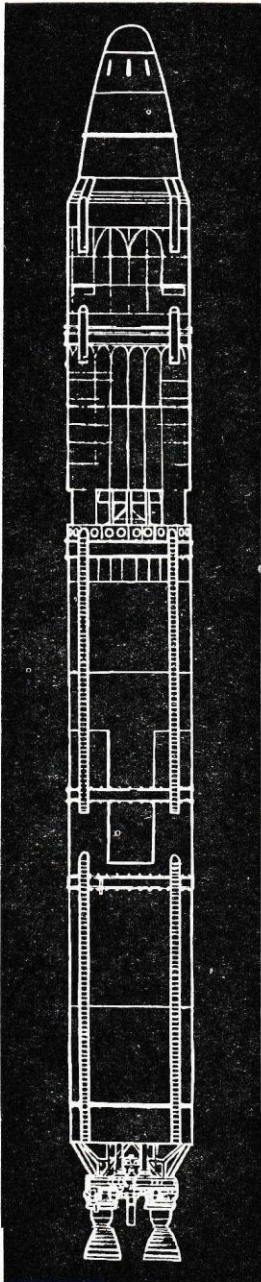


The Haltonian Magazine

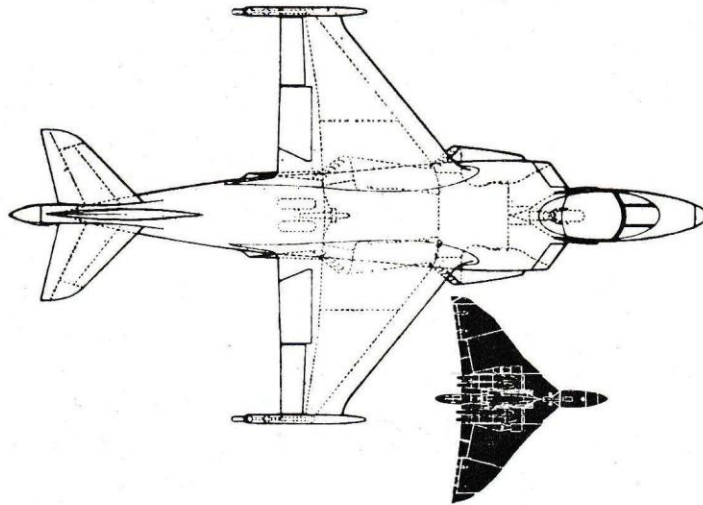
97 Edition

Spring 1964

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MAGAZINE



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Halton Rocket Airborne? (See School Notes)

EDITORIAL

Changes of staff were the main theme of the Autumn editorial: too late for inclusion came the news that Padre Nowers, the Senior Church of England Chaplain, was to be posted to Uxbridge; he did great work at Halton and will long be remembered for the tremendous amount of work he put into the embellishment of the new St. George's Church and for his truly Herculean labours on 'Victor', which has had to cease publication because of a reduction in the establishment of chaplains. Mrs. Nowers, who helped her husband in so many ways and who was always in the forefront of voluntary effort on the station, will be staying here for some time yet with their family. In Padre Nowers's place we welcome Padre Goss, who comes to Halton from Watton. We also extend a welcome to Gp.Capt. J. W. Taylor, O.B.E., who was O.C. Admin. Wing here some ten years ago, and who has returned to take over from Gp.Capt. Brice as Senior Administrative Officer.

Important and often sad as changes of staff are, much more far-reaching and vital are the changes in Youth Training outlined in A.M.O.

A301/63. There will be no entry of Apprentices or Boy Entrants in May, 1964, and revised arrangements will apply to the autumn intake, which will be in October, 1964. At the same time as the new Youth scheme is introduced the R.A.F. List 1 (the more skilled trades) will be re-grouped into two broad divisions of technology—an aircraft division (mechanical) and an electronic division (subdivided into ground and air branches).

There will be two types of Apprentice, craft and technician, in each division. The term 'Boy Entrant' will no longer be used. In the List 1 trades normal-stream apprentices and boy entrants will be replaced by a new category of **craft apprentice**. These will be given two years training and will graduate in the ranks of leading aircraftman, senior aircraftman, or exceptionally, junior technician. **Technician apprentices** are destined to be widely qualified technical N.C.O.'s of high quality, who may be trained to service complex systems later in their careers. They will also be an important source from which future

technical officers will be selected. They will be given three years training and it is expected that they will be able to qualify for the rank of corporal on graduation; those who do not do so will graduate in a lower rank. Dental apprentices will be known as technician apprentices. They will continue to receive three years training and to graduate as junior technicians or, exceptionally, as corporals.

In the less skilled, or List II trades, entrants will be known as **craft apprentices** or **administrative apprentices**. Their course of training will be for one year and they will graduate as senior aircraftman or leading aircraftman. Of these apprentices only those in the trade of nursing attendant will be trained at Halton.

Academic standards for entry as technician apprentices will be relatively high. They will be selected from boys with four G.C.E. 'O' level passes, including mathematics and a science appropriate to the Ordinary National Certificate. For entry as dental technicians 'O' level passes in English and mathematics will be required. Technician apprentices will be prepared for the Ordinary National Certificate appropriate to their trades.

Craft apprentices will be selected as a result of satisfactory reports from headmasters, intelligence and aptitude tests and interviews

at careers information centres and at the Youth Selection Centre. There will be no qualifying examination as at present. During their training they will take the examination for the R.A.F. Education Test Part II, which is the education qualification for promotion to sergeant.

Full details of the new scheme will be given in an Air Ministry pamphlet which is expected to be in circulation before this magazine appears.

In the meantime staff at Halton are busily preparing new syllabuses and schemes of work. Entries now under training will continue with the present syllabuses. Though the overall structure of training here will seem very complicated in October, as in the past Halton will meet and overcome the challenge, and will continue to provide the backbone of the ground staff of the Royal Air Force.

Owing to an early Easter, and hence a very early date for copy, this issue does not have the balance we usually try to achieve in its articles, and very few Old Haltonian representatives have been able to send in their news in time. All this does mean however that there will be plenty of time to spare to send in articles and reports for the summer issue, but please don't all wait till the last possible moment!

MESSAGE FROM

AIR MARSHAL SIR ALFRED EARLE, K.B.E., C.B.

On relinquishing his appointment as

**Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Technical Training Command
to take up the post of Vice Chief of the Defence Staff**

'This year has seen a number of changes in the Command and there will be even more next year with the continuing redeployment into permanent accommodation, the introduction of the revised schemes for youth training and the resumption of full scale recruit and basic training. Nevertheless our task remains the same—to produce the trained men and women the Service requires.

I have been delighted to see the energy and

enthusiasm with which you have all met the task and am confident that you will meet the problems ahead with the same fine spirit.

I shall be handing over the Command shortly and in sending all of you and your families my very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year I would like to add my thanks for the support you have given me during the period I have been your Commander-in-Chief.'

FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM AIR COMMODORE B. ROBINSON C.B.E. DECEMBER, 1963

'At the end of this week my tour as Commandant ends, and I shall be handing over to Air Commodore D. M. Strong, A.F.C.

I would have liked to say a personal Farewell to all ranks, but Halton's size prevents that, so I must do it this way, and I must be brief.

