

High-Light



THE TRI-SERVICE MAGAZINE OF HIGHLAND RESERVE FORCES' AND CADETS' ASSOCIATION



Stirling Show
– Pages 10 & 11

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Focus on celebration, success

Welcome to the Summer edition of *High-Light* which is packed with our latest news and events, reflecting a very busy few months for the HRFA team and the reserve and cadet units we support.

This edition focuses on celebration and success, and the coming together of reservists, cadets, veterans and civilian employers at a range of events, culminating in Armed Forces Week and the Stirling Show.

Our Annual Association Meeting was a very well attended event held in Queen's Barrack's in Perth, with guest speakers Major General Ranald Munro, Air Marshal Sir Stuart Atha and Major General (Retd) Greg Smith delivering stimulating updates on the challenges and successes in their respective areas. Members also received updates from senior local leaders from the Services in Scotland and from the Scottish Veterans Commissioner.

There have been many successes for our cadets in recent months, beginning with an excellent ACFA Beating Retreat at Edinburgh Castle in April where more than 150 cadets from across the country delivered a superb performance in very inclement weather. Two outstanding cadets also received very special recognition in May; Cadet Warrant Officer Jamal Ronald of 2288 (Montrose) Squadron was named as top male cadet in the Air Training Corps, receiving the Dacre Sword from Air Marshal Julian Young at a ceremony in RAF Cranwell, and Cadet Corporal Jordan Anderson of 2nd Battalion the Highlanders ACF was presented the Royal Humane Society President's Award by Princess Alexandra for risking his own life to save a man from drowning. Well done to both of these young men, who are a credit to the cadets.

Not to be left out, our employers have been 'stretching' themselves to improve, with two leadership training days taking place recently. 40 Aberdeenshire Council & Sport Aberdeen

employees were put through their paces at Gordon Barracks (pictured) at an event run by Aberdeen University Officers' Training Corps, generating lots of very positive feedback despite some very dodgy drill footwork! Then it was the turn of a range of businesses in the Dundee and Angus area (including our own HRFA team) to take part in the inaugural ChamberSTRETCH, delivered by Dundee & Angus Chamber and 225 (Scottish) Medical Regiment.

This event was part of the ChamberFORCE initiative; a partnership between the single services and Chambers of Commerce, and a wonderful day was had by all in the sunshine in Slessor Gardens, Dundee. These events allow employers and employees to see first-hand the training and skills of Reservists, and how these can transfer into the workplace.

There have been a number of staff turnovers and promotions, too many to mention here, but we extend a warm welcome to new members of the team. On a very sad note, I have to report the sudden and untimely death of Jackie Ireland, who featured in the last edition of *High-Light*

when she passed 40 years of working for HRFA. Jackie had made an enormous contribution over the years and it was not surprising that past and current members of staff made up over half of the funeral congregation with individuals travelling from Boddam, Dumbarton and many other locations to pay their respects.

On a happier note I finish by congratulating the winners of the Employer Recognition Scheme Gold and Silver Awards. The awards will be presented at ceremonies in London and Edinburgh in November. We thank all the recipients for supporting the Armed Forces community and look forward to seeing them at the National Army Museum and Edinburgh Castle (more information on page 7).

Mark Dodson



HRFA Chief Executive Mark Dodson (centre) and Chairman Nick Dorman share a joke with Graeme Dey MSP.

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HRFCA guests and staff on the Knockhill Racing Circuit.

Armed Forces in pole position

The HRFCA Engagement team attended Knockhill Racing Circuit's Armed Forces Appreciation day with a number of supportive employers.

The 7 April event was organised by Knockhill Racing Circuit, and co-hosted by HRFCA.

Knockhill event manager Stuart Gray was delighted to launch the 4th Annual Armed Forces Appreciation Day to recognise and pay tribute to all serving and veteran Armed Forces personnel and the families who support them.

He said: "We thought that by creating an Armed Forces Appreciation Day four years ago, we would extend our reach beyond those who have served or are still serving to be inclusive to their families too by giving them the opportunity for a family day at the races."

