



# Surrey Army Cadet Force Review 2006



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## Inside The Review

A Word from the Battalion Commander	
BTEC	2
Duke of Edinburgh's Award	
Cadet & Instructor Strength	3
APC Results	
Adventure Training	
Shooting	4
Cadet In The Community	
Orienteering	
Adult Training	5
Exercise Southern Cross	
Annual Camp	
Coopers' Cask	6
Awards	
Maundy Service	7
Cadet Force Music	
Surrey Cadets Take to the Air	8

## Points of Special Interest:

- Cadet Recruiting Up
- Adult Retention Improving
- APC Results improving
- D of E Enrolments Up
- Annual Camp Attendance Up
- Adventure Training — More Trained Instructors
- Exercise Southern Cross
- Parachuting in Germany

## Commandant's Report

In just a few short lines it's hard to list the many successes of our Cadets throughout the last year which has been one of real achievement.

We hosted a party of Cadets from Australia as a part of our biennial exchange programme (we're back to Western Australia for just over two weeks next summer), we have at last resurrected Cadet Parachuting with a group of our seniors attending an Army Sport Parachute Course in Germany and we've brought home silverware from a number of events and competitions with a win in our Regimentally sponsored cadet competition "Exercise Tiger Cub" another in the Divisional Military Skills Competition and another 'clean sweep' in the Orienteering Nationals.

Our Annual Camp at Fremington was one of the most successful ever. It was attended by around 320 cadets from throughout the County and our Cadet numbers are at an all time high.

The year saw the first winners of our newly sponsored 'Coopers' Cask' Inter-Company competition (A Company) and we assisted in a plethora of local events and charity activities raising large sums of money in support of worthy causes. A highlight for many was in assisting with the visit of Her Majesty the Queen to Guildford Cathedral.

Yet despite all of these high-flying events it is what goes on at our 26 Detachments, week in and week out, throughout the year that gives Surrey ACF its character and its strength. The challenges and opportunities that are made available to around 700 young people from throughout the County by our dedicated and enthusiastic Detachment volunteer staff make Surrey Army Cadet Force truly worthy of the motto "To Inspire To Achieve".



Colonel Andrew Blowers



Colonel Andrew Blowers  
December 2006



## A Word From The Battalion Commander

What a monumental year this has been for Surrey ACF! The Battalion has grown in strength and more has been achieved across the board than for many years. All members of Surrey ACF can be proud of their contributions.

Annual Camp saw our biggest ever turn out and, building on the success of the past two years, Annual Camp in 2007 will be even more challenging and exciting, at all levels.

Our Adult Training strategy is work-

ing - more effective trainers mean better trained cadets - but we shouldn't be complacent. We still need more Instructors at Detachment level and we need to recruit and train more Officers.

Nevertheless, we are successful in a wide range of activities. We have won the National Orienteering Championship for the third year running. We have a record number of cadets enrolled in the D of E and have gained more APC passes this year, including two Master Cadets passes. The signs

are good for yet another great year in 2007.

Well done to all of you. Let's carry on the great work and let's ensure that Surrey ACF is active and visible in your part of the County.



*Major David Newman,  
Battalion Commander*

## BTEC

Cadets can now earn a BTEC First Diploma in Public Services through the work they do in the ACF that is an NVQ equivalent to 4 GCSE passes at A\* to C Grade. Not surprisingly, enrolment in BTEC has increased rapidly over the past two years as parents and cadets realise the importance and advantage that this can give in both the academic world and the world of work. Some cadets have even been granted places on University Courses through the "extra" work done to achieve their BTEC.

Major David Newman is the BTEC Co-ordinator. Currently there are 52 cadets enrolled in the BTEC Scheme. During 2006 the following results were

obtained.

Passes	12
Merits	9
Distinctions	5

In addition, the BTEC scheme is open to Officers and Adult instructors of the ACF. This year 2 officers gained their Graduateship of the City and Guilds Institute (GCGI) and one officer gained a Licentiate (LCGI) through a programme of work leading to a qualification in Youth Leadership and Management. The BTEC scheme is one of the most interesting developments in the ACF in recent years and is des-



*The Commandant Presented Seven Senior Cadets With Their  
BTEC Certificates At Annual Camp*

igned to grow as its value is increasingly recognised.

## Duke Of Edinburgh's Award

The number of enrolments in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme has improved dramatically since the start of 2006. Previously, for reasons of manpower shortage, there had been little progress in the delivery of this useful and important qualification.

Currently, some 97 cadets are enrolled in the scheme, working at Bronze, Silver & Gold levels.

