The Haltonian Magazine

92 Edition

Summer 1962

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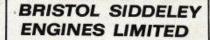
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## **ROYAL VISIT TO AYLESBURY**

6th APRIL 1962



Her Majesty the Queen inspects the Guard of Honour formed by Apprentices of the 97th Entry in Aylesbury Market Square. Her Majesty is accompanied by the Commandant, and by Flight Lieutenant J. D. Spottiswood, who commanded the Guard.

S.

Photograph by courtesy of The Bucks Advertiser Aylesbury

## **EDITORIAL**

The period since our last issue went to press has been eventful for Halton, especially in the way of ceremony: on 22nd March the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Godfrey, laid the Foundation Stone of the new Roman Catholic Church: on 6th April Apprentices of the 97th Entry were privileged to form the Guard of Honour for Her Majesty the Queen when she visited Aylesbury; on 11th April the 96th Entry provided the Guard of Honour when the Air Officer Commanding in Chief, Technical Training Command, Air Marshal Sir Alfred Earle, K.B.E., C.B., visited the Station; the long spring term ended with the graduation ceremony of the 92nd Entry on 18th April. The sun returned after its very long rest to add to the splendour of the spectacle when Halton was given the honour of parading the Queen's Colour for the Royal Air Force on 2nd June.

Halton is justly proud of its Apprentices for the part they played on all these ceremonial occasions. In a message about the Queen's Colour Parade, the Commandant, Air Commodore B. Robinson, C.B.E., made special mention of the exceptionally fine performance of all Apprentices on parade: their turnout, steadiness and bearing were faultless: he had never seen any body of men (Guards included) march past better.

We were delighted that our Spring Issue brought in so much correspondence from Old Haltonians. We were particularly pleased to receive a letter from 'R' (a member of the 2nd Entry) who wrote the poem that formed the first item in the first number of the Halton Magazine. He continued as a kind of poet laureate for the magazine until the outbreak of war and 'closed' the tenth year of publication. In his letter 'R', who still wishes to remain anonymous. regretted the absence of poetry from the Spring issue. He was invited to invoke his muse once more and appeal to our readers of today for verse contributions. We have much pleasure in publishing this appeal, which he produced in a remarkably short time. In the letter which he sent with verses, 'R' mentioned, to quote his own words —with proper humility—that some of his serious work had recently been broadcast by Miss Margaret Rawlings. He also promised to help any young poet who comes forward to answer his appeal.

Where are the bards of the barracks today,-

The singers whose rhythms and rhymes Will snare the new spirit of Youth and portray

The humours and hopes of our times?

The bench and the barrack-room, school and square

Are fraught with a myriad themes Of friendship and frolic and folly. Then where Are the dreamers to give us their dreams,

Or the rhymers to pen-with their visions and skills-

The subtle nuances of life

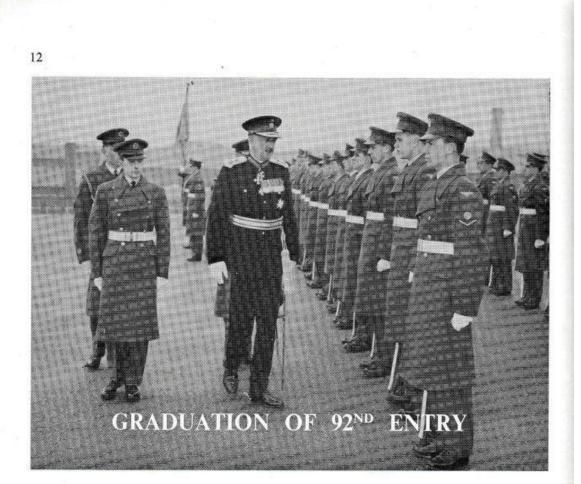
In the quiet and charm of the evergreen hills (With, perhaps, its odd moments of strife!).

These pages, which chronicle Halton, need The leaven of verses from YOU,

So cast off your modesty, poets, and heed This appeal for a stanza or two.

Reminded by the foreword to the first issue, where it is stated that the Boys' Magazine, as it was called, had been instituted with the object of developing literary and artistic talent amongst the Aircraft Apprentices, the Editor appeals for contributions of all kinds from Apprentices.

Once more we say farewell to members of the magazine staff and thank them for their unstinting efforts: Flt.Lt. Pilkington, assistant editor for three years and editor of the last issue; Flt,Lt. Armstrong, photographic editor, who helped so much to raise photographic standards; and Flt.Lt. Bhore, circulation manager.



#### **GRADUATION OF 92nd ENTRY**

The 92nd Entry graduated from Halton on 18th April 1962. It was an unpleasant day with clouds low on the Chilterns and rain falling as the Entry paraded before the Reviewing Officer, Brigadier Sir Henry Floyd Bt., C.B., C.B.E., Her Majesty's Lieutenant of the County of Buckingham.

The Reviewing Officer was accompanied by Air Vice Marshal T. N. Coslett, C.B., O.B.E., Air Officer Commanding No. 24 Group, Air Commodore B. Robinson, C.B.E., Commandant, Gp. Cpt. R. C. Fordham, C.B.E., Senior Training Officer, Gp.Cpt. D. M. B. Pitt, M.B.E., Principal Education Officer, Wg.Cdr. R. J. Palmer, M.B.E., Officer Commanding No. 1 Apprentice Wing, and Wg.Cdr. H. A. J. Mills, Officer Commanding Technical Training Wing.

Among the Official Guests were the Mayor and Mayoress of Aylesbury, Councillor and Mrs. M. Buckingham, and the Town Clerk of Aylesbury, Mr. D. W. Maxwell.

#### **Parade Detail**

Parade Commander W.O. A/A O. W. Epton Parade Adjutant C/A/A Rajit Singh Parade Warrant Officer L/A/A J. F. Laming A/A T. F. Chamberlain er C/A'A A. J. King Colour Bearer Colour Warrant Officer Colour Escort L/A/A V. J. Rice L/A/A N. Rodgers Colour Orderly A/A R. J. Thornton Escort Squadron Commander S/A/A M. C. Winch No. 1 Flight Commander C/A/A G. K. Butters No. 2 Flight Commander

C/A/A D. B. Appleton

No. 2 Squadron Commander

S/A/A R. F. Stigant No. 1 Flight Commander

C/A/A W. M. Williams No. 2 Flight Commander

C/A/A R. T. Ward Standard Bearers

L/A/A J. E. Parsons A/A B. J. Foy

Apprentice i/c Supporting Entry (93rd) S/A/A R. M. Ailward

Drum Major Pipe Band C/A/A R. M. T. Makepeace

Drum Major Brass Band A/A K. Dance

#### **Commandant's Report**

The Commandant warmly welcomed Brigadier Sir Henry Floyd, Her Majesty's Lieutenant of the County, as Reviewing Officer. He briefly outlined Sir Henry's distinguished military career, referring to his service in France in 1918 with the 15th Hussars, and to his appointments between the wars as A.D.C. to the High Commissioner for Egypt and Sudan, and as Equerry to His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester. In the Second World War Sir Henry served in turn with the 15th/19th Hussars, the 8th Armoured Division, and then as Brigadier, General Staff, of the 8th. Corps in Normandy and Holland. In 1944 he became the Chief of Staff of the 8th Army in Italy. Sir Henry is a member of Her Majesty's Bodyguard, of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, and has been Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant since 1957.