The event, open to the public and free to serving personnel, reservists and veterans, coincided with Round One of the 2019

Scottish Motor Racing Club season. HRFCA welcomed guests from EVI-Dunfermline, Scottish Water, Dundee & Angus Chamber of Commerce, Blackadders LLP, Perth and Kinross Council, Dundee and Angus College, and Fife Chamber of Commerce.

The day began (pictured, right) with Neil Beattie, Managing Director of EVI, receiving the Bronze ERS award from Maj Donald Urquhart, second in command of 154 Regt RLC, and a reminder from Regional Employer Engagement Director (REED) Michelle McKearnon about the importance of employers' continued support to the Armed Forces Community and the benefits of working together.

With formalities completed, guests were given the morning to enjoy the first round of racing and the display of classic military vehicles stationed around the track.

After some light refreshments, the grid gates were opened and it was time for a fast lap. In the hands of professional drivers, everyone (including the HRFCA team) experienced first-hand just how



rapidly these cars can go and the skill of the drivers.

Before the drivers started their engines for an afternoon of racing, everyone attending the event had the opportunity to walk the grid and have a closer look at some of the cars (and drivers) taking part in the first race of the afternoon.

Our employers enjoyed a wonderful day and our thanks to Knockhill Racing Circuit for their continued support.



Employers climb aboard for the fast lap of the circuit and (right) 7 SCOTS were at the event with a display of equipment.

Royal Gun Salute



Guests and hosts with the salute's Reviewing Officer Tim Allan (seated, centre).

212 (Highland) Battery, 105 Regiment Royal Artillery, fired a Royal Gun Salute at Stirling Castle on 22 April to mark the 93rd birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

The Reviewing Officer was Tim Allan, President of the Scottish Chambers of Commerce, with music provided by The Regimental Band of The Black Watch Battalion, Army Cadet Force, marking the first-ever performance by a cadet band at a Gun Salute.

Highland RFCA hosted local Chambers of Commerce and their guests including Alison Henderson (Chief Executive, Dundee and Angus Chamber), Michael Longstaffe (Director, Fife Chamber), and Nick Allan (Director, Dunbartonshire Chamber).

All guests were escorted into the Castle Green Room by Air Training Corps Cadets from 1019 (City of Stirling) Squadron and were welcomed by Brigadier Mark Dodson, Chief Executive of HRFA.

Brigadier Dodson thanked them for attending and highlighted HRFA's recently-launched ChamberFORCE initiative which continues to encourage a strong partnership between the Armed Forces community and businesses across the Highlands and Islands.

A short briefing on the history of Gun Salutes was given by Major Lee Patchell, Battery Commander of 212 (Highland) Battery. Major Patchell spoke about the level of training each soldier must go through to ensure a polished and accurate Gun Salute.

Following the successful firing of 21 rounds – which was also watched by members of

the public and proud families and friends – Tim Allan inspected both the Troop and the Army Cadet Band before joining guests in giving three cheers for Her Majesty the Queen.

A lunch was provided for all guests and Mr Allan gave a brief talk about the important contribution made by members of the reserve forces and service cadet organisations across the whole of Scotland, both to the commercial world and more broadly to their own communities and society as a whole.

He also took the opportunity to mention ChamberFORCE, saying: "I want to congratulate Michelle McKearnon personally for getting this started and note that there have already been a number of successful events since the pilot started six months ago. I offer the full support of Scottish Chambers of Commerce and hope that following the pilot project other Chambers will want to get involved."

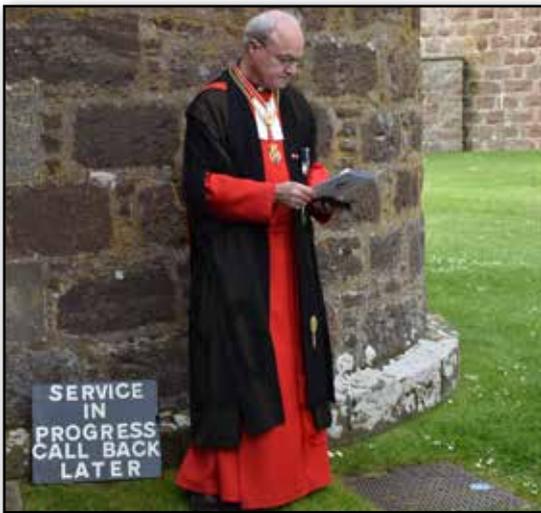
The day concluded with a private tour of the Castle for guests, courtesy of Historic Scotland.



