INSIDE:

The Sky’s The Limit

New Roles For Senior Cadets

New Cadet Forces Commission
Welcome to AirCadet

Wow! What a year it has been ... we certainly marked our 75th anniversary in style! Cadets and staff everywhere did a fantastic job celebrating this historic milestone and, in doing so, put the Air Cadets firmly on the map.

We look back at some of the final celebratory events, including a wonderful display at the Lord Mayor’s Parade in London and a significant tree planting scheme at the National Memorial Arboretum that will provide a legacy of the anniversary for years to come.

However, we are not an organisation that rests on its laurels, so we are already looking ahead to what is sure to be a very busy year.

2017 sees the implementation of the new Cadet Forces Commission – the first of its kind created in more than 100 years; a new role for senior cadets to give them a more rewarding and challenging experience and the launch of a new training syllabus, allowing all cadets to engage in a wide variety of training activities right from the day they join.

There is plenty for everyone to look forward to. Roll on 2017!
From The Top ...  
Looking Ahead ...

With the 75th anniversary celebrations now firmly in the rear view mirror, it is time to look forward and consider where the organisation will go in the coming year.

As the RAF hierarchy have already acknowledged, 2016 was a very demanding year for our staff and volunteers and we therefore need a year of relative respite and recovery before we launch ourselves in support of the RAF’s Centenary celebrations in 2018.

But when I say “respite and recovery”, I know that for all my staff and volunteers, an average year is already hugely challenging as we all strive to give our cadets the best opportunities we can, be that on the sports field, the range or the parade square, out on adventurous training or DofE expeditions, or at the Sqn/Section pursuing classifications, comms and First Aid qualifications and BTECs.

I am always humbled and inspired by the commitment and dedication of the adult staff who support our cadets and I know that you will continue to give of your best no matter what challenges lie ahead.

For me, 2017 should see the launch of a refreshed RAFAC Strategy to take our Organisation to 2025 and beyond. Key milestones in that Strategy include: the implementation of the new Cadet Forces Commission (See pages 4 & 5); the continued delivery of new cadet units in state schools under the Cadet Expansion Programme; a long-awaited and much-anticipated return to flight for the gliders; a new cadet target rifle; and significant efforts to streamline our administrative processes.

Key events I look forward to this year include our annual Convention, the ACO Safety Day, a Senior Cadet Strategy Day, and the annual awards ceremony at RAF Cranwell when we recognise the top cadets and staff of the year.

I also look forward to visiting as many Wings and CCF Contingents as my diary will allow, and to meeting as many of you as possible as I travel the UK in support of cadet activity of all types.

I never tire of hearing about all the wonderful things our cadets and staff manage to do ...”
HM The Queen Approves New Commission For Cadet Force Volunteers

HM The Queen has approved an historic new commission for Cadet Force volunteers. The new commission will be available to all adult volunteer officers in the RAF Air Cadets, the Sea Cadets, the Army Cadet Force and the Combined Cadet Force Contingents in schools and colleges from April.

Her Majesty approved the creation of the new commission – the first of its kind created for over 100 years – to recognise the immense contribution made by volunteer staff as leaders of national uniformed youth organisations sponsored by the Ministry of Defence.

In the RAF Air Cadets, the new commission will eventually replace the existing commission whereby officers are appointed into the Training Branch of the RAF Volunteer Reserve.

The change should allow the RAF Air Cadets to reduce the myriad of different rules, regulations and procedures accompanying commissions and will allow for the introduction of simpler administrative processes.

The new process will see officers commissioned into the RAF Air Cadets and then appointed to service with the Air Training Corps or Combined Cadet Force (RAF). All new officers commissioned from April onwards will be awarded the new Cadet Forces Commission and wear the new insignia.

**New Insignia**

To mark the change, the RAF Air Cadets will introduce new insignia on uniforms - for both officers, warrant officers and senior non-commissioned officers (SNCOs) - strengthening its wider branding.

The insignia has been developed after consultation with adult volunteers and senior RAF personnel.

One of the changes will see the term VR(T) - indicating a member of the Training Branch of the RAF Volunteer Reserve - changed to RAF Air Cadets on embroidered RAF rank slides.

It is planned for all existing RAF Air Cadets officers, (Warrant Officers and SNCOs) to transfer to the new commission and insignia before October 1st, 2017.

“RAFAC - the accepted abbreviation for RAF Air Cadets – will be used on lapel pins to be provided for No1 and No5 uniform. An option to provide “mud guards” reading RAF Air Cadets for use on No1’s and No 5’s (in addition to the lapel pins), is under consideration.”

**Branding**

For many years, the collective administrative term for the Air Training Corps and the Combined Cadet Forces (RAF) has been the Air Cadet Organisation (ACO). From October 2017, all branding throughout the Organisation will reflect the corporate logo “RAF Air Cadets” with the abbreviation RAFAC as required.

**Historic Moment**

Commandant RAF Air Cadets, Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty said: “This is a truly historic moment as it is the first new commission and branding are symbolic of our willingness as an organisation to embrace change and modernise further work relating to recognition of non-commissioned Cadet Force Adult Volunteers will be undertaken as part of CF2020.

• The Air Training Corps will retain its strong links to the parent Service and will remain a key part of the RAF Family, comprising Regulars, Reserves and Cadet Forces.

• Officers, warrant officers and SNCOs will continue to be appointed into the Air Training Corps or Combined Cadet Force (RAF).

• On appointment, all Officers will receive a new Commissioning Scroll and will continue to be gazetted.

• The precedence of Cadet Force Officers for the purposes of military ceremonial will be junior in rank to all Regular and Reserve Officers of the same rank, and senior to all officers of lower rank in the Regular and Reserve Forces.

• Cadet Force commissioned officers will be entitled to wear military uniform and rank appropriate to their single Service, and to be accorded by members of the Armed Forces and others the appropriate respect and privileges appertaining to that rank when undertaking training and volunteer related activities.

• Cadet Forces Commission - as approved and appointed by the Sovereign – is an appointment within a generic construct of the Cadet Forces which will embrace all current constituent forces whilst retaining their identities and titles.

• The new Cadet Forces Commission - as approved and appointed by the Sovereign – is an appointment within a generic construct of the Cadet Forces which will embrace all current constituent forces whilst retaining their identities and titles.

What effect will the new Cadet Forces Commission have on me?

The new Cadet Forces Commission - as approved and appointed by the Sovereign – is an appointment within a generic construct of the Cadet Forces which will embrace all current constituent forces whilst retaining their identities and titles.

• The new Cadet Forces Commission - as approved and appointed by the Sovereign – is an appointment within a generic construct of the Cadet Forces which will embrace all current constituent forces whilst retaining their identities and titles.

• The new Cadet Forces Commission - as approved and appointed by the Sovereign – is an appointment within a generic construct of the Cadet Forces which will embrace all current constituent forces whilst retaining their identities and titles.

• The new Cadet Forces Commission - as approved and appointed by the Sovereign – is an appointment within a generic construct of the Cadet Forces which will embrace all current constituent forces whilst retaining their identities and titles.
New roles for Senior Cadets
A significant change in the roles and responsibilities of senior cadets has been approved.

The change, developed and refined after lengthy consultations with senior cadets, adult volunteers and permanent staff, will come into effect on 1st March this year.

It will give senior cadets the option to take on additional roles and responsibilities and take a greater role in the delivery of training to younger cadets, thereby improving the senior cadet experience, whilst at the same time reducing the burden on overstretched adult volunteers.

Geoff Hewett from Policy and Plans at Headquarters Air Cadets explains: “By increasing the roles and responsibilities of a cadet aged 18 or 19, we aim to give them a more rewarding and challenging experience and better prepare them for volunteer roles once old enough to join our adult cadre.”

In future, cadets aged 18 and 19 will be allowed to take sole responsibility for younger cadets without the current requirement to have an adult volunteer present. This will allow a cadet aged 18 or 19 to undertake many of the roles and responsibilities a Civilian Instructor aged 20 currently has.

All the existing regulations pertaining to adult volunteers – qualifications, cadet/staff ratios etc – will apply in exactly the same way for cadets aged 18 and 19. However, there will be three important limitations:

- The Squadron CO is required to certify that the cadet has the personal qualities and maturity to fill the role and assume the responsibility.
- The cadet must agree to take on the role and assume the responsibility.
- Cadets aged 18 or 19 cannot take sole responsibility for younger cadets overnight at camps or in accommodation, and at least one adult volunteer must be present at all times.

In addition, all cadets who remain in the Corps past their 18th birthday will be required to sign a document called a Staff Cadet Service Agreement.

This sets out precisely what the cadet’s roles and responsibilities are and what the cadet’s status is within the Organisation.

To help ease the transition, a short, bespoke training package has been developed and will be rolled out this month.

Geoff added: “It’s important to point out that cadets aged 18 or 19 retain their status as cadets and can still participate in the wide range of cadet activities but we hope this change will allow those with the skills, knowledge, personal qualities and desire to also take on additional roles and responsibilities in support of adult volunteers.”

“We aim to give senior cadets a more rewarding and challenging experience...”

Thunderbirds Are Go!
Plans to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the US Air Force at this summer’s RIAT have been given a huge boost with the news that one of the world’s most popular display teams will make a rare trip across the Atlantic to take part.

The Thunderbirds’ performance at the Air Tattoo, which takes place on July 14-16, will be the team’s only UK appearance this year. Flying six F-16 Fighting Falcons, elite USAF pilots will perform a mix of formation and solo routines that highlight the maximum capabilities of the USAF’s frontline, multi-role fighter jet. The Nevada based team has only appeared at RAF once before in 2007.

