



'Venture Adventure' - since 1939

Heritage Lottery Project 70th Anniversary

in 2008, the squadron cadets began to research the 70 year history of the squadron, and with the help of the current Officer Commanding, Flt Lt Pauline Petch, a grant form was applied for with the Heritage Lottery Fund. After working out exactly what cadets wanted to research, and do for the anniversary, the application went in and the squadron was extremely fortunate to be awarded £21,300.

A press release followed which stated:

**The Heritage Lottery Fund to ensure the history of 42F Kings Lynn squadron
ATC is remembered**

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has awarded a grant of £21300 to the Cadet Project to commemorate 70 years of 42F Kings Lynn ATC.

The rich history and memories of ex-cadets, staff and military personnel will be researched, collated and recorded for posterity in different ways. Plans are in hand for the production of a time capsule, a film and book about the squadron, an exhibition that will visit different locations in 2009 and much, much more -

Kings Lynn squadron has been in existence since January 2nd 1939 when it was the Air Defence Cadet Corps. At that time it was used as a recruiting tool for the RAF. Although the Air Cadet Organisation today is not solely involved in recruiting, the aims of the Corps still ensure that the youth of today are given the opportunity to gain skills useful in any career or path they take. It is important for the present cadets and young people of today to learn about their background and for the memories of previous years to be recorded. Throughout the year an exhibition will be organized and it will attend many local events to allow every one to gain knowledge of the history. It is planned that there will be something happening each month throughout 2009, and this award will ensure that the history of 42F Kings Lynn Squadron is remembered for many years. 'The celebration of a squadrons life of 70 years is important and by ensuring that cadets from the present and past join together to help preserve these memories, relationships between the generations will be permanently cemented. The award will mean that cadets and the older generation learn from each other and by the young people having ownership of this project new skills will be learnt for their future.

Robyn Llewellyn, Head of the Heritage Lottery Fund, East of England, said, "It is so important to get young people involved in the heritage that surrounds them by bringing it to life and making it relevant to them, and this is a wonderful project that will do just that. The young cadets will have the opportunity to learn about and celebrate the history of the squadron and then share this with a wider audience through the resulting exhibition." :

..and this was just the beginning

To begin the project cadets were asked to supply a team of eight to get the programme started. This group worked out what needed to be done and in what order. Different jobs were then given to different groups. With the diverse activities that were planned several groups of cadets would be needed over the course of the project and they would need to be trained in order that the following could take place,

- DVD Production
- Book Production
- Exhibition Design—both for Museum and Library
- Exhibition to take around the shows locally
- Time capsule to be buried
- Parade to be organised
- Visit to RAF Museums and bases
- Grand Dance
- Recreation of very first photograph

The Commanding Officer took a group of cadets to Ivory Tower Studios to study film making and photography. Simon Elliot held one days training with cadets moving between the studio and the squadron and then showing their efforts on the computer and learning how to edit. After the initial training cadets and staff decided to hold an Open Day to gauge interest and see if more past members could be found, which would hopefully give cadets an opportunity to begin filming. The old address books were found and letters sent. Invitations were also placed in the press to try and trace past cadets or staff.

The date was booked 25th August 2008 . Cadets came in early to set up the photo boards, displays and to erect a twelve by twelve tent with current day kit in it. There was a steady flow of visitors from all through the last 70 years. Ex cadets were interviewed on film and photographed talking to present cadets. Some of these interviews will be shown on the DVD. Simon Elliot from Ivory Tower Studios assisted with the training so the cadets became confident that they could use the cameras.



Squadron evenings on a regular basis, were used for film training with Simon Elliot. The cadets edited the film and photographs to put into the DVD and also to keep for posterity. The cadets were continually filming and researching. Other cadets were organising the display boards and laminating and collating photographs.



At the beginning of the project cadets and staff took a trip to Duxford to research RAF and ATC history along with studying different types of aircraft. In groups all cadets took their turns at filming and photographing items from different collections. Cadets listened to the different films in the education department and read the many reports of wartime.

