

# ALU NI agazine

# **FEBRUARY 2022**

Welcome back to *Your* Alumni Magazine. Great to see that you made it through 2021 without too much damage. What a year. I won't go into the finer details as you are no doubt full bottle with Covid-19. But what a year for our Cadets. Although we didn't see them reach the heights as planned for their 80<sup>th</sup> we did see some great achievements. Sincere thanks once again to those who have taken time to provide material and feedback. I would like to acknowledge the work of Paul Rosenzweig for some great material, in particular the work of the Aviation Operations Wing and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. I would also like to thank Rob Nieuwenhoven, Warren Bishop and Peter Boughen for their contribution to the Quiz.

We have a couple of regular readers who help with spotting material that may interest one or two of our alumni. You may like to help if you would like to tell us of your time as a Cadet or some of your achievements since. Your Feedback helps us shape the content we include in your Newsletter so please keep it coming. We don't anticipate that our readers will read the entire magazine, but we hope that there is something there for you.

For those who don't regularly check on the AAFC Web page,

*https://www.airforcecadets.gov.au/* you might like to check out the great new format. We are very pleased to report that our Alumni is accessible through the AAFC page as we continue to send out our email link to our subscribers on the first of February, May, August and November.

Are you ready for your fill with another Alumni Magazine? It never ceases to amaze me that when I catch up with people and find that they are ex Cadets; they all have great tales of how the Cadets moulded their life and that they wouldn't be where they are today if it hadn't been for those years in the Air Training Corps, AirTC or AAFC. Why am I mentioning this? Well

with all that material out there, it would be even better if we could share your story. Hopefully we have provided a few hours of light relief for you over more than 30 editions.

Remember, if you like what you read in your magazine, you are most welcome to share and invite your friends who are ex Cadet or Staff members to join. If you don't like what you are reading please tell us, <u>AlumniDirector@aircadetsalumni.org.au</u> We love to receive your letters. We hope that our magazine can remind you of your time in our great organization. We are always on the lookout for articles and photographs that you may like to share.

There is some great reading again and all the material is just one click away from the Contents page. We have a few stories that may remind you of your past glories and stories from some of our alumni. Just some of the articles include a Podcast with Flight Lieutenant Aimee Heal, the second-ever female member of the RAAF's aerobatic display team The Roulettes, Air Force Cadet to Major General, (an ex Ingham Cadet), a great video showing Peter Jackson's Military Treasures and so much more. Remember, you can check out the Contents page to go directly to the article you would like to read.

Please update your email address when you change providers Perhaps it may have changed when you changed providers. We understand that you may be accessing the newsletter from the web site, but sometimes we just might like to contact you direct. In particular, those who have a Cadetnet or Defence email address may have trouble with our emails. There are still plenty of Defence email accounts in our database. You might like to check with your friends to see if they have been getting our emails. Our regular Newsletter is sent by email at 1000 on 1 November, 1 February, 1 May and 1 August. Registration is FREE and is open to all ex Cadets, ex Staff, current Staff, both uniform and civilian. We also invite our friends from likeminded organizations.

If you think you have missed out on some of the earlier Alumni Newsletters, the good news is you haven't! They are available on the Air Cadets Alumni website, www.aircadetsalumni.org.au and go to the Bulletin Board. We can now see a new initiative where our Air Cadet Alumni web site can be accessed via the AAFC Web page, *https://www.airforcecadets.gov.au/* 

Until May,

Fly Safe

John Griffiths, MBE Alumni Director

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# **Regular Features**

# What our Foundation is up to

## Message from AVM Kym 'Koz' Osley AM, CSC - Chair of the AAFC Foundation

Happy New Year to the Alumni of the Australian Air Force Cadets!

I hope 2022 has started well and that you have had a chance to refresh over the break and to reconnect with family and friends.

Despite the challenges of COVID, much was still able to be achieved by the AAFC and the Foundation in 2021. Of note, the AAFC numbers remain quite high with almost 7,000 cadet and about 1500 volunteers, and major recruiting activities underway.

The Foundation has been working with Cadet Branch Defence is now well on track to roll out their 'Pathways to an Aerospace Career' website. The trial of the website started in September 2021 and we hope to work with Defence industry and aerospace organisations make continual improvements to it in 2022.

Also, Foundation members have made progress on the Pathways Program, and have gone from having a handful of companies and entities 'signed up' to provide activities and experiences for the Cadets to engaging with many more in 2021 to arrange some great activities for the AAFC that will be able to be accessed when COVID restrictions abate. Of course, the challenge for 2022 will be connecting the various AAFC units around Australia with the relevant Defence and aerospace companies so they can take up the activities!

2021 was the year of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Air Cadets and the Foundation, The AAFC 80th Birthday had been a great opportunity to reflect and celebrate on the achievements of the past 80 years and to contemplate the future direction of AAFC in the next 25 years to the AAFC centenary. The key achievements included:

- Patches sent into the Stratosphere
- AAFC 80 National Patch Competition
- Creation of AAFC strapline 'Inspiring Today, Leading Tomorrow'
- Nearly 400 tiles created for Facebook site
- Design and distribution of AAFC baseball caps
- Creation of Perpetual Awards for Cadet of the Year and Instructor of the Year
- Governor General Reception & Awards ceremony
- New AAFC Branding and imagery

The Foundation had been a key contributor and supporter of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and with some great assistance from Alumni, industry and others, provided over \$50,000 in direct support. I and the Vice-Chair of the Foundation, Ms Fiamma Morton, were able to attend the key event with the Cadets and the Governor General in Sydney, which was a great success. The National Parade that was originally planned for late 2021 will be held later in 2022 when COVID issues subside a little.



2021 has been a turning point for the AAFC with improved offerings in terms of flying, training and activities. The AAFC training curriculum had gone through major improvements, and that the Diamond flying was proceeding well. About 2000 sorties had been flown and 1873 cadets had gained some air experience in the period at the end of 2021 when flying resumed post-COVID. Also 275 cadets had been flown in about three weeks at end-2021 by the newly contracted flying experience service providers. In 2022 we will see a full roll out of the flying service provider arrangements and the drone program too.

I am very pleased to note that great progress has been made by Air Force in arranging better IT connectivity for some Cadet units in remote locations.

One of my last uniformed duties in 2021 was to present the Air Combat Officer graduates at RAAF East Sale with their wings and prizes. I noted that a large number of the graduates are ex-Cadets – and that AAFC service is seen very favourably by those selecting candidates for aviation training.



As we start 2022, the Foundation stands ready to seek new ways to better connect with the AAFC Wings and Units on the Pathways Program; see the Pathways website up and running and to support across other activities that the Air Force cannot fund or provide for the Cadets. It is shaping

up to be a great year for the AAFC, and I and the members of the Foundation look forward to being a part of that journey. We also hope that many of the Alumni can also support us in this important work.

Cheers, Koz

Air Vice-Marshal K. Osley AM, CSC Chair AAFC Foundation January 2022

# What our Alumni are up to

In a previous edition of our Newsletter we heard of Ken Broomhead being awarded the Medal of The Order Of Australia for service to the aviation industry. You may also be aware of Ken's remarkable service to Cadets with, among other things 2 Wing School of Aviation, Approved Testing Officer, AAFC National Council and Toastmasters.



Brady,

I was privileged to be awarded the Medal of The Order of Australia for service to the aviation industry yesterday by the Governor of Victoria.

During that ceremony I was delighted to renew my acquaintance with Group Captain Phillip Trigge who is Chief of Staff-HQAFTG.

*Phil was a cadet at Amberley in the early days of the Flying Training there. Both he and I remember with pleasure a flight we had together.* 

GPCAPT Phil Trigge, current Chief of Staff at Air Force Training Group was present at the awards, to support a serving RAAF flying instructor who was award an OAM for dedication and professionalism demonstrated in his support to the new PC21 Pilot Training System. GPCAPT Trigge flew in a Tomahawk with Mr Ken Broomhead when Ken was a flying instructor and Phil was an Air Training Corps cadet, in 1981. Phil says "I was thrilled to see Ken recognised for many years of dedication and significant contribution to the Australian Aviation industry. From a personal perspective, it was wonderful to renew our acquaintance and express my personal gratitude. Well done Ken – highly deserved!".

Kind Regards

Ken

# **Owen Zupp** - "Boeing 747. Farewell from the Flight Deck"

Owen Zupp has been busy again with his new book 'Boeing 747, Farewell from the Flight Deck'



The New 747 Book has Landed!

My new book, "Boeing 747. Farewell from the Flight Deck" is now in print and available as an eBook too.

This is my personal account of various experiences as flight crew on the "Queen of the Skies" and is a tribute to the aircraft that changed the world. This book offers insights into the Boeing 747, the air routes, the international destinations and significant events, including a flight deck perspective of the final QANTAS 747 flight that crafted a "kangaroo in the sky".

Some recollections are technical, some are observations, and some are personal. Come aboard and share the journey. (196 pages)

Thanks for your ongoing support.

**<u>Click here for ''Boeing 747. Farewell from the Flight Deck''</u>** 

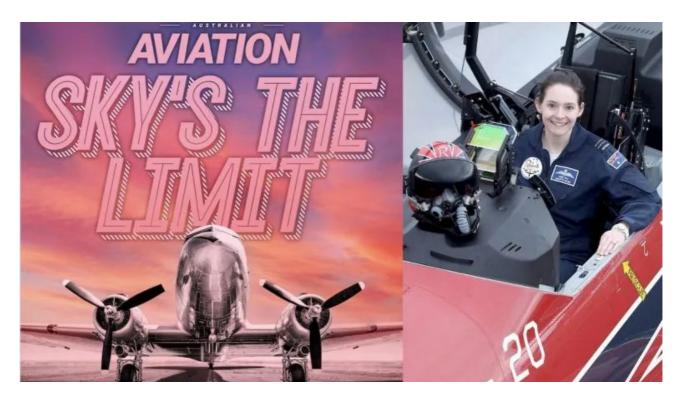




#### Hi,

# SKY'S THE LIMIT PODCAST: IN THE LOOP WITH ROULETTE SEVEN AIMEE HEAL

written by <u>Robyn Tongol</u>



Royal Australian Air Force Flight Lieutenant Aimee Heal is the second-ever female member of the RAAF's aerobatic display team The Roulettes, currently serving as Roulette Seven.