The cadet band moves into position ahead of the firing.



The Queen's Own Highlanders Regimental Association Pipes and Drums (above, and right).



Left: The Very Rev Iain R Torrance awaits the arrival of the colours, before (right) the Laying Up ceremony gets under way inside the chapel.



Colours laid up at Fort George

HRFCA had the honour of attending a ceremony for the Laying Up Of Colours of 2nd Battalion of 51st Highland Volunteers.

The event took place at the Regimental Chapel of The Seaforth Highlanders at Fort George on 8 June, with HRFA Chief Executive Brigadier Mark Dodson and Head of Engagement Michelle McKearnon representing the Association.

The Colours were last paraded in 2011 by 7 SCOTS at Holyrood Park in Edinburgh, when they were presented with new colours by HM Queen.

The 'Old' Colours had been kept at the Highlanders Museum at Fort George since but, under Army Regulation, needed to be officially laid up. It was agreed that the most appropriate place for these to be laid up was at the Regimental Chapel.

Prior to the ceremony the Queen's Own Highlanders

Regimental Association Pipes and Drums played outside the chapel. Inside, guests took their seats as the 7 SCOTS Colour Party marched the Old Colours from the Highlanders Museum to the chapel.

The Laying Up service followed with Lieutenant Colonel Grenville Johnston (the former Commanding Officer of 2/51st Highland Volunteers) handing over the Queen's Colour to the Very Rev Iain R Torrance. Lieutenant Colonel Matt Sheldrick (Commanding Officer 7 SCOTS) did the same with the Regimental Colour.

Padre Torrance said: "I receive these Colours for safe custody within the Regimental Chapel of the Seaforth Highlanders and The Queen's Own Highlanders here in Fort George."

A reception followed the ceremony with the day rounded off by the Queen's Own Highlanders Regimental Association Pipes and Drums playing a Beating Retreat outside the 3 SCOTS Officers' Mess.



Above: A sizeable crowd enjoyed listening to the band. Below: There were many veterans in attendance.



Mini-Stretch



Around 40 Aberdeenshire Council and Sport Aberdeen employees got a chance to develop their leadership skills at an event run by Aberdeen Universities Officers' Training Corps at the city's Gordon Barracks.

The council had requested that the 'Mini-Stretch' day be held so employees could get a taste of what military personnel go through in their training, to enhance their own leadership skills and to step out of their comfort zones. The aim was also to give employees a better appreciation of what former Armed Forces personnel or Reservists can bring to Aberdeenshire Council and Sport Aberdeen.

The April event started with an in-depth presentation on the Army Leadership Model by Aberdeen UOTC Commanding Officer Lt Col Geraint Davies. Participants were then split into six groups to take part in a variety of practical, physical and intellectual challenges.

Aberdeenshire Council HR Team Leader Glenda Gray said: "I have heard nothing but great feedback from the Aberdeenshire Council participants. Everyone seems to have thoroughly enjoyed their day – even the drill!"

Lt Col Davies added: "I was impressed by the energy and enthusiasm of all the groups involved. I am thankful for the efforts of the team here to deliver the event and for Aberdeenshire Council and Sport Aberdeen for taking part."

Main image: Participants celebrate successfully completing one of the tasks. Left: Another team navigating over a 'mud slide'.

Gold, Silver winners revealed



The recipients of the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Gold and Silver awards have been announced.

ERS encourages employers to support defence and inspire others to do the same. The scheme encompasses Bronze, Silver and Gold awards for employer organisations that pledge, demonstrate or advocate support to defence and the armed

forces community, and align their values with the Armed Forces Covenant.

