



CADET NEWS

December

VOL 9, 2022



80TH ANNIVERSARY NATIONAL PARADE

It may have been delayed a year by the COVID-19 pandemic, but the Australian Air Force Cadets finally commemorated 80 years of youth development with a national parade at the Australian Defence Force Academy, Canberra on Sunday October 2, 2022.

Inspecting the parade was the Chief of Royal Australian Air Force, Air Marshal Robert Chipman with the Commander of the Australian Air Force Cadets, Group Captain (AAFC) Mark Dorward.

Approximately 140 members gathered from every State and Territory across Australia representing each of our eight Wings, with all eight banners displayed together for the first time since the 75th anniversary in Canberra in 2016. The fly past by a Royal Australian Air Force E-7A Wedgetail made it a day to remember.

OUR FAMILY



Cadets
6925



Instructors
1256



Volunteers
418



F-35A EXPERIENCE FOR NORTH QUEENSLAND CADETS

Cadets from 101SQN Townsville, 103SQN Ingham and 109SQN Burdekin, had the opportunity to see two F-35A Lightning II aircraft close-up. The F-35A Lightning II is a highly advanced multi-role, supersonic stealth fighter and at the forefront of air combat technology.

The aircraft were on their last day of their operations in Townsville and maintenance personnel from 77 SQN generously volunteered their time to allow our cadets to see the aircraft and answer questions.

They also had the opportunity to meet personnel from RAAF Townsville's 2nd Security Force, who had been tasked with securing the jets during their operations.



DGCADETS-AF UPDATE

In this update video, Director General Cadets - Air Force, Air Commodore Craig Heap, reflects on the year, highlights some great reasons to be a Cadet, or an Adult volunteer. He also outlines new initiatives, which are for continuing development and implementation next year.

[VIEW HERE](#)



DID YOU KNOW?

Nominations are now open to Cadets and Staff for the 2023 International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE) Inbound program.

Further information on the IACE programme (including eligibility criteria) is available on the AAFC intranet.



WELL DONE SIR!

The Commander of the AAFC, Group Captain (AAFC) Mark Dorward has handed over the leadership of the Australian Air Force Cadets to Group Captain (AAFC) Stephen Johns.

Chief of the Royal Australian Air Force, Air Marshal Robert Chipman, paid tribute to the Commander's contribution to the organisation and his years of dedicated service.

At the same ceremony, the incoming Commander of the AAFC was promoted from Wing Commander (AAFC) to Group Captain (AAFC).

"I have been continually humbled by the dedication and commitment of our people and it has been a privilege to be part of that" GPCAPT (AAFC) Dorward said. "I thank everyone at the AAFC, Air Force and the AAFC Foundation who supported me in the role, in particular my wife Dee and family who have supported and encouraged me on the journey."

LETS CONNECT



QUOTE of the day



"A leader is like a shepherd. He stays behind the flock, letting the most nimble go out ahead, whereupon the others follow, not realising that all along they are being directed from behind." Nelson Mandela

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