



The Surrey Acorn

The Newsletter of Surrey Wing Air Training
Corps

New Series 5

Winter 2002

EDITORIAL

As mentioned in the Wing Commander's Christmas Message 2002 has been a significant year for Surrey Wing. One major change on the admin front has been the appointment of a new Wg Ad O after a hiatus of some two years; we have most fortunate in acquiring the services of the new incumbent, Sqn Ldr Forde. Secondly the wing has been reorganized into three areas with both new and old faces taking up new responsibilities in order to lead the wing into the future.

The highlight of 2002 was undoubtedly the Wing Review at RAF Odiham in September by Air Commodore Chitty, the Commandant Air Cadets. The day began with a formal guard of honour, followed by a march past with A/Cdre Chitty taking the salute. Thereafter the day consisted in a round of activities designed with a fun element to enable the cadets to enjoy their review to the fullest. The activities included go-kart racing, a timed fire engine pull, a competition featuring squadron built model gliders, a climbing and abseil wall, motor glider flying, and most popular of all, an 'It's a Knockout' type competition in which the entrants, both staff and cadets got more than a little wet! - but a great time was had by all!!

At the end of the day, an informal parade took place at which



Air Commodore Chitty inspecting the Guard of Honour at the Wing's Review at RAF Odiham.

L to R: Flight Lieutenant Talbot, Parade Commander; Wing Commander Osborne, OC Wing; Air Commodore Chitty, Commandant Air Cadets.

Photo: Jeremy Hall
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A/Cdre Chitty spoke of his enjoyment of the day, as well as thanking both Wg Cdr Osborne, OC Wing and his volunteer officers and staff for making the day such a success - and finally A/Cdre Chitty thanked the cadets for their involvement and unbridled enthusiasm during the course of the day's events.

Included with this issue of the *Acorn* is a Review supplement giving the results of the competitions, as well as a selection of photographs taken throughout a very successful day for the wing.

John J. Tunesi of Liongam
Flying Officer
Editor

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ADVENTURE TRAINING NEWS

By Flt Lt R J Sullivan

BRAY TROPHY 2002

The competition for the Bray Trophy 2002 was held at Longmoor Camp over the weekend 18-20 October 2002.

Sixteen squadrons competed against each other in adventure training related activities starting on Friday night as soon as they arrived on camp with the teams having to complete their route cards for the weekend and also a simulated flying navigation exercise.

Saturday saw the teams having to complete tasks ranging from a first aid casevac scenario through to climbing and abseiling from a bridge and overcoming a natural obstacle course. Altogether there were nine activities to navigate to around N2A area. That evening a fairly arduous night navigation exercise had to be accomplished around another part of the area with the teams having to pick up clues from the checkpoints that would prove to be essential to the next days activities.

On Sunday they were faced with a further five exercises testing them on the obstacle course, the climbing tower, an A.T. quiz, knot and rope work and exchanging their clues from the night exercise for parts of model balsa planes and seeing which teams craft

would fly the furthest

In the event 1924 (Shirley) Sqn won the Bray Trophy with 261 (Guildford) Sqn coming second and 1254 (Godalming) Sqn in third place.

SWATT CHALLENGE TROPHY

22-24 NOVEMBER 2002

BRECON BEACONS

Having carried out the training during the early summer at Crowborough six cadets from the wing were selected to go forward to the competition itself that took place over the weekend of 22-24 November.

The group consisted of Sgt Thomas [1349 (Woking) Sqn], Cpl Crossley [1349 (Woking) Sqn], Cpl Kemp [229 (Farnham) Sqn], Sgt Fisher [285 (Coulsdon & Purley) Sqn], Sgt Hall [450 (Kenley) Sqn] and Cpl Palmer [450 (Kenley) Sqn].

On the evening of Friday, 22 November we gathered at 1034 (Surbiton) Sqn. Following a final briefing and kit check we climbed aboard our minibus and left Surbiton at 1900hrs arriving at the bivvi site at the foot of the Brecon Beacons at 2100hrs in rather inclement conditions.

