

# **Council (Extraordinary)**

## **SUMMONS AND AGENDA**

**DATE:** Thursday 1 May 2014

**TIME:** 7.30 pm

**VENUE:** Council Chamber, Harrow  
Civic Centre

**All Councillors are hereby summoned to attend the Extraordinary Council Meeting for the transaction of the business set out.**



Hugh Peart  
Director of Legal and Governance Services

**Despatch Date:** Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2014

## **PRAYERS**

The Mayor's Chaplain, Dr Suzanne Nti, will open the meeting with Prayers.

### **1. EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

This Extraordinary Council Meeting has been convened in accordance with the provisions of Rule 3.1.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from all Members of the Council.

### **3. HONORARY FREEDOMS OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW** (Pages 1 - 22)

Report of the Director of Legal and Governance Services.

# **EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL 1 MAY 2014**

## **HONORARY FREEDOMS OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW**

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# REPORT FOR: COUNCIL

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	1 May 2014
<b>Subject:</b>	Honorary Freedoms of the London Borough of Harrow
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Hugh Peart – Director of Legal and Governance Services
<b>Exempt:</b>	No
<b>Enclosures:</b>	Appendix 1 – Draft Resolutions Appendix 2 – Achievements

## Summary and Recommendations

The conferment of Honorary Freedom of the borough is to recognise persons of distinction or organisations with eminent service to and with connections with the London Borough of Harrow.

The power to award the honour of Freedom of the Borough is contained in Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972. To invoke the provisions of Section 249 it is required that a Special Meeting of the full Council be convened for the purpose.

Council at its meeting on 27 February 2014 resolved to call a special meeting of Council to consider conferring the titles of Honorary Freedom of the Borough of the Girls Brigade North West London District and 14534 (Harrow) Squadron Air Training Corps.

### Recommendations:

That in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council of the London Borough of Harrow resolve to:

- (i) invoke the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 to confer the honour of Freedom of the Borough of Harrow on
  - (a) Girls Brigade North West London District and
  - (b) 1454 (Harrow) Squadron Air Training Corps

in recognition of its continuous service to the London Borough of Harrow;

- (ii) subject to (i) above, the granting of the Freedom be recorded in an illuminated Scroll and presented to the recipients, and the commissioning and associated costs be approved at this meeting;
- (ii) the Presentation of the Scrolls to be made at a later date.

## **Introduction**

The conferment of Honorary Freedom of the Borough is to recognise persons of distinction or organisations with eminent service and connections with the London Borough of Harrow.

The Girls' Brigade is an international and interdenominational Christian youth organisation which was founded in 1893 in Dublin, Ireland. The North West London District of the Girls Brigade consists of 8 companies: 1<sup>st</sup> Edgware, 5<sup>th</sup> Hendon, 1<sup>st</sup> Kenton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Northolt, 1<sup>st</sup> Queensbury, 1<sup>st</sup> Stanmore, 1<sup>st</sup> Sudbury Hill and 1<sup>st</sup> Sudbury Town and have been working in North West London for over 80 years. In particular the 1<sup>st</sup> Stanmore Girls Brigade has been working in Stanmore for 75 years.

The 1454 Harrow Squadron Air Training Corps has its origins in the Air Defence Cadet Corps which was formed under the auspices of the Air League of the British Empire. In February 1941, 1454 (Harrow) which is part of the Middlesex Wing, received its Royal Warrant and remains the oldest ATC squadron to operate continuously since, over 73 years its formation.

## **1. Statutory Background**

Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972 provides as follows:

“Subject as follows, a relevant authority may admit to be honorary freemen or freewomen of the place or area for which it is the authority—(a) persons of distinction, and (b) persons who have, in the opinion of the authority, rendered eminent services to that place or area.”

## **2. Harrow Context**

2.1 Previously the Council has conferred upon the late Sir Winston Churchill the Honorary Freedom of the Borough of Harrow. The Honorary Freedom was also conferred on the following individuals (William Allen, A. E. Amor, Charles Jordan and Francis Telfer in 1968) (George Gange and Horace Cutler in 1977). Most recently the Honour was conferred upon Sir Roger Bannister 2004 to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Incorporation of the Borough.

