

The Haltonian Magazine

100 Edition

Spring 1965

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EDITORIAL

Winter is not officially recognised by the Halton Magazine, our Autumn issue being followed by that of Spring. This is no consolation to one who pens an Editorial column in a March blizzard; rather it leads to thoughts of meteorological retribution.

However, we deplore the jibe that an Englishman's conversation must open with some reference to the weather, and avow that henceforth this column will be free of climatic comments.

The long and busy Autumn term saw many visitors to Halton, culminating in the review by Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, the Honourable Mrs. Angus Ogilvy, of the Passing-out Parade of the 100th Entry. The importance of this review and visit has led us to alter the style of report which is usually presented when an Entry leaves Halton.

We have been very gratified by the number of articles submitted by Old Haltonians as well as by Apprentices currently serving at Halton. We are not so naïve as to believe that this is a direct result of the plea made in our last Editorial; nor are we as complacent as the Secretary of the Old Haltonians' Society would have you believe, judging by his Notes in this magazine. We can only express our pleasure at this situation and our hopes that it will not be a transient one.

We have included two new items in this issue, and hope to make them permanent features. 'Forty Years Ago' will, we hope, serve both to recall personalities and events to the older Old Haltonians, and to enable those of later entries to make comparisons with their own days at Halton. Should it stir some of our readers to provide us with more information about some of the items printed, or to make laudatory or deprecatory remarks, so much the better! The Old Haltonians' Secretary will be pleased to receive them and your Editor will be happy to print them.

We also include a page of 'News Items'. This is intended to give details of events at Halton, and news of those serving and of those whose who have served at Halton—details which would not easily fit into the regular reports included in this magazine, and so might go unrecorded.

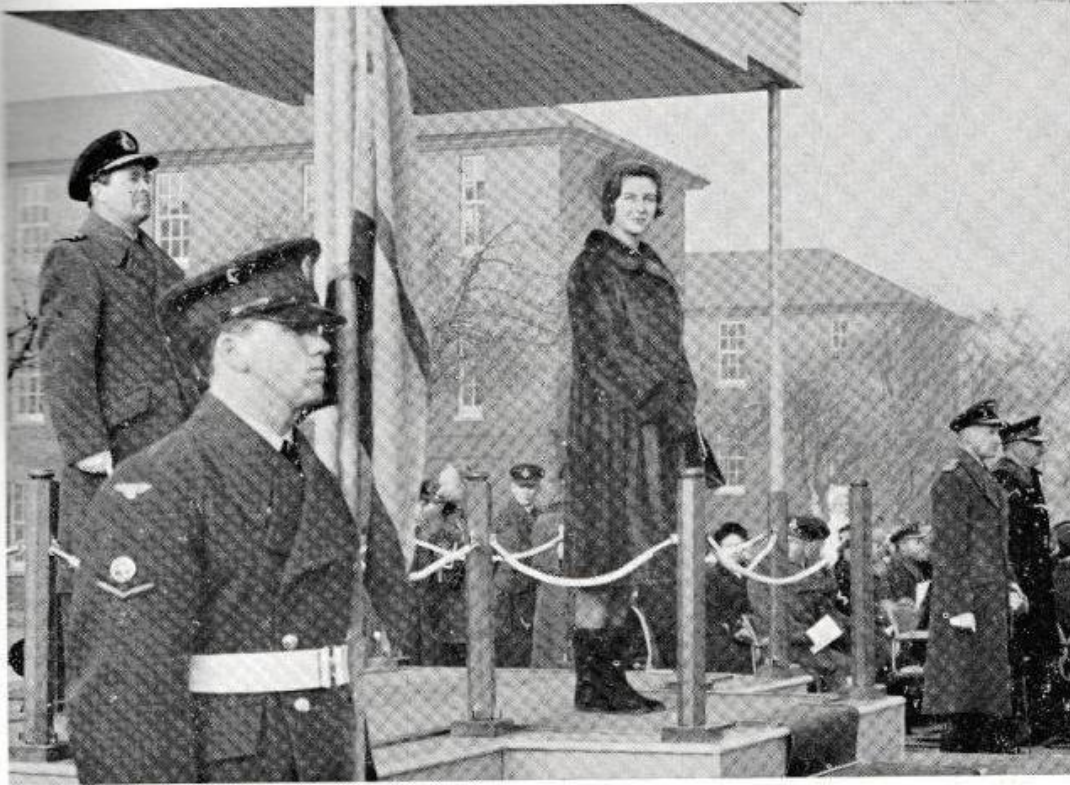
We are aware that this can provide only a partial coverage, but we do ask those of you who have appropriate 'snippets' for inclusion in this section—special appointments, re-unions, participation in outstanding occasions etc.—to forward them to us.

It has been decided to 'regularise' the period of time covered by the Notes in the Halton Magazine. In future Apprentice Wing Notes, Tech. Wing Notes, School Notes etc., and the sections on Apprentice Sport and Station Sport, will cover the term prior to that of publication. It is realised that there will be a consequent loss of what television critics term 'immediacy', even allowing for the fact that the inevitable delays of printing and publication make our very latest copy several weeks old. We hope that there will be more important gains from this change—principally a more complete coverage of events, for it now often happens that events of the last weeks of term—with the unfailing exception of the Passing-Out Parades—go unrecorded in the magazine.

This issue of the Halton magazine contains several articles in reminiscent vein. One implies that a great deal of the station remains unchanged. This may still well be true, but it is also certain that one of the constant things at Halton is change. The latest innovation is a course of foreign officer-cadets, which previously was located at Royal Air Force Henlow. We intend to say more about this in an article in our next issue.

Meanwhile the inexorable progress of the machine—and also, we hope, of its passengers—continues.





PASSING OUT OF 100th ENTRY

On Wednesday, 16th December, 1964, Halton was honoured by the visit of Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, the Honourable Mrs. Angus Ogilvy, on the occasion of the Passing Out of 100th Entry. Her Royal Highness reviewed the Parade and afterwards made a tour of the station.

Her Royal Highness was accompanied by Air Marshal Sir Donald R. Evans, K.B.E., C.B., D.F.C., Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Technical Training Command, Air Vice Marshal J. K. Rotherham, C.B., O.B.E., Air Officer Commanding No. 24 Group, Brigadier Sir Henry Floyd, Bart., C.B., C.B.E., Her Majesty's Lieutenant for the County of Buckingham and Air Commodore D. M. Strong, C.B., A.F.C., Commandant of No. 1 School of Technical Training.

The Parade was commanded by Flight Sergeant Aircraft Apprentice A. K. Fletcher of the Senior Entry. The 100th and 101st Entries were on parade, supported by the Brass and Pipe Bands.

Parade Detail

Parade Adjutant	Cpl.App. D. M. Shannon
Parade Warrant Officer	Cpl.App. M. S. Brooks
Colour Bearer	Sgt.App. L. J. Marshall
Colour Warrant Officer	Cpl.App. P. R. Sinfield
Colour Escort	Cpl.App. F. M. Snelders
	Cpl.App. H. T. Morgan
Colour Orderly	Air App. K. W. Worsley
Escort Squadron Commander	Sgt.App. J. J. Mather

No. 1 Flight Commander
 Cpl.App. D. M. Lloyd
 No. 2 Flight Commander
 Cpl.App. O. C. Challenger
 No. 2 Squadron Commander
 Sgt.App. A. C. Gutteridge
 No. 1 Flight Commander
 Cpl.App. R. L. Jenkins
 No. 2 Flight Commander
 Cpl.App. J. D. Cunningham
 Standard Bearers Ldg.App. B. A. Hathaway
 Ldg.App. J. D. Credland
 Apprentice i/c Supporting Entry
 Sgt.App. I. J. Brunton
 Band Sergeant Brass Band
 Sgt.App. G. Davis
 Drum Major Brass Band
 Air.App. L. Livings
 Pipe Major Pipe Band
 Ldg.App. J. Glencross

Drum Major Pipe Band

Ldg.App. R. T. E. Ruddle

The Parade received Her Royal Highness with a Royal Salute. Thereafter followed the inspection of the three squadrons, during which Her Royal Highness spoke to many Apprentices. The Senior Entry then marched past in column of flights, re-formed and marched past in close column of flights. After re-forming on the Receiving Base the Senior Entry advanced in Review Order and gave the Royal Salute.

The Parade was witnessed by a large crowd of parents, staff, and many Old Haltonians, including forty officers of Group Captain and Air Rank, and special guests.

