

Thomas lends a paw to Concorde project

by Olivia Dawkins

BROOKLANDS Museum has recognised the unstinting service of one of its most loyal volunteers by making him an honorary member of its Friends organisation, as well as giving him an official role as a Concorde volunteer.

Thomas, the handsome ginger tomcat who has been a regular informal visitor to the museum for several years, is now officially accepted as an honoured guest and helper.

He has proved himself a keen supporter of both the aviation and motoring exhibits at the historic venue at Brooklands Road, Byfleet and has also participated in social events, even making a

lucky appearance at weddings.

Tom became particularly excited at the arrival of the Brooklands Concorde G-BBDG and has regularly inspected the restoration work on the fuselage, applying himself to persuasive fundraising with a giant purr for bigger donations.

Tom originates from Liverpool and was rescued by the Katz Castle Shelter in Cobham.

For a long time he has enjoyed a comfortable home near the museum site between Weybridge and Byfleet in Surrey.

He has his own badge declaring him to be a Concorde volunteer and is always welcomed on the Concorde and Hawker Hurricane projects.

Tom's owners, Keith Grover and Angela White,

who live in neighbouring Locke King Drive are well aware of Tom's good work on behalf on the museum. Keith said: "We know he goes to the museum by the most prestigious route, over the Members' Bridge."

Human help is still needed to complete

Concorde's restoration, which will be the only example in the south east that can be visited.

Anyone able to help should call the museum volunteer co-ordinator Mike Duvall on 01932 857381 or e-mail mikeduvall@brooklands-museum.com.



Thomas inspecting the Concorde fuselage



Thomas is asked to leave the Concorde project's restricted area at Brooklands for his own safety.