For No. 1 S. of T.T. the past two-and-a-half years has been a busy and successful period. I have no doubt that today Halton is at a post-war peak in achievement and morale. I do not say this boastfully. All of us serving here today will recognise that what has come about in our time has resulted in part from the fact that we inherited an efficient organisation. By good team work and constant endeavour we have built on this, so that the School has been able to maintain a record of excellence in every part of its life, be it in Workshops, 'Schools,' on ceremonial parades, or the sports field.

Teamwork, in the sense of real co-operation has existed too between the many important Units located at Halton, Princess Mary's

R.A.F. Hospital, the Institute of Pathology and Tropical Medicine, and the Dental Training Establishment. My task, and that of my staff in Station Headquarters, has been greatly eased by virtue of the support and co-operation received from all these Units and I thank them for their share in Halton's effort under my command.

Far-reaching changes in Halton's task lie ahead, affecting specially Apprentice training, and while we may well take pride in the past this is no time to be complacent. Indeed, Halton faces the biggest challenge of its whole history, but Halton has always had a way of successfully absorbing changes and retaining its high standards. This will, I am sure, be the outcome of the changes ahead.

To you all, officers, airmen, airwomen, apprentices and civilians, I give my sincere thanks for your loyalty and great support. You have made the time I have been fortunate enough to be in command an extremely happy one; I wish you well'.

GRADUATION OF 97th ENTRY

The 97th Entry graduated on December 18th, 1963. The Reviewing Officer was Air Chief Marshal Sir William MacDonald, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.F.C., the Air Secretary.

The Reviewing Officer was accompanied by Air Marshal Sir Alfred Earle, K.B.E., C.B., Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Technical Training Command, Air Vice-Marshal J. K. Rotherham, C.B., C.B.E., Air Officer Commanding No. 24 Group, Air Commodore D. M. Strong, A.F.C., Commandant, Group Captain R. C. Fordham, C.B.E., Senior Training Officer, Group Captain H. H. Mayoh, Principal Education Officer, Wing

Commander J. E. Boden, Officer Commanding Technical Training Wing, Wing Commander G. Bates, D.F.C., A.F.C., Officer Commanding Senior Entries, and Squadron Leader B. L. Collings, Officer Commanding No. 2 Apprentice Wing.

Parade Detail

The parade was commanded by F.S. A/A A. S. Barski.

Parade Adjutant L/A/A A. R. Leviston
Parade Warrant Officer

Colour Bearer C/A/A A. T. Higgins
S/A/A R. Wright



GRADUATION OF 97TH ENTRY

Colour Warrant Officer

C/A/A G. R. Heron

Colour Escort

L/A/A M. J. C. Coughlan

L/A/A P. W. Hannant

Colour Orderly

A/A D. Knowles

Escort Squadron Commander

S/A/A D. M. Main

No. 1 Flight Commander

C/A/A R. W. Goodson

No. 2 Flight Commander

C/A/A M. V. Titterton

No. 2 Squadron Commander

S/A/A P. M. Boreham

No. 1 Flight Commander

C/A/A R. N. S. Sims

No. 2 Flight Commander

C/A/A C. Heithus

Apprentice i/c Supporting Entry

S/A/A-R. M. Joy

Band Sergeant Brass Band

S/A/A M. Hobbs

Drum Major Brass Band

A/A A. Wadsworth

Pipe Major Pipe Band

S/A/A J. H. Channon

Drum Major Pipe Band

C/A/A M. A. Boyd

The Commandant's Report

After welcoming the Reviewing Officer, the Commandant described the Air Chief Marshal's career as follows:

'Before I make my report on the Entry I would like to tell you something of our Reviewing Officer's career. Air Chief Marshal Sir William MacDonald joined the Royal Air Force in 1929. At the outbreak of war he went to France with No. 150 Squadron and was awarded the D.F.C. in February, 1940.

After periods in command of West Raynham, and of No. 137 Wing, he became Air Officer in charge of Administration, 2nd Tactical Air Force. In 1946 he was Commandant of the Central Flying School, and subsequently served in the U.S.A. on exchange duties. In 1950 he returned to the Air Ministry as Deputy Director of Plans (Joint Planning), and after an appointment as Air Officer Commanding, Singapore, he returned again to Air Ministry as Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Intelligence). In 1958 he became Commander-in-Chief, Near East Air Force, which, in 1960, also involved the appointment of Administrator of the British Bases in Cyprus and, in 1962, the command of all British Forces there. Air Chief Marshal MacDonalld was appointed to his present post as Air Secretary on 22nd October, 1962.

The Commandant then expressed his gratitude that Sir William was able to be with them that day.

Addressing the parents Air Cdre. Strong said, 'Now I would like to say a word of welcome to the parents. Many of you will, I am sure, have visited us before, but today is the climax of your son's Halton training. I give you a very warm welcome and I thank you sincerely for helping us to bring his apprenticeship to a successful conclusion.'

Review of 97th Entry

The Commandant then reported on the 97th Entry as follows:

'Now I turn to my report on the 97th Entry. On induction in January 1961 the strength of the Entry was 174 R.A.F. Apprentices and 7 Royal Rhodesian Air Force Apprentices. During the three years that have elapsed the Entry's total strength has fallen to 175, by boys being discharged as unsuitable for training or for medical reasons, and by recouring to later entries. This extremely low wastage, 3.4%, conforms to the pattern over the last few years.

Technical Training

One hundred and seventy-five Apprentices of the 97th Entry were presented for the Final Trade Test examination and, with two exceptions, all qualified as Junior Technicians. The average mark achieved was 70.1%, which maintains the high standard set by previous intakes.

Education Training

The Entry has a good record of Educational attainment. One hundred and seventy-five Apprentices took the final examination in Educational subjects and achieved an average mark of 67.5%. In the General Certificate of Education at 'O' level there were 190 subject entries and 169 subject passes, giving the very high pass rate of 83.6%. Six Apprentices were candidates for G.C.E. 'A' level Mathematics; four gained passes, and two were awarded 'O' level passes in Additional Mathematics.

Thirty-five R.A.F. Apprentices and four Royal Rhodesian Air Force Apprentices have obtained the Ordinary National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering, and eleven R.A.F. Apprentices and one R.R.A.F. Apprentice have obtained it in Electrical Engineering. These successes mean that 29% of the Entry gained National Certificates. This is the highest number for the past 4½ years, and the Entry is to be congratulated. Sixty-three Apprentices entered for the City and Guilds examination, and twenty-eight gained passes.

The overall results show that the 97th Entry has made full use of the educational opportunities, both in the requirements for their R.A.F. training and on a voluntary basis, to gain extra qualifications to help them in their future careers.

General Service Training

The third main part of the Halton Apprenticeship is concerned with General Service Training. This is designed to make a young man fit to be a member of Her Majesty's Armed Forces, to become a leader, an N.C.O., in the Royal Air Force. It is therefore concerned with developing character, physical fitness and the qualities of leadership and comradeship. Sport, drill and life in the Wing are the features here.