On arrival at the bivvi site, the group's first task was to construct their shelters, which they needed to ensure would be waterproof from the heavy rain if they were to have a relatively dry night.

Next morning they were greeted by the staff at 0730hrs and received their first briefing of the day being informed that they were tasked to walk up onto the Brecon Beacons with full packs.

After a veritable feast of boiled

eggs and bread, the group set off on their trek over the wild and woolly terrain.

Each member of the group was given a leg of the route to navigate without the others knowing where that point would be and they would all be quizzed as to their exact location all along the route. During all of this time, the weather was not improving, although it actually stopped raining at about midday, however the visibility was right down to 50m at times.

Having reached the summit of Pen-y-fan the group lunched on tea, peanuts and Mars bars before making their way across the plateau *via* Fan-y-big descending to the minibus located at the waterfalls. Here the group was tasked with finding their evening meal inside a disused tunnel, following which they then had to find their bivvi site where they had to prepare a lavish meal of pheasant and spuds along with a few carrots and also reconstruct their shelters for the night, at this stage the staff bid them goodnight and retired to their four star campsite!

Sunday morning saw the group being set their first task of the day. They had to complete a river crossing, some were more successful than others. Once the river was overcome, the group feasted upon trout for breakfast, after which they set off on a 4km march in full kit, due to a certain geographical misplacement, one team took twice as long as the other. Both the day and the competition ended with a 25m rock climb, followed by a 25m abseil and a 10m incline pothole.

After all the points were computed on the staff's digits, a very deserving Cadet Sergeant Thomas of 1349 (Woking) Squadron, with 42 points won the SWATT Challenge Trophy.

Cadet Corporal Crossley of 1349 (Woking) Squadron came a very close second with 41 points, and Cadet Sergeant Hall from 450 (Kenley) Squadron was third with 39 points. The remaining Cadets, Cadet Corporal Kemp of 229 (Farnham) Squadron, 38 points; Cadet Sergeant Fisher of 285 (Coulsdon & Purley) Squadron, 35 points; and Cadet Corporal Palmer of 450 (Kenley) Squadron, 34 points.

This years competition was set up when the Wing was divided into two areas and the cadets selected accordingly. Therefore, the Trophy was won by Cdt Sgt Thomas, on behalf of SW Area. Next year, the competition will be set up for the Wing's new configuration of three Areas.

Training for next years competition, will be carried out on the Seniors Weekend Camp at Crowborough over the weekend of 4/6 April 2003, where each Squadron will be invited to submit a team of 5 cadets. At this Training Weekend one Squadron Team from each Area will be selected to go forward to represent their Area in the competition to be held in November 2003.

OBITUARY

Adult Warrant Officer Roy Townend (Ret'd)

It is much sadness that we announce that Adult Warrant Officer Roy Townend passed away recently after a period of illness and hospitalisation. Those who know Roy will recall that he served on the Detached Flight when it was part of 261 (Guildford) Squadron. He retired from Uniformed service in 1991 and thereafter became a CI with 144 (Richmond) Squadron serving until 1994. He was a staunch supporter of the Air

Cadet Movement, and was a particularly proud AWO with strong humanitarian qualities. He always displayed a good sense of humour and was fun to be with in any situation.

On retirement from the Corps in 1994, AWO Townend moved to the Farnham area and will be sorely missed by those who knew him. Surrey Wing offers its sincerest condolences to his widow Margaret and family.

LASER ST CLEMENT DANES SERVICE

The 34th LASER Service of Thanksgiving and Dedication will take place at RAF St Clement Danes Church on Sunday, 2nd February 2003 at 1100 hrs. As per usual the Wing is providing a marching contingent, plus the band from 135 (Redhill & Reigate) Squadron.

NICOLA CRANWELL BOUND

Cadet Flight Sergeant Nicola Sing Key (18), has recently left 18F (Wimbledon) Squadron, bound for RAF College Cranwell to embark upon Initial Officer Training.