2.2 In 1983 a number of locally based Territorial Army units were honoured. The honour was awarded to RAF Stations Stanmore Park and Bentley Priory in October 1988 to mark the fiftieth anniversary of Stanmore Park Station and in recognition of the imminent fiftieth anniversary of the roles played by both Stations

in the Battle of Britain in 1940. The Christ Church, Roxeth & Harrow Company of the Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade was honoured in October 1994 with Freedom of the Borough to mark the Company's one hundredth anniversary of continuous service in Harrow. In October 1996 The Royal British Legion Harrow Branch was awarded the honour in recognition of its seventy fifth anniversary.

2.3 In 2011, to mark the 100th anniversary of Harrow High School, the Council conferred the title of Honorary Freedom of the Borough upon Sir Paul Nurse.

2.4 Accordingly, Council as asked to consider calling a special meeting to confer the titles of Freedom of the Borough upon The North West London District Girls Brigade and 1454 Harrow Squadron Air Training Corps.

### **3. Proposed Recipients of the Honorary Freedoms**

3.1 At its meeting on 27 February 2014 Council resolved to call a special meeting to consider conferring the titles of Honorary Freedom of the Borough of the Girls Brigade North West London District and 1454 (Harrow) Squadron Air Training Corps.

3.2 In anticipation that the Council would consider the proposal to confer honorary Freedom of the Borough the matter has been the subject of prior consultation.

### **4. Process:**

4.1 If the Council wished to proceed with the conferment of the titles of Freedom of the Borough a resolution must be passed by not less than two thirds of the members present at a specially convened meeting of the Council.

4.2 The costs for the Honorary Freedom award and the preparation and presentation of an illuminated Scroll will be sourced from within current resources.

3.3 This report is submitted, following consultation with the Mayor, Leader of the Council and Leader of the Conservative Group.

### **5. Financial Implications**

There is no specific provision for any expenditure arising from this matter and budget provision will have to be sourced within current resources.

## **Contact Details and Background Papers**

**Contact:** Elaine McEachron, Democratic & Electoral Services Manager.  
Tel: 020 8424 1097 E-mail: [elaine.mceachron@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:elaine.mceachron@harrow.gov.uk)

### **Background Papers:**

Report to Council – 27 February 2014  
Minutes from Council meeting – 27 February 2014  
Historical records relating to Freedoms



# **London Borough Of Harrow**

**Borough  
Arms**

*At a special meeting of the London Borough of Harrow held at  
the Civic Centre, Harrow on Thursday of the first day of May 2014, it was*

**RESOLVED:-** *THAT in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the  
Local Government Act 1972, the Council of the London Borough of Harrow*

*DO CONFER THE*

***‘FREEDOM OF ENTRY TO THE BOROUGH’***  
*upon*

***THE GIRLS BRIGADE NORTH WEST  
LONDON DISTRICT***

**In Recognition** *of its outstanding continuous service  
to the North West London Area.*

**The Common Seal** *of the Mayor and  
Burgesses of the London Borough of  
Harrow was affixed hereunto on the  
day of 2014*

*Leader*

*Head of Paid Service*

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## **General Information**

The Girls' Brigade is an international and interdenominational Christian youth organisation. It was founded in 1893 in Dublin, Ireland. The modern organisation was formed as the result of the amalgamation of three like-minded and similarly structured organisations in 1964. These organisations were the Girls' Brigade of Ireland (1893), the Girls' Guildry of Scotland (1900), and the Girls' Life Brigade of England (1902). The International Headquarters are currently based in Glasgow. The organisation operates in over 60 countries worldwide and is divided into five Fellowships:

1. African
2. Asian
3. Caribbean and Americas
4. European and
5. Pacific

International Conferences are held every four years, this has been happening since 1998 when the conference was in Australia. It was in Thailand in 2002, Northern Ireland in 2006, and Malaysia in 2010. The Queen Mother and Princess Alice were Girls' Brigade's patrons until their deaths in 2002 and 2004 respectively. There are, at the moment, no living patrons. The anthem of the Girls Brigade is the hymn Give me oil in my lamp.

