

High-Light



THE TRI-SERVICE MAGAZINE OF HIGHLAND RESERVE FORCES' AND CADETS' ASSOCIATION



ERS Silver Awards
– Pages 6 & 7

Busy period for Association

Welcome to the latest edition of *High-Light*. As you will see it has been a very busy period for the Association in all areas of our work.

A very successful Annual Association Meeting with a strong turnout from the membership and some really interesting speakers in a new venue in Dundee was followed by a sweltering Royal Gun Salute in Stirling for HM The King and a similarly hot Silver Employer Recognition Awards Scheme night at The Black Watch Museum in Perth. That 29 employers gained the Award is testament to the work of the two Regional Employer Engagement Directors and their assistants.

This year saw a full suite of Cadet Force summer camps from all three Services, some in the far south of England, which stretched the logistic and administrative skills of the Professional Support Staff to the limit. I would like to thank them for the exceptional work behind the scenes to make all camps a success. It was great to see so many cadets benefitting and hopefully the number of cadets and their Adult Volunteers will continue to rebound after the pandemic.

Life in the Estates team has been equally fast paced and I am delighted to see a number of important projects successfully

completed in support of both the Reserves and the cadets. Particularly impressive is the re-development of parts of Boddam Cadet Training Centre. Work is already going on to scope upgrades at Barry Buddon Cadet Training Centre and to create three Joint Cadet Centres at Alness, Dingwall and Nairn as part of the RFCA Estate Optimisation Programme. There are significant changes afoot in how Hard Facilities Management will be delivered on the Volunteer Estate in future with many responsibilities moving from the RFCAs to the same regional prime contractors that look after the regular estate.

And of course all of this has been very well covered and reported on via a variety of media to an ever-growing audience by Ally Duncan and Annu Bholai.

Lastly, I would like to again add my thanks to Lesley Laing, Louise Chalmers, Avril Blyth and Andrew 'Moose' Cameron who all retired on 31 August and who,

between them, have given 108 years of exceptional service to the Association, the Reserves and the cadets in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. You will all be sorely missed, but I am delighted to see that there are some very capable new staff lining up to keep the show on the road!

Mark Dodson



Staff retireals were marked with a lunch and garden games at HRFA HQ in Dundee.



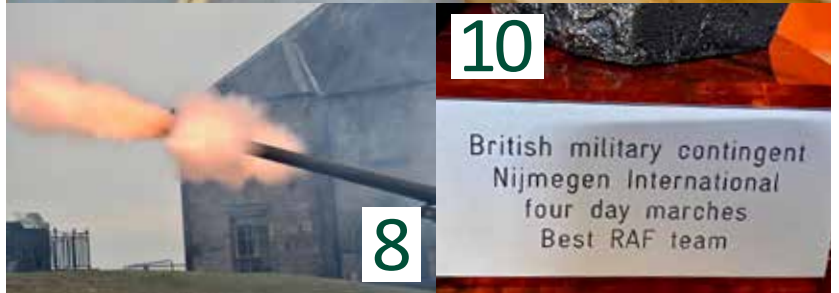
The Gun Salute in Stirling for HM The King took place on a very warm June day. The Reviewing Officer was Mr Alan Simpson OBE, the Lord-Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk.

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New venue for AAM



Deirdre Robertson of Dundee Heritage Trust signed the Armed Forces Covenant with Brigadier Andy Muddiman co-signing on behalf of defence.



HRFCA Chair Nick Dorman addresses the room.



Members enjoying lunch.

On 25 March, nearly 100 members of Highland RFCA from across the Highlands and Islands gathered at Discovery Point in Dundee for the Annual Association Meeting (AAM).

HRFCA Chair, Captain (Retd) Nick Dorman, opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking members. He also covered the Election of Officials and Resolutions. HRFCA Chief Executive, Brigadier (Retd) Mark Dodson, then delivered his Annual Report 2022-23.

The keynote speakers took the floor next, covering important areas of the Association's work. Board Chair of the Council of Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Associations (CRFCA), Major General Greg Smith, updated members on recent changes. As the Cadet Health Check Team Leader, Baroness Susan Garden offered insight into the activities and challenges facing the Cadet Forces. Last but not least, Commander of 19th Light Brigade, Brigadier Owen Lyttle, informed the audience of the reformed Army Reserve Brigade's role, opportunities and challenges.