In this episode of Sky's The Limit, hosts Anna Grbas and Hannah Dowling sit down with Aimee to hear about her adrenaline-fuelled days piloting Pilatus PC-21 aircraft, and her role as the only full-time Roulette.

Plus, Aimee shares her experience rising through the ranks of the RAAF after first enrolling in the Australian Defence Force Academy straight out of high school.

Finally, she shares the best advice she'd give to her younger self, and to younger women looking to take on a future career in the RAAF and aviation.

# Click here to listen on your device.

#### From Air Force Cadet to Major General



Outgoing Commander of the 7th Brigade, Brigadier Jason Blain, right, receives the brigade pennant from Regimental Sergeant Major Warrant Officer Class One Matthew Bold at Gallipoli Barracks, Brisbane. Photo: Corporal Nicole Dorrett

Next year will be a significant one for a senior Army officer who calls the Queensland town of Ingham home.

Brigadier Jason Blain, who was most recently the commander of the 7th Brigade based in Brisbane, will be promoted to major general and relocate to Canberra.

"I feel very honoured to have been given this next opportunity," Brigadier Blain said.

"I love serving in the Army and to be able to serve on and continue to do something to support Army and support the Defence of our nation – I feel very privileged to have that opportunity.

"I will now take on the role of Head – Armoured Vehicle Division responsible for the acquisition and introduction of Army's newest and most modern armoured vehicle systems.

"It will be a challenging but extremely rewarding role."

Ingham has a population of 4000 people, but Brigadier Blain grew up in a tiny town to the north-west.

"My father, Mal Blain, was an instrument engineer in the sugar mills and we lived at Macknade where a sugar mill was located," Brigadier Blain said.

"I was raised in a close family, with two older sisters and a younger brother, and mum and dad instilled a strong sense of family values and respect for the community we lived in.

"My mum, Mae Blain, was the key organiser of the annual town concert for many years.

"I enjoyed great mates, and it was a great environment for fishing, for being adventurous and for enjoying the outdoors with a great bunch of people.

"I still call Ingham home."

Brigadier Blain began his schooling at Macknade State School and getting there meant negotiating a few environmental hazards.

"It was only a bike ride from home, and you had to navigate the snakes to get there while watching for the aerial spraying going on in the cane paddocks and the cane-hauling trucks," Brigadier Blain said.

Brigadier Blain moved to Ingham to continue his schooling at Gilroy College and Ingham State School, where his journey with Defence began when he joined the Australian Air Force Cadets.

"I really enjoyed what the Air Cadets offered and gave, and how they educated and shaped young people," Brigadier Blain said.

"During my time with the Air Cadets, I walked the Kokoda track as a 17-year-old and that was an amazing life-changing experience."

While studying journalism at Central Queensland University, the future major general joined the Army Reserve.

"I found the Army Reserve was another rewarding challenge and I wanted to continue that," Brigadier Blain said.

"When I finished university, I applied to go to Duntroon to become an officer in the Regular Army.

"That was in January 1990, and I haven't looked back."

When asked about the highlights of his 30-year career, Brigadier Blain said the ability to command his fellow Australians was the top of the list.

"I have been able to command a company of soldiers in East Timor, a battalion in Afghanistan, and now I have been given the privilege of command of a brigade – a combat brigade – here in Brisbane," Brigadier Blain said.

"I was also able to take the family on posting overseas with a posting to Canada for a couple of years and also moved around Australia."

As his career continues, Brigadier Blain said he had few regrets.

"My only regret is that I can't start again – you can't wind back the clock of time and start again," Brigadier Blain said.

"I'd love to be starting again because the modernisation we are seeing in Defence is second to none."

# Now back to our roots

# **Our History Page**

This page is not Intentionally Blank.

It's just waiting for your story.

**Aviation Museums and Collections** 

Peter Jacksons Military Treasures • FULL DOCUMENTARY

https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=7gmZ9X9Aplk

Thanks to John Love for providing the link, well spotted.

# What are Our Cadets up to?

AIR FORCE







South Australia's Moonta community showed its pride in helping unveil a new sculpture honouring Sir Richard Williams, FLTLT Nat Giles writes.

the position three different times. Frances Adamson and the plaque mark of Arr Mandal. GPCAPT Greg Weller, RAAF Australia) DP Robert IBlack. The collebration comprised a street planetation for more faunt space and the collebration of the street the Capper Coast Consolid and Air Force Association for more than a year on the celebrations, was uncediated pyperate and an incrediate opportantity to a street planetation (South Australia) DP Robert IBlack. The celebration comprising a ADIK-1 Arr Force Association for more than a year on the celebrations, which were a keynote event for the Air Force contemary in South Australia. Australia.

nemorate 100 years of the RAAF, the Copper Ceast

"In a fitting inhuic to the most a fitting inhuic to the most a fitting inhuic to the most again figure in the history "The thankogiving church

The Commersion 100 years of Air Force, the Copper Coast Connection Notes Coast service was a particularly poign

thank the Moonta Community for acknowledging Sir Richard during the Air Force centenary. Clockwise from main: the new aculpture of Sir Richard Williams at Moonta, velorises which the unveiling caremony, a tribute to Sir Richard at the church service; and Australian Air Force Cadets arrive at Queen Square Park after marching along the main streat. Peter LAC Stevel Gas Photos: LAC Slowert Gould



#### **4WG POST LOCKOWN PARADES**

After several months of interruptions during the latter part of 2021, 4WG cadets showcased their resilience and dedication to standards by getting out to recommence parading at their home training squadrons.

As the year drew to a close, cadets around the Wing prepared their uniforms and practiced their drill for their respective Squadron Final Parades. Final Parades are a great opportunity to reflect upon the year as well as to recognise individual and Squadron achievements.

This time of the year is also often bittersweet as we farewell many cadets say goodbye to the AAFC, and move on to new challenges and adventures in their professional, military and educational journeys







# 4WG PROMOTION COURSES // INSPIRING TODAY, LEADING TOMORROW

With the start of a new year 4WG cadets and staff launched back into activities, starting off the year with the 1/22 Promotion Course Detachment.

Cadets attending the Cadet Under Officer, Warrant Officer and Senior Non-Commissioned Officer course arrived at RAAF Williams Laverton to continue their training and development to become the senior cadet leaders of the AAFC.

They were followed by the Junior Non-Commissioned Officer courses arriving later in the week, who commenced their journey of leadership within the AAFC. They undertook courses in Instructional Technique, Fieldcraft, Organisational Understanding, Drill and Ceremonial and Leadership.

54 Cadet Under Officers Course hosted a virtual visit with the Commander of the Australian Air Force Cadets GPCAPT(AAFC) Mark Dorward, to discuss the AAFC, Leadership, and all of the rewarding experiences ahead of them in 2022. This session helped the course knowing that they had the Commanders support, and that he faced similar challenges on his journey to becoming a CUO.



The new General Purpose Uniforms were rolled out for the fieldcraft weekend. As a part of the Promotion Courses, cadets participate in field exercises to demonstrate and develop their leadership and fieldcraft knowledge. This exercise is planned and executed by the Cadet Under Officer and Cadet Warrant Officer candidates. With the assistance from their fieldcraft instructor they developed training programs, equipment requests, briefed the staff, cadets and run the activities and headquarters.



Across the 18-day detachment, cadets and staff upheld COVID safe working practices which included social distancing, training in working bubbles, in separate facilities, staggered mess

sessions, with appropriate response and prevention measures mandated by the Detachment Commander FLGOFF(AAFC) Tristan Garcia and his staff.

A fantastic way for our young people to spend their school holidays with new adventures, new skills, new friends for life.

#### **4WG DINING IN NIGHT // PROMOTION DETACHMENT 2022**

During the 1/22 4 Wing Promotion Detachment, the CUO and CWOFF courses organised a training Dining In Night at the Combined Officers and Sergeants Mess of RAAF Base Williams - Laverton. Dining In Nights are an integral part of the Air Force's customs and traditions, serving as an occasion for members to gather socially, enjoy fine food and the company of others. Dining In Nights are presided over by the President of the Mess Committee (PMC) and supported by a Vice President.

For this occasion, the role of PMC was held by CSGT Hayley Booth of 54 CUO, supported by CSGT Rachel Lugeng of 39 CWOFF as Ms Vice. Commanding Officer of 21 Squadron, WGCDR Caroline Godfrey, was invited as the Guest of Honour.

This event was an opportunity for our CUO and CWOFF candidates to put into practice the knowledge they had learnt on how to effectively plan, organise and run a Dining In Night. We look forward to seeing our CUO and CWOFF candidates in action running Dining In Nights at their home Squadrons later this year.



#### **4WG END OF COURSE PARADE PRACTICE // PROMOTION COURSE 1/22**

In the lead up to their End of Course Parade, promotion course candidates undergo rigorous training and practice to perfect their ceremonial drill. Known as a Ceremonial Review, the parade is a complex undertaking which requires close coordination and good teamwork by all those involved.

JNCO courses practice basic marching, while SNCO courses practice rifle drill and marching in slow time. CUO and CWOFF courses practice sword drill and are appointed to executive positions throughout the parade. Here are our promotion course candidates wearing their new GPUs as they underwent parade rehearsals.



#### **4WG AWARD RECIPIENTS // PROMOTION DETACHMENT 2022**

Congratulations to all cadets who completed the 1/22 4 Wing Promotion Detachment held at RAAF Base Williams - Laverton from 05 Jan 22 to 22 Jan 22.