We are delighted that six organisations in the HRFCA-area have been awarded the highest accolade of Gold, with a further seven receiving the prestigious Silver award.

And the winners are . . .

- Gold**
 Aberdeenshire Council
 IED Training Solutions
 Knockhill Racing Circuit
 Police Scotland

- Stirling Council
 West Dunbartonshire Council

- Silver**
 Dundee & Angus Chamber of Commerce
 EVi Charge Points Ltd
 Fife Chamber of Commerce
 High Life Highland
 Scottish Water
 SFB Consulting
 Sport Aberdeen

All the winners will receive certificates later in the year to mark their achievements at ceremonies in London (Gold) and Edinburgh (Silver).





HRFCA Chief Executive Brigadier Mark Dodson delivers his report to the gathering.

Annual meeting a success

More than 80 members of HRFCA gathered at Queen's Barracks in Perth on 6 April for the Annual Association Meeting.

Guests headed into the 7 SCOTS drill hall to escape the wet and windy weather and caught up with friends over tea and coffee.

Chairman, Captain Nick Dorman, started off the Business Meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking those involved with HRFCA for all their hard work over the past year. With office bearers elected or re-elected, The Reverend Canon Dr Joe Morrow was invited to speak about the recently-formed Highland Cadet Forces Trust.

In underlining the Trust's focus on the value of the Cadet movement, he highlighted the number of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds who have benefited from being involved with the Cadets. Dr Morrow asked those assembled for input and ideas in order to promote the Trust and help them move forward.

Following on from this, Chief Executive, Brigadier Mark Dodson, provided his annual review and State of the Nation report. He covered a number of areas ranging from: Cadet Matters, including the creation of the first Volunteer Cadet Corps Detachment outside South England; to engagement, including the launch of HRFCA's ChamberFORCE pilot project to work with local Chambers of Commerce; and the Estate, including the progress towards the rebuild of Bruce House Army Reserve Centre in Dunfermline.

The morning was brought to a close by external speakers Major General Ranald Munro, Air Marshal Sir Stuart Atha and Major General (Retd) Greg Smith who provided insights and views on the challenges in their respective areas.

Following music from the band of The Black Watch Battalion ACF, a hot lunch was served.

Members were then given a series of updates from senior Service leaders. These focused in turn on: how 7 SCOTS

benefited from the Adventurous Training conducted in Norway as a result of HRFCA welfare grant funding; the current roles and responsibilities of 51 Infantry Brigade and ongoing operational deployments; developments in the Maritime environment, the range of Naval capabilities coming into Service and planned for the future; and the aims and objectives of the recently-appointed Scottish Veterans Commissioner.

These, together with the closing remarks from Rear Admiral Mike Gregory, made for a series of fascinating, insightful and informative briefings.

The Association would like to extend its thanks to all those who contributed to an extremely successful AAM, including in particular: Lieutenant Colonel Matt Sheldrick, CO 7 SCOTS and his team, who continue to not only host the event at Queen's Barracks every year but support HRFCA throughout the day; SMI Robert Cowan for leading the band; and the guest speakers whose time and expertise was appreciated by all.



Speakers included (from left) Major General Ranald Munro, Air Marshal Sir Stuart Atha and Major General (Retd) Greg Smith.



HRFCA Chairman Nick Dorman starts the Business Meeting and (right) The Reverend Canon Dr Joe Morrow speaks about the Highland Cadet Forces Trust.



Above: HRFCA's Roy McLellan (left) and Fraser Kennedy.

Left: Catering staff Chris Peck and Katie Hulme.

Right: Captain Chris Smith gives a naval perspective.



Due to poor weather, music was provided in the 7 SCOTS drill hall by The Black Watch Battalion ACF.

Showtime at Stirling



Graeme Dey MSP, HRFCA Chief Executive Brigadier Mark Dodson, HRFCA Chairman Nick Dorman and Commander Tom Knowles, Commanding Officer HMS Scotia, watch as the RLC Silver Stars Army Parachute Display Team drop in to the show.