Members and guests had the opportunity to network during the lunch provided by Discovery Point.

The break was followed by the Chief Executive of Dundee

Heritage Trust, Deirdre Robertson, signing the Armed Forces Covenant. Naval Regional Commander for Scotland and Northern Ireland (NRC SNI), Brigadier Andy Muddiman ADC, co-signed on behalf of the Ministry of Defence. Dundee Heritage Trust is a registered charity with responsibility for Discovery Point, an award-winning visitor attraction and museum including the internationally significant Royal Research Ship (RRS) Discovery, and Verdant Works, one of the nation's most important textile museums.

The Armed Forces Covenant signing and presentation was followed by updates from single Service representatives: NRC SNI, Brigadier Andy Muddiman; Chief Engagement of HQ 51st Infantry Brigade and HQ Scotland, Lieutenant Colonel Hugo Clark; and Air Officer Scotland, Air Vice Marshal Ross Paterson. Members were then able to interact with them during a Tri-Service Q&A.

HRFCA President and Lord-Lieutenant of Fife, Robert Balfour, closed the meeting. After official business was completed, delegates had the opportunity to take part in a free guided tour of Discovery Point and RRS Discovery. Members and guests were delighted with the new venue and iconic backdrop provided by Discovery Point.



Some of the key players on project handover day were, from left: Fraser Kennedy (HRFCA Head of Estates); Stuart Eddie (2 Highlanders CEO); Margaret-Jane Malcolm (HRFCA Estates Officer North East); Gary Mennie (Site Manager /Construction Project Manager – Morrison Construction); and Paul Guest (2 Highlanders Quartermaster).

£1.6m project completed

The redevelopment of the Cadet Training Centre (CTC) at Boddam (Phases 1 and 2) has been successfully completed with the £1.6 million project handed over to Highland RFCA and, in turn, 2nd Battalion The Highlanders Army Cadet Force (ACF).

The second phase saw the creation of a new drill hall and stores provision.

That phase of the Highland RFCA Estates team’s development followed the earlier completion of works on the site to build a

Tube Firing Range, a Parade Square, and refurbish the old Shetland Accommodation Block into an IT Suite and classroom space. Read more about those improvements at www.hrfca.co.uk.

The work to buildings at the 2 Highlanders CTC, near Peterhead in Aberdeenshire, will enable the more than 300 cadets and 80+ Adult Volunteers from the Battalion to train and learn in the best possible conditions. The Battalion thanked Highland RFCA for its support in delivering a fantastic asset.

The project was officially handed over by principal contractor Morrison Construction Site Manager Gary Mennie on 21 April.



From left: The new drill hall and stores provision; Battalion CEO Stuart Eddie in the drill hall; the new parade square.



The new Tube Firing Range and observation area and (right) the Ken Masson Learning Suite.

Night at the Museum



Employers from the Highland-RFCA area gathered at The Black Watch Castle and Museum in Perth on June 22 to receive prestigious Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Silver Awards.

The reception and presentations, hosted by Highland RFCA, formally recognised the support the 29 organisations give to the Armed Forces community.

On the night, 25 organisations were on hand to collect their Awards for 2023 from Major General Bill Wright, General Officer Scotland, the Army's senior representative in Scotland.

Among the other military representatives were Commander Gary Farmer RN from HMS Caledonia, Colonel Tony Phillips and Major Heather Lawrie of 51st Infantry Brigade and HQ Scotland, and Group Captain Derek Johnston and Wing Commander Archie McCallum from the RAF.

The evening began with employers and their guests being piped into the venue by Cadet Hay and welcomed by Highland RFCA Chief Executive Brigadier (Retd) Mark Dodson. An opportunity for networking followed before guests were invited outside to enjoy an outstanding musical performance from the

Pipes and Drums of The Black Watch Battalion Army Cadet Force, under the guidance of Pipe Major Connor Pratt.

Major General Wright took the time to speak to the cadets and Adult Volunteers following their performance. He also awarded a General's Coin to a very proud Sergeant Alyssa Spinks, from the Battalion's Glenrothes Detachment, in recognition of her excellent performance on drums.

