

The Haltonian Magazine

104 Edition

Summer 1966

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EDITORIAL

One more School term has passed by and pen is enthusiastically put to paper to introduce another issue of the Magazine. The editorial staff commence by extending their most sincere congratulations to the Magazine Chairman, Group Captain H. H. Mayoh, on his well deserved award of the C.B.E. in Her Majesty's Birthday Honours.

Since the last publication in the spring, the editorial staff have been busy trying to effect the changes contemplated then, and the more discerning reader will already have identified a new cover. There has been an attempt, within the budget, to bring the journal up to date and to satisfy the demands of many well-meaning critics. There is a bumper crop of articles and light entertainment, and the School clubs and societies have responded well to our request for their reports.

Unfortunately, considerable apathy still exists amongst Apprentices towards the journal. The Magazine did not receive one design for its competition for a new cover and the staff therefore do not expect to receive any criticism of the design which they themselves selected. From twelve hundred Apprentices only two submissions of material came and, of all those who constantly tell us what is wrong with the Magazine, not one attempted to assist us with improvements. Remember, the Magazine not only reflects the life and events at Halton but provides a medium for portraying the creative qualities of the School. It is an enlightening experience to examine the Magazine issues in the years between the Wars and to see then the healthy number of contributions from Apprentices. If we are to believe that Apprentices today are as good as, if not better than their predecessors in the thirties, we must expect to see the same vital interest in the School's journal. In the last issue the staff urged you to use your skills in providing material for the Magazine; today we exhort you again to greater efforts to prove us wrong when we conclude that Apprentices are not what they were!



PASS-OUT PARADE of the 104th and 303rd ENTRIES

The Pass-Out Parade of the 104th Entry of Aircraft Apprentices and 303rd Entry of Administrative Apprentices took place at Royal Air Force, Halton on Wednesday, the 6th April 1966.

The Parade was reviewed by
Air Chief Marshal Sir ALFRED EARLE, G.B.E., C.B.
Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff

The Reviewing Officer was accompanied by
Air Marshal Sir DONALD EVANS, K.B.E., C.B., D.F.C.
Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Technical Training Command

Air Vice Marshal B. ROBINSON, C.B.E.
Air Officer Commanding No. 24 Group

and

Air Commodore A. C. DEERE, D.S.O., O.B.E., D.F.C.
Commandant, No. 1 School of Technical Training

The Parade was commanded by Flight Sergeant Apprentice R. W. Hooper and the following Apprentices acted as subordinate commanders.

<i>Parade Adjutant</i> ... ..	...	...	...	Cpl.App. P. Ingoe
<i>Parade Warrant Officer</i> ... ..	...	...	...	Cpl.App. F. K. Dodds
<i>Colour Bearer</i> ... ..	...	...	...	Sgt.App. S. J. Gibson
<i>Colour Warrant Officer</i> ... ..	...	...	...	Cpl.App. J. S. Halstead
<i>Colour Escort</i> } ... ..	...	...	...	Ldg.App. G. S. Whitear
	...	...	...	Ldg.App. D. A. Martin
<i>Escort Squadron Commander</i> ... ..	...	...	...	Sgt.App. C. R. Spink
<i>No. 1 Flight Commander</i> ... ..	...	...	...	Cpl.App. C. A. Mallard
<i>No. 2 Flight Commander</i> ... ..	...	...	...	Cpl.App. J. H. Burgess
<i>No. 2 Squadron Commander</i> ... ..	...	...	...	Sgt.App. R. F. Fuller
<i>No. 1 Flight Commander</i> ... ..	...	...	...	Cpl.App. D. P. Yates
<i>No. 2 Flight Commander</i> ... ..	...	...	...	Cpl.App. G. N. Green
<i>Pipe Major</i> ... ..	...	...	...	Sgt.App. N. J. Kendall

The Apprentices on Parade were the 104th, 105th, and 303rd Entries. The Brass and Pipe Bands were Voluntary Bands composed entirely of Apprentices.



*Sergeant Apprentice C. R. Spink accompanying
the Reviewing Officer on his inspection*

THE COMMANDANT'S REPORT

Introduction

Air Chief Marshal Sir Alfred Earle, Commander-in-Chief, Air Officer Commanding, Ladies and Gentlemen—

It is a great privilege for me, on my first passing out parade at Halton, to welcome as our Reviewing Officer Air Chief Marshal Sir Alfred Earle, Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff. I also extend a warm welcome to Lady Earle and our other guests, including relatives and friends of the Apprentices passing out today. To the parents in particular I address a special welcome. Your support in the training of these young men while at Halton is both acknowledged and appreciated: without it our task would be just that much more difficult.

Today, Ladies and Gentlemen, sees the second combined Passing Out Parade of Aircraft Apprentices and Administrative Apprentices; and as such it sets the pattern for the future when under the new Youth Training Scheme, Craft and Administrative Apprentices combine to pass out together.

I turn now to my report in the two Entries passing out today—the 104th Aircraft Apprentice and the 303rd Administrative Apprentice Entries.

Report on 104th Entry of Aircraft Apprentices

By virtue of its numbers and the length of time at Halton I take first the 104th Entry which started training in May 1963. Inevitably, there have been losses in that time, but I am happy to say that the number is small—only 15 out of an original intake of 148.