The motto of the Girls' Brigade is **"Seek, Serve and Follow Christ"** and its Aim is "To help girls become followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, and through self control, reverence and a sense of responsibility to find true enrichment of life". Because of the youth development aspect of its work, the Girls' Brigade is a member of The National Council for Voluntary Youth Services (NCVYS) and has been since 1936, when it was one of NCVYS's founding organisations.

### **GIRLS BRIGADE NORTH WEST LONDON DISTRICT**

The North West London district consists of 8 companies: 1<sup>st</sup> Edgware, 5<sup>th</sup> Hendon, 1<sup>st</sup> Kenton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Northolt, 1<sup>st</sup> Queensbury, 1<sup>st</sup> Stanmore, 1<sup>st</sup> Sudbury Hill and 1<sup>st</sup> Sudbury Town.

#### **From the Commissioner:**

Girls' Brigade has been working in North West London for over 80 years and during that time there has been several changes in name and area covered. The latest change was in 1997 when our name was changed from Brent and Harrow Division to North West London District and companies from Hendon joined the group.

During those years many girls have joined companies and many young leaders trained. The district has been responsible in training young people over the age of 14 to become young leaders and our effective annual training programme has allowed young people to discover their talents

and learn new skills which has enabled many to go on to become adult leaders working in the borough now.

Our district has had girls selected to attend a Fonomarae where girls from different countries meet up as part of a cultural exchange and see how Girls' Brigade operates in different parts of the world. A new Girls Brigade initiative in starting companies in Kosovo has provided some girls from the borough an opportunity to travel and help out in local companies during the summer months.

Although the companies in our group are spread across several boroughs we support each other and provide a safe environment for young people to have fun and learn life skills which they can put to use as they grow and mature.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Stanmore – Captain Claire Ingate**

1<sup>st</sup> Stanmore is 75 years old, during this time we have had 6 captains. I joined the company as a girl aged 5, went through each section, did young leaders training and became an officer aged 18 in 1991, I became Captain in 1999. Currently, we have 4 regular volunteers (myself, Ruth – a lieutenant, Shanaj- a helper and Nana – our chaplain) and the church's children's worker who recently became one of the country's first male Girls Brigade officers. Some parents also help out when our regular helpers are unable to attend. All volunteers are committed to working with the young people and rarely take an evening off. We meet every Friday during term time, in the past we have held week long camps but more recently have taken groups away for weekends. In the last 15 years 240 girls have been members of our company some for a short time, others for longer. We currently have about 60 girls in our company ranging from aged 4 1/2yrs – 14yrs. The girls come from diverse backgrounds, everyone is welcome. A number of our eldest girls have been members since they were 4 and are committed to our company and the events we hold. We have taken part in some national events at the Royal Albert Hall, Remembrance day parade at the cenotaph, Trooping of the Colour and most recently the Mayor Making Ceremony in May 2013 and the Civic Service in June 2013. We also have links with a local Sheltered housing association in Stanmore and some of our girls go there to and give gifts they had made to the residents. The Girls also visit a Nursing Home in Headstone Lane at Christmas to sing carols. As a company we are committed to seeing the lives of girls become transformed through fun, friendship, and acceptance of who they are. We provide a space where they can come and be themselves, ask questions and get support if needed.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Queensbury- Captain Jane Stubbs**

1st Queensbury has been going for 73 years we have had 5 captains with Maureen Eaton now an officer at Burton in Hampshire and Beverly Eyres is captain at 1st Hythe in Southampton. We have lots of auxilliary leaders with Jill Simmons our longest serving with over 30 years service. She was in the Girls Life Brigade as a girl. We had the wonderful pleasure of gaining an officer last year who is now studying to be a teacher at university. We have 18 regular girls each week and a young leader on level 2. Our minister Rev Steven Hill is our chaplain and a great support. We join in all the district events and look forward to this year at Girls Brigade.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Kenton – Captain Rebecca Woodvine**

