

I'm human



Australian air force cadet uniform guide

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The Australian Air Force Cadets (AAFC) is a youth military organisation sponsored by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). Founded in February 1941, it has been a vital part of the Australian Defence Force Cadets. The AAFC has undergone numerous changes and restructurings over the years, including its name change from the Air Training Corps (AIRC) to AAFC in 2001. Initially established during World War II to train young men for pilot roles in the RAAF, the ATC peaked at 12,000 cadets in training in 1943. After the war, the ATC scaled down due to demobilisation and changed its focus to peacetime training for future RAAF pilots. In August 1975, the government announced the disbandment of the three branches of cadet corps, but in May 1976, they were re-formed under the new name AIRTC. In May 1982, girls were included in the AIRTC program. A major restructuring took place in January 2000 with the formation of a national Directorate of Defence Force Cadets and the renaming of AIRTC to AAFC. The AAFC was re-organised into functional wings in 2005, supported by the RAAF. Today, the AAFC has over 9,000 cadets, with approximately 144 squadrons and around 1,200 adult volunteers. Its motto is "Inspiring today, leading tomorrow." Outside St John's Ashfield, the Australian Air Force Cadets strive to prepare young people for community life by fostering initiative, leadership, discipline, and loyalty through a training program designed to spark interest in the Royal Australian Air Force. The program aims to: establish an Air Force foundation and discipline; develop qualities like leadership, self-reliance, and good character; promote an interest in aviation and its history; encourage continued involvement in aviation after cadet life. AAFC uniforms closely resemble those of their parent organization, differing mainly by badges, shoulder biscuits, pocket tags, and rank slides. The Service Dress Air Force Blue uniform is worn for most ceremonial occasions. Cadets may wear peaked caps or garrison caps. From 2021, the DPCU uniform was replaced with the General Purpose Uniform (GPU). AAFC personnel are issued their squadron patch, featuring a blue background representing their location. Cadets progress through training phases, focusing on military drill, aerospace, and skills development, as well as extension training on leadership and concepts. External training often takes place at RAAF establishments or remote locations for fieldcraft camps. The Australian Air Force Cadets (AAFC) have a unique rank structure that is closely based on the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). To distinguish between AAFC and RAAF members, cadet ranks wear special slides with 'AAFC' embroidery. Adult members wear slides with a white bar containing the letters AAFC, while adult staff and RAAF members are denoted by the letters in brackets. Cadet Non-Commissioned Officer ranks are prefixed with the letter C to identify them as cadets. The AAFC has specific rank establishments and quotas to ensure a balance between leadership roles and subordinates. The general standard is 1-4 NCOs and CUOs, although this is not an explicit rule. Squadrons may not exceed the established numbers for CUO and CWOFF positions, and vacancies in these ranks do not cascade down to lower positions. Instead, squadrons can use vacancies in CFSGT and CSGT positions to fill SNCO ranks. Vacancies in rank cannot trickle up at any point. This means that CCPL positions remain vacant, even if a squadron has only three CSGTs but can accommodate more CCPLs. Awards for Staff Cadet Years of service include the Australian Cadet Forces Service Medal and notes for all ranks. The 15 Years Continuous service Bar is awarded every five years after initial award. Other awards include GST Completion Certificate (all ranks), JNCO Completion Certificate (LCDT/CCPL), SNCO Completion Certificate (CCPL/CSGT), CWOFF Completion Certificate (CSGT/CFSGT/CWOFF), and Marksmanship Badge "Crossed Rifles" for Cadets who achieve an average score of 85% or higher at a Wing or National shooting competition. The badge comes in the form of two crossed Enfields. Additional awards include CUO Completion Certificate (CSGT/CFSGT/CWOFF/CUO), Firearms Proficiency Badge "Single Rifle" for Cadets who have been passed the firearms training elective and have fired at least 45 rounds, Silver Steyr Badge for