The plan for 2007 is for a steady growth in the numbers enrolling for the Bronze award with subsequent growth in the number of cadets continuing on to Silver and Gold Awards.



The year 2006 was the 50th Anniversary year of the start of the Duke Of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and Surrey ACF cadets participated in the County Service at Guildford Cathedral in November, attended by the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, Mrs Sarah Goad JP, and many other County dignitaries including our own Honorary Colonel, Brigadier Graeme Bartlett MBE DL, pictured on the left with cadets from Chobham Detachment

*Brigadier Bartlett With Cadets From Chobham  
Detachment At Guildford Cathedral*

## Cadet & Instructor Strength

Cadet recruiting and retention in Surrey continues to improve. During the year there has been a net increase across the county of 70 cadets (a 12.5% increase) bringing the total on strength to 670 cadets in all. The increase is all the more welcome in the knowledge that cadet strength in many other counties is currently declining.

The cause of the increase in cadet enrolment may be attributable to a number of factors including improvements in adult strength, the reorganisation of the county into a five company structure and the recent successful annual camps at Fremington this

year and Thetford last year.

The recruitment of new instructors continues apace and the restructured Induction Training Course has proved a great success, both in training new starters and in subsequent retention.

While the county is still not recruited up to its full officer/instructor establishment, the interest in the ACF as an extramural activity for adults is still quite strong, as evidenced by the successful media recruiting campaign of two years ago.



Nevertheless, the quest to find suitable adult recruits continues unabated.

	Officers	AUO	AI/PI	CA	Total Staff	Cadets (Male)	Cadets (Female)	Total Cadets
<b>Establishment</b>	54	-	97	-	151	-	-	-
<b>Year 2006</b>	25	11	88	9	133	510	160	670

## Army Proficiency Certificate (APC) Results

The APC continues to be the bedrock on which the performance of the county is measured. The numbers of cadets progressing through the APC system continues to improve, again a measure of the efficiency and effectiveness of the training that they are receiving in the Detachment, at Annual Camp and on courses etc.

The APC syllabus is a progressive programme of training designed to give the cadet the rudiments of skill and competence in a series of activities including drill and turn out, skill at arms, map reading, fieldcraft, first aid, military knowledge, shooting and community service. As the cadet progresses from one level to the next, roughly in line with their ages (starting at 13 and progressing to 18 years), the

complexity of the subjects increases as does the difficulty of the tests.

Included in the syllabus of the higher star levels are Instructors courses that enhance the instructional capability of the cadet.

By the time the cadet achieves the standard of Master Cadet at about 18 years of age he/she has a level of competence in the various subjects on a par with a young soldier and is usually a strong asset in his detachment - able to prepare and deliver lessons and generally assist in the running of the unit.

Coupled with advances in other subjects such the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, the cadet develops into a rounded and capable individual, with highly developed leadership skills, an

**"The APC continues to be the bedrock on which the performance of the county is measured"**

advantage when looking for employment or should he/she wish to join the services. For many cadets the APC invariably leads to a BTEC Award in Public services, see page 2, further enhancing their employability.



	Basic	One Star	Two Star	Three Star	Four Star	Master Cadet	Total Passes
<b>Year 2006</b>	218	89	39	16	3	2	367

## Adventure Training

The Adventure Training Team have had a very productive year. A major priority has been the advancement and qualification of the AT staff with a number achieving canoeing, mountain proficiency and climbing qualifications.

Two successful adventure training weekends were held at Lydd for 60 junior cadets in each case. The week-



end covered obstacle course, mountain biking, kayaking, canoeing, rafting, archery and camping.

Around 20 Surrey and Kent ACF staff took part in an AT weekend event including kayaking, canoeing, archery and climbing.

At annual camp all 1 and 2 star cadets had the opportunity to participate in 1 or 2 days of AT activities.

The AT team supervised bronze and silver Duke of Edinburgh's award expeditions. 18 cadets passed their 2



star APC expedition on the South Downs in May and 7 cadets completed their bronze practice expedition. In April, 3 cadets completed their silver award practice expedition. At annual camp 26 cadets passed their 3 star expedition. Two cadets completed their bronze level expedition and 14 their silver practice expeditions.



## Shooting

Shooting within the County is now picking up again under the leadership of the recently appointed County Shooting Officer, Captain Jeremy Marsh. Following Annual Camp, where cadets had the opportunity to fire on full bore ranges, the County Shoot took place at Ash Ranges over the weekend of 16th and 17th September. Some 89 cadets from detachments across all 5 Companies took part firing on both the



Electric Target Range and Gallery ranges.

