



25th November 2007

Cheque In, Cheque Out!

Cadets from 134 (Bedford) Squadron decided the sky was the limit when they were set the challenge to raise £1000 in a national Air Cadet fund raising initiative set up by Headquarters Air Cadets.

Over the weekend of the 24th and 25th November 2007, Air Cadets across the country were tasked with raising money to help fund a series of regional training centres; which will allow young people within the organisation to experience a wealth of activities that would otherwise be inaccessible on a regular basis. Additionally a percentage of the cash raised will be presented to the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund as a gesture of thanks for the support that the RAF has given to its youth branch.

It soon became apparent that the cadets were willing to maximise their fundraising efforts, so when the opportunity to assist shoppers with a days bag packing at Asda's new flagship superstore in Milton Keynes was arranged, quickly followed by an offer from London Luton Airport to hold a 2 day collection at the airport the cadets jumped at the chance to cover both events.

A working partnership between 134 (Bedford) Squadron and the Bedfordshire & Luton Community Foundation resulted in of the partner organisations of the foundation; London Luton Airport invited cadets from Bedford to carry out a collection in the main terminal building. Travellers were happy to donate and with commission free currency exchange, kindly offered by Travelex, all currencies were gratefully accepted.

At both Luton Airport and Asda, many donations were received from people who had experience of the armed services in one way or another; current and retired members of the RAF took time to talk to the cadets. Smartly presented young people in uniform also attracted the attention of many people who had themselves been involved in one the cadet forces during their teenage years

With the kind donations from the customers of London Luton Airport and Asda counted, we are pleased to announce that we were highly successful in our collection, and will be forwarding our collection of just over £1000 to the national Fund. 134 (Bedford) Squadron would like to thank London Luton Airport Operation Ltd and Asda for their support of the 2007 fund raising campaign.

Warrant Officer Oliver Browne, said of the fund raising effort "We are pleased to be in a position to do our part for the national campaign. The cadets have worked exceptionally hard to raise a colossal amount of money in just 48 hours."

Bedford Squadron is currently also currently fundraising for a new minibus and will be holding a car wash at their Squadron headquarters in Shortstown, on Saturday 8th December.