Technical Training

In Technical Training the Entry has maintained a good standard throughout and 133 candidates were presented for the final trade test examination. Of these 12 qualified as Substantive Corporals, and, with 6 exceptions, the remainder qualified as Junior Technicians.

Educational

The Entry excelled in the educational field in which it achieved **the best all-round performance of any Aircraft Apprentice Entry to date**. The final examinations provide the proof: 31 Class A passes and 102 Class B, with an overall average mark of 64%.

In addition, no less than 50 % passed O.N.C. and four Apprentices achieved G.C.E. 'A' Level passes. The Entry also gained 213 passes in G.C.E. 'O' Level subjects, and 37 Apprentices passed their City and Guilds examination which represents a success rate of 84%—well above the national average.

General Service Training

In another field, the 104th Entry had the distinct honour of providing the gun carriage escort and a route-lining contingent for the funeral of Sir Winston Churchill. Also, route-lining parties were provided for two State Visits and a contingent took part in the 1965 Lord Mayor's Show.

Its sporting achievements resulted in the award of no less than 35 School Colours.

Commissions

Clearly an Entry of such calibre was bound to succeed in the highly competitive field of Commissioning, and I am pleased to be able to announce the award of 8 Cadetships and 3 Direct Entry Commissions.

CADETSHIPS

Aircrew

Sgt.App. Bedford
Sgt.App. Spink
Cpl.App. Ingoe
Ldg.App. Martin
Ldg.App. Whitear

Technical Cadets

F.S.App. Hooper
Sgt.App. Fuller
Cpl.App. Green

DIRECT ENTRY COMMISSIONS

Technical

Cpl.App. Craddock

Cpl.App. Yates

Equipment

Cpl.App. Hunt

ROYAL MALAYSIAN AIR FORCE

And I am happy to say that Khaw and Ong, two of the three Malaysians who completed the course, have been recommended to the R.M.A.F. as fit for commissions.

This was a fine record by a fine Entry.

Report on the 303rd Entry of Administrative Apprentices

The 303rd Entry is a small one. It arrived in May 1965 with a total of 13. Ten graduate today. All have worked very hard and, despite their much shorter time here, have taken part with credit, I am sure you will agree, in the parade today.

In their Trade all 10 Apprentices Graduated as Senior Aircraftmen. All passed their Educational Examination and gained exemption from Part I of the R.A.F. Education Test. The Course Examination average was an impressive 73.4%.

Despite its numbers the Entry has been well represented in all fields of endeavour at Halton. In Wing Sports its members have played a full part and 9 were awarded School Colours. Special mention should be made of Administrative Apprentice France, a Combined Services swimmer and Command boxer.

Conclusion

And so we say goodbye to the 104th and 303rd Entries: to the Graduating Apprentices I offer my sincere good wishes for a happy future in the service: Halton has given you a good start. The rest is up to you.

We are indeed fortunate in having with us today, as our Reviewing Officer, one who has the rare distinction of having reached the highest rank achieved in our service by an ex-Apprentice. Sir Alfred was an Apprentice at Halton in the 11th Apprentice Entry and, on graduation in December 1927, he was awarded a Cadetship to Cranwell; and it can be said 'He has never looked back'. Indeed, he has done nothing but go forward until today we find him in the very responsible position as the Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff.

Undoubtedly Sir Alfred possessed the necessary qualities to reach such high eminence in our service, but I am confident that he would be the first to agree that the fine grounding he received at Halton set him on the right road. He is—and rightly should be—an inspiration to all Halton Apprentices; and those of you who are graduating today should strive to follow his example in the Royal Air Force.

It is my very real pleasure to welcome back to Halton our one-time Commander-in-Chief and to invite him to present the prizes.

* * *

THE REVIEWING OFFICER'S ADDRESS

Air Chief Marshal Earle continued by saying that, when the Apprentices left Halton, life would be different. Responsibility rested more on the individual both as a member of the Service and as a tradesman. He emphasised that this applied to the Administrative Apprentices as much as to the Aircraft Apprentices; the former would be looking after more complicated and less predictable machinery than the electronic and mechanical equipment that the latter would have to maintain.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Alfred Earle began by expressing his gratitude for being invited, before his retirement, to take his last parade at Halton where he started out on a Service career. He complimented the Apprentices on their parade and made special mention of the fine record of achievement by the passing-out Entries.

The Air Chief Marshal referred to the training at Halton and indicated that Lord Trenchard was right in creating the Apprentice School and in insisting that it would provide the backbone of the Royal Air Force. The Reviewing Officer strengthened his point by indicating that over 5,300 ex-Apprentices had obtained commissioned rank. Whilst agreeing that the Second War perhaps enabled a greater number of ex-Apprentices to receive commissions, the Air Chief Marshal stressed that they showed they were worth it.

He continued by suggesting that Halton provided a training which gave one something extra. Above all, one developed a complete sense of discipline. He defined discipline briefly as 'a cheerful and willing obedience to orders' and dispelled the idea of a tendency to acquaint 'bull' with discipline. But he emphasised that there was much more to discipline and Halton provided the extra: a pride of service, pride of self and especially of doing a job well.