1<sup>st</sup> Kenton has been going for 76 years, last year we had a celebration with a reunion of past and present girls. The girls and leaders performed a musical of Jairus' Daughter. Since beginning as Girls Life Brigade GB has changed throughout the years. Kenton has always been a large

company, sometimes reaching numbers of over 100. For many years we have done the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, with many youngsters achieving their Gold Award and the thrilling time of either going to St James or Buckingham Palace. Many of our girls also achieve the Queens Award. We have always been blessed with many volunteers and although at times we have been short we have always had a large number of older girls who have helped out in the younger sections. In the past, with the BB, at our monthly church parades we used to march around the local area which used to help with our recruiting. Camps have always been a high priority at Kenton. Many youngsters have made commitments to Christ and as result are serving in other churches, centres or often abroad. Displays and Awards evenings are a regular feature of company life. We were privileged to be part of a large display in the Albert Hall. Our girls enjoy a variety of activities including outings, fun days and games as well as badgework. We have supported many different charities such as Guide dogs, Christmas shoe box appeals and regularly supporting a missionary working in India. Hundreds of girls have passed through our doors which we have had the pleasure of both serving and working with, touching many lives with the gospel in a needy world.

### **5th Hendon Company**

The 5th Hendon Company was formed in 1926 making it 87 years old this year in 2013. We currently have 23 girls attending and 3 leaders. The Company is very diverse and at present we have girls from 7 different nationalities.

I have been an officer for 39 years - 37 years as Captain - and have seen a number of girls come to faith in Jesus Christ. When I was 15 it was at a summer camp that I became a Christian so I have much to thank previous leaders for their example and dedication.

We have had 6 girls gaining the Queen's Award and currently have one girl more than half way through completing it.

Some members of our company were chosen as official programme sellers at the Royal Wedding's of Prince Charles & Diana and Prince Andrew & Sarah. Also we took part in the parade for the Queen Mother's 90th birthday celebrations in 1990.

For 20 years we arranged a meal for approximately 100 senior citizen's. We had sponsored events to raise the money and visited local care homes and elderly residents in our locality. We arranged transport for them to get to and from the church where they enjoyed a hot meal followed by entertainment from the girls or special guests. At the end of the evening they were each given a gift from the girls.

It is always encouraging to see some of the girls many years later who often say how much they enjoyed being in Girls' Brigade and how the things they learnt there have helped them in their employment and have been a good foundation for their lives as a whole.

The 5th Hendon is a happy and friendly company and parent's often say their daughter loves coming to Girls' Brigade and can't wait for our company evening to come around each week.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Northolt- Captain Ruth Rego**

2<sup>nd</sup> Northolt is 56 years old and currently have 7 volunteers. How long have they served:

Ruth Rego (Captain) (20+ years in Company & Church)

Pat Davidson (30+ years in Company & Church) – was a child minder before retiring. Is a church member, Sunday School leader and current Deacon

Margaret Reynolds (30+ years in Company & Church ) – just retired as a teaching assistant at Greenford High School. Is a church member and Sunday School leader

Tracy Taylor (16 years in Company) – Tracy is a Special Needs Teaching Assistant

David Taylor (10 years as our informal Chaplain). Both David & Tracy live in Letchworth, Hitchin and travel to Northolt each week to support and work with us and also come to every parade service too.

Rebekah Rego – (18 years of age – completed Young Leaders and now qualified as a Lieutenant). Rebekah is studying at Middlesex Uni (Hendon)

Debbie Cunningham (22years of age – completed Young Leaders and now qualified as a Lieutenant). Debbie works at an after school club in Ealing.

Number of volunteers over the past 20-30 years: At least 10 others (during my tenure 18yrs). So probably more.

### **Special stories:**

We have a young lady (**Rianne Smith** – now 18 years old). She was a swimmer with the Northolt Leisure Centre (not sure of the official title), however Rianne was on track to swim for the 2012 Olympic games as a Junior, however when she was 14 she had a stroke and lost the use of her left side and suffered short term memory loss. Rianne made a wonderful recovery, but although she still swims she was never able to recover her former form. Rianne never once complained about her condition or the effects, at the time she was just into her GCSE's. She has worked extremely hard to turn these difficulties into a positive and is currently planning to attend Birmingham (Ashton Uni.) to study medicine, to try and give back to others in similar circumstances to hers. Rianne at the time of her stroke was living in South Harrow, recently moved to Pinner.