We are pleased to announce the Course duxes and award recipients: 54 CUO Dux - CSGT Patrick Nguyen (405SQN) 39 CWOFF Dux - CSGT Jake Dimovski (418SQN) 140 SNCO Dux - CCPL Paddy Sharp (419SQN) 141 SNCO Dux - CCPL Dhimanya Dissanayake (405SQN) 248 JNCO Dux - LCDT Raphael Lee (415SQN) 249 JNCO Dux - LCDT Hamish Sidgwick (412SQN) 250 JNCO Dux - LCDT Peter Xu (415SQN)

The Air Vice Marshal Wrigley Sword of Honour for the Dux of 54 CUO Course was awarded to CSGT Patrick Nguyen of 405SQN.

The Warrant Officer Ron Douglas Shield for the Dux of 39 CWOFF Course was awarded to CSGT Jake Dimovski of 418SQN.



The Flight Lieutenant V.P. Daly Award for highest mark in Instructional Technique Practical on the CUO or CWOFF course was awarded to CSGT Kiamah Dowling of Course 54 CUO and 406SQN. The Flight Lieutenant (AIRTC) Edward A. Grimshaw Memorial Trophy for fair play and commitment on the CUO or CWOFF course was awarded to CSGT Sienna Levy of Course 54 CUO and 402SQN.



The Squadron Leader (AAFC) Albert Lindner PSM Shield for the Overall Dux of SNCO Courses was awarded to CCPL Dhimanya Dissanayake of Course 141 SNCO and 405SQN. The Flight Lieutenant Ack Loveless Memorial Award for the highest mark in Leadership Practical across all courses was awarded to LCDT Darby Wells of Course 248 JNCO and 414SQN. The Ross Watson Memorial Shield for the Overall Dux of JNCO Courses was awarded to LCDT Peter Xu of Course 250 JNCO and 415SQN.

# 4WG END OF COURSE PARADE // PROMOTION DETACHMENT 1/22

4 Wing End of Course Parade was held to mark the completion of this year's CUO, CWOFF, SNCO and JNCO courses of the 4 Wing Promotion Detachment at RAAF Base Williams - Laverton.

The Parade Commander was CSGT Patrick Nguyen of 405SQN with CSGT Saige Harrison of 414SQN as Parade Warrant Officer. The Host Officer was FLGOFF(AAFC) Tristan Garcia, the Detachment Commander. The Reviewing Officer was AIRCDRE Greg Frisina, Commander Air Force Training Group.

Congratulations to all cadets who put on a spectacular display for friends and family. Behind this display was almost three weeks of hard work and dedication by our cadets training in precision, and teamwork. 4 Wing would also like to extend our appreciation to the Air Force Band for their support of the parade, as well as our VIP guests who presented awards, and are long term supporters of our events.

The parade showcases the drill and ceremonial aspect of the training undertaken by our cadets. For the duration of this detachment, our cadets have also undertaken training and testing in areas of fieldcraft, leadership, instructional technique and service knowledge from their respective courses.

4 Wing thanks and acknowledges the detachment staff who have gone above and beyond to train, supervise and support our cadets. This detachment has been particularly challenging due to the COVID-19 situation in Victoria. The success of the detachment can only be attributed to all members of the detachment for adhering to strict COVID Safe protocols.





CSGT Josh Laundry preparing for his first solo flight in the DG1000S glider at Warwick Airfield on Gliding Course 1/21 in April 2021. Image supplied by Warwick Glider Training Flight.

# FIRST SOLO Part 1: Cadet Sergeant Josh Laundry

Late in 2020, the operational pause in Defence Cadet face-to-face activities finally came to an end for most units, but it took until early 2021 before the three training flights of the Gliding Training School (GTS) were ready to resume flying operations with cadets.

During the April holidays last year, Warwick Glider Training Flight conducted a Gliding Course at Warwick Airfield for Cadets drawn from across No 2 Wing (south Queensland).

Warwick Flight is a unit of the Gliding Training School (GTS), which delivers flying pathways to Cadets through gliding experiences and training using the AAFC's fleet of DG1000S gliders. The three GTS Flights conduct Pilot Experience (PEX) flights to give Cadets the feel of flying a DG1000S sailplane. Selected Cadets may attend formal training courses with the intention of achieving solo status, and ideally, later return to the AAFC as adult aviation instructors.



CSGT Josh Laundry (second from the left) pictured with gliding instructors and fellow gliding trainee on Gliding Course 1/21 (left to right): PLTOFF(AAFC) Brian Allerby, CUO Nicole Wilson, and PLTOFF(AAFC) Barry Collins. Image supplied by Warwick Glider Training Flight.

One of the highlights of Gliding Course 1/21 at Warwick Airfield was when Cadet Sergeant Josh Laundry from No 229 Squadron in Yeppoon flew his first solo flight.

CSGT Laundry spoke to the Public Affairs Officer of Aviation Operations Wing, Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig about his service in the AAFC and his impressions of flying solo.

#### Why did you join the AAFC?

I have quite a few ancestors who served in the Australian Defence Force, and one that I know of who served in the RAAF. I originally joined the AAFC as I had a curiosity about flying and thought that by joining, it would give me an insight to what flying entails. At the time I had no interest in pursuing a career in the Defence Force. But within the first 5 months of joining the AAFC, my mind was changed as I was shown the opportunities that could come up and how a job in the RAAF or the ADF in general is the way that I want to spend my life.

#### What is your best memory of cadets?

I have lots of wonderful memories from my 3 years of being a part of the AAFC. My favourite is my first ever General Service Training camp at RAAF Base Amberly in 2018.

It was in our first 20 minutes on the base, from out of nowhere I heard a rumbling sound that got louder and louder to the point it was almost deafening. As soon as I saw that it was a Super Hornet speeding around the sky I was in awe – that was definitely the moment that sparked my passion for aviation and created my desire to become a pilot in the ADF.

#### What was your first ever experience of flying?

*My first ever experience of flying was during my second GST camp at Amberly where, as part of the training camp, they held air experience flights for all cadets.* 

I was lucky enough to have been placed in the front seat of the Cessna 172 so I was able to watch everything that went on. I wasn't able to take control of the aircraft at all, but it was still amazing to get a front row seat and get to watch everything the pilot was doing.

#### What was your first experience of flying the DG1000S like?

*My first experience of being in a DG1000S was in December 2019. It was my first time ever being in a glider.* 

I remember distinctly the moment we disconnected from the tow aircraft. It was honestly a strange thought, the thought of not having an engine and being able to still gain altitude.

Although it was strange, it was still a great feeling and something that has stuck in my brain even until this day. I was thrilled knowing I was in control of an aircraft that was travelling over 100km/h and knowing that this was the beginning of my flying lessons. And that it was only going to get better from this point on.

## What was your experience of flying solo?

*My first ever solo flight was in a Cessna 172 at the Rockhampton Aero Club. It was approximately 6 months after I began powered flying lessons.* 

Pushing the throttle to full and accelerating down the runway was the best feeling, the speed increasing as quick as ever. The moment I pulled back on the controls and the aircraft was airborne was amazing.

The entire time I was flying my first solo, a smile never left my face, it was something that I had been dreaming of quite a while and it was finally a reality.

It was a great day for flying which allowed me to do the smoothest landing I had ever done in my life. After turning onto the taxiway and gaining my taxi clearance, the controller in the tower congratulated me on my first solo. It was only the moment he congratulated me where I fully realised that I had done it, I had flown my first solo.

#### What was your experience of flying a glider solo?

My first gliding Solo was equally as amazing as powered. I started off by talking to the pre-solo coordinator and told him what my plan for the flight was. I then started doing the pre-flight inspection, strapping on the parachute and then finally it was time to take a seat in the glider and go for the flight of a lifetime.

I remember looking out to my left, seeing the ground crew for my aircraft signalling to the tow pilot that it was clear for take-off, this was the point where I was realising that I had achieved more than I had ever expected for that gliding course. After what felt like the shortest ground run in my life, the aircraft was up and I had begun my first gliding solo.

After a few minutes on tow, I was at 3,000 feet above the ground and ready to release. I did my prerelease checks, pulled the release knob and was officially gliding.

After a few minutes of enjoying the views and trying to hunt for a thermal with no luck, I decided it was time to join the circuit and come in for a landing. After landing the glider, I had the same feeling as I had after my first powered solo. It's a feeling of accomplishment knowing that all the effort I had put in had paid off.

I have got to say though, I have had six AAFC gliding instructors and I can't thank each of them enough for the time they put in to get me to this point.



Josh Laundry flew his first solo flight in a Cessna 172 at the Rockhampton Aero Club. Images supplied by CSGT Laundry.

#### What has the AAFC taught you most?

The biggest thing cadets has taught me is how important teamwork is. From GST camps and promotion courses, to gliding courses and weekly squadron parade nights. Teamwork will be a huge help through any situation you are faced with and sometimes is the only way you will get through it.

Even on the gliding course this was evident – without everyone doing their job and working as a team to get things done as efficiently as possible, it can fall apart. Great teamwork from all the cadets and staff on the gliding course was definitely a big factor as to why I was able to reach that milestone of a Solo when I did.

#### What would you tell a new recruit joining today?

I would tell a new recruit to take advantage of every opportunity provided by the AAFC and learn as much as they can. You are only a cadet in the AAFC for a few years, so you may as well make as many memories as possible and learn as much as you can. This means attending as many activities that are offered to you and making as many friends as you can on those activities.

Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul A Rosenzweig OAM Public Affairs & Communication Officer Aviation Operations Wing || Australian Air Force Cadets

PACO-AOW 076/21 8 November 2021



Warwick Glider Training Flight is a unit of the Gliding Training School (GTS), which is a subordinate element of the AAFC's Aviation Operations Wing (AOW). GTS delivers flying pathways through gliding experiences and training using the AAFC's fleet of DG1000S gliders.



