

THE 739 FLIER

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SCARBOROUGH AIR CADETS

Issue #5

July 2026



In The Field

Cadets deployed for Exercise Atlas Warrior



By Cadet Corporal
Megan Orrells

Back in May, our own Megan Orrells was selected to participate in an exciting 24-hour overnight fieldcraft exercise at Driffield Cadet Training Centre.

Exercise Atlas Warrior was for cadets qualified in Bronze Fieldcraft as a chance to refresh the skills we had learned. We had been "deployed" to Gorgas (Driffield Training Area) for 24 hours, setting up bashas, eating from ration packs and conducting surveillance on enemy forces. One of the scariest parts is always seeing what is in your ration pack and knowing how hungry you will be after the weekend!

Our first mission was to place two navigation TACANs to allow another team to establish radio signals. Me and our section IC went up onto the mound while the others in our group set up sentry and looked out so we could safely complete our mission. However, how well

this was done I am not too sure as two enemy soldiers had spotted us on the mound and tried to intercept us. We froze but then managed to talk our way out which was a funny situation to be in!

After that we were given the duty of setting up a vehicle checkpoint but that was quickly stopped when we received information through the radio that there had been a vehicle crash and a first aid scenario to attend. I was quite excited to hear this as first aid can be quite fun, however when we got there our section was put on sentry duty and we did not get to take part.

Afterwards, we headed back to the harbour area to set up bashas and sentry posts for the night. Then, we were given two more missions which were to conduct auditory and visual surveillance on an enemy base nearby. It was hard to stay silent when the enemy were doing odd things and making jokes while pretending they couldn't very obviously see us.

Once we had settled into the harbour area for the night I was put on sentry duty which was annoying and very lonely. We were told to maintain constant security throughout the whole night, feeling very tired at that stage there was nothing worse I could have heard. However, once the IC's had taken command and gotten everything sorted they allowed everyone to go to sleep. We had a few more missions the next day and then we took everything back and got packed away.

Overall, the weekend was very enjoyable and I made a lot of new friends that I am excited to see again in the future and I am happy to have learnt new skills as well as recapping on the old.



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St. George's Day Celebration

By Cadet
Jaime Markas

On Sunday 26th April, three of our cadets represented the squadron at this year's St. George's Day service hosted by the Scarborough Veterans Hub at St. Andrew's Church.

This year's service was a truly meaningful occasion for our squadron, as our Air Cadets took an active and heartfelt role in honouring those who have served our country. The service, held at the local church, brought together veterans, families, community members, and young people in a moving act of remembrance and gratitude. Our cadets represented the squadron with maturity, respect, and pride throughout the event.

Cadet Megan Orrells took part in the reading, delivering it with confidence, clarity, and a deep sense of purpose. Her voice carried the weight of the moment, reminding everyone present of the sacrifices made by generations of servicemen and women. It was inspiring to see young people speak with such sincerity, bridging the past and present in a way that touched the whole congregation.

Cadet Corporal Macneish also played a significant role, carrying the squadron banner with precision side-by-side with standards from local veterans organisations. His disciplined presence added a ceremonial strength to the service, reflecting the values of the RAF Air Cadets and the respect we hold for our veterans. Many attendees commented on how professional and composed the cadets looked as they led the procession.



Beyond the formal duties, our cadets were also active behind the scenes—welcoming guests, assisting church volunteers, and helping ensure the service ran smoothly. Their willingness to serve, support, and contribute demonstrated the true spirit of the organisation: service before self, teamwork, and community commitment.

Overall, the service was a proud moment for our squadron. Our cadets not only represented the RAFAC with excellence but also showed appreciation for the men and women who have protected our freedoms. Their involvement made the service richer, more meaningful, and a powerful reminder that remembrance is carried forward by the next generation.



Community Engagement At Morrison's



By Acting Pilot Officer
Liam Cromack

Saturday 16th May saw staff and cadets come together to showcase the squadron to members of the public going about their daily business at Morrison's supermarket.

As part of the squadron's renewed focus on community engagement and recruitment initiatives we headed down to Morrison's and set up our stall in the lobby for the day.