**Rebekah Rego** (our new Lieutenant) is also 18 yrs old. Rebekah suffered extreme bullying in her primary school (Earlsmead – South Harrow). However she fought to attend Whitmore High School, Harrow which she won through the Appeal Process. She still struggles with new and different situations (large crowds etc). However due to her experience she became determined to study and become an Education Psychologist. She is on track and will begin studying Psychology with Education at Middlesex Uni (Hendon) later this month. Rebekah also works at the Children's Society as a volunteer as another way to help support young people.

Diversity of girls: In our company for the past 10 years we have had 'Boys in Trust' and this has been both challenging and exciting, lots of fun. Our community is a rough neighbourhood, mostly council properties and not a lot of wealth. So we do struggle with fees etc, but the church is a great help and support. Northolt Park runs Holiday Clubs and does fun days which they fund themselves, so no-one is excluded due to finance.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sudbury Hill Company – Captain Pat Smith**

The Company is 77 years old. When we celebrated our 75<sup>th</sup> 2 years ago we had many 'old' girls come and join with us. As we have said in the past we don't always see the harvest, but when 'old' girls tell their stories it is very encouraging to hear. Some have become Christians, some have started their own GB Company.

We have had Queen's Award girls, Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards, taken part in Albert Hall Displays in the company's life. I have 2 Auxiliaries who have been with me for many years. One was a parent who came to help and has remained. The other was a girl and also remained for many years. I have been in the company since a Cadet in The Girls' Life Brigade, became an officer in 1965 and then Captain in 1986.

We have had many volunteers/helpers over the years, whether to help with badge work, take devotions, or speak about their jobs etc. Diversity of girls in mixed, white, black African, one with Romanian parents. The company is small in number and we have just joined with our Boys Brigade company on Fridays to help with staffing and teaching etc. I have 5 young leaders who are extremely good and willing and are a credit to the company.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sudbury Town Company- Captain Jean Harper**

We have celebrated our 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year; old girls returned to share memories from the past and our present company produce a DVD to inform the Church of the impact Girls' Brigade has had on their lives.

Our en:counta group (11-14 years) have been looking at local developments and environmental issues. We will be supporting the Sudbury Arts Festival by hosting 'Trash' a film about the environmental effects of waste and poor recycling on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

**1<sup>st</sup> Sudbury Town meets every Friday from 6-8pm in Sudbury Baptist Church, District Road Wembley (term time only –except for our company camp in May Half Term).**

In May 2014 we are planning to stay in a coastal town to enjoy the beach and surrounding areas. Camp is a great opportunity for young people to enjoy the outdoors and explore new places. Currently we have a small company with thirty girls on our registers; however we are recruiting new members to all of the age groups (5 to 19 years). Age of Company – 55 years; Number of volunteers you currently have - 5

How long your leaders have been serving young people in the community?

Carol Silvera	BLACK CARIBBEAN	old girl and previous helper returned Sept. 2013 relationship with company over 35 years
Jean Harper	BLACK CARIBBEAN	girl and officer relationship with company 43 years; serving 33 years this September
Nichola McCarter	WHITE BRIT	10 years
Rebecca Dan	WHITE EUROPEAN	2 years
Rachel Dan	WHITE EUROPEAN	2 years

Numbers of volunteers over the past 20-30 years – approximately: 50

Diversity of girls you have in your company

BLACK CARIBBEAN	7
BLACK AFRICAN	2
WHITE BRIT	9

INDIAN	5
MIX/DUAL HERITAGE	3
OTHER	4

Submitted October 2013



## **1454 Story**

### **Full title: 1454 (Harrow) Squadron Air Training Corps**

The Air Training Corps (ATC), of which HRH the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, is Commodore-in-Chief, was established by Royal Warrant on 5 February 1941 and continued via subsequent Warrants.

The objects of the Air Training Corps are as follows:

- To promote and encourage among young people a practical interest in aviation and the Royal Air Force.
- To provide training which will be useful both in Service and in civilian life.
- To foster the spirit of adventure and to develop the qualities of leadership and good citizenship.