The Commandant went on to welcome the many parents present, and thanked them for their interest and co-operation.

In his review of the 92nd Entry he reported that on induction in May 1959, the strength of the Entry was 195. During the three years the Entry's strength fell to 169 by boys being discharged as unsuitable for training, by relegation to junior entries, or by transfer to a lower level of training. Of this total wastage of 26, only 20 have been lost to the Royal Air Force. Those who have graduated are the survivors of an intensive course of training, who have proved themselves fit for service in the Royal Air Force. The demands of the

Service and the rewards it offers are great; it follows that to graduate well a boy has to work hard.

Examining the achievements of the Entry in detail, the Commandant reported that there had been no failures in the final trade test examination; that the Entry achieved the lowest technical training wastage rate, and the highest pass-on-time rate for many years. The Electrical Fitters displayed a marked improvement, compared with recent entries, in skill of hand at the final practical trade test.

In their educational training 13 per cent gained 'A' Class passes (70% or over) and 85 per cent gained 'B' Class passes (40-69%). Ten Apprentices qualified for the Ordinary National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering, and a further nine for the Certificate in Electrical Engineering. In the General Certificate of Education examinations the Entry obtained seven subject passes at Advanced level, and 153 subject passes at Ordinary level. There were 43 successful candidates for Part I and Intermediate examinations of the City and Guilds, including eight First Class passes. Overall the Entry's educational attainment was higher than that of the previous summer entry, and the weaker Apprentices made a notable effort during their third year to reach the qualifying educational standard,

After dealing with the Entry's technical and academic achievements the Commandant stressed the value of a Royal Air Force Apprenticeship in developing body and character. He reported that the Entry's physical development had been good, with a maximum increase in height of 10½ inches, and in weight the incredible figure of 63 pounds. Over the three years the Entry had consumed, among other things 60.750lbs. of meat, 243,000 lbs. of potatoes and 240,000 eggs. The Entry had been particularly generous in its blood donations, and had confounded the old maxim in having got blood out of 467 A/A Stone.

In sport 52 Apprentices represented the School, and 33 School Colours were awarded. In Athletics the Entry formed the backbone of the School team, and L/A/A Snook

represented the Royal Air Force at Cross Country running. In the Ten Tors Expedition in 1961, a national inter-youth 50 mile trek on Dartmoor, the Entry team came second from 160 teams.

At Christmas, 1961, the Entry showed their enterprise and generosity in organising and financing a party for 40 children from local orphanages.

Three members of the Entry attained the Gold Award standard in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, and seven others qualified for silver awards.

One Apprentice was awarded a General Duties Cadetship at Cranwell, and two were selected for Direct Entry Commissions. Five of the Entry passed out as Corporals, 28 will become Corporal Technicians after one year, and 58 after two years.

The Commandant reported that 21 Appren-

tices obtained the Gliding Proficiency Certificate, the highest number yet attained, and that C/A/A Rajit Singh became the first Asian Apprentice to gain the 'A' and 'B' Certificates.

Apprentice to gain the 'A' and 'B' Certificates. In conclusion the Commandant said, 'Congratulations on completing your training successfully. Remember you still have much to learn; build on the knowledge you have acquired here; maintain the high standards and the fine tradition of those who have passed through this School over the past forty years. Good luck, success and happiness to you all.'

#### Address by Reviewing Officer

After presenting the prizes, the Reviewing Officer began his speech to the graduating Entry by congratulating them on the high standard they had shown on parade. He said that he was no stranger to parades, and was





The Prize Winners

much impressed by theirs, which was first class. He praised those on parade for their personal turn-out; he praised their instructors too, and the bands.

Sir Henry emphasized the honour and privilege it was to wear Her Majesty's uniform. He reminded them that they should be conscious at all times of this privilege, and to remember that civilians would judge the Service by the bearing and behaviour of those in uniform.

Secondly he reminded them of the value of discipline, not only in the Service but in all walks of life. 'Readily accept it and make the best of your life in the Service.'

He congratulated the prizewinners, and to those who had not won prizes he said 'Congratulations to you too, provided you have done your best.'

Sir Henry referred to his previous recent

visit to Halton, and said how much he had been impressed by what he had seen, and the high quality of the training. The future of the country lay in quality, not quantity, and they had a high tradition of quality to maintain. He told them that one day the fate of the nation might rest in their hands, as it had done with those who had fought in the Battle of Britain.

'Patriotism is not out of date,' he went on 'provided it is not bombastic. This small island has led the world in everything worth while. Carry on this torch and the heritage that has been handed to you.'

Sir Henry concluded by saying how much he considered it a privilege to be invited to Halton. He hoped that they would remember their happy times in Buckinghamshire, which was proud of its close links with the Royal Air Force, and wished them success in their future careers.

#### CADETSHIP

A Cadetship in the General Duties Branch was awarded to W.O. A/A O. W. EPTON

#### COMMISSIONS

C/A/A G. K. BUTTERS in the Technical Branch S/A/A M. J. JONES in the Equipment Branch

#### SPECIAL PRIZES

MONSIGNOR BEAUCHAMP MEMORIAL PRIZE (for the best all-round apprentice) C/A/A R M. T. MAKEPEACE PIONEER TROPHY (for the highest marks in all technical training subjects) A/A W. LYNCH

CREBBIN-ROBINSON CUPS (for the best Trade Standards Practical Test) Mechanical Trades: L/A/A L. A. S. SCERRI Electrical and Instrument Trades: L/A/A J. F. LAMING ELLIOTT MEMORIAL PRIZE (presented by the Royal Aeronautical Society for the highest marks in English and General Studies) C/A/A G. K. BUTTERS

QUINTON MEMORIAL TROPHY (for the best ex-A.T.C. cadet) A/A G, T, WANT

#### AIR MINISTRY PRIZES

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, ALL SUBJECTS C/A/A R. M. T. MAKEPEACE HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, EDUCATIONAL SUBJECTS First: L/A/A E. G. WADLEY Second: C/A/A R. M. T. MAKEPEACE BEST 'SET TASK' GENERAL STUDIES A/A B. M. COTON HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, GENERAL SERVICE EFFICIENCY First. W.O. A/A O. W. EPTON Second: S/A/A M. J. JONES HIGHEST AVERAGE FOR PRACTICAL FITTING OVER THREE YEAR COURSE . L/A/A J. F. LAMING..