A Group photograph at the beginning of the Duxford Trip



Sgt Tom Pearce and Cdt Charlotte Wilson filming in one of the hangers

Cpl Ashley Kavanagh and Cdt Sam Oakes filming with the new camera at Duxford





Kings Lynn Library, being one of our Heritage Partners, offered to display one of our boards asking for ex-cadets to come forward with information. A group of cadets spent a few days researching at the Library looking at old issues of the local newspaper, the 'Lynn News and Advertiser', on a microfiche. This is another skill that cadets have learnt within this project.



Top Left : Cadet Sam Oakes checking files .

Top Right: Sgt Beth Stenton and Cadet Daniel Alexander using the library microfiche

Bottom: Cadet Charlotte Wilson reading information from the microfiche .

Cdt Flight Sergeant Beth Stenton spent days at the Studio learning about voice recording. After trying voice recording with many cadets it was decided that it would sound better for one cadet to do all the speech on the DVD, and that it would flow much better.

Another group of cadets were tasked with designing all the boards for display in the exhibition. Old photographs were scanned and replicated before being laminated for display. One of the classrooms was altered to allow for a Timeline to be displayed on the cork boards.



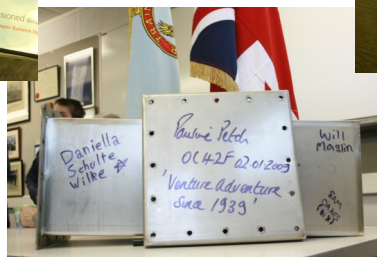
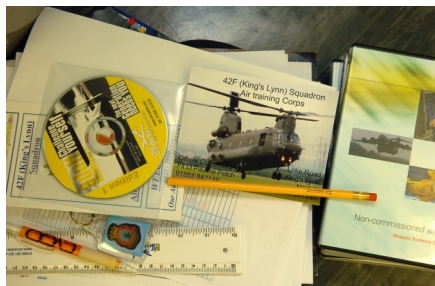
From an old address book cadets from the past were contacted and all were asked to be a part of our celebrations. Many helped us to contact others. Although the actual anniversary date is January 2nd, the very first photograph was taken on December 14th 1938. This was when all youths were called forward to be a part of the Air Defence Cadet Corps in Kings Lynn. The photograph was taken in the Stone Hall at the Town Hall Kings Lynn. To begin the project the cadets decided to recreate the photograph with as many ex-members as could be contacted.



Nineteen past members attended and the photograph was recreated in exactly the same place as in 1939. The Mayoral party and the press attended along with Radio Norfolk. Presenter Jill Bennett conducted an interview with 3 of the original members of the squadron which was broadcast on the radio on December 15th at 7 am.

It was planned that on January 2nd 2009, the actual 70th anniversary a Time Capsule would be buried in the garden of the squadron. Cadets decided what would be put into this steel capsule, which had been specially made in Marham, Norfolk.

Items such as badges, ACPs, photographs, a beret and other cadet magazines were some of the objects that were put into the capsule before it was sealed.



On the morning of the anniversary, cadets arrived at the squadron early to begin filling the capsule. After this was ready the squadron was opened up to ex members and visitors. Refreshments were served while people looked around the squadron building and viewed the old photographs on show. At 11am everyone went outside to the large hole that had been dug. Current cadets Cdt Sam Hoare and Cdt William Maslin, along with ex-cadet Tony Williamson who had been Chairman of the Civilian Committee for many years, helped to put the capsule into the hole. This was also Tony's 85th birthday and everyone sang happy birthday to him. This was a truly special anniversary.



Cadet Sam Hoare and Cdt Maslin bury the Time capsule helped by Tony Williamson

Cdt Cpl Ashley Kavanagh putting in his contribution to the Time Capsule



Ex cadets Michael Langwade and Bob Hammond sign the Timecapsule

Because 2009 is 42F Squadrons 70th Anniversary it was decided to hold an extra special parade for ATC Sunday. Plans were made and squadrons from across the Wing were invited. Parade Orders were sent out and the Police and Emergency Wardens were all on hand.

