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Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Wing  
Air Training Corps



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## PRESS RELEASE

### Dacre Brooch Winner – The Best in the Corps

Former Cadet Warrant Officer, now Pilot Officer Lyndsay McGregor has been awarded the title “The Best Air Cadet in the Corps”. She was presented with the Dacre Brooch by the nephew of the late Air Commodore Dacre, Group Captain J P Dacre QCVSA DL RAF Ret’d, in a ceremony held at Brampton Park Officer’s Mess, RAF Brampton on 27<sup>th</sup> September.

Lyndsay from 2331 (St Ives) Squadron joined the Air Training Corps (ATC) in June 2000, and during that time has shown an increased commitment and contribution, where others of the same age may have lost interest. Although she is a full time sports science student at the University of Hartford she also still finds time to commit to two parade nights a week and numerous weekend activities. She has an all-round enthusiasm for cadets, from teaching pilot navigation to senior cadets to running induction evenings for probationary cadets. As well gaining a distinction in a BTEC in Public Services, she also embraced further personal development by attaining the BELA award, which as well as acting as a supervisor for her own squadron has also stepped in to assist other squadrons in the Wing and on the Wings week at the Llanbedr Cadet Training Centre. As a member of the squadron, she organises many activities including field training and led the squadron team to a well deserved first place at the Annual Wing competition in 2006.

Lyndsay’s personal achievements during the past five and a half years in the Corps include:

- Bedfordshire & Cambridgeshire Female cadet of the year 2004 & 2005
- Central & East Region female cadet of the year 2005
- Pat Butler award 2004 (awarded by the Spitfire association) for her achievements in Aviation
- Regional Dacre Brooch nominee 2005
- John ‘Cat’s Eye’ Cunningham Scholarship 2005 by the De Havilland Foundation awarded to only three Air Cadets nationally during the year (Best Female Pilot in ATC). Lyndsay completed her intensive flying training at Tayside Aviation, Dundee, in September 2005.
- BTEC – Public Services – Distinction
- Basic Expedition Leaders Award



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In his speech Commandant Air Cadets remarked that “it was quite an achievement being presented with the Dacre Brooch. Lyndsay had to attend an in depth selection process in front of him at RAF Cranwell with the others that were short listed. She proved she is a dedicated, hardworking young woman, who is a role model to other cadets, and an excellent ambassador of the Air Training Corps and Cadet forces as a whole”.

In her reply Lyndsay said “The pinnacle of her career has been the award of the Dacre Brooch, which had given her great personal satisfaction and sense of achievement and was recognition of her work, motivation and enthusiasm over the last seven years. Now in her final year in university, she wished to continue her involvement in the ATC as a uniformed member of staff in the RAFVR(T), and hoped she would be able to draw through all her experiences as a cadet and adapt them into a staff role. It would give her great satisfaction if her achievements acted as motivation for the next generation and she would endeavour to provide a challenging environment for them. Furthermore, on completion of her Sport and Exercise Science degree she would be applying to the RAF to satisfy her life long ambition of being a RAF pilot, with the ultimate goal of becoming the first female Red Arrows Pilot. She had many people to thank for her success, but especially the Officer Commanding 2331 Squadron Flt. Lt. Jayne Treutlein and her parents”.

Invited guests included Commandant Air Cadets, Air Commodore Gordon Moulds RAF accompanied by his ADC, Group Captain J A F Ford Regional Commandant Central & East Region, Group Captain G J Bruce MBE MA FCIPD RAF, Station Commander RAF Henlow, Brampton and Wyton, Wing Commander P E L Bower, Officer Commanding Bedfordshire & Cambridgeshire Wing, Wing Staff Officers, The Mayor of St. Ives, Councillor Reynolds and husband, former and serving members of 2331 (St Ives) Squadron and parents and guests of Pilot Officer McGregor.

During the evening Cadets from 2331 Squadron, who performed a Guard of Honour were reviewed by Commandant Air Cadets. The evening concluded with refreshments, and a chance for the Commandant and guests to talk to Pilot Officer McGregor the Cadets.

The Dacre Brooch is awarded annually to the Corps Cadet of the Year being based on a selection for the all round performance of the Cadets nominated. In 1983 the wife of the late Air Commodore G B Dacre CBE DSO DL RAF, Mrs Elizabeth Dacre MBE TD JP presented a diamond brooch mounted on a sash for presentation to the best female Cadet in the Corps. In 1991 she donated miniatures of the brooch for retention at the Regional HQ's of the winning Cadet in their awarded year.

*Margaret Bell*  
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Photo 1 - Dacre Brooch winner. Plt. Off McGregor and Gp. Capt Dacre

Photo 2 - Dacre winner 2 – *left to right* Gp. Capt. Dacre, Plt Off McGregor and Commandant Air Cadets.

Photo 3 - Dacre Brooch

Photo 4 – Guard of Honour Review



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