

The Surrey Acorn



Staff and Cadets of the successful squadrons representing the Wing in the annual Lord Lieutenant's Poppy Appeal Competition - *see report on p. 3*

EDITORIAL

May I firstly apologise for the tardy publication of the Spring Issue of the *Acorn*. This has primarily been occasioned by the fact that I have wished this year by way of an experiment to push back the appearance of the *Acorn's* Summer Issue in order to make possible (hopefully!) the production of some good copy of the activities and involvement of both staff and cadets at the various summer camp locations, that are set for late July to mid August.

So far 2003 as per normal has been fairly frenetic, events and activities from wing to squadron level that take many hours of organisation and planning continue to be attended by both staff and cadets alike as is evidenced by the continuing round of Adventure Training and Duke of Edinburgh's Award Weekends, Range Days, the annual St Clement Danes Parade and Service, as well as the wing's recent Athletics Competition at its usual venue of Kingsmeadow in Kingston, and last, but not

least, the encouraging take-up rate by cadets of places offered to the wing for flying and gliding.

Finally, you will note that the *Acorn* has a new format and 'masthead' for its front page and I hope that such a change shall meet with general approval from its readership.

John J. Tunesi of Liongam
Flying Officer
Editor

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135 HOSTS FILM CREW

135 (Redhill & Reigate) Squadron played host to documentary makers, Quintessence Films Ltd, of Clifton, Bristol, in order for them to film a sequence for their proposed documentary entitled "The Forgotten Pilots".

The documentary commissioned by HTV in Bristol aims to tell the story of the heroism of the pilots that flew with the Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA) throughout the Second World War and how the ATA evolved from the Civilian Air Guard and the private flying clubs that by the close of the war had delivered a figure in excess of 30,000 much needed aircraft to both RAF and Allied formations at home and abroad.

The reason for the film makers choice to film at 135 Squadron was because of their President, Diana Barnato-Walker, MBE served as a ferry pilot with the ATA flying some 46 types of aircraft including 260 Spitfires during the course of the war. They wished to film Mrs Barnato-Walker relating some of her wartime experiences and in common with the other wartime members of the ATA they were to interview in the making of the documentary they required those interviewed to be shown undertaking some activity that was important to them today - and because of Mrs Barnato-Walker's long association with 135 (Redhill & Reigate) Squadron they requested permission to film Mrs Barnato-Walker visiting the squadron on a parade night and speaking with the cadets.

For those interested in reading further about Mrs Barnato-Walker career in the ATA should obtain a copy of her autobiography *'Spreading My*

Wings' or alternately look up the resume of flying career within the History Section of the RAF'S Website on www.raf.mod.uk/history/dianabw.html.

LORD LIEUTENANT'S POPPY APPEAL CADET COMPETITION 2002/2003

After last year's inaugural competition, Mrs Timothy Goad, the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey has once again successfully sponsored her Poppy Appeal Cadet Competition in association with the Royal British Legion.

As with the competition for the year 2001/2002 the entrants were from all three cadet service organisations from across the county competing to raise the most money for the Legion's Annual Poppy Appeal.

The wing was ably represented by following squadrons:

43F (Merton & Morden) Sqn
323 (Epsom & Ewell) Sqn
1268 (Haslemere) Sqn
1408 (Dorking) Sqn
Cranleigh D/F

Our placings in the Air Training Corps category were as follows:

1st - 323 (Epsom & Ewell) Sqn
2nd - 1408 (Dorking) Sqn
3rd - 43F (Merton & Morden) Sqn

The total figure raised by all five squadrons was a very respectful £2,086.42.

The presentation of trophies and certificates by Mrs Goad, the Lord Lieutenant took place in March at the Cadet Training Centre, Frimley Park. The cere-

President of the Royal British Legion, Lieutenant General Sir Roderick Cordy-Simpson.

WING FIELD DAY

On Sunday, 28th September there is due to be held the Wing's Field Day at Pirbright during which a number of annual Wing Competitions will be held, as well as a number of other activities and events. The following are planned for the day:

2003 Drill Competition
(Preliminaries & Final)

2003 Aircraft Recognition
Competition

2003 Aero-Modelling
Competition

2003 Photographic Competition
see p. 3

L98 Shooting & Obstacle
Course

Full details of the above competitions will be published in due course. The co-ordinating officer for the Field Day is Sqn Ldr Hatch.



WING RADIO NEWS

The following courses are being run by the LaSER Radio Team:

Air Cadet HF Radio Operation
Friday 4th - Sunday 6th July

Amateur Radio Foundation
Licence
Friday 12th - Sunday 14th Sept

Contact the WRO for full info.



WING PHOTOGRAPHIC COM- PETITION

All squadrons should receive shortly the Rules for the Wing's Photographic Competition along with master entry forms.

The judging of this year's competition will take during the course of the Wing's Field Day at Pirbright—see p. 2..

The classes are a) Individual Adult, b) Individual Cadet aged under 16 c) Individual Cadet aged over 16. All the classes are each divided into two categories, 1) Aircraft/ Aviation and 2) General - covering all aspects of Air Cadet Training other than Aircraft/ Aviation.

Deadline for your entries is **Friday 12th September**. All entries are to be sent to the Wing CCO at 192 Merton Road.