February 8th dawned and the weather was dry, although cold. Cadets mustered at Broad Walk King's Lynn and four squadrons joined with us— 864 Watton Squadron, 1249 Dereham Squadron, 1986 Wymondham and 2534 Fakenham Squadron. Each squadron brought a Banner party to lead the parade. At 12.45pm the parade left Broad Walk and with the assistance of King's Lynn Police, traffic was stopped and the parade marched down St James St to the Saturday Market Place. After forming up on the Saturday Market Place they were joined by the Civic party including the mayor of West Norfolk and Kings Lynn David Johnson and the Mace and Sword Bearers. Air Commodore Ian Stewart—Commandant Air Cadets, accompanied by Flt Lt Emma Harrison, his ADC, inspected the parade before taking the salute as the parade marched past and into St Margaret's Church for a service, held in commemoration of ATC Sunday and of our 70th anniversary.



Air Commodore Ian Stewart inspecting cadets

A reception was then held for all cadets and staff in the Town Hall.

Air Commodore Stewart and the Mayor of Kings Lynn taking the salute as the cadets march past to the church





Cadets from 42F Leading the Parade on the Saturday Market Place



The Annual Dinner for the 70th year was held at the Town Hall with the catering organised by West Norfolk Flying Chef



Current cadets at the Dinner



Ex-cadets at the Dinner



Anniversary Cake made by Flt Lt Petch



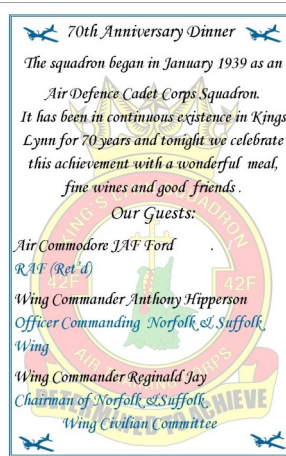
Cadets entertaining the guests

On March 20th at 19:30, 42F(King's Lynn) Squadron held its 70th Anniversary Dinner. This was held at the historic town hall in King's Lynn with a wonderful four course meal supplied by caterers, West Norfolk Flying Chef.

Present cadets attended in their finery - Boys in white shirts and Bow ties and Girls in a beautiful array of ball gowns. These were joined by ex-cadets, 42F staff, Wing Staff and Present Committee members. In total 92 people sat down to a scrumptious meal with special guests of Wing Commander Reg Jay and Air Commodore Jon Ford.

Professional Photographer, Gary Evans was in attendance for those who wanted photographs taken. Old photographs and display boards were available for the guests to view before the meal. After the meal coffee was served in the stone hall while an improvised disco was held for cadets in the assembly room.

Menu
from the
70th Anniversary
Dinner





Research showed that one of the ex-cadets contacted during the open day, missed out on the very first gliding scholarship due to outbreak of war. Jim Sainty, now almost 86, spent almost 4 years in the squadron at King's Lynn, reaching the rank of Flight Sergeant. He joined 42F (King's Lynn) Squadron when it was the Air Defence Cadet Corps and then progressed into the RAF in 1942. With good memories of the friends made while in the cadets and the confidence he gained, his stories of the early days include memories of Air Experience Flights taken in Wellingtons at RAF Marham, talks on flying subjects, nightly drill and training on engines at Paradise

Parade HQ. One of Jims most prolific memories was travelling back from Caxton in Cambridgeshire at the start of the War, when they had been sent home from the postponed glider scholarship, all crammed in the back of the first Commanding Officer's (Pop Freestone) Old Riley - with Jim travelling, laying on the parcel shelf!!

Because of this missed gliding scholarship in 1939, the present Officer Commanding - Flt Lt Pauline Petch contacted the Gliding School to ask for help and the Officer Commanding 611 VGS (Voluntary Gliding Squadron), - Squadron Leader Ken Stedman, after being told about the missed glider flight in 1939, agreed that it was time Jim got his opportunity.

He arranged the permissions from HQAC, helped organize a time and date, let us descend on the Gliding School, and allowed Civilian Gliding Instructor Aimee Petch—another past cadet of 42F, to take Jim on his long awaited flight.

A CGI at Watton, Aimee Petch, also an Instructor at King's Lynn has been assisting cadets with this History Project and happily agreed to take Jim for his flight -70 years late!

The event had been postponed previously due to poor weather but Saturday 18th April 2009 was a fantastic day, full of sunshine, if a little breezy.