Thousands of visitors ignored the storm clouds to join the fun at Stirling Show on 29 June.

HRFCA, in collaboration with Stirling Council and 7 SCOTS, welcomed guests to the Cruachan tent to enjoy refreshments and a front row seat to the main arena.

Guests included Mark Lancaster MP, Minister of State for the Armed Forces at Westminster and Graeme Dey MSP, Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans at Holyrood.

Visitors made their way to King's Park to enjoy a wide variety of stalls and interactive stands from the likes of 7 SCOTS, 71 Engineer Regiment, the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, the Scottish Military Vehicle Group, Service Cadets, Service charities and many others.

Prior to the parade inspection by the Lord-Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk Alan Simpson, the RLC Silver Stars Army Parachute Display Team treated the crowd to a display. The six-man team performed several formations above the show ground before landing in the main arena amid a cloud of red smoke.

As the smoke cleared ahead of the Cadet Drill competition, the Kennedy Cupcakes and Dionne Hickey took to the main stage to keep the crowds entertained with a mixture of music and dance.

First up in the arena were ATC cadets from Stirling and Alloa, followed by the Sea Cadets and a team from Stirling Company of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Battalion ACF.

The teams had clearly put in a lot of time and effort as all performed really well in

front of an attentive crowd, with the ATC taking home the trophy for 2019. Before the day was brought to a close by the Beating Retreat performed by the 7 SCOTS pipes and drums, members of the community and Army Cadets took part in a tug of war. The crowds cheered on the teams as they pulled their way to victory – claiming full bragging rights as the prize.

The day also saw the appointment of the Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet for Stirling and Falkirk. The honour went to Flight Sergeant Spencer Archibald of 1019 (City of Stirling) Squadron Air Training Corps. Spencer will support the Lord-Lieutenant over the next 12 months when he carries out his official duties as Her Majesty the Queen's representative to the area.

The show was a great way to end another busy Armed Forces week, and we thank all those who attended.



From left: The new Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet for Stirling and Falkirk; The Cadet Drill competition winners; The tug of war was fiercely contested.



HRFCA's Cruachan guest tent was as popular as ever.



Above left: Lt Col Matt Sheldrick and the Lord-Lieutenant with veterans.

Above: Mark Lancaster MP meets one of the ATC hosts.

Left: Graeme Dey MSP meets with SSAFA volunteers.

Right: A member of the RLC Silver Stars prepares to land.



Jack Adamson (100) was a guest of HRFCA.

Air Cadets from Squadrons in Dunblane, Stirling, Perth and Alloa provided hosting assistance.

Teams gain Reservist insight

A team from Highland RFCA got an insight into the life of Armed Forces Reservists by taking part in ChamberFORCE Stretch at Slessor Gardens in Dundee.

The event, which took place on Reserves Day (June 26), saw Reservists from Dundee-based 225 (Scottish) Medical Regiment, 7 SCOTS and 32 Signal Regiment, put seven teams through their paces with an assault course, Airsoft Range and complex physical and mental Command Tasks.

These gave participants a taste of life in the Reserves, teaching them the valuable skills of leadership, teamwork and initiative that enable Reservists to bring that something extra to their civilian employment, allowing them to live up to the saying that they are "Twice the Citizen".

Dundee City Council, Hillcrest Housing, Helm Training, West Park, and Aberdeenshire Council were among the other teams taking part.

The HRFCA team was made up of Engagement and Estates staff all of whom had a great time in the summer sunshine. The team finished in third place with 76 points, not far behind the eventual winners from Dundee City Council with 81 points.

The event was part of HRFCA's ChamberFORCE initiative, a partnership programme between selected Scottish Chambers of Commerce and local Army, Navy and RAF units, and was organised by Dundee and Angus Chamber of Commerce.



The HRFCA team.



Dundee City Council on the assault course.



Participants had a great time.



Sgt Duncan McPhee from 225 Med Regt gives Alison Henderson some friendly advice.

Former ambulance chief joins HRFCA

Jim Dickie joined HRFCA as a Regional Employer Engagement Director at the end of June 2019 following a 28-year career with the Scottish Ambulance Service.