BEST TRADESMEN IN TRADE STANDARDS TRADE TEST

AIRFRAME FITTER 1st	(2,2)	**	(3.8)			C/A/A RAJIT SINGH (R. Malavan A.F.)
AIRFRAME FITTER 2nd	212		2212	222	122	A/A M, JAMES
ARMAMENT FITTER						A/A D. S. MALCOLM
ELECTRICAL FITTER (Air) ENGINE FITTER	* * .	• •	÷.•.			A/A G. T. WANT A/A W. LYNCH
INSTRUMENT FITTER (Gen.)					1	A/A C. SLACK
INSTRUMENT FITTER (Nav.)						A/A B. E. WRIGHT

### 92nd ENTRY—SPORTS SCHOOL COLOUR AWARDS

#### ATHLETICS

A/A B. P. BOOKER		ori '	11	00	έx.			1959-60-61
A/A M. A. EASTE	RBKO	OK,		4.4				1959-60-61
A/A B. M. J. FOY				*(+))	A.A	1.00		1959-60-61
S/A/A M. J. JONES		11	1.1		•••	+ +		1959-60-61
A/A R. A. MARJOI	RAM		14			- x		1959
A/A D. J. ORR				2.4		+ +		1959
L/A/A P. SNOOK	1.1		22		+ + -	* *	· · · ·	1959-60-61
BADMINTON								
C/A/A RAJIT SING (R. Malayan A.F.)	н	A.A.	63	840	3.6	1.0		1959/60-60/61-61/62
(A. manayall A.F.)							- 14	

BASKETBALL							1959/60-60/61-61/62
C/A/A B. M. J. FOY			4.4	1.0	8.9		
L/A/A J. E. PARSONS		2.2	1.1	* *	· + .	1.4	1961/62
AA A. D. SHEWRY	1.22	• •	2.2	+ +			1961/62
BOXING							
A/A M. A. EASTERBROO	K	122	23				1961/62
A/A G. N. SUPPLE							1959/60
nn or m oorraa m	1.4	1083	122		1	10.0	
CYCLING							
A/A T. F. CHAMBERLAII	N			÷ •			1960
L/A/A B. CRESSWELL						+ +	1960/61
CROSS COUNTRY	8						
CROSS COUNTRY C/A/A M. J. APPLEYARI	2						1960/61-61/62
			1.1	1.1			1960/61-61/62
L/A/A M. R. COCKETT,			• •	· · ·	* *	***	1960/61-61/62
L/A/A B. CRESSWELL	3.8		÷.•	• •	* *		1960/61
A/A R. J. HANDEL					+ + -		
S/A/A M. J. JONES	125242		1.27	1.5			1959/60
A/A M. O'BRIEN			4.4	2.2			1961/62
A/A D. J. ORR					1.1		1961/62
L/A/A P. SNOOK	2.2					* *	1959/60-60/61-61/62
C/A/A W. M. WILLIAMS	100				* *		1960/61-61/62
FENCING							
A/A D. S. BYGRAVES							1961/62
L/A/A M. E. LEIGH				• •			1960/61-61/62
	• •			1.2	1.1	10.20	1960/61-61/62
A/A R. A. STEVENSON			• •		• •	1.1	1900/01-01/02
HOCKEY							
L/A/A A. P. MAKIN		**		1.1		100	1961/62
RUGBY							11220000000
S/A/A M. J. JONES	1.2.2						1961/62
SHOOTING							
A/A J. L. SOCKETT		12.2		24			1960/61
AJA J. E. BOCHETT							1900/01
SOCCER							
L/A/A L. W. SMITH				10.4	4.00		1960/61-61/62
A/A J. A. VAUGHAN			1.1				1960/61-61/62
SWIMMING AND WATER	POLO	2					
SWIMMING AND WATER	LOLO	12					
A/A D. S. MALCOLM				44			1961

## 92nd ENTRY POSTING LIST

### (in order of merit)

Makepeace R. M. T.	58 Sqn. Wyton	Wright J.
Butters G. K.	Substantive Corporal Tech.Comm:	Malco'm D. S. Scerri L. A. S.
Butters O. K.	(Supp. List)	Groom J.
	Substantive Corporal	Redhead I.
Want G. T.	617 Sqn. Scampton	Williams W. M.
Wadley E. G.	Waddington	wintains w. st.
Wright B. E.	Germany	Amos P. G.
Tuffin P. E.	242 O.C.U.	Burchett H. C.
Tanna T. K.	Thorney Island	Snook P.
Rajit Singh	Repatriated	Hendry M.
Epton O. W.	Cadetship G.D.	Forster R. D.
Epton O. W.	Substantive Corporal	Taylor F. M.
Wright R. E.	Northolt	Vaughan J. A.
Jacklin D.	Scampton	James M.
Walsh C. P.	617 Sqn. Scampton	Alexander C. H.
Lynch W.	Benson	Parsons J. E.
Rice V. J.	Lyneham	Robinson T. V.
Brown W. H.	Finningley	Stigant R. F.
Jones M. J.	Equipment Comm.	Sugar at at
001100 1.41 01	(Supp. List)	Tate B.
Leader J. R.	Lyneham	Whibley J. A.
Randerson P.	Colerne	Bowdler R. J.
Starling P.	12 Sqn. Coningsby	Lorimer A. B.
Bailey T. G.	Colerne	Morrell A. R.
Cresswell B.	Lyneham	Harris R. H.
Fernando M. R.	Repatriated	Handel R. J.
Slack C.	Scampton	Baker B. J.
Bowles C. J.	C.S.E. Watton	Gash C. T M.
King A. J.	C.F.E. West Raynham	Kitt M. R.
Coll A. M.	C.S.E. Watton	Woolfe D. M.
Munday, B.	207 Sqn. Marham	Stone A. W.
Francis R. A.	West Raynham	Welch P. R.
Flint P. R.	Colerne	Nordberg R.
Winch M. C. W.	Northolt	Jones G. B.

S. S. . M. C. H. M. E. C. V. F.

C.S.E. Watton Wittering Lyneham Lyneham Senson Lyneham Substantive Corporal Abingdon Benson 12 Sqn. Coningsby Kinloss C.S.E. Watton 12 Sqn. Coningsby West Raynham C.S.E. Watton Abingdon Benson Finningley Substantive Corporal Abingdon Honington Wattisham Kinloss 229 O.C.U. Chivenor Abingdon C.S.E. Watton 9 Sqn. Coningsby Colerne Benson 101 Sqn. Waddington Lyneham Lyneham

di.

