

First Class – Part One

Revision Sheet – The Air Cadet Organisation

The Founding of The Air Cadet Organisation

The man regarded as the Father of the Air Cadets is Air Commodore J.A. Chamier. When he retired from the RAF he joined an organisation dedicated to making the British public aware of the potential in aviation. With interest rising, and the advent of World War Two, the Air Commodore came up with a plan to start an aviation cadet corps.

1938 – The Air Defence Cadet Corps (ADCC) was formed by Air Commodore Chamier.

The first 50 Squadrons formed were founder squadrons and were entitled to use the letter 'F' after their Squadron number.

1939 – WW2 caused much upheaval and cadets from the ADCC were used on RAF stations and in government work for carrying messages, clerical duties, handling aircraft or helping with stores.

So many good reports were made of these cadets that the ADCC was asked to train the young men waiting to be called into service.

1940 – The government realised the value of the work done by the ADCC and agrees to take over control. The ADCC undergoes a number of changes and reforms into a new organisation.

1941 - 5th February – The Air Training Corps (ATC) is officially formed, with King George VI as the Air Commodore-in-Chief.

August – The new ATC crest was approved, complete with the motto 'Venture Adventure'.

1945 – The end of WW2. The ATC becomes part of the specially formed Reserve Command – a branch of the RAF, with serving RAF officers at its head.

1967 – The academic course was enhanced, adding a fourth level of training: Staff Cadet.

1980 – Girls admitted to the ATC on a two-year trial basis. Became a massive success.

The Aims of The Air Training Corps

- 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 the Services and civilian life.
- To foster the spirit of adventure and develop qualities of leadership and good citizenship.