Cadets turned up in a variety of uniforms selling the Royal Air Force Air Cadets to passers-by and raising some much needed funds for squadron activities along the way.

With our next open evening just days away, we highlighted the many benefits of being an Air Cadet to passing parents and their children, handing out some of our newly-produced freebies courtesy of the Squadron Committee.

A very productive day was had and we were able to raise a total of £412.20 which will go towards giving our young people a whole range of opportunities they might not find elsewhere.

Thank you to all who attended and a special thanks to Morrison's for hosting us on the day.

Flying Visit to Yorkshire Air Museum

**By Cadet
Jaiden Ash**

On Saturday 30th May, a group of our cadets and staff travelled across to the Yorkshire Air Museum at Elvington for what was a fantastic day out!

After meeting at the squadron in the morning, we all drove over to York to see the Air Museum. When we arrived, we were treated to a talk from one of the volunteers on the history of the site which used to be an Royal Air Force station which was also used by the Americans. He also told us a bit about

his own service in the RAF which was really interesting.

The site is laid out over a large area with so many planes on display. There were also some amazing tanks at the entrance.

There are various huts which also have exhibits which tell the story of the site and have some interesting items of uniform, equipment, medals and such. I liked reading some of the stories of the airmen who were based there and some of the missions that were flown out of the station.

The highlight of the trip, though, was seeing aircraft like the Tornado, Victor and Buccaneer lined up on the tarmac and the massive hangar containing more historic aircraft. It was eye-opening to see the huge sizes of some of the aircraft for real. I was particularly amazed by the size of the Mirage and I couldn't believe the size of the Halifax bomber on display in the hangar. It's not the same seeing it in a picture and then seeing it for real!

Part way through our visit we had lunch in the mess hut which had some great

food and drink for sale not to mention the good atmosphere—I particularly liked the model planes hanging above each table.

We finished our trip with a visit to the gift shop where everyone bought something to take away with them.

Altogether it was another great day out which everyone really enjoyed. I would definitely recommend visiting if you have the chance!



Budding Archers Hit Their Mark



**By Cadet Warrant Officer
Harriet Speight**

In May, the squadron hosted two archery training days for cadets from across the local area courtesy of our very own Archery GB Instructor.

On Sunday 10th May, the squadron hosted an archery fun day for cadets from across the local area, giving them the opportunity to experience the thrill of shooting a bow and arrow, and perhaps igniting the archery spark in them to go on and participate in future RAFAC competitions.

This was followed by a further session on Sunday 31st May for cadets from our squadron, as both a preparation and trials session in anticipation of Wing Competitions Day in July.

It turns out the squadron has some competent archers as our team was quickly selected thanks to some excellent shooting from our cadets.

Although we didn't win last year's competition, the squadron did very well and we hope to build on our success this year thanks to some much needed practice sessions. Most importantly, all cadets really enjoyed themselves across both days.



Armed Forces Day 2026

Marching down
Foreshore Road



Hard at work
on the squadron stall



Cadets and staff pose for a photo
with Royal Navy Commodore Thomas Knowles



Having fun in the sun!



On parade



Cranwell Success For Simon



**By Sergeant
Simon Orrells**

Back in May our very own Simon Orrells spent a week down at RAF Cranwell undertaking his Combined Initial Course (CIC), learning the finer points of being an adult non-commissioned officer in the RAF Air Cadets.

Arriving at RAF Cranwell for my CIC brought back a sense of familiarity tinged with curiosity, particularly with prior RAF service. After being away from the RAF for over two decades and around 15 months back as a civilian instructor with the RAFAC, I arrived possibly expecting a refresher. What the course delivers, however, is a genuine period of professional refinement.

From the outset, CIC is about standardisation—aligning adult instructors from varied backgrounds to a common, professional baseline. While elements such as drill and personal bearing are revisited, the course's real strength lies in developing instructional capability. A clear emphasis was placed on the transition from *doing* to *teaching*, — setting aims, delivering content with clarity, checking understanding, and reinforcing key learning points. Even those with prior experience quickly find themselves refining their delivery style to suit cadet-focused training.

