

# Red Wheel at Farnborough

On 16th October, a Red Wheel was unveiled at the School of Ballooning on the site which became the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough. The building was constructed in the very early years of the 20th century.

It is currently home to Farnborough Air Sciences Trust and their museum, which in an impossibly small area tells the story of what has been achieved at Farnborough. One of their exhibits is a recreation on Samuel Franklin Cody's Flyer in which in 1908 he became the first man to fly a heavier-than-air powered machine in UK.



Cody's is such a fascinating story that we should tell it in detail in a future edition. Suffice it to say that he had what would now be described as a portfolio career. He was born Cowdery but changed his name to Cody, perhaps to encourage some of the fame of Buffalo Bill Cody to rub off. He arrived in England from his native Iowa with his Wild West Show, which toured the country to huge acclaim. He developed an interest in flying and advised both the British Army and the British Navy on the development of man-carrying kites for observation purposes. He also advised on balloons and then powered craft. He died in 1913 when his Cody Floatplane broke up in the air on its maiden flight.



The replica Cody Flyer at FAST.



One of the galleries inside the museum at FAST.



An assembly of Transport Trust Trustees and members who attended the unveiling stand by the Red Wheel at FAST.