time there was relaxing and they enjoyed the unstructured, self-directed time.

These interns have not met John Sessions, but the UK interns talked about him a lot. They flew with him in his B25 (Grumpy) when he was there. They were looking forward to working with him when they get here.

Their observations

- Felt so close to history there.
- We were not in a school mindset but an absorbing mindset, so noticed how close they feel to the war in Iraq vs our limited attachment.

- Weird how we take flight for granted.
- Tim took them flying in his T6. they each were up about 10 minutes. Flying low, enjoying scenery. Being close to aerospace not same thing as being close to flight. Flying with Tim made them feel close to flight. Tim Manna was excellent at explaining the “why” of what you’re doing when you’re flying.
- We are surrounded by aerospace here, but I had not given any thought to the precision and high quality of how things are built. For example, I noticed the evolution of landing gears there; the early one was rough and looked like it was built by a plumber but then they evolved.

London

In London, stayed at Thistle Hotel and Queensburrough.

By chance they obtained tickets to the musical “We Will Rock You.” They raved about this.

UK Interns coming here

We became good friends with the interns who will be coming here (Martin and Nathan) and look forward to hosting them when they come here.

What the interns would like to do while they’re here:

Outdoor activities

Hiking

Mountains (they really want to see what we call mountains)

Hang gliding

We added: jet skis (Luke suggested Lake Campbell)

Wind surfing at Jetty Island

Money

Felt they had plenty of money. Luke and Will are frugal, Mosaab was more spendy. Luke found 100 £ in his backpack which he will return to Darren when they’re here. He also had money left from the \$150 stipend we gave them; we told him to use it when they’re hosting the interns here. They felt the money enabled them to have a fuller experience: rented audio for their tour of Tower of London and also for the museum. That made the experiences so much deeper. Also, they went on the London Eye. “I have never traveled at this level before.”

Possible improvements

- Would like more time. At MBCC they could only do small jobs; they didn’t want to start them on big jobs that would go beyond their time.
- Cells phones. They had them part of the time, but really missed having one.

Some of the best things from the whole experience:

- Mosaab: the hands on work. Going to London.
- Luke: time with Tim & Rebecca. Mike Shepherd was awesome. The play "We Will Rock You."
- Murphy: Flying in the T6.

Agreed what we liked the most: the people. They were so nice.

Regarding the exhibit for the gallery: it should include a snapshot of what the alumni have done with themselves.