Bursary Launch
As part of the RAF Air Cadet 75th anniversary celebrations, a bursary scheme to help cadets and adult volunteers has been launched.

Applicants can request a bursary between £500 and £2,000 to aid their personal training and development to improve their career prospects.

“This scheme aims to provide cadets and junior adult volunteers with financial support in their transition to full time employment, be that via college or university education, work placements or apprenticeships.”

This is the first year of the scheme and the awarding panel expects to make up to 10 awards. If the concept proves successful, it is hoped to attract additional sponsorship and undertake additional fundraising for future years to enable more cadets and staff to benefit from the scheme.
A brand new scheme that will get hundreds of young people airborne has been launched by Scotland & Northern Ireland Region Air Cadets.

The Scotland & Northern Ireland Region Air Cadets’ ‘Flying Aces’ Scheme, launched at a special ceremony at Tayside Aviation in Dundee, has two main aims: to enhance air cadets’ flying experience and to help disabled and disadvantaged young people take to the air.

Led and inspired by Squadron Leader Tom McMorrow, Scotland & Northern Ireland Region has raised an incredible £52,000 for air cadet flying.

This will enable some 720 air cadets to receive a flying experience together with the award of a number of ‘Flying Scholarships’ which will enable selected cadets to undergo 12 hours of flying towards their Private Pilot’s Licence.

The flying will be delivered by Tayside Aviation which is the MOD-contracted training provider of Air Cadet Flying Scholarships.

Financial backing for this project has been provided by the Robertson Trust as well as individual benefactors, including Lord Robert Smith, who is an ex-Air Cadet, and through a fund-raising dinner organised and sponsored by the Grangemouth Rotary Club.

With the support of Air Officer Scotland, Scotland & Northern Ireland Region made a successful grant application for £20,000 to Armed Forces Covenant Fund to enable disabled and disadvantaged young people to participate in a flying experience.

Opportunity

Participants in the project will be chosen by the RAF Air Cadets’ partners Barnardo’s, Capability Scotland, Young Carers Scotland and Plus Stirling.

They will be given the opportunity to pilot a light aircraft with Tayside Aviation at Dundee or Glenrothes Airport alongside Air Cadets.

RAF Air Cadet staff will coordinate the planning of the flying days, liaising with the delivery partners. Partners will engage with the young people themselves, identifying those who, in their opinion, would benefit most from the activity, and those chosen will be buddied up for the day with Air Cadets.

Challenge

Regional Commandant, Group Captain Jim Leggat said: “The intention is that all of the young people involved, air cadet and non-air cadet, will respond positively to the challenge and ask themselves, ‘If I can fly an aeroplane, is there anything in life I can’t do?’”

Air Cadets involved will work directly with the disabled and disadvantaged children, gaining opportunities for the community service element of their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Financial backing for this project has been provided by the Robertson Trust as well as individual benefactors, including Lord Robert Smith, who is an ex-Air Cadet, and through a fund-raising dinner organised and sponsored by the Grangemouth Rotary Club.

With the support of Air Officer Scotland, Scotland & Northern Ireland Region made a successful grant application for £20,000 to Armed Forces Covenant Fund to enable disabled and disadvantaged young people to participate in a flying experience.

Opportunity

Participants in the project will be chosen by the RAF Air Cadets’ partners Barnardo’s, Capability Scotland, Young Carers Scotland and Plus Stirling.

They will be given the opportunity to pilot a light aircraft with Tayside Aviation at Dundee or Glenrothes Airport alongside Air Cadets.

RAF Air Cadet staff will coordinate the planning of the flying days, liaising with the delivery partners. Partners will engage with the young people themselves, identifying those who, in their opinion, would benefit most from the activity, and those chosen will be buddied up for the day with Air Cadets.

Challenge

Regional Commandant, Group Captain Jim Leggat said: “The intention is that all of the young people involved, air cadet and non-air cadet, will respond positively to the challenge and ask themselves, ‘If I can fly an aeroplane, is there anything in life I can’t do?’”

Air Cadets involved will work directly with the disabled and disadvantaged children, gaining opportunities for the community service element of their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Financial backing for this project has been provided by the Robertson Trust as well as individual benefactors, including Lord Robert Smith, who is an ex-Air Cadet, and through a fund-raising dinner organised and sponsored by the Grangemouth Rotary Club.

With the support of Air Officer Scotland, Scotland & Northern Ireland Region made a successful grant application for £20,000 to Armed Forces Covenant Fund to enable disabled and disadvantaged young people to participate in a flying experience.

Opportunity

Participants in the project will be chosen by the RAF Air Cadets’ partners Barnardo’s, Capability Scotland, Young Carers Scotland and Plus Stirling.

They will be given the opportunity to pilot a light aircraft with Tayside Aviation at Dundee or Glenrothes Airport alongside Air Cadets.

RAF Air Cadet staff will coordinate the planning of the flying days, liaising with the delivery partners. Partners will engage with the young people themselves, identifying those who, in their opinion, would benefit most from the activity, and those chosen will be buddied up for the day with Air Cadets.

Challenge

Regional Commandant, Group Captain Jim Leggat said: “The intention is that all of the young people involved, air cadet and non-air cadet, will respond positively to the challenge and ask themselves, ‘If I can fly an aeroplane, is there anything in life I can’t do?’”

Air Cadets involved will work directly with the disabled and disadvantaged children, gaining opportunities for the community service element of their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Financial backing for this project has been provided by the Robertson Trust as well as individual benefactors, including Lord Robert Smith, who is an ex-Air Cadet, and through a fund-raising dinner organised and sponsored by the Grangemouth Rotary Club.

With the support of Air Officer Scotland, Scotland & Northern Ireland Region made a successful grant application for £20,000 to Armed Forces Covenant Fund to enable disabled and disadvantaged young people to participate in a flying experience.

Opportunity

Participants in the project will be chosen by the RAF Air Cadets’ partners Barnardo’s, Capability Scotland, Young Carers Scotland and Plus Stirling.

They will be given the opportunity to pilot a light aircraft with Tayside Aviation at Dundee or Glenrothes Airport alongside Air Cadets.

RAF Air Cadet staff will coordinate the planning of the flying days, liaising with the delivery partners. Partners will engage with the young people themselves, identifying those who, in their opinion, would benefit most from the activity, and those chosen will be buddied up for the day with Air Cadets.

Challenge

Regional Commandant, Group Captain Jim Leggat said: “The intention is that all of the young people involved, air cadet and non-air cadet, will respond positively to the challenge and ask themselves, ‘If I can fly an aeroplane, is there anything in life I can’t do?’”

Air Cadets involved will work directly with the disabled and disadvantaged children, gaining opportunities for the community service element of their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Financial backing for this project has been provided by the Robertson Trust as well as individual benefactors, including Lord Robert Smith, who is an ex-Air Cadet, and through a fund-raising dinner organised and sponsored by the Grangemouth Rotary Club.

With the support of Air Officer Scotland, Scotland & Northern Ireland Region made a successful grant application for £20,000 to Armed Forces Covenant Fund to enable disabled and disadvantaged young people to participate in a flying experience.
The musical cadets played in front of family, friends and fans at the Barclaycard Arena which seats more than 15,000 people. The band was making a return appearance at the event, back by popular demand and at the personal invitation of the organisers after two successful appearances in previous shows. Performing twice a day, the band, over 60-strong, also played a solo spot and took part in the huge massed grand finale. Squadron Leader Andy White, the band’s Director of Music, said: “To be able to perform in such a prestigious venue, in front of such a large audience, makes this show a highlight of the band’s year. It’s been a fantastic year for the Corps and we are very pleased to round-off a year of celebration by performing at the Birmingham International Tattoo.”

Sgt Hannah Eden from 422 (Corby) Squadron said: “The Birmingham International Tattoo was an outstanding performance - it will stay with me forever. It was a fantastic show to finish off my year with the National Marching Band and I hope to be successful in my application for 2017.”

The performance at Birmingham was also special for four cadet musicians – all from the same family! Maddie, Hannah, Sam and Phoebe Mackay from 2425 (Nottingham Airport) Squadron are all talented musicians, playing the trombone, french horn, trumpet and flute/piccolo.

Nineteen-year-old Cadet Warrant Officer Beth Kilminster from 48F (Hampstead) Sqn was full of praise for the band. She said: “Being a member of the RAFAC National Marching Band is more than just being a musician/percussionist; it’s being part of a big family. Every gig is amazing and being a ‘bandie’ we get to work with professional musicians, from both the RAF and the Royal Marines Band Service, who improve our ability by miles in just a short space of time! “I am proud to have been a part of this family for the last two years and have grown so much in my musical ability and that is all down to the amazing staff team who work tirelessly to organise events and run training camps so that we have the chance to learn and grow as musicians.”

The Air Cadets’ Principal Director Music, Wing Commander Gil Singleton, added: “The cadet musicians only get together a few times a year and so to produce such a polished performance in front of such a large crowd reflects greatly on both the cadets’ abilities and the work of their supporting adult volunteer staff.”
Analysing Intelligence through ‘Sound Skills’

It is no secret that in an ever changing environment the UK’s intelligence and security agencies require more personnel than ever before.

Just last September the UK’s Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) announced that it alone plans to recruit a further 1,000 staff by 2020 in response to the increasing importance of the internet and technology.