This development is reinforced through both theory and practice.

Working in syndicates, we were tasked with preparing and delivering a 20-minute presentation on RAFAC themes or leadership principles. These sessions de-

manded teamwork, planning, and confident delivery, mirroring the reality of squadron instruction. Constructive feedback ensured rapid improvement, while also building confidence in public speaking.

The course also offers tangible professional development through recognised qualifications, with opportunities to achieve Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) awards in leadership and risk management. These add a valuable layer of credibility, ensuring that the skills gained extend beyond RAFAC.

Complementing this are a series of inputs that are designed to broaden understanding of the organisation. Revisiting key Air Cadet Publications reconnects students with RAFAC's structure, and governance. Specialist briefings from RAFAC Headquarters staff, the RAF Police Security Team, and the RAFAC Health & Safety Team—alongside safeguarding inputs—underscore the responsibility placed on us as adult volunteers. These sessions reinforce that effective instruction sits alongside a duty of care, professionalism, and robust risk management.

Equally memorable is the camaraderie that developed amongst both SNCOs and officers. Despite differences in experience and role, the shared challenges of the course quickly break down barriers. This was reflected in a vibrant WhatsApp chat group—full of humour, encouragement, and good-natured banter, always in keeping with

RAFAC values. It became a vital support network, creating and helping maintain morale and strengthening bonds that continue beyond the course.

Set against the historic backdrop of RAF Cranwell, the CIC ultimately acts as both a reset and a springboard. It sharpened my instructional skills, reinforced organisational understanding, and built lasting professional relationships—ensuring that, regardless of background, every instructor left better equipped to deliver high-quality training and leadership to the cadets in their care.

If you like the sound of volunteering as uniformed staff, drop us an email us on 739@rafac.mod.gov.uk or visit our website for more information, www.scarboroughaircadets.org.uk



Taking Aim...

By Cadet
Thomas Kelley

Two cadets from the squadron recently undertook their air rifle initial weapons training (IWT) before heading over to Ryedale for a day's shooting on Sunday 17th May.

On Saturday 25th April, me and Cadet Markas travelled down to Beverley for training on the Scorpion magazine-fed air rifle so we can take part in shooting events for the squadron.

We learned about the air rifle, how it works and the different parts involved. Although it isn't as complicated as a proper rifle, it was still very interesting.

We then went on to learn about the correct way to handle the weapon, carry out our Normal Safety Precautions (NSPs) and what to do in the event of a problem with the rifle. We were also taught the words of command that the Range Conducting Officer (RCO) would

use when we fired them on the range. The initial training was really interesting and I learned a lot about how to properly hold and fire the rifle on a military range.

It was then assessment time as we were tested on what we had learned in order to gain a Weapons Handling Test (WHT) which would allow us to shoot the weapon on the range. I was so happy to have passed!

Three weeks later, we both made our way to Ryedale Squadron where we put our new training into action and fired the air rifle for real.

As we took part in the live firing, I could see what the instructors had meant when teaching us during our initial training and how to put that into practice on the range.

We practiced our marksmanship skills and how to ensure we were accurate

on the target by grouping our shots. It was really fun but I also learned a lot about shooting in the process.

This was one of my favourite courses so far and I can't wait to do more shooting in the future. I am hoping to take part in the shooting competition on Wing Competitions Day in July.

I would recommend shooting to all cadets. Not only is it great fun but you learn loads as well!



Still Flying High After First Flight

By Cadet
James Brownlie

Friday 19th June saw four of our cadets make the journey to RAF Leeming to experience their first flight in a light aircraft, including one very excited Cadet Brownlie!

It was early in the morning—I had to wake up at 5am and be at the squadron building for 6am but it was worth it for what I got to do that day! The journey took about an hour and a half in the minibus and once we arrived we were given a briefing and taught the important safety drills that allowed us to fly.

I was given the first flight of the day and I was so excited! I was fitted out with a flying suit and given a helmet to

wear which contained the radio the pilot and I used to talk to each other.

