

High-Light



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



ERS Gold Awards
— Pages 6 & 7

Exceptionally busy time for all

As you will see from the articles in this issue, which cover the full spectrum of activities that HRFCFA and the reserves and cadets we support have been conducting recently, it has been an exceptionally busy period for all.

What great news it is that face to face training has re-started, that reserve units have been inviting employers to visit and witness what their employees do when in uniform.

Great news also that the cadets are slowly but surely returning to face to face training, which this summer included local and non-residential summer camps for the Army Cadet Force. Enabling these to take place safely required major effort and co-ordination between the adult volunteers, the training safety advisers and the professional support staff. But to see the happy smiling faces of the cadets has made it all worthwhile.

On the employer engagement front the Regional Employer Engagement Directors have resumed face to face meetings

after a 15 month lay-off and there are a very large number of employers to catch up with. At the same time we have run or helped run successful Gold and Silver award events for the Employer Recognition Scheme and seen a steady increase in our audience sizes on social media.

It was also very satisfying to see the brand new modular cadet hut at Bo'ness being opened by the Lord-Lieutenant.

The estates team have remained hard at work ensuring we have a safe and compliant estate and that estates projects of varying sizes are being planned and delivered concurrently. At the same time we have been providing expert advice to the RFCA Estates Optimisation Programme team as they and Ministers grapple with the challenges of working out how to reduce the estates footprint without undermining the reserves and cadet organisations.

Finally, I would like to thank all RFCA staff for the positive way in which they have embraced both returning to the office and hybrid working practises. The next few months will show if this approach can deliver the same standard of service to those we support and work for. I sincerely hope it can!

Mark Dodson



The new modular building at Bo'ness was opened by the Lord-Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk. See pages 4 & 5.



The ERS Gold Awards were held at Edinburgh Castle. Major General Alastair Bruce, the Governor of the Castle, welcomed guests. Full report and more pictures on pages 6 and 7.

Contents

- 4, 5** Bo'ness hut opened
- 6, 7** ERS Gold Awards
- 8, 9** ERS Silver Awards
- 10** ESUAS in Mongolia
- 11** Army@The Fringe
- 12** Ex Readiness Bull
- 13** 7SCOTS in action
- 14, 15** General visits cadets
- 16** Estate improvements



4, 5



8



11



12



16



10



High-Light is designed and produced for you by Highland RFCA, Seathwood, 365 Perth Road, Dundee, DD2 1LX

hi-offcomms@rfca.mod.uk
tel: 01382 631033 Twitter: @hrfca
Facebook: facebook.com/HRFCA



Bo'ness hut opened



The new modular cadet building at Bo'ness cost £340,000.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk, Alan Simpson, officially opened the new Army Cadet Force building at Bo'ness on 22 September.

Cadets and adults of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders Battalion ACF Bo'ness Detachment will use the facility, and many of them were present for the opening, held in accordance with COVID-19 social distancing measures.

The £340,000 building is a modular design specifically built for installation on the site of former Spooner huts. It was designed to the specifications of the ACF and HRFA by Jam Studios in Aberdeen and made and installed by Elite Modular Buildings Solutions.



It forms one part of HRFA's £1.4 million programme of cadet building replacements.

A similar build and installation has already taken place at Newport in Fife with several more to follow in the near future.

Opening the building, the Lord-Lieutenant said: "Highland RFCA has done a fantastic job of replacing old, tired cadet huts on this site as part of a continuing programme to improve and rebuild cadet real estate throughout the HRFA-area. The high standards that cadets deserve are here for all to see.

"The Association has come up with an excellent, flexible design that meets the needs of the detachment."

Addressing the cadets, he added: "With this new hut in Bo'ness you are ready to take the history of the ACF in the town forward into the future, and I wish you all the best in your new home."

Colonel John Tonner, Commandant of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders Battalion, thanked the Lord-Lieutenant for opening the building.

Also present at the opening were Bo'ness Detachment Commander SSI David Naismith and, from HRFA, Chairman Nick Dorman, Deputy Chief Executive Andrew Macnaughton, and Senior Estates Officer Brian McMillan.