The ATC has its origins in the Air Defence Cadet Corps, which was formed under the auspices of the Air League of the British Empire and the earliest squadrons paraded in October 1938. The administration of each squadron was in the hands of a committee of local citizens, thus establishing the two streams of support military and civilian which still form the basis of the organisation today. In 1941, in order to provide the means of giving part-time air training to young men destined for the Royal Air Force, the Air Defence Cadet Corps changed its name to the Air Training Corps, which subsequently achieved a wartime peak of over 210,000 cadets. At a conservative estimate, some 170,000 trained ex-cadets (of which 436 were from 1454) had entered the Services by the end of the World War II.

At the end of the war, greater emphasis was given to general youth and citizenship training. The distinguishing characteristics of the Corps remain in its special relationship with the Royal Air Force and its involvement with all air related activities.

The Corps comprises squadrons organised into 40 Wings, generally by county. These in turn are formed into 6 regions covering the whole of the United Kingdom.

1454 (Harrow) Squadron is in Middlesex Wing. The number and name of the squadron is derived from the order in which squadrons were formed and the name of the locality it represents. Thus we are the 1454<sup>th</sup> squadron to be formed and we represent Harrow.

Our Royal Warrant is dated 5 February 1941 and we are the oldest ATC squadron to operate continuously since formation without a break in the London Borough of Harrow, although there are two other squadrons in the borough, one a lot younger and the other had a short non- operational period.

We accept young men and women aged 13 to 20 years old, and our Squadron strength is 72 enrolled cadets from both sexes with a waiting list of a similar number.

The squadron is led by Flight Lieutenant Neil Chamberlain RAFVR(T) who holds the Queen's Commission, supported by Flight Sergeant (ATC) Tom Levett who is due to be promoted in the autumn this year. In turn the Civilian Instructors Misses Eccles and Porter and Messrs Daswani and Bhoday (both qualified commercial pilots) take care of the day to

day instruction. The Civilian Committee play their part too with Mrs Kerai and Mr Thomas assisting each parade night. All the squadron staff and committee are CRB cleared. This is a pre-requisite for all volunteers and cadets over the age of 18 years.

When cadets reach the upper age limit (20), many apply to serve in the armed forces with a significant number of them entering other branches of public service eg fire, police etc. The majority though have already enrolled at universities for further education.

We have a long and valued history of sporting and civic successes with many cadets, both male and female, representing the Corps at the highest level in many sporting events, having earned their places by commitment and skill.

Personal and civic responsibilities play an important role in the squadron and since 1993 we have been honoured to represent the London Borough of Harrow at our twin town's Armistice Parade in Douai, France and parade with the French Army to remember their Fallen as well as our own. This year we are again honoured to be invited to parade at The Menin Gate, Ypres at 11 o'clock, 11 November. A magical and emotional time for all of us.

In 1997 our HQ building suffered an arson attack when all our adventure training equipment was either totally lost or so badly damaged it was uneconomic to repair. Due to the long and tireless efforts of the cadets, staff and committee, all the equipment has now been replaced along with some extras.

Harrow Young Musicians performed a special Concert for our benefit.

In 1997 we were granted the privilege of flying the Borough Coat of Arms on our replacement squadron Standard. This was dedicated in September 1998 and on the same occasion the squadron was re-dedicated.

The timing was especially apt as the squadron, supported by the two other borough squadrons, The Royal British Legion and other ex-service and cadet organisations joined us in our celebrations, the Sea Cadets and the Church Lads Brigade bands led our parade through Harrow town centre to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of Royal Air Force and the Anniversary of the Battle of Britain in 1940.

In October 2001 we were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by the Borough in Council which recognised our continuous commitment to the Borough and in particular the youth.

The squadron is affiliated with The Royal British Legion (Harrow) Branch. Through various contacts from our staff we have many introductions to diplomatic and senior military personnel, to name a few:

- Air Attachés of Australia and the United States of America
- US Marine Attachés,
- Commanding Officer No1 Fighter Wing USAF
- Head of the Australian Defence Staff,
- Belgian Military Attaché

and many others, all of whom have visited the squadron and spoken about their service experiences and careers

Nearer home our visitors include:

- Deputy Lord Lieutenant of London,
- Alderman of the City of London,,
- two Sheriffs of the City of London,
- Field Marshal,
- Deputy Lieutenant of Harrow
- MOD section heads
- Various specialist RAF and Army officers
- Regiment of Gurkha officers
- successive Harrow Mayors.