Jim was accompanied by his wife and daughter and met up with Flt Lt Pauline Petch at Watton. Local press also attended. After being briefed on safety issues we all sat through the full cadet brief for the Gliding Squadron. Transport to the airfield followed. After watching cadets gliding and practicing, it was eventually Jim's turn. He was taken to the glider and fitted with the parachute before getting into the glider where staff assured he was strapped in correctly. After safety briefs, his flight was on the way.

He circuited the airfield and over the fields before coming in to land. On landing he said he had whole-heartedly enjoyed the experience and thanked everyone for their help in achieving it. Lots of photographs were taken and some video footage, which has now been made into a DVD for him by the history project team.



Jim with
Aimee
giving the
safety brief





611 Voluntary Gliding School has been at Watton since 1996. The school was originally formed as 102 Gliding School in the early 1940s, at Hethersett Racecourse, six miles south of Norwich – then, in 1945 the school moved to Horsham St Faiths (now Norwich Airport). In 1953 RAF Swanton Morley was used and then when gliding ceased there in 1995, RAF Marham was used for a year before 611 VGS moved into their present home at Watton.

The aircraft used by the school in the early days consisted of Dagling Primary gliders, supported by a prime mover Ford V8 converted Barrage Balloon winch and two small 'pick-up' type trucks as retrieve vehicles. During 1945 the Dagling primary gliders were being replaced by the Kirby Cadet Mk I.

With Sedberghs and KirbyCadet Mk I being used over the years, the school received its first Kirby Cadet Mk III in February 1953 and from then onwards students were trained on dual control gliders to a standard of which the final requirement was three solo circuits.

In 1978 the Venture Self Launch glider was used and 611 became a successful gliding school.

Then in 1987 611VGS was chosen as one of the schools to be the home of the new 'Viking'. A new high performance, winch launched dual-control GRP glider, this glider was ideal for 611VGS as it's home at RAF Swanton Morley boasted one of the largest all grass airfields in the country.

Operations at RAF Swanton Morley continued successfully offering AEG, IGT, BGT and AGT training at weekends and on three continuous courses each year until the government programme of 'Options for Change' was announced in 1995, this resulted in RAF Swanton Morley being selected for closure under this programme.

Once again the search was on for a new home for 611 VGS, and eventually it was decided that 611VGS would move to STANTA Airfield Watton (formerly RAF Watton), now operated by the Army and part of the STANTA Training Area. The new facility at Watton was completed in September 1996 and arrangements were made for the move to the new home.



Grateful Thanks to everyone at 611VGS for making this once in a lifetime trip possible, especially Squadron Leader Ken Stedman and Civilian Gliding Instructor Aimee Petch

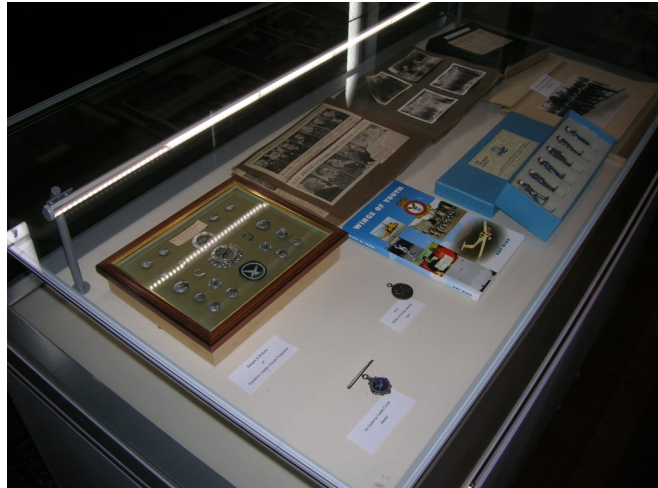
Sqn Ldr Stedman, Jim Sainty & CGI Aimee Petch

All the research and work that cadets did over the winter were put together for an exhibition. This was designed to be installed into the marquee at the outside shows that were being visited. However to make sure the exhibits they had made and collated worked well together, an indoor exhibition was arranged at the Lynn Museum.

In April, Lynn Museum, one of the squadrons Heritage Partners, agreed to house an exhibition of the last 70 years of 42F (King's Lynn) Squadron. Two manikins were dressed in uniforms and photographs and badges from the span of 70 years were displayed in glass cabinets.

