



Sky High

60 years

The newsletter of 2187 (Canvey Island) Squadron ATC
Issue 6 - September 2008

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From the Editor

Welcome to the latest edition of the squadron newsletter.

The summer months have been very eventful, with two weekends away on exercise, plus the Duxford Airshow in July. The next few months are going to be just as eventful. Don't forget we also have our Annual Mess Night in October, which as it is our 60th anniversary this year, we hope will be our best ever.

Remember, as always mentioned we want to spread the word about what we do and what you can get out of being a cadet therefore if you know of anyone that would like to receive a copy of this newsletter, please let us know.

Read on - and enjoy!



Hazel Weston,
Editor and Secretary to Civilian welfare Committee

What's Been Happening?

- The band performed at the opening of 295 (Witham & Rivenhall) Sqn's new HQ. Based on that performance, Witham Sqn & their local RAFA have requested our band to play at their Battle of Britain Parade on 28th September.

Squadron Welcomes a New Civilian Instructor!

Welcome to Mr Alan Evans who has joined the squadron as a Civilian Instructor. Alan used to be a member of the Civilian Welfare Committee (he joined in early 2006) and helped out whenever he could with the fundraising activities as well as maintaining the squadron mini-bus. Recently Alan made the decision to leave the Committee and in July 2008 joined the squadron as a civilian instructor.



Shooting to the Top!

Cadets at all levels of the Air Training Corps have the opportunity to participate in the sport of rifle target shooting, on either the .22 or L98 weapons. They can aim to achieve various marksmanship qualification badges to wear on their uniform.



Congratulations to all of the cadets who in the last few weeks, have gained the following Marksman badges:

- * Cdt Longcroft gained Wing Marksman
- * Sgt Evans gained Wing Marksman
- * Sgt Knightly gained Wing, Region, then Corps Marksman
- * Sgt Green-Muid gained Wing Marksman
- * Sgt Worrall gained Region and then Corps Marksman

What's Going On?

Event/Activity	Who can attend?	How much does it cost?
Inter-squadron Swimming Competition, Saturday 7 th September	Cadets	NA
Orienteering, Langdon Hills Country Park, Saturday 13 th September (Contact Steve Kemp for further details)	Cadets	Free
Orienteering, District Event, SW Epping Forest, Chingford, Sunday 28 th September (Contact Steve Kemp for further details)	Cadets	£8 per group
Mess Night and Awards Evening, Oysterfleet, 10 th October	Everyone	£25 (Cadets free)
Flying, RAF Wyton, Friday 25 th October	12 Cadet Places	NA
LASER Region band Weekend, Friday 31 st October - Sunday 2 nd November	Cadets	TBC
Remembrance Day Parade, Sunday 9 th November	Cadets	NA
Inter-Squadron Cross Country, Sunday 16 th November	Cadets	NA
Squadron Fancy Dress Christmas Party, Canvey Rugby Club, Saturday 13 th December	Everyone	TBC
Squadron 'Battle of Britain' Open Day, Squadron Headquarters, TBC	Everyone	NA
Fundraising Quiz Night, TBC	Everyone	TBC



Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition Weekend



On the weekend of Saturday 2nd to Monday 4th August 17 cadets and several staff attended the Bronze/Silver DEA weekend in Suffolk, along with Stanford-le-Hope squadron.

A big thank you to all the staff that assisted with the preparation of this event.

RIAT Airshow Cancelled

The Royal International Air Tattoo (RIAT), usually held at RAF Fairford in Gloucestershire, is the world's largest military airshow, comprising over 300 hundred modern military aircraft in the static line-up and air display from many different countries around the world.



Highlights planned for the 2008 show included the UK flying debut by the US Air Force's most advanced jet, the F-22A Raptor plus displays by legendary World War Two aircraft such as the Spitfire, Lancaster and Hurricane, plus 10 flying displays teams from around the globe!

Unfortunately this year, due to the sudden and unusually heavy rainfall, the decision was made by the organisers of the Royal International Air Tattoo to cancel the airshow on both Saturday, July 12 and Sunday July 13. Staff and cadets from 2187 (Canvey Island) squadron ATC therefore attended Duxford airshow instead, after some last minute re-arrangements by the staff to ensure that a good day out still happened!