These visitors and others illustrate to the cadets the deep and genuine interest and appreciation taken by serving officers both military and civic dignitaries at the highest level.

We also provide the Guard of Honour for various Mayoral functions eg Civic Service, St Mary's, Harrow on the Hill plus others as requested by Mayoral Services.

Our Committee play important roles in the organisation of Harrow's Remembrance Day Parade as part of the Deputy Lieutenant's Committee.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme is a vital part in the development of young people and we are committed to incorporate its in-depth programme as a major component in our full schedule.

- At all levels:
  - Voluntary works
  - Expedition training
  - Physical ability
  - Skill.
  - Residential (Gold only)

The training we offer covers all aspects of this prestigious Award, from Bronze through to Gold. Those cadets attaining Gold then train others at lower skill levels. This does not preclude other cadets training, under supervision, beginners to the scheme as part of their own Award. The ultimate prize being presented with the Gold Award by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh at St James's Palace.

So far 4 cadets have achieved their Gold

Currently 8 cadets are working towards their Gold and should complete in 2014

15 cadets are working towards Silver

30 + cadets working towards Bronze

'Syllabus' training is the main part of our indoor training programme. This covers all aspects of air related subjects:

- such as airframes and their construction,
- piston and jet engine propulsion,
- air navigation,
- map reading,
- drill,
- expedition training,
- basic survival skills,
- aircraft recognition,
- aircraft handling,

- radio / radar,
- principles of flight,
- airmanship and others.
- All the examinations qualify for a BTEC in 'Aviation Studies' and a certificate is awarded upon successful completion.

Cadets are able to gain:

- flying and gliding experiences,
- compete in inter-squadron, Wing and Service target shooting
- competitions (0.177 air-rifle, 0.22 L81 & L98)
- undertake annual UK and overseas camps,
- caving,
- climbing,
- abseiling,
- mountain walking and many others.
- Understanding community and civic responsibilities

UK camps include:

- Browdown, Gosport. Adventure Training
  - Sailing
  - Orienteering
  - Flying
  - Drill instruction
  - Many sports
- St Martins Plain, Folkestone. 'Spitfire March'.
  - 25 miles, preparation for the 'Vierdaagse'
- RAF Cranwell. Adventure Training
- RAF Wittering. Adventure Training
- RAF Leuchars, Adventure Training.
  - Maritime patrol flying
- Chickerell. Adventure Training
- RAF Cosford. Adventure Training
- RAF Shawbury. Adventure Training.
- Helicopters
- Orienteering
- Drill instruction
- Many sports
- Otterburn. Adventure Training
- Cwt-y-Gochlen. Climbing, abseiling, caving
- Fremington. Royal Marines UK training site. Walking, orienteering, in-shore kayaking, life-saving

Overseas visits include:

- 12 day visit to HQ Fighter Command, US Air Force, Langley, Virginia, USA inc:
  - US Marines Amphibious base and ships,

- US Marines Air Base, Long Beach
- Aircraft carrier 'USS George Washington',
- US Army assault courses, Ft Eustis
- NASA Research
- Paul Garber Facility, Smithsonian Institute

17 day visit to US Marines, Quantico, Virginia

- § Laying Wreath at Unknown Soldier, Arlington National Cemetery
- § All US Marine training facilities inc:
- § Various assault and training courses
- § Basic Marine Combat Qualification (designed for 18+ year old Marines!). All cadets passed with certificates.
- § US Navy Docks, Washington
- § Mount Suribachi Memorial
- § Gettysburg,
- § Manassas and other Civil War sites
- § UAV factory (security controlled)
- § Presidential helicopter site
- § Passing Out Inspection by General DuLay, CO USMC Quantico.

