

Steve Brown, a Tengah Tiger, died on 22nd November 2022. He joined 74 in 1967 just before the squadron deployed from Leuchars to Tengah and was a stalwart member of the 74 Bachelors' Club throughout his tour. He gained a reputation for being able to sleep at all sorts of inappropriate times, including in the mornings when he should have been at work! Indeed, when Denis Caldwell arrived as CO and was having his welcoming drinks, Steve went up to him and said 'Boss, I think you should know that I regularly oversleep' - to which Denis replied 'Steve, you mean you USED to oversleep, don't you!' There was a joke that Steve had a photoelectric switch across the door jamb of his room in the mess which programmed his brain to 'sleep' mode as he crossed it and he would be lucky if he made the bed!

As with many of the Tengah Tiger pilots, Steve was subject to 'incidents'. One of note occurred sometime during 1968 when his brake 'chute deployed normally on landing but then the brakes immediately failed. By the time the runway's end was reached the speed of the Lightning was relatively slow, but even so entry into the barrier caused serious damage to the aircraft's spine.

He completed his tour on 74 in September 1969 and was posted to Oman for a tour with the Sultan of Oman's Air Force, before going on to instruct on the Hunter at Valley followed by a tour at Boscombe Down on the Handling Squadron where he had responsibility for keeping Aircrew Manuals for the fast jet world up to date. Also, at one stage in his career Steve was an exchange Harrier pilot with the Royal Navy and was in the South Atlantic with them.