The exhibition ran for 6 weeks and allowed the public of the area to see just what had been achieved in the project.

Story boards designed by cadets and the glass cabinet housing the badges of the squadrons first Commanding Officer Sqn Ldr 'Pop' Freestone



After the museum had housed the exhibition it was dismantled and transported in the trailer along with the new marquee to a number of events in the county.

The organisers of Holkham Country Fair and also the Sandringham Flower Show agreed that the squadron should be allowed to erect the exhibition marquee at their shows, allowing it to be seen by many thousands of people.

Cadet Hotchin and Cadet Maslin manning the exhibition stand at Sandringham Flower Show



In June 2009, the squadron once again travelled to France for the Remembrance Services at St Valery-en-Caux.

St Valery-en-Caux on the French Coast remembers the events of 1940 every year and it is only recently that the English have been involved. In June of that year The French Army and the 51st Division of Highlanders, to whom the Royal Norfolks were attached, were encircled by the 7th Panzer Division of Rommel at St Valery-en-Caux. On the 12th June resistance was intense and there was much bloodshed and fighting and St Valery was taken. The Royal Norfolks, from our area, lost 12 men, and these are buried in the cemetery at St Valery. Each year there are French Remembrance services in the Town in memory of the men who were lost there. French, Scottish and English gather together to remember and 42F King's Lynn Air Training Corps cadets were invited by the Mayor of St Valery, to attend the services in recognition of the Royal Norfolks.



10 Cadets along with the Commanding Officer Flt Lt Pauline Petch, travelled to France and paraded in memory of the Royal Norfolks.

There were 3 services on Saturday the 13th June, one at Hermounville village, one at the cemetery and one at the Monument. At each of these the cadets led the parade with the squadron standard and a corps of drums, accompanied by Sgt Amy Ng on the flute. On the Sunday, a service was held on the cliffs at the 51st Highland division

Monument. This overlooks the beaches where Rommel did so much harm.

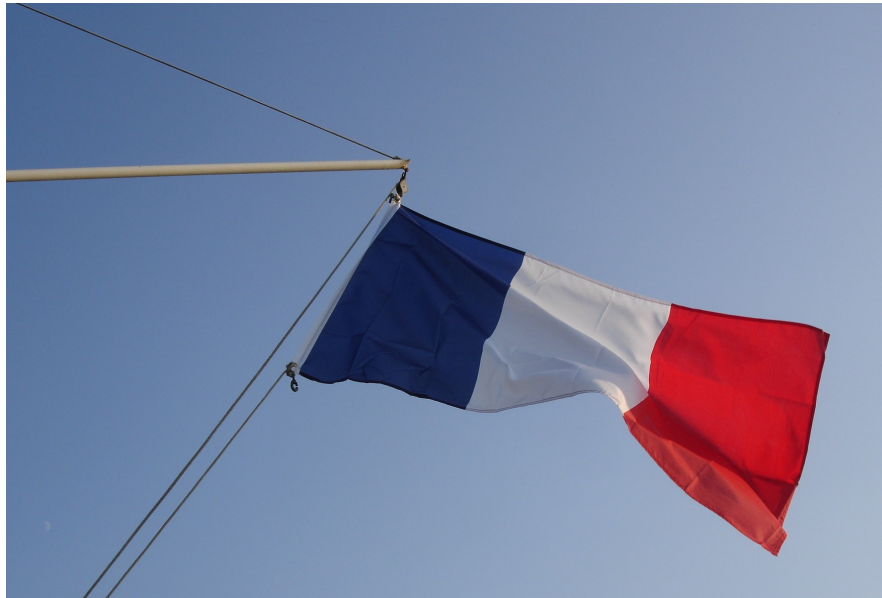


Cadets met with French, Scottish and English veterans and were especially pleased to meet with Frank Madle, from Snettisham, Norfolk and also one of the Royal Norfolks. He still makes the annual visit for these services although now aged 92 years.

The squadron members were treated to some wonderful hospitality for the whole weekend and were sad to leave. The cadets have some wonderful memories of their time in France, Cadet Corporal Ryan Walker, 15 years old said, "It was such an honour to be a part of this memorial parade, and I really enjoyed the wonderful hospitality of everyone."

