



Squadron News

The newsletter of 2187 (Canvey Island) Squadron ATC
Issue 1 - November 2007

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From the Editor

Welcome to the first edition of the new squadron newsletter! We hope to make this a regular publication every two months so that everyone is kept up to date with the happenings at 2187 Squadron ATC.

Many of the articles will be written or compiled by the cadets, for the cadets - so any comments or suggestions are certainly most welcome!

There will be regular updates on events, features and hopefully even some fun stuff like competitions.

It's newsletters like this that form the backbone of our recruiting campaigns for cadets, staff and civilian welfare committee members. If you know of anyone that would like to receive a copy, please let us know.

Read on - and enjoy!

Hazel Weston,
Editor and Secretary to Civilian welfare Committee



What's Been Happening?

- ⊙ Sgt Lawes went to Germany camp at Rheindahlen Garrison
- ⊙ Sgt McNish completed a Gliding Scholarship, gained his silver wings, and was Top Student
- ⊙ Sgt Bradford completed his Sergeants Course at RAF Cranwell, and was Top Student
- ⊙ Several cadets and staff went on a Bronze DEA weekend expedition in Suffolk
- ⊙ Seven cadets gained Bronze DEA awards
- ⊙ Several cadets and staff did street collections for the Royal Air Forces Association (RAFA) 'Wings Appeal', and raised almost £300
- ⊙ A number of cadets attended the Wing Drill competition at Wing HQ, Carver Barracks
- ⊙ Mr Parsons passed a First Aid course
- ⊙ Mr Worrall passed a course at Pirbright Camp to assess cadets weapon handling skills
- ⊙ Cdt Robson represented Essex Wing in the London & South East Region Netball competition - Essex Wing came 1st place, out of 6 Wings in the Region
- ⊙ Sgt Lawes represented Essex Wing in Shooting, on the Regional Field Day
- ⊙ Assistant Chief Constable Peter Lowton presented the top awards at the Squadron Mess Night
- ⊙ Training has commenced for the RAF Cosford/Nijmegen Marches in 2008

Service Rewarded!!

Congratulations to Phyllis Owens and Dennis Palmer who were both recently awarded with the UK Armed Forces Veterans lapel Badge in recognition of their service in the HM Armed Forces before and/or during World War II.





Competition Time!

Can you come up with a better name for the newsletter?

All suggestions to newsletter2187canvey@hotmail.co.uk

The best suggestion will receive a prize!!

What's Going On?

Event/Activity	Who can attend?	How much does it cost?
Flying @ RAF Wyton 3 rd November 2007	Cadets (9 places)	NA
Indian Dinner at Maharaja Restaurant 8 th November 2007	Everyone	£12 per person (tickets only)
Remembrance Parade 11 th November 2007	Everyone	NA
Inter-Sqn Cross Country, Brentwood 18 th November 2007	Cadets	NA
Gliding @ Wethersfield 1 st December 2007	Cadets (3 places)	NA
Christmas Party at Hall 2, Paddocks 8 th December 2007	Everyone	£5 per person (tickets only)
60 th Anniversary Ball and Reunion, Oysterfleet 22 nd March 2008	Everyone	TBC
RAF Cosford March 25-27 April 2008	Cadets	NA
Mess Night and Awards Evening Oysterfleet, 3 rd October 2008	Everyone	TBC

Squadron Mess Night is a Success!!

Each year our squadron holds a dinner & dance, known as a Mess Night. This is a 'parade', where we invite guests to dine with the squadron, and recognise the achievements of both the entire squadron and individual cadets (annual awards for personal achievement are presented, either by the Commanding Officer or a VIP guest). Therefore this is an important event in our calendar.

This year our Mess Night was held on 12th October 2007 at The Oysterfleet Hotel Canvey Island, and we were honoured to have Assistant Chief Constable Peter Lowton as our principle guest. After the dinner and awards there is always a disco, which is a good opportunity to let your hair down!



Best Cadet –
Cdt Worrall



Best NCO –
Cpl Lawes



Top Sports Cadet –
Cdt Swan



Best Recruit -
Cdt Parker



Most Improved Cadet -
Cdt Longcroft -



Recent Promotions

At the recent mess night we also made some promotions. Congratulations to all of you who were successful!