Away from the intelligence and security agencies, the Royal Air Force continues its own recruitment drive which offers intelligence roles that come packed with a variety of exciting benefits. And now the RAF has developed a way for budding analysts to get online and find out if they have the skills required by the Service to apply for one of its intelligence roles.

Introducing ‘Sound Skills’

‘Sound Skills’ is a state-of-the-art online game which allows users to find out if they have the skills required to become an RAF Intelligence Analyst (Linguist). The brand new game is based on the RAF Recruitment website and asks users to listen to five different pre-recorded scenarios set to the backdrop of popular settings or scenarios, such as a music festival, a conversation in a bar, the lyrics to a song and commentary from a football match.

There are five rounds in total and after each you are asked a question relating to what you had just heard. The scenarios, which use binaural sound, have been carefully designed to test whether users have the skills required to excel in the analyst role, with each becoming increasingly difficult as the quiz goes on. But beware – the clips are tough, with plenty going on in the background, so you may need a quiet room or pair of headphones to tackle each one.

At the end of the quiz, those who are successful are taken through to find out more about what life is like for an Intelligence Analyst (Linguist) in a modern day Royal Air Force, with those who missed out given the opportunity to try again.

Speaking about the need for more Intelligence Analysts in the RAF, Head of Recruit Marketing Rebekah Selman said: “Too many people rule themselves out of this crucial role.

“We needed to find an innovative way to recruit the next cohort of Intelligence Analysts and ‘Sound Skills’ offers the perfect opportunity for those interested to take that first step.”

What do Linguists do in the RAF?

The RAF relies heavily on defence intelligence to support operations in both peace and war time. Linguists play an integral role in this and are responsible for:

• Collecting, collating and evaluating intelligence from multiple sources

• Gathering valuable information about enemies’ strengths, weaknesses and movements

• Disseminating tailored intelligence to commanders, aircrew or troops on the ground

Corporal Leanne Machin - My Life as an Intelligence Analyst

“I was never keen on a nine-to-five job and I like knowing that what I do really matters which is why I joined the RAF. Because of my language skill I joined as an Intelligence Analyst and was deployed overseas during operations. ‘My role was to screen radio communications and highlight anything that was of intelligence interest. Being on operation was an amazing experience – we all slept in tents and lived out of our kit bags.

‘I like that I constantly develop my skills and that after initial training, we go back quite frequently for further language study.’

Job benefits

Alongside the Intelligence Analyst (Linguist) role are a number of benefits which include:

• Competitive pay and pension

• Training and lifelong learning

• Six weeks’ paid leave and public holidays

• Free medical and dental care

• Subsidised food and accommodation

You can find out more about the linguist job and test your skills on the brand new ‘Sound Skills’ game by searching ‘RAF Sound Skills’ and accessing the RAF Recruitment Intelligence Analyst (Linguist) link or by visiting www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets.
Applications For Flying Scholarship Soar

After a phenomenal response, applications for this year’s RAF Flying Clubs’ Association (RAFFCA) and RAF Charitable Trust (RAFCT) Junior Rank Pilot Scholarship Scheme (JRPSS) are now closed.

Exceeding expectations, the 2017 JRPSS, which is open to serving RAF Regular and Reserve Junior Ranks (JRs) across the UK, received more than 400 applications.

Of those applications, 30 lucky candidates have now been selected to undertake 15 hours of flying instruction on a light aircraft, which may count towards a Light Aircraft Pilot Licence (LAPL).

All necessary equipment to undertake the training at selected RAF flying clubs is provided through the scholarship, including flying suits and study packs.

RAF Flying Clubs’ Association Project Officer Flight Lieutenant Chris Hives thanked all those who applied for the scheme.

He said: “We had a total of 368 applications over the three month application period in 2016 so we knew the scheme would be popular again this year. “The scheme, which has received £82,500 of funding from the Trust this year alone, is a fantastic opportunity for our JRs. Two of our scholars have now secured their Private Pilots’ Licence (PPL) and many of the others are well on their way to achieving their LAPL.”

Once candidates have successfully completed the scholarship there is also the opportunity to apply for the JRPSS Top-Up Scheme which provides additional funding for those selected to continue their flying training.

Senior Aircraftman Aaron Garcia became the second person to achieve his PPL after he was awarded the JRPSS and top-up grant in 2016. He said: “November was a busy and exhausting month with lots of exams and testing, lots of travelling and lots of flying, but the hard work has paid off.”

On December 1, I successfully passed my final test and qualified as a pilot. I am grateful for everyone’s support, including the incredible RAF Charitable Trust for opening these doors and making this possible.

“It’s not just about the 15 hours but that fact that these hours will get the individual to solo standard and give them the opportunity to be the pilot in command of an aircraft for the first time.

“The first solo flight is a truly incredible experience that pilots remember for the rest of their life and I believe going solo will give individuals the drive to pursue a full license.”

“This isn’t the end for me – it’s just the beginning. Achieving my licence has shown me that, with a little determination and the right support, you can achieve anything.”

RAFCT Director Justine Morton added: “It’s great to see that the results of the hard work our Junior Ranks have put in is paying off, and to see that the scheme really is making a huge difference to young people and the future of aviation.

“The application numbers just go to show that the scheme is extremely popular and really taking off.”

The JRPSS is an annual scholarship scheme, launched to improve the airmindedness of Junior Ranks by offering them flying experience and the opportunity to increase their knowledge and understanding of the technologies used in aviation.

To find out more information, please visit www.jrpss.co.uk.

Instructors’ Final Landing

Instructors at the 624 Volunteer Gliding Squadron took to the skies for one last time, thanks to a grant from the RAF Charitable Trust.

Dedicated to supporting personnel and encouraging airmindedness, RAFCT Trustees funded a motivational gliding day for the team of four from 624 VGS.

The day, held at the Devon and Somerset Gliding Club, served as valuable opportunity to keep instructors motivated and engaged, as well as providing them with the chance to fly a conventional glider.

The 624 flying training unit, based in North Devon, was formed in 1955 and has served thousands of cadets in the Air Training Corps and Combined Cadet Force from across the South West of England.

Sadly 624 was one of the Vigilant VGSs identified for closure at the beginning of last year and will officially call it a day in the next few months.

James Flory, 624 Squadron Leader, said: “It has been a challenging time for the VGS community as 624 is one of the units that will be closing.

“As such, the opportunity to get four instructors flying again was very much appreciated. Everyone had a fantastic day with each person given the opportunity to try a range of new flying experiences, including inverted flight in a glider!”

Each instructor flew three aeroplanes and then was given experience of a mixture of general handling, thermal soaring and aerobatics.

Devon and Somerset Gliding Club provided two very experienced BGA Full Category Instructors to provide top notch instruction.

“This was particularly useful for two of the staff as, following 624 VGS’s closure, they are hoping to transfer across to a Viking VGS to fly conventional gliders.

Of the other two staff, one will be transferring to an AEF to convert to a Fly Tutor and the other will be focusing on his university studies before hopefully joining the RAF!”

Instructors at the 624 Volunteer Gliding Squadron took to the skies for one last time, thanks to a grant from the RAF Charitable Trust.

Dedicated to supporting personnel and encouraging airmindedness, RAFCT Trustees funded a motivational gliding day for the team of four from 624 VGS.

The day, held at the Devon and Somerset Gliding Club, served as valuable opportunity to keep instructors motivated and engaged, as well as providing them with the chance to fly a conventional glider.

The 624 flying training unit, based in North Devon, was formed in 1955 and has served thousands of cadets in the Air Training Corps and Combined Cadet Force from across the South West of England.

Sadly 624 was one of the Vigilant VGSs identified for closure at the beginning of last year and will officially call it a day in the next few months.

James Flory, 624 Squadron Leader, said: “It has been a challenging time for the VGS community as 624 is one of the units that will be closing.

“As such, the opportunity to get four instructors flying again was very much appreciated. Everyone had a fantastic day with each person given the opportunity to try a range of new flying experiences, including inverted flight in a glider!”

Each instructor flew three aeroplanes and then was given experience of a mixture of general handling, thermal

Instructors at the 624 Volunteer Gliding Squadron took to the skies for one last time, thanks to a grant from the RAF Charitable Trust.

Dedicated to supporting personnel and encouraging airmindedness, RAFCT Trustees funded a motivational gliding day for the team of four from 624 VGS.

The day, held at the Devon and Somerset Gliding Club, served as valuable opportunity to keep instructors motivated and engaged, as well as providing them with the chance to fly a conventional glider.

The 624 flying training unit, based in North Devon, was formed in 1955 and has served thousands of cadets in the Air Training Corps and Combined Cadet Force from across the South West of England.

Sadly 624 was one of the Vigilant VGSs identified for closure at the beginning of last year and will officially call it a day in the next few months.

James Flory, 624 Squadron Leader, said: “It has been a challenging time for the VGS community as 624 is one of the units that will be closing.

“As such, the opportunity to get four instructors flying again was very much appreciated. Everyone had a fantastic day with each person given the opportunity to try a range of new flying experiences, including inverted flight in a glider!”

Each instructor flew three aeroplanes and then was given experience of a mixture of general handling, thermal

Instructors at the 624 Volunteer Gliding Squadron took to the skies for one last time, thanks to a grant from the RAF Charitable Trust.

Dedicated to supporting personnel and encouraging airmindedness, RAFCT Trustees funded a motivational gliding day for the team of four from 624 VGS.