Well done to the staff that took the initiative and organised the alternative outing.

Cadets Gain First Aid Badges



Sgt Bradford and CI Tunley recently spent two days over the Summer holidays training and assessing the cadets in order to gain the St Johns Young LifeSaver First Aid Qualification badge - 12 cadets have qualified for the badge and certificate. Good stuff!

Congratulations to Cdt Licence, Cdt Kingston, Cdt Cartwright, Cdt Fleming, Cdt Mckeen, Cdt Mayo, Cdt Stevens, Cdt Lee, Cdt Marshall, Cdt White, Cdt Zarb, Sgt Parker and Sgt Green-Muid.

As mentioned in previous articles, cadets will have received fourteen hours of first aid training, culminating in a practical assessment. At 2187 Squadron, not only are we fortunate to have an Ambulance Service Paramedic team leader as a member of staff, but also other staff whom are first aid assessors and trainers.



Carver Barracks Field Craft Weekend

On the bank holiday weekend of Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th August, 25 cadets and staff attended a field craft weekend at Carver Barracks.



Officer Cadet Lindup

Congratulations to Paul Lindup who has successfully passed his commissioning board interviews to become our most recent Officer Cadet. We wish him all the best!



Annual Squadron Mess Night



Don't forget it is the Annual 2187 Squadron Mess Night & Awards Evening on 10th October 2008 at the Oysterfleet Hotel, Canvey Island. Tickets cost £25 per person for a 3 course meal (cadets are free). If you are interested in attending please contact us as soon as possible to get your place booked. Who will get this years top cadet awards?!

Music will be supplied by DJ Dan (www.dj-sound.biz).



Indian Night at the Maharaja

On Thursday 3rd July we held a Charity Fundraiser night at the Maharaja Restaurant, Benfleet. Many thanks to all of you who attended. We managed to raise about £250 for the squadron funds!



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 26th October 2008. All suggestions and/or articles are to be sent to newsletter2187canvey@hotmail.co.uk

Nice to Meet You

Every newsletter we do an in-depth interview from one member of the squadron - this edition it is the opportunity for Officer Cadet Martin Worrall to have his say:

Name:

Martin Worrall

Rank and Position at Squadron:

Officer Cadet. I am the squadron Adjutant

How long have you been at 2187 Squadron?

2 years, 4 months

How long have you been involved with the ATC?

I was a cadet NCO at 1476 Rayleigh Squadron. So, on and off for a long time

How did you get to where you are today?

Hard work and commitment

What do you do for a day job?

I am a Field Support Technician for a Healthcare company

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

No

What is your favourite drink?

Coffee

What is your favourite food?

Chinese

What is your favourite Pastime?

Air Cadets, of course

What is your favourite band/music?

Andy Williams/The Lighthouse Family

What makes you happy?

Flying

What makes you sad?

Landing

Describe yourself in 3 words

Methodical, Intuitive and adaptable

What has been your greatest achievement in your life?

My Family

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

During my time as a special constable with Essex Police I received a commendation for assisting the arrest and detention of three armed suspects, who we caught 'red-handed' stealing the contents of a shop in Leigh on Sea.



Lets Meet Some of the Cadet NCO's

All Air Cadets start off at the rank of Cadet. Cadet NCO's (Non-Commissioned Officers) are appointed by the Commanding Officer to those cadets whom have shown such qualities as commitment, enthusiasm, are smartly turned out in their uniform, and most importantly, show the ability to lead other cadets and show initiative to deal with a variety of situations - which is not something everyone can do naturally. We recently had a few promotions to Corporal and Sergeant, so let's get to know a little about a few of them.....



Name: James Knightly
Rank: Sergeant

Length of time at squadron: Too long, no only joking, nearly 3 years now!

Why did you join the cadets? I heard that it was a good organisation for people my age, and plus some of my friends were already attending there, so I went one evening and I've been here ever since

What do you enjoy most about being in the cadets? Everything is exciting about the air cadets, the thrill of flying, the adrenaline of shooting and most of all doing all these things with my friends.

What has been your biggest achievement? Well it would have to be making it to the rank of Sgt and completing the RAF Cosford 50 mile march!

What do you want to do for a career? I'm aiming to go into the RAF when i turn 19 (that's not far away) but I haven't made up my mind on which job I want to take up.