Promotion to Corporal

- Cdt Green-Muid
- Cdt Yarmouth
- Cdt Vincent
- Cdt Parker
- Cdt Knightly
- Cdt Worrall



Promotion to Sergeant

- Cpl Evans
- Cpl Lawes



Nice to Meet You

Every newsletter we will do an in-depth interview from one member of the squadron - this edition it is the opportunity for Flight Lieutenant Nicky Weston to have his say:

Name, Rank and Position at Squadron:

Nicky Weston, Flight Lieutenant, Commanding Officer

How long have you been at 2187 Squadron / how long have you been involved with the ATC ?

17 years at the squadron and 20 years within the ATC - I spent 3 years at 1341 (Thundersley) Squadron when I was a Flying Officer.

What do you do for a day job?

I am an IT Trainer for the worlds largest law firm



How did you get to where you are today?

My best mate from school got me an interview for my first IT job, which I had no experience of. The interviewer was an Army Cadet Force major, and we spent the whole interview talking about cadets! Then he gave me the job...

Can you play an instrument? And if so, what one and how good are you?

I was originally a trumpeter in the squadron band, but when I was at school I had trombone lessons!

What is your favourite food and drink?

Curry and Tea (not necessarily together though!)

What is your favourite Pastime?

Listening to music and singing along (usually badly)

What is your favourite band/music?

Lenny Kravitz

What makes you happy?

A full wine rack!

What makes you sad?

Not getting the winning lottery numbers, so I can stay in bed on a cold winters Monday morning.

Describe yourself in 3 words

Loyal, enthusiastic, eccentric

What has been your greatest achievement in your life?

Probably being appointed CO of 2187 Squadron - as a former cadet of the squadron, it was a real honour.

Tell us something about yourself that we probably don't know

For many years I used to go along to karaoke and sing some songs almost every week!!

Lets Meet the Rest of the 2187 Squadron Staff



Warrant Officer Roddy is a former Cadet Sergeant of 2187 Sqn ATC, having originally joined in 1985. After finishing as a cadet, he spent some time with the TA. He later returned as a member of staff after some years away, and was appointed as a Warrant Officer in 2002.



Sgt Bradford joined 2187 Sqn ATC as a cadet in 1998 and is a former Cadet Warrant Officer. After completing cadet service, he was appointed as a Sergeant in 2006

Sgt Kemp is a former Cadet Flight Sergeant with 2187 Sqn ATC, which he first joined in 1993. After finishing as a cadet, he returned to 2187 Sqn as a Civilian Instructor in 2001 and was appointed as a Sergeant in 2007



Mr Worrall joined 2187 Sqn ATC as a Civilian Instructor in 2006, and is a former Cadet Corporal of 1476 (Rayleigh) Squadron ATC.



Mr Parsons joined 2187 Sqn ATC as a Civilian Instructor in 2006 and briefly served in the Royal Air Force, as well as doing three years in the Royal Signals (TA).



Mr Tunley joined 2187 Sqn ATC as a Civilian Instructor in 2006. He is a Paramedic Team Leader, and is formerly a crew member of the Essex Air Ambulance.

Mr Needham joined 2187 Sqn ATC as a Civilian Instructor in 2007, after transferring from 1312 (Southend) Sqn. He is a former SNCO with 23 years service in the British Army.



Mr Tisdall joined 2187 Sqn ATC as a Civilian Instructor in 2007. He instructs cadets in aviation subjects, campcraft, sports and the use of radios.

No picture at present



Goodbye and Good Luck

The squadron would like to say thank you and goodbye to the 2 Cadet Warrant Officers, Jack Watson and Matt Johnson who left officially on the Squadron Mess Night to Join University. They will be remembered for their valuable contributions to the squadron and we wish them luck!