Prior to the presentations, Major General Wright said: "I am delighted to have been invited to present the Awards to you tonight, and have a chance to meet you all.

"We are here this evening, to give recognition to employers as part of the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme. You may be interested to know that the number of companies joining the ERS is rising rapidly – the milestone 10,000th Armed Forces Covenant was signed in April of this year and the number continues to rise. There are now over 1,000 Silver Award holders, and 29 are being awarded in HRFCAs area this year – a record number. We hope that now you too have reached the Silver standard you will go on to become advocates to other businesses and organisations on behalf of the defence family and thereby qualify to be considered for the Gold level Award.

"So, on behalf of defence, I thank you for your commitment and for all that you are doing for us."

Central Fife Sheds Ltd, EC Aluminium Ltd, Glenhead Engineering Ltd and International SOS Medical Services UK were unable to attend.

The 2023 Silver Award winners were: 20/20 Business Insight Limited; Andron Facilities Management; BEAR Scotland; BRAVEHOUND; Central Fife Sheds Ltd; Dundee Football Club; EC Aluminium Ltd; Eclipse (IP) Ltd; Falkirk Football Community Foundation; Forth Valley College; G.H.Q. Spirits; Glenhead Engineering Ltd; Gray & Adams Ltd; Home Instead East Fife; HorseBack UK; International SOS Medical Services UK; Lochaber Chamber of Commerce; Lochgilphead Medical Centre; Munro and Noble Solicitors and Estate Agents; NHS Western Isles; Progressive Pathways Ltd; Royal Dornoch Golf Club; Serica Energy; Stirling Highland Games; Stroven Ltd; The Dundee Gin Company Ltd; The UKSI Limited; TSG UK Solutions Limited; Wings For Warriors.



HRFCA's Roy McLellan greets guests from Progressive Pathways Ltd to The Black Watch Castle and Museum.



Maj Gen Wright shows his appreciation.



Maj Gen Wright takes the Salute.



Maj Gen Wright and Brig Dodson chat to cadets.



The winners with Maj Gen Wright.



The band put on a stirring performance.



Cadet Sergeant Alyssa Spinks with her General's Coin.



Piper Hay welcomed guests.



Maj Gen Wright with BEAR Scotland representatives.



ERS Silver Award certificates.

Royal Gun Salute at Stirling



Royal Gun Salute guests with (centre) Mr Alan Simpson, Lord-Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk.

A Royal Gun Salute was fired at Stirling Castle on 17 June in honour of the birthday of His Majesty The King.

The Reviewing Officer was Mr Alan Simpson OBE, the Lord-Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk. The event at Stirling was one of many Royal Gun Salutes fired across the nation to mark the occasion.

Guests included the Provosts of Stirling, Falkirk, and Clackmannanshire and representatives from Armed Forces Covenant (AFC) signatory and Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Bronze Award holder Dundee and Angus College, AFC signatory and ERS Gold holder Fife Chamber of Commerce, AFC signatory and ERS Silver holder Forth Valley Chamber of Commerce, AFC signatory and ERS Silver holder Forth Valley College, AFC signatory and ERS Silver holder The Arpine Group,

Dunblane Centre, Queen Victoria School (including Combined Cadet Force), Volunteer Scotland, and 867 (Denny) Squadron of the RAF Air Cadets.

The 21-gun salute was fired at noon, with the pre-Salute reception and subsequent buffet lunch taking place in the newly-refurbished Regimental Museum of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders Museum.

Catering was provided by Perth-based Hazelnuts Catering, an Armed Forces Covenant signatory and Employer Recognition Scheme Bronze Award holder.

Guests were welcomed by HRFCA Chief Executive Brigadier (Retd) Mark Dodson and briefed on the historical significance of the Salute by Battery Commander Major Lee Patchell of 105 Regiment Royal Artillery. Guests then moved to the Middle Square area of the Castle to

watch the Salute being fired by a Troop from Newcastle-based 3rd Regiment Royal Horse Artillery. The Troop was commanded by Captain Ross Beeby.

Music was provided by The Regimental Band of The Black Watch Battalion ACF, and Pipe Major Lexine McCappin from Dunblane's Queen Victoria School.

