

The Haltonian Magazine

91 Edition

Spring 1962

(Scroll down)

in the VICKERS **VC 10**

The V.C. 10 will be the first civil passenger aircraft in the world to be fitted with liquid oxygen storage equipment. The basic component of this installation will be a 30 litre converter, designed and manufactured by Normalair Limited; one of these liquid oxygen converters will be installed in each aircraft and will supply the emergency oxygen system which has been incorporated to comply with anticipated revisions to the Air Navigation Regulations.

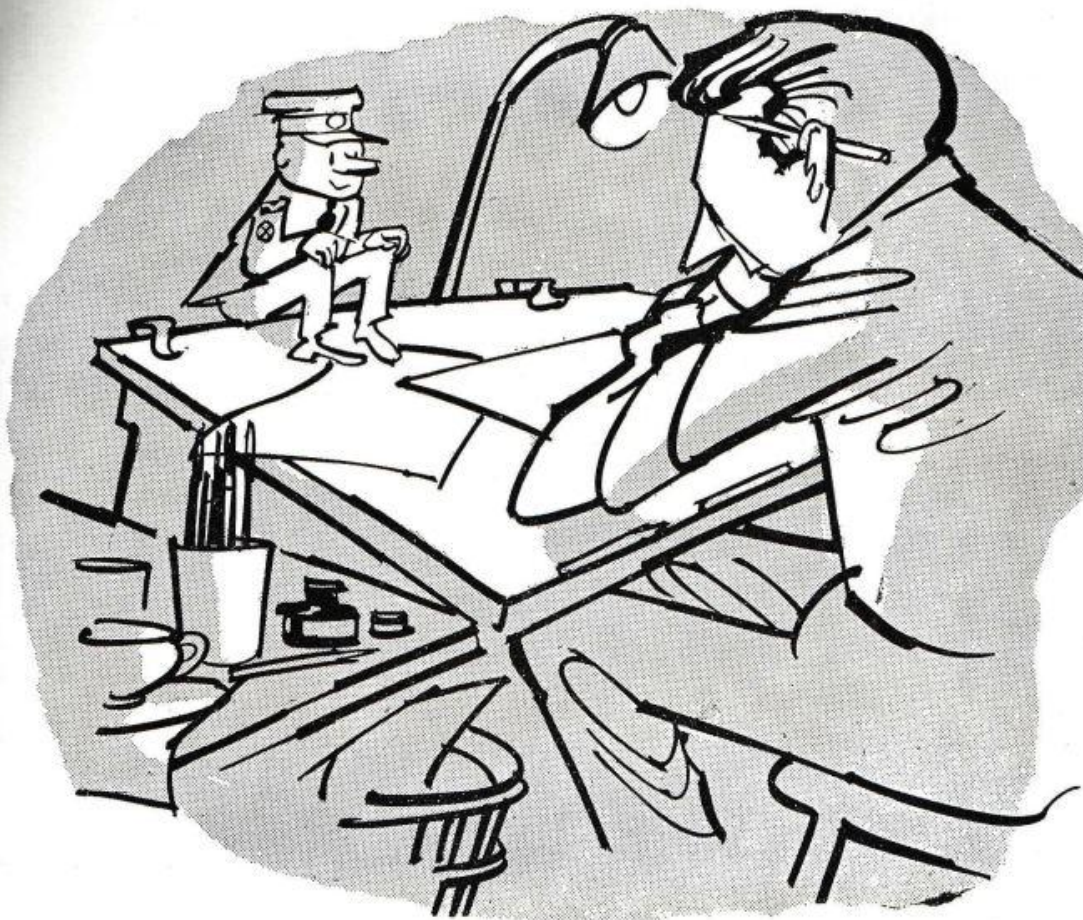
The V.C.10 will also be equipped with a Normalair vapour cycle cooling installation and an entirely new electro-pneumatic pressure control system.



NORMALAIR YEOVIL ENGLAND

NORMALAIR (CANADA)

NORMALAIR (AUSTRALIA)



EDITORIAL

After nearly three years in office, Sqn.Ldr. Settingington has quit this column. During his editorship, the Halton Magazine improved. It has been enlivened by his wit and zest. Equally important, it has become a sound commercial venture. It is easy to take over a machine which runs so smoothly, but it is difficult to maintain the high standard established by Sqn.Ldr. Settingington. We owe him an enormous debt of gratitude.

1962 is a year of double commemoration. It is just forty years since the first Apprentice came to Halton. We have recorded the faces of some of those who remember the first Halton Entry and we portray Flt.Lt. Hammett, a member of the Entry who is again at

Halton. The other unique feature of 1962 is that it has seen the arrival of the 100th Entry of Aircraft Apprentices. Although there have been many changes in apprentice training, members of the early entries have a great deal in common with their modern counterparts. Many facets of training in 1922 are still apparent in 1962. The scheme is still a vital part of the Royal Air Force, fulfilling a basic need. This in itself is a tribute to the wisdom and foresight of Lord Trenchard.

For the present Editor this an occasion of hail and farewell. Sqn.Ldr. Panting will edit the next issue of the Magazine. We wish him every success. It is a pleasureable task.



The 91st Entry graduated from Halton on 20th December 1961. The Reviewing Officer was Air Marshal Sir Herbert Spreckley, K.B.E., C.B., Controller of Engineering and Equipment. With him were Air Marshal Sir Wallace Kyle, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.F.C. the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Technical Training Command, and Air Vice Marshal Coslett, C.B., O.B.E., Air Officer Commanding No. 24 Group. Also accompanying the Reviewing Officer were Air Commodore B. Robinson, C.B.E., Commandant No. 1 School of Technical Training, Group Captain D. M. B. Pitt, M.B.E., Principal Education Officer, Wing Commander J. P. Ford, A.F.C., Officer Commanding No. 2 Apprentice Wing and Wing Commander H. A. J. Mills, Officer Commanding Technical Training Wing.

The parade was under the command of Warrant Officer Apprentice R. Bogg, and the

following N.C.O. Apprentices were subordinate commanders:

Parade Adjutant	C/A/A T. R. Perkins
Parade Warrant Officer	C/A/A Chew-Peng-Wah
Colour Bearer	S/A/A M. A. Redmore
Colour Warrant Officer	L/A/A T. Moore
Colour Escort	C/A/A D. H. Morgan
	L/A/A B. Brown
Colour Orderly	A/A C. F. Nye
Escort Squadron Commander	S/A/A P. M. R. Gardiner
No. 1 Flight Commander	C/A/A F. Yarwood
No. 2 Flight Commander	C/A/A K. Dixon
No. 2 Squadron Commander	S/A/A A. G. Hayes

No. 1 Flight Commander
C/A/A M. A. Clegg
No. 2 Flight Commander
C/A/A R. J. Paxton
Standard Bearers
L/A/A G. Rayfield
L/A/A R. M. Ailward
Apprentice i/c Supporting Entry
S/A/A M. C. Winch
Drum Major Pipe Band
L/A/A R. C. Hooper
Drum Major Brass Band
L/A/A K. A. Dance

The Entries on parade were the 91st and 92nd.

The Commandant's Report

The Commandant said that he was particularly pleased to welcome as Reviewing Officer, Air Marshal Sir Herbert Spreckley whose career in the Royal Air Force since he was a member of the 3rd Entry he briefly outlined. Commissioned at Cranwell in 1925 he had become one of the leading armament specialists in the Service. He had been Commandant of the Empire Air Armament School, and the R.A.F. Technical College. As Director General of Technical Services, and as A.O.C. No. 24 Group he had been closely connected with all aspects of technical training. As the present Controller of Engineering and Equipment he is head of the Technical and Equipment services of the Royal Air Force.

The Commandant also welcomed the many parents present and thanked them for their support and co-operation.

Reviewing the progress of the 91st Entry, the Commandant said that on its induction in January 1959 the strength of the Entry was 265. Of a total wastage of 45, only 25 had been lost to the Service, for technical or medical reasons, or by purchase. He stressed the high standard of achievement required in training.