Following the opening, the Lord-Lieutenant presented a Cadet Forces Medal to Captain Niall Archibald, the former Battalion Commandant, to recognise his 12 years' service with the ACF.

Captain Archibald remarked that his new medal "was eclipsed by this great new building" and told the cadets to make the most of the building and their opportunities in the cadets.



The Lord-Lieutenant chats with cadets and new Bo'ness detachment recruits.



The Lord-Lieutenant with HRFCA Chairman Nick Dorman. Right: The Bo'ness hut being installed on July 28, 2020.



Captain Niall Archibald receives the Cadet Forces Medal from the Lord-Lieutenant.



The Lord-Lieutenant formally opens the building as (from left) HRFCA Deputy Chief Executive Andrew Macnaughton, HRFCA Chairman Captain Nick Dorman and Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders Battalion ACF Commandant Colonel John Tonner look on.

Golden night at the Castle

Edinburgh Castle provided the stunning backdrop for the 2021 Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Gold Awards.

The joint regional event on 21 October saw employers from the Highlands and Lowlands of Scotland, and the North of England recognised for the outstanding support they give to the Armed Forces Community.

Nationally, 140 organisations received the award.

Recipients in the Highland RFCA area (including two Gold holders who had their existing awards revalidated*) were: Dundee City Council*; Fife Chamber of Commerce; Highland Council; Horizon Security Solutions Ltd; McLeod Glaziers; Perth & Kinross Council; Scottish Ambulance Service*.

In addition, there were eight winners in the Lowland RFCA area and five in the North of England RFCA area.

Representing the highest badge of honour, Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Gold Awards are awarded to those that employ and support those who serve, veterans and their families.

This year's awardees brings the total number of Gold holders to 493.

Minister for Defence People and Veterans, Leo Docherty said: "The vast range of those recognised this year demonstrates how employing the Armed Forces community makes a truly positive and beneficial impact for all employers, regardless of size, sector or location."

The awards were presented at Edinburgh Castle by Chief of Defence People Lieutenant General James Swift.

Fife Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Alan Mitchell said: "Everyone at Fife Chamber is delighted and humbled to receive this ERS Gold Award. It feels great to have our efforts recognised and we will display our Gold Award with pride."

Highland Council's Armed Forces and Veterans' Champion, Councillor Roddy Balfour, said: "It is a great honour for Highland Council to have received the ERS Gold Award for supporting the Armed Forces community in our area especially during these difficult times of the pandemic."

Derek Petterson, Chief Executive Officer of McLeod Glaziers, said: "We are delighted to win the Gold Award, it means a great deal to the company. Even more so for me being former forces, with seven years in the Army."

Councillor Chris Ahern, the Veterans and Armed Forces Champion for Perth & Kinross Council, said: "I am delighted that PKC has been awarded the ERS Gold Award in recognition of its commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant."

2021 is the first year that there has not been one national award ceremony. This is due to the high number of winners (140 in total). Following on from the Edinburgh event, there were additional regional ceremonies held in London, Cardiff and Leeds.

For a full gallery of images, visit www.hrfa.co.uk.



Scottish Ambulance Service representatives with Lt Gen Swift.



Horizon Security Solutions Ltd were delighted with their award.



The HRFCA-area Gold recipients with the HRFCA team (including front, sixth from left, Chief Executive Mark Dodson) and the Governor of Edinburgh Castle, Major General Alastair Bruce (right).



Fife Chamber of Commerce attendees prior to the event.



HRFCA Chairman Capt Nick Dorman with Highland Council representatives.



Lt Gen Swift with Perth & Kinross Provost Dennis Melloy and HRFCA's Michelle McKearnon.



Pipers from George Heriot's provided music.

Silvers at Palace



The 2020 and 2021 Silver recipients with Major General Bill Wright.

Employers from the Highlands gathered at Scone Palace for the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Silver Awards.

The Highland-RFCA hosted awards were presented in recognition of the support the organisations give to the Armed Forces.

As no ceremony took place in 2020 due to COVID-19, recipients at the event comprised the Silver winners from 2020 and 2021.