Following lunch, the Lord-Lieutenant presented certificates to his two new Lord-Lieutenant's Cadets for 23/24. They were Flight Sergeant Thomas Scott of 867 (Denny) Squadron of the RAF Air Cadets, and Cadet Sergeant Major Alicia Bullock of Queen Victoria School CCF.

The period of their appointment runs for a year from Armed Forces Day, June 24. Each of the cadets will assist the Lord-Lieutenant, helping him carry out his official duties in the Stirling and Falkirk lieutenancy.



From left: The Salute was fired by 3rd Regiment Royal Horse Artillery; The Lord-Lieutenant inspects the Troop; Music from The Black Watch.



HRFCA staff gathered on August 3 to say farewell to (from left) Louise, Lesley and Avril.



Above: Chief Executive Brigadier (Retd) Mark Dodson delivers a speech to the HQ retirees, and staff enjoying games.

108 years' service to HRFCA

HRFCA has bid a fond farewell to long-serving members of staff Lesley Laing and Louise Chalmers who, along with fellow retirees Avril Blyth and Andrew 'Moose' Cameron, have contributed a combined 108 years of outstanding service to the Association.

Lesley (then Lesley Reid) joined the Association on 1 December 1979 as the Class 'C' Estates Clerk in the HQ under Highland Territorial Auxiliary & Volunteer Reserve Association (Highland TAVRA). On 16 November 1982 she was promoted to Class 'B' Clerk and in 1988 her role was renamed Admin Officer where she stayed until October 2013 before being promoted again and moving to the role of Deputy Finance Officer.

Lesley married Miles at Craigiebank Parish Church, Dundee, on 11 July 1992, where she became Lesley Laing. On 15 January 1996 she gave birth to their son Euan. Over the following years his mum's connections to the military must have had some effect on Euan as he is now serving as a commissioned officer in the RAF of which both Lesley and Miles are extremely proud.

Lesley has seen the Association change not only from TAVRA to HRFCA but many other working and structural changes in between. She has gained a wealth of historical knowledge that will be a considerable loss to the Association. She has worked in most parts of the building including early on when No2 Married Quarter was offices. Over her time since she has seen many members of staff come and go including four Finance Officers and six Chief Executives. Throughout Lesley's extensive career she has shown how much of a pivotal part of the Association's business she has been and has contributed to greatly over the years.

Lesley has shown great support and dedication to both the departments she has worked for and to all that have served in the Association alongside her. After 44 years of exceptional service she has decided to call it a day. We wish Lesley and her family all the very best for the future.

Louise joined Highland TAVRA on 18 April 1985 as a 'C' Clerk doing the mail in the Front Office. This was in the days when there were no computers at Seathwood and everything was communicated by letter and doing the mail was a full-time job. The switchboard was another of her duties, with only six lines and phones limited to the bosses and one per department.

She was promoted to typist and after a couple of years was successful in applying for another promotion to the 'B' Clerk post in the Finance Department when Helen retired. A

reshuffle within Seathwood in 2011 moved her out of Finance and into Communications then due to absence she was asked to cover in the Quartermaster's (FM) Department for six months. She impressed in that role so much that she was asked to permanently move into the Estates Department and became the Statutory and Mandatory Administration Officer (AO). She has worked in every department within the Association.

In 2018 Louise was promoted again to Compliance Co-ordinator, where she worked closely alongside the Head of Estates to ensure a safe place for the whole of the Volunteer Estate in the Highland RFA-area of responsibility. This was a mammoth task that Louise took in her stride. As reporting responsibilities grew Louise (in her final role as Safe Estates Compliance Officer) provided support to the newly-established Safe Estate Compliance Manager.

Louise leaves HRFCA with a wealth of historical knowledge of all the transitions we have been through. She played a pivotal role in improving our processes and providing expert advice to ensure continued compliance on the estate. Louise will be using her well-earned retirement to spend more time with her husband, three children and five grandchildren.

Also retiring was Head of Support Services (HSS) and Regional Systems Administrator (RSA) Avril Blyth and Angus and Dundee Battalion ACF Cadet Executive Officer (CEO) Major Andrew 'Moose' Cameron.

