

AETHERIS

PAINTING OF ‘ATTAGIRLS’ HEROINE AVIATRIX MOLLY ROSE UNVEILED AT THE RAF CLUB

A painting of the heroine aviatrix pilot of the Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA), 22-year-old Molly Rose, whose incredible story features in the new book [Attagirls](#), was officially unveiled at The RAF Club, Piccadilly, London.

The novel ‘Attagirls’ dramatizes the story of Molly Rose, one of the youngest female pilots of the ATA, the civilian organisation tasked with ferrying thousands of military aircraft the length and breadth of the UK during WWII, working tirelessly in support of RAF operations. Her ‘courage under pressure’ approach typified the civilian ATA pilots, and is an inspiration to young women today.

The Attagirls novel was written by Paul Olavesen-Stabb and adapted as a screenplay by Paul and RAF Squadron Leader (RTD) Andrew Rawcliffe. The duo spent many hours researching the story in the library of the RAF Club Library and have commissioned the painting by iconic British artist Jeremy Houghton as a thank you.



Paul Olavesen-Stabb (left) Rachel Matthews of the RAF Club and Andrew Rawcliffe (right)

Said Paul: “I first heard about the ATA around three years ago after which Andrew and I decided that their incredible “untold story”, in particular that of the 150 female pilots, deserved to be told to a wider audience in a feature film and a novel. The RAF Club’s extensive library and incredible art collection provided a wonderful source of information and inspiration, and meeting a number of Club members helped to bring the story alive. The RAF Club’s raison d’être is synonymous with the story of Molly Rose and the ATA - love of country and courage under pressure”.

He continued: "It is therefore our honour to present to The RAF Club a token of gratitude; a painting of Molly Rose created by one of most wonderful British artists that we know... Jeremy Houghton. The image of Molly conjures up the very Spirit of Freedom which was the code of the ATA, and which is apparent throughout the Club itself. We are delighted that the painting has found a place on the Club's hallowed walls amongst the company of friends."



Aetheris Films is seeking co-production partners for the creation of the film; the book *Attagirls* is selling well in bookshops and is available as an e-book and audio book and has attracted positive critique:

"I absolutely loved it. The descriptions of her flights really allowed me to imagine her whole experience. I felt the joy with her and will admit to shedding a few tears at the losses along the way".

Zoe Cameron, pilot, Virgin Atlantic

"Extremely gripping and very moving throughout"

Harriet Earle, actor & voiceover artist

"I read it in eight hours. I couldn't stop"

Michelle Butin, producer, Los Angeles

"I enjoyed it so much that I couldn't put it down"

Minnie Churchill DL

"A superb and exciting read"

Graham Rose, Chairman, the Air Transport Auxiliary Association

"Inspirational to young girls everywhere"

Victoria Paddington

"The power of Paul's writing is what makes Molly's story captivating. It isn't written in a traditional academic historical style, more like fiction, igniting every element of my imagination".

Olivia Smith, book critic, History of War magazine ([read full review](#))

About the Book

In a world consumed by war, a small group of young women take to the skies to 'do their bit'. Their bravery and determination play a vital part in changing the course of history.

During WWII, 22-year-old Molly Rose, a flight engineer and pilot in her family's aviation business, joins the Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA), an organisation tasked to deliver aircraft from factories and maintenance units to the RAF's front-line squadrons. Accepted into an intense training program and posted to an 'all women' ferry pool, Molly has to adapt quickly to an organisation made up of pilots from diverse backgrounds including Britain's social elite, all of whom share the same insatiable appetite to fly.



Flying without armament, radios or navigation equipment and subjected to the daily dangers of adverse weather, friendly fire, barrage balloons and marauding German fighters, Molly's emotions and flying skills are put to the ultimate test when the unthinkable happens.

This is a story of love, passion and overcoming adversity both on the ground and in the air.

Foreword by Minnie Churchill DL.

Introduction by Richard Poad MBE.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Paul Olavesen-Stabb - [IMDB](#)

Author – Attagirls book

Paul was born in England and is a film producer, writer and partner at Aetheris Films and Aetheris Publishing. He recently produced The Moor with One Big Mop; and which has since been Oscar qualified.

Paul is writer of the novel Attagirls, co-writer of the screenplay and a producer of the feature film.

Paul started his production career as the founder of Bahama Locations, a Caribbean-based agency for location management and reduction of production budget lines via contras. He was thereafter co-founder and Executive Producer at Ritz Entertainment in L.A.



RAF Squadron Leader (rtd) Andrew Rawcliffe
Screenplay co-writer & RAF Liaison Officer, Attagirls

Andy is a career RAF Officer and co-writer & RAF Liaison Officer for Attagirls.

The son of an RAF fighter pilot, Andy was born in Germany and travelled extensively with his family on tours in Europe, the Far East and Malaysia, before returning to the UK.

Andy spent his spare time in his teenage years in the Air Training Corps and joined the RAF from school, completing officer training at RAF College Cranwell. He undertook a variety of tours on RAF front-line aircraft, including Hunters, Wessex helicopters, Tornado and Hawk fast jets, and finally on the RAF's cutting-edge Eurofighter Typhoon.



Since leaving the RAF in 2008 Andy has run a small technology consultancy company providing specialist support to military, aviation, and technology clients.

Andy is a member of the RAF Club in Piccadilly and maintains his interest in military aviation and his links with military organisations.

Jeremy Houghton, Artist

Artist in Residence Jeremy Houghton paints journeys, sport and adventure to explore the essence of motion, favouring themes of light, space, movement and time. The subjects that characterise these scenes are illuminated by his focus on the spaces in which bodies linger, shimmer, move and often take flight.

Over the last twenty years he has been invited to detail the life of a number of high-profile communities, from those at Windsor Castle and Highgrove to 2017's Wimbledon championships, and the competitors at the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics. With each of these projects Houghton is interested in getting beyond public perception, documenting instead the everyday scenes that characterise an event or place.

Although Houghton's focus and style ranges quite widely, his technique remains a constant. Emphasis on painted shapes of light and space, contrasting against areas of bold colour enables his subjects to glimmer in the liminal territory between figuration and abstraction. Often with extraneous detail removed, the paintings are hard to place, giving them a timeless quality that serves to underline their fluidity.

www.jeremyhoughton.co.uk

ALL MEDIA ENQUIRES:

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