The day, held at the Devon and Somerset Gliding Club, served as valuable opportunity to keep instructors motivated and engaged, as well as providing them with the chance to fly a conventional glider.

The 624 flying training unit, based in North Devon, was formed in 1955 and has served thousands of cadets in the Air Training Corps and Combined Cadet Force from across the South West of England.

Sadly 624 was one of the Vigilant VGSs identified for closure at the beginning of last year and will officially call it a day in the next few months.

James Flory, 624 Squadron Leader, said: “It has been a challenging time for the VGS community as 624 is one of the units that will be closing.

“As such, the opportunity to get four instructors flying again was very much appreciated. Everyone had a fantastic day with each person given the opportunity to try a range of new flying experiences, including inverted flight in a glider!”

Each instructor flew three aeroplanes and then was given experience of a mixture of general handling, thermal

Instructors at the 624 Volunteer Gliding Squadron took to the skies for one last time, thanks to a grant from the RAF Charitable Trust.

Dedicated to supporting personnel and encouraging airmindedness, RAFCT Trustees funded a motivational gliding day for the team of four from 624 VGS.

The day, held at the Devon and Somerset Gliding Club, served as valuable opportunity to keep instructors motivated and engaged, as well as providing them with the chance to fly a conventional glider.

The 624 flying training unit, based in North Devon, was formed in 1955 and has served thousands of cadets in the Air Training Corps and Combined Cadet Force from across the South West of England.

Sadly 624 was one of the Vigilant VGSs identified for closure at the beginning of last year and will officially call it a day in the next few months.

James Flory, 624 Squadron Leader, said: “It has been a challenging time for the VGS community as 624 is one of the units that will be closing.

“As such, the opportunity to get four instructors flying again was very much appreciated. Everyone had a fantastic day with each person given the opportunity to try a range of new flying experiences, including inverted flight in a glider!”

Each instructor flew three aeroplanes and then was given experience of a mixture of general handling, thermal
Seventy-five members of Staffordshire Wing visited the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, to plant 75 beech trees, marking the 75th anniversary of the RAF Air Cadets.

Cadets from across Staffordshire, South Cheshire and the Black Country joined together to plant the trees, which were donated by the Woodland Trust, providing a legacy of the anniversary year for generations to come.

Despite it being a chilly morning, the 75 cadets were eager to get stuck in. With spades and saplings in hand, an avenue of trees was created next to the Arboretum’s Royal Air Force Association memorial. Cadets also unveiled a special plaque marking the occasion, so that Arboretum visitors would understand the significance of the row of beech trees for years to come.

All 31 squadrons of the Wing were represented with cadets from travelling from Buxton, West Bromwich, Stafford, Burton and everywhere in between.

Cadet Hana Stamp of 1444 (Brownhills) Sqn said: “It was great to be involved in such an important event and be part of our 75th anniversary.

“The team from the Arboretum gave us a short lesson on how to plant the trees so they grow properly, and then we jumped straight in to the digging. We worked in pairs but all 75 of us got a tree to call our own. I made a note of which one is mine so I can visit again and see how it’s growing.”

Wing Commander Sharrard-Williams, Officer Commanding Staffordshire Wing Air Cadets, planted the first tree in the avenue. He said: “I’m really grateful to both the National Memorial Arboretum and the Woodland Trust for making this event possible, and ensuring we have a lasting marker of our 75th anniversary in the beautiful grounds of the Arboretum.

Meanwhile, Air Cadets from Truro put in the spadework for a lasting legacy of the organisation’s 75th anniversary in Cornwall.

Thirteen cadets from 730 (City of Truro) Squadron planted 50 trees in Ladock Woods, part of the Duchy of Cornwall Estate. The saplings – including silver birch, hornbeam, wild cherry, oak and rowan – had all been donated by the Duchy of Cornwall.

Duchy of Cornwall Head Forester, Geraint Richards, said: “The trees will be a lasting legacy for centuries to come. I always say there is great satisfaction in seeing the trees you have planted grow each year and the cadets here have done a fantastic job.”

And in Leicestershire, cadets from 188 (Coalville) Squadron planted a total of 30 trees within the grounds of a local school and a new housing estate, just a mile away from the squadron’s base.

The trees, which included a selection of wild cherry, rowan and silver birch, were donated by The Woodland Trust for the occasion. Plaques, commemorating the anniversary, have been placed at both sites.

Bloor Homes site manager Rhys Bowker said: “We were honoured to be asked by the cadets to host their commemorative tree planting and it was a real pleasure to welcome them to Oak Tree Gardens for the day.

“The trees will make a nice addition to the site and I am sure they will be enjoyed by the residents and the wider community for many years to come.”
The new Progressive Training Syllabus launches this month and represents the biggest change in the delivery of training since the formation of the Air Cadets more than 75 years ago.

The new syllabus, an essential part of the RAF Air Cadets 2020 Strategy, allows all cadets to engage with a wide variety of training activities right from the day they join.

Advancement through a series of progressive awards at blue, bronze, silver and gold levels provides regular opportunities to enhance skills and achieve nationally recognised qualifications and awards, whilst at the same time, building confidence and developing teamwork and leadership qualities.

The highest awards at gold level recognise significant levels of achievement and some are linked to instructor qualifications or nationally recognised awards.

All new cadets will undertake training within the First Class Cadet syllabus and this allows blue level awards and badges to be achieved in a variety of subjects including Basic Radio Operator and Cyber Awareness, Heartstart First Aid, Foundation Level Leadership and a pre-Duke of Edinburgh’s Award.

Additional badges are available for air rifle shooting and a musician’s badge can be awarded if a cadet has a recognised music board examination at Grade 3 level.

Flying and Gliding Aviation Training Packages are available from the age of 13 years and 3 months and blue wings will be presented once the elements of ground school, Part Task Trainer and airborne sorties are completed.

Once a blue badge has been awarded, cadets can engage in further levels of the Progressive Training Syllabus which allows them to maintain a positive level of engagement with training and provides a focus on achievement throughout their time as a cadet.

The highest awards at gold level will include Instructor First Aid, Cyber Specialist, National Musician, Advanced Leadership, Competition Marksman, Pilot Scholarship and gliding to solo standard.

A Blue Badge logbook identifies the blue level awards from the new syllabus that can be achieved either during First Class Cadet Training or at any other time during a cadet’s service.

Existing cadets who have already achieved a badge from the old training syllabus will be eligible to receive the new equivalent badge awarded from the Progressive Training Syllabus.

Cadets who have achieved a gliding badge from the old syllabus will be allowed to continue to wear this until they progress further within the Aviation Training Package. The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award badges will be smaller and will move from the jumper to the brassard.

Information on the new syllabus is available on the Training Officers’ site in BADER. New badges will be made available through Wing Headquarters at various stages throughout this year and the transition from old badges to new badges should be completed by April.
Air Commodore McCafferty who works at the national HQ of the RAF Air Cadets at RAF Cranwell, was nominated for the category of 'Inspiring Others' at the star stuffed event at The Guildhall, London.

She said: “I am deeply honoured to be nominated by the Royal Air Force for one of the Sun’s Millie awards.

“I have been Commandant of the RAF Air Cadets, comprising both the Air Training Corps and the Combined Cadet Force (RAF), for just over four years now and I find it somewhat ironic to be nominated for inspiring others when I am inspired, energised and enthused on a daily basis by the amazing cadets and staff who are members of the RAF Air Cadets.

“I never fail to be impressed by the cadets’ resilience, confidence and sheer enthusiasm for life. These young people are my inspiration, they are an absolute privilege to command and are great citizens of the future.

“My other source of inspiration is the adult volunteers, without whom we simply could not run this fantastic, world class organisation.

“I would like to thank them for their ongoing commitment and energy and I see this nomination as a wonderful acknowledgement of the RAF Air Cadets and all they stand for. I could not be prouder to be their Commandant.”

The military awards honour heroic and inspirational work in the UK Armed Forces. This is the ninth year the awards have been given but the first year they have recognised military in the UK as well as abroad.

There were 27 nominees across categories with all invited to visit No 10 Downing Street before the Guildhall ceremony.

Amongst those attending the event were the Prime Minister, Teresa May, TV presenter Lorraine Kelly and the RAF Air Cadet Ambassador, Honorary Group Captain Carol Vorderman.

I see the nomination as a real tribute by our parent Service to their Cadet Force and I hope you all feel part of my nomination …”
CVQO’s annual graduation ceremony took place in the prestigious setting of RMA Sandhurst to recognise the achievements by adult volunteers in the Cadet Forces.

Nearly 60 Adult volunteers were joined by friends and family as well as Master of the Worshipful Company of Educators Dr S Martin Gaskell and The Right Honourable the Lord Lingfield, who presented the certificates and awards to the graduates.

The ceremony showcases and acknowledges the hard work of all cadet force volunteers in helping to support young people and ATC volunteers were among those who received special awards for their outstanding work. The award winners were:

- Flight Lieutenant Elizabeth Mockeridge, 612 VGS, Winner of CVQO Award for Most Outstanding City & Guilds Graduateship Submission
- Flight Lieutenant Christopher Brooks, Hertfordshire & Buckinghamshire Wing, Winner of CVQO Award for Most Outstanding City & Guilds Graduateship Submission
- Pilot Officer Deborah Kilby, Stamford Endowed Schools CCF, Winner of the Worshipful Company of Educators award for outstanding achievement
- CVQO Chief Executive Guy Horridge said of the adult volunteers: "For our graduates here today to find the time to do any of these qualifications where most have a busy work life, home life and cadet life is nothing short of amazing. "But what is really fantastic is that each and every one is setting a great example to the cadets to show them that learning can be fun and also very rewarding."