Guests and hosts were welcomed to Scone on 7 October by HRFA Chief Executive Brigadier (Retd) Mark Dodson.

He said: "I thank you for joining us to recognise two groups of employers who are contributing to the defence of the United Kingdom by actively supporting the spectrum of the Armed Forces community in many ways. We are delighted to welcome them here."

The Palace provided an impressive backdrop for an evening of celebration that also saw a return to public performance for the Regimental Band of The Black Watch Army Cadet Force and their colleagues from the Pipes and Drums Black Watch ACF under the direction of bandmaster, Sergeant Major Instructor Robert Cowan.

The band has previously performed at the Perth International Youth Band Festival and at the Nanchang Military Tattoo in China.

The excellent 32-strong contingent of musicians braved the damp Perthshire evening to put on a varied and well-received programme. Highlights included Highland Cathedral, Sunset, and Scotland the Brave/The Black Bear.

Major General Bill Wright, General Officer Scotland, the Army's senior representative in Scotland, presented the Silver awards on behalf of the Ministry of Defence.

He said: "We are here this evening, and at last able to do it in

person, to give recognition to employers as part of the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme. You may be interested to know that the number of companies joining the Scheme is rising rapidly – there are currently 7,500 across the UK, and so too are the number of companies reaching silver standard – now sitting at 1,160.

"We hope that now that you too have reached the Silver standard you will go on to become advocates to other businesses and organisations on behalf of the Defence family and thereby qualify to be considered for the Gold level award.

"On behalf of Defence, I thank you for your commitment and for all that you are doing."

COVID-19 caused several guests to drop out at short notice, leaving seven winners to pick up awards from a 20/21 total of 13.

The winners were:

2020: BASICS Scotland; Fife Medical Group; Horizon Security Solutions; Worrall Financial Management Ltd; Meldrum Joinery & Building Services; Moray Digital; Securitay Limited.

2021: Arpine Group; Caritas Legal; Dales Marine; Isle of Harris Distillers; John Clark Motor Group; SSE plc.

Collecting awards on the night were: Michelle Braid of Fife Medical Group; Shaun Moat of Moray Digital; Louise Worrall of Worrall Financial Management Ltd; Derek Petterson and Mike Guild of Meldrum Construction; Ron MacEachran of Isle of Harris Distillers Ltd; Colin McAllister of John Clark Motor Group; and Jenna Jackson of SSE plc.

Summing up the event, Louise Worrall of Worrall Financial Management Ltd, said: "It was an absolutely wonderful evening and I was glowing with pride to be able to support such an incredible scheme."

For a full gallery of images from the night, visit the Highland RFCA website, www.hrfca.co.uk.



Alistair Duthie of Perth and District Pipe Band welcomed guests to Scone Palace.



Expedition award for ESUAS

East of Scotland Universities Air Squadron (ESUAS) has received The Prince of Wales's Award for The Ulysses Trust Best Expedition.

The award recognises Exercise MONGOLIAN ENDURANCE 2019 that saw 11 students and three mountain bike instructors deployed to the remote Mongolian countryside from 22 Aug-7 Sep 2019. The team cycled 680 kilometres across deserts, steppe and mountains.

The award ceremony took place at ESUAS's Holmes Building at Leuchars Station, Fife. The Lord-Lieutenant of Fife Robert Balfour presented the award to Squadron Leader Campbell Blake, Officer Commanding ESUAS.

Attending the ceremony on behalf of The Ulysses Trust, was Lt Col Cath Davies MBE TD VR SCOTS, who is a volunteer member of the Trusts' Grants Application Committee and National Adventurous Training Adviser at the ACF. Lt Col Davies noted the impact of the expedition on both the unit and the officer cadets who took part in the adventure.

"It was great to hear how this exercise has helped support ESUAS's recruitment and retention, particularly after the last 18 months we have just been through. Officer cadets spoke passionately about how their time in Mongolia has affected their lives. This included an officer cadet who has decided to become a Reservist because of this experience and plans to join the Army Mountaineering Association. Exercise MONGOLIAN ENDURANCE 2019 was a worthy winner of the award and a great example of how expeditions can make a real difference to individuals and units."