All 218 Royal Air Force, 5 Cingalese, 4 Malayan and 4 Venezuelan Apprentices who took the final trade test examination passed, and ten per cent gained Class 'A' passes of 75% or over. 25 Apprentices qualified for the Ordinary National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering, and 11 in Electrical Engineering. In the General Certificate of Education at

Ordinary level 176 subject passes were obtained out of 256 entries. In the City and Guilds Examinations 49 Apprentices were successful in Part 1 and Intermediate.

The Commandant spoke of the importance of physical development, and disclosed that the Entry had consumed 91,350 lbs. of meat, 278,401 lbs. of potatoes and 313,202 eggs; they had 150 teeth extracted and 1500 fillings. The maximum increase in weight was 38 lbs. and in height 8 inches.

76 Apprentices took part in School representative sports, and 53 School Colours were awarded to the Entry. Two Apprentices gained Gold Awards, and eight others Silver Awards in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Two Apprentices were awarded G.D. Cadetships at Cranwell, and two were selected for Direct Entry Commissions. Seven Apprentices become Corporals on graduation, 31 will become Cpl.Techs. after one year's service, and 69 after two years'.

The Commandant praised the contribution of the Commonwealth and Venezuelan Apprentices to the achievements of the Entry.

In conclusion the Commandant urged the Entry to maintain the high standards and traditions of those who had preceded them, and wished them luck, success and happiness in the future. He then asked Air Marshal Sir Herbert Spreckley to present the prizes.

Address by Reviewing Officer.

Air Marshal Sir Herbert Spreckley, after warmly welcoming the many parents present, praised the extremely high standard of drill on the parade, and especially congratulated Warrant Officer Apprentice Bogg.

He impressed upon the Entry the importance, in their three years at Halton, of the potential for command to which they had been trained. To those who would become Officers and N.C.Os their ability to command was equally important in their technical work as outside it. This could be achieved only by their ability to do the work well themselves, and to organise it efficiently. Technical command was as important as that exercised by Warrant Officer Bollard, whose absence, in hospital, Sir Herbert particularly regretted.



The Prize Winners

Looking ahead, he emphasized the growing complexities of equipment in R.A.F. service, and the urgent necessity of the Entry to continue the training and education started at Halton. He spoke of the introduction in the near future of a new and much more important trade group—one to supervise the complex modern aircraft as a whole—and the need to man that trade with men of high calibre. An educational level equivalent to Higher National Certificate would be required, and he was sure that a large number of the 91st could achieve this if they really tried.

The Reviewing Officer said that not the

least important thing to keep before them throughout their lives was their religious principles. 'If you follow the tenets of your religion, then you can have a cockpit check occasionally to find out whether ultimately you are going to prang, or whether you are not performing as well as you might.'

In conclusion Air Marshal Spreckley spoke to the 91st as an ex-member of the 3rd Entry, 'May the light of the Lord shine on all your faces, and may that light shine with you throughout your Service career. And having said that No. 3 Entry says goodbye to the 91st.'

91st ENTRY — PRIZE WINNERS

CADETSHIPS

Cadetships in the General Duties Branch have been awarded to

C/A/A M. A. CLEGG

C/A/A T. R. PERKINS

SPECIAL PRIZES

MONSIGNOR BEAUCHAMP MEMORIAL PRIZE (for the best all-round apprentice)
W.O. A/A R. BOGG

PIONEER TROPHY (for the highest marks in all technical training subjects)
A/A W. LIVINGSTON

CREBBIN-ROBINSON CUPS (for the best Trade Standards Practical Fitting Test)
Mechanical Trades: A/A R. C. STEVENS
Electrical and Instrument Trades: A/A J. W. BARR

ELLIOTT MEMORIAL PRIZE (presented by the Royal Aeronautical Society for the highest marks in English and General Studies)
C/A/A T. R. PERKINS

QUINTON MEMORIAL TROPHY (for the best ex-A.T.C. Cadet)
W.O. A/A R. BOGG

COMMANDANT'S PRIZE FOR PARADE COMMANDER
W.O. A/A R. BOGG

AIR MINISTRY PRIZES

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, ALL SUBJECTS

W.O. A/A R. BOGG

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, EDUCATIONAL SUBJECTS

First Prize (Equal)

W.O. A/A R. BOGG and A/A M. C. REID

Third Prize: C/A/A T. R. PERKINS

BEST 'SET TASK' GENERAL STUDIES

A/A M. C. REID

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT GENERAL SERVICE EFFICIENCY

First Prize: W.O. A/A R. BOGG

Second Prize: S/A/A M. A. REDMORE

Third Prize: S/A/A P. M. R. GARDINER

HIGHEST AVERAGE FOR PRACTICAL FITTING OVER THREE-YEAR COURSE
A/A P. CULLEY

BEST TRADESMEN IN TRADE STANDARDS TRADE TEST

AIRFRAME FITTER 1st	..	..	..	..	..	L/A/A J. B. ANDREWS
AIRFRAME FITTER 2nd	..	..	..	..	..	L/A/A R. PENSWICK
ARMAMENT FITTER	..	..	..	..	..	A/A W. LIVINGSTON
ELECTRICAL FITTER (Air)	..	..	..	..	..	A/A D. L. SILVER
ENGINE FITTER	..	..	..	..	..	C/A/A M. A. CLEGG
INSTRUMENT FITTER (Gen.)	..	..	..	..	..	C/A/A T. R. PERKINS
INSTRUMENT FITTER (Nav.)	..	..	..	..	..	A/A P. CULLEY

91st ENTRY—SPORTS

SCHOOL COLOUR AWARDS

ATHLETICS

C/A/A K. DIXON	..	..	..	..	..	1959
S/A/A P. M. R. GARDINER	..	..	..	..	..	1959-60-61
A/A N. A. LASLETT	..	..	..	..	..	1959-60-61

BADMINTON

C/A/A CHEW-PEN-WAH (R. Malayan A.F.)	..	..	..	..	..	1959/60-60/61-61/62
A/A MOHD RASHID BIN YUSOF (R. Malayan A.F.)	1959/60-60/61-61/62
L/A/A H. OOI-SWEE-HIN, (R. Malayan A.F.)	1959/60-60/61-61/62

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BASKETBALL						
A/A I. BROWN	1959/60-60/61-61/62
A/A E. FERMIN	1959/60-60/61-61/62
(Venezuelan A.F.)						
C/A/A T. R. PERKINS	..	..	..	..	..	1959/60-60/61-61/62
BOXING						
A/A F. C. BLAKE	..	..	..	..	..	1959/60-60/61-61/62
A/A W. J. MANDALL	..	..	..	..	..	1959/60
A/A D. MANZANO	..	..	..	..	..	1959/60-60/61-61/62
(Venezuelan A.F.)						
A/A F. K. POUNTNEY	..	..	..	..	..	1959/60
A/A M. RODRIGUEZ	..	..	..	..	..	1961/62
(Venezuelan A.F.)						
A/A G. A. SAVORY	..	..	..	..	..	1959/60-60/61
CRICKET						
W.O. A/A R. BOGG	..	..	..	..	..	1961
A/A C. K. JOHNS	..	..	..	..	..	1960-61
A/A T. R. MEAGOR	..	..	..	..	..	1961
A/A J. S. YEOMENS	..	..	..	..	..	1960-61
CROSS COUNTRY						
A/A I. BROWN	..	..	..	..	..	1959/60-60/61-61/62
A/A M. J. DENNISON	..	..	..	..	..	1961/62
A/A W. C. HOLMES	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
A/A J. R. HUGHES	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61/62
L/A/A M. P. KEITCH	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
A/A J. G. McCAW	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
A/A T. A. MEWTON	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
A/A W. M. RAMSEY	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61-61/62
A/A R. SAYERS	..	..	..	..	..	1959/60-60/61-61/62
C/A/A F. YARWOOD	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61/62
HOCKEY						
A/A J. BISHOP	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
A/A B. A. CARTER	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61/62
A/A B. E. S. FOSTER	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61-61/62
A/A D. R. NICHOLAS	..	..	..	..	..	1959/60-60/61-61/62
A/A A. P. K. SMITH	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61-61/62
RUGBY						
A/A M. P. COLLIER	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
S/A/A P. M. R. GARDINER	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61-61/62
A/A P. A. MOSS	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61-61/62
A/A K. W. RENFREY	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
A/A P. ROBINSON	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
A/A D. G. RYAN	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
A/A P. B. WALTON	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61-61/62
A/A P. WARD	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61-61/62
A/A W. T. WARE	..	..	..	..	..	1961/62
SHOOTING						
A/A P. A. MOSS	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
SOCCER						
W.O. A/A R. BOGG	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61-61/62
C/A/A K. DIXON	..	..	..	..	..	1959/60-60/61-61/62
A/A J. P. GREEN	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
L/A/A C. HORNE	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
A/A A. C. HOUGHAM	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
A/A J. M. KINCH	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
A/A J. M. ROMAN	..	..	..	..	..	1960/61
SWIMMING						
A/A K. H. DUXBURY	..	..	..	..	..	1959-60-61
A/A R. K. WILMES	..	..	..	..	..	1960