Congratulations to all the award winners:
- City & Guilds Affiliateship: Flt Lt Karen Barfield, Beds & Cambs Wing; Mrs Sian Davies, No 2 Welsh Wing; Flt Lt Dave Emsley, Sussex Wing; Pt Off Harvey Ashleigh, Essex Wing; City & Guilds Graduateship - Fg Off Tzwon Chau, Hong Kong Cadet Corps; Flt Lt Claudia Lam, HGCC; Sqn Ldr Jamie Williamson, South & West Yorkshire Wing; Flt Lt Matthew Miller, Norfolk & Suffolk Wing; Flt Sgt James Wakeman, Warwickshire & Birmingham Wing; Sqn Ldr Laura Bushell Hawke, Plymouth & Cornwall Wing; Sqn Ldrs John Fallon, Trent Wing; ML Level 3 - Pt Off Simon Bacon, Sussex Wing; Pt Off Charlotte Bridgen, Cumbria & Lancs Wing; Pt Off Lauren Ellis, Merseyside Wing; Flt Lt Kathryn Hearne, Trent Wing; Pt Off Colin Shaw, Staffordshire Wing; Fg Off Simon Howroyd, South & East Midlands Wing; Special Recognition VQO - O Matthew Marshall, 130 (Bournemouth) Sqn; Pt Lt Sally Rattle, Sussex Wing and Sgt Adam Waudby, Central & East Yorks Wing.

New wheels
After several years of fund raising and generous donations, 2328 (Bishops Cleeve) Sqn has a brand new minibus.

Mike Ralls, Civilian Committee Chairman, said: “Our cadets have worked hard to raise significant funds towards this project - an important part of their development - and they will appreciate it every time this bus takes them on their next adventure.” Local businesses, including Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership and local Parish Council, also contributed to the cost of the new minibus.

Walk on
Cadets from 60 (Leek) Sqn stepped out to walk 66km from the town’s Nicholson Memorial to the National Arboretum to raise funds for a minibus.

The mammoth two-day walk raised £1,500 - a percentage of which will be donated to RAFA.
It’s fair to say that Everest adventurer, Flight Lieutenant Ted Atkins, has a head for heights. But even the world’s highest peak is not quite high enough for the ex-cadet and current volunteer at 342S (Nottingham Airport) Squadron.

His latest challenge is high-altitude parachute jumping for which he has adapted his own invention of an oxygen system that has helped to reduce deaths on Mount Everest.

And his latest jump set a new world record skydiving record. Ted was part of a duo that landed a tandem parachute jump on Ama Dablam 15,000ft above sea level – the highest ever recorded.

Factor into this the cold, the biting winds and that the jumpers had to land on impromptu landing zones – tiny mountainside perches surrounded by sheer drop offs – and you can imagine the scale of the feat.

The pair used Ted’s ‘Topout Aero’ oxygen equipment designed specifically for high-altitude skydivers, adapted from his oxygen system used on Everest.

He said: “I was stood in the helicopter at 23,000ft looking straight across at Everest and I could see every part of the route I’d taken to climb it, so it was really emotional.”

“My jump with my partner Tom Noonan was one of the great events of my life. We looked on to the summit of Ama and saw climbers there, then shared amazing air time in freefall before the canopy ride. “The jump was always about the landing. It’s the landings that hurt, the dodgy part: boulders, rucks, holes and hard stuff, but it was perfect, a dream.”

That mission accomplished, Ted spontaneously decided to stay on and climb the 6,800m high Ama Dablam. He said: “She is one of the most photographed and beautiful mountains in the world. I don’t know if there is a better view in the Himalayas or the world. Everest and Lhotse look as if you can touch them …”
She also has a reputation for being tough; steep and technical and a place where people die. Using the light of a rare full moon, Ted set off in the very early hours. He said: “I was surprised by how sustained the climbing was. It never let up. There were no ‘cruise’ sections. I was looking forward to reaching the Damlam serac and on to what I thought would be the ‘bucket’ snow plod.

“My experience should have told me better. Where you might expect steps going up, there was broken ground, mashed by the retreating climbers. Every step was two steps high and an energy killer.”

Battling too a sudden cold, hard wind, Ted made it to the summit. He said: “I don’t know if there is a better view in the Himalayas or the world. Everest and Lhotse look as if you can touch them; Makalu is majestic while Kangchenjunga loses something of her grandeur with distance. The four biggest mountains in Nepal in one set.”

“I got a couple of photos then was sure to be the first person on to the route down. Going down I got a better idea of the angle; consistently steep, wonderful, truly magnificent exposure and for sure the most sustained climbing I had undertaken in the Himalaya. Back at Base Camp and soup, beer, bed – I didn’t need any rocking.”

ABOVE: Ted with Lhakpa Doma Sherpa after being presented with a medal by the Nepalese government for outstanding achievement in the highest mountains.

Ted is an ex-RAF engineering officer and has climbed the world over since 1974. He is a Science and Engineering Ambassador and a Reserve RAF Officer with 2425 Squadron. His major mountaineering achievements are:

- Manaslu North 1st British ascent.
- Exploration in Antarctica as Mountain Leader, skidoo mechanic and surveyor. Awarded the Polar Medal by HM The Queen.
- First RAF team to climb Eiger North Face.
- Joint Service West Ridge Everest team.
- 2001: Led First RAF team to climb Everest via North Ridge in Tibet. Though successful, Ted did not reach the top as one of the team became sick and Ted led the evacuation, missing his own summit chance.
- 2004: Solo climb of Everest SE Ridge. His attempt was successful due largely to the new oxygen system he designed, developed and then went on to test the prototype as he climbed. However, part of the oxygen supply Ted expected did not turn up during his ascent causing him to run out of oxygen on the summit. Other climbers stepped over his body and called out on satellite phones that he was dead. He nearly did die, but was saved by a passing Sherpa who gave Ted his own oxygen cylinder and saved Ted’s life. The oxygen system Ted invented is now used widely by climbers worldwide.
- Ascent of Makalu (5th highest mountain in the world), Kangchenjunga (3rd) & Lhotse (4th).
Award For Life-Saving Air Cadet

Cadet Flight Sergeant Christopher Falkingham has been awarded a Royal Humane Society Resuscitation Certificate at a special ceremony at Tayside Aviation in Dundee ...

It is the first time an Air Cadet has been awarded such a certificate. Seventeen-year-old Chris from 161 (1st Highland) Squadron, who played a key role in saving the life of an elderly lady who had suffered cardiac arrest and collapsed, was also presented with a Commandant’s Special Commendation by Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty, Commandant Air Cadets. The presentation by Air Commodore was attended by Air Officer Scotland, Air Commandant Air, and Regional Vice-Marshal Ross Paterson and Regional Air Officer Scotland, who attended by Air Officer Scotland, Air Commandant Air.

Chris had been walking with his grandparents in Inverness city centre when they came upon an elderly lady in some difficulty. He immediately offered his assistance to a nurse who was already helping the 73-year-old lady. An experienced Accident and Emergency Doctor passing by quickly took control of the situation, diagnosing a cardiac arrest and directed Chris and the nurse to provide cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) under her supervision. Chris carried out his role with great confidence and dignity throughout what was a changeable clinical situation in a stressful environment, working very well with people he had not met before to help provide basic life support.

The Ambulance Service was quickly on the scene and Chris was directed to continue his support by using their ventilation bag while the crew prepared the defibrillation equipment and subsequent move of the patient into the ambulance. It was noted by the Accident and Emergency Doctor at Raigmore Hospital that this high-quality bystander CPR was undoubtedly a factor in the ultimate recovery of the patient, who herself has stated that she considers Flight Sergeant Falkingham to be a brave and selfless young man who helped to save her life. Cadet Flight Sergeant Falkingham’s actions were in the finest traditions of the Air Cadet Organisation.

High flier

Sixteen-year-old Cadet Sergeant Adam Durrell of 398 (Staines & Egham) Squadron has Squadron) has achieved his pilot’s licence before he is allowed to legally take driving lessons! Adam began his PPL course last year with ground school and flight training, going solo on his 16th birthday. During the winter months, he focussed on completing the nine written Civil Aviation Authority exams & radio operator certificate. Adam passed his final flying skills test two months before the minimum age limit for the grant of the CAA licence.

As well as cycling, the cadets helped customers pack their shopping bags. When 7pm came around the cadets were exhausted, but knew they had cycled as hard as they could. With no more time left, the big reveal showed they had ridden an impressive 3779 miles and raised more than £1,000.

Cadets praised

Cadets from 97 (Croydon) Squadron have been praised by the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, as he recognised outstanding individuals, young people and organisations at the recent Team London Awards. Actress Dame Barbara Windsor, designer Wayne Hemingway, Team GB Sprint Athlete Lesley Owousu and footballer Ledley King, who are all Team London Ambassadors, joined the Mayor at the annual celebration and presented awards to the winners.

The Team London Awards recognise Londoners who give up their own time to make the city a better place and to help improve the life of those around them. The cadets were recognised for their work in the local community on environmental projects. These included; laying an entry road for a local scout group, being part of the ‘Don’t Mess With Croydon’ scheme and turning abandoned waste land into planting sites for bulbs and trees.