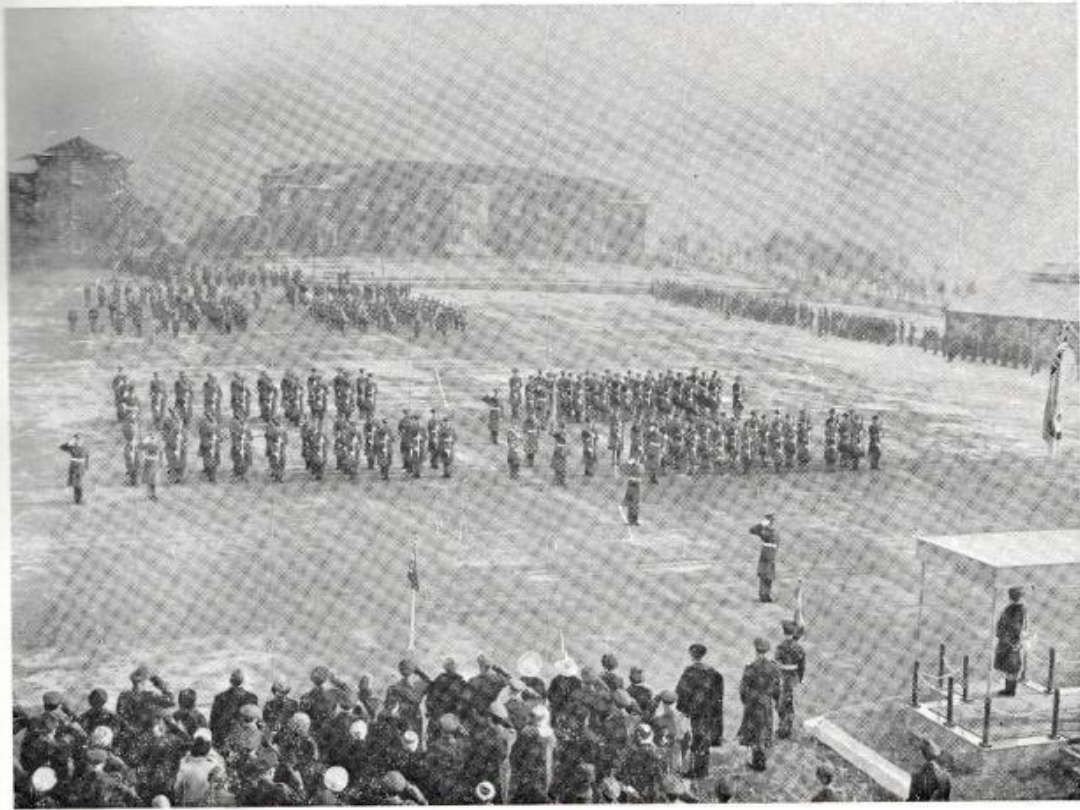
After the Parade W.O. Baker, the Station Warrant Officer, was presented to Her Royal Highness.



Sergeants' Mess 'Special Guest'



Sergeants' Mess 'Special Member'



(Photo by permission of Camp Studios, Wendover)
Royal Salute and Inspection of the Pipe Band



Her Royal Highness then drove to the Dental Training Establishment, where the Officer Commanding, Gp. Capt. P. O. Wilson, gave a short account of the function of the unit and then conducted Her Royal Highness on a tour of the Dental Hygiene Clinic. She saw Dental Hygienist trainees receiving instruction at progressive stages of their training and met members of the Staff.

Her Royal Highness proceeded to the New Workshops, where the Senior Training Officer, Gp. Capt. R. C. Fordham, C.B.E., explained the training undertaken and showed some aspects of the technical training done by apprentices in the airframe and engine trades.

Her Royal Highness returned to the Burnett Gymnasium for the Prize-giving ceremony.



Instructor Junior Technician (W.) Veasey demonstrates to Her Royal Highness and to Leading Aircraftwoman Hamer—Dental Hygienist under training of No. 54 Entry—the use of dental instruments on a 'phantom head'.



Corporal Aircraft Apprentice Smith of 102nd Entry, using a P.G.O. 3 pneumatic rivetting gun, demonstrates how a flush repair patch is inserted in a Javelin aileron.

The Commandant's Report

The Commandant first welcomed the guests, saying — 'Your Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, Ladies and Gentlemen— It is with great pleasure that we welcome Your Royal Highness to Halton today. The Passing Out of the 100th Entry of Apprentices from this School, founded by Lord Trenchard in 1920, is in itself a memorable occasion, but it will remain memorable for all of us here today by the honour you have done us in consenting to review the Parade and to present the prizes.

I welcome also with great pleasure the many ex-Apprentices who have returned to Halton

as our guests for the day. I hope they will enjoy re-visiting the School and although they will never admit that it is as good now as when they were here, perhaps they will at least concede that the 100th Entry are their worthy successors.

I would also like to say a word of welcome to parents. I am sure many of you will have visited the School before, but today sees the culmination of your son's Halton training. We all realise here that your help and encouragement has made an important contribution to the successful completion of his apprenticeship. Therefore, I welcome you all and thank you all.

Review of 100th Entry

Now I turn to my report on the 100th Entry. They began training at Halton in February 1962 with a strength of 165, of which four were members of the Royal Rhodesian Air Force. Since then the Entry has gained three Apprentices who were re-coursed from earlier Entries, and lost twenty, making the present strength 148. Sixteen have been lost to the Royal Air Force, by discharge on medical grounds, by purchase or as unsuitable for training; one was unfortunately killed in a motor cycle accident. Three Apprentices were transferred to a lower level of training elsewhere and one was re-coursed to a later Entry.

Technical Training

148 Apprentices of the 100th Entry were presented for the Final Trade Test examination and, with one exception, all qualified as Junior Technicians. The average mark achieved was 70.0% which maintains the high standard set by previous intakes.

Education Training

On the Education side the basic requirement for an apprenticeship is the Final Examination in Educational subjects. Success in this examination gives exemption from the R.A.F. Education tests for promotion to Corporal and Sergeant. 148 Technical Apprentices took this examination and achieved an average mark of 61%; 25 of them gained class 'A' passes. The results of the four Rhodesian Apprentices are included in these figures; they all obtained good passes.

Apprentices who were considered to have the necessary ability were given an advanced course in Educational subjects leading to the award of an Ordinary National Certificate; altogether 40 members of the Entry qualified for this certificate which is awarded by the Institute of Mechanical and Electrical Engineers and is nationally recognised.

Entirely voluntarily, 107 Apprentices entered for one or more subjects for the General Certificate of Education at Ordinary Level; out of 285 subject entries there were 185 subject passes, giving a good pass rate of 65%. The extra study needed to prepare for these examinations was done by candidates in their own time. In addition, two candidates gained certificates at Advanced level.

Once again entirely voluntarily, and to gain extra technical qualifications recognised in civilian life, 59 Technical Apprentices entered

for the City and Guilds of London Institute examinations; of this number 49 were successful. This National Examination was taken by more than 200,000 men in 1963 with a pass rate of 62%; the Halton Apprentice pass rate of 49 out of 59, or 83%, is therefore very good indeed.

Most members of the 100th Entry have therefore made good use of the educational opportunities at Halton and have added to their qualifications by voluntary effort.

General Service Training

The third main part of the Halton Apprenticeship is concerned with General Service Training. This is designed to produce young men who are fit to be members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces, to become leaders, non-commissioned officers in the Royal Air Force. It is therefore concerned with developing character, physical fitness, qualities of leadership and comradeship. Sport, drill and life in the Wing are the important features here.

In the field of sport the Entry has an average overall record but also a number of good individual performers. Hughes and Wallis have represented Technical Training Command at athletics and were 3rd and 4th respectively in their individual events at the Inter-Command Junior Athletic Championships this year. Hughes is also a member of the R.A.F. Water Polo team, and Cunningham captained the R.A.F. Junior Water Polo team in the Inter-Services match this year. Hathaway is a member of the R.A.F. Colts Rugby team and was awarded his R.A.F. Junior Rugby Colours. He has also represented Technical Training Command at Boxing. Wilkins is a member of the R.A.F. Junior Basketball team, and Creasey came second in the R.A.F. Go-Kart Championships this year. Apart from these successes the Entry has gained 70 school colours. Twenty-one members of the Entry have had gliding instruction, and eleven have made solo flights. Gill has obtained his silver 'C' certificate, and five Apprentices have obtained 'C' certificates for gliding. In the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, Hulse has gained a gold award and seven other members of the Entry have gained silver awards. In July 1963 two members of the Entry—Marshall and Parker—were included in the annual exchange visit to the

French Air Force Apprentice School at Rochefort.

The Entry has reached a good standard in drill. On the four State Visits at which this school has supplied the R.A.F. route-lining contingent, four of the 13 flights were manned by the 100th Entry.

