

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

Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Wing
Air Training Corps

Tel.: 01480 352290 Mob: 07810 486412 Email: 22Sqn@BedsCambsWgATC.org



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PRESS RELEASE

Celebrations at the Mayor's Charity Ball

Air Cadets from 22 (Sandy) Squadron assisted in getting the Town Mayor's Civic Charity Ball off in true style with a Guard of Honour for the 160 guests, which included the Mayor and Mayoress, Cllr Colin Osborne MBE and Mrs Diane Osborne, the High Sheriff of Bedfordshire Mrs Cynthia Gresham, Mr David McVicar Chairman of Central Bedfordshire, 40 Mayor's from around the County, Town Councillors, and guests.

The event held at Shuttleworth College proved to be a busy evening for the Cadets, with meeting and greeting the guests, handing out red roses to the ladies, bottled refreshments for the gentlemen, as well as assisting with the two raffles, and handing out song sheets and flags.

During the Mayor's speech the Commanding Officer 22 Squadron Flt Lt Margaret Bell was amazed to learn she had been put forward for the "Bedfordshire Unsung Hero's Award by the Mayor, and although the Mayor was disappointed she didn't win this year, his thanks were given to her and the Staff and Cadets for their support over the past years. She was presented with a beautiful basket of flowers. Flt Lt Bell commented *"This was a complete surprise and I had no idea I was being put forward for an Award. Apparently the Mayor contacted another one of my Officer's to obtain the information he required and was sworn to secrecy. I would like to thank the Mayor and Mayoress for all their support for the last 9 years, and I wish the new incoming Mayor success and hope he will continue to support us, as we will him"*. Sgt Akeel Shaikh and Cpl Alice Ward received a cheque for Squadron funds from the Mayor for all the Cadets efforts and support over the years.

During the evening the Cadets took part in the "Last night of the Proms" to celebrate St George's Day, singing Jerusalem, Land of Hope and Glory and the one they enjoyed most of all – Rule Britannia (*see photo attached*)

Many Guests commented on much they had enjoyed the evening with the Cadets, and how smart and well turned out they were, and how polite and well mannered. The evening raised over £1000 for Charity.

If you would like more information on how to join as a Cadet a member of Staff or Civilian Committee please call 01480 352290, email 22Sqn@BedsCambsWgATC.org or log onto the website at sandy-aircadets.org.uk and follow the link.



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



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

Distribution:

Local media
Air Cadet Magazine
RAF News
RFCA Press
CVQO
Wing Webmaster
RMCO
Corps website

Encls:

Cdt Clare Hillier performing duties
Cadets on duty
Cadets joining in the singing



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