91st ENTRY POSTING LIST

(in order of merit)

Bogg R.	Direct Entry Commission (G.D.) (N)	Livingston W. Muthukrishnan V. A.	Cottesmore Repatriated
Bryant M. K.	Substantive Corporal Wyton	Ragunathan C.	Repatriated
Perkins T. R.	Substantive Corporal Cadetship (G.D.) (N.)	Rogers C. D.	Benson
Penswick R.	Substantive Corporal Leconfield	Keitch M. P.	Honington
Winchester E. H.	204 Sqn. Ballykelly	Weekes G. A.	Marham
Clegg M. A.	Cadetship (G.D.) (P.)	Newman T. M.	Scampton
Stillitano M. S.	Substantive Corporal Leconfield	Thomas D.	Lynham
Reid M. C.	1 A.N.S. Stradishall	Dixon K.	232 O.C.U. Gaydon
Marsden J. R.	Marham	Robson H. P.	1 G.W.T.S. Valley
Hayes A. G.	Finningley	Stevens R. C.	St. Mawgan
Kuru-Utumpala N. D. U.	Substantive Corporal Repatriated	Morgan D. H.	1 A.N.S. Stradishall
Redmore M. A.	Direct Entry Comm. (G.D.) (P) Substantive Corporal	Pratt, G. S. V.	Substantive Corporal
		Gardiner, P. M. R.	Marham
		Dennison, M. J.	Finningley
		Kiggell, P. S.	Benson
		Silver, D. L.	Honington
		Chew Peng Wah	Scampton
			Repatriated

Johnson D. R.
 Horne C. W.
 Gatherer G.
 Robins B. J.
 Lathey J. W.
 Paxton R. J.
 Moule, C. G.
 George B. R.
 Jackson D. F.
 Andrews J. B.
 Porter L. H.
 Fernando A. M.
 Bagwell M.
 Stone P. J.
 Mercer D. H.
 Long B. F.
 Brown B.
 Culley P.
 Ravithuban S.
 Wright R. D. L.
 MacInnes A.
 Storey P.
 Wheeler J. A.
 Horsburgh D. A.
 Hill M. G.
 King K. H. K.
 Buddle S. T.
 Humphries M. P.
 Howe J. R.
 Johns C. K.
 Merritt F. G.
 Ramsay W. Mac D.
 Moh'd Rashid Bin Yusof
 York S. F.
 Ooi Swee Hin
 Hill, B. H.
 Cantrell, D. J.
 Parsons J. H.
 O'Brien O. J.
 Binmore R. T. J.
 Moore, T. A. G.
 Smith G. W.
 Thorn J. W.
 Snell L. W.
 Chan Jin Kooi
 Brett P. F.
 Yarwood F.
 Clements M. H.
 Meagor T. R.
 Dew M. J.
 Neale J. A.
 Savory G. A.
 Laslett N. A.
 Twohig J. J.
 Smith G. D.
 Allen P. E.
 Flack J. F. G.
 Worth D. V.
 McLaren W. H.
 Shoosmith J. A.
 Andrews D.
 Dean P. J.
 Husson A. V.
 Trigwell E. W.
 Ostridge A. J.
 Denny R. A.
 Mewton T. A.
 Taylor G.
 Barr J. W.
 Johnson P. E.
 Kane M. I.
 Hunt J.
 Bain J.
 Pountney F. K.
 Holmes W. C.
 Bishop J. G.
 Cannell P. N.
 Kavanagh B. F. P.
 Hooper R. C.
 Wilkes R. K.
 Hougham A. C.
 Morgan W. H.
 Worthy J. L.
 Rutland V. P.
 Henley R. W.
 Blackwell D. T.
 Nicholas D. R.
 Robbins K. H.
 Guilimoto R. J. P.
 Harper D.
 Worthington R.
 Wattisham
 Marham
 Marham
 Waddington
 64 Sqdn. Waterbeach
 Benson
 Honington
 Lyneham
 Funningley
 33 Sqn. Middleton-St.-George
 Honington
 Repatriated
 Wyton
 32 M.U. St. Athan
 Colerne
 Colerne
 Wyton
 Funningley
 Repatriated
 42 Sqn. St. Mawgan
 44 Sqn. Waddington
 Waddington
 206 Sqn. St. Mawgan
 32 M.U. St. Athan
 54 Sqn. Waterbeach
 32 M.U. St. Athan
 A.S.W.D.U. Ballykelly
 Cyprus
 230 Sqn. Odiham
 A.E.S. Hullavington
 232 O.C.U. Gaydon
 228 Sqn. Leconfield
 Repatriated
 Honington
 Repatriated
 1 A.N.S. Stradishall
 Waddington
 Scampton
 B.C.B.S. Lindholme
 Scampton
 Singapore
 1 A.N.S. Stradishall
 C.S.E. Watton
 229 O.C.U. Chivenor
 Repatriated
 Waddington
 617 Sqn. Scampton
 Wittering
 Funningley
 Lyneham
 A.E.S. Hullavington
 C.F.E. West Raynham
 Lyneham
 Lyneham
 1 G.W.T.S. Valley
 Lyneham
 Benson
 232 O.C.U. Gaydon
 203 Sqn. Ballykelly
 85 Sqn. West Raynham
 Honington
 St. Mawgan
 Benson
 Horsham St. Faith
 A.S.W.D.U. Ballykelly
 Waddington
 Wittering
 B.C.B.S. Lindholme
 Scampton
 44 Sqn. Waddington
 27 Sqn. Scampton
 203 Sqn. Ballykelly
 111 Sqn. Wattisham
 Cottesmore
 C.S.E. Watton
 206 Sqn. St. Mawgan
 44 Sqn. Waddington
 Colerne
 St. Mawgan
 Marham
 Abingdon
 Lyneham
 111 Sqn. Wattisham
 Marham
 Honington
 64 Sqn. Waterbeach
 Waddington
 A.E.S. Hullavington
 Honington
 Scampton
 Marham
 Mandall W. J.
 North R. F. J.
 McQueen D.
 Grant J. V.
 Carroll P. T.
 Wootton P. D.
 Abrahams R.
 Hunton P. H.
 Garland J.
 Robinson P. I. J.
 Bale E. N.
 Davey A. S.
 Wain W. B.
 Ainsworth R.
 Martin P. R.
 Deas R. W.
 Grant P. G.
 Ware W. T.
 Walton P. B.
 Ashford P. G.
 McGaw J. G.
 Dempsey H. W.
 Moss P. A.
 Foster B. E.
 Powell S. J.
 Swadel W. B.
 Hammond P. C.
 Jordan T. J. M.
 Harrison C. J.
 Robson G. C.
 Haslett M. K.
 Draper J. L.
 Cruickshank J. A.
 Hughes J. R.
 Bingham J. A.
 Pine M. F.
 Duxbury K. H.
 Stewart K. R.
 Maxwell C. T.
 Bryson C. S.
 Carr J.
 Shephard J. C.
 Blake F. C.
 Renfrey K. W.
 Bevington R. T.
 Topsom D. G.
 Bird K. C.
 Readhead R. P.
 Neat P.
 Turton D. R.
 Williams K.
 Sergeant R. E.
 Burton A. F.
 McAlinden T. B.
 Green J. P.
 Ryan D. G.
 Rodriguez J. V.
 Andrews M. J.
 French J. R.
 Bradley W. G.
 Browne R. B.
 Collier M. P.
 Avery A. H.
 Lyon J. W. S.
 Allan D. G.
 Curwood M. E.
 Lister C. S. C.
 Hall E. P.
 Burgess R. J.
 Vickers D. J.
 Mitchell N. D.
 Laken D. T.
 Parr F.
 Hirst N. E.
 Ward P.
 Richardson A. E.
 Dougherty D. P.
 Carter B. A.
 Jeal R. W.
 Lipscomb K. S.
 Collins L. A. J.
 Cousins S. C.
 Allen K. J.
 Sullivan P. J.
 Brown I.
 Gerard W. A.
 Coldwell M. J. S.
 Ashbee M.
 Smith A. P. K.
 McLean W. K.
 Roman J. M.
 83 Sqn. Scampton
 210 Sqn. Ballykelly
 83 Sqn. Scampton
 Waddington
 Kinloss
 201 Sqn. St. Mawgan
 Kinloss
 33 Sqn. Middleton-St.-George
 Wyton
 228 O.C.U. Leconfield
 Honington
 Lyneham
 Waddington
 Scampton
 617 Sqn. Scampton
 83 Sqn. Scampton
 27 Sqn. Scampton
 A.E.S. Hullavington
 Scampton
 228 Sqn. Leconfield
 C.F.E. West Raynham
 Benson
 Scampton
 232 O.C.U. Gaydon
 Honington
 29 Sqn. Leuchars
 Lyneham
 1 Sqn. Waterbeach
 C.F.E. West Raynham
 Leconfield
 Scampton
 Waddington
 Honington
 56 Sqn. Wattisham
 232 O.C.U. Gaydon
 Honington
 Eastleigh
 232 O.C.U. Gaydon
 43 Sqn. St. Mawgan
 27 Sqn. Scampton
 74 Sqn. Coltishall
 Marham
 Waddington
 Marham
 56 Sqn. Wattisham
 Wattisham
 Upavon
 Waddington
 Honington
 Scampton
 1 G.W.T.S. Valley
 118 Sqn. Aldergrove
 74 Sqn. Coltishall
 617 Sqn. Scampton
 Waddington
 Cottesmore
 Repatriated
 Lyneham
 85 Sqn. West Raynham
 Scampton
 201 Sqn. St. Mawgan
 Colerne
 229 O.C.U. Chivenor
 210 Sqn. Ballykelly
 Coltishall
 Colerne
 Waddington
 A.E.S. Hullavington
 232 O.C.U. Gaydon
 Benson
 44 Sqn. Waddington
 Colerne
 Funningley
 Waddington
 B.C.B.S. Lindholme
 Abingdon
 617 Sqn. Scampton
 Benson
 23 Sqn. Coltishall
 617 Sqn. Scampton
 23 Sqn. Coltishall
 74 Sqn. Coltishall
 41 Sqn. Wattisham
 Abingdon
 1 G.W.T.S. Valley
 204 Sqn. Ballykelly
 Benson
 41 Sqn. Wattisham
 Coltishall
 54 Sqn. Waterbeach
 Wyton