Bandsmen of the Entry have played a large part in the engagements of the Apprentice Bands. They have performed at two Royal Tournaments, the Bath Tattoo, the Lord Mayor's Show in London, and the Remembrance Sunday Parade at the Cenotaph. Band members of the Entry have won the Silver Side Drum five times. Altogether 13 are members of the Pipe Band, three of the Brass Band and seven of the Corps of Trumpeters.

The Entry has displayed generosity and goodwill on many occasions. Worthy of special mention is the Entry-sponsored OXFAM collection within the Wing which raised the sum of £160. Another commendable gesture is the adoption of Mrs. White, an ex-Halton N.A.A.F.I. Manageress, living in Wendover. Members of the Entry have helped Mrs. White on many occasions by acts of kindness and consideration.

Special Service Attainments

Two Apprentices of the Entry have been selected for Cadetships—Marshall to Cranwell as a cadet in the General Duties Branch as a Pilot, and Wildman to Henlow as a cadet in the Technical Branch. Five other Apprentices have been selected for training leading to Direct Entry Commissions. Gutteridge and Dickens in the General Duties Branch as Pilots, Fletcher and Shannon in the General Duties Branch as Navigators, and Rowntree in the Technical Branch.

Three are passing out as Substantive Corporals and thirty-one, nearly 20% of the Entry, have qualified for accelerated promotion to Corporal.

Conclusion

To conclude my report I would like to say that the 100th Entry have shown satisfactory standards in all aspects of training and life at Halton; they have displayed good spirit and commendable unselfishness; the N.C.O. Apprentices have exercised firm control.

Before I finish I would also like to say a word to the School's staff, Service and Civilian

alike. The Entry and their parents must surely be grateful to you today; so for them and for myself I thank you.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all members of the Entry on successfully completing their training. The name of Halton stands high throughout the Service because of the magnificent contribution your predecessors have made both in war and in peace. You must aim always to live up to this fine tradition, but I must stress that your future progress depends entirely on your own efforts. Your training has been good, but only you as individuals can make the best use of it when you leave here. I wish success and happiness to you all.

That concludes my Report. Her Royal Highness has agreed to say a few words to you, after which she will present the prizes.

Her Royal Highness' Address

Thank you very much indeed for your welcome. I am delighted to be with you for the Passing Out of the 100th Entry of Apprentices, and would like to congratulate you all on the very impressive parade we witnessed this morning. Your smartness and fine bearing represent, I know, many hours of practice and considerable effort on the part of yourselves and your instructors.

Since No. 1 School of Technical Training was founded here 44 years ago everyone in these islands has had good cause to be profoundly grateful for Lord Trenchard's foresight in ensuring that the Royal Air Force could rely on a constant supply of highly skilled craftsmen and tradesmen. This foresight was to prove invaluable during the war years when, as never before, the effectiveness of the Air Force and, indeed, its ability to operate at all, depended so much on the efficiency and the resourcefulness of those who were responsible for the maintenance and repair of aeroplanes, often under the most adverse conditions.

You, who are Passing Out today, will no doubt have gained, during your years here, some idea of what will be required of you in the future. As the complexities of modern flying increase so, too, do the challenges that will confront you in your careers. Your response to these will not depend solely on the measure of your technical skill and ability, but will depend, too, to a large extent on your character and your self reliance. To give of

your best your proficiency must be matched with courage and initiative, and your knowledge with imagination and with common sense.

I would now like to congratulate you most warmly, not only the prize-winners but also everyone of you who have been members of this Entry. From your Commandant's Report you would appear to have made the most of the opportunities offered to you here and to

have taken part in a wide range of activities. Wherever your careers may take you I am sure that the high reputation of Halton will be maintained. May God bless you all.

There followed the distribution of prizes by Her Royal Highness to the Prize Winners listed below.

After the Prize-giving ceremony S.A.C.W. J. Good presented Her Royal Highness with a bouquet of pink and white carnations.

100th ENTRY—PRIZE WINNERS

CADETSHIPS

Sgt.App. L. J. Marshall General Duties (Pilot) Branch
Ldg.App. J. C. Wildman Technical Branch

COMMISSIONS

F.S.App. A. K. Fletcher General Duties (Navigator) Branch
Sgt.App. A. C. Gutteridge General Duties (Pilot) Branch
Cpl.App. D. M. Shannon General Duties (Navigator) Branch
Ldg.App. J. S. Dickens General Duties (Pilot) Branch
Ldg.App. M. P. Rowntree Technical Branch

WINNERS OF ROYAL AIR FORCE PRIZES—100th ENTRY

Highest in Order of Merit, All Subjects

Ldg.App. J. C. Wildman

Highest in Order of Merit, Educational Subjects

First Prize: Ldg.App. J. C. Wildman

Second Prize: Ldg.App. M. J. Bean

Best "Set Task" General Studies

Air.App. B. M. Chamberlain

Highest in Order of Merit, General Service Efficiency

First Prize: Ldg.App. C. J. Gill

Second Prize: Sgt.App. J. J. Mather

Highest Average for Practical Fitting over Three-Year Course

Air.App. W. H. C. Lamb

Best Tradesmen in Trade Standards Trade Test

Airframe Fitter Ldg.App. J. C. Wildman
Electrical Fitter (Air) Ldg.App. M. P. Rowntree
Engine Fitter Cpl.App. F. M. Snelders
Instrument Fitter (Gen.) Air.App. C. F. Low
Instrument Fitter (Nav.) Ldg.App. E. J. Meighen

Commandant's Prize

F.S.App. A. K. Fletcher

WINNERS OF SPECIAL PRIZES—100th ENTRY

Monsignor Beauchamp Memorial Prize

The late Monsignor Beauchamp was Principal Roman Catholic Chaplain for the Royal Air Force and for almost 20 years Roman Catholic Chaplain at Halton. On his death a fund was raised to provide among other presentations a book prize to the best all round Apprentice passing out with each Entry.

Winner—Ldg.App. J. C. Wildman

Pioneer Trophy

Presented by the Royal Flying Corps and Royal Naval Air Service Ex-Boys Association to the Apprentice who obtains the highest marks in all technical training subjects at the final examination of each Entry.

Winner—Ldg.App. J. C. Wildman

Crebbin-Robinson Cups

At the 1936 Model Engineering Exhibition held in London certain examples of basic exercises carried out by Apprentices at Halton were on display. These exhibits were admired by a Dr. Robinson and a Mr. Crebbin who kindly offered a Cup for the best Trade Standards Practical Fitting Test at the Final examinations of each Entry. In December, 1960, a second Cup was provided from School funds. One Cup is now awarded for the best Trade Standards Practical Fitting Test in Mechanical Trades and the other for the best Trade Standards Practical Fitting Test in Electrical and Instrument Trades.

Winner—Mechanical Trades:

Ldg.App. M. J. Bean

Winner—Electrical and Instrument Trades:

Ldg.App. J. D. Credland

Elliott Memorial Prize

Mr. R. D. Elliott was Sir Alan Cobham's ground engineer during his many flights to India and South Africa in the early 1920's. In 1926 Mr. Elliott was killed during the first England to Australia flight. In 1927 a Memorial Prize was awarded by the Royal Aeronautical Society to be presented to the Apprentice who gained the highest marks in English and General Studies at the final examinations of each Entry.

Winner—Sgt.App. L. J. Marshall

Quinton Memorial Trophy

On 13th August, 1951, Flight Lieutenant J. A. Quinton sacrificed his life in saving an A.T.C. Cadet when both were flying in an aircraft which was involved in a mid-air collision. For this supreme act of gallantry Flight Lieutenant Quinton was posthumously awarded the "George Cross". As a mark of esteem all A.T.C. Cadets at that time subscribed one penny per head so that the Quinton Memorial Trophy and replica could be presented to the best all round ex-A.T.C. Cadet passing out with each Entry at Halton.

Winner—Ldg.App. G. O. Burton





Group Captain R. C. Fordham, C.B.E., explains to Her Royal Highness the intricacies of an ejection seat. 'In the chair is Aircraft Apprentice Hillan, 101st Entry.

Luncheon in the Officers' Mess was preceded by a reception and presentations. After lunch those Apprentices selected for appointment to commissions and their parents were presented to Her Royal Highness.

Her Royal Highness then paid a visit to No. 22 Scarlett Avenue, the married quarter of Cpl. and Mrs. K. Garvey.

The final visit of the tour was to the Airfield Training Squadron. The Senior Training Officer conducted Her Royal Highness

through the hangar, and described some aspects of training done at the airfield by apprentices in their final term.

A Squadron of apprentices lined the route to the airfield exit and presented arms as Her Royal Highness departed by car.

Thus ended a visit which will be long remembered not only for the importance of the occasion, but for the lively interest shown by Princess Alexandra in the work and the personnel of Halton, and for her personal graciousness and charm.