To ensure our connection with St Valery and the Royal Norfolks continues, the cadets that went this year held a French Evening and gave a wonderful presentation to the rest of the cadets, some ex-cadets, Civilian Committee and of course –Frank who was with them in France !

Cadets made a power point show, photo slides and a short film and guests were treated to French bread, cheese and ‘wine’.....and they insisted that guests wore French fashion !!



The squadron also flew the French Flag for the evening, while cadets did some drill moves with the instructions in French!



Holkham Country Fair

Part of our Heritage Project in 2009 was to show the exhibition to as many people as possible. This was achieved by standing at different shows throughout the Summer. One of these was Holkham Country Fair.

This is a biennial show held at the prestigious Holkham Hall and grounds in North Norfolk.

Cadets helped erect the marquees and displayed all the information and items they had collected over the last year.



Many books, badges and leaflets had been loaned to the exhibition by ex-cadets and the whole display gained a great deal of interest, especially from those who had, at some time in their lives been involved in the military.

The next show that the display attended, was Sandringham Flower Show.

This is one of the most prestigious horticultural events in the East of England. Now in its 128th year, it is much more than just a Flower Show. It is a unique event offering both the best in horticulture and a fantastic day of family entertainment.

Set in the magnificent surroundings of Sandringham Park with Sandringham House and Sandringham Church as a backdrop, this one-day Show attracts around 20,000 visitors each year. From the beginning the Show has been privileged to enjoy Royal patronage and traditionally our Royal Patron attends the Show.



Sandringham Duties Come Round Again

Wednesday 29th July again saw 42F (King's Lynn) Sqn car parking for the thousands of visitors to the annual Sandringham Flower Show, this year assisted by members of 1986 (Wymondham) Sqn and a contingent of Norfolk Army Cadets.

Many of the 20,000 visitors attend the event in order to catch a glimpse of the show's patrons, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall, who spend almost two hours visiting the marquees of many of the charitable organisations present.



With most of the visitors on site, 16 members of King's Lynn Squadron were released from their car parking duties to change into Blue Uniform and form up, opposite the display of the Army Air Corps, to meet the Royal couple who always take a keen interest in the Squadron's activities.

Although black clouds loomed, heralding the possible imminent arrival of predicted heavy rain, their Royal Highness' still found time to shake the hand and speak with each of the cadets in the Honour Guard.



Cadet Sergeantt Tom Pearce (17), attending his first Sandringham Flower Show, said: *"It was really nice that His Royal Highness took the time to shake hands and talk to us. He asked what I would be doing over the holidays and was very interested when I told him I was off to Canada on an expedition with members of our Squadron."*

Cadet Gemma Duncalf (13) said: *"I was nervous when he spoke to me. He asked if I was going to Canada and I said, no but I am going to the Edinburgh Tattoo with the Squadron."*

Sea to Sky Expedition British Columbia

42F's current Commanding Officer, Flt Lt Pauline Petch organised a Canadian Expedition as part of the King's Lynn Squadrons 70th anniversary activities. It included an eight day wilderness expedition from the mountain town of Whistler involving mountain biking, hiking to glacier fed lakes and river rafting. 8 days of expedition gave the cadets experience of hiking at high level and dipping in the icy waters, mountain biking through green trails around Whistler, the home of the 2010 winter Olympics and rafting level 3 to 4 rapids on the Elaho and Squamish Rivers, in addition to setting up camp on an island.



Although the trip began as an adventurous expedition, because of the connection of Captain Vancouver, more educational visits were added to the second week. As well as being invited by the Royal Canadian Cadet Force to attend Abbotsford Air Show and also to visit US Naval and Air Base at Whidbey Bay Island, Washington State, it was decided to try and organize a Civic Visit to Vancouver City Hall.

Before we left, Mayor Michael Pitcher of West Norfolk and Kings Lynn presented the ATC Mayors Cadet- Sergeant Tom Pearce, with a letter and a gift of a Book on Kings Lynn History to be taken and presented to the Mayor in Vancouver.

Due to summer breaks the Deputy Mayor agreed to see the cadets and accepted the gift on behalf of the Mayor. He then arranged for an hour long tour of City Hall by one of their historians and cadets were fortunate enough to see the painting of the King's Lynn Custom House hanging in the City Hall Offices which was given to the city many years ago.