Cadets who have completed the ADF F88 course, Golden Steyr Badge for Cadets who qualify as marksman on the ADF F88 Band Badge for Cadets who have worked on at least 75% of official band parades. Adventure Training Badge is awarded to cadets who have completed the Adventure Training Award. AAFC Staff may wear the ATA badge if they earned it as a cadet, but there is no option to be awarded the ATA badge as AAFC staff. Individual Proficiency badges are awarded annually to Cadets and OOC/IOC who meet criteria based on Personal Standard, Active Program Participation, Personal and Organisational Development, and Community or Public Ceremonial Activities. Other awards include First Solo Badge for cadets who have completed a solo flight either powered or glider, General Flying Proficiency Test Badge for cadets who have obtained an FAI "C" certificate for gliding, AAFC Wing Badge for cadets who hold a CPL or AEI qualification for gliding, Three Bladed Prop and Four Bladed Prop badges for cadets who complete their proficiency stage training and advanced stage training respectively. National Badges of the AAFC are awarded to any cadet, while Duke of Edinburgh Bronze, Silver, and Gold awards are given to cadets who complete the program and qualify for the respective levels. The Ellie Tibble Award is also awarded to high-performing cadets. The Australian Air Force Cadets organisation is guided by its finest values and traditions, which fall under the command of Headquarters AAFC. HQAAFC is a virtual entity with no physical location, comprised of members from across the country. The Commander - Australian Air Force Cadets holds the rank of Group Captain (AAFC), reporting to the Director General Cadets - Air Force, who in turn reports to the RAAF chain of command. Below HQAAFC are Operational Wings and Directorates, each headed by a Wing Commander (WGCDR(AAFC)) who oversees an Officer Commanding or Director role. The current Commander is Stephen Johns, holding the rank of GPCAPT(AAFC). In 2015, the Warrant Officer role was abandoned due to a majority vote, resulting in over 40% of AAFC staff no longer represented at a national level. Directorates perform service support functions for Operational Wings and as of June 2020, there are four Directorates under HQAAFC. The organisations have several units, including squadrons (SQNs) and flights, which compete annually for the "Australian Air Force Cadets - Air Force Trophy". The winner is honoured with custodianship of the AAFC National Banner for the following year. 101 SQN is part of No.1 Wing, as indicated by their 3-digit squadron number. Squadrons that have completed a freedom of entry parade are allowed to state their location when referring to them officially. List of Operational Units and Locations: - Townsville - 101 Squadron - Ingham - 103 Squadron - Cairns - 104 (City of Cairns) Squadron - Mackay - 105 (City of Mackay) Squadron - Tablelands - 106 Squadron - Innisfail - 107 Squadron - Charters Towers - 108 Squadron - Burdekin - 109 Squadron - Bowen - 110 Squadron - Mount Isa - 111 Squadron - Weipa - 112 Squadron - Daisy Hill - 202 Squadron - East Brisbane - 203 Squadron - Roma - 204 Squadron - Gatton - 205 Squadron - Nambour - 207 (City of Nambour) Squadron - Amberly - 208 Squadron - Oakey - 209 Squadron - Toowoomba - 210 Squadron - Rothwell - 212 (City of Redcliffe) Squadron - Elanora - 213 Squadron - Calamvale - 214 Squadron - Carindale - 215 Squadron - Maryborough - 216 Squadron - Capalaba - 217 (City of Redland) Squadron - Corinda - 218 Squadron - Archerfield - 219 Squadron - Clayfield - 220 Squadron - Ashmore - 221 (City of Gold Coast) Squadron - Coomera - 222 Squadron - Galoundra - 223 Squadron - Rothwell - 224 Squadron - Ipswich - 225 Squadron - Bray Park - 226 Squadron - Rockhampton - 227 Squadron - Bundaberg - 228 Squadron - Yeppoon - 229 Squadron - Springfield - 230 Squadron - Robina - 232 Squadron - Mountain Creek - 233 Squadron - Caboolture - 234 Squadron - Rockdale - 302 Squadron - Camden - 303 (City of Camden) Squadron - Pymble - 304 Squadron - Northern Beaches - 305 (City of Northern Beaches) Squadron - Darlinghurst - 306 Squadron - Lidcombe - 307 (City of Bankstown) Squadron - Maitland - 308 (City of Maitland) Squadron - Holsworthy - 309 Squadron - Tamworth - 310 (City of Tamworth) Squadron - Gosford - 311 (City of Gosford) Squadron - South Kempsey - 312 Squadron - Dubbo - 313 (City of Dubbo) Squadron - Wollongong - 314 (City of Wollongong) Squadron - Canberra - 315 (City of