Avril started with the Association in June 2008 as an Employer Support AO for Defence Relationship Management (when it was still called SabRE, that stood for Supporting Britain's Reservists and Employers), before moving department and role to IT Systems Administrator & Office Support – then in 2017 moved to her current role of HSS/RSA.

Moose (pictured) joined Angus and Dundee Battalion as its CEO in 2012, moving from D Squadron 205 (Scottish) Field Hospital where he worked as the Permanent Staff Administration Officer (PSAO). He has a long history of military service, joining the Army in 1972 and serving in the Royal Artillery Company, 4 Royal Tank Regiment until 1996, then 1 Royal Tank Regiment until 1997. Moose then joined the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, completing his Regular service in 2006. A period as the PSAO of A Squadron Queen's Own Yeomanry (now the SNIY) followed before he moved to 205 Field Hospital in 2009.

The Association thanks Moose for his years of service and wishes him a long and happy retirement.



Squadron Marches to success



The Best RAF Team at the Nijmegen Marches. Top right: The team's trophy and (right) the ten participants from 2622.



Royal Air Force Reservists from 2622 (Highland) Squadron Royal Auxiliary Air Force (RAuxAF) Regiment have won the Best RAF Team of the Nijmegen International Marches for the second year in a row.

The 4Days Marches, the world's largest walking achievement event, takes place in the third week of July. Participants from more than 70 nations, aged from as young as 11 to over 90, arrive in the Netherlands every year to walk 30, 40 or 50 kilometres for four days.

The event draws civilians and military personnel from around the globe, offering an opportunity for Detachments and individuals to challenge themselves during The Walk of the World.

On 21 July, 39,019 participants crossed the finish line of the 105th 4Days Marches. The participants received the 4Days Marches cross.

A team of ten RAF Reservists from Lossiemouth-based 2622 Squadron set off again to compete in this year's event in a bid to emulate last year's success. They succeeded yet again, bringing the Best RAF Team trophy home.

In 2022, 225 (Scottish) Medical Regiment deployed to the Netherlands from 19-22 July to support the Marches. The medics supported around 1500 participants, providing them with medical care and food.

The 106th edition of the 4Days Marches will take place from 16 to 19 July 2024.

Memorial commemorates animals

A new memorial to commemorate the suffering of animals in war has been unveiled by Flight Lieutenant John Cruickshank VC at the Gordon Highlanders Museum, Aberdeen.

The memorial, commissioned by the Animals in Warfare Association, also acknowledges the support given to the Association by the Gordon Highlanders.

During a short ceremony on 20 May, the gathering was addressed by the Association President, former Lord-Lieutenant and former Lord Provost of Aberdeen Barney Crockett, and Association Patron Graham Guyan DL.

Vice-Patron and President of the North East Gurkha Association, Honorary Lieutenant Menbahadur Gurung, and Museum Chief

Executive John McLeish also participated. 13-year-old Piper Rory of Robert Gordon's College (RGC) Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Pipe Band led the procession to the memorial, which included Association member and Robert Gordon's College CCF Contingent Commander Daniel Montgomery. Rory also played a lament following the unveiling.

The original Animals in Warfare memorial, which was installed by Mr Guyan in memory of his late wife, stands at the entrance to Delgatie Castle, Turriff.

20 May also marked former RAF Volunteer Reserve officer Flt Lt Cruickshank's 103rd birthday. Members of the Association and their guests were delighted to be able to celebrate this special event with him at a reception which followed the unveiling.



John Cruickshank VC at the memorial.



HMS Prince of Wales at Rosyth. The ship sailed out of the Forth in late July after nine months in dry dock.

Reserves Day carrier visit

To celebrate Reserves Day, Highland RFCA invited guests to a reception on HMS Prince of Wales – one of the Royal Navy’s two Elizabeth-class warships.

The £3 billion aircraft carrier was alongside in Rosyth Dockyard, Fife.

The purpose of the 21 June event was to thank Reservists and their families from RMR Scotland and RNR Scotia who have delivered valuable service in support of the Maritime Reserves over the past year.

It was also an opportunity for the more than 100 visitors to observe a signing of the Armed Forces Covenant by Port of Aberdeen. By signing the Armed Forces Covenant, Port of Aberdeen has become one of the 10,000+ organisations to pledge support to the Armed Forces community.