Edinburgh Tattoo.

On 21st August the squadron again took cadets to Scotland. After being collected early on the Friday morning, 27 members travelled North. They visited New Lanark Heritage Site on route to Edinburgh and took in Edinburgh Zoo as well as some much needed retail therapy on the Saturday before going to the late performance of the Tattoo.



This spectacular event was enjoyed by all and the fireworks at the end of the performance, finished off a very memorable day.



The group stayed at Edinburgh Central Youth Hostel - very high quality and good food!! On the Sunday the group left Edinburgh to head home taking in Gretna Green Old Smithy Village as well as the Royal Armouries at Leeds before arriving at King's Lynn late in the evening.



To celebrate the 70th Anniversary the squadron put on a Grand 1940s Dinner Dance at the King's Lynn Corn Exchange in September 2009.



RAF Wyton Big Band performed some fantastic music for the evening and West Norfolk flying Chef put on a wonderful 1940s style Hot Supper for the 240 guests.



Cadets, staff, civilian committee, ex-cadets and friends, were joined by the Station Commander from



RAF Marham, Group Captain Colin Bassnett and his wife Annette and the Officer Commanding 611VGS –Squadron Leader Ken Stedman. Many of the cadets and guests were dressed in authentic fashion of the era and the evening got under way with some fantastic music and wonderful food.

Cadets and staff had decorated the Corn Exchange with posters, flags and bunting and the tables were set out in the Street Party style.

During the interval, there were speeches and a toast was given to the squadron with apple juice from the Royal fruit Farm at Sandringham.

This was accompanied by a piece of anniversary cake for everyone.

The evening also saw 70th Anniversary Commemorative items on sale and the DVD that cadets had spent the year filming and editing was launched.



RAF Scampton Camp

Along with staff and cadets from 2110 (North Walsham) sqn, 759(Beccles) sqn and 864 (Watton) sqn, twelve cadets from 42F Kings Lynn Squadron Air training Corps and Flt Lt Petch attended an Autumn camp for half term. Beginning on the first day of the school holidays, the camp was held at RAF Scampton and consisted of section visits, shooting, swimming, sports and drill, in addition to initiative exercises and leadership events. Over the week cadets had the opportunity to look at different sections of RAF work and in some instances were offered work experience when available.

RAF Scampton is home to the Royal Air Force Aerobatic team, the Red Arrows, who train in their Hawk aircraft in the skies above this Lincolnshire station and all cadets and staff on camp were privileged to be allowed to visit the hangar and be shown around the aircraft. After spending most of two hours learning about the aircraft and the display team, some were then allowed to watch a performance by three of the Red Arrow team who were training during the afternoon.



The Red Arrows are renowned throughout the world as ambassadors for both the Royal Air Force and the United Kingdom. Since the Team was officially formed in 1965, the Red Arrows have completed over 4,000 displays in 53 countries. The Red Arrows' reputation is built on the commitment and professionalism, combined with Royal Air Force skills, training and equipment. Many of the pilots and support staff have recently returned from Afghanistan and Iraq and many will be temporarily detached on operations overseas during their time with the Red Arrows.



Cadets were given weapons training by the RAF and many of the cadets passed their weapons handling tests. All the cadets then took part in initiative exercises in the hangars as part of the camp activities.



RAF Scampton is home to the grave of Wing Commander Guy Gibson's Labrador - 'Nigger' - the 617 squadron Mascot, who was killed by a car on May 16th 1943 as his owner was leading his squadron on an attack on the Dams.



On November 16th 2009, the squadron held its Annual Presentation night at the Town Hall King's Lynn. This was also the last event in the 70th Anniversary celebrations and an opportunity for cadets to show everything they had been involved in during the year. The evening got underway with a reception for the guests and parents with the exhibition of history on display. Everyone who had been involved throughout the year was invited to attend and cadets were pleased to see so many people. Ex cadets joined with parents, friends and community groups to listen to the cadets views of the year. After a short reception all were invited to the Hall to watch a cadet presentation of the year and listen to the Annual Speech from the Commanding Officer.

Awards and presentations were made and because of our anniversary, special awards regarding the history project were also given.