In the field of sport the 97th Entry has made a very good contribution. C/A/A Heron, L/A/A Savill, L/A/A Nicholson and A/A Dickens have represented the Royal Air Force in the Junior Inter-Service Athletics Championships. A/A Truscott has represented the R.A.F. at table-tennis; S/A/A Wright was the R.A.F. Inter-Schools middle-weight boxing champion in 1961, and a finalist in the Junior I.S.B.A. championships in the same year. L/A/A Braithwaite of the Royal Rhode-

sian Air Force deserves a special mention as he has represented the School in no fewer than six sports. Nine Apprentices have represented Technical Training Command at various sports, and members of the Entry have gained 25 school colour awards. Sixty members of the Entry formed the major part of Halton's contribution to the R.A.F. team which participated in the 'Cavalcade of Sport' at the Royal Albert Hall in 1961. In the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme two Apprentices—C/A/A Sims and A/A Hill of the R.R.A.F.—have gained Gold Awards, and 25 have gained Silver Awards.

In drill and ceremonial the Entry have shown that they can rise to the occasion when required. During Her Majesty The Queen's visit to Aylesbury in April 1962, 100 members of 97th Entry formed the Royal Guard of Honour and displayed a high standard of drill and appearance. The Entry also took part in the Parading of the Queen's Colour for the Royal Air Force in the United Kingdom at Halton in June, 1962. As might be expected of an Entry which has as its staff Flight Sergeant the N.C.O. i/c Drill and Ceremonial for the Pipe Band, the 97th have made a good contribution to the Bands. 15 are members of the Pipe Band and seven of the Military Band. S/A/A Channon has won the Silver Pipes twice, and A/A De Louvois was the last winner of the Silver Tenor Drum. Twenty-six Apprentices have received Gliding instruction and of these 18 have flown solo.

Special Service Attainments

Two Apprentices of the Entry have been selected for Cranwell Cadetships, C/A/A Sims in the General Duties Branch, and C/A/A Heithus in the Equipment Branch. Three Apprentices—C/A/A Lucas, and L/A/As Mitchell and Coughlan—have been selected for Technical Cadetships at Henlow. Two more Apprentices—S/A/A Boreham and C/A/A Titterton—have been selected for training leading to Direct Entry Commissions as Pilots. Three are graduating as Substantive Corporals and no fewer than one hundred and four, i.e., 59% of the Entry, have qualified for accelerated promotion.

Conclusion

That completes my report on the 97th Entry. Before I finish I would like to say two more things. First, a word to the School's staff, Service and Civilian alike. The 97th Entry must surely be grateful to you today, and their parents too. So for them and myself I thank you.

Lastly to the Entry I would say 'congratulations' on completing your training successfully. But remember it's only a start. Aim always to improve and to live up to the fine tradition of those who have passed through this School over the past 40 years. Success and happiness to you all.

I will now ask Air Chief Marshal Sir William MacDonald to present the prizes.'

The Reviewing Officer's Address

The Reviewing Officer opened his address by saying that he did not think it would be appropriate for him to talk for long because all those who were passing out had had about as much said to them as was necessary. He continued. 'As far as I can gather anybody who has nothing better to do gives them an address, but I think that is inevitable. I think it's one of those things that one has to suffer on Passing Out and achieving such a success as this Course has achieved. As I heard their academic successes during the past few minutes I felt that it really is a most impressive performance, and the Course is to be highly congratulated on that; but I wouldn't like to let slip the opportunity of congratulating them on the parade this morning which I thought—and I flatter myself that I've seen a few parades—was absolutely first class. I really was most impressed with everything—the standard of turnout, the drill, and everything to do with it, and I hope they will accept my congratulations for this splendid parade, which really was outstanding.

A very few words on quite a different subject, which is the future. I'm not going to talk to you about all the things that happened at Halton and which you must emulate, and all the rest of it. I have known Halton for a long time: I used to come visiting here a long time ago, and I was always tremendously impressed by the supreme efficiency and with



The Reviewing Officer presenting the Crebbin-Robinson Cup (E. and I. Trades) to
Sgt.App. P. M. Boreham

everything I saw while I was visiting. I realised afterwards when some of the people I saw being supremely efficient here became my friends, that they were human as well, because it is almost super-human efficiency and much to be respected, and one would rather suppose would be natural in what is described as one of the pillars of the Royal Air Force—one of the three pillars of the Royal Air Force.

Now, looking ahead, you've got quite a lot of nice things that you can do and a lot of nice things that can happen to you, and all I would suggest is that you never lose the opportunity of taking whatever chances come your way. I am not suggesting that anybody

should be solely ambitious or ambitious to the point of being, whatever you call it, 'a terribly ambitious man'; that's not very nice—or that any of you should be ambitious to the point of succeeding at the expense of other people, because that sort of success never produces any form of happiness at all. It may be a temporary success but in the end you will find that you yourself, the individual, who achieves his success in that way will realise that it stinks. So be ambitious by all means, have a go at everything that you can see a chance with, don't worry about temporary set-backs or failures—they don't matter. What really matters is trying hard to do what is best for your country, your family, your Service and yourself.'

97th ENTRY—PRIZE WINNERS

CADETSHIPS

C/A/A R. N. S. SIMS (General Duties Branch)
C/A/A W. J. LUCAS (Technical Branch)
L/A/A M. J. C. COUGHLAN (Technical Branch)
L/A/A R. A. K. MITCHELL (Technical Branch)
C/A/A C. HEITHUS (Equipment Branch)

COMMISSIONS

S/A/A P. M. BOREHAM (General Duties Branch)
C/A/A M. V. TITTERTON (General Duties Branch)

WINNERS OF AIR MINISTRY PRIZES—97th ENTRY

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, ALL SUBJECTS
L/A/A R. A. K. MITCHELL
HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, EDUCATIONAL SUBJECTS
First Prize: L/A/A R. A. K. MITCHELL
Second Prize: A/A A. L. FRY
BEST 'SET TASK' GENERAL STUDIES
S/A/A P. M. BOREHAM
HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT GENERAL SERVICE EFFICIENCY
First Prize: C/A/A R. N. S. SIMS
Second Prize: F.S. A/A A. S. BARSKI

HIGHEST AVERAGE FOR PRACTICAL FITTING OVER THREE-YEAR COURSE
A/A L. WILLIAMS

BEST TRADESMEN IN TRADE STANDARDS TRADE TEST

AIRFRAME FITTER 1st	S/A/A D. M. MAIN
AIRFRAME FITTER 2nd	L/A/A M. P. B. O'RYAN
ARMAMENT FITTER	A/A A. L. FRY
ELECTRICAL FITTER (Air)	A/A M. D. MILLER
ENGINE FITTER	C/A/A M. V. TITTERTON
INSTRUMENT FITTER (Gen.)	L/A/A S. J. SMITH
INSTRUMENT FITTER (Nav.)	L/A/A M. J. C. COUGHLAN

WINNERS OF SPECIAL PRIZES—97th 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 graduating with each Entry.

Winner: L/A/A R. A. K. MITCHELL

PIONEER TROPHY

The Pioneer Trophy was presented to Halton in 1953 by the Royal Flying Corps and Royal Naval Air Service Ex-Boys Association for award to the Apprentice who obtained the highest marks in all technical training subjects at the final examination of each Entry. In October, 1954, the Association gave a sum of money to ensure that for some considerable time each Apprentice who won the trophy would receive a replica. The fund became exhausted in 1961, but once more the Association has stepped in. At their annual dinner in May, 1963, Air Vice-Marshal W. A. Opie, C.B., C.B.E., made a special appeal as the result of which £103 was raised. The interest on this will be sufficient to supply replicas permanently. Halton is extremely grateful to the members of the Association for their generosity.