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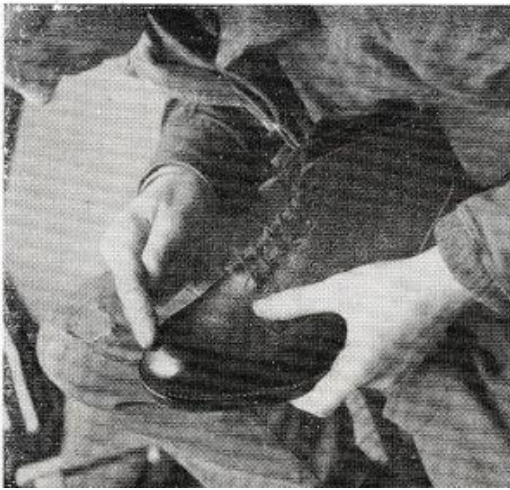
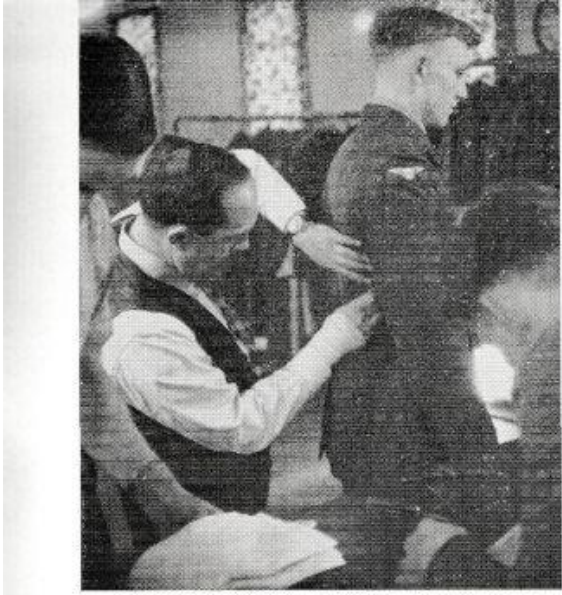
**THE ARRIVAL
OF THE
100th ENTRY**

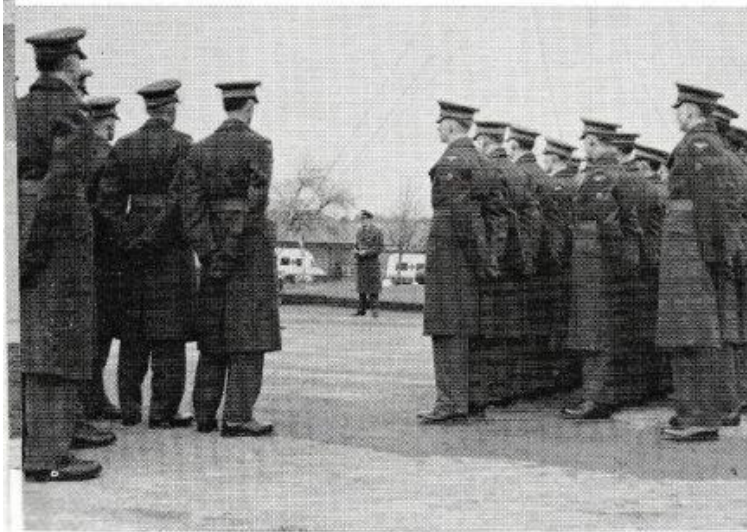


An old story —
— told without words









CURRENT EVENTS

WING NOTES

No. 1(A) WING

At the time of writing these notes the 92nd Entry are in a state of deep concentration having come face to face with the reality of Final Examinations. By the time this magazine reaches the bookstalls they will have reached the same conclusion as the previous 91 entries—a little study carried out systematically over the 3 years would have been well worth while, and if it had to be done all over again, etc., etc., etc.

There is a lesson here for the 94th and 96th, and it is not too late, etc., etc., etc.

Whilst the 92nd are busily engaged, the 94th have at last moved into their modernised Blocks, with bedside lights, rooms decorated in pastel shades, lighted with fluorescent tubes which rival Cape Canaveral by night and scream out for observation by day when the forgetful L/A/A leaves the lights on when leaving his room. These modernised blocks present a long overdue improvement in the Wing and provide a standard of accommodation in keeping with 1962;—even if a broken lamp-shade now costs £2.10.0 including departmental charges!

