

## **The BBAC Anthony Smith Trophy**

The Anthony Smith Trophy is the BBAC's major award for Service. It was initiated in 2020 and is named in memory of the BBAC's first President, founding member and famous gas balloonist, journalist and media presenter, Anthony Smith. The Anthony Smith trophy is not expected to be awarded every year. It celebrates an awardee's exceptional service and dedication to the BBAC over decades or an extraordinary contribution over several years. It parallels the Charles Green Salver, which is awarded for Achievement.

The Anthony Smith Trophy was constructed in 2020. Rather than a traditional piece of silverware, this trophy incorporates genuine Anthony Smith memorabilia. The centre piece is a fine Dutch china plate, with a gas ballooning scene on the front side and on the rear side a dedication to Anthony from the balloon event which awarded it to him in 1962. Thanks are due to Robin Batchelor for organising this plate to be provided from Anthony's estate. The Trophy is intended to be viewed from many angles. Incorporated into the top plate are pieces of gas balloon fabric from Anthony's gas balloon, Jambo, which made the pioneering flights in Africa as well as many in Europe, all of which are chronicled in his book "The Dangerous Sort". Jambo was destroyed by a fire on its final landing and the trophy included undamaged and burnt fabric. Thanks are due to Giles Camplin for providing this fabric, which he has kept safe for so many years. The Trophy also incorporates an original copy of Anthony's book "Throw out Two Hands" which tells the story of the Africa trip with Jambo and which dates from 1962 and some photos used in that book, with Anthony's wise words set out on the top plate "All balloon landings are little more than controlled accidents".

### **Lindsay Muir and Graham Hallett - 2020 Anthony Smith Trophy:**

Exceptional service and dedication to the BBAC over decades / Extraordinary contribution over several years

Lindsay Muir and Graham Hallett have between them held more BBAC posts for more years than any other ballooning couple.

Lindsay has worked tirelessly for the competitions club over many decades (chairman twice); she was a BBAC Main Committee member and Safety officer and taken the representative role for BBAC at the Royal Aero Club and CIA/FAI. She has organised the distribution of sporting licenses, administered the BBAC badge scheme and chaired the BBAC Records and Awards committee: for a few years she was literally called the "BBAC Officer with Many Hats".

Graham has contributed extensively as a volunteer on the Technical Committee, Flying Committee and coordinating sensitive areas data with Lindsay. As an employee Graham has done fantastic work as Chief Technical Officer for 12 years, frequently doing work well beyond the scope for which BBAC is able to pay. He has been generally available for BBAC members at all times, rather than a simple office schedule and always provides friendly as well as knowledgeable assistance. Both Lindsay and Graham provided BBAC members with the "Aerostationery" map overprinting service for over 20 years.

Graham retired from work for health reasons and Lindsay has also taken retired from a few posts. It is time to recognise their massive contributions and they are proposed as the very worthy first recipients of the BBAC's Anthony Smith Award.