The highest individual score of 111 was achieved by Cdt Lawless of Leatherhead Detachment in B Coy.

Shooting staff from Surrey ACF also ran the 'Pool Bull' Range for the 2006 4 Div CADSAM shoot at Pir-

*Cadet Lawless Of Leatherhead Detachment Wins The Individual Shooting Trophy*

bright in September.

Shooting at Detachment level is also on the up with cadets from Yorktown, Chertsey, Woking, Addlestone, Chobham, Redhill and Horley entering teams in the ACF Cadet 100 Competition. Cdt Killgower of Yorktown Detachment achieved the highest place for Surrey at 101st out of over 1023 cadets who entered from all over the UK.

In addition to shooting the Cadet GP Rifle, many cadets in the county have had the opportunity to try their hand at Clay Pigeon Shooting during Annual Camp as an extra-mural activity.

## Cadet In The Community

The late John F Kennedy, President of the USA, challenged the people of his country with the quote, " Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country..." Had Surrey ACF cadets been Americans they may well have been taking up his challenge. Throughout Surrey, cadets and detachments have been mobilising in support of their communities.

In April 2006, Walton Detachment in hand with Elmbridge Housing Trust, spearheaded a youth initiative and area clean-up designed to reduce vandalism and to improve the local environment. The project was a great success and received plaudits from the police, councillors and politicians.

Across Surrey cadets have been raising money for worthy causes, assisting their communities and taking part in local events, from assisting the emergency services in a disaster exercise at Dunfold, to participating in remembrance services and civic events. We shouldn't forget the ACF officers and instructors who give their time to help disaffected youth through the Outreach Project .



*Surrey ACF Crash Dummies Participate In An Emergency Services Exercise At Dunfold.*

## Orienteering

For the third year running, Surrey ACF achieved an almost clean sweep in the National Cadet Orienteering Championships, this year held at Warcop in Cumbria. Following weeks of intensive training, the Surrey ACF Team won the Senior Boys, Junior Boys and Junior Girls team events.

The Senior Girls, not to be overshadowed, showed a remarkable performance by taking first and second places in their event.

In the ACF placements Surrey ACF achieved the following:

### ACF Senior Boys

#### Cup and 8 Gold medals

1st Cadet C Mason (Reigate)

2nd L/Cpl A Clarke (Felbridge)  
4th CSM G Wilkinson (Lingfield)  
6th Cdt D Long (Redhill)

### ACF Senior Girls

1st CUO K McDermott (Reigate)  
2nd Cpl J McGeachie (Dorking)

### ACF Junior Boys

#### Cup and 6 Gold Medals

2nd Cdt W Prior (Reigate)  
3rd Cdt A Chilvers (Lingfield)  
4th Cdt M Hills (Felbridge)  
14th Cdt A Springham (Felbridge)  
16th Cdt M Smith (Lingfield)  
18th Cdt F Butcher (Lingfield)

### ACF Junior Girls

#### Cup and 3 Gold medals

3rd L/Cpl Bennett (Reigate)  
6th G Richardson (Reigate)  
7th T Leung (Reigate)



*Surrey ACF Orienteering Team With Medals at Warcop*

The cadet Orienteers are to be congratulated for not only winning three major team events in the Nationals, but also the winning ACF Senior Boys came out ahead of the top CCF and ATC teams. A truly magnificent result. Well done to Malcolm Mair, his assistants and the whole squad.

## Adult Training

2006 was another successful year for Surrey ACF Adult Training. The implementation of a revised plan for training new instructors and for progressing experienced instructors has yielded positive results.

Some interesting and wide-ranging qualification courses have been successfully completed by our staff, including numerous Adventurous Training Qualifications, Skiing Instructor, Civilian HGV Driver, First Aid Trainer/ Assessor courses and several Great British Target Shooting Federation (GBTSF) Club Coach awards. These are in addition to the usual high standard of attendance at the Cadet Train-

ing Centre at Frimley Park and the BCTC's held by 8 Cadet Training Team.

The aims and objectives of the adult training policy have been met with regard to conducting the three modular weekends by ensuring that all new CA's are given a good introduction to the ACF and the Army Proficiency Certificate syllabus and at the same time put through their Mandatory Training Tests, meaning that they can return to their detachments as useful Potential Instructors.

The quest for new officers has resulted in candidates attending one of two Potential Officer Training Courses held at Farncombe over the past year, with some participants already attending Boards at Westbury.

2007 will see the introduction of more new initiatives on the Adult Training front to accelerate the training of new instructors and to ensure that experienced instructors maintain and update their skills regularly.