Although we lost the Barrington-Kennett Trophy to No. 2 (A) Wing, it will soon be back. The B.K. Shooting team set a new record for this competition with a total of 1145 points out of a possible 1200. L/A/A Preece scoring 196 out of a possible 200 and L/A/A Allen, A/A's Holden and Adcock all scored 191 and over.

In the Band Competition we again achieved the honour of Best Pipe Band and Best Corps of Trumpeters, and A/A Piper of the 96th was adjudged the "Commandant's Trumpeter".

We congratulate Plt.Off. Turnbull, Wing P.F.O. on his selection as Team and Tourna-

ment Secretary to the R.A.F. Boxing Association and we wish him well in this new capacity, and congratulate him also on the success of the School Boxing Team this season.

In this respect we would take the unusual step of calling forward Sgt. Beeney of No.2(A) Wing to say thank you to him for all the very good work he has done on behalf of our Wing Boxers.

No. 3 Squadron had an interesting return visit of Ex. 90th Entry Cadetship winners, when Acting Pilot Officers Carver, Miall, Proudfoot, Redley and Spanner together with Sergeant Cadet Merritt came back following Passing Out from No. 1 Initial Training School South Cerney. The wheel had indeed turned a full circle when a certain Sergeant received his ex-Apprentices with a smart salute on their re-entry to the Squadron.

A successful D.E.A.S. Expedition was arranged and supervised by Sqn.Ldr. Lang, Flt.Lt. Parkinson and Sgt. Aitchison to the Brecon Beacons. Although primarily a reconnaissance trip, 5 Apprentices qualified to Gold Award Standard.

The 92nd Entry provided a Christmas party for children from Homes in Princes Risborough and Berkhamstead. This party was financed from the Apprentices Fund and by the proceeds of a concert held in the N.A.A.F.I. The 94th Entry entertained a party of mentally handicapped children from Chesham and High Wycombe. This was an entirely new venture and was most rewarding. The Entry financed the party entirely and very quickly got on good terms with their guests.

Both parties were given an excellent tea which was most tastefully arranged by the Wing N.A.A.F.I. Staff, and this was followed

by films, games and farewell presents from the local Santas, Sqn.Ldr. Lang and F.S. Lewis, both using their own home grown beards, which probably accounted for the calm confidence associated with built-in whiskers.

A/A Agnew 92nd left the Service for medical reasons. He was a good all round sportsman and we wish him well in future. A/A Sarvagunanathan, 94th has also been withdrawn from training on medical advice and is returning to Ceylon. We wish him a speedy recovery and are sorry that he did not finish his training with us.

We welcome Sgt. R. T. Fox to the Wing. He comes to us from Hawkinge (Girls) to Halton (Boys)—a difference?—who knows!

We congratulate Flt.Lt. J. Serrell-Cooke, Fg.Off. E. Walter and Fg.Off. G. P. Allen on their recent marriages and welcome their Brides to the staff. We wish them all the very best of luck and piously hope our three Flight Commanders will now view our domestic problems with a deeper understanding.

The Wing continues to be well represented in Station and School sports teams. A/A Murray 96th deserves special mention for winning the Individual Flyweight Championship in the Lord Wakefield Senior Competition and L/A/A Snooks, 92nd, on his fine win in the Northern Area Junior Cross Country Championships. He was also selected to represent the Royal Air Force. Mention should also be made of L/A/A Preece, 94th, for his consistently high score in shooting for Wing and Station and A/A Tulip, 94th, for his sailing activities.

By the time this magazine arrives we shall be saying farewell to Wg.Cdr. R. J. Palmer, M.B.E. who has commanded the Wing for the past two and a half years. We thank him for all the encouragement and assistance which he has given both in work and games.

Can we now expect that future generations of airmen will be greeted on arrival in Malta by the combined Pipe and Brass Bands which we feel sure he will have in action soon? We wish the Wing Commander and Mrs. Palmer a very happy tour in Malta.

No. 2(A) WING

Once more the dizzy plunge into print, the attempt at literacy by a basically illiterate person. My task is eased this time, as we have the graduation of the 91st Entry as well as all the usual noteworthy events to describe. It was a successful term for the Wing, we won the B.-K. Trophy back, the 93rd and 95th passed a fairly progressive and productive course, and the 91st performed an extremely good graduation parade.

The Parade itself was a very good one, one of the best that has been seen here for some time. Many knowledgeable and high ranking officers were lavish in their praise. A large number of parents attended, and they had every reason to be proud of their sons. W.O. A/A Bogg deserves special praise. His handling of the Graduation Parade was superb, and he passed out top of the Entry. The soccer and cricket XI's will both miss this robust and enthusiastic player.

In the evening after the parade tensions were relieved in the traditional manner with wine, woman and song at the graduation dance. The Graduation Dinner on the Monday prior to graduation was another most enjoyable affair. Next day the newly striped Cpl.Techs. J.T.'s and S.A.C.s went their various ways in an assortment of motor cars of all shapes, sizes and colours, some new some of indeterminate age, and the remaining staff were left to survey the shattered scene feeling perhaps 'a compound of relief and nostalgia.'

During the term we regained the B.-K. Trophy by the narrowest of margins. We won the boxing earlier in the term by six bouts to four after some close fights. The Wing provided a number of boxers for the School team which scored a brilliant runaway win in the Wakefield trophy. 1 Wing put up a fine display in the Cross Country, and came loping in well in front of most of our runners. 1 Wing had some excellent marksmen last year, and they also managed to win the shoot-

ing with a record score. The 2 (A) Wing team surpassed all their previous efforts but unhappily this was not enough. Everything eventually depended on the Basketball. We managed to win both Senior and Junior games, the latter by the narrow margin of 2 points. Our thanks to 1 Wing for a close and hard fought series of competitions last term, I hope we have a similar pattern this term with the margin still on our side.

The band competition was a different story. After the prodigies of harmony and precision produced last summer term by our band, which won us the competition for the first time in many moons, this time we failed narrowly to hang on to the title. Our individual performers did very well and won most of the awards. However the ensemble events went to 1 Wing, although it took a very musical ear to sort out the subtle differences. We hope to gain our revenge at the end of this term; we have some pretty hep cats in the 97th Entry, and the pipers are already guzzling daily the old Highland Musicians diet of Haggis and Porridge.

Wg.Cdr. Ford handed over to Wg.Cdr. Bates at the end of the term after over two years at the helm. We thank him for all he did for the Wing and the School, his presence in many different spheres will be sorely missed. The Wing wishes Wg.Cdr. and Mrs. Ford all the best; we hope and expect that the climate of Butterworth, Malaya will suit them and also that intrepid hound Rufus, and at the same time we welcome Wg.Cdr. Bates and his family to Halton.

Flt.Lt. Cox has managed to acquire himself a new red 'Sprite', a posting to C.F.S., and more recently a baby daughter. We hope that he and the family enjoy their new surroundings. Sqn.Ldr. Ewan is going to command a Canberra Squadron in Cyprus. We wish him all the best of luck, and also Sgt. Greening, who has left Halton and the Service for the hurly, burly of civilian life as a dog trainer and handler. We welcome Flt.Lt. Harper and Plt.Off. Mackie who have joined us as Flight Commanders.

We have also been joined by some 180 members of the 97th Entry, who are just settling in to their new surroundings, and many different people are busy assessing their possibilities from many different points of view. Let us hope that no one will be disappointed.

Another term and another year has ended and a new one begun. Most people are vainly trying to remember just what their new year resolutions were; let us hope that some tattered remnant of these good intentions still remain and that everyone has a happy and prosperous New Year.

No. 3(A) WING

The arrival of the 100th Entry in the Wing marks the start of a new era. The 'Entry Shout', it would appear, will have to take on a new form; for while it is comparatively easy to shout 'Ninety Sixth' or 'Ninety Ninth', it becomes much more difficult to deliver 'The Hundredth and First' with anything like the precision and force of old.