CUO Nicole Wilson after completing her first solo flight in the DG1000S glider at Warwick Airfield on Gliding Course 1/21 in April last year. Image supplied by Warwick Glider Training Flight.

# FIRST SOLO Part 2: Cadet Under Officer Nicole Wilson

During Warwick Glider Training Flight's 1/21 Gliding Course in April 2021, Cadet Under Officer Nicole Wilson from No 203 Squadron based in East Brisbane also had the opportunity to fly her first solo flight.

CUO Wilson had a busy year last year completing Year 12 and holding a senior role in her squadron.

During her Cadet career she also completed the requirements for the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards.

CUO Wilson spoke to the Public Affairs Officer of Aviation Operations Wing, Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig about her service in the AAFC and her impressions of flying solo.

#### Why did you join the AAFC?

I was fortunate enough to grow up with a father who had been involved in the AAFC for many years. Attending Anzac Day services and seeing some of the activities that Cadets can participate in from a young age fostered my interest in joining the AAFC; which I did at my earliest opportunity.

Being able to experience some of the amazing opportunities AAFC 203 Squadron cadets had under my father's leadership also allowed me to meet many Cadets, some of which later became my mentors when I was a cadet recruit.

Some remain as my friends and continue to inspire and guide me in my role as a CUO.

What is your best memory of cadets?

It would be hard to limit this to a single memory as there have been so many amazing memories made and incredible opportunities.

I remember my first Anzac Day march, and every year that followed I would look at the senior cadets with parade positions and think about how I wanted to hold a parade position when I was a senior cadet.

This year [2021] I had the honour of being the Parade Commander for the Anglican Church of Grammar School Anzac Day Service. With 300 tri-Service Cadets and several thousand students and their families in attendance, it was a truly special and memorable way to spend my last Anzac Day as a Cadet.

However, if I was to pick my favourite memory it would be completing my first gliding solo flight.

The many hours spent on gliding courses and weekend trips out to GTS Warwick and Kingaroy Gliding Club, came together to help me finally achieve this goal. The experience was made all the more special by seeing my fellow cadets friends, instructors and my father as I completed my solo flight.



CUO Nicole Wilson receives her First Solo Badge from her instructor PLTOFF(AAFC) Brian Allerby. Image supplied by Warwick Glider Training Flight.

#### What was your first ever experience of flying?

My first experience of flying was at a Women in Aviation day at Caboolture Airport. It was here that I had the opportunity to listen to inspirational female pilots and was well and truly bitten by the flying 'bug' after having the opportunity to fly in a number of different planes throughout the day. On one of these flying experiences, the pilot gave me control of the aircraft and since then I have seized every opportunity that I could to fly.

What was your first experience of flying the DG1000S like?

My first experience of flying the DG1000S was on my first gliding course in April of 2019. My first few flights were with two people that I have so much respect for and who have both achieved so much in their flying.

My second flight in the DG1000S was an awesome flight where I began to learn thermalling techniques and managed to reach 8,500 feet! All of these flights were possible due to the exceptional instructors who dedicate their time and knowledge to cadets.





CUO Nicole Wilson (fifth from the left) with her fellow trainees inside a C27J Spartan which visited Warwick Flight's 2/21 Gliding Course in July 2021. Image by SQNLDR(AAFC) Colin Wilson, SOMS Aviation Operations Wing.



CUO Nicole Wilson (fourth from the left) pictured with the post-solo Cadets from the Warwick Flight Gliding Course 2/21 in July 2021. Image supplied by CUO Wilson.

#### What was your experience of flying solo?

Hearing that you are cleared for solo and signing as pilot-in-command for the first time is exhilarating. The feelings of happiness and relief wash over you as you realise that all your hard work has paid off.

When you begin to walk out to the glider the nerves start to kick in as you realise that it is just you up there, you have no instructor in the backseat to rely on.

But once I arrived at the glider and began doing my checks, my nerves disappeared as I became focused on the task at hand.

The flight itself felt like any other, with me focused on what I needed to do. Once I landed the feelings of excitement and relief rushed over me. Seeing my instructors, good friends and family made it feel like an even greater achievement. All the hard work leading up to that point all felt worth it.

It was all thanks to the hard work of the instructors but also the staff that put time and effort to organise these opportunities for us to fly.

#### What has the AAFC taught you most?

The AAFC has taught me numerous life skills and qualities that I feel will remain with me for the rest of my life. Through numerous promotion courses and learning experiences, they have fostered a sense of pride, leadership and resilience within me. Cadets has taught me how to be self-reliant when needed and how to work efficiently as a team.

#### What would you tell a new recruit joining today?

I would tell a new recruit to seize every opportunity and experience that the AAFC offers and provides. Make the most of these opportunities and jump in with an open mind to try new things.

When I first started as a recruit, I never thought that I would have the experiences that I have had. As a 13-year-old recruit I never thought that I would have the opportunity to fly solo in a world class aircraft.

I would also tell a new recruit to take the time to get to know their fellow cadets, because these are the people who just might become some of your closest friends. Shared experiences, mutual interests and aspirations – these people have become my second family.

Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul A Rosenzweig OAM Public Affairs & Communication Officer Aviation Operations Wing || Australian Air Force Cadets

PACO-AOW 077/21 8 November 2021



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CCPL James Slade prepares for his first solo flight at Warwick Airfield on Gliding Course 2/21 in July 2021. Image by PLTOFF(AAFC) Barry Collins.

## FIRST SOLO Part 3: Cadet Corporal James Slade

Following on from their successful Gliding Course 1/21 held in April 2021, Warwick Glider Training Flight in South Queensland conducted another Gliding Course at Warwick Airfield during the July holidays.

During this course, Cadet Corporal James Slade, a Section Commander in No 2 Flight of No 212 (City of Redcliffe) Squadron at Kippa-Ring, Queensland, had the opportunity to fly his first solo flight.

CCPL Slade can be seen completing his first solo flight here:

#### https://www.facebook.com/GTSAAFC/videos/1209696599479028

CCPL Slade spoke to the Public Affairs Officer of Aviation Operations Wing, Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig about his service in the AAFC and his impressions of flying solo.

#### Why did you join the AAFC?

*I* was always interested in aviation, and seeing a cadet stall at an open day gave me an opportunity to join.

#### What is your best memory of cadets?

Joining my first gliding course and flying the DG for the first time, and being included as another pilot and cadet.

## What was your first ever experience of flying?

When I was young, flying in airliners, and have always enjoyed the sensation of flying since.

#### What was your experience of flying a glider?

It's a feeling unlike driving a car or anything. It's a totally different experience, requiring a different set of skills than you learn anywhere else.

#### What was your experience of flying solo?

There was a bit of nervousness on my first solo flight, but I was confident after the aerotow in flying by myself.

#### What has the AAFC taught you most?

The AAFC has taught me the discipline in everything I do in cadets, from flying to home parades.

#### What would you tell a new recruit joining today?

If you get into it, and do as much as you can, cadets can you teach you so much and give you so many experiences. Experiences that you can't get anywhere else.

#### How would you summarise the excitement of glider flying?

It's nothing like any other flying, you don't need an engine to fly, and you don't need a rotor to stay up in the air. The only noise you hear is the wind rushing over your hair. It's the fundamentals of flying that allow you to become a truly great pilot.



The morning flight line at Warwick Airfield. Image by Squadron Leader (AAFC) Russ Pyers, Commanding Officer Gliding Training School.



CCPL James Slade flies his first solo flight over Warwick Airfield. Image by PLTOFF(AAFC) Barry Collins, Warwick Glider Training Flight.



Cadet Corporal James Slade completes his first solo flight at Warwick Airfield.

CCPL Slade is a Silver Award participant in the Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards, with his efforts to improve his aviation skills contributing to the Skills section of his Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is an enriching program in which young people aged 14 to 24 years participate in a number of activities over a set length of time to qualify for the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. Each level is progressively more challenging.

The Award was founded in 1956 by HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, who died on 9 April last year, two months before his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Award now operates in more than 130 countries and territories across the globe, helping young people become committed, responsible and fulfilled citizens of the world. To become World Ready. At present, there are 23,000 Australians undertaking the award. Over 775,000 young Australians have participated in the Award since its inception in Australia in 1959.

Of particular note, the AAFC is a recognised Award Unit, and Cadets are permitted to wear the insignia of their highest achieved level on their Service Dress uniform (adult staff may wear the insignia of the Gold Award if held).



For more information, Cadets should contact their Squadron Coordinator or Wing Manager.

Further information on the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award can be found here:

http://www.aafc.org.au/what-we-do/duke-of-edinburgh-award/

Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul A Rosenzweig OAM Public Affairs & Communication Officer Aviation Operations Wing || Australian Air Force Cadets

PACO-AOW 078/21 8 November 2021



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LCDT Angus Young prepares for his first solo flight at Warwick Airfield on Gliding Course 2/21 in July 2021. Image by Group Captain John Young.

# FIRST SOLO

#### **Part 4: Leading Cadet Angus Young**

Leading Cadet Angus Young of No 203 Squadron (Anglican Church Grammar School, East Brisbane) also had the opportunity to fly his first solo flight during Warwick Flight's 2/21 Gliding Course in July last year.

LCDT Young is a Silver Award participant in the Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards, with his efforts to improve his aviation skills contributing to the Skills section of his Award.

LCDT Young can be seen completing his first solo flight here:

https://www.facebook.com/GTSAAFC/videos/505689687177056/

LCDT Young spoke to the Public Affairs Officer of Aviation Operations Wing, Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig about his AAFC career to date and his impressions of flying solo.



LCDT Angus Young prepares for his first solo flight at Warwick Airfield on Gliding Course 2/21 in July 2021. Image by Group Captain John Young.

#### Why did you join the AAFC?

I joined the AAFC to fulfil the requirements of the Anglican Church Grammar School's Service Program and because of my familial connections to the Air Force. But most importantly, I joined to progress my lifelong desire to join the Royal Australian Air Force as a pilot.