VIP guests in attendance were Group Capt Brett Morrell -Regional Commandant for Central & East Region ATC, The Mayor of King's Lynn and West Norfolk Councillor Michael Pitcher and The Earl Romney –the squadron Honorary President

Awards were :

- Best Cadet – Cadet Sam Hoare
- Best NCO – Cadet Sergeant James Mattless
- Most improved Cadet –Cadet Grant Ellis
- Best New Recruit -Cadet William Maslin
- Excellence in Aviation – Cadet Sergeant Ed Barrett
- Achievement Award – jointly won by Cadet Corporal Daniella Schulte-Wilke and Cadet Corporal Chloe Sainsbury
- Sports award – Sergeant Ed Barrett,
- Filming award – Cadet Daniel Addison
- Photography award Cadet Sergeant Tom Pearce
- George Cole Community Award– Cadet Todd Saich



All recipients and presenters of awards



The Mayor gave a speech about the squadron



Group Capt
Morrell
presented
the
Best NCO
Award to
Sgt J
Mattless

No 1 Cadet
Geoff Bullen
presented the
Excellence in
Aviation
Award to
Sgt E Barrett



After the presentation everyone went through to the Stone Hall for a sumptuous buffet courtesy of 'Clementines' of Terrington St Clement

It has now been the year round since beginning this task of researching and collating our 70 year history.

In that time we have met some wonderful people and learnt much about the past of the squadron. The contacts we have made will remain with us, enabling the two generations of cadets –those from 1939 and those from today, to stay in touch and learn from each other.

All of our events throughout the year have been staged with the help of the Heritage Lottery Fund.

It all began on December 14th 2008 with the recreation of that first photograph and since then we have held a Parade, an Anniversary Dinner, and a Grand Dance 1940s style. Cadets have set up an exhibition in the museum and the library and been a part of the mobile exhibition that has toured the county's shows. As part of the research, cadets have photographed and filmed all year at the events we have organised and attended and been fortunate to have been granted funds to buy the equipment needed to edit and produce a DVD.

The Vancouver Centre in Kings Lynn has kindly offered us the use of a shop for a few weeks to help with our PR and this will also help to sell the DVD. They have had window display boards made to advertise the squadron and to help with recruiting.

Quite a year !

This has been an exceptional year ,and the cadets can only gain from all that has been learnt.

The opportunities they have had with this history year have been in addition to all of the normal training that cadets do every year. With flying, gliding, marksmanship, adventure training, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, formal training, BTEC s, Drill First Aid and fieldcraft as well as the project work—this has been a very full year.

It is one that has been enjoyed by so many people—our cadets, our staff, our committee and our community.

Thanks must go to all the people, too many to mention by name, who have been involved with the squadron and have helped make this so memorable .

We hope you have enjoyed reading about our squadron, and we trust the next 70 years will bring even more fantastic memories.

The Staff of 2009

Commanding Officer: Flt Lt Pauline Petch

Training Officer : Flying Officer Charles Neep

Squadron NCO: Flight Sergeant Andrew Lister

Civilian Instructors :

- Aimee Petch
- Christopher Barrett
- Christopher Lowe
- CI Adrian Bailey

Civilian Committee

Honorary President: Julian Marsham
The Earl of Romney

Vice President : Chief Supt Alan Hayes

Chairman: Mr Michael Lister

Vice Chairman: Mrs Geraldine Darrington

Secretary: Mrs Julie Lister

Treasurer: Mr Peter Pygall

Members :

Julie Whisker, Julie Duncalf, Debbie Alexander.

Michelle Barrett, John Mason, Vanessa Drew.

Cadets of 2009

Addison D

Alexander D

Auld E

Barrett E

Britton A

Brock D

Davies L

Dawes L

Ding S

Ding T

Duncalf G

Duncalf J

Ellis G

Flanagan D

High

Garrett L

Glencross J

Hoare S

Hobbs S

Hotchin.G

Jay S

Kavanagh A

Lawrence M

Maslin W

Mattless J

Murrell G

Oakes S

Pearce T

Pirie S

Saich T

Sainsbury C

Schultewilke D

Walker R

Ward C

Ward M

Whisker J

Wilson C

Willingham

Yates L