If you were the squadron CO what would you do differently? I don't think that much of the squadron needs improving, so I don't think that there is any thing I would do differently.

Name: Jamie Worrall
Rank: Sergeant



Length of time at squadron: 2 years 5 months

Why did you join the cadets? My dad told me about the Corps; from there my interest in the activities related to the Air cadet organisation I then looked on the squadron website and joined on the 15th of March 2006.

What do you enjoy most about being in the cadets? The thing I enjoy most about being a cadet is the activities run by staff and cadets; another thing I enjoy is the friendships created by the organisation and the fun well being of the entire corps.

What has been your biggest achievement? My biggest achievements so far has been obtaining my Sgt stripes as I have worked very hard for them and find it a very rewarding achievement. Another achievement I found rewarding was completing my bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award as this was a hard task to complete.

What do you want to do for a career? When I turn 16, I wish to start a small job working weekends whilst I go to college for 2 years, after this I wish to go on and either, join the RAF police or the civilian police.

If you were the squadron CO what would you do differently? If I was the squadron CO I would carry running the squadron as it is currently going but as well as this try to get the staff and NCOs to communicate more so that a normal cadet night will run more smoothly.



Name: Mitchell Green-Muid
Rank: Sergeant

Length of time at squadron: Approximately 2 years

Why did you join the cadets? Mainly because my Dad was in the ATC and also my biological dad was a cadet at Canvey Squadron.

What do you enjoy most about being in the cadets? I enjoy all of the activities we participate in and the people that I'm with make it worth while.

What has been your biggest achievement? Getting to a higher rank than my dads. No, urm..... It probably is taking control of a grob tutor and assisting in flying it.

What do you want to do for a career? Dare I say it - RAF Police and then public police

Name: Damion Chadwick AKA Chad
Rank: Corporal



Length of time at squadron: 1 year and 7 months

Why did you join the cadets? It was recommended by Sgt Evans back when he was a corporal and I have enjoyed it immensely

What do you enjoy most about being in the cadets? The huge range of activities and the people are great
What has been your biggest achievement? Getting promoted to corporal
What do you want to do for a career? I want to join the RAF police as an officer and hopefully specialise in close protection
If you were the squadron CO what would you do differently? Errr.... No idea



Name: Charlotte Swan
Rank: Corporal

Length of time at squadron: 1 and half years
Why did you join the cadets? I thought it would be fun to join, I hope to join the RAF now, and it's changed my life. :]

What do you enjoy most about being in the cadets? Every thing, I love the sports and love it all, it has changed my life and I love being a PROUD member of 2187 Canvey ATC.

What has been your biggest achievement? Getting to regional athletics for London and South East Region, when I had only been in cadets for 5 months.

What do you want to do for a career? I would like to go into the RAF to become a pilot but I am not completely sure yet, also I would like to do anything that involves sports.

If you were the squadron CO what would you do differently? Nothing I think the sqn is great and the CO is great too :]. ...the Squadron wouldn't be Canvey Squadron with out him and the staff and all the cadets its like another family.

Name: Samuel Bennett
Rank: Corporal



Length of time at squadron: 2 years and 11 months
Why did you join the cadets? One of my friends said he was going to go and so I said I would come with him to see what it was like

What do you enjoy most about being in the cadets? Everything! its different and you get more opportunities to do things you wouldn't normally do

What has been your biggest achievement? My D of E (Duke of Edinburgh)

What do you want to do for a career? I would like to be a worldwide insurance broker

If you were the squadron CO what would you do differently? Nothing I like it the way it is now!



Name: Sarah Mizon
Rank: Corporal

Length of time at squadron: 1 Year 5 Months
Why did you join the cadets? I went to Southend air show one year, and the Southend air cadets were there, so I searched on the internet and found 2187 Canvey Air Cadets, and joined.

What do you enjoy most about being in the cadets? I enjoy making new friends from all over the wing, representation in sports and the flying/gliding.

What has been your biggest achievement? Representing the Wing and Region in sports and getting my first set of stripes.

What do you want to do for a career? I hope to go in to the RAF, but still I am still deciding on what to do there.

If you were the squadron CO what would you do differently? I think the squadron CO is doing a great job already; nothing needs to be changed, so I would do it just like Flight Lieutenant Weston.

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)

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