Canberra) Squadron - Lake Macquarie - 316 (City of Lake Macquarie) Squadron - Taree - 317 (City of Taree) Squadron - Sutherland - 318 (Shire of Sutherland) Squadron - Inverell - 319 Squadron - Newcastle - 321 (City of Newcastle) Squadron - Ryde - 322 (City of Ryde) Squadron - Glenbrook - 323 (City of Blue Mountains) Squadron - Randwick - 324 (City of Randwick) Squadron - Goulburn - 325 (City of Goulburn) Squadron - Lismore - 326 (City of Lismore) Squadron - Gungahlin - 327 Squadron - Bathurst - 328 (City of Bathurst) Squadron - Orange - 329 (City of Orange) Squadron - Shoalhaven - 330 (City of Shoalhaven) Squadron - Coffs Harbour - 331 Squadron - Wagga Wagga - 332 (City of Wagga Wagga) Squadron - Port Macquarie - 333 Squadron - Harman - 334 Squadron - Williamtown - 335 Squadron - Richmond - 336 Squadron - Armidale - 337 Squadron - Shellharbour - 338 (City of Shellharbour) Squadron - Moree - 339 Squadron - Griffith - 340 (City of Griffith) Squadron - Orchard Hills - 345 Squadron - Canberra - 346 Squadron - Surrey Hills - 401 Squadron - Watsonia - 402 Squadron - Beaconsfield - 403 Squadron - Point Cook - 404 Squadron - Sunshine - 405 Squadron - Frankston South - 406 Squadron - Ringwood East - 408 Squadron - Sale - 409 (City of Sale) Squadron - Bendigo - 410 Squadron - Swan Hill - 411 Squadron - Albury - Wodonga - 412 Squadron - Warrnambool - 413 Squadron - Richmond - 414 Squadron - South Yarra - 415 Squadron - Moonee Ponds - 416 Squadron - Bayside - 417 (City of Bayside) Squadron - Sandringham - 418 Squadron - Point Cook - 419 Squadron - Shepparton - 420 Squadron Latrobe Squadrons: Traralgon 427, Greater Geelong 428, Geelong 429, Queenscliff 430, Macedon Ranges 430, Downings Point 501, Hobart 502, Devonport 507, Launceston 508, Keswick 601, Woodside 602, Berri 603, Greenacres 604, Lonsdale 605, Gawler 608, Warradale 609, Mount Gambier 612, Edinburgh 613, Port Pirie 614, Keswick 617, Port Adelaide-Enfield 620, Murray Bridge 622, Mildura 623, Bullsbrook 701, Cannington 702, Fremantle 703, Madeley 704, Albany 705, Mandurah 707, Rockingham 708, Kalgoorlie-Boulder 709, Bunbury 710, Geraldton 711, Belmont 712, Karrakatta 714. Special Units: * No. 1 Wing: Aviation Training 100, Firearms Training 102, Logistics Flight 1LOG * No. 2 Wing: Aviation Training 200, Ceremonial 233, Fieldcraft and Firearms 234, Logistics Flight 2LOG * No. 3 Wing: Support Squadron 300, Aeromodelling 341, Fieldcraft & Adventure Training 342, Firearms 343, Musicians 344, Logistics Flight 3LOG * No. 4 Wing: Specialist Training 400, Fieldcraft Specialist 431, Band 432, Logistics Flight 4LOG * No. 5 Wing: Support Squadron 500, Logistics Flight 5LOG * No. 6 Wing: Aviation Training 600, Band 606, Specialist 616, Logistics Flight 6LOG * No. 7 Wing: Aviation Training 716, Firearms Training 717, Ceremonial 718, Field Training 719, Heritage & Aeromodelling 720, Logistics Flight 7LOG * No. 8 Wing: Support Squadron 800, Logistics Flight 8LOG Aviation Operations Wing: * Gliding Training School (GTS): Balaklava, Bathurst Raglan, Warwick * Elementary Flying Training School (EFTS): Amberley, Point Cook, Richmond Of the RAAF, an Air Commodore oversees operational wings and directorates, which report to HQAAFC. Each wing has a WGCDR(AAFC) as Officer Commanding or Director. Squadrons within these wings are commanded by PLTOFF(AAFC), FLGOFF(AAFC), or FLTLT(AAFC)-ranked officers unless they hold another appointment permitting a higher rank. There are eight operational wings, divided into two in Queensland, and eight directorates providing support functions for operational wings. As of 1 April 2005, squadron COs no longer automatically hold the rank of SQNLDR(AAFC). Key appointments within wing headquarters include Officer Commanding (OC), Executive Officer (XO), Staff Officers (SOT, SOOPS, SOWS), Wing Warrant Officer (WGWOFF), and Regional Executive Instructor (RXI). Additionally, there are various training and administrative positions. Each wing has an Air Force Liaison Officer (AFLO) responsible for RAAF support and other duties. Aviators and junior officers are posted to individual squadrons as instructors or officers of cadets. The AAFC also comprises the National Cadet Reference Group, which acts on behalf of cadets to higher echelons. The AAFC is involved with various organizations, including the Tri-Service Cadet Consultative Forum and the National Council. Cadets participate in multiple activities such as: Home Training Bivouacs (Bush Camps) Live Firearm Shooting WTSS training shoots