SOUTH DOWNS TRO- PHY RESULTS

By Flt Lt R. Sullivan
Wing Adventure Training Officer

JUNIORS

1st - 1349 (Woking) Sqn
2nd - 1924 (Shirley) Sqn
3rd - 565 (Raynes Park) Sqn

SENIORS

1st - 565 (Raynes Park) Sqn
2nd - 1172 (Esher) Sqn
3rd - 66 (Selsdon) Sqn

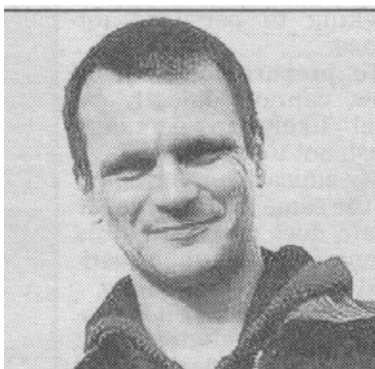
My congratulations to all the winners and to all those that took part,

representing the wing to so good an effect on the day. - and, finally, may I add my sincere thanks to Warrant Officer Chris Ronaldson for organising such an excellent event with very good facilities and refreshments.

OBITUARY

ANDY RICH

It is with great sadness that the *Acorn* announces the tragic death of Andy Rich, 38, after a motorcycle accident on the M1 on Monday, 20th January 2003.



Andy Rich

Andy was born and grew up in Kingston and joined 328 (Kingston) Sqn progressing through the ranks, achieving the rank of Cadet Warrant Officer at the age of 18.

After his service with Surrey Wing, Andy joined the Royal Air Force serving for some nine years as a supply and logistics officer until 1995.

Andy was an all round sportsman and loved sports of all kinds, particularly mountaineering. He also ran in the last year's London Marathon.

Although Andy lived in Milton Keynes, he worked in Hendon, North London for JBC, a logistics company.

Andy leaves a 10 year old son, Tom. To Tom and Vicky his

former wife, we extend our sincerest condolences for their sad loss.

Andy's funeral took place on Wednesday, 5th February 2003.

The Wing was represented at the funeral by Wing Commander Osborne, OC Wing.

RAF BAND CONCERT AT GUILDFORD

On Saturday, 8th March 2003 there took place at the Guildford Civic, the Wing's Annual Fundraising Concert in aid of the Royal Air Forces Association.

As per usual the Concert was given by the Central Band of the Royal Air Force. A full programme of music was performed by the band conducted by Squadron Leader Duncan Stubbs.

Prior to the Concert, Squadron representatives and banners were paraded.

The evening was well attended both by wing personnel, their families and guests; and, not forgetting, members of RAFA.

All those who attended the evening are waiting in eager expectation for year's concert at the Guildford Civic.

Can You fill this space?

Any copy for inclusion in the next issue is urgently required.

Send copy to the CCO care of Wing Headquarters.

Articles on disk (Word format), hard copy, photographs etc all acceptable, however small!



ADVENTURE TRAINING DIARY

STAFF COURSES

October/November 03 - BELA
(places available: 20)

D of E

16/23 August 03 - Gold
Practice Expedition
(places available: 7)

16/23 August 03 - Gold
Actual Expedition
(places available: 7)

CADET CAMPS

16/23 August 03 - Inter/Senior
Camp - North Wales
(places available: 30)

CADET COMPETITIONS

12/14 September 03 - Bray
Trophy
(Open to all Squadrons)

29/30 September 03 - SWATT
Trophy

Please check with the Wing Adventure Training Officer as to the confirmation of dates, together with the availability of places. The only exception being the Bray Trophy where all squadrons are encouraged to enter a team.

COMMANDANT'S CERTIFICATES OF GOOD SERVICE

The following Surrey Wing cadets have been awarded the Commandant's Certificate of Good Service:

Cadet Warrant Officer H H A
O'Neal - 323 (Epsom &
Ewell) Sqn

Cadet Sergeant L J Desbottes -
66 (Selsdon) Squadron

CADET OF THE YEAR COMPETITION 2002

The final stage of the Wing's Cadet of the Year for 2002 took place a Wing Headquarters on Wednesday, 29th January 2003.

Again as with previous years the selection board set to judge the four candidates in the final state of the competition were faced with four individuals those abilities, skills and bearing before the board as well as their reported conduct at their particular squadrons were so exemplary it was indeed difficult to decide the ultimate winner and the placings of the runners-up.

The results were as follows:

Cadet of the Year:
Cadet Warrant Officer O'Neal -
1924 (Shirley) Sqn

2nd - Cadet Corporal
Burrows - 1254 (Godalming)
Sqn

3rd - Cadet Corporal
Wagstaff - 1349 (Woking) Sqn

4th - Cadet Flight Sergeant
Tehan - 97 (Croydon) Sqn

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD NEWS

The recent D of E Camp held over the weekend 9th/11th May at Frylands Woods, Addington were well attended.

The weekend was aimed at bronze level consisting of pre-expedition training, a practice expedition and a qualifying expedition.

The Wing's D of E Officer, Flt Lt Whitehead very much wishes that squadrons across the wing to encourage their cadets, and adult staff who qualify, to enter the award scheme at the appropriate level. As a wing, we need to have more advancement through all levels of the scheme to that of the elusive gold standard.

NATIONAL AIR CADET PHOTOGRAPHIC COM- PETITION

You should all have seen the poster for the above competition. The closing date for which is the 31st October 2003.

Full details of the rules and guidelines for the competition can be obtained from:

www.aircadets.org
and click on the link
Photographic Competition

COPY DEADLINE FOR SUMMER ISSUE

26th August 2003

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