*Air Chief Marshal Sir Alfred Earle
presents the prizes*



WINNERS OF SPECIAL PRIZES—104th ENTRY

Monsignor Beauchamp Memorial Prize

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

Winner:—F.S.App. R. W. Hooper

Pioneer Trophy

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

Winner:—Ldg.App. M. J. Jenkins

Crebbin-Robinson Cups

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

Winner:—Mechanical Trades:

Ldg.App. M. J. Edmunds

Winner:—Electrical and Instrument Trades:

Ldg.App. R. G. Cheeseright

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—Ldg.App. M. Jenkins

Quinton Memorial Trophy

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

Winner:—Ldg.App. R. E. Williamson



The Prize-winners

SCHOOL COLOUR AWARDS

104th and 303rd ENTRIES:

Badminton					
L.A.A.	Whitear, G. S.	...	...	...	1964
Basketball					
L.A.A.	Evans, G.	...	...	...	1965
L.A.A.	Ong Khee Hee	...	...	...	1963/64
Boxing					
C.A.A.	Dodds, G.	...	...	...	1964/65
A.A.	King, G. W.	...	...	...	1964/65
A.A.	Leyman, D. S.	...	...	...	1964/65
A.A.	Turner, G. B.	...	...	...	1964/65
Ad.A.	Duddy, F.	...	...	...	1965/66
Ad.A.	France, J. H.	...	...	...	1965/66
Canoeing					
A.A.	Bennett, J. R.	...	...	...	1964/65/66
A.A.	Chambers, R. S.	...	...	...	1966
A.A.	Fuller, I. M.	...	...	...	1964
A.A.	Gamble, T. J.	...	...	...	1966
S.A.A.	Gibson, S. J.	...	...	...	1966
A.A.	Price, C. E. W.	...	...	...	1964/65/66
Cross Country					
L.A.A.	Stennett, R.				1964/65
Fencing					
L.A.A.	Simpson, M. J.	...	...	...	1963/64
Soccer					
S.A.A.	Bedford, E.	...	...	...	1965/66
A.A.	Campbell, P.	...	...	...	1965/66
S.A.A.	Spink, C. R.	...	...	...	1965/66
Squash					
C.A.A.	Halstead, J. S.	...	...	...	1965/66
Swimming					
A.A.	Teague, M. S.	...	...	...	1965
Ad.A.	France, J. H.	...	...	...	1965/66
Tennis					
L.A.A.	Webberley, P. L.	...	...	...	1965
Ten Tors					
C.A.A.	Mallard, C. A.	...	...	...	1965
L.A.A.	Martin, D. A.	...	...	...	1965
A.A.	Mullen, F. P.	...	...	...	1965
S.A.A.	Spink, C. R.	...	...	...	1965
L.A.A.	Whitear, G. S.	...	...	...	1965

APPRENTICE WING NOTES

No. 1 (A) WING NOTES

105th Entry

The main feature of the Spring term for the 105th was the final schools examinations. Approached with quiet confidence, the examination confirmed yet again that this is a good Entry. For the record, the Entry average was 71% and the results include five A1, eighty-three A2, sixty-two B1 and four B2 passes. There were no failures.

Of the 134 who sat the O.N.C. examination 125 succeeded. This gave a pass rate of over 78%, surpassing the previous best of 51.5%.

Also during the term the final G.S.K. and G.D.T. examinations came and were tackled with confidence. Results here were also very good.

Half a dozen from the Entry took part in a F.A. soccer referee's course on the station. They soon overcame their initial nervousness and all passed with flying colours, qualifying as third class referees. Congratulations are therefore due to C.A.A. Bull, L.A.A. Wakely and A.A.s Ladbrooke, Littlejohn, Meredith and Farr-Voller; also to F.S. Huggett whose efforts and encouragement made the course possible.

In sport and recreation on the station the 105th have continued to be well represented. They provide many members of the rugby teams; to hockey they give S.A.A. Duggan, C.A.A. Lejeune and A.A.s Kennedy, Wilkinson and Gannaway; and L.A.A.s Wakely and Dear, together with A.A. Stokes, are ever present in the soccer teams. L.A.A. Nelson became captain of the school fencing team and represented Halton in the Command championships, as did A.A. Johnson. At the judo club several of the entry including A.A.s Keenan, Stryker, Walker and Standley, are holders of the yellow belt. This is their first step towards the coveted black belt.

Four of the Entry's parachutists—C.A.A.s Lejeune, Pettigrew and McDowell and A.A. Littlejohn—are self-admitted stars in the making after being featured in a short B.B.C. television film on sport parachuting.

Just to illustrate the diversity of the 105th's activities special mention must be made of A.A. Morrison. He was a member of the Scottish Country Dance team that won the Robinson Trophy at the Aylesbury Arts Festival.

At the end of the term came the band competition. Paying heed to what had been said at the previous competition about the importance of drill, S.A.A. Sloss organised a volunteer route lining Flight through which the band marched, making an impressive entrance on to the parade ground. The No. 1(A) Wing band which won half the awards, was composed almost entirely of the 105th.

The term ended with the departure of the 104th, thus making 105 the Senior Entry. The Entry now faces a fairly hectic final term in which they intend to realise to the full their potential.