The document was signed by Port of Aberdeen’s Chief Commercial Officer Roddy James, with Captain Richard Turley RN (Navy People) co-signing on behalf of the Ministry of Defence.

Port of Aberdeen also received the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Bronze Award. The ERS Awards encourage employers to support defence and inspire others to do the same. The prestigious Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards are for employer organisations that pledge, demonstrate or advocate support to defence and the Armed Forces community, and align their values with the Armed Forces.

Emphasising the significance of the Covenant signing, Jeanine Maindron, Head of People and Culture at Port of Aberdeen, said: “It is with a great sense of pride that we enter into this partnership with the Armed Forces. As an employer

of former Service personnel, the signing of the Covenant demonstrates our recognition of their contribution to our organisation, our community and to the country.

“It cements our commitment to providing meaningful employment opportunities and support to Service personnel, Reservists, Veterans, the cadet movement, and military families.”

HRFCA’s guests included representatives from: IED Training Solutions Ltd, Kongsberg Maritime Ltd, Port of Aberdeen, The MacRobert Trust, Trident Maritime Systems, and the Scottish Ambulance Service.

All of those organisations have signed the Covenant and, between them, are holders of multiple Defence Employer Recognition Scheme Awards, holding two Golds, two Silvers, and two Bronze Awards between them.



Left: Port of Aberdeen signed the Armed Forces Covenant. Above: The reception was held in the 65,000 tonne, 284-metre long ship’s internal hangar.



Cadets from 1st Battalion The Highlanders during their camp at Barry Buddon, near Carnoustie.

Summer camps a big success

For the first time in several years, summer camp season had a familiar feel as the five HRFCA-area Army Cadet Force (ACF) Battalions enjoyed breaks stretching from Boddam in the north to Dorset in the south.

1st Battalion The Highlanders ACF held their Camp at the Barry Buddon Training Area near Carnoustie from 15-28 July.

Highland RFCA Deputy Chief Executive, Lieutenant Colonel (Retd) Andrew Macnaughton, visited on 18 July.

The camp saw 158 cadets and 57 Cadet Force Adult Volunteers (CFAVs) taking part. This was the Battalion's first proper Summer Camp since 2019.

Commandant Colonel Michael Anderson emphasised the resourcefulness and improvisation in the last few years. He said: "The resilience of our staff has been nothing short of outstanding."

One of the CFAVs helping to make the camp possible, Moray Company's Second-in-Command and Culloden Detachment's Commander, Captain Bart Lucas MBE, is the twelfth longest-serving CFAV in the country as well as the third longest-serving CFAV still in uniform who holds a rank. He was made a Member of the British Empire in His Majesty The King's Birthday Honours List for 2023. The King's

Birthday Honours mark the extraordinary contributions and service of people across the UK.

For the cadets, camp really does reflect the ACF tagline of "Fun, Friendship, Action and Adventure". Camp is also when the cadets really get to grips with the ACF syllabus with two weeks of training. This year's programme included paintball battles, navigation and expedition, fieldcraft, first aid training, adventurous training, drill and shooting.

2nd Battalion The Highlanders' camp was held at Boddam Cadet Training Centre (CTC) in Aberdeenshire from 8-14 July. Lt Col Macnaughton visited Boddam on 11 July. Commandant Colonel Gordon Rae, who provided a tour of the new facilities at the Ken Masson Learning Suite, welcomed him.

The HRFCA Estates team's £1.6 million improvements to the CTC buildings got under way in May 2022. The works on the site included building a Tube Firing Range and a Parade Square as well as refurbishing the old Shetland Accommodation Block into an IT Suite and classroom space.

The improved facilities now enable the Battalion's 300+ cadets and 80+ Adult Volunteers to train and learn in the best possible conditions.

This year's camp hosted 102 cadets as

well as 32 Cadet Force Adult Volunteers and Permanent Support Staff from across all three Companies.

The camp included five new Adult Volunteers with no prior military or ACF background. Nepalese Probationary Instructor Gyanu Raut (pictured) has been applying her passion and experience for teaching cyber security in her civilian job to now leading Army Cadets.