7 Cadets receive the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Congratulations to Cpl Worrall, Sgt Evans, Cdt Byrne, Cdt Campfield, Cdt Chadwick, Cdt Bennett and Cdt Scanlon who recently received their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a voluntary, non-competitive programme of practical, cultural and adventurous activities for young people aged 14-25. The programme consists of three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold and each level has differing criteria for entry and the level of achievement necessary to complete each award. Bronze DEA is made up of 4 elements

Service - This element is aimed at getting people to put something back into the community. Our Cadets used their time spent supervising younger cadets to qualify for this. They had to spend a minimum of 12 hours over 3 months completing this section.

Skill - The aim of this element is to develop practical skills. The cadets used their time spent on navigation for this. Over 3 months they all practised and improved their map reading skills and their general knowledge of navigation

Physical Recreation - The idea of this element is to encourage participation and improvement in physical activity. For this one the cadets spent six months completing circuit style training constantly striving to improve their scores at each activity.

Expedition - Finally the Cadets took part in 2 expeditions, one being a practice which took place in Hadleigh and one being their qualifying venture which was in Suffolk. The expeditions take place over two days spending the night in a tent.

Our aim for the New Year is that we get some cadets started on the silver award and get even more bronze awards for the rest of the squadron.



Remembrance Day Parade



Remembrance Sunday is the Sunday nearest to 11th November - Remembrance Day, which is the anniversary of the end of hostilities in the First World War, in 1918 at 1100hrs. The national ceremony, a unique expression of national homage, devoted primarily to remembrance of the dead of the two world wars, is held at the Cenotaph on Whitehall, London. In remembrance a two minute silence is held at 1100hrs. This silence is marked by the firing of a field gun on Horse Guards Parade to begin and end the silence, followed by buglers sounding The Last Post.

The Remembrance Day Parades are made up of local groups and organisations who annually march in honour of those who give their lives in the service of their country, either in World Wars or in the many conflicts which have continued unto this day.

As in previous years the Parade on Canvey commences from the Cadet Headquarters, Runnymede Road at approximately 10.15 am with the route taking the parade onto Long Road, arriving in time for the Remembrance Day Service at the Paddock's which commences at approximately 10.30 am.

Every year 2187 (Canvey Island) Squadron ATC lead the parade with the Marching Band, followed by the Army cadets and family/staff members. Following the service the parade marches back along Long Road to the Royal British Legion building for a few drinks, then back to the squadron Headquarters for approximately 1pm

All are welcome to join the parade this year on 11th November 2007 - for further information please contact the squadron direct.

It's Party Time!!

Just a reminder to you all that we are hosting a Christmas party at Hall 2, The Paddocks, Canvey Island on Saturday 8th December 2007 from 7pm.

A paying bar is available, and a buffet will be laid on - tickets are £5 each.

Featuring DJ Dan (www.dj-sound.biz) and excellent local band Redonizm, they will definitely get you up and dancing! All funds raised going to charity.



Nice to meet you again

Did you know it is the 60th Anniversary of 2187 (Canvey Island) Squadron ATC next year? Are you a current or former cadet, staff member, parent or committee member? Would you like to meet up with old friends? Would you like to make some new friends? Or do you just want to get dressed up and party!!!! Then.....

We are holding an 60th Anniversary Reunion Ball on Saturday 22nd March at the Oysterfleet Hotel, Canvey Island. More details will follow nearer the time, but if you are interested please contact us to get your name on our distribution list.

Do you Want to Write Something for the next Issue?

We really want to hear from you, so if you want to write something for the next newsletter please note that the deadline for all submissions is Sunday 23rd December 2007. All suggestions and/or articles are to be sent to newsletter2187canvey@hotmail.co.uk.

Contact Us

Interested in joining as an Air Cadet or as a volunteer member of Adult Staff? Do you have any comments or suggestions for the newsletter or would you prefer this newsletter in an alternative format (i.e. paper or electronic) - Telephone or email us, or simply drop in on our parade nights

Squadron Headquarters Address - (Note: the HQ has NO facilities to receive post)
2187 (Canvey Island) Squadron ATC , Drill Hall, Runnymede Road, Canvey Island, Essex, SS8 0EF

Parade Evenings - Monday and Friday evenings 1915 - 2145 hrs (all year round, except Bank Holidays and Christmas)

Telephone - 01268 694528 (HQ, at above times only)

Squadron Email - 2187sqn@essex-aircadets.org

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