The annual awards are selected from over one hundred Cadet and Reservist expeditions supported by the Trust.

Prior to the presentation, APO Olly Tidswell hosted an informative slide and video presentation on the expedition route.

The aim of the expedition was to utilise the harsh Mongolian landscape



ESUAS OC Sqn Ldr Campbell Blake with Lord-Lieutenant of Fife Robert Balfour.

to enhance the attributes of leadership, self-sufficiency, physical and mental endurance, teamwork and risk management.

The Ulysses Trust granted £6,000 towards the cost of the expedition, with additional funding coming from HRFA.

The expedition comprised three stages, starting with a three-day ride across the Gobi Desert; Stage 2 was a 70km ride through the Arts Bogd mountains; and the final stage was spent in the Khangai Mountains.

Expedition participant APO Fraser Briton

said: "Exercise MONGOLIAN ENDURANCE was a genuinely surreal experience, with a tremendous sense of accomplishment upon completion. It was inspiring to see our team work so efficiently together, with empathy on show, and so I am thankful for the opportunity."

Others present at the 7 September 2021 presentation (that was delayed due to the impact of COVID-19) included Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Macnaughton, representing Highland RFCA.

The full expedition report can be found on the Ulysses Trust website.



Left: APO Olly Tidswell delivers a presentation about the route of the expedition.

Right (from left): APO Fraser Briton, Lt Col Andrew Macnaughton, Lt Col Cath Davies, Lord-Lieutenant of Fife Robert Balfour, and Sqn Ldr Campbell Blake.





From left: Derek Walker (The Wee Tea Company), Stephen Gardiner (Complete Cleaning Contracts Ltd), and Jason Rudgley (Bragd LLP) with Lt Col Clark.

Triple signing @ The Fringe

A trio of companies came together to sign the Armed Forces Covenant during this year's Army @ The Fringe event in Edinburgh.

Signings of the Covenant – a commitment to support the country's servicemen and women wherever and however an organisation can – took place at the Army Reserve Centre in East Claremont Street.

The centre is normally used by Reservists from 6th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland (6 SCOTS) but, from 6-22 August, it was the venue for a

programme of theatre, variety, illusion, comedy, conversation and more, all celebrating life in and out of uniform. Army @ The Fringe formed part of the wider Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2021.

Bragd LLP, Complete Cleaning Contracts Ltd, and The Wee Tea Company signed the Covenants on 19 August with Edinburgh Garrison Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Hugo Clark, co-signing the documents on behalf of the Ministry of Defence and Defence Relationship Management.

Director Jason Rudgley signed for Bragd LLP; General Manager Stephen Gardiner signed for Complete Cleaning Contracts Ltd; and Director and Founder Derek Walker signed for The Wee Tea Company.

Bragd LLP also received the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Bronze Award. The ERS awards encourage employers to support defence and inspire others to do the same. The scheme incorporates Bronze, Silver and Gold levels of support.

Highland RFCA Head of Engagement Michelle McKearnon attended the triple signing. She said: "We are delighted and grateful to have three companies formally pledge their support to the Armed Forces Community. Bragd LLP, Complete Cleaning Contracts Ltd and The Wee Tea Company now join more than 6,000 organisations who have already shown their support by signing the Armed Forces Covenant."



Jason Rudgley (Bragd LLP) holds the ERS Bronze Award, with Lt Col Clark holding the Armed Forces Covenant.



Stephen Gardiner (Complete Cleaning Contracts Ltd) with Lt Col Clark.



Derek Walker (The Wee Tea Company) with Lt Col Clark.

RAF Reserve skills on show



RAF Reserves work to stabilise the victim of a simulated mine-strike during Ex Readiness Bull 2021.

By Association Member Dai John

For two weeks in September, Exercise Readiness Bull brought together more than 50 members of the RAF Reserve to conduct their Annual Continuation Training – ACT, with exercise serials taking place at RAF Lossiemouth, Kinloss Barracks and Fort George ranges.