#### Do you have an ancestor who served in the RAAF or military forces?

There is a long Service history on my father's side of the family. My father is an Air Force pilot who has been serving for over 32 years. My grandfather served in the RAAF as a technician and Flight Engineer for 20 years, and two of my great-grandfathers served in the Navy – one in the Royal Australian Navy and the other in the Royal Navy.

#### What was your first ever experience of flying?

The first flight I remember was with my father in a Cessna 150 from Jandakot to RAAF Base Pearce when I was eight years old.

Fortunately, due to my father's occupation, I have been immersed in aviation my whole life. Whether it was being photographed as a baby in a Hawk-127 as part of the 'Western Force meets the Air Force' promotion or helping dad with cadet activities at RAAF Base Pearce whilst still in primary school, I have been involved in flying and flying related activities for as long as I remember.

#### What is your best memory of cadets?

My best memory from cadets was when I landed after my first solo flight. It was a surreal and proud moment which captured all that is good, and achievable, within the cadets.

#### What was your experience of flying a glider?

Flying in a glider is unlike any experience I have ever had. The feeling of lightness and peace; high above the worries of school and work. The sense of control and connection to the glider; as in, you are constantly in the moment, judging weather conditions, reacting to thermals, and actively engaging in the surroundings.

# What was your experience of flying solo?

These feelings were amplified when going solo. When you sit in the cockpit, ready to take-off, and you realise it is just you this time. Your life is in your own hands. Everyone on the ground can wish you luck, but in the end, it is just you and the skills and judgement you have learned, which is going to get the glider safely back to the airfield.

As the tug fires to life, the connection between you and the glider only grows to become a sort of symbiotic relationship. Without the weight of an instructor, the glider feels more alive, light, and responsive. The nerves fade away as the glider begins to move and you instinctively revert to your training.

The landing, on which so much rides, is both exciting and scary. There are no second chances with gliding, but that doesn't matter because by then, the connection between you and the glider is to the point you don't even need to think; you just do.

You only get one chance to judge the conditions, and make decisions, so that you fly a circuit which sees you land back at the airfield.

It's a great feeling when the trust that has been placed in you culminates with a safe landing in front of the crowd of instructors and other cadets. An invisible weight lifts from your shoulders, and you allow yourself to relax and enjoy this very special milestone.

# What has the AAFC taught you most?

The AAFC has taught me that dreams are achievable, and reinforced the importance of applying and extending yourself, and always giving 100% effort in all that you attempt.

# What would you tell a new recruit joining today?

We are given great opportunities, with passionate and experienced staff and instructors, to push our boundaries, to learn, and to shape our futures. Also, get to know your senior cadets. They are a great source of knowledge, so don't be afraid to approach them to ask questions, or to discuss their experiences.



Leading Cadet Angus Young completes his first solo flight at Warwick Airfield.





Leading Cadet Angus Young is congratulated by his father Group Captain John Young after completing his first solo flight at Warwick Airfield during Warwick Glider Training Flight's 2/21 Gliding Course.

# How would you summarise the excitement of glider flying?

Although first solo flights aren't usually too long, they are fulfilling. The sense of responsibility and pride; to be recognised and rewarded for hours of training and work by your instructors is phenomenal.

I was fortunate enough to be surrounded by friends and family through the experience. When I got out of the glider and saw my friends running over to me to congratulate me, the feeling I had at that moment was beyond compare.

Gliding is seen as a solitary sport; however I have learned, from my experience, that the bonds you make with friends, instructors, and the glider, will change your life and be part of you forever.

Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul A Rosenzweig OAM Public Affairs & Communication Officer Aviation Operations Wing || Australian Air Force Cadets

PACO-AOW 079/21 8 November 2021



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*Flying trainee Cadet Corporal Tristan Hahn from No 605 (City of Onkaparinga) Squadron (in the pilot's seat) practices his aviation skills on the AP-3C Advanced Flight Simulator.* 

#### GLIDING COURSE 2/21: Balaklava Glider Training Flight, GTS

# Balaklava Glider Training Flight conducted its 2/21 Gliding Course at Balaklava Airfield during the September holidays last year.

The trainees were Cadets who had previously completed an Aviation Theory Training Course, plus a refresher weekend held following an operational pause and a series of lockdowns. Some had flown an instructional Pilot Experience (PEX) flight, but for most this gliding course was their first chance to put their theoretical knowledge into practice.

In addition to developing their flying skills in a DG1000S glider, the Cadets were given other opportunities to develop their skills.

Balaklava Flight has two Part-Task Trainers, giving the Cadets developmental opportunities under the supervision of a qualified instructor while waiting for their chance to fly.

In addition, the Cadets were introduced to Maritime Surveillance Aircraft with a chance to 'fly' the AP-3C Orion Advanced Flight Simulator, and a tour of the Boeing P-8 Poseidon simulator facility at RAAF Edinburgh.

The Flight Commander of Balaklava Flight, Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Ian Wright said, "The feedback from the cadets was extremely positive and they all really enjoyed the experience".

"I believe that allowing Air Force Cadets to have access to the facilities of the frontline Air Force ensures our cadets are experiencing an important pathway within the Australian aviation industry".

Opportunities such as these inspire and develop our Cadets in an air and space environment to achieve and maximise their potential to contribute to Australia's future success.

# Inspire Cadets through flying experiences

Thanks to considerable support from Air Force, the AAFC aviation program enables Cadets to have a positive, educational experience designed to inspire their interest in the aerospace industry.

The goal of the AAFC flying training program is to give Cadets exposure to, and inspire their interest in, the aerospace industry through education in theoretical and practical skills of aircraft handling, aircraft engineering and flight operations.

AAFC gliding activities are conducted by the Gliding Training School (GTS), which has the mission of delivering flying pathways to Cadets through glider flying experiences and training.

Further information on gliding opportunities may be found on the new AAFC website:

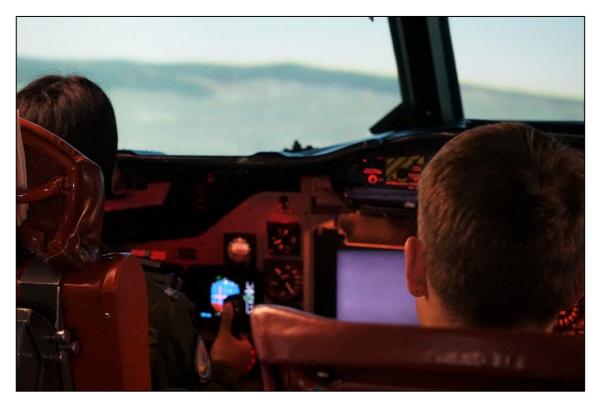
https://www.airforcecadets.gov.au/what-we-do/training/aviation-experiences/gliding

Flying Instructors, Cadet Aviation Experience Pilots (powered) and Air Experience Instructors (gliding) are needed to allow the AAFC to continue teaching the aerospace industry's next generation. For more information please contact Aviation Operations Wing:

pilotrecruiting@airforcecadets.gov.au



Cadet Sergeant Riona George is a participant in the Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards, and her efforts to improve her skills in aviation are contributing to the Skills section of her Gold Award.



CSGT George (left) practices her flying skills on the AP-3C Advanced Flight Simulator.

Two of the trainees, Cadet Sergeant Riona George and Cadet Sergeant Kshitij Sapdhare (since promoted to Cadet Flight Sergeant) from No 604 Squadron, were participants in the Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards. Their efforts to improve their skills in aviation are contributing to the completion of the prestigious Gold Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is an enriching program in which young people around the world participate in a number of activities and non-formal education over a set length of time to qualify for the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. Each level is progressively more challenging.

The Award was founded in 1956 by HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, who died on 9 April 2021, two months before his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Award now operates in more than 130 countries and territories across the globe, helping 14 to 24 year olds to become committed, responsible and fulfilled citizens of the world. To become World Ready. Further information on the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award can be found on the new AAFC website:

https://www.airforcecadets.gov.au/what-we-do/activities/duke-of-edinburgh

Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul A Rosenzweig OAM Public Affairs & Communication Officer Aviation Operations Wing || Australian Air Force Cadets

PACO-AOW 091/21 8 November 2021



Balaklava Glider Training Flight is a unit of the Gliding Training School (GTS), which is a subordinate unit of the AAFC's Aviation Operations Wing (AOW). GTS delivers flying pathways through gliding experiences and training using the AAFC's fleet of DG1000S gliders.



Cadet Sergeant Kshitij Sapdhare has completed the Bronze and Silver levels of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards, and this skills development course was counted as the Residential Project for his Gold Award. He has since been promoted to Cadet Flight Sergeant.



CSGT Sapdhare (left) practices his flying skills on the AP-3C Advanced Flight Simulator.



During Warwick Glider Training Flight's 3/21 Gliding Course, five trainees had the opportunity to fly their first solo flight in the DG1000S glider.

#### **GLIDING COURSE 3/21:**

#### **Warwick Glider Training Flight, GTS**

The Flight Commander of Warwick Glider Training Flight, Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Brie Russell, has reported that the Flight conducted another successful Gliding Course at Warwick Airfield during the September-October holidays last year.

A highlight was that five of the continuation trainees from No 2 Wing (South Queensland) had the opportunity to fly their first solo flight in the DG1000S glider.

Congratulations to Cadet Warrant Officer Hayden Emms, Cadet Corporal Will Halter, Leading Cadets Isaac Gibson and Jaydn Mereszko, and Corporal (AAFC) Tristan Solway!

One of the new solo pilots was Leading Cadet Jaydn Mereszko from No 222 Squadron at Upper Coomera in Queensland, who achieved his first solo flight on 2 October. This was just his second flying course, with no prior flying experience.



Cadet Corporal Will Halter from No 207 Squadron (Nambour, Queensland) flew his first solo glider flight at Warwick Airfield on 28 September 2021.