After the pilot completed the necessary safety checks of the aircraft we began to taxi down the runway which was really cool as we passed some Hawk T2s which are used for fast jet pilot training. Once in position, the pilot completed one final check and then we were off!

Take off was amazing. The pilot got us up to speed and we left the ground. I've never experienced it before but it was fantastic!

Once we were in the air, we climbed above the clouds. The view was amazing! Looking down, Everything was so tiny—the people, buildings and cars below us were so small. After learning

some of the controls, we moved onto doing some aerobatics. My favourite was the stall turn—we ended up pulling over 6 Gs!

My first flight was so cool. I learned loads and I feel so lucky that I got this fantastic opportunity. I came away talking about it for days. It's the best thing about being an Air Cadet!





Quarterly Snapshot...

The last three months in pictures



View more photographs on our website

Squadron Noticeboard



Submit Your Stories!

Have you recently been flying? Earned your first badge? Perhaps you really enjoyed our last visit? Whatever it is, we want to hear about it in the next issue! Submit your articles to a member of staff in good time.

Photography Competition

Every year the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association (RFCA) run a photography competition for units across the Yorkshire area. This year's theme is "Cadets is great fun!" Got a photo for consideration? Speak to a member of staff on your next parade evening. Deadline for submissions is 01/09/2026.

Update: Yorkshire Dales Activity Weekend

Thank you to all of those cadets (and parents!) who have made payment for the Yorkshire Dales Weekend in September. Joining instructions and a kit list will be sent out very shortly so please keep an eye on your email inbox. Consent and medical forms will also be required so please ensure these are handed in to a member of staff in good time.

Follow us on Facebook!

For those of you who are new to the unit, be sure to check out the squadron's Facebook page for the latest news and updates. And don't forget to like, follow and share the page with your friends and family!



Fast Feet And High Jumps

By Cadet
Jaime Markas

On Sunday 3rd May, cadets from the squadron travelled to Hull to partake in the annual Inter-Squadron Athletics Competition.

This year's event was a vibrant showcase of energy as our cadets took to the field to compete in a wide range of athletic events. From explosive sprints to endurance races, from powerful throws to coordinated relays, the day highlighted the physical ability and strong character that define our squadron. It was a proud moment for the staff and fellow cadets who gathered to cheer on the participants.

The excitement began with the sprint events, where cadets competed in the 100m, 200m, and 400m races. Our cadets rose to the occasion, delivering impressive performances marked by determination and focus. Many achieved personal bests, and the encouragement from the side-lines created an electric atmosphere.

The 1500m race was one of the day's standout moments. Cadets paced themselves with discipline, pushing through the toughest final laps with grit. Their perseverance was inspiring to watch, and the sense of achievement at the finish line was shared by everyone present.

Field events added another layer of excitement. In the javelin, cadets demonstrated technique, power, and precision as they launched the spear across the field. The shot put showcased strength and controlled movement, with cadets mastering the balance between tech-

nique and force. These events highlighted the diverse athletic talents within the squadron and gave many cadets the chance to shine in areas beyond running.

One of the most anticipated events of the day was the relay race, where teamwork took centre stage. The smooth passing of the baton, the coordination between runners, and the shared responsibility of each leg made the relay a true test of unity. The cadets displayed excellent communication and trust, and the cheering from the crowd reached its peak as teams sprinted down the final stretch.

In addition to the main events, cadets also took part in several other athletic challenges, giving everyone an opportunity to participate and contribute to the spirit of the day. Whether competing for points or simply enjoying the experience, every cadet played a role in making the event memorable.

Throughout the day, what stood out most was not just athletic ability but the sportsmanship shown by all participants. Cadets supported one another, celebrated each other's successes, and demonstrated resilience in moments of challenge. Their behaviour reflected the values of the RAF Air Cadets: respect, teamwork, and commitment.

Although we didn't place highly in the overall rankings, the day brought our squadron together in a celebration of friendly competition. Our cadets represented themselves with pride, and their achievements—both big and small—made the day truly special. We look forward to building on this for next year!

