

2484 (Bassingbourn) Squadron
Air Training Corps
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PRESS RELEASE

BAND-TASIC!

On Sunday 23rd June, musical cadets from 2484 (Bassingbourn) Squadron competed in the Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Wing Band Competition, winning three out of five categories, including the full band competition.

First of all Cadet Hollie Woodley took the stage to compete in the sole bugle section, winning this to bring home the first of the prizes on offer. Another solo award was up for grabs next, in the form of the solo drum segment. Cadet Flight Sergeant Adam Kelly drummed hard, eventually finishing in third place.

The percussion element of the competition was a closely fought competition, with cadets from the Squadron narrowly missing out on first place. The fanfare section was the penultimate category, with four cadets sounding out to take home first prize.

To end the competition, the full band kicked off their routine with Hearts of Oak, proceeding seamlessly onto the recognisable tune of Swing March. After a brief static rendition of Riverdance, the band then began marching again with Halls of Mantezuma, bringing their performance to a powerful end with Grenadier. Throughout the performance Drum Major, Cadet Corporal Matthew Sibley led the band confidently through a series of turns, wheels and counter-marches, having only picked up the mace for the first time in April.

At the end of the whole competition Officer Commanding Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Wing, Wing Commander Paul Bower announced the results, seeing 2484 win the full band competition. The Squadron Band will now play in front of the Wing for the Wing Review on Sunday 13th June, where trophies and certificates for the respective competitions will also be presented. They will also go forward to represent the Wing at the Central and East Region field day in September.

Squadron Band Master, Civilian Instructor Kirsty McArthur said: *“This is such a fantastic achievement for the cadets; competing in their first Band Competition since the band was formed in January 2010. All of their hard work and effort has paid off and we now look forward to playing in front of the Wing at the Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Wing Review in June”.*

Cadet Corporal Matthew Sibley added: *“I was nervous leading the band to begin with but once we got going the nerves disappeared. I am proud that we did so well on the day and it was a great feeling to hear we had won the full band competition”.*

2484 (Bassingbourn) Squadron is open to young men and women aged between 13 and 17 years old. We meet on Mondays and Wednesdays between 18:45 and 21:45 at Bassingbourn Barracks. For more information please contact 01763 249156 or visit our website www.2484aircadets.co.uk

Civilian Instructor Gemma Cox
MCO 2484 (Bassingbourn) Squadron

Notes to editor:

Band Comp 1 – From L-R Cadet Hollie Woodley, Cadet Melanie Coates, Cadet Corporal Edward Feast and Cadet Amy Lloyd sound out in the fanfare section of the competition

Band Comp 2 – Cadet Corporal Matthew Sibley receives the good news from Officer Commanding Bedfordshire & Cambridgeshire Wing, Wing Commander Paul Bower