Scotland-based squadrons represented included 2622(H) Sqn RAuxAF Regt, 602 Sqn RAuxAF, 603 Sqn RAuxAF and 612 Sqn RAuxAF, with additional support being drawn from 2622's regular sister unit, 51 Sqn RAF Regt, also based at RAF Lossiemouth. Further participation from south of the border was provided by 609 Sqn RAuxAF, based at RAF Leeming.

On 21 September HRFCA went along to the Exercise Visitors' Day to get up close and personal with those taking part in the exercise, who had already completed their range package and were now into the simulated deployment phase, providing airfield defence in their specialist force protection role. The first exercise stand gave the visitors an insight into the exacting job of deploying and managing observation posts – OPs – with each OP comprising four people in a well-camouflaged position conducting 24/7 monitoring and reporting, seeking out possible threats and any changes in 'patterns of life'. So well camouflaged in fact that I very nearly trod on the reserve gunner providing protection at the rear of the OP, lying silent, prone and watchful in the dense underbrush of the forest floor. A pine martin couldn't have looked more at home, so it came as no surprise that in his day job he is a forester.

On to the second stand, where the visitors were given a demonstration of CBRN – Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear – decontamination drills,

the reservists worked carefully and methodically to establish an area free from simulated liquid chemical agents. As ever, the CBRN drills on show involved the use of equipment from the most basic to the highly sophisticated, ranging from simple detector paper to the latest in respirator and chemical agent monitoring technology. Having completed their decontamination drills the exercising personnel removed their respirators and enjoyed some fresh unfiltered air while chatting to the visitors: a particularly striking transfer of skills between reserve service and civilian occupation was highlighted by one reservist who as an automotive painter and finisher was quite used to extended periods in a respirator.

Finally the visitors were exposed to the stabilisation of a simulated mine-strike victim prior to casualty evacuation by helicopter-borne medical emergency response team, the renowned MERT. A gripping and seemingly realistic scenario, conducted in real time with a genuine sense of urgency by the reservists working swiftly and dextrously, a member of the exercise Directing Staff guiding and confirming their progressively more detailed diagnosis of the patient's condition. It was an outstanding demonstration of reservists' training in the most testing of circumstances, and the impression of realism was confirmed by the fact that one the participants had served for six months on active service in a MERT. In equal measure impressive and sobering.

Overall, the day provided an invaluable insight into the skills gained by reservists during their ACT, as well as the seamless integration of regular and reserve personnel. In advocating the benefits of reserves to both the UK's military capability and in the setting of their civilian occupations, a picture really is worth a thousand words, and as a member of the Association I would highly recommend that as many others as possible take advantage of such opportunities when they arise.





Lt Col Duncan Mackinnon (left) and Brigadier Ben Wrench (right) with Aberdeenshire Council's Jim Savege (left), John Clark Motor Group's Colin McAllister, Roy McLellan (HRFCA), Moray Digital/3rd Pixel's Shaun Moat, and Score (Europe)'s Stevie Wilson.



7SCOTS soldiers discussing and demonstrating the equipment and techniques needed to knock down a wall.

Employers see Scots in action

HRFCA had a three-day employer engagement visit to Salisbury Plain during the 7th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland (7SCOTS) Annual Camp, Ex Highland Fury 3.

Regional Employer Engagement Director, Roy McLellan, visited 7SCOTS at the Army's training grounds in Imber, Wiltshire.

Accompanying him were four employers who are Armed Forces Covenant signatories and Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Award winners: Aberdeenshire Council, John Clark Motor Group, Score (Europe) Ltd and Moray Digital Ltd/3rd Pixel Ltd.

The aim of the visit was to gain more insight into the Reserve Forces and a better understanding of service personnel's transferable skills. It was a chance to introduce several employers to reservist training and skill development.

Showing our employers around and representing 7SCOTS were Commanding Officer Lt Col Duncan Mackinnon and

Regimental Operations Support Officer Captain Alan McEwen MBE. Representing 51st Infantry Brigade and Headquarters Scotland was their Commander, Brigadier Ben Wrench.