Gliding and Powered Air Experience and Training General Service Training Camps Personal Development and Leadership Courses (PDLG) Parades and Marches - Drill and Ceremonial Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Rocketry Aeromodelling National Competitions International Air Cadet Exchange The AAFC holds three national competitions each year, including the National Fieldcraft Competition, the National Rifle Competition, and the National Aviation Competition. In addition, Wing units may also hold their own competitions in areas like Drill, UAV, and shooting events. The International Air Cadet Exchange Program was established in 1947 between Canada and the UK, allowing for a bi-lateral exchange of air cadets between the two countries. The AAFC currently participates in exchanges with several countries including the US, Canada, the UK, Hong Kong, Singapore, New Zealand, France, Republic of Korea, and Netherlands. Cadets are given opportunities to participate in local airshows and military expos, while also assisting local communities through charity events such as Relay for Life. These events often involve donations to military support organizations like Legacy. The AAFC also participates in camping activities called 'bivouacs' which allow cadets to learn fieldcraft, leadership, and teamwork prior to a promotional course. These events can last from a weekend to a week. Australia has two memorials dedicated to the Australian Air Force Cadets, with one located at St John's Ashfield and another unveiled in 1981 as part of a commemoration parade on the fortieth anniversary of the Air Training Corps. The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) has an association with local Returned and Services League (RSL) branches, participating in ceremonies such as ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day marches. The RAAF's ceremonial aircraft include the Lee Enfield, Martin Cadet, L1a1, Piper PA-38 Tomahawk, Cessna 172 Skyhawk, and others. The Air League of Australia Cadets (ALAC) is a youth organization affiliated with the RAAF, offering various aircraft training. The ALAA has faced criticism over its handling of disciplinary actions, including the case of Cadet Sergeant Ellie Tibble, who died by suicide in 2000 after being forced to resign due to fraternization charges. A Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse was held in 2017, examining allegations of abuse within the RAAF and other institutions. The commission found that the ALAA was more concerned with "efficiency" and setting an example than with protecting cadets from adult instructors. Training Corps UK Civil Air Patrol New Zealand Air Training Corps Royal Canadian Air Cadets Cadets youth program Australian Air Force Cadets The organization has a rich history with its formation approved by the War Cabinet as part of the RAAF Reserve Australian Air Force Cadets and Air Training Corps The group operates under the Australian Defence Force AAFC Manual of Management outlining cadet ranks and badges Additionally they offer various activities such as powered flying firearms training and extension camps Furthermore the group participates in international exchanges like the International Air Cadet Exchange IACE ADF-serials.com. 2 August 2019. Retrieved 20 April 2020. ^ a b "Gliding". 1 January 2018. Retrieved 20 April 2020. ^ "ADF cadets' lives destroyed by abuse: Royal Commission". The Sydney Morning Herald. The Sydney Morning Herald. Retrieved 14 June 2024. ^ "Chapter 14 -Australian Defence Force Cadets". Parliament of Australia. Australian Government. Retrieved 14 June 2024. ^ Aird, Harriet (22 August 2017). "ADF royal commission scathing of treatment of Tasmanian cadet Eleanor Tibble". Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Retrieved 14 June 2024. The Australian Air Force Cadets have a dress policy that governs the wear of their uniform. The current manual, which replaced the previous AAP 5135.003 - Manual of Dress, outlines how and when items of uniform are worn. It is intended as a positive instruction, meaning if a situation is not specified in this manual, it is prohibited. Members of the Australian Air Force Cadets are allowed to wear certain items of air force uniform, in accordance with their dress policy which is subordinate to the air force dress manual. The general purpose uniform transition period ended on 1 January 2019 and some images in the manual show older items being worn, which will be updated in future amendments.