106th Entry

Not long after their return from Christmas leave, the Entry lost its Deputy C.O., Fg.Off. Halpin, who had been with us since our arrival at Halton. He is now in Malaya, and sends us interesting letters from time to time. His replacement was Fg.Off. Bailey, who soon settled in, and was instrumental in the forming the Sub-Aqua Club, which is strongly supported by members of the Entry.

This term saw two Apprentices promoted to

the rank of Sergeant Apprentice, these being C.A.A.s Hodgson and Bowden. The gaps in the ranks of C.A.A.s were filled by L.A.A.s Hayson and Hadwell, and A.A.s Hole and Jones were promoted to L.A.A. Congratulations go to all of these on their success.

As far as sport was concerned members of the Entry continued to make their mark in all spheres. A.A.s Corton, Dodds and Brown represented the Command in the Inter-Command novices boxing championships, and thus gained their Command colours. In the field of cross-country running, S.A.A. Bowden gained his R.A.F. Senior colours, and also his Combined Services colours, outstanding achievements for an Apprentice. A.A. Armstrong also gave staunch support, running a number of races for the R.A.F. Senior team. Several members of the Entry were in the badminton team which won the B.-K. Championships, these being A.A.s Nair, Geary, Chinnapan, Fadzillah and Paterson. A.A. Paterson went on to win the Inter-Schools Singles Cup at Cosford. In the basketball match against Locking, C.A.A. Joyner, L.A.A.s Bell and Neo, and A.A.s Foster, Murphy, Malone and Fullerton were in the Halton team. A.A.s Dommett and Lampitt were members of the Station 0.22 rifle team in the Command Championships when Halton came second. Fencing is a sport well-supported by Entry members, and L.A.A. Davies gained his School colours, and A.A. Simpson captained the School Junior team, and also came second in the individual foil competition at Cosford. The canoeists, L.A.A. Hardwick and A.A. Jordan, competed in the Westminster—Devizes race, and when Hardwick retired after the first day, L.A.A. Ham took his place, and the pair completed the course in 25 hours.

At the band competition on the last Thursday of term, the Wing band, consisting of 106th Entry members assisted by a few lesser mortals, once again emerged victorious, winning the Pipe Band and Corps of Trumpets competitions. L.A.A. Bell won the Silver Side Drum for the second time, and L.A.A. Jones won the Silver Trumpet.

During this term the Entry Committee was formed, and one of their first ideas was the revival of an old Halton tradition—the camp mascot. The idea was met with much enthusiasm, and negotiations with Whipsnade Zoo resulted in the offer of a male goat, at no

cost to us. But, unfortunately, with the news that the Entry was moving to No. 1 Wing after Easter, the scheme was discontinued by higher authority. This was not a popular decision with most of the Entry.

Thus the 106th ended their stay in 3(A) Wing. Thanks must go to the staff who put up with us for those first seven terms, and by the time this account appears, the Entry should have settled in 'up the hill', and no doubt more great things can be expected from the 106th.

202nd Entry

At the commencement of this term two notable events took place. The first was the incentive pay award for the successful completion of the first year of training and second the first promotions to Leading Craft Apprentice. The successful candidates were: C.A.s Campbell, Dixon, Elliott D., Elliott G., Ling, McKee, Norman, Savage, Waters and Wright.

The last two weekends in March saw each Flight, in turn, out on expedition training in the local area. The night stop took place on Halton airfield. All syndicates completed the set tasks with only minor problems. The weather produced extremes both weekends; the first weekend being very cold with a heavy frost and the second warmer but with heavy rain showers.

Sgt. Low, N.C.O. in charge of 'A' Flight, was posted to R.A.F. Germany at the end of March. The Entry were sorry to see him go and send him every good wish in his new post.

C.A. Grant entered the Scott-Payne contest boxing ring throughout the season. C.A. Playle won his Bantam weight contest in the Sigris competition and also won his bout in the Technical Training Command Novice Competition. He has been awarded the T.T.C. representative badge.

C.A. Grant entered the Scott-Payne contest and won his middle weight bout, and is now the R.A.F. Junior Champion for his weight. He also entered the I.S.B.A. but unfortunately was beaten. Grant has been awarded the Junior Representative Badge.

C.A.s Kelsey and Jobson played for the Schools (R.A.F. 'B') Table Tennis team in

the Aylesbury and District League. They helped the team to become Champions of Division 6.

L.C.A. Elliott G. continued to play Rugby and was selected for the R.A.F. Colts XV in January.

204th Entry

The 204th Entry arrived at Halton in September 1965, and have now settled down very well to their new way of life. They have taken part in many of the station functions, and have already proved that they intend to be very active both on and off duty. A commendable achievement for an Entry so new to Halton was the Christmas party that they gave to the New Park House children's home at Cuffley. Father Christmas, C.A. Welch and seven members representing the Entry took toys, and had food delivered, and gave the children a wonderful time.