100th ENTRY SPORTS

SCHOOL COLOUR AWARDS

Athletics					
L.A.A.	Hughes, S.	...	...	...	1964
A.A.	Richardson, R. F.	...	...	...	1964
A.A.	Simpson, T. R.	...	...	...	1964
A.A.	Turnbull, T.	...	...	...	1964
A.A.	Wallis, R. K.	...	...	...	1964
Badminton					
A.A.	Dalston, N. S.	...	...	...	1963/64
Basketball					
L.A.A.	Caley, J. L.	...	...	...	1963/64
L.A.A.	Dickens, J. S.	...	...	...	1962/63
A.A.	Jenkins, P. F.	...	...	...	1962/63/64
L.A.A.	Wilkins, A. R. J.	...	...	...	1962/63/64
Boxing					
A.A.	Chambers, B. J. H.	.....	...	...	1963/64
L.A.A.	Hathaway, B. A.	...	...	...	1963/64
C.A.A.	Sinfield, P. R.	...	...	...	1963/64
Canoeing					
C.A.A.	Lloyd, D. M.	...	...	...	1963
Cricket					
A.A.	Blackett, D. J.	...	...	...	1963
Cross Country					
A.A.	Hemes, G. J.	....	...	...	1963/64
A.A.	Willis, R. K.	....	...	...	1963/64
Hockey					
F.S.A.A.	Fletcher, A. K.	....	...	...	1963/64
A.A.	Game, S. G.	....	...	...	1963/64
L.A.A.	Ledsham, T. A.	....	...	...	1963/64
A.A.	Living, D.	....	...	...	1963/64
A.A.	Meakin, G. A.	....	...	...	1963/64
Rugby					
L.A.A.	Foster, L. P.	....	...	...	1963/64
A.A.	Hla, R.	....	...	...	1963/64
S.A.A.	Mather, J. J.	....	...	...	1963/64
C.A.A.	Sinfield, P. R.	....	...	...	1963/64
A.A.	Turnbull, P.	....	...	...	1963/64
Shooting					
L.A.A.	Ayres, P. M.	....	...	...	1962/63/64
A.A.	Creasey, R. E.	....	...	...	1962/63/64
A.A.	Crowe, D. N.	....	...	...	1963/64
A.A.	Paul, C. H.	....	...	...	1962/63/64
L.A.A.	Ruddle, R. T. E.	....	...	...	1962/63/64
Squash					
A.A.	Barnes, B. M.	....	...	...	1963/64
Soccer					
A.A.	Anderson, R. J.	....	...	...	1964
L.A.A.	Dobbs, J. I. C.	....	...	...	1964
Swimming					
C.A.A.	Cunningham, J. D.	....	...	...	1963/64
L.A.A.	Hughes, S.	....	...	...	1964

100th ENTRY POSTING LIST

(In order of merit)

Wildman, J. C.	Technical Cadetship Henlow	Ledsham, T. A.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Snelders, F. M.	Marham	Marshall, L. J.	G.D. (Pilot) Cadetship Cranwell
Bean, M. J.	56 Sqn. Wattisham	Millar, R.	Wyton
Pierce, H. J.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Smith, L. S.	Marham
Lloyd, D. M.	Lyneham	Wallis, R. K.	St. Mawgan
Burton, G. O.	Lyneham	McAlpine, I. H.	2 F.T.S. Syerston
Shannon, D. M.	Direct Entry Commis- sion G.D. Navigator Substantive Corporal	Morton, S. C.	Kinloss
	Direct Entry Commis- sion G.D. Pilot	Icke, A.	56 Sqn. Wattisham
Dickens, J. S.	Lyneham	Bowman, D. J.	S. Rhodesia
Mitchell, C. A.	waddington	Taylor, P. G.	Wittering
Sinfield, P. R.	Substantive Corporal	Morgan, C. S.	19 Sqn. Leconfield
	Marham	Ruddle, R. T. E.	120 Sqn. Kinloss
Meighen, E. J.	Cranwell	Camming, D.	19 Sqn. Leconfield
Warr, P. C.	5 F.T.S. Oakington	French, A. W.	Abington
Ayres, P. M.	S. Rhodesia	Blackett, D. J.	Finningley
Lamb, W. H. C.	Lyneham	Anderson, R. J.	Binbrook
Gill, C. J.	Lyneham	Watt, J. M.	Waddington
Cook, C. A.	Scampton	Baughan, D. C.	Benson
Bieniasz, S. R.	Maraam	Gregory, J. W.	Marham
Challinger, O. C.	Direct Entry Commis- sion Technical	Prior, C. D.	Waddington
Rowntree, M. P.	Scampton	Healey, R. W.	Waddington
	32 M.U. St. Athan	Stephens, W. J.	Waddington
Credland, J. D.	Direct Entry Commis- sion G.D. Pilot	Mather, J. J.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Cunningham, J. D.	Substantive Corporal	Cory, R. A.	S. Rhodesia
Gutteridge, A. C.	2 A.S. Hullavington	Dobbs, J. I. C.	232 O.C.U. Gaydon
	1 A.N.S. Stradishall	Saunders, C. C.	Scampton
Heselwood, R.	C.F.S. Little Rissington	Wilkins, A. R. J.	Ballykelly
Brooks, M. S.	Wyton	Simpson, T. R.	Finningley
Hulse, K. G.	3 F.T.S. Leeming	Nordberg, A.	92 Sqn. Scampton
Colclough, S. V. E.	Wittering	Bates, J.	Scampton
Joanstone, J. T.	Wittering	Hawken, J. G. M.	Kinloss
Gough, D. C.	Honington	Creasey, R. E.	Lyneham
Foster, L. P.	Wittering	Barnes, B. M.	3 F.T.S. Leeming
Marshall, R. I.	Wyton	Game, S. G.	2 A.N.S. Hullavington
Mills, E. C.	Scampton	Rann, K. T.	C.F.S. Little Rissington
Hemes, G. J.	Finningley	Lincoln, J. C.	85 Sqn. Binbrook
Mack, A.	Lyneham	Gray, A. I.	College Cranwell
Parker, T.	Lyneham	Hin, R.	226 O.C.U. Coltishall
Nutbrown, B.	Scampton	Hart, F. J.	Finningley
Lisler, G. D.	Lyneham	Goodfellow, B. E.	Scampton
King, E. J.	Scampton	Houden, K.	St. Mawgan
Gentle, R. F.	Cranwell	Noble, J.	Finningley
Low, C. F.	Colerne	French, I. H.	Finningley
Finer, G. B.	Lyneham	Haynes, D. A.	S. Rhodesia
Holloway, T. M.	232 O.C.U. Gaydon	Sodler, J. R.	226 O.C.U. Coltishall
Maidstone, R. G.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Aitken, R. C.	Leconfield
Hughes, S.	226 O.C.U. Coltishall	Morgan, H. T.	Colerne
Daniels, K. A.	85 Sqn. Binbrook	Richardson, R. F.	225 O.C.U. Coltishall
Caley, J. L.	Colerne	Hathaway, B. A.	Wittering
Lee, D. G.	Direct Entry Commis- sion G.D. Navigator	Jenkins, R. L.	Finningley
Flotcher, A. K.		Meakin, G. A.	Lyneham
		Watts, K. G.	St. Mawgan
		Shovelar, R.	Syerston
		Fearon, R. S.	Colerne
		Dalston N. S.	Leconfield

Glencross, J.	74 Sqn. Leuchars	Jenkins, P. F.	Colerne
Carrott, R. A.	Finningley	Jonker, D. N.	Honington
Miller, R. P.	226 O.C.U. Coltishall	Hollings, B. T.	Abingdon
Whitbourn, A. R.	1 F.T.S. Linton-on-Ouse	Webster, R. J.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Living, D.	Scampton	White, L. B.	Scampton
Crowe D. N.	3 F.T.S. Leeming	Green, D. F.	Colerne
Shelley, I. W.	Wittering	Rodger, D. I.	Wittering
Knowles, D. W.	92 Sqn. Leconfield	Bosley, T. S.	C.F.E. Binbrook
O'Brien, D. C. T.	West Raynham	Whitehouse, R. S.	Scampton
Newbon, J.	Church Fenton	Stubbs, P. F.	64 Sqn. Binbrook
Clayton, R. J.	Valley	Bateman, B. E.	242 O.C.U. Thorney
Mitton, D.	19 Sqn. Leconfield		Island
Paul, R.	Lyneham	White, R.	Finningley
Anderson, M.	Wittering	Francis, P. C.	Wyton
Dedman, R. J.	Scampton	Owens, B. A. J.	19 Sqn. Leconfield
Manning, A. C.	Lyneham	Worsley, K. W.	Ballykely
Poll, B. L.	Abingdon	Warwick, M.	56 Sqn. Wattisham
Lane, M. G.	Marham	Lewtey, C. W.	Lyneham
Chamberlain, B. M.	226 O.C.U. Coltishall	Penman, D.	Scampton
Brunger, A. J.	Scampton	Walton, R. H.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Felstead, A. J.	C.F.E. Binbrook	Paul, C. H.	Scampton
Turnbull, P.	Marham		
Blades, V. W.	Scampton		
Langridge, R. B.	Honington		
Thorpe, F. L.	Wittering		

PASSED OUT AS SENIOR AIRCRAFTSMAN :
Chambers, B. J. H. 32 M.U. St. Athan

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TWENTY YEARS ON

by 578469



In the New Workshops. Author on the extreme left.

