

Flight Lieutenant Margaret Bell RAF VR(T)
Officer Commanding
22 (Sandy) Squadron ATC

Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Wing
Air Training Corps



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PRESS RELEASE

International Air Cadet Exchange - Austria

Cadet Sergeant Alex Turtle from 22(Sandy) Squadron has recently spent two weeks in Austria as part of the International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE). Whilst there, he met with Cadets from France and Hong Kong.

As a guest of the Austrian Aeroclub, there was the opportunity to visit local airstrips in order to undertake flying experience. All of the flyers were very welcoming. The first part of the exchange took part in Bludenz, in Western Austria. Here, the cadets visited the Zeppelin Museum, as well as going go-karting and hiking to a mountain resort.

The Austrian Air Force was very kind in providing logistical support, transferring the cadets from Bludenz to Langenlebar in a PC6.

St Polten was the base for a trip to Vienna, where the cadets were able to experience both the old and new Vienna. As the weather was so hot, the cadets took time out to swim in a local lake.

In Graz, the cadets were lucky to have an audience with the Mayor's representative. After discussing the politics of Austria, they were allowed out onto a balcony overlooking the town centre. The balcony had previously been preserved for only important politicians and victorious football teams.

For the cadets, another highlight was the visit to Zeltweg Air force Base. Whilst there, they were able to sit in the cockpit of the Austrian Air Force F-5, and discuss with the Commanding Officer the implementation of the Typhoon aircraft into the Quick Reaction Alert role.

Klagenfurt was the penultimate base for the exchange. Whilst there, the cadets visited an underground tin mine, which was very interesting. They also visited a model airfield where they were treated to a display by a piper cub and motor glider.

Salzburg, a town which is set to host 3 matches in the upcoming Euro 2008 football championships, and also the birthplace of Mozart, was the final destination for the cadets. Perhaps the highlight of the trip came when the cadet's were given the opportunity to go canyoning. This involved swimming in freezing water, climbing rocks, and then jumping back down into the water at heights of up to 11.5 metres. After this, there was time for a farewell dinner, where the cadets said goodbye to one another, before departing to their respective countries.

Overall, every cadet had a great time, and international friendships were built that will last for a very long time.



The ATC/ACF Cadet Centre, Alnwick Close, Sandy, Beds. SG19 1UA (no mailbox facility)



If you would like more information on how to join as a Cadet or a member of Staff or Civilian Committee please call 01234 307776, email 22Sqn@BedsCambsWgATC.org or log onto the website at sandy-aircadets.org.uk and follow the link.

by Cdt Sgt Alex Turtle 22 (Sandy) Sqn

Margaret Bell

Flt. Lt. RAF VR(T)
OC 22 Squadron

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Photo 1 - Image 1a Group photo, Sgt Turtle 5th from the left
Photo 2 - Image 2a Group photo Sgt Turtle 3rd from the left
Photo 3 - Sgt Turtle



The ATC/ACF Cadet Centre, Alnwick Close, Sandy, Beds. SG19 1UA (no mailbox facility)

Website: www.sandy-aircadets.org.uk Charity Exemption W182/00





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