Smith L. W. J. Williams P. J. Swann R. Munslow J. C. Easterbrook M. A. Cockett M. R. Williams B. A. Sockett J. L. Turnbull R. J. Cochrane K. R. Appleyard M. J. Upton R. A. Lock I. R. Williams M. J. Wakley P. D. Blair J. Jones D. J. Worthy D. K. Ward V. W. Cross V. G. Gooch A. D. Richardson J. M. Bygrave D. S. O'Brien M. J. Welsby C. W. Fenton S. C. Laming J. F. Taylor B. T. Goldsmith D. F. Roberts A. Shewry A. D. Braid D. J. Bainbridge J. E. Whyborn M J. Toomer P. A. Wingfield P. Thompson J. A. Rogers N. Lambert L. Farley A. Diprose A. J. Ward R. T. Pilbeam D. W. Tilbrook G J. Perry R. E. Makin A. P. Price C. P. T. Harris D. J. Joner J. E. Faulkner M. L. Arnold M O. Marjoram R. A. Cunningham W. Yates D. C.

McLanachan I. Munslow C. J. Seal R. J. Bray D. L. Chamberlan T. F. Cooper R. W. W. Coningsby Abingdon Lyneham Lyneham St. Mawgan Benson 2 F.T.S. Syerston Colerne Northolt Leuchars 7 F.T.S. Church Fenton Lyneham Colerne Colerne St. Mawgan Waddington Lyneham Coningsby Leconfield Abingdon Benson Colerne Cyprus Abingdon Honington C.S.E. Watton 229 O.C.U Chivenor Germany C.S.E. Watton Flying College, Manby Lyneham Colerne F.E.A.F. Colerne 111 Sqn. Wattisham Abingdon 29 Sqn. Leuchars Calerne Waterbeach Benson Benson Abingdon Honington Abingdon Lyneham Abingdon Benson Lyneham Lyneham C.F.E. West Raynham Waterbeach Waterbeach Colerne & F.T.S. Swinderby Waddington Germany 242 O.C.U. Thorney Island St. Mawgan Lyneham Wittering Waddington Honington Waddington Lyneham Lyneham

Lawler G. J. Foy B. M. J. Gilkes D. H. Frost M. J. Sensicle R J. Serna P. A. Sellars J. J. Smith H. J. L. Barnsley C. J. Moon A. H. Davey R. F. Philpott W. F. Opperan P. L. S. Pike V. E. S. Douglas G. W. Taylor D. C. Toland J. Wright L. A. Arnold P. C. Harvey W. K. Wallace M. A. Page J. C. S. King P. A. Tondeur R. V. C. Mellor D. G. Grimmer C. R. Jones D. W. Banks D. Dawson K. Cottingham N. J. Appleton D. B. W. Tharnton R. J. Gray G. D. Watt J. Wilkinson R. E. Affleck W. MeC. Pope S. S. O'Dowd P. S. Lake N. B. Wills D. A. Birch P. M. Schmocker F. A. T. M. Self J. L. Craggs B. McKerron B. Greetham T. A. Harvey A. The following Appr

Leuchars Abingdon Wittering Lyneham C. S. E. Watton 242 O.C.U. Thorney Island Wittering Lyneham Leuchars 231 O.C.U. Bassingbourn 242 O.C.U. Thorney Island Lyneham Wittering Colerne 12 Sqn. Coningsby Lyneham C.S.E. Watton Lyneham St. Mawgan Wittering Waterbeach Northolt C.S.E. Watton Lyneham Wittering C.S.E. Watton Waterbeach 9 Sqn. Coningsby Wattisham 12 Sqn. Coningsby Wattishall Wittering C.F.S. Little Rissington Benson Kinloss Lyneham Coningsby Colerne Lyneham Materbeach Supena C.S.E. Watton Benson Kinloss Lyneham C.S.E. Watton Watdington Abingdon Lyneham

The following Apprentices Graduated as Senior Aircraftman in the Advanced Trade

Heald J. Hollands T. D. McCartney G. D. Booker B. P. Supple G N. Leigh M. E. Orr D. J. Stevenson R. A.

Colerne Lyneham 242 O.C.U. Thorney Island Leconfield 101 Sqn. Waddington 74 Sqn. Coltishall F.E.A.F. 64 Sqn. Waterbeach

## SCHOOL NOTES

At first sight there would appear to be little to comment upon, schoolwise, this term. It was unimportant, perhaps, except for those of the 94th Entry (or rather the XCIV Entry) whose last school term it was, and the 101st Entry, who began their first one. Important changes are, however, discernible on the teaching side, particularly with reference to visual aids. The most important of these, but not as yet copyrighted by the energetic and forward-looking Flying Officer concerned, are the 'Magnilog Tables'. These comprise a set of normal log tables magnified up to 50 or so times and attached to the blackboard so that the whole class, or as many as are interested or awake, can follow the ensuing tricky logarithmic manipulations. Naturally, some difficulties have arisen in the use of the 'Magnilog Tables', not the least of which is the effective reduction to only three figures of the normal four figure tables. Briefly, this is understood to be due to the fact that, because of the magnification employed, the uncertainty in the last figure of the logarithms is also greatly increased, thereby rather setting a limit to their usefulness for computational purposes. Moreover should it ever happen that Apprentices are admitted to Halton without previous knowledge of logarithms, the 'Magnilog Tables' would undoubtedly be a valuable teaching aid.

The Common Room members, usually an unemotional bunch, have been hard put recently when daily confronted by obvious signs of dire poverty of a much beloved and respected colleague. To see him forced to deny himself the more substantial and rightful bacon and egg breakfast, now reserved for the family, and have to be content with crusty buttered toast at 10 o'clock drives us to want to weep across the bonnet of his new estate car. Tears may also be shed for Fg.Offs. Allen, Goodfellow and Simpson, married during this term. They were good chaps! Our congratulations to them and their ladies. It can be revealed that Frank Allen's decision to get married in term time was due solely to the fortunate availability of a married quarter.

Fg.Off. Hockaday retired from running the Common Room tea swindle, and entered the used car business in his spare time. His place has been taken by Fg.Off. Jones, who quickly applied his expert knowledge of economics and personnel management to this obviously profitable business venture. We expect him to change his Mini for a Jag any day.

On May 21st, of his own accord, an Apprentice was seen to put an empty cigarette packet into a dustbin, and a dog-end in his pocket while outside the School. The Air Officer Commanding inspected the School on May 22nd.

Education Officers joined parties of Apprentices on visits to operational stations during the term. One officer is still feeling the effects of negative 'g'. We expect him to resume teaching soon.