To return to the scenes of one's youth is often a sad and disillusioning experience. Alien faces greet one where old familiar faces had been expected. Many of the old buildings have disappeared. Those that remain appear to have shrunk in size. The visitor seeking to recapture some essence of his youth is often glad to hurry back to the present day, conscious of the inexorable passage of time.

I returned to Halton during a surprisingly warm and agreeable July which was in sharp contrast with the cold, grey, war-time February day when I had left. It would be idle to pretend that Halton had been deeply aware of my departure. It took such little note of my going that it despatched me into the Air Force proper with the lowest rank that it could possibly bestow upon me, that rank

which no longer features in the list of R.A.F. rankings. However, all that was now forgiven if not forgotten on my part, and I hoped that Halton would be equally magnanimous.

At first glance little seemed to have changed. No. 1 Wing still stood grimly aloof against the backwood of fir plantations. The workshop building still bore, externally, much the same appearance. The New Workshops were still the New Workshops. The schools buildings appeared not to have changed at all. Chestnut Avenue was still a gloomy tunnel even in July. Even the slit trenches alongside Chestnut Avenue remained, partly filled, as mute reminders of wartime preparations. Notable additions to the scene were the two new churches and the Administrative palaces.

But the greatest interest lay in assessing the

modern generation of brats. Would they have gone the Beate way? Would I echo the facile opinion, 'They aren't as good as in our day'? Would Halton have lost its appeal for the better elements of the youth of today?

An excellent opportunity of trying to form such an assessment occurred when a Passing-Out Parade was held soon after my arrival. I realised, sadly and perhaps slightly guiltily, that I recalled little of my entry's Passing-Out Parade and wondered what the present generation had to offer.

The setting was ideal for the ceremony with the sun shining from a cloudless sky. The rows of parents, staff and other spectators, together with the imposing dais, were immediate contrasts with my last view of No. 1 Wing Square. The junior apprentices lining the square added fresh variety.

On the far side of the square the trumpeters herald the beginning of the parade.

Certainly these trumpeters do not suffer by comparison with those of my day. But the approach of the band provides a shock for here is a military band in addition to the pipe band. No sign of the fife players now. This is near sacrilege. Oh, my Wedgwood and my Greener long ago!

The Passing Out Entry and the Support Entry march on to the square. There is a crispness and precision in their movements which augur well for the parade. Little evidence here of any decadence or depressed standards.

The arrival of the Queen's Colour adds an unfamiliar touch of pageantry to the ceremony. Here again the bearing of the colour party evokes an ungrudging admiration. The performance of the Military Band also dispels any lingering feelings of disapproval whilst the pipe band equals or exceeds the standards I had known.



The Halton Band leads U.S. Army Contingents in a wartime 'Wings for Victory' parade at Oxford. Note the fifes.

As the parade proceeds the bearing and deportment of the apprentices maintains the early promise. The Reviewing Officer can surely find little fault with their performance. The approach in Review Order makes a fitting climax to the ceremonial.

Then the parade is over and the graduating entry are marching off the parade ground, which doubtless holds many bitter memories for them, for the last time. The combined bands approach the dais, playing in happy harmony. The Drum Major hurls his mace skywards in one last, magnificent exhibition of his skill. Flashing jewel-like against the deep-blue backcloth the mace arches over and returns safely to hand. The bands counter march and leave the square, together with the

supporting entry.

The Reviewing Officer and other dignitaries depart. From the barrack blocks cheering breaks out as the recently graduated apprentices release pent-up tensions. The spectators move away towards the Burnett gymnasium in preparation for the prize-giving. The barrack square is empty. Another entry has passed through Halton.

And my assessment? Further acquaintance with today's apprentices will be needed to form a final judgment but if this first glimpse is a true pointer then there is little cause for despair. As an 'old boy'—who has since achieved fame outside the Royal Air Force—was heard to remark:—'I'm sure they are a lot smarter than we ever were!'



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Memorial Lecture to be given by the Hon. Alastair Buchan, Director, The Institute of Strategic Studies, on the 3rd May 1965.

Visits

On the 3rd December 1964 a visit was made to Vauxhall Motors Limited, Luton. 30 junior and 5 senior members attended. The party was received and conducted in a most admirable manner. The highlight of the visit was probably seeing the final assembly line producing cars with such regularity, but many will also remember for a long time an infernal machine, classed as an 'electrician's nightmare', which completed over 300 spot welds in the matter of a few seconds. It is of interest that

visits to Vauxhall Motors are so popular that bookings have to be made a year in advance to be certain of acceptance.

In addition to the above mentioned activities Junior members of the Branch arranged an excellent debate on the much discussed 'Concord Project' on 19th November 1964. Two Junior member teams also engaged in a lively Aviation Quiz held on 24th February 1965. There is plenty of scope and every encouragement for Junior members of the Branch to arrange similar activities, including the preparation and delivery of lectureries as competitive entries in the Branch Trophy Competition.

SCHOOL NOTES

Another term has gone by with little but steady hard work to mark its passing. The new 'Honour' apprentices seem to be settling in well whilst their teachers seem to be keeping the customary two weeks ahead of them in the syllabus. The new lads bring problems, of course: Technician or Craft Apprentices with 6 'O' levels do not exactly help 'Sir', but no doubt these problems will sort themselves out before much longer.

The machine has continued to turn out the usual *mélée* of inter, progress and final exams, class tests and the rest of obligatory tests without incident; this, together with Monday evening supervision and 'A' level classes for some, tends to make one feel like a part of a huge sausage machine. Still it only lasts for one tour.

The Autumn term saw the end of the huge civil engineering project behind the school—the laying of one steam duct from the school to Halton House. The duration and number of men on the job would surely have been adequate to lay a major underground railway with little extra support. As it was it took the visit of a royal lady to get the job finished.

Changing to more domestic topics we welcome to our staff Wg.Cdr. Rothwell who replaced Gp.Capt. Duckett just before Christmas. Gp.Capt. Duckett has moved to the

Technical College at Henlow. Another newcomer was Fg.Off. Davis who now makes dreadful concoctions in the Chemistry Lab.

The General Election gave the Common Room banter a real edge for once, views ranging from one spectrum to the other. Typically, the General Studies staff had no idea of the outcome of the election. But one member made a shilling or two out of the result—another well-known officer losing heavily. The moral of all the transactions is, 'You can't trust politicians (or Gandy!)

Just prior to the end of term a party was given by the service members for the civilian staff of the school. By the time the civilian staff arrived their hosts were thoroughly enjoying themselves. However even the more extreme party fiends were kept under reasonable control this time!

Lastly, we report another forthcoming loss. Mr. Payne, the Clerical Officer who has kept his keen Scots eyes on the Trenchard Library for six years, is leaving us on his retirement after a very long career in the Civil Service. Mr. Payne joined us from Andover in 1959, and has put a great deal of hard work into running the Library during his stay here. We would like to wish him well for a happy retirement—we shall miss his Scots accent and thoroughness in the Library.

TECHNICAL TRAINING WING NOTES

AIRFRAME AND PROPULSION WING TRAINING SQUADRON

Our notes for the Christmas Edition didn't somehow get to press, so interested readers may not know, that to make room for the Technical Apprentices in the old shops, the Engine Fitters have moved over into the new shops. Consequently the old work horses, the Fitters and Riggers, are once again side by side in the same Squadron.

The two year Craft Apprentices have been with us a term now and are already catching up with the 3 year boys. Syllabus-wise this does not make for simple planning and the next few terms of double banking will be somewhat hectic.

A list of resident civilian instructors may interest Old Haltonians.

Airframes:— Mr. Berdell, Mr. Angless, Mr. Meycell, Mr. Sparks, Mr. Burrige, Mr. Barratt, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Jones, Mr. London, Mr. Tibborn, Mr. Doel, Mr. Russell.
Propulsion:—Mr. Butterworth, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Archer, Mr. Gomme, Mr. Turner, Mr. Bowers.