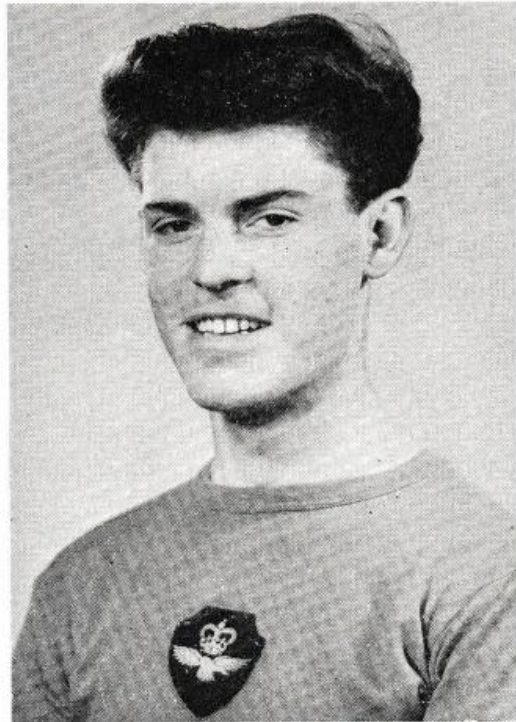
Reports from schools and workshops are favourable for the period of time that the Entry have been here. But with the coming of summer they are expected to 'blossom' and set a hot pace.

The staff side of the Entry has seen many changes. Sqn.Ldr. Hines and Flt.Lt. Ambler have been posted, and their places taken by Flt.Lt. Bradley and Fg.Off. Payne, while Cpl. Hood has arrived to team up with F.S. Ware and Sgt. Perry. But by the time this goes into print Sgt. Perry will have said farewell and will be 'roughing it' in Cyprus working at the Troodos leave centre. We all wish him well at his new post.

Individual names are beginning to come to the forefront in numerous events. C.A.s Dixon and Robson have been transferred to Technical Apprentice training. C.A.s Gummerson, Fraser and Plimmer have all represented the station at boxing. Gummerson and Fraser also boxed for the Royal Air Force in the Inter-Service Boxing Association Championships and Gummerson won all of his contests and is now an I.S.B.A. Champion. This is a very good effort indeed for a boy who had never boxed before in his life until arriving at Halton. C.A. Ambrose represented the station at table tennis. C.A.s Allen and Wydell represented the station at soccer. C.A. Forder represented the station at basketball. C.A.s

Pope and Fowler represented the station at cross-country. C.A.s Hodgson, Bowns and Duncan represented the station at canoeing. Bowns is also to be congratulated upon gaining the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. He is going to Buckingham Palace in July to receive his Award from the Duke of Edinburgh. C.A.s Kiddie (soccer) and Thompson (hockey) have represented the school.

* * *



Sergeant Apprentice Bowden
of the 106th Entry
Member of the Royal Air Force and
Combined Services Cross-Country Teams

No. 2 (A) WING NOTES

With the arrival in January of the 205th Entry, No. 2(A) Wing became the first all-Craft Apprentice Wing at Halton. But our moment of glory will be short lived for, at the time of writing these notes, major changes in the structure of the Wings will put No. 2(A) Wing into 'cold storage' for some time. Nevertheless, the familiar blue hat band will not, we are delighted to learn, be allowed to fade into the limbo of forgotten things; it will reappear early in the Summer Term as the No. 2 Squadron, No. 1(A) Wing 'colour'.

But the observant ones at the inter-wing sports events had already noticed our depleted numbers and many assumed therefore that the Wing had ceased to be a challenge. But thanks to the excellent efforts of our P.F.O., Fg.Off. Colin White and his dedicated staff, together with the Wing esprit-de-corps, the results of the Inter-Wing competition were never allowed to become foregone conclusions. In the B.-K. badminton we defeated No. 1(A) Wing to reach the semi-final and in an extremely close fought team race the B.-K. cross-country results placed the Wing 3rd, which seemed hardly a fair return for the efforts made to produce a good team. However, the preliminary Wing cross-country championship, held on Saturday, 8th January, was a most noteworthy occasion. Every 'warm-and-breathing' Apprentice in the Wing competed in this very colourful and spirited event; itself an excellent example of the Olympic motto. C.A.s Pink and Cox (203) and C.A. Morris (205) represented the Wing in the B.-K. Table Tennis, in which we were placed 3rd, and the final event of the term was the Wing Swimming Gala on 31st March. All participants provided a series of close and exciting races. Worthy of special mention were O'Connor, Armishaw and Graham, all of the 201st.

Major honours were won for the Wing by C.A. Hutchinson (201), who became the I.S.B.A. Bantamweight champion, L.C.A. Missen (203), who gained his Junior R.A.F. Colours for cross-country running, and L.C.A. Nutt (203) who also gained his Junior R.A.F. Colours for boxing while narrowly missing the I.S.B.A. Lightweight title.

201st Entry

January brought another, and surely the last change of Squadron Commander for some time when Flt.Lt. Gilroy took over from Flt.Lt. Waters who departed on promotion to the sunny island of Cyprus.

The 201st maintained their progress at Schools and Workshops and so move down to the Airfield this term where the 'first Craft Apprentices' are something of an unknown quantity. As with all other aspects of training and work, the 201st will show again that previous standards are not unattainable.

The Entry has had considerable successes in sport during the term claiming first and second places in the Wing soccer, rugby and hockey leagues and winning the Wing cross-country race and Swimming Gala. Representatives played for the School in soccer, hockey, basketball, cross-country, fencing, squash, badminton, swimming and water polo. C.A. Hutchinson became the inter-services bantam-weight champion.

