



BICESTER CHAT

The newsletter of 2507 (Bicester) Squadron, Air Training Corps



Issue 03/08 – August 08

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- Farewell to Sgt Lewis, Mr Kelly and Miss Robinson
- Welcome to Fg Off Dacunha

Editors: Mrs Williams and
Flt Lt Breward

The Staff

OC: Flt Lt Breward
DOC: Fg Off Wastie
Plt Off Azizian
Sgt Lewis

CIs Mr Blatcher
Mr Brafield
Mr Crisp
Mr Gidney
Mr Jones
Mrs Peck
Mr Sloan
Miss Sutcliffe
Mrs Wastie
Mrs Williams

SIs Cpl Cole
SAC Brown

Parade nights:

Tuesday and Thursday
evenings from 1845 until 2145
at Duclos Hall,
DE&S Caversfield,
Skimmingdish Lane
Bicester

Band Night Sunday 1900-2100
(in preparation for parades)

Duke of Edinburgh Sports
Monday 1900 -2000

Up coming events

(Please put these events in
your diary)

September

Sat 6	Inter Squadron Swimming
Sun 7	Sports Trials
Sat 13	Full Bore Shooting
Sat 13	Flying am
Sat 14 – Sun 15	Step Forward
Mon 15	Aircraft Recognition Competition
Sat 27	Gliding
Sun 28	Wing Activity Day

October

Sun 25	Flying am
Sat 25 - Sat 1	Autumn Camp RAF Browdown
Sat 25 – Sat 1	Windermere Expedition

November

Sat 22	Flying
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Presentation of Donation from Bicester Town Council

In July, Cadets Corton and S
Peck went to Garth House to
collect the donation made to
the Squadron by Bicester
Town Council. The cheque
was for £800

Messages from the OC

Since the last issue, the
Squadron has been
“reclassified” as a larger unit,
with the knock on effect that
we are allowed more NCOs
and staff. The first wave of
new Cadet promotions has
already taken place.

Unfortunately we didn't win the
competition to become the
best Squadron in the country,
but we put on the best show
that we possibly could have
done and I was immensely
proud of all the staff and
cadets involved. The order of
the 6 units that made it to the
final round wasn't disclosed –
we were all told we came
second!

We managed to send 10
cadets and 5 staff to annual
camp at RAF Wittering, and all
had a good time. On the staff
front, Miss Robinson and Mr
Kelly have departed, and Sgt
Lewis will leave at the end of
the month. They have all put in
a sterling effort for the
Squadron and they will be
sorely missed. We are always
on the look out for more staff:
At the moment we'd urgently
like to recruit someone who
can read music as an
additional member of our band
team, and someone to run our
communications project.

Intake 20 will be starting in
force on 28 August and we
look forward to an active,
rewarding and fun packed
autumn.

RIAT 2008 – Cadets of 2507 meet the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh



As usual the cadets of 2507 set out for the Royal International Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford in July expecting to spend a week helping with the preparation, running and setting down of the event. Events, however, took an unusual turn as the heavens opened and a month's worth of rain fell on the site in one day, and the public events over the weekend had to be cancelled.

All was not lost however, as the RAF 90th Birthday celebratory fly past for the Queen took place on the Friday before the event. The cadets were privileged to watch the whole display at close quarters. Several of the Cadets from 2507 Squadron were chosen to represent the Air Cadets nationally in the guard of honour to meet the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. The Cadets were introduced to the Queen by The Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshall Sir Glen Torpy. He picked out Sgt Williams from 2507 Squadron. Sgt Williams reports him saying 'This must be a star' whilst pointing him out to the Queen who asked how he was progressing with the Duke of Edinburgh Award, and if he was enjoying it, as she recognised he was wearing the Award Scheme Badge. The Duke of Edinburgh also came over and spoke to Sgt Williams. Cpl Morris also spoke to the Duke, who looked for her badge and

asked her what level she was currently taking. The Queen then spoke to Cadet C Dodds asking her what activities she had taken part in at RIAT and how she managed to get so wet!

Some of the other cadets who did not get to meet the royal visitors were also lucky as they were chosen to have lunch with the Red Arrows. Cadets Grieve, Wood and M Dodds sat down to a formal lunch with the pilots and were each given a Red Arrows book which the pilots signed.

Bicester Carnival

On July 6 the cadets and staff of 2507 Squadron turned out in force to man their recruitment tent and fundraising stalls at the Bicester Carnival. Despite the changeable weather we managed to have lots of fun, providing our usual bottle tombola, key in the box game and treasure map. We raised a grand total of £412 for Squadron funds.

Highlights of the Last 3 Months

The Editor asked a selection of the Cadets what the highlights of the last three months were. Here are their replies:

Cdt O'Sullivan (Training Flight). 'I have enjoyed every bit of cadets so far. I really enjoyed doing my History of Flight Assessment with Cpl Cole as we made paper aeroplanes'.

Sgt Kellar

'I had a fantastic time at JHQ Rheindahlen Summer Camp. It was the best overseas camp I have ever been on and I would

highly recommend this camp to all cadets'.

Cdt Giles (Training Flight)

'I particularly enjoyed the Weapons Handling Training and the HeartStart Course that we did as part of our Intake Training'.

Cadet Newbold

'The last day of camp at RAF Wittering! We went to the fire section and we got to try fireman's lifts and learnt how to discover fires and find casualties with gas masks and other equipment on. At the end of camp we did a Sod's Opera where we took the mick out of the Staff and vice versa. Ours was the best ever'.

Cadet Hunt

'The best thing was annual camp at RAF Wittering. We met some amazing people and made lots of new friends'.

BTEC Qualifications

Several of our older (16+) cadets are well on their way to achieving the BTEC First Diploma in Preparation for Public Services. This qualification is equivalent to 4 GCSEs at Grades A – C. Three quarters of the work is completed through normal parade night, and weekend activities such as First Aid Training, D of E Expeditions, Adventure Training and NCO Courses. The other quarter is done through a workbook and project about applying for a job in a Uniformed Public Service.