One of the interesting features in the term's work was a visit made on 2nd October, 1964, by the 102nd and 106th contingents of Engine Fitters to the Science Museum in South Kensington. They saw and had explained to them the working of the following items:—Heslop Beam Engine of 1795, Parson's Steam Turbine of 1889, Ericsson's Calorific Engine, Petter's Oil Engine of 1912, Ideal Gas Engine of 1892, Hugon's Gas Engine of 1865, Beadmore 585 h.p. Diesel Engine of 1928, 50 h.p. Antoinette Engine of 1907 (the first to power a successful aeroplane flight in the British Isles on October 6th, 1908), 50 h.p. Gnome Rotary Engine of 1908, 600 h.p. Junkers Juno of 1945, the V12 Liberty Engine, the Rolls Merlin of 1943 (used in Spitfires and Hurricanes), the 2,220 h.p. Napier Sabre Engine and the Wright Brothers' plane. And still there were complaints that time had not allowed 'the exploration of every engine possibility!'

ELECTRICAL TRAINING FLIGHT

The wind of change has reached us with the same success here as the 100th Entry, to

Apprentices, the 201st. We welcome them to our tutorial halls and hope they will enjoy the same success here as the 100th Entry, to whom our congratulations go on a 100% pass in their final T.S.T.S. examinations. The hand on the Squadron helm has changed with the retirement of Sqn.Ldr. K. Davies and the arrival of Sqn.Ldr. M. Lowry. To Sqn.Ldr. Davies we wish a pleasant retirement and to Sqn.Ldr. Lowry, we hope that the Chiltern winter will not prove too cold. While on the subject of sun, Cpls. Chechets and Harrison are wintering in it at Borneo and Masirah respectively. We wish them well. Sgt. Shopland showed a preference for C.S.D.E. and departed for Swanton Morley, while Sgt. Stevens returned to 'civy' street. We wish them both every success in their new ventures. We bid welcome to Sgts. Naguar and Newbold and hope that their tour here will be a pleasant one.

Changes in training have meant much re-organisation, but the machinery is at present running smoothly and we look forward to a new term with every hope for past success to be repeated. The term was finally wound up with a very pleasant evening's enjoyment of the usual Christmas festivities at the Bull in Aylesbury.

AIRFIELD TRAINING SQUADRON

With the passing of the Summer and Autumn period of 1964 and with it the 100th Entry, Airfield Training can return to normal programme.

The summer term is the one most appreciated by Apprentices and the Staff of Airfield Training Squadron with the opportunities for working in the fresh air. This stage, at which the different trades learn to work together for the first time, is made a lot easier with the congenial weather conditions keeping everybody in a happy frame of mind.

The arrival of the second Vulcan on the airfield in August caused quite a stir; the eventual landing proved to be something of an anti-climax when it was seen that the landing run was well within the airfield length. This was a good illustration of the value of the prior survey, carried out by the crew,

and typical operational planning. There are still some doubting Thomases in Bomber Command who were surprised when they heard the landing had been carried out successfully.

Airfield staff and members of the 101st. Entry had a busy period preparing No. 3 Hangar for the visit of Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra. The hangar decorations, made and erected by the staff, transformed the place completely. After all the effort put in, it was rather disappointing that it was not used. (New prayer mats have been ordered). The prime movers in the decorations were Sgt. Holman, Ch.Tech. Fisher and Cpl. Surrell who are to be congratulated on a job well done.

Her Royal Highness visited No. 2 Hangar, where she saw Apprentices of the 101st Entry engaged in a variety of tasks illustrating the Airfield Training Phase. A number of Apprentices were spoken to—rather awkward for the one strapped in the ejection seat. All in all Her Royal Highness appeared to enjoy herself.

There have been quite a few changes amongst the staff, with the loss of Ch.Tech.

Hanby (Airframes) posted to Thorney Island, Sgt. Harris (Engines) to Seletar, Ch.Tech. McIntyre (Engines) to civvy street and Sgt. Rich (Arm) to recruiting duties in Cardiff.

Additions to the staff include Sgt. Beverly (Elect), Sgts. Galloway and Metcalfe (Inst), Cpl. Stevenson (Engines), Cpl. Thacker (Inst.) and Cpl. Brand (Elect).

We welcome a new Training Officer to the Squadron, Fg.Off. Daniels, an ex-Apprentice (39th), as are so many more of the staff, including the Sqn.Cdr. (16th) and the W.O. (22nd). Future entries be warned! Between them they have heard all the excuses before, and are wise to all the dodges that apprentices think up from time to time.

There is one sad occasion to report—the passing of Buddy Allwright (Civilian Instructor). He was taken ill at work one morning and died in hospital. Our sincere condolences go out to his widow.

Congratulations to Ch.Tech. Bosdet (i/c Electrical Section) on receiving a commendation from the A.O.C. in C. His section is a credit to the Squadron and his 112 volt Bay would be the envy of any operational squadron electrician.

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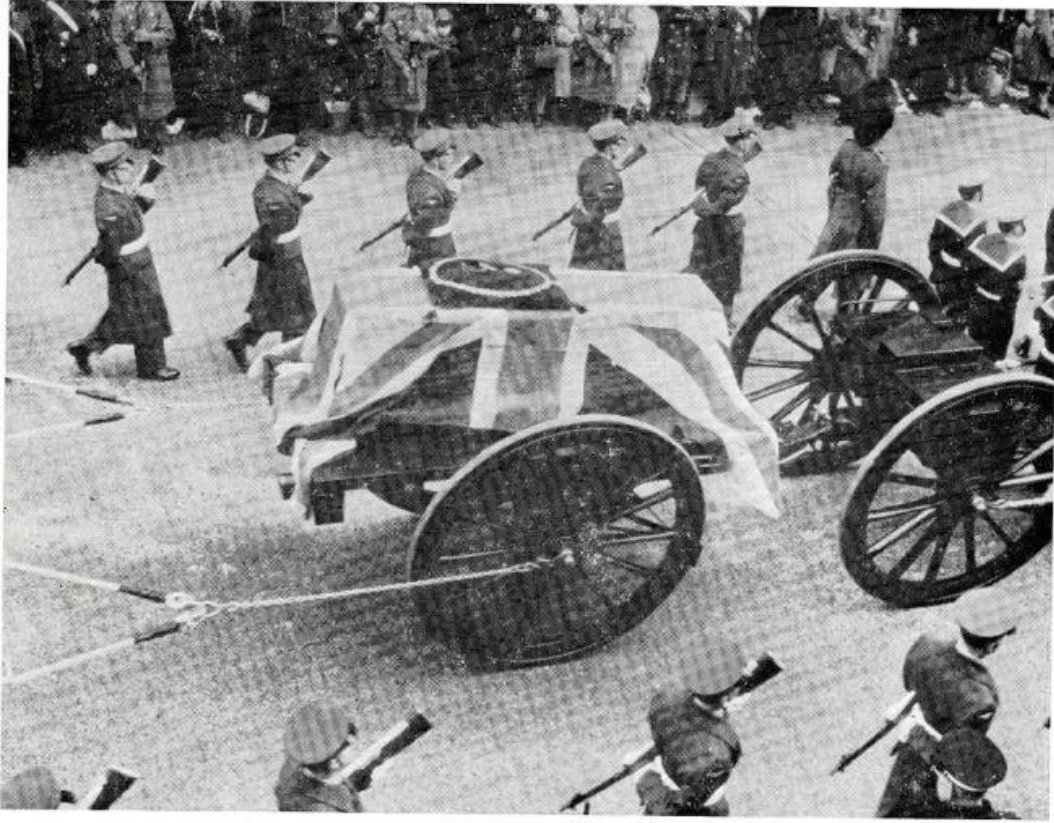
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It was the sad but proud duty of two officers, two non-commissioned officers and twenty apprentices of 104th Entry to form the Royal Air Force Escort at the State Funeral of Sir Winston Churchill.

Another three hundred apprentices provided the Royal Air Force contingent in the funeral procession, whilst members of 102nd and 104th Entries performed route-lining duties.

[Photo by permission of Woodrow Wyatt Newspapers]

APPRENTICE WING NOTES

100th Entry

Details of the Passing Out Parade will have been given elsewhere in this Magazine.

During the term S/A/A Mather organised Bingo Sessions in the Henderson N.A.A.F.I. The proceeds, together with profit from the Entry Dance, were given to the Royal Air Force Escaping Society. A letter of thanks for this donation of £40.12.11 was received from the Society.

Sports and Activities

A/A Creasy took part in the Royal Air Force Go-Kart Championships at Thorney Island and finished second. Much of the credit for this achievement must go to his mechanic.