Jim worked as a Paramedic and in various senior leadership and management roles, finishing as the Head of Strategic Operations & Resilience. During his Ambulance Service career Jim collaborated with a range of public and private sector organisations including a short secondment to the Scottish Government, working on policy regarding UK emergency preparedness. He has extensive experience in Incident Command and Events Planning & Management. Jim was awarded the Queen's Ambulance Service Medal (QAM) in the 2014 New Year Honours list.

Jim has been an Army Cadet and then went on to join the Army as a Radio Operator. After leaving Regular Service

the draw towards the military remained and he embarked on a career with the (then) Territorial Army (TA) as an RLC Driver and then as a Combat Medical Technician with the RAMC. A change in personal circumstances meant he had to leave the TA and joined the ACF as an Adult Instructor. A further change in circumstances and the desire to work in the Reserve space again meant Jim applied for service with the Royal Auxiliary Air Force (RAuxAF) as a member of the RAF medical reserves. Jim entered RAuxAF service in 2017 and Commissioned from RAF Cranwell College in 2018 as a Flight Lieutenant (Medical Branch), winning the MacRobert Sword of Merit award.

Married to Sarah, who is a Senior Nurse in the Health Service, they have two grown-up daughters and two grandchildren. In his spare time he enjoys hillwalking, skiing, running (badly) and spending time with his family.

Jim said: "I am delighted to have been selected to undertake the Regional Employer Engagement Director role. I needed a new challenge and felt that this was the role for me. I am passionate about our Armed and Cadet Forces and consider that I can bring relevant knowledge and skills to the team. I look forward to meeting and working with employers, the Reserves, Cadets and wider defence colleagues to take the agenda forward together."



Jim Dickie.



205 (Scottish) Field Hospital took part in the Scottish Sport Climbing Competition on 24 April. Report by 2nd Lieutenant Nikki MacArthur.

Climbing is something most of us have tried at some point, either through military adventurous training or through school outdoor education, perhaps many moons ago.

However, competing at climbing seemed like a whole different animal. Details of the Scottish Sport Climbing Competition were published, information on rules and how one wins and loses points was dispersed and a team was assembled but the first task was to ensure 205 Field Hospital had a team who could transition safely from the horizontal to the vertical!

Seven members from all detachments met at the Perth indoor climbing wall for training and preparation before the competition. The team ranged from complete novices to more experienced climbers and everyone brought plenty of enthusiasm. Over the course of the day, members were taught rope management, use of equipment, safe belaying, good climbing technique and bouldering. There was much entertainment as members learned skills, made ridiculous faces betraying serious physical effort and hauled themselves up tricky and strenuous routes. By the end, each individual could fulfil the competence requirements for the competition and we were enthused.

The competition was held at the Edinburgh International Climbing Arena (EICA), an intimidating venue because it was almost three times the height of our training wall! Seventy individuals from Regular and Reserve units across all three services competed on the day. Nine members of 205 Field Hospital competed in the three categories: Novice, Open and Elite. The qualifying stage of the competition involved climbing four routes of varying lengths and increasing difficulty. Points were given for height gained on each route and time in which the route was completed, the maximum time allowed for each route being two minutes, not long at all! Everyone performed superbly, climbing until our arms ached and our fingers peeled away from holds.

From the qualifying round, six individuals from each category went through to the final. 205 Field Hospital had representatives in each of the three final competitions, one elite, one novice and two open. The final consisted of one route per category and was scored by height gained up the route, a concurrent, knock-out speed climbing competition was held for those not taking part in the final. The audience was motivating and positive but being watched while climbing was a very different experience to the relative tranquility of climbing outside! 205 Field Hospital won silver medals in the novice and open categories and bronze in the elite – a hugely successful day for such a new team! Our smiles were steady throughout the day and the excitement still persists. The only question remaining is when we'll be climbing next...



Captain De Sainte Croix looking ahead for a long lunge up her first qualifying route at EICA. Photo credit: Army in Scotland.



