

From: Flight Lieutenant M F Bell
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PRESS RELEASE

Dunstable Cadet's Exercise Their Freedom

Dunstable Cadets from the Sea Cadet Corps, Army Cadet Force and Air Training Corps joined together on Saturday (8th September) to exercise their Freedom of Entry to the town with a march through the town centre. The Cadet units were granted the Freedom of Entry to Dunstable, which grants the right to march through the town with 'drums beating and colours flying'. in 2000 for their services to the community and decided to parade as part of the town's 900th anniversary.

The Cadets, led by the band of the Sea Cadet Biggleswade Detachment, marched from the cadet centre in Victoria Street to Priory Gardens. As they passed the Town Council Offices at Grove House a salute was taken by The Town Mayor, Councillor Brenda Boatwright, together with the Commandant Air Cadets Air Commodore Gordon Moulds RAF, the County Commandant of Bedfordshire Army Cadet Force Colonel John Watson ACF, and Eastern Area District Officer of the Sea Cadets, Lt Commander Eddie Woods RNR.

At Priory Gardens, the Civic Party, VIP guests and an appreciative crowd were treated to a musical and marching display by the Sea Cadet Band followed by a 'troop of the Colours' as the County Standards of the Sea Cadets and Army Cadets, together with the National Air Training Corps Banner were paraded through the ranks of Cadets. The three banners were then laid over drums for a Drumhead service led by the Padre of the Sea and Air Cadets, Jacque Stamp.

Following a march past and salute the cadets took some well earned refreshments in Priory House, before heading for the Sea Cadet headquarters in West Street for a barbeque laid on by the Civilian Committees of the three units.

The Parade Commander, Flt Lt Mick Bell RAF VR(T) Officer Commanding 460 (Dunstable) Squadron commented "It was a privilege to lead the young people of the three Cadet units through their town in front of the Town Mayor and senior officers from the services. It was also an opportunity to show the many people of Dunstable who came out to watch the cadets, who do so much for the community in terms of Civic events and support of charities, what a very smart, disciplined, and skilful group of youngsters they have in their town."

The Commandant of the Air Cadets, Air Commodore Gordon Moulds RAF said "I really enjoyed today and a chance to meet some of the Cadets from 460 Squadron as well as the Sea and Army Cadet units. As well as this parade, I understand that the three units do a lot of work together for the



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benefit of the town, as well as train and socialise together. Dunstable should be very proud of its young people in the Cadet Corps”

Michael Bell

Flt. Lt. RAF VR(T)
OC 460 Squadron

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Encls: *Photo*

- (1) *Parade of the Count Standards of the Sea and Army Cadets, together with the national Air Cadet Banner*
- (2) *Her Worship The Town Mayor, Councillor Brenda Boatwright takes the salute alongside senior officers*
- (3) *Councillor Boatwright inspects the Cadets*