## Exercise Southern Cross 2006



This year saw the continuation of the International Exchange Programme with the Western Australia Army Cadet Corps. Twenty three cadets and eight instructors from Australia visited Surrey for 3 weeks in August, one week at the WETC at Farncombe and two weeks at Annual Camp. The visit was truly awesome, further cementing the close relationship we have with our Affiliated Australian cousins. Surrey ACF looks forward to the reciprocal visit in July 2007 when our cadets and instructors plan to visit Australia where they will experience life in the outback and maybe even go whale spotting.

## Annual Camp

This year, Annual Camp was held at Fremington in North Devon. A total of 320 cadets attended the camp (the best attendance in the last 10 years) along with some one hundred Officers and Adult Instructors.

Camp is the pinnacle of every cadet's year. It is an opportunity for the cadets to put into practice all they have learned in their Detachments during the past year and at the same time pass their proficiency tests.

The two weeks spent at camp is very busy as the cadets participate in various aspects of their cadet training. The main thrust of their training is in the bread and butter subjects such a drill and turn out, map reading, field-craft, skill at arms, first aid, etc. However, the cadets also have other experiences such as adventure training and shooting. All the cadets get an opportunity to have a go at canoeing, abseiling, archery, clay pigeon shooting, moun-

tain biking, climbing and other activities.

This year one of the biggest thrills was having a ride in one of the Army's Chinook helicopters. Truly awesome! Many cadets also got to ride in the smaller Gazelle helicopter.



*Cadets Board The Chinook Helicopter For The Ride Of Their Lives*

One of the highlights of any cadet camp is the Field Training Exercise. This is a three day military training exercise in which the cadets live in the field, cooking their own meals, sleep-

ing in rough shelters called "bashas" and participating in patrolling activities. This year many of the cadets went out on Dartmoor in absolutely appalling wet weather. The climax of the exercise is the final battle at dawn on the last day when every cadet relives "Rorke's Drift" or "D Day". Tired, wet and cold the cadets return to camp for a hot shower and a big meal. In the words of one of the 1 star cadets who was attending his first camp, "I have had a wicked time better than I ever thought it would be!"

Annual Camp 2006 was a great success, thanks to the preparation and planning by Major David Newman and his team and the hard work put in by the all the Instructors to make it a success.

Annual camp 2007 will be held at Longmoor in Hampshire and it promises to be the best yet.

## Coopers' Cask Competition



*Captain Shipton Receives a Miniature of the Coopers' Cask From Alderman J Hughesdon*

The Winner of the First Award of the Coopers' Cask for the year 2005/6 was "A" Company comprising Caterham, Felbridge, Horley, Lingfield, and Reigate Detachments commanded by Captain David Shipton.

The cask was presented to the winning

Company Commander by the Master of the Worshipful Company of Coopers, Alderman J Hughesdon, at the Annual 'Dining-in Night' of the Officers of Surrey ACF at Fremington Camp. Alderman Hughesdon commented on the enthusiasm of the cadets he had seen during training and the dedication of the adult staff. He said that he would look with interest next year to see whether "A" Company could be knocked off its perch by one of the other Companies.

Captain Shipton and his spouse were the guests of the Worshipful Company of Coopers at a dinner held in London's Mansion House. "A" Company also received a prize of £1,000 which will be distributed between its constituent Detachments.

The cask was presented to the winning Company again at the end of camp during the final prize giving ceremony when Cadet Under Officer McDermott received it on behalf of "A" Company .



*Cadet Under Officer Kirsty McDermott Receives The Coopers' Cask From The Commandant*

## Awards

Each year members of Surrey ACF, both adults and cadets, are nominated for awards recognising their outstanding contributions to the Cadet Force over a long and sustained period.

Three principal awards are made, one for the Lord Lieutenant's Cadet, Lord Lieutenant's Certificates of Meritorious Service and Army Cadet Force Certificates of Good Service. All are highly contested and few are granted.

In addition, long service awards such as the Cadet Forces Medal are presented.

The Awards are normally presented at a ceremony presided over by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Surrey Mrs Sarah Goad JP. This year the event was held at the TA Centre in Redhill.

For 2006, Cadet Under Officer Kirsty McDermott was recognised for her achievements in Surrey ACF by being nominated Cadet of the Year and appointed as the Lord Lieutenant's Cadet.

Rewarded with a Lord Lieutenant's Certificate of Meritorious Service for their outstanding contribution to Surrey ACF were RQMS Charlie Cooper of B Company and Captain Jim Newbury, recently retired County Quartermaster.