The Entry, 165 strong, reflect the present trend towards smaller, and we trust more select numbers. They appear to have settled down well, and at present are exhibiting a strong interest in boxing. Generally they are educationally well endowed, some of them having passes at G.C.E. Ordinary level.

As usual there has been some turn-over in the Staff. Sqn.Ldr. F. E. Clark, Officer Commanding No. 1 Squadron, has been posted to the Guided Weapons Empire. He is on the Long G. W. Course at Henlow, and Manby, before commencing a tour at a missile station. His replacement is Sqn.Ldr. P. V. Ayerst, D.F.C. whom we welcome to the Wing.

Sergeant Christmas who was 56 years old, retired, very unwillingly, after some 36 years service in the Royal Air Force. No doubt he will maintain his strong interest in the Service, and Halton for many years to come.

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F.S. Norris participated in the R.A.F. Badminton Championships at R.A.F. Stanmore Park during November. As well as winning the Veteran Singles and the Veterans doubles for the fifth successive year, he was selected to play for the R.A.F. against Oxford University, who were beaten 9-4.

The Wing received some recognition in the New Years Honours List. Sqn.Ldr. F. R. Jones, Officer Commanding No. 3 Squadron received the A.O.C.-in-C's Commendation, while Sgt. Buckley and Sgt. Picken received the A.O.C's Commendation.

The building and modernisation programme has been steadily if unspectacularly forging ahead. The Maitland Mess re-opened just in time before the bad weather arrived. The Mess is attractively decorated and laid out. It has been lavishly re-equipped with new kitchen equipment, including some high powered toasters which can be operated by the customers themselves. The Blocks are also undergoing a transformation, and even new baths and wash basins are being fitted as a temporary measure in blocks awaiting modernization.

The traditional Christmas dinner of turkey and Christmas pudding, well supplemented with trimmings, was served to the Wing Apprentices by the Staff on Friday 16th December, 1961. This was, of course, their first introduction to this annual event and it

is likely that most of them treated the idea with some scepticism. Doubt however was soon cast aside when with much pomp and ceremony, heralded by the Wing pipes and drums, Officers and N.C.O's ceremoniously marched in very poor step to the Servery, headed by the Wing mascot—'Yogi Bear'. Dinner was followed by the Draw in which some 150 prizes were distributed. Entertainment on a self help basis helped to round off an eventful and successful evening.

Fifty six Apprentices from the 97th Entry were among those who put on a spectacular 'Cavalcade of Sport' display, at the Royal Albert Hall during the British Legion Festival of Remembrance.

In the Inter Squadron Boxing the 97th Entry, No. 1 Squadron won by a small margin from the 98th Entry.

The following Apprentices have been selected as Commandant's Stick Boy A/A Thom 98th Entry (October); A/A Murray 99th Entry (November); A/A Goodson 97th Entry (December); and A/A Aspell 99th (January). They are congratulated on their achievements.

Despite the severe weather at the beginning of term, everyone managed to return on time. The thick snow and ice successfully impeded movement around the camp for several days, but now things are back to normal. A most appropriate ending for the Wing news.

TECHNICAL TRAINING WING

AIRFIELD TRAINING SQUADRON

The highlight of the past year was the commendation by the A.O.C. to two of our instructors, Mr. Green, the airfield civilian supervisor and Mr. Henderson from the cockpit classroom. These awards show that although instructional duties may seem a far cry from operational duties, every branch of the Service has an important part to play. We extend congratulations to Mr. Green and Mr. Henderson, and we ourselves have a general feeling of satisfaction, and feel proud that Airfield Training Squadron should be twice rewarded.

The winter term at the Airfield is often a rigorous procedure, but this year Dame Fortune has been kind to us, sending the worst of winter while we were snug at home in front of the Christmas Yule log. Snow and ice came and went during the leave period and so far, training interruptions have been nil, in spite of many burst pipes.

Once again the staff enjoyed themselves to the full at the Annual Christmas dinner-dance. This feature has become for us now, a tradition. Many thanks to Sgt. McKie and Ch.Tech. Thomson for their efforts in making this year's evening a success.

During this term the ranks of industry were enriched with ex-Apprentice skill. W.O. Anderson retired and joined General Precision Systems Ltd. and Ch.Tech. Walley retired to continue instruction at Vickers Ltd., Weybridge. We wish them both every success. It is a comforting thought to the ex-Apprentice to know that because of his training and experience he is readily welcomed into a new career in industry.

Due to the smaller numbers of engine fitter Apprentices at the airfield, Sgt. Oldham and Cpl. Davies have now been transferred to the Engine Fitter Flight.

Congratulations to Ch.Tech. Brill, Snr.Tech. Clay, Hepburn, Mouat and Stroud on their promotions. Three of our members improved their instruction knowledge by attending night school, which resulted in their successfully qualifying for the City and Guilds of London



A/A Handel (92nd) who, with A/A's D. J. Jones and Hollands, has put in some useful work on C30A Autogyro

Institutes Certificate. Well done Ch.Techs. Thomson and Walley and Sgt. Young.

The re-furbishing of the Cierva Autogyro is proceeding well with the help of a few members of the 92nd Entry under the supervision of the brothers Sgt. and Cpl. Hanby, 56th Entry (Halton) and 16th Entry (Boy Entrant Cosford) respectively.

AIRFRAME FITTER SQUADRON

W.O. Varty passed out at Halton for the second time recently. Initially, our 'V' man passed out as a member of the 23rd Entry, but he passed out again when the 91st Entry results were announced! Really hard work on the last lap paid off and confounded the critics. Congratulations 91st. The Airframe Staff wish you well in the future.

Our Squadron has suffered a sad loss with the passing of Mr. Harold Dewey. Mr. Dewey trained at Halton with the 5th Entry and he returned here as an Instructor, spending many years as a civilian.

F.S. Richards is to be congratulated on being awarded the B.E.M. shortly after leaving us to take up residence in Aden. Prior to being posted, F.S. Richards was presented with a table lighter (and a spare thumb) by the Airframe Staff. 'I once made a table lighter myself—I sawed the legs off' said Taff, in his farewell speech.

The Squadron Christmas Party proved a big success. High lights of the evening included a classical recitation by Cpl. Lewis, about a girl called Nell. This was followed by Yehudi Barrett (Basic) who gave a 'Filing Recital'—he was accompanied on the Pneumatic Hammer by the Compressed Ayres Trio. Cpl. Darwent showed his skill as a magician when he made a bottle of whisky disappear—he was full of good spirits all evening. Our thanks to Snr.Tech. Hardy for organising the party.

I understand the section are holding a dance soon—if we can find the gramophone handle.

Congratulations to Ch.Tech. Patterson and Snr.Tech. Cox on their promotions. We welcome L.A.C. Byrne (our current electrician) recently posted in from Kinloss. We trust he will find Advanced Airframe Section like 'Ohm sweet ohm.'

In conclusion, we wish Mr. F. Burridge a speedy recovery and hope to see him back with us soon.

ARMAMENT ENGINEERING SQUADRON

The Squadron has waved farewell to the 91st Entry and we wish them well in their new surroundings wherever they may be. By the time this appears in print the 92nd will be graduating and our section grows smaller. Our junior Entry are the 98th.

However the Service Staff has not diminished: it has, in fact, increased. Welcome to Sgt. Rich and Cpl. Sedge from Germany. Sgt. 'Fred' Field should by now be enjoying himself in Malta.

Since great emphasis is placed on safety, the following poem may prove that the idea is getting across to the boys. It was written by A/A Dapre (In or out of working hours?).

The Education side of Halton has claimed one of our Civilian Instructors. Mr. J. Sedgley is now employed as an Education Officer at the Schools. Congratulations! Mr. Harry Sharman has left us to join the instructional staff at St. Athan. We were sorry to see him go and hope the 'Saints' appreciate him.

A zooming seat keeps a man on his toes,
If he pulls the handle, way up he goes.

Last time I was messing I yanked at the
cord,

And like it or not I immediately soared
Up into the clouds, a hundred feet or more,
And came down thud on the workshop
floor.