One of our Armed Forces Covenant signatories and ERS Silver Award holders, John Clark Motor Group, was represented by their Group Training & Development Manager, Colin McAllister.

When asked what he hoped to achieve with the visit, he said: "To look at how the military identify future leaders and develop them. Also to have some fun!"

Jim Savege, Chief Executive of Aberdeenshire Council, Covenant signatory and ERS Gold Award holder, was hoping to underline the commitment to supporting regulars, reservists and veterans.

He said: "To understand some more about the reality of the training and commitment required as a reservist, both in terms of what support those serving need from their employer, and what it means they can give back.

"I would want to understand even more

about what needs to be done to support regulars, reservists and veterans – and their families – in terms of their day-to-day lives. We provide so many services and are a major employer – I would welcome some opportunity to talk and listen and understand some more on what more we could do."

Covenant signatory and ERS Bronze Award holder, Score (Europe) Ltd, was represented by their Global Apprenticeship Manager, Stevie Wilson. As an Armed Forces advocate and supporter, Stevie wanted to get "an understanding of the training undertaken, see the operations first-hand, and meet the personnel training and supporting our reserves, to build further insight in the reserves, the structure, and the activities undertaken."

The three-day visit was a success, allowing important discussions about the relationship and support between employers and reservists, regulars, veterans and their families. It was an invaluable opportunity to hear individual reservists' perspectives and needs.



The employers being briefed by Lt Col Duncan Mackinnon.



Employers observing 7SCOTS training at Imber Village.

General visits cadets

A special visitor was welcomed at two non-residential cadet summer camps over a sunny 17-18 July weekend.

Major General David Eastman MBE, General Officer Commanding Regional Command and Commander Cadets, visited 2 Highlanders at Gordon Barracks, Aberdeen, on the 17th. He travelled south the following day to visit Angus and Dundee Battalion cadets at the Barry Buddon Training Area in Angus.

Maj Gen Eastman is the highest ranked officer to visit either battalion in nearly 20 years.

Following an introduction to 2 Highlanders from Commandant Colonel Gordon Rae, Maj Gen Eastman headed to the training area to meet cadets who were learning about fieldcraft, using ration packs and first aid.

Many of the cadets joined the Battalion during lockdown and were enjoying their first opportunity for face to face training on a gloriously sunny day in Aberdeen.

Speaking to the cadets and adult volunteers, Maj Gen Eastman said: "I took over as Commander Cadets which is part of GOC Regional Command role about 18 months ago. I had two weeks in the job

before I was then switched across to the Command of the Defence COVID Force, which I've been focused on for the last 18 months. That has meant that I haven't been able to give as much attention to the cadets as I really wanted to.

"But actually, this is the first physical visit that I have been able to do to any cadets anywhere in the UK since October. But what I have done is kept up with what you have done. And I have to say, it has been massively impressive, really, really impressive. You guys as cadets and the Cadet Force Adult Volunteers have absolutely led the way when it comes to new ways of doing business.

"So I have to say a huge thanks to the cadets for keeping it going, staying with it, and finally being back to the physical stuff. And an even bigger thanks to Cadet Force Adult Volunteers because you are, without doubt, the centre of gravity for this organisation. Without your innovation, commitment and enthusiasm, and the length of time that you give for it, the organisation would not work."

While at Gordon Barracks, Maj Gen Eastman made a number of presentations to cadets and Cadet Force Adult Volunteers.

The next presentation was to Cadet Executive Officer Major Ken Masson on his

retiral. Maj Masson served the Battalion for over 15 years after joining as Quartermaster in 2006. He has dedicated more than 50 years of his life to service in uniform.

The final presentation was to Maj Gen Eastman for his support to the Battalion as Commander Cadets. He received a bottle of Gordon Highlanders Whisky and a Gordon Highlanders tie.

The promotion of Lt Sean Fraser to Captain was made earlier in the day. Cpt Fraser is Officer Commanding of A (Vittoria) Company and the Battalion Duke of Edinburgh Officer.