Commanding Officer, Pilot Officer Claire Mills said: “The cadets of Team 97 spend hours of their free time to make their community a better, greener, safer place to live and it’s an amazing achievement for them. Each and every one of the cadets deserve this award and I could not be prouder of them. They are constantly finding ways to be a force of good for their community and it’s inspiring.”

Sadiq Khan said: “The work each and every one of these volunteers do every day to improve the lives of their fellow Londoners is inspiring. Not only is volunteering good for building leadership and communications skills, it’s a great way to break down barriers and bring people from different backgrounds and parts of London together.”

It’s very important that we recognise those who go above and beyond their call of duty to make London a better place, and I’ve been really pleased to meet some of the city’s top volunteering stars at the Team London Awards.”
Pomp, Pageantry and High Fives!

The world famous Lord Mayor’s Show: more than 7,000 people, 200 horses and 140 floats in a colourful three-mile long procession of pomp and pageantry ...

Thousands of people gathered in London to watch the annual Lord Mayor’s Show.
The event, which has taken place for over 800 years, sees the Lord Mayor travel from the Guildhall to the Royal Courts of Justice where he swears allegiance to the Crown. Representing the RAF Air Cadets in its special anniversary year were 200 cadets from across the London & South East Region with 50 supporting staff.

Despite the wet weather, spirits remained high as the long parade made its way through the City of London behind the splendid Lord Mayor of London’s State Coach, ‘deemed to be the oldest ceremonial vehicle in regular use in the world’.

The 75th Anniversary ‘Float’, commemorating the formation of the Air Cadet Organisation formed in 1941 from the Air Defence Cadet Corps, followed the Royal Air Force contingent of the RAF Cranwell Band, the Queen’s Colour Squadron and 4626 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron RAuxAF. It was led by a cadet carrying the ATC75 Torch and made up of flights of cadets in 1940s/1950s, 1960s/1970s-style RAF uniform and current pattern uniform.

A minibus from 1903 (Penge) Squadron towed a glider fuselage, with cadets walking along both sides of the procession dressed in sports and other various outfits and carrying equipment to demonstrate the activities the RAFAC has to offer.

The Marching Band, along with a marching contingent, was led by Region Bandmaster, Flight Lieutenant Steph Godwin. This for her was a special occasion, as her very first music teacher who awarded her a music scholarship, is the new Lord Mayor, Dr Andrew Parmley. The band played “Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines” as they marched past the Lord Mayor.

The significance of this piece of music was to highlight the flying opportunities available within the Air Cadets; additionally it is one of the most enjoyable pieces of music to play! Corporal Dominique Newton, marching behind the band said: “Despite the cold and wet weather, I felt everyone was in high spirits and the marching band created a very joyful atmosphere. I can genuinely say I enjoyed the day and seeing all the smiling faces of the crowds watching us march and waving to us was a very proud moment and made it even better.”

For Cadet Sergeant Harriet Love, 19, this was her last parade. She said: “It was a very tiring day but was definitely worth every second, especially as it was my last one! It’s for a great cause and is great to see what everyone else gets up to!”
Dahl-icious Duty for Cadets

Not many people know that the ‘World’s Greatest Storyteller’ Roald Dahl, although of Norwegian parentage, was born and spent his boyhood years on the north-west outskirts of Cardiff.

So, to mark the 100th year since Roald Dahl’s birth, Llandaff Society with the Welsh Norwegian Society decided it was time for a commemorative plaque to be put up at the writer’s birthplace in Fairwater Road, Llandaff.

In his autobiography, ‘Boy’, Roald Dahl affectionately recalls experiences from his Welsh childhood. Then, in the sequel – ‘Going Solo’ – he recounts his experiences as an RAF volunteer in World War Two, learning to fly DH Tiger Moths in the clear skies of Fairwater Road, Llandaff.

Later, Roald was sent to Syria and again flew Hurricanes against the Vichy French. He became an ace, with more than five air combat victories before his injuries returned to haunt him and blinding headaches resulted in him being withdrawn from active service.

To pass the time Roald wrote down hisollections of an fighter and these did not escape attention in high places. He was sent as a British emissary to the USA, to help encourage support in our desperate fight against the Axis.

He moved as far as Hollywood, living the high life among many film stars. Whilst there he wrote his first children’s book ‘Gremlins’, for Walt Disney, all about those irritating little fellows responsible for the unaccountable snags and malfunctions plaguing airforce life.

Air Cadets of 30F (City of Llandaff) Squadron were therefore delighted when invited to take part in the Roald Dahl Centenary events: duty standing guard over the blue plaque honouring the famous storyteller and heroic pilot’s birthplace, as the crowds gathered.

The plaque was then unveiled by a distinguished VIP from the Dahl family’s homeland, Minister Ragnhild Imerslund, Deputy High Commissioner of Norway, to mark the 100th year since Roald Dahl’s birth.

The plaque is currently supported by local school volunteers, scouts and guide groups, and an ex-WWII pilot, Squadron Leader D Byron Lewis, also attending to meet His Royal Highness. Among the demonstrations were cadets and staff from 334 (Neath), 360 (Llwchwr), and 499 (Port Talbot) Squadrons using the ‘Tiger Moth’ to perform demonstrations from the 1930s, and 1358 (Pontardawe) Squadron and staff and cadets from 360 (Uksworth) and 499 (Port Talbot) Squadrons giving a display of their skills.

The move to new premises gave the Omagh Cadets the perfect opportunity to present the living history project ‘War Years Remembered’ for refurbishment and re-use.

Cadet Centre progress

Building work is underway on a new cadet training centre to be shared by 198 (Hinckley) Squadron and the Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland Air Cadet Force. The building, due for completion this Autumn, will include classrooms, a radio room, overhead projectors and a training hall.

Clare Hill, Project Manager, at East Midlands Reserve Forces and Cadets Association, who are project managing the build, said: “The new centre is being constructed on the same site as the former cadet training centre, and when complete will allow up to 80 cadets and adult volunteers to use the space at any one time.”
The Pride of Britain Awards recognise the unsung achievements of remarkable people. From the emergency services and charity fundraisers to brave young people overcoming extraordinary adversity and illness, whilst fighting to raise awareness and support for others. The glittering and star-studded Awards’ ceremony was hosted by television personality and Ambassador for the Air Cadets, Honorary Group Captain Carol Vorderman, who personally invited the cadets to be involved.

Chosen
The squadron was chosen by Commandant Air Cadets to represent the Air Cadets, having recently won the Lees Trophy, the annual competition to select the best Air Training Corps unit from over 950 across the country. They were joined by cadets from 241 (Warneford & Woodford) Sqn, a former Lees Trophy-winning squadron.

Exciting
Cadet Warrant Officer Isha Hussain, 19, from 31 Sqn, said: “It was incredibly exciting and very humbling to meet so many incredible people. Lots of them took the time to come and speak to us whilst we were standing on parade. We met lots of the winners, including some of the Team GB Olympic athletes, who got a special recognition award – they were lovely and really excited to be there! We also saw lots of the celebrities who were there to present awards, it was a real honour to be there.”

Selfless
In a message on the awards on the Pride of Britain website, Prince Charles, who has been a supporter of the Awards since 2001, said: “Good deeds, selfless acts and inspirational stories all too often go unseen and it is incredibly humbling to see the sheer determination and incredible journeys of these heroes. “The Pride of Britain Awards remind us of the compassion, decency and courage which still exists in every corner of the land. It is a wonderful way to celebrate those who make us proud to be British.”

Cadets from 31 (Tower Hamlets) Squadron enjoyed their moment in the spotlight on the red carpet, as they formed a Guard of Honour at one of the most exciting television events of the year...
New Wing President

Air Vice Marshal, Keith Bethel, a former cadet with 2077 (Pontyclun) Squadron, has become the Wing President of No 1 Welsh Wing.

He is pictured receiving his ‘certificate of appointment’ from Wing Commander Bob Timothy, Officer Commanding 1 Welsh Wing, at his first official engagement, the Wing Band Concert at Mardy Barracks, Cardiff.

AVM Bethel joined the RAF as an Apprentice Engineering Technician at RAF Halton in 1983 and was commissioned into the engineer branch in 1988.

Following professional training he completed station and operational tours on the Tornado GR1 and F3 supporting or deploying on Operation GRABNY (Gulf War I), Operation DENY FLIGHT (Balkans) and Operation RESINATE (SOUTH (Iran)).

On promotion to Wing Commander he was posted to the Nimrod MRA4 Project Team at DPA Abbey Wood and in 2005 became the first Typhoon Depth Support Manager and Officer Commanding Deep Support Wing at RAF Coningsby. In 2007, he was promoted to Group Captain and appointed as the Typhoon Systems Manager and Project Engineer (Type Airworthiness Authority) in the Typhoon Team at DE&S Abbey Wood, where he was responsible for development, modification, safety and airworthiness of the Typhoon weapon system and development and delivery of Typhoon support solutions.

In 2012, he was posted to Headquarters No 1 Group as Group Captain Support and Chief Air Engineer for an even fuller 18 months which included Operation ELLAMY over Libya, continued support to Operation HERRICK in Afghanistan and leading the transformation of the Group’s Air Safety Management Systems.

In 2012, he was promoted Air Commodore and selected as Head Fast Air Support Team in DE&S with responsibility for the Tornado, Typhoon, Battle of Britain Memorial Flight and Defence Crew Escape Systems projects. In 2016, he was selected for the role of Director Combat Air in DE&S on promotion to Air Vice Marshal.

AVM Bethel is married to Julia and they have two sons, the younger of which is still at university.