As usual there has been a 'grand change' among the education staff this term. Wg.Cdr. A. T. Mathews, who had been Senior Education Officer on the Engines and Airframes side, left to take up his new post as Education Officer at Signals Command Command. The English and General Studies Department suffered heavily, losing in quick succession Flt.Lt. Armstrong to Cyprus, Flt.Lt. Probyn to Fontainebleau, and Flt.Lt. Pilkington to the Stock Exchange. Fg.Offs. Jenkin and Harris left the Maths. Dept.; Mr. Jenkin is now Education Officer at G.E.C., while Mr. Harris returned to his previous job in local government. The Aerodynamics Dept. said farewell to Flt.Lt. Bhore, posted to the School of Education, and to Fg.Off. Cooper, Germany bound in a civilian capacity, and welcomed in replacement Flt.Lt. Dive, formerly a Fighter Controller. The inseparables, Fg.Offs. Sharp and Booth, also returned to civilian life. Additional arrivals were Mr. Stewart from Aylesbury Technical College, Mr. Brookes, and Mr. Wright. We extend a warm welcome to all new colleagues and wish bon voyage and good luck to those who have left.

Summer term saw once again 'the flannelled fools at the wicket' and the Educators' team got off to a flying start with resounding wins in their first three games against the 97th, D.T.E. and I.P.T.M. Alec Duncan and Frank Allen immediately struck their best form and were largely responsible for the team's success. They were ably assisted by Dave Bryett and Geoff Findlay, who appear to have played the game before, and the intrepid captaincy of Hugh Probyn. In the second match Geoff Findlay performed the remarkable feat of two hat-tricks in an innings, all bowled. (Wisden and Australian papers please copy). Last season our team reached the final. We expect better things this year. After all our rugger enthusiasts did win the Station Sevens.

## WING NOTES

#### NO. 1 (A) WING

The 92nd Entry have now graduated and dispersed to various Royal Air Force Units. The details of this achievement will be found elsewhere in this Magazine. They had the misfortune to graduate on a shockingly cold, wet morning, but they put on an excellent Graduation Parade. The entire Entry, its guests and the large number of parents and relations who braved the weather to watch the parade deserve great credit, and we wish the Entry good luck in the future.

We take this opportunity to welcome No. 98 Entry to the Wing and express the pious hope that they will settle in happily in the Wing, despite the fact that their arrival coincided with the preparations for A.O.C.'s Annual Inspection, Trooping the Queen's Colour, and the modernisation of the Barrack Blocks.

The Wing staff said goodbye to Wg.Cdr. and Mrs. Palmer in mid-May, when they were the staff guests at a farewell dinner. We hope they are now happily settled in Malta. We welcome Wg.Cdr. and Mrs. A. G. White, who have arrived from Royal Air Force, Honington, where the Wg.Cdr. was O.C. Armament Squadron. Fg.Off. E. J. Walter has been posted to Hong Kong, where he takes up the appointment of P.A. to the A.O.C. Fg.Off. Allen has been posted to Manby, and Flt.Lt. Dymond has left to undergo a series of flying courses prior to posting for a tour of operational duty with No. 8 Squadron in Aden. We thank these officers for the work they carried out at Halton and wish them and their families the very best of good luck in their new appointments.

Fg.Off. C. Rainbow has joined No. 1 Squadron from Royal Air Force, Cottesmore, and Plt.Off. H. V. Aldridge has arrived in No. 3 Squadron from the Central Communication Centre, Stanbridge. We know they will have a busy tour of duty at Halton and we welcome them to the Wing.

We congratulate Sqn.Ldr. McGrath, who was selected by the Amateur Boxing Association to act as Neutral Judge in the Wales versus Holland International Tournament, and also to judge the recent A.B.A. Senior Finals at Wembley. Sqn.Ldr. McGrath will be retiring from the Service during the Summer leave period, having completed three tours of duty at Halton. An ex-19th Entry Apprentice, he was Officer Commanding the Armament Training Squadron at Halton from 1952 to



Guard of Honour formed by Apprentices of the 96th Entry being inspected by the A.O.C. in C., Technical Training Command, Air Marshal Sir Alfred Earle, K.B.E., C.B.

1955, and has been Officer Commanding No. 2 Squadron since August, 1960. He has been Royal Air Force Boxing Association Junior Boxing Secretary since 1953, and also Chairman of the Command Youth Boxing Committee since 1955. Our thanks are due to him for a job well done at Halton. He will be greatly missed on his retirement by the Apprentices of the 94th Entry to whose welfare and training he has devoted so much care and energy. His loss will also be felt by all the staff at Halton and his many friends throughout the Royal Air Force. We offer our most sincere wishes to him and Mrs. McGrath for many years of happiness in civilian life.

The Wing has made a good start in the Summer Term B.-K. Trophy Competition by a clean cut win over No. 2 Wing in the Swimming and Water Polo Match. It is now up to the Shooting, Cricket and Athletic teams to follow this good example and regain the Trophy from No. 2 Wing.

In the Band Competition the Wing won the Pipe Band Competition under Pipe Major Howitt (94th). A/A McAdam (94th) won the Drum Major's Mace, and the Silver Side Drum was won by A/A Brewer (94th). L/A/A Preece (94th) regained the 'Commandant's Trumpeter' from A/A Piper (96th).

In the Inter Squadron Swimming Competition the 96th Entry won the Cup in a very close finish with the 94th Entry. The final score 60 points to 58 points just about reflects the margin between the two teams. The Wing Shooting team has had a very successful season in the .22 Rifle events. L/A/A Preece won the Wing and Station Championships and went on to become the R.A.F. Youth Champion. Three members of the Wing team represented the Station .22 Rifle Team which tied for first place with R.A.F. Melksham in the Command Championships. Six members of the team represented the School Team which won the Youth .22 Team Championship.

With the .303 season getting into full swing, the team is looking forward to June 3rd at Bisley when they hope to bring the Bonham Carter Cup back to No. 1 Wing for the 3rd successive year. We congratulate Flt.Lt. Parkinson who was selected as a member of the Bucks County Pistol Team.

The purely gossip writer—if we had one would also record that Sgt. Aitcheson has fully recovered from his Mountaineering Course in the Welsh Mountains, and can now converse in fluent Welsh goat language, with a Scottish accent. Just in case he should meet any Apprentice at Halton, F.S. Lewis has at long last attended a Youth Leadership Course. It is never the writer's object to be unkind, but it is reliably recorded that a certain N.C.O. in a certain Squadron will soon publish his first pamphlet for road users, and the title will be 'The Seven Year Test'.

And with this last contribution of No. 1 Wing Notes before passing on his way your correspondent wishes you all good luck in the future.

#### NO. 2(A) WING

The Summer term is now well into its stride, and before my memory fogs over completely, here are a few disconnected jottings about last term with particular reference to 2 Wing.

