

# No.9 (CITY OF WANGANUI) SQUADRON AIR TRAINING CORPS

PO Box 560  
WANGANUI



## ***NEWSLETTER 043***

### **SQUADRON ORGANISATION**

At present the Squadron has 3 Commissioned Officers, 2 Under Officers and two civilian instructors assisting with the squadron's administration and training.

The squadron's current strength is 53 cadets, (39 males and 14 females).

### **FLYING**

We are very grateful to Flight Lieutenant Scott Williams from Ohakea who has been assisting us with some aviation lessons this year.

Scott, an ex-cadet moved from flying Orions to Pilot Training School at Ohakea, earlier this year

Scott organised to take 6 cadets flying in an RNZAF CT4 Airtrainer on Saturday 21 August.



*Flight Lieutenant Scott Williams and Flight Sergeant Micheal Campbell before take-off*

Our thanks go to Scott and his Commanding Officer who allowed the cadets to go flying and I know they all thoroughly enjoyed the once-in-a-lifetime experience

### **BATTLE OF BRITAIN**

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

We will assemble at St Peters Church in Koromiko Road, Gonville on Sunday 19 September at 1345 hours. At this service three members of the Squadron will be carrying the RNZAFA Colours down the aisle, and we will assist with the collection and at afternoon tea.

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

## ADVENTURE TRAINING

On Saturday 19 June, 17 Advanced and Proficiency cadets travelled to Palmerston North to experience scuba diving and rock climbing.

This is a different experience for the cadets but one where they learn some new skills and pushed some out of their comfort zones.



*Cpl Harry Seville receiving instruction before descending to the bottom of the pool .*



*Cadet Alex Fluery on one of the rock climbing walls.*

### COURSES

During these school holidays we have:

- Sergeant Blake Jones on the Air Force Experience
- Sergeant Tarryn Cleveland on the Senior Leaders Course in Auckland
- Cadets Alex Fluery and Andrew Hatcher on the Junior Leaders Course at RNZAF Base Ohakea.

### CHUCK GLIDERS

Over the past 2 terms, 3 and 4 Flight have been building chuck gliders. These will be test flown on a parade night during term 4.

### RNZAF RECRUITER

Warrant Officer Alison Russell, one of the RNZAF Recruiters, recently spoke to all of the cadets on a Parade night. Alison stayed on after her presentation and answered individual cadet's questions regarding careers within the RNZAF.

### ATC ASSOCIATION FEES

Nearly all have paid the family levy which assists your sons and daughters within the squadron. If you not certain if you have paid or not please contact Ian Bell on 343 7686 or myself.

## FRIENDS OF No.9 SQUADRON

We have recently re-activated the "Friends of No.9 Squadron" and have received a good response from those we have written to.

If you know of any ex-cadets of the Squadron who wish to maintain contact through the Newsletters, they can contact either myself or Tim Campbell ATC Association Chairperson. Alternatively, they can leave a message in the guest book on the web site, [www.9sqn.vze.com](http://www.9sqn.vze.com)

## OPERATION "ICEBREAKER II"

Over the weekend of 31 July/1 Aug, 3 staff and 6 NCO's walked into Whakapapaiti Hut on Mt Ruapehu.

After some ice axe training near the ski field we walked into the hut, set up the mountain radio and cut firewood. Due to snow falling we completed route guides for the Sunday walk out and enjoyed some healthy card competitions.

Sunday was very good weather for tramping and brushing up on map skills along the way.

An excellent exercise and we achieved several aims and objectives:

- The NCO's had the opportunity to check their clothing and equipment in a mountain environment and in all variations of weather
- Provided an opportunity for the NCO's to gain a small experience in snow
- We were able to develop some more skills with the Corporals before they have a group to lead in the bush
- Further develop teamwork within the NCO's



*The group on the ridge before descending to the hut*

## OPERATION "KANUKA"

The Basic Cadet's bushcraft exercise was held on Orangimea Station in the Waitotara Valley on 4/5 September. It was raining when we arrived at Orangimea and the staff discussed the training options. The 10 basic cadets, 5 NCO's and 4 staff walked into the camp site with our packs and left the tents behind and ropes used for building the confidence courses.

On arrival at the campsite the NCO's conducted bushcraft lecturettes and the two sections started to set up camp. By lunch time the weather had improved and while the cadets built traps and snares, a small group returned to the road to uplift the tents and ropes.



Late afternoon we showed the cadets how to use the Squadron made ration packs and after the evening meal a night infiltration exercise was held.

On the Sunday, we held discussions on clothing, carried out a small confidence course and leadership exercise, lunch, cleaned up and returned to Wanganui, where the tents were pitched in the garage and other equipment returned to the store.

A very good weekend and the cadets now have some basic grounding in bushcraft which they will expand upon and develop on future exercises.

*Sergeant Bryce Hackett, Cadet Steven Te Ohaere and Cadet Andrew Bell on their way out after enjoying the weekend exercise*

## EVENTS THIS TERM

This term will be a busy one with three of the activities incurring a cost.

We are also aware that some of our cadets will be studying for external examinations.

We do not want parents to feel pressured into having their children partake in both the bushcraft exercise and flying training for either financial or study reasons. Some cadets may have to make a choice of which activity they partake in.

If parents have enquiries regarding these activities please give me a phone call, 347 8124

C H QUIRK

Squadron Leader, NZCF

UNIT COMMANDER

13 September 2004

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS TERM 4 2004

19 Sep	Battle of Britain Commemoration Service	Assemble at St Peters Church, Koromiko Road, Gonville at 1345. This is a compulsory parade as our second civic commitment for 2004.
29-31 Oct	Operation "Haumata"	Squadron exercise to be held in Waiouru. Parent permission forms will be sent home.
3 Nov	Chuck Glider Flyoff	Basic cadets will test fly their chuck gliders on a parade night.
14 Nov	Remembrance Day	Selected group to travel to Wellington. Remembrance Day is the 11th, with the Church Service held on the 14th.
18 Nov	Parents vs Cadets Shoot	To be held at the Wanganui Pistol Club Range, Airport Road commencing at 5.30pm with Barbeque.
27 Nov	End of Year Function	Mess Dinner for Staff and Cadets at 1715, followed by annual prizegiving commencing at 2000.
10 Dec	Squadron Tidy up	Casual dress.
TBA	Power Flying with the Wanganui Aero Club	Parent permission forms will sent home in Term 4.