S/A/As Mather and Sinfield represented the Wing, Schools and the Station at Rugby, and A/As Livings and Game did likewise at Hockey.

L/A/A Gill was selected by the Gliding fraternity to go on a Ridge Soaring Course. L/A/A Hulse obtained his Silver.

Pass-Out Festivities

W.O. Burr, No. 1(A) Wing Catering Officer, made a magnificent three-tiered Cake for 100th Entry Pass Out. It was presented to the Entry at the celebration dinner held in the Bell House, Beaconsfield.

The Entry once again gave their hospitality to Mrs. Mary White. They invited Mrs. White to the Pass-Out Parade and afterwards gave her a Christmas gift of a Ronson Table Lighter and a Gold Watch.

102nd Entry

The Entry appears to be increasingly prosperous, for the numbers of car owners has certainly kept pace with the national trend. Consequently Flt.Lt. Hines suggested the formation of a Car Club, of which he now acts as guiding officer. The aim of the Club is to improve the skills of driving and road-craft, but it is quite possible that further developments will follow. There have been lectures by the the Bucks. County Police, and we hope to give more information of the Club's activities in the next issue of this magazine.

Sport

In the field of sport the Entry enjoys a good reputation. There had been much talk

of a 103rd Entry so-called 'Football team' but such talk was quickly dispelled when towards the end of the Christmas term a reserve team from the 102nd convincingly thrashed them 1-0. Even with the extra school commitment, the Entry is still well represented in numerous activities. C/A/A Locke has done well in pentathlon and also Badminton; C/A/A Dracup is an entrant in the R.A.F. Squash Championship; and both are to be congratulated. The Entry provide most of the Cross Country Runners for the school team (10 out of 12) and have met with considerable success. L/A/A Allen also did well in the R.A.F. Roadwalking Championships. The fencing team have started the season well and most of the team is from the 102nd Entry. The soccer, hockey and rugby teams are also well supplied by 102nd Entry.

Staff

There has been an unparalleled quiet over the Parade Square since the departure of Sgt. (Barney) Meehan. The Entry is genuinely sorry to see him go and would like to wish him well, and to thank him for his valuable contribution to their training. It is interesting to note that as well as enjoying the Salalah sun he will also be able to continue his drilling activities . . . for oil, crude oil. We have also lost another member of the staff, Sgt. McElroy, who has departed from Halton for a similar establishment at Colchester. Although we sincerely wish him the best of luck we hope individually not to see him until his next tour of duty.

On the credit side we welcome Sgt. Ingman who, unfortunately, is well experienced and is well up to our latest tricks. We await the other N.C.O. replacement with baited breath.

The 104th Entry

Sport

The 104th Entry has been well represented in both School and Station sport.

Four members of the Entry were awarded Gold Standards for personal survival swimming at the end of Christmas term. They were A/As Dawson, Horn, Griffiths and Cowin.

Three Apprentices fought in the Sigrist Trophy against R.A.F. Locking. Halton lost the trophy to strong opposition but, neverthe-

less, put up a strong fight, A/A Turner won a notable victory by stopping his opponent in the first round.

No. 1 S. of T.T. Rugby Colts XV were runners up in the Royal Air Force inter-schools competition to Hereford. The team included four members of the 104th Entry. A/As Bonnell, Hooper, Nesbitt and Whitear (Capt). A/A Bonnell plays scrum half for the Royal Air Force Colts XV.

We were also represented by A/As Campbell, Sankey, Spink and Jones, who played soccer for the Station 2nd team.

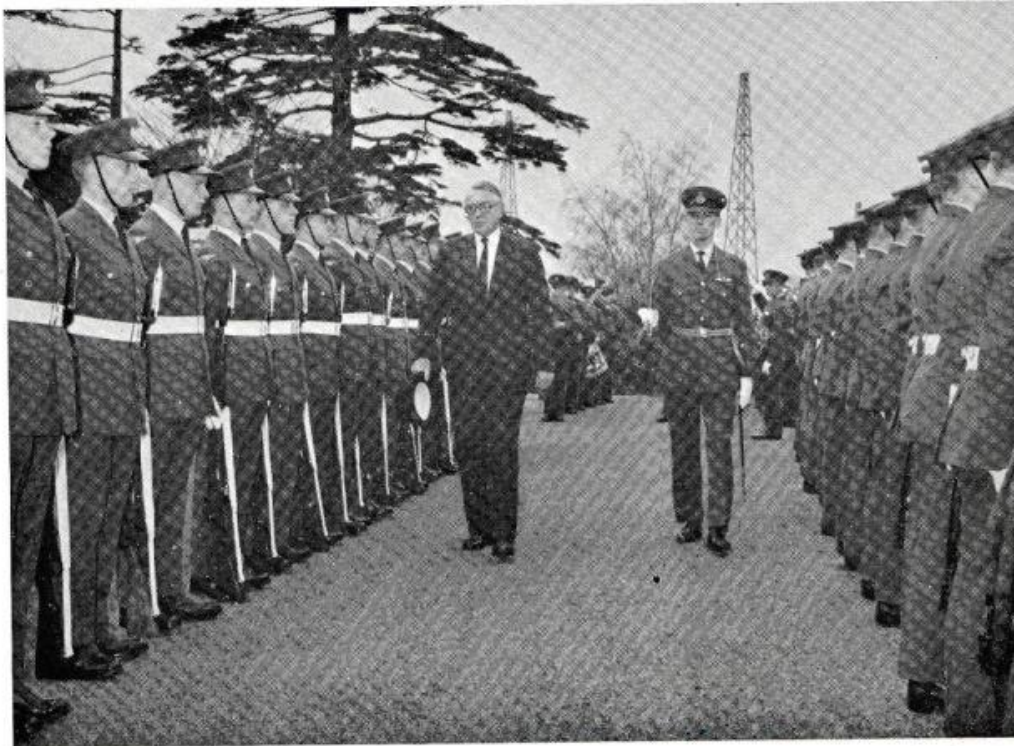
The Entry has shown a competent and enthusiastic attitude towards sport, which augurs well for a high standard at the school for the coming year.

General

Since the end of May 1964, the 104th has provided four Guards of Honour; well in excess of the normal commitment. The Entry has gained a reputation for smartness and reliability on Ceremonial drill. The 104th represented the Royal Air Force at the Battle of Britain parade held at Banbury and provided the Royal Air Force detachment at the Lord Mayor's Show in London during November, an occasion which well rewarded the preparation beforehand. The Entry gained another feather in its cap when selected to provide the route lining contingent on the occasion of the visit by H.R.H. Princess Alexandra to review the Passing Out Parade of the 100th Entry.



The Halton Band and the 104th Entry in the Lord Mayor's Show



Flt.Lt. G. R. Renshaw accompanies Lord Shackleton, Minister of Defence (Royal Air Force), as he inspects a Guard of Honour mounted by 104th Entry. The occasion was the Minister's first official visit to the Royal Air Force, and took place at H.Q. Coastal Command.

Summer Camp

The Entry's Resource and Initiative camp was held in the Llangurig area during September. The weather was exceptionally good and helped to ensure a particularly successful camp. A/As Whitear, Stennett, Stevens and Stear convincingly shattered the record for the three day expedition by completing the course in the remarkable time of 14 hours 29 minutes. Two soccer matches were played against an Army Cadet team from Chepstow, each side winning one.

Shortly before Christmas the Entry spent £116 on provisions for the old and needy of the Aylesbury and Wendover districts. The task of distributing parcels was an extremely gratifying one and it is hoped that a similar operation will be put into action next Christmas. The Entry is most grateful to the 98th Entry who left £58 to be used by the

104th for this charity.

Over the past few months several interesting visits to operational Royal Air Force stations have been made by members of the Entry: a welcome and valuable change from theoretical training.

The first promotions for the Entry were made in December and twelve L/A/As now wear the single chevron. We wish them luck with their task of guiding the 202nd Entry along the straight and narrow path.

2(A) WING

101st Entry

During their penultimate term the 101st Entry achieved considerable success in numerous activities.

At Schools the Entry produced the highest average pass mark in their final examination since that established by the 97th Entry.

L/A/A Maan became the first Apprentice on record to pass Advanced Level G.C.E. in Physics whilst under training.

The Entry carried out successful sorties against the Army and Navy, and became the proud possessors of two cannons for a brief but nevertheless expensive length of time.

The Entry formed the supporting element of the 100th Entry Passing-Out Parade, during the visit of Her Highness Princess Alexandra.

The Squadron lost Sgt. Myers who was posted to the detention centre at Colchester, which might well be termed 'out of the frying pan and into the fire'.

As a replacement for Sgt. Myers the Squadron gained Sgt. Carr, an ex-P.T.I., who is doing a grand job keeping the Entry on their toes.