LCDT Mereszko spoke to the Public Affairs Officer of Aviation Operations Wing, Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig about his impressions of flying solo.

It doesn't take too long to build your skills and fly by yourself, proven by myself and many others before.

Flying a glider is easy, it is very fun, you have freedom, and the only thing you hear is the sound of the air rushing through the vents into the glider.

Although it is easy, it can also be quite challenging, but that's part of the fun!

Before take-off on my first solo I was very nervous, but as soon as I started rolling for take-off, I knew I had it in the bag.

You will never forget your first solo.

It is a moment that you will remember for life, and the smile on your face after you touchdown (assuming it was a smooth landing) will be remembered by you and many others.



Cadet Warrant Officer Hayden Emms, Cadet Squadron Warrant Officer of No 210 Squadron (Toowoomba, Queensland) flew his first solo glider flight at Warwick Airfield on 2 October 2021.



Leading Cadet Isaac Gibson from No 222 Squadron (Upper Coomera, Queensland) flew his first solo glider flight at Warwick Airfield on 2 October 2021.



Leading Cadet Jaydn Mereszko from No 222 Squadron (Upper Coomera, Queensland) flew his first solo glider flight at Warwick Airfield on 2 October 2021.



Corporal (AAFC) Tristan Solway, Deputy Flight Commander of Warwick Glider Training Flight, flew his first solo glider flight at Warwick Airfield on 3 October 2021.

Warwick Glider Training Flight is one of three units of the Gliding Training School which delivers flying pathways to Cadets through gliding experiences and training using the AAFC's fleet of DG1000S gliders.

AAFC gliding activities are conducted by the Gliding Training School (GTS), which has the mission of delivering flying pathways to Cadets through glider flying experiences and training.

Further information on gliding opportunities may be found on the new AAFC website:

https://www.airforcecadets.gov.au/what-we-do/training/aviation-experiences/gliding

Flying Instructors, Cadet Aviation Experience Pilots (powered) and Air Experience Instructors (gliding) are needed to allow the AAFC to continue teaching the aerospace industry's next generation.

For more information please contact Aviation Operations Wing:

pilotrecruiting@airforcecadets.gov.au

Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul A Rosenzweig OAM Public Affairs & Communication Officer Aviation Operations Wing || Australian Air Force Cadets

PACO-AOW 093/21 8 November 2021



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FLTLT(AAFC) Kevin Lewis (left) receives the Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal seventh clasp (and third Federation Star) from the Commander of the AAFC Group Captain (AAFC) Mark Dorward, acknowledging a total of 50 years' service. Image by LAC(AAFC) Josh Watson.

#### **STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS: Balaklava Glider Training Flight, GTS**

Despite lockdowns and operational pauses, 2021 was still a big year for several staff of Balaklava Glider Training Flight, who were recognised for their commitment to the AAFC, and elsewhere.

Corporal (AAFC) Phyll Martin has been awarded the Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal, recognising 15 years' service. Phyll joined the South Australian Division of the Air Training Corps in 1993, and became a uniformed member in 2003. She first served with No 13 Flight at Penfield, which later became No 613 Flight and then No 613 Squadron of the AAFC.

She has also served with the succession of flying training units based at RAAF Edinburgh – first 607 Flight, then No 600 Squadron (Aviation Training) and No 906 (Aviation Training) Squadron, which has now become Balaklava Glider Training Flight.



CPL(AAFC) Phyll Martin receives the Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal from the Flight Commander of Balaklava Glider Training Flight, FLTLT(AAFC) Ian Wright, assisted by WOFF(AAFC) Steve Shuck CSC, Chief Flying Instructor–Gliding, Tuesday 30 November 2021. Image by FLTLT (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig.

Phyll says that her greatest satisfaction has been, "Helping and watching Cadets strive for targets and seeing them achieve their goals, especially in flying".

The Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal is awarded to Officers and Instructors of Cadets who have, on or after 14 February 1975, completed 15 years' qualifying service.

Clasps are awarded for additional 5 year periods of qualifying service. When just the service ribbon is worn, the award of a clasp is denoted by a round cupro-nickel rosette.

Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Neil Martin has been awarded the first clasp to the Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal, recognising a total of 20 years' service.

Neil joined in 1992, also serving with No 13 Flight at Penfield (subsequently No 613 Flight, and then No 613 Squadron at RAAF Edinburgh). He became a uniformed member in 1997 – he recalls that his first uniforms were Olive Greens and Service Dress.



At Balaklava Flight on Tuesday 30 November 2021, FLTLT(AAFC) Neil Martin was presented with the first clasp to his Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal by the Flight Commander FLTLT(AAFC) Ian Wright, assisted by WOFF(AAFC) Steve Shuck CSC. Image by FLTLT (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig.

Early on in their careers, Neil and Phyll both lobbied heavily for female chaperones for female cadets on activities.

With a keen interest in aviation, Neil also served with the succession of flying training units based at RAAF Edinburgh – 607 Flight, then No 600 Squadron (Aviation Training), No 906 (Aviation Training) Squadron, and now Balaklava Glider Training Flight.

Neil has held a wide variety of roles, including Squadron and Wing Headquarters positions. He enjoys supporting gliding courses and PEX weekends, and instructing in aircraft recognition and fieldcraft. Neil says that his greatest satisfaction has been, "*helping young people 'get a life', and seeing cadets develop into Defence personnel*".

Neil's first flight was in 1956, in a Taylorcraft Auster III high-wing monoplane Air Observation Post (AOP) aircraft. Phyll's first flight was in a Lockheed L-1049 Super Constellation in 1960.

At the 6 Wing conference last year, the Commander of the AAFC Group Captain (AAFC) Mark Dorward presented Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Kevin Lewis with the *seventh* clasp to the Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal.

In an award ceremony held at Balaklava Glider Training Flight on Tuesday 30 November 2021, FLTLT(AAFC) Lewis was again presented with the clasp in front of his colleagues in aviation, by the Flight Commander FLTLT(AAFC) Ian Wright assisted by the Chief Flying Instructor–Gliding of Balaklava Flight, WOFF(AAFC) Steve Shuck CSC.

As a member of a Service family, subject to frequent postings, Kevin attended various schools. This resulted, while in the UK, in his being enrolled at different times in the Army Cadets, the Air Force Cadets and the Air Training Corps during the years up to 1956.

In 1957, Kevin joined the Air Ministry Meteorological Office as a Meteorological Assistant, and spent two years on Ocean Weather Ships in the North Atlantic.

In January 1960 he was seconded to the RAF as an Air Meteorology Observer with No 202 Maritime Reconnaissance Squadron based at RAF Aldergrove in Northern Ireland.

For the next four and a half years he flew as a Sergeant in the co-pilot's seat of Hastings aircraft, with a crew of eight, on 10-hour missions over the North Atlantic between 200 feet and 20,000 feet.

Kevin recalled: "We were always sent to areas where the forecasters had little other information, so things occasionally became quite hairy".

Kevin is most likely the only person in the world still wearing the 'M' flying brevet on his uniform.

On leaving the RAF in 1964, Kevin emigrated with his family to Australia, and they arrived in Adelaide in October 1965. Early the following year he was accepted into the Citizens Air Force (CAF) as a Sergeant Instructor with the then Air Training Corps (ATC) at the Air Force Centre in Barton Terrace, North Adelaide.

This historic building, now demolished, had been Queen's College where Sir Ross and Keith Smith were educated. For this service he was later awarded the Australian Defence Medal.



*FLTLT(AAFC)* Kevin Lewis receives the seventh clasp to his Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal in the presence of his aviation colleagues at Balaklava Glider Training Flight from FLTLT(AAFC) Ian Wright, assisted by WOFF(AAFC) Steve Shuck CSC. Image by FLTLT (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig.

Kevin was appointed Pilot Officer in 1967, and Flying Officer in 1968. He briefly served with No 8 Flight ATC in Victoria, before returning to Adelaide and becoming Flight Commander of No 10 Squadron at Warradale.

Kevin served with several squadrons until 1978 when he was appointed Community Involvement Officer with the rank of Squadron Leader, responsible for publicity and fundraising, a post he held for some 4 years.

During this time, No 7 Flight was formed as a specialist aviation training unit using the facilities of the Adelaide Soaring Club at Gawler airfield.

In 1982, Kevin began training Cadets on glider experience flights in a borrowed Falke SF35C motor glider. This was purchased by 7 Flight in 1986 with the support of the SA Branch of the RAAF Association, and remained in service with 6 Wing together with a Grob 109 motor glider, also sponsored by the RAAF Association, until its sale in around 2010.



Emblems of a lifetime of service: Air Training Corps pilot's wings; the 'M' flying brevet of an Air Meteorology Observer and service ribbons including the Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal with three Federation Stars; and the seven-clasp Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal of FLTLT(AAFC) Kevin Lewis.

The Grob was finally sold in 2016 following the introduction of Air Force gliders. Kevin was responsible for the maintenance of both these aircraft throughout most of their period of operation.

In the mid-1990s, Kevin was again appointed Community Involvement Officer. He also became very involved with the International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE) program, attending annual meetings in both Vienna and Oslo, and escorting groups of cadets to Singapore, Hong Kong and New Zealand.

Kevin retired after reaching Compulsory Retirement Age in 2004, but re-joined No 6 Wing in 2006 to continue the maintenance of the 607 Flight aircraft.

After these aircraft were sold, he continued serving with 607 Flight through its evolution to the present designation of Balaklava Glider Training Flight. Kevin has held appointments as Unit Aviation Safety Officer and Unit Safety Advisor, and has also provided service to aviation training in No 6 Wing as a tug pilot.

On the suspension ribbon of his Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal, FLTLT(AAFC) Lewis now wears seven clasps.

But instead of wearing seven rosettes on the service ribbon, a cupro-nickel Federation Star is worn instead to represent the first five clasps, and an additional Federation Star is worn to represent each successive clasp. Congratulations FLTLT(AAFC) Lewis, who now wears the ribbon of the Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal with three Federation Stars.