Winner: A/A/ A. L. FRY



The Prize Winners

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: C/A/A G. R. HERON
 Winner: Electrical and Instrument Trades: S/A/A P. M. BOREHAM

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: A/A P. D. M. JOHN

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 graduating with each Entry at Halton.
 Winner: L/A/A M. P. B. O'RYAN

97th ENTRY SPORTS SCHOOL COLOUR AWARDS

ATHLETICS						
S/A/A J. H. CHANNON	..	..	..	..	..	1962/63
A/A T. F. HOY	..	..	..	..	..	1963
A/A G. DICKENS	..	..	..	..	..	1963
L/A/A E. F. SAVILL	..	..	..	..	..	1962
BASKETBALL						
A/A M. J. LOWE	..	..	..	..	..	1962/63
CRICKET						
A/A C. J. BARNES	..	..	..	..	..	1962/63
A/A R. D. BESSANT	..	..	..	..	..	1963
A/A R. E. LEWIS	..	..	..	..	..	1963
CROSS COUNTRY						
L/A/A P. G. BRAITHWAITE	..	..	..	..	..	1962/63
L/A/A P. C. NICHOLSON	..	..	..	..	..	1962/63
L/A/A E. F. SAVILL	..	..	..	..	..	1962/63
FENCING						
A/A M. HILL	..	..	..	..	..	1963
HOCKEY						
A/A C. J. BARNES	..	..	..	..	..	1961/62/63
L/A/A P. G. BRAITHWAITE	..	..	..	..	..	1961/62/63
A/A M. F. RICHARDS	..	..	..	..	..	1961/62/63/64
L/A/A R. O. SWEETING	..	..	..	..	..	1961/62/63
A/A G. H. TOZER	..	..	..	..	..	1961/62/63
RUGBY						
S/A/A P. M. BOREHAM	..	..	..	..	..	1962/63
L/A/A E. F. SAVILL	..	..	..	..	..	1962/63
A/A N. TURNER	..	..	..	..	..	1962/63
SHOOTING						
C/A/A B. F. WOOD	..	..	..	..	..	1962/63
SOCCER						
C/A/A G. R. HERON	..	..	..	..	..	1962/63
SWIMMING						
L/A/A M. S. DUNWELL	..	..	..	..	..	1963
A/A A. L. FRY	..	..	..	..	..	1963
TABLE TENNIS						
A/A D. TRUSCOTT	..	..	..	..	..	1963

97th ENTRY POSTING LIST (in order of merit)

Mitchell R. A. K.	Technical Cadetship Henlow	Smith D. H. Bryan P. W.	I.F.T.S. Linton-on-Ouse Benson
Coughlan M. J. C.	Technical Cadetship Henlow	Leviston A. R. Heithus C.	225 Sqn. Odiham Equipment Cadetship Cranwell
Fry A. L.	Coningsby		Substantive Corporal G.D. Navigator Cadetship Cranwell
Lucas W. J.	Technical Cadetship Henlow	Sims R. N. S.	Substantive Corporal 9 Sqn. Coningsby
Titterton M. V.	Substantive Corporal Direct Entry Commission	Baldry F. W. Thorrowgood I. G.	230 O.C.U. Finningley 148 Sqn. Marham
Main D. M.	G.D. Pilot 35 Sqn. Coningsby	Hoy S. L. Benn D. L.	Benson Colerne
O'Ryan M. P. B.	Substantive Corporal 139 Sqn. Wittering	Smith S. J. Higgins A. T.	229 O.C.U. Chivenor I.F.T.S. Linton-on-Ouse
Bannister R. C.	Lynham	Knowles D. Slater C.	226 O.C.U. Middleton St. George
Dunwell M. S.	Repatriated		226 O.C.U. Middleton St. George
Heron G. R.	Repatriated Substantive Corporal	Thorley M. A.	32 M.U. St. Athan Coningsby
Goodson R. W.	Honington	John P. D. M. Fentum A. E.	
Woolford P. R.	226 O.C.U. Middleton St. George		
Braithwaite P. G.	Repatriated		
Miller M. D.	Leconfield		

De Louvois P. J.
Hunt N. E.
Newton M.
Levitt A. W.
Gipson R. A. F.
Henson D. R.
Bish C. D.
Peek V. E.
Dickens G.
Hart D.
Bessant R. D.
Lilley B. J.
Wall I. M.
Freeman P. P.
Woods M. J.
McDermid D. R.
Havercroft G. H. R.
Cassingham B.
Elmer J. J.
Howarth H. M.
Savill E. F.
Edwards J. J.
Tozer G. H.
Saverton R.
Nicholson P. C.
Doddington P. W.
Channon J. H.
Smith C. M.
Hobbs M. J.
Ashbee K.
Bullock R. A. M.
Foster J. C.
Taylor R. I.
Lowe M. J.
Grimley L. J.
Jones K.
Welch C. J.
Wood B. F.
Foss R. L.
Tisbury J. A.
Allgood D. T.
Szczepanowski E. J.
Barski A. S.
Hill M.
Calder B. L.
Hall A.
O'Dwyer M. P.
Hendley P.
Handley T. W.
Powell S. R.
Turner N.
Wright R. J.
Cardiff F. G.
Boreham P. M.

Loughran D.
Hogg E. A.
Ash A. M.
Brown G. J.
Rutherford N.
Cowley D. B.
Watson A. R.
Bishop R. W.
Edwards A. M.
Stamper R. H.
Cook R. G.
Williams L.
McGuire D. E. P.
Fletcher J. E.
Lewis R. E.

Moss P. G.
Hill J. H.
Kirk S. A.
Curtis I.

242 O.C.U. Thorney Island
111 Sqn Wattisham
32 M.U. St. Athan
Wattisham
1 A.N.S. Stradishall
2 A.N.S. Hullavington
12 Sqn. Coningsby
32 M.U. St. Athan
15 Sqn. Cottesmore
Scampton
15 Sqn. Cottesmore
Leconfield
Repatriated
Binbrook
214 Sqn. Marham
Scampton
Lynham
Benson
35 Sqn. Coningsby
229 O.C.U. Chivenor
Honington
27 Sqn. Scampton
Honington
Leconfield
Abingdon
Hullavington
6 F.T.S. Acklington
229 O.C.U. Chivenor
Benson
10 Sqn. Cottesmore
2 A.N.S. Hullavington
Scampton
214 Sqn. Marham
Coningsby
C.F.S. Little Rissington
51 Sqn. Wyton
Lynham
Scampton
Lynham
617 Sqn. Scampton
Benson
Honington
Repatriated
Repatriated
230 O.C.U. Finningley
R.A.F. College, Cranwell
Binbrook
49 Sqn. Marham
32 M.U. St. Athan
Repatriated
Scampton
Benson
Lynham
Direct Entry Commission
G.D. Pilot
A.E.S. Topcliffe
32 M.U. St. Athan
Hullavington
15 Sqn. Cottesmore
Coningsby
Honington
Scampton
St. Mawgan
Kinloss
A.E.S. Topcliffe
148 Sqn. Marham
Scampton
4 F.T.S. Valley
Little Rissington
226 O.C.U.
Middleton St. George
226 O.C.U.
Middleton St. George
225 Sqn. Odiham
64 Sqn. Binbrook
85 Sqn. Coningsby

Ruddock D. J.
Barnes C. J.
Hoy T. F.
Colbeck S.
Critchlow J.
Mann J. M.
Jack A. J. G.
Hoskin D. P.
Boyer J.
Sapwell P. R.
Wood D. W.
Slater M. F.