Maj Gen Eastman was also visiting cadets from Angus and Dundee Battalion ACF at their Barry Buddon training area on July 18.

Maj Gen Eastman spent several hours observing cadet training as well as receiving updates on the Battalion from Commandant Colonel Ewan Marshall and other senior leaders.

He also met and was chaperoned by 16-year-old Cadet LCpl Hannah Haggerty. LCpl Haggerty is part of the Battalion's Monifieth Detachment.

Many of the cadets were enjoying their first opportunity for face to face training during their non-residential summer camp.



Maj Gen Eastman chatting to cadets from 2 Highlanders at Gordon Barracks.



2 Highlanders Colour Sergeant Laurynus Vaitkus received the Master Cadet Sword.



2 Highlanders cadets being put through their paces.



Retiring 2 Highlanders Cadet Executive Officer Major Ken Masson received a gift to mark the occasion from Maj Gen Eastman.



Angus and Dundee Cadet LCpl Hannah Haggerty (Monifieth Detachment) with Maj Gen Eastman.



Angus and Dundee Battalion ACF Arras Company cadets with Maj Gen Eastman.



Maj Gen Eastman, Col Ewan Marshall (Angus and Dundee Battalion Commandant), Lt Col George Smith (Deputy Commandant), and Battalion Training Officer Maj Paul Feltham.



Cadet Lance Corporal Walker receives the Commander Cadet Coin from Maj Gen Eastman for her anti-bullying poster (above).

A cadet with 2nd Battalion the Highlanders has received the Commander Cadet Coin.

The coin was presented to Cadet Lance Corporal Stella Walker by Major General David Eastman MBE, General Officer

Commanding Regional Command and Commander Cadets, during his visit to 2 Highlanders at Gordon Barracks in Aberdeen.

LCpl Walker, of Inverurie Detachment, had won the National ACF Step Change



Diversity and Inclusion Project Anti-Bullying Poster Competition with her inspired design.

The poster – with its powerful message – is being displayed in ACF detachments around the UK.

Estate improvements delivered

Work to improve infrastructure across the Highland RFCA estate continues, with a variety of improvements delivered.

New energy-efficient boilers were installed at the ARC in Stirling. All doors on the ground floor were replaced and the drill hall decorated, with a new floor covering installed.

Other recent improvements include: Extensive repointing at Gordon Barracks, Aberdeen; External refurbishment and new offices at Alness ATC; Refurbishment works at Ardersier ACF detachment; Extensive refurbishment work at Forres joint cadet centre; new boilers at the Arrochar Cadet Training Centre; and new kitchens at the married quarters surrounding our Dundee HQ.



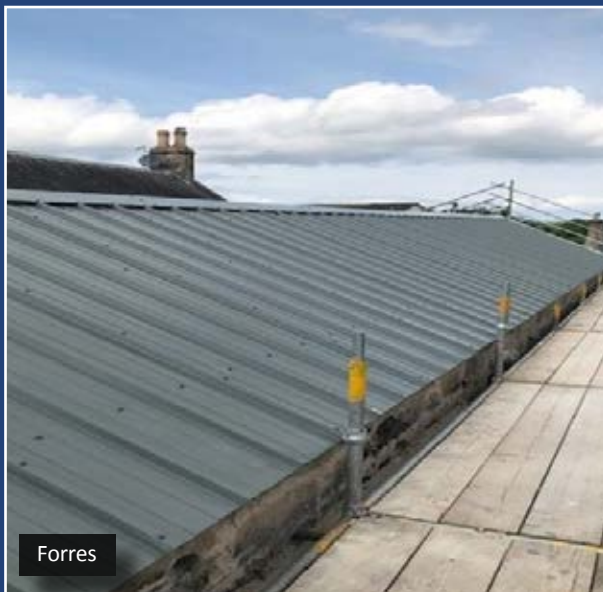
A new heating system has been installed at the Stirling Army Reserve Centre.



Gordon Barracks



Alness



Forres



Ardersier



Arrochar



MQ kitchens



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

Contributions are always welcome

Contact: hi-offcomms@rfca.mod.uk
or 01382 631033