SQNLDR(AAFC) Dennis Medlow, joint recipient of the 2021 GFA Hoinville Award for Services to Operations. Image by FLTLT (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig.

# **STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS:**

# **Aviation Operations Wing, AAFC**

Congratulations to Squadron Leader (AAFC) Dennis Medlow who, for his contribution to Gliding Australia, has been jointly awarded the Hoinville Award for Services to Operations.

The Gliding Federation of Australia has a number of awards that may be presented to members who have made an excellent contribution to the development of the sport. One of these is the Hoinville Award, presented to individuals that have provided services to GFA Operations – the training and operation of gliders in Australia.

The Gliding Australia Awards and some sporting trophies are presented at the annual Gliding Australia AGM. In 2021, Gliding Australia decided to jointly bestow the Hoinville Award upon members of the GFA Integrated Training Development Panel that had been instrumental in revamping and improving the entire GFA operations and coaching training system.



*Then PLTOFF (AAFC) Dennis Medlow with his first GFA Hoinville Award, jointly awarded in 2017 for services to operations. Image by FLTLT (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig.* 

This work involved moving the 44-module GFA syllabus to a competency-based structure – an activity which had originally been commenced by the AAFC – as well as writing trainer and pilots' guides, and developing theory lessons, training videos and trainer aids.

Dennis Medlow was a key member of this operations training development team, being personally responsible for developing several modules, training videos and theory lessons, as well as developing material on the transition to the new system.

# Frederick Douglas Hoinville (1907-1959)

Fred Hoinville was a well-known glider pilot who set a number of records in Australia before his untimely death in a glider crash at Goulburn, NSW on 18 April 1959.

Fred was born on 26 October 1907 at Kent Town in Adelaide – a fourth-generation Australian through his mother, and of French Huguenot descent through his paternal ancestry. He was unable to serve with the RAAF during World War 2, due to a perforated eardrum.

As an adult, Fred's preferred sport was surfboard riding until at age 35 he learnt to fly, and in 1948 he gained his commercial pilot's licence. He was founder of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots' Association, founding member of the Hinkler Soaring Club (1946), and foundation secretary of the Gliding Federation of Australia (1949).

Fred became an aerobatic expert and stunt flier, Australia's first commercial skywriter (in 1952), and a glider pilot of world standing. He wrote articles and stories on flying subjects, encouraged amateur fliers, and contributed observations of value to meteorologists.

Fred's autobiography *Halfway to Heaven* (Sydney, 1960) was published posthumously. A detailed biography was published by the National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* (Volume 14, 1996), which was made available online in 2006:

https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/hoinville-frederick-douglas-10518

# The Hoinville Award

The Gliding Federation of Australia honoured Fred Hoinville by naming the annual Hoinville Award for 'Outstanding service to gliding – Operations' in his memory.

This is the second time SQNLDR(AAFC) Medlow has received this prestigious award. The first award was made (jointly) in 2017 for his work on the creation of the Glider Pilot Record Book, a precursor to the current training system redevelopment.

In his volunteer work with the AAFC, SQNLDR (AAFC) Medlow is the Head of Operations – Gliding (HOO-G) for Aviation Operations Wing. He is also an aviation theory instructor with No 604 Squadron at Hampstead Barracks, SA, and a Level 2 gliding instructor with Balaklava Glider Training Flight.

SQNLDR(AAFC) Medlow said, "It's fantastic that the GFA recognised the significant effort put in by many people on the new Training System, a development that will greatly assist future pilot training and development. However it's just a good start – there's still plenty of scope for more work over the next 12 months".



The Hoinville Award is presented by the Gliding Federation of Australia to individuals that have provided services to GFA Operations. Dennis Medlow has twice received the award – in 2017 and 2021. Image by FLTLT (AAFC) Paul Rosenzweig.

Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Paul A Rosenzweig OAM Public Affairs & Communication Officer Aviation Operations Wing || Australian Air Force Cadets

PACO-AOW 094/21 8 November 2021



The Mission of Aviation Operations Wing is to inspire and develop young people in an air and space environment to achieve and maximise their potential to contribute to Australia's future success. AOW does this by delivering flying pathways to Cadets through glider and powered aircraft flying experiences and training.

# **Staff Changes**

## INCOMING + OUTGOING // OC HANDOVER, 7WING WA

On the 1st October 2021, Wing Commander (AAFC) Rob Caldera handed over command of No. 7Wing Australian Air Force Cadets (WA) to incoming Officer Commanding No. 7Wing, Wing Commander (AAFC) Damian Lambert.

Wing Commander (AAFC) Damian Lambert joined the Air Training Corps in 1988 as a Cadet and progressed through the ranks to Cadet Under Officer. In 1994 he returned as an Instructor of Cadets and later served as the Wing Warrant Officer. He then went on to become an Officer of Cadets and Commanding Officer of 721 (City of Wanneroo) Squadron and later, Staff Officer Management Services, before serving as Wing Executive Officer for the past 6 years.

On behalf of our members in the **Australian Air Force Cadets** we wish Wing Commander (AAFC) Damian Lambert all the best in his new position and would like to thank Wing Commander (AAFC) Rob Caldera for his 5 years of dedicated service as our Officer Commanding No. 7Wing.



# Quiz

Well done chaps, we have three great submissions from Rob Nieuwenhoven, Warren Bishop and Peter Boughen. Rob has been a great supporter of the quiz and it was great to see submissions from Bish and Peter Boughen. All of our readers are most welcome to enter or to submit some of your photographic collection for future challenges.

November 2021 suggested answers



Rob Nieuwenhoven - F-111G(?) delivery to the RAAF Museum at RAAF Williams - Point Cook (C-130A in the background.

Warren Bishop - Pilot to Nav, where are you taking us: RAAF Museum Point Cook. Peter Boughen - I told you that Mach 1.8 and high 'G' wouldn't work (or "The last aircraft Gordon French had a fly of....")



Rob - RAAF Point Cook (Williams)

Bish - Overshot to where? RAAF Point Cook. That pier is no longer there and the facility is the old RAAF School of Languages. OTS prior to that. I did my course there. Peter - RAAF Point Cook looking in the direction of the overshoot from Runway 17 into Port Phillip Bay with the water rescue boat wharf in view...



Rob - Aircraft:

- a. Meteor Mk8 x 2
- b. Vampire T.33
- c. CAC Sabre Mk 30 x 2
- d. GAF Canberra x 2

Bish - Meteor, Vampire, 2x Sabres, another Meteor and 2x Canberras. RAAF Laverton, probably ARDU.

Peter - Meteor, Vampire, Sabre, Sabre, Meteor, Canberra (with a second Canberra parked alongside). No idea on the location.....



Rob - DH Vampire fighters starting their engines (RR Nenes?) with a cartridge start Bish - RAN Sea Venoms doing a mass start with cartridges. (I think you will find them to be Kiwi)

Peter - Meteor engine start using explosive cartridges (as best I can tell as the photo is low resolution) Sea Venoms Peter.

1.



Rob - DHC1 Chipmunks Bish - Memories of the Flying Scholarship course. Chipmunk. Peter - The venerable Chipmunk



Rob - Blanik glider (Sorry Rob Chipmunk again) Bish - And the student's view after a sortie of Spinning. Chipmunk floor and Rudder bar. Peter - The photo is faulty. There is no evidence of the student's previous meal.....



Rob - HS748 Bish - Well, the Queen of the Sky, of course. The mighty HS748. Peter - HS748



Rob - RAAF Laverton (now part of Williams and minus the airfield) Bish - RAAF Laverton Peter - What is a parade?



Rob - MB326H at Laverton Bish - 2OCU Macchi at RAAF Laverton Peter - Maccherscmitt. Maybe Greenland? I understand they have buildings of that colour there?



Rob = Wallaby Airlines, correct 35 Squadron Bish - Wallaby Airlines of 35SQN. C-27J Spartan Peter - Wallaby airlines

# **Quiz February**



1. Safety, what Safety Issues can you see?



2. Aircraft type?



3. Cockpit from?



4. Aircraft and Engine?



5. Aircraft?

ALUMNI magazine



Location? Aircraft types?
 7.



8. Aircraft Type?



9. How is your eye for detail? What markings are incorrect?



10. What is this?



11. Aircraft Type?



To help you with Question 10.



Click here to listen

## Feedback

Hi John,

Thank you for the welcome.

My background with the cadets started in 1967 at 5 FLT NSW. I stayed with this group rising to the level of Cadet Warrant Officer and being one of the few who was awarded a flying scholarship, which in those days took you through to your unrestricted private pilot's licence.

I then joined the RAAF Academy graduating in 1976 with a BSc and Graduate Diploma in Military Aviation (Grad DipMilAv) and being a member of 101 Pilot's course. I graduated and was posted to 9 Sqn (UH-1H) then SAR FLT Butterworth, Instructor's course on Macchis (A2 IRE) at Pearce, a short stint at CFS East Sale instructing and then FLTCDR in the final years of the RAAF Academy at Point Cook. I was then posted to 5SQN as an instructor on Hueys and Squirrels before the powers that be decided that the RAAF no longer had an interest in helicopters. I chose to resign and join QANTAS flying 747s of all variants for the next 26 years the final 15 as Captain.

The Air Training Corps provided a starting point to my flying career to which I very much in debt. It is a privilege to be part of such an organisation.

With the right attitude and application, today's cadets can also achieve any goals they set for themselves.