Richards J. W.
Maynard R. K.
Hannant P. W.
Coltee R. F.
Willis P. G.

Alderton M. J.
King J. S.
Spring J. N.
Meulen P. K. V.
Rae R. J.
Symons J. T.
Thompson G. A. S.
Thorne D. H.
Christopher D. W.
Pearson K. L.
Dryden K. R.
Wright L. W.
Harding J. C.
Lyle R. S.
Sweeting R. O.
Wadsworth A.
St. Cyr L.
Truscott D. A.
Jamieson W. I.
Rowan G.
Austen M. R.
Richards M. F.
Hamilton G. V.
Winterburn A.
Ritchie-Haydn S. F.
Smith P. W. F.
Butler G. H.
Hammans M. J.
Fitz-John A.
Smith D. R.
West H. W. C.
Adams C.
Ussher T. A.
Blackburn E. G.
Gwynne R. A.
Wass P. F.
Meldrum P. J.
Brook G.
Andrews J. E.
Smith D. M.
Bruce D. G.
Moore P. J.
Burnett M. D.
Thomson I. A.
Murphy E. W.
Knight R. G.
Abbott R. J.
Phillips D. J.
Crowe D. J.
Thomas G. L.
Waller B. J.
Groves C. J.
Morrish R. J.

Hibberd P.
Watson A. A.

139 Sqn. Wittering
32 M.U. St. Athan
Wattisham
32 M.U. St. Athan
101 Sqn. Waddington
55 Sqn. Honington
Scampton
32 M.U. St. Athan
617 Sqn. Scampton
Lynham
19 Sqn. Leconfield
226 O.C.U.
Middleton St. George
2 A.N.S. Hullavington
9 Sqn. Coningsby
229 O.C.U. Chivenor
2 A.N.S. Hullavington
226 O.C.U.
Middleton St. George
Ballykelly
100 Sqn. Wittering
148 Sqn. Marham
139 Sqn. Wittering
Kinloss
Hullavington
83 Sqn. Scampton
32 M.U. St. Athan
27 Sqn. Scampton
32 M.U. St. Athan
32 M.U. St. Athan
Kinloss
15 Sqn. Cottesmore
32 M.U. St. Athan
Scampton
32 M.U. St. Athan
1 A.N.S. Stradishall
100 Sqn. Wittering
83 Sqn. Scampton
83 Sqn. Scampton
51 Sqn. Wyton
15 Sqn. Cottesmore
Kinloss
83 Sqn. Scampton
4 F.T.S. Valley
32 M.U. St. Athan
35 Sqn. Coningsby
139 Sqn. Wittering
32 M.U. St. Athan
3 F.T.S. Leeming
Ballykelly
32 M.U. St. Athan
32 M.U. St. Athan
55 Sqn. Honington
Ballykelly
49 Sqn. Marham
32 M.U. St. Athan
Ballykelly
32 M.U. St. Athan
232 O.C.U. Gaydon
617 Sqn. Scampton
Ballykelly
139 Sqn. Wittering
32 M.U. St. Athan
101 Sqn. Waddington.
Ballykelly
32 M.U. St. Athan
A.E.S. Topcliffe
230 O.C.U. Finningley
32 M.U. St. Athan
32 M.U. St. Athan
Marham
32 M.U. St. Athan

Graduated as Senior Aircraftman in Advanced Trade
A.E.S. Topcliffe
Marham

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Halton Churches

EMBELLISHMENT FUND

Closing of Appeal

Though the appeal for the embellishment fund of Halton's new Churches did not reach its original target, the appeal has now been officially closed with the fund standing at the very gratifying figure of £16,100 ; and the furnishing of St. George's Church and the Church of the Holy Family is almost complete. The Church of the Holy Family is waiting to have its Ensigns fixed and will soon have its stand for the Book of Donors. St. George's now has the Ensigns and Badges of the Commonwealth Air Forces, and the Royal Coat of Arms above the Vestry door with the Arms of the Diocese of Oxford to balance it on the other side of the altar. Most of the surplus from the fund will be invested, but some is being used for things that could not be provided when funds were low in the early days; for instance a pair of standard candlesticks to complete the Sanctuary furnishings.

At his last Families' Service Padre Nowers drew attention to these and also showed the children a splendid new cope to be worn on very special occasions by the Chaplain.

In the last issue of 'Victor' he thanked everyone who had helped to make the Church so beautiful, particularly Air.Cdre. B. Robinson, C.B.E., and Gp.Capt. R. C. Fordham, C.B.E., for their tremendous efforts to make the Appeal a success, and not least the two treasurers, Sqn.Ldr. Airey and Wg.Cdr. Farrow, who had done so much of the donkey work. Sqn.Ldr. Airey is now tackling the formidable task of compiling the Books of Donors.

In the meantime the site has been selected for the new Trinity Church and we look forward to reporting its progress.

TECHNICAL TRAINING WING NOTES

Congratulations to the 97th Entry, especially prizewinners Miller and Barski, on their final examination results. They have the good wishes of the training staff for success in their careers, and we thank them for the permanent reminder of their stay in the attractive Entry plaque presented to the Section.

Staff changes during the last term of 1963 have been considerable. On October 30th the Section bade farewell to Mr. 'Fred' Casely, who, after more than 20 years of Instructor service, has graduated to retirement. At a representative gathering of his Service and Civilian colleagues he was presented with a set of Bowls woods, and best wishes for an active future. Mr. Elwell and Mr. Stone, those cheerful fugitives from Armament training have, after good work in our Workshop Practice phase, returned to their own specialisation at Weeton. Farewell also to F.S. Taylor

posted to Eastleigh (Kenya), and Cpl. Gates to Aden. Welcome to Ch.Techs. Jones, Clarke-Hunt, Cpl.Techs. Abrahams, Brown, and Johnson, recent arrivals from various Commands, who we hope bring with them a wealth of up-to-date experience for the benefit of Electrical Apprentice training.

Ch.Tech. McDermott (the grand old man of E. and I.) had the honour of being selected to represent Technical Training Command at Soccer—a well merited culmination of his efforts in support of the Section and Station teams. Matches for the Section team have been few, and have mainly been confined to the Inter Section Knock-out Cup. The E and I. team arrived in the Final after a bewildering process of elimination, only to fall to the P.T.Is.

The Judo fraternity is still in evidence in the Section but with a fair proportion dormant at present. (Rumour hath it that 'Bill' was

seen sitting in a corner, flexing his fists and growling 'If he can get yellow, so can I').

Congratulations are extended to Mr. A. J. Poole on the award of an A.O.C.'s Commendation, published in the Awards List for 1st January, 1964.

INSTRUMENT TRAINING FLIGHT

The 97th Entry, having successfully overcome the trials of the final trade test, have now left, taking with them the majority of the awards and prizes made to the whole entry. S/A/A Boreham, C/A/A Sims and L/A/As Coughlan and Mitchell were awarded cadetships and also shared seven prizes, and a further prize went to L/A/A Smith. Congratulations on these fine creditable performances and to all the Entry go our best wishes in their new careers.