We wish the 101st Entry every success in their final term.

103rd Entry

The commencement of the Autumn Term saw the arrival of Fg.Off. E. Fox as Deputy Sqn. Commander, replacing Fg.Off. Williams who is now in civilian life in Jersey.

During the term the Entry have had some outstanding successes in sport. The Hockey side, captained by A/A Lewry did very well, winning eleven out of twelve games played. A/A Kay led the 'A' Flight Soccer side to even better things by winning every match played during the term. Station Table Tennis, too, has been influenced by the Entry, three out of the four team members being 103rd Entry men.

In the Bands Competition, L/A/A Bromley and A/A Rattray have held the honour of Silver Trumpet and Silver Piper respectively. It is expected that 1965 will see great things both on the sports field and generally in their work.

201st Entry

The Entry arrived at Halton on 1st September, 1964, and became the first intake of Craft Apprentices to commence training at No. 1 S. of T.T.

Already they are making their presence felt, not only on the playing fields but at Schools and Workshops as well, where they are making steady progress.

Three members of the Entry were transferred to 107th Entry to undergo Technician

Apprentice Training, and it is understood that four more have recently acquired the necessary qualifications for transfer to Technician Apprentice.

The morale of the Entry is high and it is hoped that they will continue to set a fine example for succeeding Craft Apprentice Entries to follow. Good luck to them all.

NO. 3(A) WING NOTES

Although the summer term last year saw quite a number of staff changes on the Wing, during the autumn term there were only two new postings in—Sgt. Hodgson, who went first of all to No. 2 Squadron and is now with No. 3 Squadron, and Sgt. Crimmings, who is at present in Wing Headquarters. We were able to welcome back into the Wing Sgt. Day, who is now recovered from his illness, but unfortunately Sgt. Picken was unable to return.

There is no doubt that last term was a very successful one for the staff on this Wing—indeed, they were showered with honours! First of all mention must be made of the award of the British Empire Medal to Sgt. Cooke of No. 1 Squadron—many congratulations! Before this great event, both Sgt. Buckley and Sgt. Day of No. 1 Squadron were presented with their 'long distance gongs' for 18 years of undetected crime—more congratulations.

It has also been discovered that Sgt. Maxwell of No. 2 Squadron was recently Mentioned in Dispatches for his work in Borneo. There seems to be no doubt that No. 3(A) Wing attracts only the most superior of bodies! Cpl. Ferrier also left us for some weeks to attend a 'scribes' course at Hereford and came back as a fully fledged Secretarial-cum-DI—quite a combination these days—and it is understood that he now hopes to attend a foreign language course.

105th Entry

The steady progress of the 105th towards the ultimate aim of the best Entry ever has proceeded quietly and determinedly since last going to press. Unfortunately, with the re-organisation of the apprentice training, there is no longer, in 3 Wing, any Walk to be Cock of, but if there were, the 105th would surely be it. Not that they need to prove their worth. What is evident requires no proof!

Fourteen Apprentices have now reached the exalted rank of L/A/A. A/As Bills, LeJeune, Webb, Cruse, Cosham, Fisher, Duggan, Thomas, Theobald, Sloss, Joy, Slaney, Pettigrew and Young took the first step in promising careers in the Service. In addition, A/As Goodrum and Denwood rule the band as L/A/A Trumpeter and L/A/A Drum Major respectively.

On the lighter side of Entry activities, much of merit has been achieved. A/A Timbers runs with increasing success and renown for the R.A.F., A/A Dobson plays regularly for the Station XV, A/As Goodrum and McCarthy have played for the R.A.F. Colts at Rugby, with A/A Armstrong as reserve. A/A Collins swam for the Senior R.A.F. Team, while A/As Collins, Sloss and Pettigrew earned their Junior R.A.F. Colours. Still in the same element, Sloss, Pettigrew and Hills represented the Schools at Water Polo and were reserves for the Junior R.A.F. Team.

Modesty—and space—forbids that the 105th's further achievements should be displayed to the envious admiration of lesser Entries. Increasingly dizzy heights of attainment will be announced during the course of the next 18 months.

106th Entry

Although the 105th appear to have a lot to say for themselves in the above paragraphs, there is no doubt that the 106th are setting standards on 3(A) Wing which will soon surpass those set by previous entries. The winter term was highlighted by a very successful parade and Parents' Day to mark the end of a brilliant first year for the 106th Entry. As is usual with the Pass-On Parades for No. 1 Squadron, the weather was very windy but not too cold, but it meant that the Apprentices had to wear chin straps and have feet firmly planted on the parade square to avoid being blown off the parade! Nearly three hundred and fifty parents watched a very successful parade commanded by Sqn.Ldr. J. Mackintosh. The Reviewing Officer was Gp.Capt. R. C. Fordham, C.B.E., who complimented the Entry on their high standard of turnout and drill. Immediately following the parade the parents were entertained in the Wing Club where coffee to a record total value of £16 was consumed, before they were shown around the Wing area, schools

and workshops by their sons, and finally joined the Entry for lunch in the Wing Mess. Judging from the vast number of letters received from parents subsequently, there is no doubt that the day was a great success.

After Parents' Day the Entry quietly got down to doing some excellent charitable work which did not go unnoticed by the local Press. 'B' Flight of the Entry collected £25 and presented it to a Children's Home in Aylesbury, whilst 'A' Flight presented £44.10.0 to the Old Age Pensioners of Wendover. This was a first class show and an excellent thought on the part of all members of this Entry.

The Entry continues to provide new blood to rejuvenate the station sports teams, and probably the most outstanding performance of last term was that put up by A/A Bowden in the B.-K. cross country when he finished first in a very good time of 17 minutes 58 seconds. Congratulations are also in order for A/A Joyner, who was selected as Commandant's Stick Boy for the month of November.

The term was brought to a successful conclusion by the traditional Christmas dinner when the permanent staff waited at table for the Wing. A Christmas Draw was also held and the main after-dinner entertainment took the form of a concert given by the Apprentices, and organised by Sgt. Cooke. As a final contribution to the end of the year, the 106th Entry, together with the 105th, provided Apprentices for square-lining duties on the occasion of the visit of H.R.H. Princess Alexandra on the 16th December.

107th Entry

In October 1964 the 107th Entry arrived 63 strong and became 'C' Flight of No. 1 Squadron in 3(A) Wing. These are the first of the new Technician Apprentices and, as such, have high academic qualifications (an average of 5½ 'O' level passes in the G.C.E. examination). They soon showed, however, that they were capable of more than academic achievements and their standard of drill and turn-out was favourably remarked upon by the O.C. 3(A) Wing, the S.T.O. and the Commandant.

On the sports field T/A Straw was selected to play for the School and the Royal Air Force Colts Rugby Football teams, and T/A George was asked to play for the R.A.F.

Basketball Youth Team—we hope he will be successful. There are many other sportsmen in the entry who are sure to do well over the next few years.

T/A Straw was selected as the 3(A) Wing Commandant's Stick Boy in January, 1965, an honour which is very seldom granted during an apprentice's first term at Halton.

The Entry as a whole have shown considerable kindness to the St. Agathus' Orphanage at Princes Risborough. Just before Christmas the Entry sent a large Christmas tree and a sum of money to help over the holiday, a gift which was very gratefully received by the children. T/A Watkins also gave a Scalextric Racing Set which was a very generous gesture on his part, and it is certain that this gift will give hours of pleasure to the orphans at the home.

All in all, the 107th Entry have made a good start and it is certain that they will be worthy of their place in 3(A) Wing.

Wing Sports

The B.-K. competition is now under way and a number of the events have been completed.

Basketball. In the B.-K. competition 3(A) Wing defeated 1 Wing but were beaten by 2 Wing. At the moment 3 Wing provide four members of the Schools Basketball team in A/A Joyner (106), A/A Neo (106), A/A Brown (105) and A/A George (107). The under-18 side comprises mainly 3 Wing personnel, and a special mention should be given to A/As Joyner, George and Brown who have been selected to train with the R.A.F. under 18 Squad. It shows promise for the future when it is understood that at Cosford on 6th February, 1965, a weekend Basketball coaching session is being held for the under 18 R.A.F. team and six Apprentices from 3 Wing have been nominated to attend; these are A/As Joyner, George, Brown, Neo, Bell (106) and Duguid.

Shooting on the Wing is organised by Sgt. Buckley and the B.-K. competition was held on the 27th November. 3 Wing came third and the team consisted of A/As Dommett, Gladman and Lampitt of the 106th Entry and A/As Cook, Yates and Wood of the 105th. A/A Yates had top score.

Fencing. The 3 Wing team competed in the B.-K. competition in November and the results

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