



A.T.C 144 Richmond Squadron



One Four Four News

Issue 2

FEB 2006

PRESENTATION EVENING

The evening was a great success and we had the pleasure of having the mayor of Richmond (himself an ex-airman) presenting the awards to the cadets in front of parents and friends.

Most cadets received at least one award and many cadets won more than one award. The awards consisted of trophies, shields, promotions and certificates. The awards are given to the cadets to commemorate cadets' achievements throughout the year.

Sadly, for the second presentation evening in a row we lost our CO, Flt Lt Colbrook to another squadron down in Dorset. We've all got our fingers crossed hoping for a new Co soon, in the mean time we've got brilliant staff members to keep the sqn running!



All the award winners

GLIDING AT RAF ODIHAM

On Saturday 11th of February, Mr Moran drove Armano, Lowein-Levy, Hickson and MacKee down to RAF Odiham to go gliding.



After a lot of waiting around and discussions about which aircraft could be flown and which of us would be able to fly if only one was available, we were taken out to the caravan on the runway. In the end all four of us got 2 flights, lasting about 30 minutes each. It was a very enjoyable day and we can't wait to go again.



FLYING AT RAF BENSON

On 5th of November, 10 cadets from 144 sqn got the chance to go on an air experience flight. They went flying at RAF Benson. The weather was excellent for flying, apart from a strong cross wind but that didn't bother the cadets too much.

For some it was their first time flying, each having a go at flying the plane or even doing aerobatics. For the rest, the flight was spent either improving their flying skills or hanging upside-down doing aerobatics for a full 30 minutes!

The staff at 144:

As well as recruiting new cadets, 144 squadron is always looking for adults to join the team. This could be as a member of the civilian committee or as instructing staff. Please contact the squadron for more information.

Over the last few months there have been more promotions on the sqn. Also, cadets have been working hard for their exams with excellent results!

First class:

Cdt King
Cdt Lambert
Cdt Ginsburg

Leading:

Cdt Pollya
Cdt Walker J
Cdt MacKee
A/Cpl Field
Cpl Gunputrav
Cpl Felstead

The NCO's

Acting Corporal:

A/Cpl Field
A/Cpl Ginsburg

Corporal

Cpl Gunputrav
Cpl Felstead

Sergeant:

Sgt Swain

Flight Sergeant:

Flt Sgt Farrell
Flt Sgt Hall

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CDT PONDS MAKES THE WING NETBALL TEAM

I recently went to the Surrey Wing netball trials and didn't know what to expect. A full squad of 8 girls turned up and we started a game straight away. The trials went very well and I was selected to represent Surrey Wing at the upcoming Regional games.

On the 12th of February the Regional Netball games will be taking place against other wings. Hopefully Surrey Wing will win!

DUKE OF EDINGBURGH'S AWARD



Great news on the DoFE front, almost all cadets are now taking part in either the bronze or silver award, and those who aren't soon will be! Last Easter was an experience for many as it was their first time hiking/camping and having to use a tree as a toilet!! But all did well and managed to complete the weekend without too much pain. The group of 9 cadets who took part in their practice

expedition for the bronze award managed 7.5 miles each day and the 6 cadets doing their practice silver clocked up 30 miles over three days! The weekend consisted of map reading skills (which need a little improvement!!), camp craft and team building. Another expedition is heading out this Easter so with any luck all the participating cadets will have a fun time while learning a few new skills. Lets pray for nice weather! Hopefully, the awards should be finished by the end of the summer, rounding off the award with the ACTUAL CAMP (yes guys, you've got to do it all again!)

There are 4 sections to the award, Skills, Service, Physical Recreation and Expeditions. It should only take 6 months min. to complete the award, cadets can complete all sections except physical recreation at cadets so they each need to complete the required months as soon as possible.

Hopefully in a few months time we will have a lot of badges to brighten up the uniform!!



CONTACT US

Squadron phone number:

020 8948 2223

Mon & Thurs 19.30-21.30

Location:

Back of Old Deer car park, Richmond
(Opposite Richmond swimming Pool)

Website:

www.144sq.co.uk

Email:

richmondadc@hotmail.com



Parade at St. Clements Danes, London 5th Feb 2006

Every three years Surrey Wing is invited to participate in the annual church parade at St Clement Danes, the central church of the RAF in London. This was such a year..... At 08.30 a number of chilly cadets from 144 sqn assembled outside our gates, waiting for a coach to convey them to London. We were joined by several cadets from Barnes, and upon arriving at Lincons Inn Fields we joined approximately 55 cadets from other squadrons in Surrey wing, along with cadets from five other wings: Middlesex, Kent, Sussex, London and Essex. We were formed up in wings, with the wing banners in attendance and we then marched past the Regional Commandant, and on to the church. St Clement Danes is highly ornate, with the banners of retired squadrons lining the walls, and lists of the fallen from previous conflicts recorded in books placed around the church.

The service itself was relatively short, with the Regional Chaplain taking the sermon, and readings from ex-cadets. The cadets and staff also renewed their cadet promises, led by the Regional Commandant. After the service, the cadets were shepherded back onto their coaches, the parade having been a success.

CADET OF THE MONTH

Finally the squadron has brought back the 'cadet of the month award'!! The cadet of the month award is chosen by the NCOs and is awarded to the cadet who has good attendance, completed their duties well and shown the most enthusiasm, and dedication over the month. The cadet of the month has been awarded to:

December- Cdt King January- Cdt Pond

SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to Sgt Swain and Flt Sgt Hall who have both completed their gliding scholarship at RAF Odiham, gaining their blue wings!