Congratulations also to W.O. Slack, who was awarded the A.O.C.'s commendation in the New Year's Honours list.

During the term we welcomed to the Flight Ch.Tech. Morgan from Swanton Morley, Ch.Tech. Seymour from Ballykelly and Cpl. Knights from Kinloss. Ch.Tech. Morgan is an ex-Cranwell Apprentice; this was in the days before the Instrument School moved to Halton. Ch.Tech. Seymour is ex-55th Entry. It is of interest to note that no fewer than fifteen members of the staff started their careers as Apprentices, ranging from the early days of Flowerdown (the ex-Naval school) to the 76th Entry at Halton.

The annual Instrument Staff Dinner was held just before Christmas at the 'Crow's Nest'. Our thanks go to Cpl.Tech. Harrison and his helpers for a most enjoyable and filling evening.

We are looking forward to good graduation results from the 98th Entry: they will be the first of the relatively large Instrument Fitter entries to graduate, but let us hope we are as successful with the many as we were with the few.

AIRFIELD TRAINING SQUADRON

Since last going to press the Airfield Training Squadron has again had a face lift in more ways than one. We welcome to our

ranks Ch.Tech. Bosdett, now i/c our electrical section, Cpls. Graham, Surrell, Ward and Wright; also, joining our maintenance staff endeavouring to fight 'apprenticised' ground equipment, we have Ch.Tech. Moore, Cpl. Gregory, Jnr.Tech. Evans and Jnr.Tech. Reynolds. We have lost our cheerful female element, S.A.C.W. Bloxham, to head office and have L.A.C. Clarke i/c typewriter and memos to instructors.

The A.M.W.D. (sorry—Ministry of Public Buildings and Works) must have read the last article: our roads and unused driveways have been re-surfaced—but not the well used car park—and our Georgian buildings have been air-conditioned—we now have more holes in the walls for the Airfield breezes to blow through and freeze vital pipe lines.

The second Vulcan did not materialize, and the work on the airfield was not for its graceful entrance; of course it may be the wrong airfield that the works people renovated, for we did hear that the Vulcan went to Cosford for the black box boffins, and had a slight disagreement with the airfield of No. 2 S. of T.T.

The 98th are now with us. Cold Weather Precautions are going into operation with a swing in the form of Thermos flasks and divers pullovers suitably concealed. Even aircraft marshalling was successfully carried out for all, in spite of the weather and the pilot's endeavours to obey all signals without reducing the number in the entry.

AIRFRAME TRAINING SQUADRON

The members of the training staff are to be congratulated on the high standard of the pass-out attained by the Apprentices of the 97th Entry, three Apprentices obtaining the rank of Corporal, the remainder passing out at Jnr.Tech. level. We would particularly like to congratulate C/A/A Lucas on being awarded a technical cadetship to Henlow and C/A/A Heithus on his cadetship to Cranwell. We wish them all every success in their future careers.

We extend a warm welcome to the 105th Entry to Halton and hope they have now settled in successfully. We feel sure they will follow and even better the good example set up by the 97th Entry.

The progress prize was presented this term to A/A Bainbridge of the 99th Entry for progress made in the first half of the course. It was a book on Aeronautics to help him do even better in the second half of the course.

The Airframe Section says goodbye to one of its longest serving instructors, namely Mr. Gordon Stent, who retired on December 9th, after 37 years. It is reported that he first came to work on a penny-farthing and remembers the Trenchard Library when it was only a magazine rack. A walk round the Basic Workshop will not seem the same without him, and we wish him well and many years of happy retirement.

A warm welcome is extended to Fg.Off. Garland, the newly arrived Technical Wing Adjutant, and we hope he has a pleasant time amongst us.

After much deliberation and a great deal of hard work on the part of some, the refurbishing of the 'Common Room' is now complete. The painters and decorators added the finishing touches, moving out just in time to allow a very successful Children's Christmas party to take place. A lot of activity and hard work went into the catering arrangements for this event by the wives of the staff, which was appreciated by all the children attending. Entertainment was a film show, tricks by our resident magician, and a visit from Father Christmas.

The section had a very enjoyable dinner and dance prior to the Christmas break. This was well organised and even ensured all the ladies won a prize in the raffle. Our thanks to the members of the committee for organising two very successful social events.

Finally we wish success to our members of the 98th Entry in their Final Trade Test which they commence on 9th March. By the time this is published they will know their fate. 'Good Luck'!

ENGINE TRAINING SQUADRON

The 97th Entry Engine Fitters passed out with all A/As qualified to Junior Technician standard. The average was 71.8%; this was as expected from their workshop training average.

C/A/A Heron won the Crebbin-Robinson Cup for practical fitting; he was also promoted to the rank of substantive corporal.

C/A/A Titterton was granted a direct entry commission (G.D. Pilot). He was also the best tradesman in the trade, final T.S.T.S.

Passing out at Christmas is exciting enough for most, but for A/A Alderton the occasion was also a triumph over adversity. Alderton arrived at Halton in January 1959, with the 95th Entry, but subsequently was involved in a car accident which resulted in his having several major operations. Congratulations to Alderton: he showed tenacity and courage.

Staff News

Congratulations to Cpl.Tech. Rogers who now sports his three upside down stripes after passing the Senior Technician trade test.

Cpl.Tech. Wilson has also qualified Senior Technician but he must wait the allotted time before he can 'Sew them up'. Well done, Wilson.

We welcome Snr.Tech. Dunkley to the Squadron and hope he has a happy time with us.

(Century up and still batting)

With the arrival of 106th Entry, Mr. George Edwards (Ted to his friends) has the batting to his credit. The 106th will be his hundredth entry as a civilian instructional officer.

He had the honour to pass out so well from his engine course that he was retained as an instructor to the first entry at Halton in the rank of Leading Aircraftsman. With youth on his side he hopes to carry on for the second century in the Basic Phase. Well done, Mr. Edwards.

We missed the presence of Ch.Tech. Penny for the last two months of 1963; unfortunately he had to undergo an operation, but at least had the foresight to be up and about for the Festive Season.

Squadron Party

A most enjoyable party was held in the Sergeants' Mess Annexe. Ch.Tech. Thomas made arrangements for a most excellent dinner, followed by a dance and general get together, to finish off a successful year for 1963.

SCHOOL NOTES

To an outside observer the School would appear to change very little through the years. Materially this is true of course: the original fabric of the building is slowly crumbling away whilst Herculean efforts of Works and Bricks seem to be insufficient to prevent a large quantity of water percolating through the roof of the building.

A display of engineering might removed the 'Halton Rocket' from the school precincts and thus removed the memorial to the old 'heating' system. Everyone in the school is now warm thanks to the new system, but there is an increased tendency to post-prandial somnolence on the part of some apprentices, and it is not unknown for the staff to 'nod off' occasionally—but even Homer sometimes nodded, so we are told.

Further material changes have been wrought on the common room where carpets—yes CARPETS, have appeared along with new comfortable furniture. This addition, together with the promised curtains, makes for a pleasant life and if only the Officer i/c football can be given his own telephone in another room then the Common room would assume a quiet restful air.

Enough of material things, and on to more important matters. Whilst the Government haggles over whether or not we should have one or two Ministers of Education, the School looks on with interest for they, always being ahead of the times, now have two Group Captains in the School. Shades of Janus!