'Operation Trolls Travels', Norway. 10 day cross country skiing expedition to Hardangarvidda, to learn:

- § FIRST Learn to ski, and SECOND ski with loaded rucksack
- § Cold weather survival (below freezing all the time. At night it reached -27° C plus wind chill)
- § GPS instruction
- § Map reading (without landmarks) and Compass instruction
- § Sleeping under canvas
- § Digging and sleeping in snow hole
- § Outdoor cooking
- § Slalom and downhill skiing basic instruction

36 hour visit to Royal Dutch Air Force Soesterberg, Netherlands.

'Vierdaagse'. Each year since 1998 4 day 100 mile march around town of Nijmegen, Netherlands.

Ypres. Five visits (so far) to parade at The Menin Gate

Passchendaele. Three visits so far to Parade at their Memorial. Permanent unwritten invitation.

Battlefield tours:

- § Ypres Salient
- § Somme
- § Normandy
- § Douai. Alternate years. Parade with French Military at Douai's Armistice Parade.
- § French Air Force, Base Arianne 'Commandant Mouchotte', Cambrai.
- § 'La Coupole'. German V2 assembly and launch site.
- § 'Vimy Ridge', Pas de Calais. Canadian WW1 battle site.
- § Royal Australian Air Force. Planned but cancelled due to cost.
- § US Air Force Academy, Colorado. Planned but cancelled due to cost.
- § Royal Canadian Army, Yukon. Planned but cancelled due to cost.
- § Cross country skiing, Bavaria. Planned but temporarily on hold.

#### Leisure pursuits:

- § discos
- § quizzes,
- § night navigation exercises
- § swimming
- § visits to air displays etc.
- § Formal annual Squadron Dinner
- § Dress code
- § Mess Etiquette
- § Toasts

Presentation Night. Where all cadets are presented with their cups, trophies, certificates won throughout the year. New cadets enrolled.

Our minibus transports the cadets and staff when required.

We are fortunate in having been granted three separate Grants for widely diversified items as a new fire resistant storage hut, adventure training and skills enhancing equipment such as tents and all the other basic camping items as well as VHF and UHF radios, computers and a video camera to name a few.

As with all organisations, we rely heavily on weekly subscriptions, despite being the fortunate recipients of the above Grants.

Subscriptions are £12.00 per month, and these are treated as charitable donations under the 'Gift Aid' scheme.

The basic uniform comprises items below. Basic Uniform Comprises:

#### Trousers or skirt

- § 'Wedgwood' shirt (light blue)
- § Working shirt (dark blue)
- § wool pullover
- § brassard and badges
- § black tie
- § beret and badge
- § waterproof jacket

All 'blue' uniform is supplied on loan and replaced as required free of charge. Due to personal requirements, shoes, underwear or socks are not issued, although shoes of a specific pattern are a required part of the uniform. These are obtained via the squadron staff from the Royal Air Force at RAF Northolt. Cadets nominated for parades must wear this style of shoe.

Other items of clothing which cadets sometimes need are 'combats'. These are the camouflaged jacket and trousers which regular soldiers wear. We normally obtain these as Government surplus.

#### Parade Times

Parade evenings commence at 1900 and finish at 2200.

Parade evenings are Tuesdays and Fridays year round except for Public Holidays, Christmas and New Year and other specific occasions as notified. Mostly these are subject to calendar requirements.

Racial and religious tolerance.

All cadets are equal.

We will not, and do not, tolerate in any way, shape or form religious, sexist or racial intolerance or abuse.

Discipline is strictly adhered to

The order of seniority in the cadets is from high to low:-

Merit only:

Cadet Warrant Officer

Flight Sergeant

Sergeant

Corporal

Academic achievement:

Staff Cadet

Senior Cadet

Leading Cadet

Orders / instructions given from a more senior cadet must always be obeyed.

Names / title

It is normal for cadets to address each other by their surnames, except if one has a NCO rank ie Corporal or higher, then they are addressed as 'Corporal.....' etc.

We believe that the young people of Harrow deserve the best extra-curricular training, and instruction that is available to fit them for enjoyable, productive and personal careers in later life.

Our programme and diversity of training, guidance, events and camps both UK and overseas provides the young people of Harrow with experiences that no other Harrow based organisation can offer from a single source.

We hope that this brief introduction to the squadron has given you a taste of the many ways in which we provide that extra 'something' in your life.

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