Kind Regards

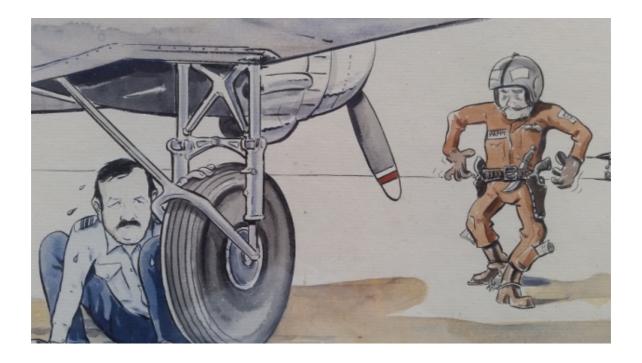
Rob Kerby

Thanks John. FYI: I was a cadet in 19Flt from 1959 to 1962, from AC to CUO. 19Flt paraded initially at Perry Park (Brisbane) an eventually at Alice Street. I joined the RAAF Reserve (attached to the ATC) in December 1962 as an Instructor with 19Flt. In 1963(?) I was transferred to 18Flt Sherwood as Admin/Instructor. Promoted through the ranks to eventually FLGOFF in April 1969. In 1973, I was transferred to Townsville (NQ) by my employer (NCR). I attempted to transfer to NQ Sqn, without success. I remained in the Reserve until eventually the RAAF forgot about me.

I have remained a close friend of Howard Tidd. He now lives in Buderim, where we maintain the "Bundy Rum Tradition" on a regular basis.

Regards, Ros Bertwistle (aka TOF)

Please feel free to send through any feedback or suggestions you may have to us at <u>AlumniDirector@aircadetsalumni.org.au</u>



# Keep in Touch // 2022 + Beyond

Many of you are reading this Newsletter after logging on to our Alumni Web Site. You can come and join us, at no cost. Thanks to our friends at the AAFC for running our advertisement.

Are you leaving the Australian Air Force Cadets? You can keep in touch with mates through our network website & social pages. It's also a great opportunity to contribute your experience and ideas to help the Air Force Cadets of tomorrow.

Current and past staff are also welcome! Stay connected via the <u>Australian Air Cadets Alumni</u> <u>Network</u>.

www.aircadetsalumni.org.au #airforcecadets

# Leaving the AAFC? Stay connected...

The AAFC thanks the Australian Air Cadets Alumni Network for their support in this important 75th Anniversary year of the Cadets. In particular, it was the Air Cadets Alumni Network that created the commemorative 75th anniversary pin for presentation all staff and cadets who age expire in this milestone year.

The *Air Cadets Alumni Network* was also instrumental in the production of the official history of the journey of the Air Cadets Organisations so far.

These are just two of the worthwhile initiatives they have undertaken. And there is more to come in the years ahead. When your time as a cadet comes to an end you can stay connected though the *Air Cadets Alumni Network*.

You can keep in touch with mates through our Network website and facebook pages and also receive an *e-magazine* with news and other interesting stuff about cadet life. You will also

have the opportunity to contribute your experience and ideas to help the air cadets of tomorrow.

Current and past Staff members are also welcome to join the Network

Joining the Network is easy and, most importantly, IT'S FREE.

Just visit our website <u>http://www.aircadetsalumni.org.au</u> and look for the **Register Link** under the **Network Information tab.** 



# **Of Interest**

# **Hornet Farewell**



https://youtu.be/Rhe1UH\_Pa5U

India's PM Modi to be enrolled 1st member of NCC Alumni Association ...

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was a former NCC cadet.



#### Read more at:

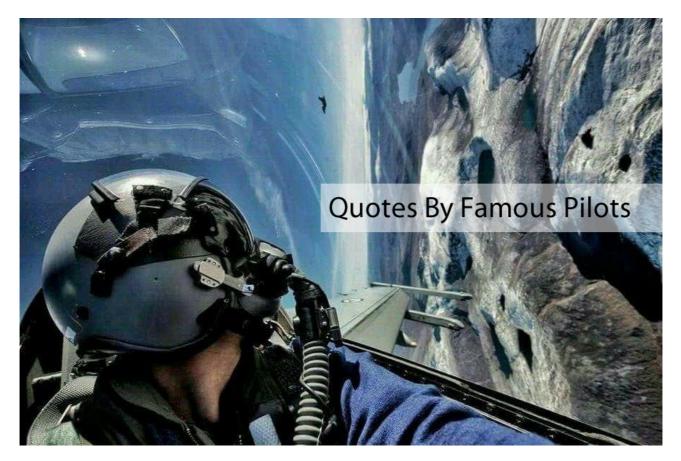
http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/87773882.cms?utm\_source=contentofinterest&utm\_me dium=text&utm\_campaign=cppst



# **Ex USAF F5 being evaluated by Russian pilots against Mig 21 ex Vietnam F5**

https://theaviationgeekclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Soviet-F-5E.jpg

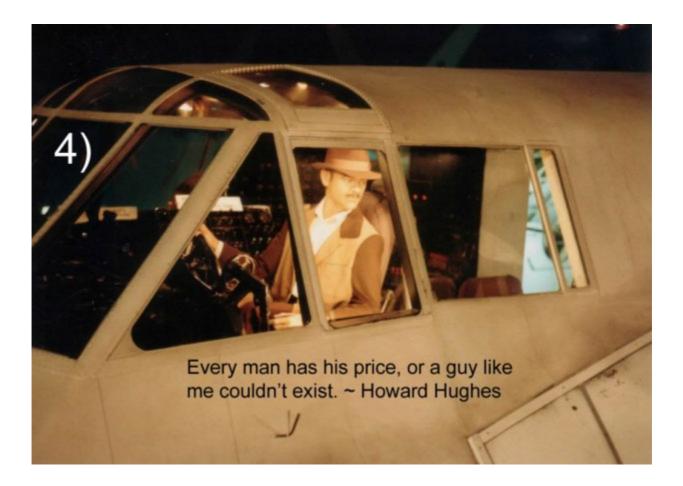
# Quotes by Famous Pilots that will Awe and Inspire You



1 The most effective way to do it, is to do it. ~ Amelia Earhart

2 The air is the only place free from prejudice. ~ Bessie Coleman

3 Of course, with the increasing number of aeroplanes one gains increased opportunities for shooting down one's enemies, but at the same time, the possibility of being shot down one's self increases. ~ Manfred von Richthofen a.k.a Red Baron



5 In combat flying, fancy precision aerobatic work is really not of much use. Instead, it is the rough maneuver which succeeds. ~ Erich Hartmann

6 Each generation of pilots hopes that they will leave their profession better off than they found it.  $\sim$ Chesley Sullenberger

7 The time for action is now. It's never too late to do something. ~ Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

8 Bravery comes along as a gradual accumulation of discipline  $\sim$  Buzz Aldrin

9 Fighter pilot is an attitude. It is cockiness. It is aggressiveness. It is self-confidence. It is a streak of rebelliousness, and it is competitiveness. But there's something else – there's a spark. There's a desire to be good. To do well; in the eyes of your peers, and in your own mind. ~ Robin Olds

10 The most important thing in life is to be free to do things. There are only two ways to insure that freedom — you can be rich or you can you reduce your needs to zero. ~ John Boyd

11 Never fly straight and level for more than 30 seconds in the combat area. ~ Adolph Malan

12 You don't concentrate on risks. You concentrate on results. No risk is too great to prevent the necessary job from getting done. ~ Charles Elwood "Chuck" Yeager

13 The desire to fly is an idea handed down to us by our ancestors who, in their grueling travels across trackless lands in prehistoric times, looked enviously on the birds soaring freely through. ~
Orville Wright

14 The fact that the great scientist believed in flying machines was the one thing that encouraged us to begin our studies. ~ Wilbur Wright

15 Everything I had ever learned about air fighting taught me that the man who is aggressive, who pushes a fight, is the pilot who is successful in combat and who has the best opportunity for surviving battle and coming home. ~ Robert S. Johnson

16 The good thing about flying solo is it's never boring. ~ Steve Fossett

17 I'm proud that I was able to start with nothing, plan it, and have it work as perfectly as it did... I sleep clearly every night. ~ Paul Tibbets

18 I could have gone on flying through space forever. ~ Yuri Gagarin

19 Death is the handmaiden of the pilot. Sometimes it comes by accident, sometimes by an act ofGod. ~ Albert Scott Crossfield

20 If you're faced with a forced landing, fly the thing as far into the crash as possible.  $\sim$  Bob Hoover



22) The first lesson is that you can't lose a war if you have command of the air, and you can't win a war if you haven't. ~ Jimmy Doolittle

23 In the case of pilots, it is a little touch of madness that drive us to go beyond all known bounds.

Any search into the unknown is an incomparable exploitation of oneself.  $\sim$  Jacqueline Auriol

24 There are times when you devote yourself to a higher cause than personal safety.  $\sim$  John Glenn

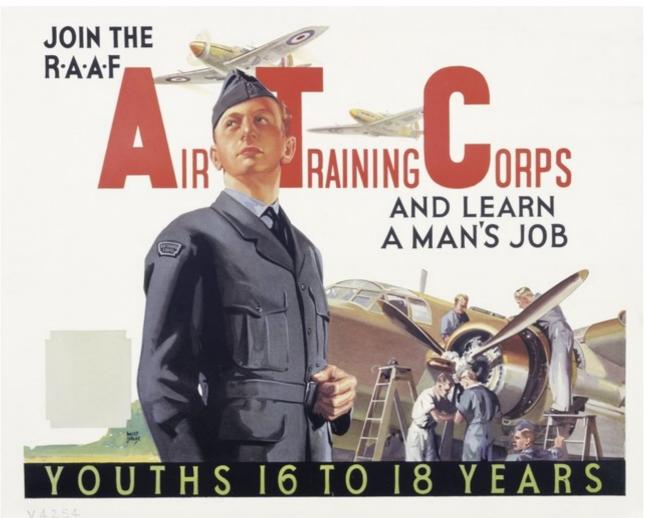
25 I have seen the science I worshiped, and the aircraft I loved, destroying the civilization I expected them to serve. ~ Charles Lindbergh

# Royal Australian Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) Australian Air Force Cadets Branch Newsletter Number 78

AAFC Newsletter No78.pdf

# Until May, Fly Safe





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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