Seriously though, our congratulations go to Gp.Capt. Duckett on his promotion and we are pleased to hear that he will be staying with us.

The new training scheme to commence in October, 1964, threatens to bring new problems and difficulties to the School, although the thought of teaching at a slightly higher standard to the elite of the apprentice world appeals to all.

The report in some of the papers about the new apprentices had many interesting angles, the two which appealed most being 'Apprentices are accommodated in fine buildings standing in their own grounds', and more



Pilot Officer Gore-Illya, whose departure in his Halton Rocket is shown on page 13.

especially 'An instructor has no other duties—there is no chance of an apprentice being temporarily abandoned while he finishes another task'.

Staff changes have somewhat changed the scenes in the common room. Flt.Lts. James, Condie and Mace will be seen no more drinking tea from the exquisite china whilst Mr. Beacon has given up his hut for a deck chair amongst the sea-weed at Worthing. A special mention must of course go to 'Cpl' Nicholson, the previous compiler of these notes: his crime was that he worked, became



Air Marshal Sir Alfred Earle, K.B.E., C.B., presenting the Imperial Service Medal to Mr. J. A. Barnes on his farewell visit to Halton as A.O.C.-in-C, on 12th November, 1963.

an M.Sc., and was sentenced to a few years at Henlow. This episode will not be overlooked and any other workers must take notice or else suffer 'Henlow'.

Flt.Lt. Andrews is leaving us after a very short spell: he too is going to Henlow, leaving the Electrical and Instrument Science department rather flat and in need of a recharge in the shape of another electrical engineer.

We extend a warm welcome to Flt.Lt. Thomas, Flt.Lt. Freeman (with Naval connections) and Fg.Off. Jenkins, a geologist. We are confident that he will be able to shape even the most adamantine specimens that he may find in the locality.

Finally—how many books are there in the Trenchard Library? A common room splinter group is running a book which says there are not 25,000!

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APPRENTICE WING NOTES

1(A) WING

Staff Notes

First we welcome the return of Sqn.Ldr. Griffiths after his short stay in hospital. We then say goodbye to Fg-Off. Turnbull, who at long last is posted out of Technical Training Command, to R.A.F. Ballykelly. He will be greatly missed, not only by Halton but by the Command Boxing Association. The following have been posted to the Wing and we wish them a long and happy stay.

Fg.Off. Cooper as P.F.O.; Sgt. Doran as N.C.O. i/c Orderly Room; Sgt. Short as Flt. N.C.O. in 2 Squadron.

The debit side of the scale shows W.O. Carnill who is on P.W.R. for GAN in March.

He is a man of many talents, two of the foremost being Hockey and Motor Rallying; his efforts in these fields will be greatly missed by Halton. We may even hear of 'Round the Island races' in Gan in the near future.

Also leaving is a cheery face from the Orderly Room, S.A.C.W. Milner. She is leaving in February to get married and we all wish her every happiness.

98th Entry

The 98th Entry invaded the Continent during the Summer Leave, and discovered the delights of wine and foreign hospitality. There were 27 Apprentices on a trip to Italy, organised by Fg.Off. Aldridge, and several others enjoyed private tours.



The 98th Entry's Christmas Dinner

During the Winter term, the final schools exams were taken and L/A/A Legge is to be congratulated on being first in order of merit and on getting an A.1 Pass. The most memorable result was that of Marsh and Salisbury who came 98th Equal.

With schools finished most of the trades are having to work hard at Airfields, to get warm in the Siberian-like conditions, while the Instrument (Nav) A/A's are trying to keep cool in the Tropics of Calibration.

In the sporting world, A/A Hall excelled in the Sigrist Boxing, A/A Hunt has been awarded the School Hockey Colours and C/A/A Nelson captained the School shooting team. Less fortunate was S/A/A Kabluczenko who broke his leg playing soccer and was last seen lying in (a) state in the P.M Hospital—well and truly plastered.

L/A/A Mason worked under a cloak of secrecy whilst producing the Christmas concert. Once again the Entry treated the Old Folks of Wendover to Christmas food parcels.

The Route Lining Commitment was duly handed over to a more humble Entry and the

main aim of the 98th Entry is to support the 97th Entry in their Graduation Parade, and then prepare for their own 'Passing out Parade' on 25th March, 1964.

100th Entry

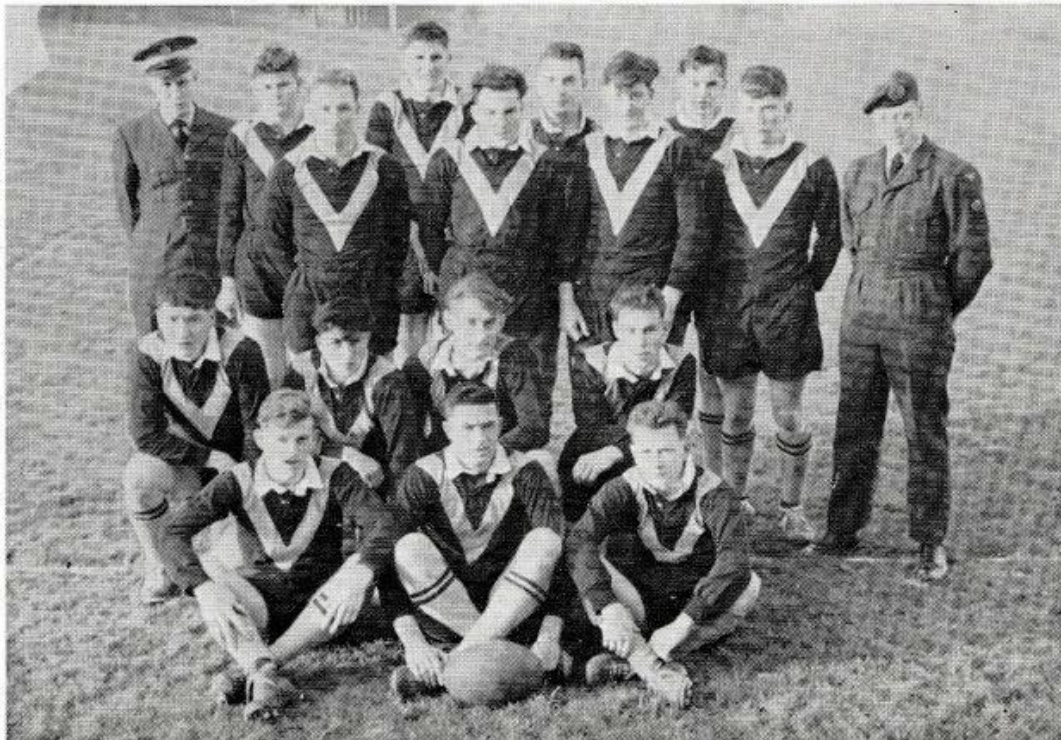
In October, A/A King organised a collection for the OXFAM organisation on a complete Apprentice wings scale. The collection made over £160 for this worthwhile cause, and King is to be congratulated on his efforts. Congratulations also go to L/A/A Holloway who, during his summer leave, saw a man stealing in a store. He apprehended the man and held on to him in the subsequent struggle until the police arrived.