In January the Entry presented £66 to the Wendover 'Over 60 Club'. This most generous gesture was followed up by an impressive collection for the S.A.C. Cull Appeal. All round the 201st has shown a fine spirit and the ability to do well 'on the day'.

To Sqn.Ldr. Waters, Sqn.Ldr. Coatsworth (who spent three useful months with the entry before leaving for Staff College) and F.S. Collins, who leaves the R.A.F. after many years of excellent service, we offer our thanks and our very best wishes for the future.

203rd Entry

The commencement of the Spring term saw the arrival of the Entry Commander, Flt.Lt. G. E. Hounsell from No. 8 Squadron, R.A.F. Khormaksar, and Sgt. Hillary, J. R., B.E.M., from Eastleigh, Kenya, as N.C.O. i/c 'A' Flight.

Highlight of the term was No. 11 P.L.A. Course on 15th and 16th February when the entry had sixteen successful candidates. From these the following are to be congratulated on their promotion to Leading Apprentice:— C.A.s Bee, Cox, MacLeod, Missen, Moody.

Moreton, Nutt, Pilbrow and Wilkinson.

The entry was well represented in School Sports and a special congratulation is extended to L.A. Missen, who gained his Junior R.A.F. Colour for cross-country running and to L.A. Nutt who gained his Junior R.A.F. Colour for boxing and only missed capturing the I.S.B.A. Lightweight title by a narrow margin.

Sgt. Hillary and C.A.s Beman and Pearson submitted entries in the Station Art, Handicrafts and Photography Exhibition and all are to be congratulated on winning prizes. Sgt. Hillary won a first, two seconds and a highly commended in the Photography Section; Beman a second in the Art Section and Pearson a second in the Model Aircraft Section.

205th Entry

The 205th Entry arrived at Halton on 4th January 1966; 87 Apprentices were attested but three left very shortly afterwards for various reasons.

After only a few days at Halton a quick semi-conducted tour of the camp extremities was arranged in the form of a Wing cross country trial. All Apprentices participated and the 205th Entry gained early success when 'B' Flight won 2nd place against stiff opposition. The entry, heartened by this success, set about making their mark in the sporting activities at Halton. Six members of the entry trained for the Scott-Paine boxing competition at Hereford; Priestley, Cuthbertson and Harper boxed in the competition and Harper, after winning his bouts, was selected to box in the I.S.B.A. competitions. Lester and Thomas played rugby for the school team and Lister was selected as reserve for the R.A.F. Colts XV.

Guyatt, Swift, Wrighton, Morris, Cuthbertson and Hunt all played for school football teams and Lucas and Ellis played for the school hockey team. Morris represented the school at table tennis and Lister and Kirkham gained places in the badminton team. Altogether, sixteen members of the entry represented the school in various sporting activities and nine represented No. 2 Wing in the Barrington-Kennett competitions.

So many members of the entry wanted to join the bands that membership had to be restricted. Five of the entry qualified in the

Brass Band and a further 17 are members of the Pipe Band or Corp of Trumpeters.

Four weeks before the end of term the Squadron staff were shaken by the news that the 205th Entry were to provide two flights for route lining at the beginning of their second term. It is to the entry's credit that *they reached an acceptable standard in such a short time.*

Three members of the entry, Wilkinson, Jones and Roskell, having gained the necessary qualifications, successfully applied for transfer to Technician Apprentice Training. At the end of term came the news that under the wing re-organisation scheme, 205 Entry was to move to No. 3 Wing and then to No. 1 Wing at the end of the year. Thus the 205th Entry may become the first entry to serve in all three Apprentice Wings at Halton.

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No. 3 (A) WING NOTES

107th Entry

With the new term came yet another new Flight Commander for the Entry. After saying goodbye to Fg.Off. Bailey after some weeks of happy association, they greeted Fg.Off. Roberts, just back from Malaysia, with a cautious welcome, but in no time at all he proved to be yet another delightfully unique personality fully worthy of the post given to him.

The new term has brought a new status for the Entry; that of Senior Entry of No. 3 Wing and congratulations must go to the new Apprentice N.C.O.s of the Entry who have moulded the Wing into an example that all must look up to. They are C.A.s Watkins, Straw and Duguid and also L.A.s Booker, George, Carey, Hill, Jones, Paget and Brackley.

The Entry truly distinguished itself by presenting to the A.O.C. a Block which was 'outstanding'; in fact parts of the Block were so good the A.O.C. refused to walk into them.

The Entry strength has remained stable over the last months but now the Entry is pleased to announce, by way of a change, a new member, namely Fg.Off. Robert's new wife. Of course the Entry wish them every success in the future and hope they get on as well together as the Entry does with the new Flight Commander.

Unfortunately the term has not been all 'roses and buttercups', for Sgt. Day, their N.C.O. since starting, is preparing to leave for Germany. This man, both respected and well liked by the Entry, has done more than any other in forming the group which is proud to be known as the 1st Technical Entry. As can be well imagined everyone is highly distressed to lose the man who has made an Entry which already is making Halton history in every sphere. However, a united cry of 'good luck' always tends to drown the word 'au revoir.'