Corporal Claire Booth cruising up her second qualifying route during stage one of the competition at EICA.

Montrose cadet is best in ATC



CWO Ronald with the DACRE Sword.

A Montrose cadet has been named as the Top Male Cadet in the Air Training Corps.

Cadet Warrant Officer Jamal Ronald of 2288 (Montrose) Squadron received the Dacre Sword from Air Marshal Julian Young in recognition of his achievement during a ceremony held at RAF College Cranwell on 12 May.

Prior to the award, CWO Ronald and his fellow finalists were interviewed in a "Dragon's Den" style scenario. Nominees from each region were put under intense questioning by a panel of judges to find the winners. CWO Ronald faced five Top Male Cadets from across the other five regions and ended up coming out on top against some tough competition.

CWO Ronald has been an Air Cadet since June 2014. He was named best cadet in North East Scotland Wing for 2017/18. He was also the Squadron's Cadet of the Year for 2018, his second in a row. This was awarded based on his high attendance, ability to lead the squadron as its most senior NCO and his achievements in sports, shooting and first aid. He

also had the honour of being Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet for Aberdeen City in 2018/19.

He gained his Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award in November 2018 and is currently in the process of completing his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. He has recently been nominated to represent the RAF Air Cadets and Scotland & Northern Ireland Region in the International Air Cadet Exchange programme, and is delighted to be visiting his chosen destination of Hong Kong.

- The top cadet in the Combined Cadet Force (RAF) was CWO Grace Dobson of George Heriot's School CCF in Edinburgh. She was presented with the Sir John Thomson Memorial Sword.



CWO Ronald with his fellow winners, finalists and Air Marshal Young.

Lord-Lieutenant honour for Robbie

An Arbroath Air Cadet has been appointed as the Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet for Angus.

Robbie McDonald (18), from 2422 (Arbroath) Squadron, received his certificate from the Lord-Lieutenant of Angus, Mrs Georgiana Osborne, at a ceremony in Arbroath on 30 May.

Wing Commander Sean Harrison, commander of North East Scotland Wing Air Training Corps, also attended the event, held at the squadron's cadet centre in Arbroath.

The event was organised by the squadron's Commanding Officer WO Scott Ross and, along with the main presentation, included demonstrations of first aid, model making and map reading skills.

Prior to the main presentation to Cadet Warrant Officer McDonald, Wg Cdr Harrison presented a

variety of badges to the cadets for achievements including marksmanship and leadership. He also promoted Cadet Sergeant Ankit Bhattarai to Cadet Flight Sergeant.

The main presentation followed with the Lord-Lieutenant congratulating CWO McDonald on his achievement, adding that she was sure he would do a great job over the next 12 months.

CWO McDonald will assist the Lord-Lieutenant in her official duties as Her Majesty the Queen's appointed representative to Angus. He will also act as an ambassador for the ATC as well as the young people of Angus.

He has been a cadet for five years, working his way through the ranks to CWO and is the most senior cadet in the squadron of 28. He left school two years ago and has recently started a new job at McDonald's in Monifieth. He is hoping to join the RAF next year.



Above: The Lord-Lieutenant with CWO McDonald.



Right: Wg Cdr Harrison promoted Cadet Sergeant Ankit Bhattarai to Cadet Flight Sergeant.



The annual ACFA Beating Retreat took place on the Esplanade at Edinburgh Castle on April 27.

Invited guests, cadets' families and friends watched as the talented young musicians put on a memorable event with displays from the Corps of Drums, the Massed Military Bands and the National Pipes and Drums, followed by a combined finale which saw all the musicians come together.

Around 150 Cadets from across the country took part.

Richard Lochhead MSP – the Scottish Government Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – was the Reviewing Officer and took the Salute at the ceremony.

Other guests included the Chief Executives of both Lowland and Highland Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Associations.

A Nairnshire Army Cadet has been reappointed as the Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet of Nairnshire.

Cadet Sergeant Matthew Johnstone (17), from 1st Battalion the Highlanders' Nairn Detachment, was reappointed at a ceremony attended by the Lord-Lieutenant of Nairnshire, Mr George Asher.