Three of a kind

In what’s believed to be a first for the ATC, triplets Cadet Sergeant Mollie Purser and her brothers George and Michael from 2476 (Hutton) Squadron in Essex have all achieved their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards at the same time.

All three of them have been involved with the Boys’ Brigade in Hutton and used this for their Volunteering section. Mollie used circuit training for her physical section, whilst George and Michael did badminton.

Studying aeronautics satisfied the skills section, and all three of them undertook an exciting expedition in Iceland. The residential saw them all helping with the Soul Survivor Summer Camps, in separate years, where they helped to supervise and take part in a range of activities.

Their names have now gone forward to Windsor where a note has been made to ensure that all three are invited to the same presentation.

Leading the way

Staff at 261 (Guildford) Squadron will be leading by example as they tackle a variety of adventure training courses, part-funded by the RAF Charitable Trust.

Following the £1,000 grant, eight new staff members will be enrolling on a range of courses in a bid to develop their leadership skills and knowledge. This additional training will help staff to enhance the air cadet experience by enabling them to provide extra activities and improve the support they can offer.

In Remembrance

Staff and cadets from Cumbria and Lancashire Wing are remembering their colleague Flight Lieutenant Philip Massey who passed away after a short illness.

Phil served with the Corps for 58 years, firstly as a cadet joining 777 (St Anne’s) DT then as an Adult WO and latterly as a Commissioned Officer, taking command of 2466 (Lytham St Anne’s) Squadron and serving as adjutant at 177 (Blackpool/Airport) Squadron.

He was the holder of the Cadet Forces Medal with four clasps. His passions were flying and shooting and, in the past 20 years, there are few in the Wing who would not have been trained or helped by Phil with range work and weapon skills.

Flight Lieutenant Andrew Nickson, OC 177 Squadron, said: “Phil’s enthusiasm for aviation was also contagious, and yet again it would be foolish to try to count how many cadets this enthusiasm has inspired.”

We are richer for having known him and poorer from his absence. Thank you for creating venture and adventure for generations of Air Cadets.

The cadets - Team Red Dragons - were taking part in the prestigious Schools Aerospace Challenge, where pupils across the UK had to design a hypersonic multi-role aircraft for the RAF.

Cadet Flight Sergeant Scott Hopkins said: “The Challenge was brought to our attention by our Wing Commander.”

Opportunity

“We saw the competition as a great opportunity to challenge ourselves, and ultimately apply everything we have learnt from Air Cadets and put it into one big project: designing a new aircraft for the RAF.”

The team was selected based on their project to attend a week’s summer school at Cranfield University back in July, along with 11 other teams from schools across the UK.

Their performance throughout the week was continually assessed as they took part in tasks which included learning about aircraft and jet engines, practising free-fall parachuting in a wind tunnel and getting into the Jetstream flying classroom. As a result of their project and performance at Cranfield, Team Red Dragons were awarded a place in the top three in the UK. A spokesman for the Challenge said: “Judges were particularly impressed with the calibre of entries and would like to especially commend the 12 teams who made it through to the Aerospace Engineering Experience Week.”

“The team attended the awards ceremony, held in London at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, at the end of last year.

“Opportunity: “It was a tough job to reduce the total list of entries down to 12 and it was even harder to decide on the final three entries going forward.”

The team attended the awards ceremony, held in London at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, at the end of last year.

They had to present their design, including their approach to the challenge, their design solution and its key discriminating features, to a number of distinguished guests which included the Chief of Air Staff Sir Stephen Hillier, as well as representatives from industry leading aerospace companies. Cadet Corporal Hamza Sohail said: “It was an amazing experience and a memorable night. I would definitely do it all over again.

Reward

“It gave us experience in the world of aerospace engineering and allowed us to broaden our knowledge in this field. And to top it all off, presenting our design to high profile guests such as the Chief of Air Staff Stephen Hillier was a reward in itself!”

The three leading teams shared a prize fund of £10,000, while the eventual winners from Bablake School, Coventry were presented with the Schools Aerospace Challenge Trophy.
Mam-moth challenge

Tom McCarthy, RAF ACC YOUTH member and cadet with 55 (Woodford and Bramhall) Sqn climbed Mam Tor in Derbyshire 75 times in 24 hours to mark the 75th anniversary of the Air Cadets!

This equates to around 24 miles of climbing and descending with Tom raising more than £300 for the RAF Association in the process.

Farewell

Jane James of Plymouth and Cornwall Wing and a familiar face at RAF St Mawgan has retired after 18 years’ service.

As the Wing Administrative Officer, Jane was often the first point of contact for many volunteers staff within the Wing and the wider Corps and has been the ‘lynchpin’ of the Headquarters.

Jane was wished a fond farewell from her colleagues and friends at a party in TE Lawrence Mess.

Record Numbers At Leadership Course

The CVQO Leadership Course in Somerset has proved more popular than ever.

Some 64 Air, Army, Sea, and Police Cadets descended on Outposts in Somerset for the annual week-long course, which mixes outdoor team-led challenges with classroom-based theory lessons.

Days are filled with a combination of command task-style challenges and theory-based classroom sessions. All of this with the opportunity to meet cadets from all around the UK makes it an unforgettable experience.

Of course, the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) Level 3 qualification achieved as a result is a fantastic bonus and can be used to boost employment or education prospects, too.

Flers Douglas of 999 (Dunmow) Squadron said: “It’s been a great week so far, but probably a little more work than I thought there would be! I was looking for a qualification to demonstrate leadership when I applied and this offered exactly that.

“Qualifications like this make you stand out from the crowd and will definitely help me in later life. Everyone here in Somerset is great and I’ve loved spending time with them. When the opportunity comes around next year I’ll definitely be recommending the course to the younger cadets.”

Guy Hornidge, CVQO Chief Executive, said: “Applications for the 2016 leadership course were so great that we had to find a way to accommodate 64 cadets, rather than the usual 48, which is hugely encouraging.

“CVQO exists to provide UK youth group members with the tools to give them every chance of success in life, regardless of their background or social standing.

“Academic achievements are important and of course have their place, but to be able to offer real life leadership experience in a setting such as this can really complement those skills and give young people a boost in their education or career prospects.”
It’s An Honour

Wing Commander David Miller, Commanding Officer of Norfolk & Suffolk Wing, has been presented with the MBE at an investiture hosted by Prince William, Duke of Cambridge at Buckingham Palace.

Proud David, who attended with his wife Sonia, said: “The day was truly delightful and was made more special by being able to share it with my family who have supported me during my years of volunteering with the Air Cadets. Prince William as the presenting Royal in his RAF uniform was the icing on the cake and he also knew of Norfolk and Suffolk Air Cadets.”

Wing Commander Miller has been a member of the Corps since 1975 when he joined as a cadet at 759 (Beccles) Squadron. He was commissioned in 1981 and served as the adjutant. In 1991 David was selected and promoted to Flight Lieutenant and became the unit’s Commanding Officer. After a total of 25 years with Beccles Squadron and on promotion to Squadron Leader he was appointed as a Sector commander and as the Wing Training Officer overseeing the Wing’s DofE, BTEC, Adventure Training and shooting programmes. He took command of the Wing in July 2010.

Cadet Sergeant Ashley Duncan from 423 (Speyside) Detached Flight has been appointed as the Station Commander’s Cadet.

Ashley, who joined the Corps just over three years ago, will assist the Station Commander at civic and ceremonial occasions. Group Captain Paul Godfrey, Station Commander at RAF Lossiemouth, said: “The ATC is a fantastic organisation; I am delighted to be able to appoint Ashley as the new Station Commander’s Cadet as she demonstrates all the qualities the RAF hold in high esteem and has done a huge amount to benefit our local community and fellow cadets in a very short period of time.”

New centre opens

The new £600,000 Warwick Cadet Centre has been officially opened by the Lord Lieutenant for Warwickshire, Mr Tim Cox.

The new, purpose built centre will become the shared home of 1548 (Warwick & Royal Leamington Spa) Squadron and Warwick Detachment Army Cadets. The official opening was attended by local Air and Army Cadets alongside family, friends and an array of local dignitaries, including the MP for Warwick and Leamington, Mr Chris White. The new centre boasts the latest technology and includes an array of classrooms, offices, stores and a kitchen.

Top shots

Cadets from Plymouth and Cornwall Wing are the winners of the W J Taylor Competition for the best small bore shooting team in the ATC.

OC Plymouth and Cornwall Wing, Wing Commander Francis Reis, presented team members with their medals at a special ceremony at 147 (Camborne) Squadron. He praised the cadets for their determination and skill and also commended the team’s coach Squadron Leader Tim Johns, Wing Shooting Officer.

To find out more, or to book, please call 0800 288 9990 or email groups@kingswood.co.uk and quote ‘EASTER 17’.

Terms and conditions subject to availability. Prices are only valid for the quoted dates. Offer cannot be applied to existing bookings. Customers with bookings made during the last two years should contact us directly for prices. Please note that prices may vary depending on the centre and date booked. Not available at the Chateau de Chantemerle.

EASTER ADVENTURES at Kingswood

Come and join us at Kingswood for a weekend stay over the Easter holidays for a programme full of themed activities!

Ideal for uniform groups, your young people will be able to enjoy all of the usual activities that come with our popular Adventure Choice programme – including climbing, zipwire and abseiling – plus enjoy some seasonal games such as our geocache egg hunt or Easter themed evening activities.