Other recipients of awards were Cadet RSM Chris Roper, Cadet Colour Sgt Paul Adams and Major Alan Mulder who received ACF Certificates of Good Service.

In addition to a Certificate of Good Service, Major Mulder also received the first clasp to the Cadet Forces Medal which represented the completion of 18 years of ACF service.

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At a brief and informal ceremony in April the Commandant, Col Andrew Blowers, presented Major Nigel Nicholson, Surrey ACF's senior padre, with the second bar to his Cadet Forces Medal. The Commandant drew attention to the fact that this award recognises some 26 years of service with the Army Cadet Force.

Major Nigel Nicholson who, in his 'day job', is "The Reverend Canon Nigel Nicholson" is the Rector of Cranleigh



*Award Recipients Pictured With The Lord Lieutenant For Surrey, Mrs Sarah Goad JP*

and a Canon of Guildford Cathedral. He is also the Chairman of Trustees for Surrey ACF's 'in-house' charity, SACFA, which supports so many of the activities undertaken by Surrey Cadets.



*The Commandant Congratulates Major Nicholson On His Second Clasp*

The Commandant thanked Major Nicholson for his unfailing support over the years which has encompassed a wide range of pastoral activities particularly every year at the two week Surrey ACF Annual Camp to which the Padre invariably takes Bennett his black Labrador who has become a firm favourite with many cadets.

*The Queen Arrives At Guildford Cathedral*

## Maundy Service

Twenty five Surrey Army Cadets and their instructors from Guildford, Merrow, Haslemere and Cranleigh detachments participated in the Royal Maundy Service at Guildford Cathedral on Friday 13th April 2006.

The cadets undertook various jobs, assisting the elderly and infirm, car parking and forming a guard of honour during the arrival and departure of the Royal party.



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Produced & Edited by Major E.A.Mulder  
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The Army Cadet Force is one of the country's leading voluntary youth organisations. Not part of the Army, as many think, but it is partly funded by the Ministry of Defence. Its current strength nationally is a staggering 40,000 and in Surrey that figure stands at around 700 cadets.

Membership is open to young people between the ages of 12 and 18 who all have one major thing in common ... the quest for action and adventure.

Members of the Army Cadet Force wear uniform and hold military ranks. The training syllabus is based upon the proven character building methods and activities employed by the armed forces.



## *Surrey's Young Achievers*

### **Cadet Force Music**

The Band and Corps of Drums have had a busy year attending more than 20 engagements throughout Surrey, ranging from local fetes and carnivals to charity fund raising events to Regimental dinners and Remembrance Parades. Whenever and wherever they appear the Band and Corps of Drums can be relied on to provide first rate entertainment.

Among their successes this year, Cadet Corporal Cake (C o D) was awarded the Best Flautist prize at the National Band Annual Camp at Altcar, while Cadet L/Cpl Dutton (C o D) was named most improved percussionist. Several of

the Corps also attended the Advanced Drummers Course held at Longmoor in September 2006.

The most prestigious engagement of 2006 was for that for our affiliate the Worshipful Company of Coopers in London in May 2006.

The Corps participated in Woking and Camberley Remembrance Parades and appeared at the Surrey Armistice Day Concert at Dorking in November.

Now under the command of Sergeant Instructor Ross Higgs, the Corps looks forward to a busy and challenging year in 2007. [www.sacfmusic.co.uk](http://www.sacfmusic.co.uk)



### **Surrey Army Cadets Take To The Air**

Fourteen Surrey ACF cadets with three instructors deployed on Exercise Defiant Cadet in July this year to learn to parachute at the Joint Services Parachute Centre at Bad Lippspringe in Germany – JSPC(L).

The week-long trip was one of the best experiences they have ever had whilst being in the ACF.

"I would recommend it to anyone," said the aptly named Cadet CSM Stuart Jump. "The feeling of jumping out of a perfectly good aircraft with a parachute on your back can't be beaten, and I hope to do many more jumps in the future. Landing is another exciting part, not only because you can put both feet on the ground once again but also be-

cause it is something else that involves a degree of skill, which I lacked in the first few jumps! A good landing is very satisfying but if you mess it up, it makes you eager to jump again and perfect it."

Acting Under Officer Adrian Paice revealed that more Surrey Cadets will have the chance to go on a similar course in 2007 when the County plans to take a group of Cadets out to Germany for a week's course.

The parachute training course pushes the cadets to the limit in terms of demonstrating what they can achieve and learning about how to conquer their own fears and develop their own self confidence.

*Cadet Sergeant Hannah Frost From Chertsey Detachment Waits For Her Turn To Jump*