The weather was quite remarkable as usual: we had the coldest March on record, the Thames froze over here and there, and 2 Wing like everyone else reeled before the icy blast. Nevertheless we were lucky with the B.-K. fixtures, which happened to take place on comparatively mild days. The Wing did rather well last term, as we won every event except the Senior Soccer, which was a 3-3 draw. Our Fencing team thrust, parried, and hacked their way to a very narrow victory early in the term. Hockey was the next event, played on an otherwise mild Saturday morning and watched by a large partisan crowd. Both Junior and Senior games were hard fought exciting affairs, the fury of the combat resulting in many broken sticks. We managed to win both games, the Senior score being 1-0 and the Junior 4-1.

The B.-K. Rugby is sometimes a bit of a blood-bath, but this time everyone finished with two ears. We saw a skilful and keenly contested game. All of our team played well, S/A/A Tame being particularly outstanding, and we just managed to pull it off through a try by Tame, which was the only score.

In the Junior Soccer we looked rather scratchy to start with, and 1 Wing scored first. However once our team got into its stride, they went wild and slashed in 4 goals. 1 Wing managed to reduce the arrears with another 2 goals, the final result being 4-3 to 2 Wing. The Senior Soccer was marred by an injury to A/A Oram about 25 minutes after the kick-off. We were 3-0 up at the time, and Oram was playing a brilliant game. Unfortunately his ankle was too badly injured for him to continue, and we saw 2 Wing with 10 men and their backs to the wall. They hung on with great determination but 1 Wing managed to draw level in the second half, and this was the final result.

After the prodigies of harmony and precision produced by our bandsmen in last term's competition we were perhaps too optimistic in expecting another 'carve up'. We won the Corps of Trumpeters; A/A McHaig won the Silver Pipes and A/A North was the best tenor drummer. However 1 Wing managed to take the rest of the events, although to the untrained ear there can't have been more than the odd crotchet or half a semi-quaver in it. Never mind, there is always next term, and we are planning to knock 'em flat with Gregorian chants adapted for bagpipe and sidedrum. There's nothing like a really swinging touch of class!

Wg.Cdr. and Mrs. Ford have now left for Malaya by air, and a rather depressed Rufus by sea. We wish them all the very best of luck in their new post. Wg.Cdr. Bates and his family have settled in; he can be seen on the sports-fields most evenings through a haze of flying turf, making savage attacks on a little white ball. Flt.Lt. Wright, the oldest inhabitant of the Wing, international swimmer etc., has gone to Bridgnorth and has been replaced as P.F.O. by another energetic redhaired Scot, Fg.Off. McCluskey, who recently played a game of rugby seven-a-side, a game of soccer and a squash match one after the other without evident signs of fatigue.

The 97th Entry were privileged to provide the Guard of Honour for Her Majesty the Queen when she visited Aylesbury in March. They did a very fine job indeed. The Entry have settled down quite happily in the Wing and have made their mark in various spheres already.

The results of the 93rd Final Schools examinations are very creditable, 61 of them gaining 'A' class passes. C/A/A Bray has come out on top of the heap and deserves special congratulations.

Two of the 93rd Entry, A/A's Still and Robson, took part in the Devizes—Westminster canoe race during the leave, and put up a really fine performance to come in 16th in the first non-racing type canoe. They trained very hard for the race, and their splendid showing must have been a fitting reward.

This looks like being another frantic term with the Queen's Colour Parade and the Graduation of the 93rd Entry as the highlights. All we want now is a large anticyclone to centre itself over the Henderson-Groves area for the next three months.

#### NO. 3(A) WING

The arrival of the 101st Entry in the Wing serves to indicate the passage of time, and to show that once more the Wing routine has completed its full cycle. The 98th Entry are starting on a fresh phase of their training in the Senior Wing, while behind them the Squadron Staff begin the routine of introducing a new intake into the ways of Service life. Judging from the shouts that are echoing across the square it would seem that the Drill Instructors have them well in hand.

Last term, already long because Easter was late, was made to seem even longer by the cold weather that persisted right up to the end of term. One of the highlights of the Wing's social activities was the development of a close interest by the 100th Entry in the Leonard West Home, Aylesbury. This home is run by the Bucks County Council for the care of old people no longer able to look after themselves. Ten Apprentices of 'A' Flight—100th Entry visited the home on Sunday, 4th March, and four of them proceeded to entertain the old folk with an extensive musical repertoire, the remainder of the party mixed easily with the older people, and eventually all had a most enjoyable tea together.

Such was the success of the visit that the Entry invited all the old people able to travel to visit No. 3(A) Wing and to be entertained to tea in the Wing Club. The invitation was readily accepted with the result that on 31st March twenty-five of the residents made the visit from Aylesbury to No. 3(A) Wing. By all accounts they had a thoroughly enjoyable time and it is worthwhile recording the fact that the coach and the tea were paid for out of a collection the boys organised amongst themselves.

Another great day came on the 14th April for members of the 98th Entry, when they combined their Parents' Day with their Pass-On-Parade. 136 parents, relatives, and guests turned up to see the Entry do a most creditable parade. The Reviewing Officer was Gp.Cpt. R. C. Fordham, C.B.E.

There seemed to be rather a dearth of sporting activities but this was off-set by the highlights. In the Scott/Payne Boxing at R.A.F. Hereford three No. 3 (A) Wing Apprentices participated in the finals. A/A's Hall (98th) and Marshall (100th) lost on points, while A/A Battams (99th), won and went on to box at Cosford in the Inter Service Boxing on 24th February. After an excellent and close fight Battams lost the fight on points, and he is congratulated on the showing he made.

A/A Wooldridge (99th) also did extremely well to win the Junior Inter-Schools Cross Country Championships, for which he was presented with a plaque. Wing Sports teams were also most successful, the Rugby team beating a combined No. 1 and 2(A) Wing team 3-0, and the Hockey team drawing with the 94th (1 Wing) team 3-3.

The end of term Inter-Flight competition was won by 'C' Flight, No. 3 Squadron, who won the Hockey and the Basketball.



The term ended on the right sort of note when the Wing Staff beat the Apprentices 4-3 at soccer.

Fg.Off. Leighton Jenkins, the Wing P.F.O., was captain of the R.A.F. Rugby XV which won the Inter-Services Championships by beating the Army XV at Twickenham.

Even when the Easter leave did arrive members of the Wing were still very active. Sqn.Ldr. Perioli and Fg.Off. Jenkins took 12 Apprentices on a walking and canoeing expedition in Northern Ireland. In nine days the party covered over 80 miles following the length of the River Bann and crossing Lough Neagh. The party had a very hard, and sometimes very wet, time, but they all thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Flt.Lt. Musgrove was the only member of staff to be posted last term. He left Halton to resume flying once again, this time in Transport Command. Flt.Lt. Spencer arrived from St. Mawgan to replace him and we take the opportunity to welcome him to the Wing.