She said: "I like teaching, but I have also been learning from the cadets. The best part is meeting new people as well as seeing the cadets happy and learning new skills. I'm enjoying the thrill and the challenge of pushing myself to see what I can do. I really wish I had this same opportunity as a child, because these cadets are being exposed to such important skills and new experiences."



The official opening and celebration of the Ken Masson Learning Suite took place on 27 August.

Lt Col Macnaughton also visited other summer camps: Angus and Dundee Battalion ACF in Bovington, Dorset on 17 July; Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Battalion ACF in Chickerill, Dorset on 14 July; and Black Watch Battalion ACF in Garelochhead, Helensburgh on 21 July.



1st Battalion The Highlanders being taught first aid skills and (right) cadets from 2nd Battalion The Highlanders on parade at Boddam.



Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders shooting and (right) cadets from Angus and Dundee Battalion during Adventure Training.



Lunchtime at Garelochhead.



Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders Cadets (above and below) during fieldcraft lessons at Chickerill, Dorset.



All participants at the Angus and Dundee Battalion camp received certificates. Below: The Battalion's cadets visited the Armoured Centre at Bovington.



The Black Watch Battalion gorge walking at Luss and (right) Black Watch Cadets enjoying fieldcraft at Garelochhead.

Tri-Service Cadet Day



Some of the cadets and Cadet Force Adult Volunteers who took part in the event.

Hundreds of people in Dundee were given an insight into the Service Cadets during a Tri-Service Cadet Open Day on 3 June.

More than 100 cadets and Adult Volunteers set up stands in the City Square, showcasing the breadth of their activities.

These included tag archery, fieldcraft, laser shooting, a mobile flight simulator, first aid demonstrations, and a RIB/dinghy.

There was also music provided by the Pipes and Drums of the ACF Battalions of Angus and Dundee, The Black Watch, and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders,

and the band of Dundee Sea and Royal Marines Cadets – TS Duncan. Each band put on several performances throughout the day, helping to pull in a large and appreciative crowd.

The event ran from 11am to 3pm and was designed to highlight the benefits gained from joining any of the cadet organisations.

Aside from the musical performances and stands there were also drill displays from the RAF Air Cadets, and from the Sea Cadets. The well-attended event was rounded off in style with an inter-services competition. The hotly-contested event involved dismantling and rebuilding a set of webbing. Roared on by cadets and the

crowd, the team from TS Duncan won, thus securing bragging rights for the Sea Cadets.

Among the cadet units taking part on a very sunny Saturday were TS Duncan (Sea Cadets); Angus and Dundee Battalion Army Cadet Force, the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders Battalion ACF, the Pipes & Drums of The Black Watch Battalion ACF and RAF Air Cadets from 1145 (Dunfermline) Squadron.

Many thanks to all those who took part and to the High School of Dundee for kindly providing parking facilities.

The free event built on one held in 2022 at the Reserve Centre in the city's Strathmore Road in 2022.





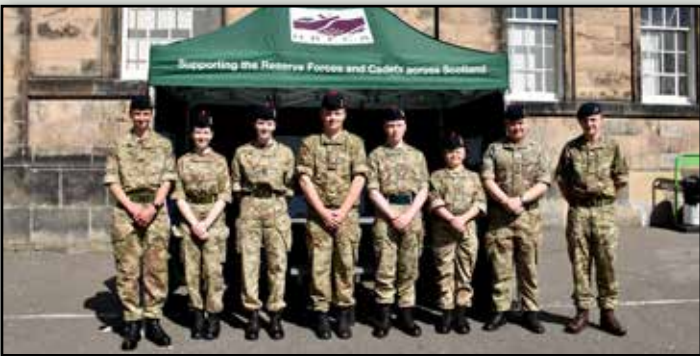
The Pipes & Drums played to a sizeable audience.



Above: The Services competition was hard fought. Above right: RAF Air Cadets teaching lifesaving skills.



Archery was popular with visitors.



Army Cadets in front of the HRFCA gazebo.



RAF Air Cadets put on an excellent display of drill.

Highland Reserve Forces'
and Cadets' Association
Seathwood
365 Perth Road
Dundee
DD2 1LX

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