Matthew has been a member of the Army Cadets since August 2014, where he is currently a 4 Star Training cadet on the organisation's syllabus – the second highest level a cadet can reach in their cadet career. Within the detachment he is cadet instructor, where he teaches the junior cadets from the Cadet Syllabus, as well as being a role model for the cadets.

Sgt Johnstone was appointed as the Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet of Nairnshire for last year and will continue, for the next twelve months, in assisting the Lord-Lieutenant in his duties as Her Majesty the Queen's appointed



representative of Nairnshire and will continue acting as an ambassador for the ACF and the young people of Nairn.

The ceremony, which took place at the Nairn Detachment Cadet Centre on

John Street, was also attended by the Battalion's Commandant Colonel Iain Cassidy, Moray Company Commander Major Carrie Higgins and members of Sgt Johnstone's family.

HRFCA took the plunge on 13 June and attended the UK launch of the SUBS in Schools programme in partnership with the Royal Navy.

The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) event took place at the Energy Skills Partnership in Castle Business Park, Stirling, attracting schools and businesses from all over the UK.

Deemed a great success in Australia, SUBS in Schools hopes to give UK students the chance to dive into the world of underwater technology and marine engineering by building and controlling an underwater vehicle.

After a briefing on what the day had in store, pupils from Kilpatrick School (Clydebank) and St Columba's RC High School (Dunfermline), along with others, headed outdoors to try their hand at driving a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) underwater.

Understanding the science behind why things sink or float was imperative to successfully piloting the ROV, with students quickly learning that too much air could end in their vehicle emerging unexpectedly.

As lead supporter, the Royal Navy sees the UK launch as an opportunity to raise awareness of maritime engineering opportunities for young people.



Subs in Schools participants.

Bravery award for Jordan

A cadet from 2nd Battalion the Highlanders ACF has been presented with the Royal Humane Society President's Award.

Cadet Corporal Jordan Anderson (16) received the bravery award from HRH Princess Alexandra at a ceremony in Haberdasher's Hall, London, on 30 May.

Two years ago Cpl Anderson, from Aberdeen, had risked his life to save a man who got into difficulties in Macduff Harbour, Aberdeenshire.

Along with the help of two fellow Army cadets – Katlyn and Shannon Wilson – and their friend Kyle Chapman, Jordan swam around 50 metres to provide assistance while Kyle threw a lifebelt out towards him that Jordan managed to get over the man's head.

With the assistance of Coastguard staff and paramedics who had arrived on the scene the man was helped from the water.

While all this was happening Katlyn and Shannon comforted the man's partner, using first aid skills they acquired in the ACF. Sadly, the man died in hospital the following day.

The teenagers had all previously had their efforts recognised by the Royal Humane Society with Jordan receiving a Royal Humane Society Testimonial on Vellum, and the others receiving Certificates of Commendation.

On top of the testimonial, the Society decided that Jordan's fight to save the



Jordan receiving his award from Princess Alexandra, president of the Royal Humane Society.

man was so courageous that he should be the first to receive the new award of which only one a year will be presented. The award is for the most outstanding act of the previous year by a person under the age of 18.

Andrew Chapman, secretary of the Royal Humane Society, praised the teenagers for their efforts.

He said: "They did a superb job between them in rescuing the man from the water, and caring for his distraught

partner. Jordan certainly merits the honour for the way he persevered. The four of them are a credit to the younger generation."

The Queen is the patron of the Royal Humane Society and Princess Alexandra is the charity's president.

The society was founded in 1774 and has been granting awards for acts of bravery in the saving of human life for more than 240 years.

Forthcoming Events

4 October
22 October
24 October
29 October
12 November
14 November

Employer Engagement Event (Leuchars)
Eastern Area meeting (Cupar)
Southern Area meeting (Stirling)
Northern Area meeting (Fort George)
ERS Gold Awards (National Army Museum, London)
ERS Silver Awards (Edinburgh Castle)



What do YOU want to see in your *High-Light*?

Contributions are always welcome

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