The Wing has also had a change of Padres. It was with great regret that the Wing said goodbye to the Rev. G. H. Clark on his posting to Aden. As Wing Padre he made himself well known to everyone in the Wing and was especially successful in his work with boys. We welcome back into the Service, and to Halton, the Rev. J. E. Dawes, who replaces him.

A/A Parker (98th) was selected as Commandant's Stick Boy for the month of March and is congratulated on this achievement.

The present term promises to be much busier. The 99th Entry are making the final preparations for the A.O.C.'s parade, a full account of which will no doubt follow in the next magazine.

## **TECHNICAL TRAINING WING**

#### ENGINE FITTER SQUADRON

The Squadron staff were highly delighted with the results of the 92nd Entry finals. The attainment of a one-hundred per cent J/T pass was expected, but the extremely high average mark of 72.55% was most welcome. This brought in its wake a record number of accelerated promotions, amounting to 67% of Engine Fitters.

Newcomers to the squadron are:Ch.Tech. J. Penney, Metal worker, who arrives from that huge renowned empire 32 M.U., R.A.F. St. Athan; he will swop his hardworking job on the M.U. for a 'shiny seat' in W.O. 'Dick Nunn's Office, in General Engineering Training; and Cpl. Rogers, an exuberant engine fitter, who will no doubt find his new work to be quite a change from that of servicing modern aircraft.

Ch.Tech. 'Tubby' Hamill, your sports reporter and favourite newscaster of G.E.T., has once again given his 'crystal ball' (not soccer) the magic rub, and is on his way for the third trip to the Far East, to Singapore. where he will no doubt be at home among the Malayans on the Islands. He hopes on his third trip to receive the freedom of the village of Chia Keng. Tubby will be a big miss on the sports field of Halton; his portly figure and raucous shout to encourage the A/A's at any of the sports indulged in was always a livener to the game. During his stay here he has instructed and qualified 46 referees (soccer); this included 28 A/A's, of whom he is quite proud; A/A Dave Hillier (93rd) has just been promoted to a Class 2 Referee.

Civilian Instructors:—After many years (39) the section has lost the services of that well known figure, 'Bill' King, the instructor who I understand first cycled to work on his 'pennyfarthing'; he still cycles a total of 16 miles a day. He has recently made a move into the field of aeronautics, the Airframe Squadron, and I understand is rather peeved at another move, his fourth in 39 years. I wonder whether it is true that he is considering putting in an application for 'Disturbance Allowance'.

Newcomer to the section, to replace Mr. Tom Eades, who is still happily driving his 16mm projector in the Tech. Cinema, Old W/shops, is Mr. Jim Fuller (ex-Weeton), who was previously a member of the instructional staff way back in 1930. He was a member of the 2nd Entry of Apprentices at Cranwell (335806) September, 1920. After graduating as an L.A.C. (top class honours and a rare distinction) he had a varied number of postings at home and abroad, on squadrons too many to mention with experience on Flycatchers and Vickers Vimys among other aircraft. He was at Halton as a civilian from 1930 to 1938, then went back into uniform, was rapidly promoted to flight sergeant, and later commissioned as a M.T. Engineering Officer in 1944. He went to India where he was engaged in water-proofing vehicles until released in 1945. As a Civil Servant he has been on instructional duties at Hednesford, Cosford, Weeton, and now Halton.

#### SERGEANT ERIC UNDERY

In the original notes from the Engine Fitter Squadron we had a paragraph about the impending retirement, on medical grounds, of Sgt. Eric Undery. It is with deep regret that we learn of his death, and we extend our very deepest sympathy to his widow and family.

#### ELECTRICAL FITTER TRAINING FLIGHT

The 92nd Entry Electrical Fitters have now left us and it only remains for us to congratulate them on a very fine performance. We should particularly like to congratulate W.O. A/A Epton on being awarded a cadetship to Cranwell and L/A/A Laming on winning the Crebbin-Robinson Cup.

The arrival of the 101st Entry has been met with mixed feelings, no detriment to the individual members, who are offered the usual warm welcome, but because of its size. The 'Powers that be' must be disappointed in the lack of numbers but Mr. Howlett and Mr. Brand, who have them for their first year, are quite pleased.

Many changes have taken place in the manning of the section, chief of which is the departure of Sqn.Ldr. Parker for warmer climes and the arrival of Sqn.Ldr. Davies from St. Athan to take over and to whom the staff extends a very warm welcome. W.O. Chubb has left for Manby and we welcome in his place W.O. Latham from Air Ministry where he was employed in work study; this should stand him in good stead for his new appointment.

The usual warm welcome is also extended to F.S. Whiting from Wyton, Sgt. McDermott from Honington, Cpl. Byrne, Cpl. Brunton, and Cpl. Graham. On the debit side F.S. John (The 'Flight Safety King') is leaving to try his luck at Binbrook, Sgt. Connolly has gone to Ballykelly, Cpl. Jefferson to St. Athan to await his demob and Sen.Tech. Atkinson is on a 12 month detachment prior to overseas posting.

Congratulations to Cpl.Tech. Roberts on doing so well during his recent Sen.Tech. Board at Melksham.

The Progress Section has been partially rebuilt by those enthusiastic 'Do it yourself' handymen — F.S. Taylor and Mr. Eves. Estimates for building anything can be had from progress office. Inspection of work is invited at any time. Congratulations, 'Barry', on a good job.

Social activities have been rather restricted this term by the constant change of personnel but an end of term get-together was held in the Sergeants' Mess Annexe and thoroughly enloyed by all who attended—W.O. Chubb was presented with a silver tankard and seemed delighted with the gift and the thought of keeping it filled.

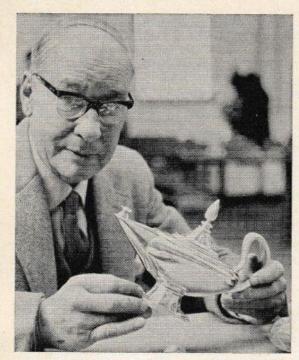
The 2nd year Progress Prize was awarded to A/A Meiklejohn of the 94th Entry who deserves congratulations on the good effort which has brought this award.

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Mr. R. H. Williams, the civilian coppersmithsheet-metal-worker instructor of the Engine Fitter Squadron, is pictured here with the replica of the lamp of the National Florence Nightingale Memorial, which he made as a gift to the Nursing Staff and presented to Sqn.Ldr. E. J. F. Bray, Matron of R.A.F. Hospital, Ely. The lamp, which was made by hand from coppersheet, was silver electroplated at St. Athan. It is to be used annually at the service held at Ely to commemorate the birthday of Florence Nightingale.