Old Chiefy went mad and he clobbered me
so,

And said, 'On a journey to Cosford you'll
go',

For twenty-eight days I was pestered with
Snoops,

Who guarded us singly and sometimes in
groups,

My month had expired, I was back on my
unit,

Chief said 'Service that seat, and for your
sake don't ruin it'.

Until this day I've made no more mistakes,
But my! what a helluva will-power it takes.

So if in the future you get in a tangle,
For Heaven's sake, Mate, don't pull that
handle.

The moral of this is easy to see;

When servicing seats be reminded of me.

Anthony J. Dapre.

ELECTRICAL FITTER FLIGHT

The graduation of the 91st Entry was accompanied with a sigh of relief and a feeling of general disappointment that a higher average was not achieved, despite all the hard work put in. Nevertheless, all members of this Entry are to be congratulated on achieving 100% graduation to the Electrical Fitter Trade.

The 100th Entry have arrived and, much to the surprise of many of the staff, this great occasion was not heralded by a fanfare of trumpets and the proverbial red carpet. No doubt we shall hear more of this in three years' time.

Few changes have taken place in the manning of the Flight. One instructor has been posted in, namely Cpl. Andrew, to whom we extend the usual warm welcome. We have also had local additions in Mr. G. Elwell and Mr. I. Jenkins who have been transferred from the 'Plumbers' Union'. They are now in Electrical Basic Training; we welcome them and wish them 'The best of luck, mates!'

F.S. Johns wishes to refute the rumour that he carried a bucket and shovel at the Lord Mayor's Show. We understand that he and the other members of the staff involved were commended for their work—good show and congratulations!

The Electrical Section has been brought well into the limelight by the excellent achievement of our W.O. B. J. Chubb (of West of England T.V. fame) in winning the Curtis Memorial Prize for 1961. We gather from him that, after his visit to the B.B.C. Television studios, he considers that Halton desk carvings to be comparatively few and of poor quality, and that this extraneous art is better left to the V.I.P's on T.V.

The highlight of the Social Club activities was the Christmas Party and Draw which was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Our congratulations to the retiring Social Committee on a splendid job. We are sure that the new Committee will have the same enthusiasm and industry and, we hope, will receive even better support and enthusiastic participation from all the staff.

The Section football team, although not yet up to League standard, have enjoyed a fairly good season, being only narrowly defeated by the 91st Entry. A post-mortem of this game reveals that adverse weather conditions, the stamina of youth and the referee all contributed to the final result. The team manager, Cpl. Harrison, feels sure that they could have done much better this season with a little more support from the touchline.

What secret weapon is being built behind the closed doors of Bay 3? Is Chief.Tech. Eamer about to beat the American astronauts in circumnavigating the globe or is the ultimate deterrent here at last?

ENGINE FITTER SQUADRON

The article in the last issue on the activities of the section, referred to the 'New Look'. This has now been superseded by a 'Newer Look', as aircraft engines, components and even aircraft are being moved, from here to there. Classrooms are falling like the walls of Jericho, and going up again, in positions more suitable for Instructors and Apprentices (away from the noises of practical workers).

The members of the training staff are to be congratulated on the high standard of pass-out attained by the Apprentices of the 91st Entry, who achieved a 'new high', the best for several Entries. The most outstanding Apprentice was W.O. A/A 'Dick' Bogg, well known sportsman (now a Cpl. on a Navigators' Course).

'Departures':— Mr. 'Tom' Eades, civilian supervisor, having reached a somewhat retarded age of retirement (65 years young). With 35 years service behind him, he felt the going to be still quite arduous. Tom, who joined the staff at Halton as an Instructor 'Engines', finally reached the top rank of Civilian Supervisor, in 1944. He served throughout the First World War, as a Sgt. in the Royal Engineers and in the second World War he became O.C. Home Guard (Weston Turville and Stoke Mandeville area). He is still hale and hearty and has no intention of retiring to the old crocks home (Worthing or Bournemouth) and, like his old pal, 'Paddy' Cameron, is now employed in the Technical cinema, driving a machine of the jet age (16 m.m.) under the tutelage of L.A.C.W. Brenda Wood (Timber). The Staff of the section presented him with a folding metal Tea Trolley. (Mk.1. 'T' for Tom). His position has now been filled by Mr. George Edwards, in acting supervisor capacity, who is at present absorbed in producing Surrealistic and Picasso-type Wall Charts.

From a masculine point of view, the complete staff were terribly disappointed at the internal posting of S.A.C.W. Maria Gillett, an exponent on the fingerboard of an ancient type machine/gadget/Typewriter.

The staff were deeply perturbed to learn of the loss of Mr. 'Bill' King's wife, who died

during the Christmas Break. Bill has been with us since 1922 and is a well known figure on his bike as he cycles to and fro daily, along the A413. (Missenden Great).

Arrivals:— Sgt. Roy Oldham ex-Aden, via Airfields, well known for his activities on the 'bowls green', where he counteracts his downhand play with a high standard of up-hand 'elbow lift'.

Cpl.Tech. Dave Davies from the land of the leek and rugger, who is a keen gliding expert and no mean exponent on the waterways of England, in a canoe.

Ch.Tech. Bob Pilkington (B/Smith and Welder) now Progress Empire, has gone all upper classish, since winning a Bronze Award, in Public Speaking, (L.A.M.D.A.) but we are assured that there is no truth in the rumour that he will soon be posted to Speakers' Corner.

Sgt. Eric Undery is now looking much fitter, but hasn't smiled since the last Rugby international, when Wales failed to put it over England and Scotland.

INSTRUMENT FITTER FLIGHT

The 91st Entry Instrument Fitters have graduated and we wish them success with their new responsibilities. Our special congratulations go to C/A/A 'Lofty' Perkins who was selected for a cadetship at the R.A.F. College, Cranwell, for training as a Navigator. We feel that he should show particular ability in Astro Navigation—after all he was always nearer to the stars than the rest of us. We also specially congratulate A/A Barr who won the Crebbin-Robinson Cup, and had also won our 2nd Year Progress Prize for instrument fitters in December, 1960. The latest winner of our 2nd Year Progress Prize is C/A/A Bennett (Rhodesian Air Force)—94th Entry.

Staff changes since our last report are: Mr. Swain, who has gone to the English Electric

Co., Cpl.Tech. Hilton is now on a guided missile course, and Cpl. Jackson has commenced aircrew training. We welcome Sgt. Clayton, Inst.Fitt. (Gen.) who has been posted in for instructor duties from R.A.F. Sylt, Germany.

Mr. 'Jock' Cameron, who is due to retire within a few months, was honoured by being presented to the Reviewing Officer on Graduation Day last December. He will be greatly missed by all our staff, and no doubt the very many past A/A's who learnt their 'skill of hand' from him in Basic Workshops will join us in wishing him a long and happy retirement. He is one of the 'old faithfuls', his sustained interest over the years, and helpfulness to all the A/A's he has taught, will always be remembered.

Recent family additions to members of the staff have been a daughter, a first, to Snr.Tech. and Mrs. Owen, and a second daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan. We understand that Mr. Buchanan's comment on being informed of the good news was, 'Outnumbered, three to one, how can I win?'

A very enjoyable Christmas Dinner and Party for members of the Instrument Flight staff and their ladies was held at the Little Abbey Hotel, Great Missenden. Our thanks are due to Ch.Tech. Wood and Sgt. Chalkley for the excellent arrangements they made for us.

We now have the 100th Entry with us, which is of special interest as our O.C. Instrument Fitter Flight came to Halton just 40 years ago with the first of the entries to commence their training here.

We understand now why he reminisces and nods affirmatively each time he hears the popular song 'Fings ain't what they used to be.'

Finally, we wish success to our members of the 92nd Entry in their Final Trade Tests, who by the time this is published, will know their fate. 'Good Luck'.

SCHOOL NOTES



No longer will THEY be ridiculed in future School Notes for THEY are now writing them. THEY are moving into the very corridors of power itself—The Halton Magazine. THEY are taking stock of what the next move should be. Meanwhile you are being conditioned to seeing them around, to being taught(?) by them, goaded by them, bullied by them—well at least pleaded with by them.

