

No.9 (City of Wanganui) Squadron Air Training Corps

PO Box 560
WANGANUI

www.9squadron.org.nz



NEWSLETTER 063

SQUADRON ORGANISATION

At present the Squadron has 3 Commissioned Officers, 1 Under Officer and two civilians assisting with the squadron's administration and training.

The squadron strength at present is 76 cadets (47 males and 29 females).

FLYING

Flight Lieutenant Scott Williams (an ex-cadet now based at Ohakea) has offered to take 18 cadets flying on Saturday 5 August. We will be selecting the cadets from the Advanced and Proficiency flights. We are very grateful to FLTLT Williams for giving up his time and arranging the flights for us and he is also going to conduct some navigation lessons to these senior cadets.

We wish FLTLT Williams well for the future as he departs for Hong Kong to fly with Cathay Pacific.

COURSES

During the school holidays we had a number of people on courses:

- Sergeants Gerard Mendez and Melody Mendez along with Corporals Emma Homes and Jaquelyn Ward were on the Senior Leaders Course at Ohakea. Our congratulations go to Sgt Melody Mendez for receiving the Top cadet Award of the course.
- Cadets Renee Floyd and Joshua Meade were on the Junior Leaders Course also held at Ohakea.

SPORTS DAY

On Sunday 18 June the annual Cadet Forces inter-unit sports day was held at Wanganui High School between the three units. The weather was not kind to us so the volleyball, netball and soccer were all held indoors. On such a cold and wet day I was extremely pleased with the turn-out of 21 ATC cadets.

At the end of the day the Cadet Corps won the trophy with No.9 Squadron in second place and we successfully retained the soccer trophy played for against the Sea Cadets.



Playing the Cadet Corps at netball with the result being a win to No.9 Squadron.

OPERATION “MINERVA”

This exercise was for the Proficiency and Advanced cadets of the squadron, with objectives to improve their bushcraft skills and knowledge and to also develop teamwork and leadership. The day started for the 19 cadets and 6 staff at ATC and then moved to the Splash Centre. FLTLT Cleveland introduced Mrs Grant as the diving instructor and following her briefing the cadets went off and changed. The instruction was completed in their three sections, with each section taking just over an hour to complete the snorkelling and moving on to using the tank.



Section 2 in the pool wit Mrs Grant

An advance party headed out to Landguards Bluff with Section 1 to open up and get lunch under way and the remaining 2 sections arrived at around 1245. Following lunch we completed a more through briefing and, due to the rain, a clothing lesson was started.

With the weather clearing all sections headed outdoors to complete three leadership exercises and a compass course. UO Smith and WO Hackett ran the compass course while the remaining staff oversaw the leadership exercises. These exercises were entered into with a large amount of enthusiasm.

FLTLT Cleveland ran a fire-lighting lesson with the emphasis being on how to use an axe, as we have found this to be a skill that is lacking with the cadets.



moving the Moai

While the evening meal was being finished cooking, a lesson on equipment was carried out and we conducted a debrief of the days activities so far.

All cadets tucked into the evening meal of home-made soup, followed by meat, vegetables and potatoes, finished off with apple crumble, fruit salad and ice cream. It was good to see all cadets eating hearty meals, with some going back for more. After a final clean up and check of the area, we departed for ATC, arriving at around 2045, put gear back into the store and the last Cadet was collected around 2110.

This was a different style of exercise for No.9 Squadron and a departure from being in the bush. We have conducted the diving training on two previous occasions and this is always been well received and enjoyed by the cadets. The leadership exercises proved very interesting and, along with the benefit to the cadets, they help us to identify future NCO's. Everyone spent some time in the kitchen either helping with preparation, cooking or cleaning up, and the use of the large Army pots assisted in the smooth running of the kitchen.

Overall an enjoyable and successful days training.

BATTLE OF BRITAIN

The Royal New Zealand Air Force Association have decided to continue commemorating Battle of Britain with just the Church service again this year.

We will assemble at St Peters Church in Koromiko Road, Gonville on Sunday 17 September at 1345 hours. At this service three members of the Squadron will be carrying the RNZAF Colours down the aisle, and we will assist with the collection and at the afternoon tea.

The church service is normally finished by 1530 and the cadets will be free to go at this time or stay for afternoon tea.

CONTACT NUMBERS

The squadron's phone number is 345 7303 and is listed under Air Training Corps in the White pages. The squadron web site is www.9squadron.org.nz

If any parents have any concerns or questions I can be contacted on 347 8124.

C H QUIRK
Squadron Leader, NZCF
UNIT COMMANDER

18 July 2006

FORTHCOMING EVENTS TERM 3 2006

5 August	Flying Training	Selected senior cadets will be flying with FLTLT Scott Williams at Wanganui Airport.
12-13 August	Operation "Chione"	NCO mountain exercise to be held in Tongariro National Park.
19 August	Assistance to WWCT Regiment	The Regiment have requested assistance from 4-6 senior cadets with their parade.
23 August	Commandants Visit	Lieutenant Colonel Bob Campbell will be visiting the Squadron on a parade night.
26 August	Squadron Shoot	Wanganui Pistol Club Range Putiki 0800 start. Casual comfortable clothing. There is no cost and
2-3 September	Operation "Hebe"	Basic cadets bushcraft exercise to be held in the Waitotara Valley. Parent permission forms will be sent home.
13 September	Navy Recruiter	The Navy recruiter will be visiting the Squadron.
17 September	Battle of Britain Commemoration Service	Assemble at St Peters Church, Koromiko Road, Gonville at 1345. This is a compulsory parade as our second civic commitment for 2006.