It is a fine piece of intricate workmanship, a tribute to the skill and patience of Mr. Williams, who was a member of the 1st Entry of Apprentices at Halton. During his career in the Service Mr. Williams witnessed many outstanding events in the history of aviation. When stationed the Gosport, for instance, he saw the landing of Col. Lindbergh in the 'Spirit of St. Louis', and was at Shaibah when Amy Johnson landed to refuel and to have an engine check on her first solo flight to Australia.

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#### ARMAMENT FITTER TRAINING SQUADRON

Congratulations to Cpl. Sedge on pulling off the double! His wife has just presented him with a bouncing baby boy and the Housing Officer presented him with a married quarter! A very happy coincidence.

F.S. Mahoney has left us for Singapore. Watch out for 'Tigers' Chiefy!

We are assured that there will be no issue of extra sideboards to members of the 'Squint and Squeeze' club. They will have to find altertative accommodation for their cups, medals and mugs. They really have had a good season and we expect great things of them at Bisley!

#### INSTRUMENT FITTER FLIGHT

In the last issue we paid tribute to Mr. 'Jock' Cameron, who was soon to retire. By the time this issue is being read, this will have happened, after twenty five years association with instrument fitter training. We sincerely wish both 'Jock' and Mrs. Cameron many years of happy retirement.

Mr. Roberts is still with us of course, but a walk around the Basic Workshop Area will seem a little bare without the other half of this long associated pair of 'old timers'.

Losses to the Flight on posting have been Sqn.Ldr, J. W. G. Parker and Ch.Tech. Chalkley. Sqn.Ldr. Parker had been the C.O. Electrical and Instrument Squadron for almost three years and apart from his efforts in that capacity, both he and Mrs. Parker will be well remembered for their support and keen interest in Electrical and Instrument flight social activities. We hope that they are enjoying the amenities of Singapore, where they are now.

The new O.C. E. and I Squadron is Sqn.Ldr. K. W. Davies, who came to us from No. 32 M.U., St. Athan, and we extend to him a hearty welcome.

Ch.Tech. Chalkley's posting is only across the road to T.S.T.S. but as that is definitely 'on the other side of the fence', we take the opportunity now of congratulating him on his recent promotion to the rank of Chief Technician. We welcome this term a newcomer to our instructional staff, Cpl. Blackwell, Instrument Fitter (GEN), who comes to us from Singapore.

We take this oportunity to congratulate F.S. Clarke (Progress and Revision) and Mrs. Clark on their 'newcomer'—a daughter.

Our Flight Commander had frequently stated his intention to purchase a car and we note that he now owns a red 'Mini'. A/A's are reminded that when it is parked outside the entrance to Bay 8 during working hours with window partially open, it is not, repeat not, to be used for posting letters home.

Still on the subject of transport, we understand that Mr. Banks has alas lost the use of his 'mobile greenhouse'. There is no truth however in the rumour that he has been negotiating for a secondhand 'Black Maria' as a replacement.

To conclude on a more serious note, we wish good luck to our now graduated 92nd Entry and congratulate Cpl. Butters, Instrument Fitter (GEN.) of that entry, who was awarded a technical branch commission in the Supplementary List.

We wish success to the 93rd Entry who commence Finals, T.S.T., on July 9th. This is one of our larger entries and we observe that, with the recent larger size intakes for training in the electrical and instrument trade, the E and I Squadron is now the largest here at Halton.

#### AIRFRAME FITTER TRAINING SQUADRON

The Airframe Section says goodbye to two of its longest serving instructors, namely, Mr. 'Charlie' Simpkin and Mr. George Drewe. After 40 years at Halton, Mr. Charlie Simpkin has asked for his cards. He is reported to have said 'I wish to find a job that's going to be regular'. During his time at Halton, Charlie has seen many changes. When he first arrived, the Trenchard Library was only a magazine rack and Chestnut Parallel was a couple of conkers. Charlie also remembers when the station armoury personnel used to complain about being detailed for Workshop Guard and N.C.O.'s on marching duty were issued with footpumps during the outbreak of flat feet—:Cor bless my sole!!'. At that time Halton had its own Corn Exchange (the exchange rate was two corns for one bunion). The Station cobbler used to shoo flies and invented gum boots, so called because they were stuck in your locker—this was the best solution. Charlie once helped the Station blacksmith to shoe the C.O's horse. Charlie said that the hardest part was getting the horse in the vice. Good Luck from all at Halton, Charlie. Well done!

Mr. George Drewe, who has been at Halton for 35 years, retired on June 7th—it was forced upon him. 'What I mean by that there is this here'—George used up his last piece of rope halfway through a sheepshank session— Coir!!!

George served with the R.N.A.S. and the R.A.F. from 1915-1918, and served in France, Belgium and Russia. He worked on Camels, one of which crashed after running out of water in the Sahara. Later Marks of Camel were fitted with two humps as a safety factor. George is retiring to Margate, where he will try to raise Jablo trees to supply wood for the propeller industry.

Congratulations to Snr.Techs. Taylor, Robbins and House on being promoted from Cpl.Techs.

Postings-W.O. Gray, Ch.Tech. Crinson and Sgt. Northgraves have left us for St. Athan.

New arrivals — Welcome to Ch.Tech. Cunliffe, Cpl. Hall and Cpl.Tech. Fieldhouse.

Snr.Tech. Soulsby has been appointed i/c lawns—it's an unpaid post but he is permitted to eat as much grass as he likes.

#### AIRFIELD TRAINING SQUADRON

We were hoping that by the time this edition of the Magazine went to print we should be able to report the arrival of our first Vulcan. However, favourable weather conditions are the governing factor in this major event and by the time this is being read, the big day will probably have come and gone and the 93rd Entry will have had the opportunity to look over it. Ever since the 'buzz' was received that there really was a Vulcan being allocated to us, the interest in the Halton Airfield Training has risen considerably and if the odd remarks that have been heard are anything to go by, it seems that the whole of Halton will descend upon the Airfield to see the landing.

Very few changes have taken place in the Squadron staff, but mention must be made of the departure of the oldest Service member, Snr.Tech. Elliott, of the Airfield Electrical section. With a total of seven years in the job, he not only saw many changes but was personally responsible for the creation of a first class electrical training organisation within the Airfield Squadron. He leaves behind a set of electrical servicing bays of which he can be justifiably proud. We wish him well in his posting to Kinloss and we welcome Sgt. Harris to carry on the good work.

The last few days has seen the departure of our feminine contact, L.A.C.W. Rawden to Waddington, on an exchange posting with L.A.C.W. Thompson.

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