Take note of them—the 'Officer i/c Trenchard Library', militarily efficient (hitch-hiking specialist) and his G/S colleague, pipe-smoking, relaxed, unflappable (heart beat only 10 per minute)—the 'brown-coated worker' and his 'oppo' shuttling briskly between Common Room and Maths' huts as if frightened of an ambush 'round the back'—the 'electrical wizard', big union man, always accompanied by his bodyguard from the Engines Dept.—the 'white-coated worker',

his permanently furrowed brow belying inward happiness—and the 'waspy one', usually concussed until the following Wednesday.

THEY are in almost every department (Mechanics is so far untainted) and are almost certain to increase in numbers: so be advised; co-operate with them to the full for THEY are the New Men—the future men of power in Schools.

Could the early days of 1962 have held greater possibilities for happiness, if not prosperity, for the thousands of Apprentices on Christmas leave? Surely not. Cast your minds back to the early January days of the big freeze-up, and with it the answer to an A/A's prayer—universal train cancellation. Only the depraved ones who hoped for a future Class 'A' pass might have been mildly disappointed—but in any case they already had their Fair Note books with them so not to worry. Everybody happy until the Tuesday before Black Thursday. By then the thaw was under way—not completely though, only a delicate mixture of warmth enough to allow the wheels to roll, and cold enough to maintain a freezing compartment. Indeed, only after some hours travelling could the finger nail finally manage to scratch the proud Entry number, full window size, into the frosted glass. And so term started on time. A l.o.n.g. t.e.r.m. (Jan 5th—April 18th—the first school term for the 100th Entry, the last for the 93rd.

New term invariably means new faces in the Common Room and the absence of familiar ones. In particular the Mechanics Dept. lost Fg.Off. Bird who returned to the rigours of civil engineering, and Flt.Lt. Birch, who will by now be studying hard on the Technical Officers' Course at Henlow. By way of replacement we have had posted in Fg.Offs. Evans and Findlay, both of whom have had previous teaching experience. The General Studies Dept. has in quick succession, lost Sqn.Ldr. Settrington, posted to Fighter Command, and also his replacement, Sqn.Ldr. Kettle, who retired from the service to take an appointment at a Teachers' Training College. Sqn.Ldr. Panting has now taken over as Officer i/c General Studies, following a

tour of duty in Cyprus. The Maths Dept. has gained Mr. Sedgley previously on the Workshops side, and lost Mr. Jackson to Locking, and Fg.Off. Aaron to civilian life in Swansea. The Engines Dept. has lost Fg.Off. Pickering who returned to civilian life as a metallurgist, while the Airframes Dept. has gained Fg.Off. Wells who comes with previous service experience. To all who have left Halton we send our best wishes. We have recently welcomed to the Common Room a group of S.N.C.O.s—Ch.Techs. Yates, Bartlett and Walker and F.S. Barfort, who are doing a tour of duty in schools as education instructors. This is a new scheme which aims at

developing teaching potential existing anywhere in the service.

On the domestic front, we offer our congratulations and best wishes to Wg.Cdr. Matthews on the occasion of his marriage.

The fact that eight heavenly bodies came into line for the first time since 1524, makes this term astrologically speaking, rather special—not to say fateful. While great calamity is confidently forecast this may well fail to come about—naturally with possible disappointment for some. With this in mind we decided to print our photograph of the Haggis in full ceremonial—surely a sufficient misfortune for one section of the magazine!

DRAMATIC SOCIETY

'The best laid plans of mice and men . . .'

Following the tremendous success of 'Dover Road' it was planned to enthrall our patrons, just prior to the Christmas break, with another splendid production, possibly a pantomime (?) with music (!)!!! Unfortunately when the time came to take stock of the talent and resources available for this enterprise, it was obvious that we were aiming a little high.

However the Drama Competition to be held in March extended its challenge and in order to subdue the sense of frustration, welling within us for being denied the chance to sing and dance, we plunged into a spate of play reading. This served a two fold purpose, it gave us the chance to select our Drama Competition play and also to cast it.

At the time of going to press, the producer reports, in the true tradition of the stage, that while things are far from going well, 'it will be alright on the night.'

To those readers who are interested and we include you, and you, plenty of people apart from the actors are always required to put on any play, and believe me some of the best fun is to be had back-stage.

Our new 'Green Room' which has recently been handed over to the Society is half of Hut 335N, the other half being used as the Station Recreation Library. Come along some time and meet us—if however you are shy and prefer to take your enjoyment from a seat on the other side of the footlights we do not mind, just so long as you are there because every show needs an audience too.

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CHURCH NOTES

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The New St. George's

Many readers will know that in the disastrous fire in the Summer of 1960 the School Church, St. George's, along with the Concert Hall, was completely burnt out. Since then, we have not been without places of worship, for there has always been the Church of St. Michael and All Angels in Halton Village. But that is rather far away for Apprentices to use for Holy Communion, and is too distant, and too small, for Parade Services. It was essential to provide something on the Camp, and Padre Warner, the Senior Chaplain at the time, converted a small dining hall alongside what had been the School of Cookery, into the Chapel of All Saints. With complete co-operation from the Works Services and from Station Workshops, he achieved a very pleasant little Church. It is used for Holy Communion on Sundays and at mid-week, for Confirmation Classes, for the Servers' Guild, for Choir Practice, occasionally for Religious Instruction, and it is here that the Chaplains meet to say their Daily Offices as often as possible. The School of Cookery buildings became the Church Centre where there is now a very flourishing Church Club, which has its centre in the refreshment lounge, complete with 'coffee bar', and has a games room, billiards room, T.V. room, bookstall, and here also is the sacristy and choir vestry for all Saints' Chapel. But the Chapel will hold about 120 and so is no use for Parade Services. Accommodation for these is improvised, in the Burnett Gymnasium, where each Saturday morning an altar and its furnishings, and chairs, are set out to make a Church. It is not a satisfactory substitute for a Church but it is the best temporary measure. It must be a sore trial to the P.F.O. and his staff to have their Gymnasium taken from them every week-end—but they accept its necessity with the utmost good will, and the Chaplains are very grateful to them for their understanding and co-operation. But the time of improvisations is now drawing to a close, for a start has been made on the building of the new St. George's Church.

Since the time I came to Halton—and before it—I had heard odd bits of news about

the intention to provide a new Church, but things seemed to be hanging fire until just before last Christmas, when news began to flow in a steady stream. The Treasury allocation of money had been approved—the contract was going to be put out to tender—the contract had been put out to tender—the contract had been let. And then there came visual evidence that Halton was to have its new church. The red-letter day for me was 18th January, 1962, the day on which I first saw for myself that a start had been made. The first thing to strike the eye was the contractor's board, and that led my eye to look further through the trees to the site, where men were engaged in putting up the little green huts—for plans, for tools, for tea—that are the necessary preliminary to a major building operation. The site is attractive and central, on the North side of Chestnut Avenue between the Apprentice Schools and Main Point.

I have seen the plans for the building and, though I find it very difficult to visualise a construction from a plan, it does look as though the appearance of the church, as seen from Chestnut Avenue, will be most attractive. The building will, of course, be a fairly low one, for it costs much too much nowadays to build to the height traditional in churches. The West End (ecclesiastically) will be very largely window, rectangular panes of glass in concrete, but staggered to give the effect of a rectangular honeycomb—if there could be such a thing.

At the time of writing the ground is being levelled before the foundations are dug, and trees are being felled to clear the approach to the site. We hope in the next issue to publish a photograph showing the progress made by early Summer. It is understood that the contract date for completion is about the middle of September but, the building industry being what it is nowadays, I think we shall be very lucky indeed if it is finished by then. At any rate we ought to have it in use before the end of this year.

One small thing puzzles me. The contract price is so many thousand pounds, eleven shillings and twopence. What can the twopence be for? The stamp?