With three weekends to choose from, our Easter themed adventures provide the perfect opportunity for uniform groups to come and meet other members and young people just like them from across the country. Each group will also receive a FREE Kingswood cloth badge to add to their collection/dig the conference.
A chance meeting in Fiji many years ago between the parents of a Sussex cadet and Corporal Annie Rutyna of the Australian Air Force Cadets has led to a memorable exchange visit to the Sunshine Coast.

Corporal Rutyna attended the inaugural dinner of 88 (Battle) Squadron in September 2014, where a joke was made about the possibility of organising an exchange trip to see the other side of the world and Air Cadets in a different country, and so it began. Two years’ intensive planning and fundraising followed and finally, with the help of generous grants from the Royal Air Force Charitable Trust and the South East Reserve Forces’ & Cadets’ Association, the 15-day visit was underway led by Flight Lieutenant Maria Muggridge with 26 cadets and staff from 45F(Worthing), 88 (Battle), 176 (Hove) and 2262 (Bexhill) Squadrons.

Landmarks
Base for the group during their stay was the Maroochy Waterfront Camp & Conference Centre in Maroochydore and they were hosted by 207 Squadron in Nambour where Corporal Annie Rutyna is based. A packed programme was arranged with many daytime activities around the Sunshine Coast landmarks.

Proposal
Highlights of the trip for the group included a walk to the top of Mount Coolum, at only 208 metres high, but with breathtaking views under a clear blue sky out to sea; being hosted by RAAF Base Amberley; an internal flight from Maroochydore to Sydney preceded the Sydney Harbour Bridge climb which was completed in groups, with the final group visit being rather special for one couple.

At the top of the bridge, to the delight of all those present (and in the pouring rain) Cadet Sergeant Matthew Standaen of 2262 (Bexhill) Sqn said: “I cannot truly do justice to a description of this trip. “The sights, activities and the memories made in this short time will live on with us forever, truly an adventure of a lifetime.”

Cdt Taylor Lansley of 45F (Worthing) Sqn added: “Since we arrived, I’ve been trying to find a way to explain to family and friends how this experience has been, but simply no words can justify it, from being 134 metres in the air on top of Sydney Harbour Bridge to making new friends, to having conquered the challenges that may have seemed impossible, look easy.

“I feel very privileged to have been given this opportunity and am sad to leave it all behind.”

By Squadron Leader Trisha Welsh

On Top Of The World ...

Down Under!
Thanks for Celebrating

Air Cadets stepped out of their comfort zone to discover their inner Challenger.

Up and down the country, cadets and staff – led by the Commandant who conquered her own personal fears to complete a wing walk (1) – took on a challenge to help even more young people to benefit from the DofE in the years ahead.

We look back at some of the challenges completed in what was a special anniversary year for the Corps and the DofE.

- Flight Lieutenant Kellyann Martin, Commanding Officer of 3690 (Spenn Valley) Squadron, travelled to Peru and the mighty Inca settlement of Machu Picchu. She said “I already hold the DofE Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards, so when it was announced that there was a Diamond Challenge available, I knew I had to have that certificate as well! I thoroughly enjoyed my experience, and it is definitely another of the world’s sights ticked off my bucket list.”

- Sgt Charlotte Henderson, 119 (Scunthorpe) Sqn, ran a 5 km race in Leeds, something she had never done before, and raised £165.

- Cadet Flight Sergeant Bailey Redmile, 1474 (Mickford) Sqn, completed the Cancer Research UK night walk, a full marathon, starting at 2200hrs.

- Cpl Hugo Jones, 149 (Aurebyham) Sqn, completed the 15 mile Fan Dance hike in the Brecon Beacons, an event run by a company made up of ex-Special Forces, and he was the youngest participant on the day.

- CWO Luke Ford, 187 (City of Worcester) Sqn, completed the Worcester 10km run finishing 1486th out of 5,000 runners, and raised £135.

- Cdr Kay Tester, 2487 (Basingwold) Sqn, undertook the Epic Swim Series – three swims during the summer in Derwentwater, Ulswater and Lake Coniston, achieving some brilliant times of 1 hr 40 mins, 1 hour 39 mins, and 1 hr 44 mins respectively.

- Cadets from 1048 (Ex)” and 42F (King’s Lynn) Sqn took part in a tug of war with a difference, when they pulled a RAF Tornado GR4 down the runway at RAF Marham.

- PI Officer John Reid and Sgt Amy Vincent from 176 (Hove) Sqn walked the circumference of the Isle of Wight (approx. 70 miles) in 3 days, carrying all their own kit, raising £235.

- Sgt Alice Davies, 2527 (Lavvsworth) Sqn raised £119757 for a number of charities, including the DofE, by holding cake stalls, running the Leeds Half Marathon, a sponsored head shave, and completing a 100km continuous walk across the Peak District in under 27 hours.

- Cpl George Wells and Cdt Tomek Vincent from 176 (Hove) Sqn walked the Camino Ingles, which earned him a certificate in Latin!

- PI James King, 1403 (Rifton) Sqn, climbed Ben Nevis and raised more than £500.

- PI Hilary Hector, 1403 (Rifton) Sqn, completed a solo walk along the 66 miles of the South West Coastal Path in Dorset, starting in Abbotsbury and ending seven days later at South Haven Point, Poole Bay.

- Sqn Ldr Mel Walker and her daughter, PI Abigail Walker of 2160 (Sleaford) Sqn took on a navigation challenge comprising an 8km night navigation challenge and a 178 km day time challenge. PI Walker also launched a poetry book through her Sleaford HuB Writers Club.

Well done to all who took up the challenge.

Twelve months ago, the DofE asked you to take on a DofE Diamond Challenge. Thousands of people across the country stepped forward, completing all sorts of challenges, raising more than £1 million and ensuring that the DofE’s Diamond Anniversary shone...
Air Cadets on Top Form

The lion’s share of the silverware at the recent Cadet Inter Services Skill at Arms Meeting was claimed by the Air Cadets - with some outstanding team and individual performances to round off another hugely successful year of shooting ...

This year marked a comprehensive victory for the Air Training Corps, winning the fiercely-competitive Inter Services Final against the Sea Cadet Corps and the Army Cadet Force by a comfortable 75-point margin.

Not content with that stand-out performance, the Corps also took home an additional eight of the 13 trophies on offer. An outstanding performance from the cadets from 31 (Tower Hamlets) Squadron ‘A’ team saw them victorious in the Defence Match, Advance & Reorganisation Match, Advance to Contact Match, Rifle Pairs and the Team Snap. Not surprisingly, they were overall champions in the competition, taking home the top team trophy for a second year in a row.

Exceptional performance came from 241 (Warminster and Woodford) Squadron, who placed second in the competition overall, earning silver medals, as well as bronze in the Defence Match, and silver in the Advance to Contact and Section Match. ‘Cadets from 30F (City of Llandaff)’ Sgn, followed second into third, and fourth position by the other members of the 31 squadron team.

They, along with members of 241 (Warminster and Woodford), 30F (City of Llandaff), 83 (St Georges), 2365 (Breachin), 1343 (East Grinstead) and members of the 31 (Tower Hamlets) B and C team, were then selected as the top cadets to represent the Corps in the Inter-Services Match – in which the team scored a total of 1,555 points, with the ACF in second (1,480 points) and the Sea Cadet Corps picking up bronze medals with 1,065 points.

A total of 24 air cadets were awarded medals, with 1297 (Stonehaven) Sgn earning third place, having picked up silver in the Rifle Pairs, and an individual silver for Cadet Corporal Erin Blackwood in the Urban Contact Match.

Proud
Flight Lieutenant Rex Nicholls, OC 31 (Tower Hamlets) Squadron and team coach said: “We are extremely proud of the team’s performance and delighted to retain the title of top team in the competition.

“Our B and C teams have also come on leaps and bounds this year, with members of both teams earning medals and representing the Corps in the inter-Service finals. This is due in no small part to the help and support we have had from the HQAC Training Development Team, particularly Squadron Leader Chris Ibbitson and Wing Commander Matt Oram to whom we would like to pass on our thanks.”

The top ATC individual score came from Sgt Mark Kee, 31 (Tower Hamlets) Sgn, followed into second, third and fourth position by the other members of the 31 squadron team.

The cadets from 31 (Tower Hamlets) and 241 (Warminster and Woodford) Sgn were awarded first and second places in the Cadet Rifle Meeting in fullbore, held at Bisley in July and the Cadet Inter Services Skill at Arms Meeting for the Cadet GP rifle held at Pirbright in October.

“Working with so many dedicated staff has been fantastic, both with the Shooting Development Team and the ISCRM Committees over the years.

“I wish to thank them all most sincerely for their efforts, along with the great coaches and cadets that we have throughout the Corps, in delivering target rifle shooting across all the disciplines and for their efforts and time in training the cadets which has paid such dividends.

Strength to Strength
“Over the years I have made many great friends and sincerely hope that I will continue to meet with them at the various Inter-Services’ events in the future in my new role. I thank you all for your great friendships over the years.

“I am quite sure that Corps shooting will continue to go from strength to strength and wish both the coaches and the cadets many more successes in the future.”

Wg Cdr Campbell will continue at HQAC within the TG Branch as a Special Projects Officer (Shooting) and will continue his association with the Council of Cadet Rifle Shooting as a Trustee and as a selector for international teams including the Air Cadets.

He has also been appointed as the shooting co-ordinator during 2018 to celebrate RAF 100, running special shooting events to celebrate this very significant year for the Royal Air Force.