



AOC 1 Group Inspects Rutland Air Cadets



Just before Christmas 2248 (Rutland) ATC Squadron held their Annual Presentation Evening, an event that many RAFA members are keen to attend. The Inspecting Officer was the Sqn President AVM Gary Waterfall CBE, AOC 1 Group RAF.

The evening began with Officer Commanding Flt Lt Paul Bowden giving a presentation to the guests, parents and friends providing them with an insight into what the Squadron had been doing over the last 12 months. AVM Waterfall was invited to present various classification awards, First Aid badges, swimming competency, radio certificates and Duke of Edinburgh Award certificates to the cadets.

The main awards followed, with some of the most notable awards going to:-

Best Attendance at 94% was awarded to Cadet Lee Crump.

Personal Achievement Award Cadet t Issac Crook

Rob Toy Cup for Best NCO Cadet Corporal William Astill presented by Di Toy, he was later promoted to Sgt.

Best Cadet Award went to Cadet Amelia Seymour who was then promoted to Cpl along with Elisabeth Coates and Christian Wetherill.

The presentations were followed by cadets giving a drill display and two of the D of E Award recipients describing their recent bronze expeditions.

AVM Waterfall then spoke to those present thanking the Sqn staff for all their hard work; he also went on to thank the cadets and their parents.

He was delighted that the presentation evening had been changed in order for him to attend. He then offered the cadets a trip to RAF Scampton as his guests to meet the Red Arrows and watch one of their displays before the team left for their annual training in Cyprus. He finished by saying that it was a genuine privilege to be involved with the Sqn and looked forward to coming back again next year.



Di Toy presenting the Rob Toy cup to William Astill.



THE RUTLAND FLYING HORSESHOE



Message sent by

Sarah Young (Police, PC - Cyber crime prevention officer, Wiltshire Police)

Happy New Year to everyone!

Planning your summer holiday already?

PLEASE READ THIS IF YOU STAY IN HOTELS AND ARE GIVEN A CARD FOR ACCESS TO YOUR ROOM.

This is really useful information for anyone who goes on holiday where the hotel uses key cards. Always take a small fridge magnet on your holiday; they come in handy at the end of it. Never even thought about key cards containing anything other than an access code for the room? Ever wonder what is on your magnetic Hotel room key card?

Answer:

- Customer's name
- Customer's partial home address
- Hotel room number
- Check-in date and out dates
- Customer's credit card number and expiration date!

When you hand them back to the front desk your personal information is there for any employee to access by simply scanning the card in the hotel scanner. An employee can take a hand full of cards home and using a scanning device, access the information onto a laptop computer and go shopping at your expense.

Simply put, hotels don't erase the information on these cards until an employee reissues the card to the next hotel guest. At that time, the new guest's information is electronically 'overwritten' on the card and the previous guest's information is thus erased. But until the card is rewritten for the next guest, it usually is kept in a drawer at the front desk with **YOUR INFORMATION ON IT!**

The bottom line: Keep the cards, take them home with you, or destroy them. **NEVER** leave them behind in the room or room wastebasket, and **NEVER** turn them into the front desk when you check out of a room.

For the same reason, if you arrive at the airport and discover you still have the card key in your pocket, do not toss it in an airport trash basket. Take it home and destroy it by cutting it up, especially through the electronic information strip!

OR,

If you have a small magnet, pass it across the magnetic strip several times. Then try it in the door, it will not work. It erases everything on the card.

Information courtesy of: Metropolitan Police, London.



PLEASE FORWARD to all those friends & family who travel.



THE RUTLAND FLYING HORSESHOE



Institute of Advanced Motorists.

We are offering free, no-obligation assessment drives on **Sunday 14th February, from 9.30am**. The drive will be only about 20 minutes, with a short feedback at the end. As we invite everyone to come at 9.30, there could be a wait if a lot of people turn up - we don't asking people to book ahead for this.

Venue:
Conservative Club
Cottingham Road
Corby NN17 1SZ

If you decide to register for the Skill for Life course, the sessions begin on **Sunday 21st February (9.30 to 12.00)**, and we meet every Sunday thereafter until 10th April (but skipping Easter Sunday). It is just possible that this course may be over-subscribed - i.e. not enough observers for the number of associates - in which case we shall probably need to ask those who book latest to wait until our autumn course. In other words, we'll take people on a first-come, first-served principle. So if you are keen to do the course it might be good to register ASAP with IAM, and certainly before the assessment drive day.

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Someone kindly sent me this little story. I understand there are other versions.

Hello Peter,
I hope this joke will brighten your day.
An elderly gentleman, arrived in Paris by plane... At French Customs, he took a few minutes to locate his passport in his carry-on bag.
"You have been to France before, monsieur?" the customs officer asked sarcastically.
Mr. Whiting admitted that he had been to France previously.
"Then you should know enough to have your passport ready."
The Englishman said, 'The last time I was here, I didn't have to show it.'
"Impossible. You English always have to show your passports on arrival in France!"
The English senior gave the Frenchman a long hard look. Then he quietly explained,
"Well, when I came ashore at Gold Beach on D-Day in 1944 to help liberate this country, I couldn't find a single Frenchmen to show a passport to."
Regards

Welfare Waffle

Wings Breaks for the RAF family



January is the traditional time to think about booking that summer holiday and so now seems to be the right time to remind all our members that RAFA

has 3 brilliant hotels, custom-made to give you just the break you need. From North to South, Northumberland's Rothbury House, Richard Peck House in Lytham-St-Annes and Flowerdown House in Weston-Super-Mare are waiting for your call. Don't delay, act today, by calling Jo Bray on 0116 268 8751 or visit www.homesfromhome.org.uk

Or if a more rustic holiday closer to home is more your bag, why not book a RAFA Eastern Chalet at Hemsby in Norfolk by contacting Alex Watts on 0116 268 8727.

I close by reminding everyone that winter is far from over, so keep an eye on your more vulnerable neighbours and let me know if any ex-RAF folk need an arm around the shoulder.

Happy New Year!

Richard



Richard HWO

Many thanks to all of your contributions. Perhaps we can print your story next month.



The Gazette

Dates For Your Diary



3rd February	Steve Heywood	Senior RAFLO RAF Wittering
6th April	TBA	
4th May	TBA	

May I remind you that your subs are due for those who do not pay by D Debit? All Branch Associates are now Full Associates and their subscription is £8.50 per annum, which I shall be happy to collect at next meeting please.
Angie

Branch Meeting

Branch Meetings are First Wednesday every month Venue:
Cottesmore Sports & Social Club 7.00 for 7.30pm

Branch Committee Members

Chairman: Duncan Manderson, Pickwell Grange, Whissendine, LE15 7ER, 01664 474274

Vice Chairman: Gordon Diffey. Tel 01572 722068

Branch Secretary: Phil Marston, 12 Seaton Road, Uppingham, LE15 9QX, 01572 822731

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Standard Bearer: Francis Humphreys,

Christmas Dinner Organiser, Roger Hyde, Tel 01572 813547 email g3zdw@btinternet.com