The Entry has again produced some fine sporting achievements.

L.T.A.s George and Duguid helped the basketball team to win the R.A.F. 'B' competition which was held at Cosford. They also played regularly for the Station 1st Team.

L.T.A. Duguid represented the R.A.F. Juniors when they played the Army Juniors.

T.A. Ward played for the Station 1st team at hockey and he regularly played for the School 1st team.

2 SQUADRON

Over the period of this report 2 Squadron, together with the rest of 3(A) Wing, has undergone some considerable change. We now have a new Squadron Commander, Sqn.Ldr. Jane, D.Phys.Ed., who commenced his tour on 16th March 1966. The Squadron is split into three Flights; 'A' Flight consists of the 108th and 109th Entries, 'B' Flight the 110th Entry, and 'C' Flight all entries of the Medical Administrative Apprentices. The 110th Technician Entry arrived on 25th April 1966 and consists of 31 direct entrants and 5 ex-Craft Apprentices. The Flight Commander is Fg.Off. E. Fox who came over from the other side to join the Wing. Fg.Off. W. G. Marshall is still with the Squadron and at the moment is Flight Commander of the 108th and 109th Entries.

By the time this issue of the magazine reaches the public Flt.Lt. R. J. Quarterman will have joined the Squadron as Deputy Officer Commanding and also as officer in charge of the Medical Administrative Apprentices. Flt.Lt. R. Hymans will have left us to return to Fighter Command as a pilot (we can now sleep sound at night knowing that he is the 'deterrent').

108th Entry

Small in numbers big in heart! The Entry is now beginning to show its paces both at work and at play. At Schools they have all passed their first year O.N.C. exam and at workshops are producing good results. They all passed their G.S.T. paper. By the time this magazine is published they will have completed three Royal route linings in London.

At play they are really excelling. Over 50%

of the Entry have represented the school at sport. Names to mention are Chamberlain—School Rugby and Athletics; Dunbar—School Rugby; Jones—School Soccer; King—School Badminton; Morris—School Rugby; Robinson—Wing Athletics; Smith—School Cross Country; Squires—Silver medal at Swimming; Suckling—R.A.F. (Juniors) and School at Swimming; Tippett—School Rugby; Wells—School Soccer; Wyer—R.A.F. (Juniors) and School at Basketball; Gardiner—Wing Rugby; Pickering—School Canoeing; Wixon—School Rugby.

We are looking forward to an active summer, carrying out several weekend sorties and of course Summer Camp in Wales in July. In addition we hope to go to the Royal Tournament and Farnborough.

109th Entry

This Entry is beginning to settle down to the life at Halton.

They have already produced the following sportsmen and there are many more to come. Palmer—School Hockey; Houghton—School Rugby; Simpson—School Basketball and Wing Rugby; Weindling—R.A.F. (Juniors) Rugby; Green—School Badminton.

In addition to the above, two teams of six Apprentices have been entered for the Ten Tors expedition this Whitsun. They are: Robinson, Boulden, Dallaway, Dixon, Fishlock, Hockley, McIver, Siviter, Taylor, Weindling, Wyatt and Barratt.

Many of the Entry are active members of the Halton Society and T.A. Wright is working on a special project of building an electric organ.

The Entry is looking forward to an active summer, also hoping to visit the Royal Tournament and possibly Farnborough.

110th Entry

The 'Rooks' of the Squadron commenced training on the 25th April 1966. They consist of 31 direct entrants and 5 ex-Craft Apprentices.

There is nothing really to say about them at the moment, but by the summer issue they should have settled in at Halton and therefore should produce some news.

'C' FLIGHT 2 SQUADRON

EX—3 SQUADRON

January 1966 saw the arrival of a new year and a new Entry to start a new life in the Royal Air Force. The 305th Entry of Administrative Apprentices became the 'rooks' of 3 Squadron, but they soon settled down in all aspects of their training.

We must apologise for not welcoming Cpl. Denholm in previous issues, but hope that this will be another case of 'better late than never'. So, welcome aboard, Jim!

Although our Entry strengths cause some smirks and giggles on the station we are well represented on the sports scene. A.A.s Fares and Guntrip (303rd) and A.A. Keene (304th) fenced in the B.-K. Championships. A.A. Quincey is still a regular member of the School's soccer teams. A.A. Osborne (305th) has played for the School at basketball, and A.A. Mills (305th) has run in the School Cross Country team. A.A.s Jackson and Kendall (both 304th) have been devoting their weekends to the Emergency Help Scheme for the local Old-Age Pensioners, doing such things as gardening and household chores.

We have said a sad farewell to Flt.Lt. Hymans, who has gone off to R.A.F. Manby to 'fly some clockwork mice'. He has gone back to flying duties once more, firstly to do a Jet Refresher, then elsewhere for familiarisation. We give a hearty welcome to his successor—Flt.Lt. R. J. Quarterman, who assumes command of 'C' Flight.

The 306th Entry joined us on 25th April 1966. The Entry strength is 14 and they have settled down already to their trade and schools training.