During the mid-term break, A/A Cumming successfully completed his D.E.A.S. Gold Expedition in the rugged Welsh hills of the Dolgelly area. He was accompanied by A/A Pierce who just went along for the 'exercise' and did not compete for the award.

In December the 103rd Entry challenged the 100th Entry to a game of rugby. This proved to be an excellent game and resulted in a draw with neither side scoring a point.



100th Entry Rugby XV



103rd Entry Rugby XV

Preparation has been going on this month for two functions, firstly the dreaded Progress 5 at Workshops. The Wing Christmas concert was a great success and appreciation is due to several of the Entry members who did most of the background organisation and indeed provided the bulk of the entertainment. The Entry once again showed their hospitality to Mrs. White of Wendover, the ex-1 Wing N.A.A.F.I. Manageress, by inviting her to the concert and presenting her with a Christmas hamper.

102nd Entry

The Christmas Term was spent 'getting ready' for route-lining, guards of honour and even Summer Camp, 1964. A Guard of Honour was provided on a number of occasions: outstanding amongst these were the visit of the C. in C, Technical Training Command to Halton and the dedication of a new Standard to the Eastern Section of the Royal Air Force Association at Peterborough Cathedral. On both of these occasions the Entry received favourable comments on their

performance. The Entry has taken part in several map reading exercises; in one case the penalty for bad map reading was the thrill of coming through the mist and coming face to face with a bull.

No. 2(A) WING

Staff

There have been a number of changes in 2 Wing staff since the last Edition of Halton magazine. Flt.Lt. R. W. Burgess has returned from Singapore (rather unwillingly perhaps) and has now taken the reins of No. 2 Squadron again, and Fg.Off. F. Curzon, who had been assisting with the administration of No. 2 Squadron, departed to R.A.F. Spitalgate in order to learn how to administer. Whilst on the course, however, he applied for further language training (Indonesian this time) and on acceptance was immediately lost to the cause of apprentice training.

We welcome F.S. Pettengell from Aden who has taken over where F.S. Preston left off. We wish him all the best for his stay at Halton.

We also welcome Sgt. John to No. 2 Squadron and are looking forward to the arrival of Sgts. Griffin and Lawton to swell our somewhat depleted numbers of the past few months.

Our congratulations to S.A.C.W. Milner who will be leaving us shortly to get married to an ex-apprentice—Plt. Off. Jacobs (95th Entry). We wish them every happiness in the future.

Sport

The Wing sportsmen have again excelled themselves by winning the Barrington-Kennett in most convincing style. The only event which we lost to No. 1(A) Wing was the B.-K. Boxing which was lost by a very narrow margin. We did, however, prove victorious in basketball, cross country, shooting and fencing. Well done 2 Wing, let's keep it up!

Band Competition

The No 2 Wing musicians turned out on the bitterly cold afternoon of 16th December, and though not entering a corps of trumpeters in the competition they still managed to win four of the seven events and thus won the Band Competition again.

Graduation of 97th Entry

The 97th Entry graduated from Halton on Wednesday, 18th December, 1963. Air Chief Marshal Sir William L. M. MacDonald, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.F.C. was the reviewing officer.

We wish all members of the 97th Entry the best of luck at their new stations and feel sure that they will long remember their days at Halton.

Arrival of 103rd Entry

With the passing of the 97th Entry we now welcome the 103rd Entry. We feel sure that they will be an asset to the Wing both on the Sports field and on the Wing. We wish them all the best for the next two years.

2(A) Wing Tennis (Winter Season)

'Tennis' is classed as a minor sport in the Services, but to some it is their first and major sport. To excel at this difficult game with targets in mind at R.A.F. or Command level, the racquet has not to stop swinging at the end of our so-called summers. For keen beginners, and even experienced players, it must be hard work and practice all the year round if results are to be good.

The enthusiastic tennis players of No. 2(A) Wing, through the kind permission of No.



3(A) Wing P.F.O. and his staff, use Maitland gymnasium as their practice venue every Wednesday afternoon. There are snags, such as low beams, insufficient lighting and irregularity of floor surface, but bearing in mind the number of indoor courts which exist in this country anyone must consider himself lucky to have somewhere to hit a ball during the winter months. The service, overhead smash, and the lob are the shots which cannot be correctly executed owing to the lack of height. This can be seen from the photograph of A/A Jacques of the 99th Entry being coached by Mr. Pearce, but the value of practice sessions is already showing in the ground shots and volleying of the pupils.

The practice session lasts from 13.45 to 16.00 hours. Is it a 'scrounge'? Come and judge for yourself: the answer from those taking part—and they have also played in the

other sports at Halton—is that it is over two hours of hard work and concentration.

The tennis coach for these sessions is Mr. C. H. Pearce of No. 2(A) Wing, an ex-Halton Apprentice, who during his service returned to Halton as a flight commander of the 57th Entry, and warrant officer i/c the Airframe Workshops, and since 1952 has worked as a civilian on the camp. His dedication to tennis insists on one hundred per cent. effort from every pupil, with emphasis on class control, a sure pointer to Service training and experience.

No. 3(A) WING

Since the last issue of the Halton Magazine, we have seen one or two changes of face amongst the Wing Officers. We have welcomed into the Wing Flt.Lt. R. Hyman from R.A.F. Valley, who replaces Flt.Lt. P. P. Stevens in No. 2 Squadron, and Plt.Off. R. D. Halpin who is to relieve Flt.Lt. Maisey in No. 1 Squadron.

The winter term has been a relatively quiet one within the Wing. However, it was highlighted by the pass-on parade of the 103rd Entry on the 14th December. A record number of some 370 parents watched the parade on a rather cold blustery December morning. The parade was commanded by Sqn.Ldr. P. V. Ayerst, D.F.C., and the Reviewing Officer was Gp.Capt. R. C. Fordham, C.B.E., who complimented the Entry on their high standard of turnout and drill. The parents were entertained to coffee in the Wing Club immediately following the parade, and were shown around the Wing area, schools, and workshops by their sons, and finally joined the Entry for lunch in the Wing Mess. The 103rd have now physically moved lock, stock, and barrel to the senior Wings where we wish them much success.

The end of term sports competition for the Cock-o-walk shield was won by No. 1



103rd Entry Pass-on Parade



103rd Entry Pass-on Parade

Squadron, 103rd Entry, who were the winners for the second term running.

The term was brought to a successful conclusion by the traditional Christmas dinner when the permanent staff waited at table for the Wing. The evening concluded with a concert and Christmas Draw, under the direction of Sgt. Cooke.

At the time of going to press the 106th

Entry are beginning to arrive at Wendover Railway Station in ones and twos. We extend to them a warm welcome, despite the keen frost and scattering of snow on Maitland parade ground. We hope they will have better conditions for their initial training than the 103rd who had to dig holes in the snow in order to learn the rudiments of drill, and then to cap it all passed out from the Wing on the only snowy day in December.

BAND NOTES

APPRENTICE BRASS BAND

The Apprentice Brass Band has fulfilled several important engagements in the past few months.

On the 20th October, 1963, the Brass Band provided the music at what has now become an annual event, the Luton Youth Service

arranged by the Luton Industrial Mission.

The month of November was a hectic one for the band. On the 9th November they played at the Lord Mayor's Show, which is a hardy annual for the Halton Band. On the following day the band went to R.A.F. Brampton for a Remembrance Day Church