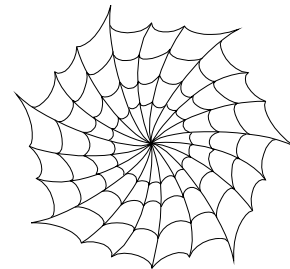
Cdt Flt Sgt Sing Key who was a pupil at the Ursuline Convent, had been a member of 18F for five years during which time she attended the Surrey Wing JNCO Course at RAF Manston in 1999, and she further undertook a Gliding Scholarship winning the Silver Wings Badge in October 2001, and going solo in a Vigilant in 2002.

Nicola has long harboured an ambition to make her career as an Officer in the RAF, she is now on the first steps in achieving this ambition, hoping upon



Cdt Flt Sgt Nicola Sing Key of 18F (Wimbledon) Squadron
Photo: Fg Off Tunesi
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graduation from Cranwell to take her place within the Operations Support Branch, in her chosen specialisation of Intelligence. We wish her well.



ON THE WEB

RAF PICTURE LIBRARY

The Acorn should like to bring to your attention an online photographic resource for those Squadrons, Staff or Cadets that have access to the Internet.

The site contains a vast library of high quality photographs of all things pertaining to the RAF, including the latest aircraft. This is a resource of which Squadrons as well as staff and cadets should take the fullest advantage.

You will find the site at www.raf.picture-library.com

**WING
RECIPIENTS
OF THE
QUEEN'S
GOLDEN
JUBILEE
MEDAL**

The following wing personnel qualified for the award of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal on the 50th Anniversary of the Accession of HM The Queen on 6th February 2002 having served the required minimum of five years.

Wing Commander

Osborne, A J

Squadron Leaders

Bowers, J W
Rushton, F A St J
Silver, S E

Flight Lieutenants

Alexander, A J
Baker, N W
Blundell-Pound, G
Bone, S
Borwick, J P
Bristow, J C
Cambra, A
Cambra, J M
Carter, M A
Cleeter, A G
Cleeter, N Y
Colebrook, M C
Cusack, K
Donovan, K B
Dunlop, C A
Edmonds, R S P
Freehold, D R
Gould, H
Gould, R G
Griffin, A C
Hatch, P F
Johnson, A G
Johnson, K R
Jones, N R
Mead, A B

Morris, J N
Morris, R A F
Muller, J V
Richards, S J
Ronaldson, D D
Russell, M J
Scanlon, N F J
Smith, M
Stacey, C A
Stanley, D S
Sullivan, R J
Talbot, A J
Ulrich, M P
Whitehead, M S
Whittenbury, W P
Yee, R

Flying Officers

Blain, R T
Bone, K L
Braddon, R T
Brittain, A J
Burchett, K J
Cheesman, D A J
Dean, R J
Hassenali, A J
Head, D P
Miller, R C
Parsons, J J
Partridge, J M
Walker, M A

Pilot Officer

Tunesi of Liongam, J J

Adult Warrant Officers

Bewley, K G
Clayden, S
Cleeter, M C
Cleeter, R A
Cordell, C K
Deacon, R F
Mansfield, S M W
Mayer, B A
Morton, T H
Muller, N P
Mulroe, M P
Pavey, G M
Rigolli, J R
Robinson, J
Ronaldson, C D

Shaw, A R
Smith, R S C
Soper, P A
Stedman, D J
Wachtel, H J
Watson, T

All ranks shown as at time of qualification.



**WING DIARY
OF EVENTS**

January 2003

25 - Wing Shoot

February 2003

15 - Wing Shoot

March 2003

8 - RAF Band Concert,
Guildford
9 - South Downs Trophy
16 - Wing Shoot

April 2003

4/6 - Seniors Camp
27 - Wing Shoot

May 2003

17/24 - Staff Adventure
Training & Development
Week Camp
25 - Wing Shoot

**COPY
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FOR SPRING
ISSUE**

10 February 2003

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