TECHNICAL WING NOTES

AIRFRAME AND PROPULSION TRAINING SQUADRON

If the end product is what really matters, then the Squadron can feel rather pleased with itself. The passing out of the 104th Entry gladdened the hearts of those who understood the drama behind their finals. The Entry approached the final trade test with half a dozen potential S.A.C.s but, by sheer hard work on their part, and endless patient help from practically every instructor in the Squadron, they all made the grade. That alone was sweet success, but with the addition of seven substantive corporals from the Airframe Fitters and one further Propulsion Fitter our cup (and theirs) was really filled.

By the time this is in print the last Aircraft Apprentices will have passed through the New Workshops and we shall have a full house of Craft Apprentices. They seem to be racing like greyhounds through their two year course and are doing well. They will certainly maintain the Halton tradition.

We are about to say farewell to the following staff and we wish them success in their new postings; Flt.Lt. Frapwell (To Luqa) W.O. Handley (To Royal Malayan Air Force), Ch.Tech. Lewis (To Leconfield), Ch.Tech. Cunliffe (To Little Rissington), Sgt. Davis (To Singapore), Sgt. Cox (on release).

We extend a hearty welcome to Fg.Off. Johnson (Ex Germany), W.O. Varty, B.E.M. Ex Luqa), Ch.Tech. Wilde (Ex Turnhill), Ch.Tech. Hamer (Ex Bicester), Ch.Tech. White (Ex Waddington), Ch.Tech. Sinclair (Ex Kinloss), Ch.Tech. Teasdale (Ex Lyneham), Ch.Tech. Lake (Ex Ballykelly), Sgt. Whitwam Ex C.F.E.), Cpl. Drake (Ex Germany).

AIRFIELD TRAINING SQUADRON

Once more the passing of winter with its inescapable trials and tribulations has allowed Airfield Training Squadron to thaw out some-

what. The usual plaintive query was heard 'Were we training Eskimos or Apprentices?' The lack of B.T.U.s is ever pronounced in the hangars—perhaps the change to the Metric System will improve matters. Everybody is now looking forward to the Summer and the airfield hardening to receive some more Canberras which are to fly in to swell the training fleet.

The staff of the Airfield are gradually recovering from their participation in Station Sports activities. We trust the reserves soccer team have recovered from the effect of Ch.Tech. Galloway's lashing tongue during their journey to the championship honours in the London League.

With the start of the cricket season activities are hotting up. Sgt. Petrie has an extensive programme for training umpires. In some quarters it is opined that this is to bolster this squadron's chances in the Inter-section league. Rumour has it that even Fg.Off. Daniels has gone into strict training in an effort to prevent his being run out by that champion of the short run Sgt. Beverley.

Amongst those who left us during the last term was Ch.Tech. Tearle who went to the O.C.T.U. at Feltwell, taking with him the best wishes of us all for his success as a technical officer. Music lovers at Halton will remember him particularly for his classical music programme on Radio Halton.

A warm welcome is extended to the new instructors posted in to meet the increased demand by having two entries together at the Airfield. Careful planning by R.A.P.O. managed to get them here just in time for the arrival of the 105th and 201st entries. This has led to hectic times in the squadron but the staff are determined that the standard of training shall not suffer.

The annual spring-clean was attacked with

the usual zest and co-operation by all. F.S. Keeper was perturbed at the amount of red paint used by two apprentices; it appears that they had been detailed to paint the fire doors and boxes in the Squadron but their navigation was a bit out. Flying Flight will receive the bill for services rendered

Congratulations to Ch.Tech. Bosdet on the award of the B.E.M.—a well deserved honour.

ELECTRICAL AND INSTRUMENT TRAINING SQUADRON

The 103rd and 104th entries completed their training and have now joined their predecessors throughout the Air Force. We extend to them our congratulations and wish them well in their future careers. With the running down of the Instrument Training Flight we miss a few familiar faces. Gone—but not forgotten—are Sgt. Shepard, Mr. Norton and Mr. Drumbrell. Our best wishes go to them in their new posts.

The Electrical Training Flight has had a few changes also. Flt.Lt. Hardaker was posted to R.A.F. Laarbruch, leaving Flt.Lt. Elphick wearing two hats; Sgt. Brown to Cosford, Sgt. Ness to 'civvy' street and we extend to them our best wishes for the future.

Our congratulations go to Cpl. Silver on the occasion of his marriage. We understand that he enjoyed his boating honeymoon. We wel-

come Mr. Moffatt to our Flight and trust he will stay for a while. Being an ex S.N.C.O. of the trade he should know the answers.

Craft Apprentice training of aircraft fitters (electrical) is now in full swing and we look forward to being able to give a good report of the first entry (the 201st) who will pass-out in August.

TECHNICIAN SQUADRON

The first three entries of Aircraft Technician Apprentices (the 107th, 108th and 109th) have made good progress through their training, and examination results show that they are coping with the multi-trade syllabus satisfactorily. The staff is as busy as ever preparing for the new phases of instruction. This, of course, includes the production of many new training aids biased towards systems engineering.

Since writing our last notes Sqn.Ldr. Sanderson (30th Entry) has taken over command of the Squadron on posting from Germany to carry on the good work in this new and exacting field of training. There have been many other changes in our training staff—we welcome the newcomers and thank those who have left us for their good services and help in creating this new squadron and we wish them every success.

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