



Term 4 2024



Promotions / Awards Term 4



Congratulations to the following cadets promoted from:

CDT to LAC

LAC Ogilvie

LAC to CPL

CPL Croteau

F/S to WO

WO Wafer

Courses

Gliding - CPL Close

Powered Flying - CPL Palmer

Bushcraft - LAC Street, SGT Bell

Unit Commander's message

As we wind down 2024, all I have to say is thank you.

A thank you to our community, who has embraced 88 SQN, and all the work we do, with open arms. A thank you to our RSAs - our cadets have always felt welcome when taking part in

remembrance parades, ANZAC Parades, and so much more. Thank you for allowing us the chance to show our respects to those who have come before us and given us what we have today, despite not enduring the pain and suffering that our veterans have. We thank those who have donated to our cause – whether your contributions were known or kept private, it is thanks to your generosity that we can continue to offer our cadets weekend activities and experiences at an affordable level and outfit our buildings with amenities such as Wi-Fi, Air-conditioning and the like.

A thank you to the dedicated staff I've had the pleasure of working with over the past year who have generously given their time to ensure that our cadets have an amazing experience. To the mighty Unit Support Committee, Jo, if it wasn't for you or your team giving up your time, we would be left completely in the dark, without any of our amazing facilities, not to mention the excellent job you do feeding our cadets on weekend activities! A thank you to the parents and caregivers who take up the role of cook, driver, laundromat, financial provider, cleaning staff and more. Without you, these cadets may not be able to participate fully and experience the growth and development that comes with being

part of our squadron. A heartfelt thank you to the Officers, Staff and NCOs. Your commitment to teaching, mentoring, and maintaining discipline is invaluable. Whether you hold rank or not, your guidance, support, and the standard you set in uniform and drill are crucial to our success.

Lastly, thank you to you, the Cadets - without you, there is no mighty 88. Over 2024, I've seen how far you have progressed throughout the year and how you've built your cohesion as a team. You are always ready to support each other and carry the name of 88SQN with pride, wherever in our community you go. Thank you for enhancing the reputation of our unit within the community and working towards becoming New Zealand's leaders of tomorrow.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous start to 2025. Have a wonderful summer break!





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Message from Warrant Officer

As we approach the end of the year, it is with pride and gratitude that I reflect on the incredible accomplishments our unit has achieved. This year has been a testament to your hard work, dedication and commitment, and I am incredibly grateful to have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the outstanding effort each of you has contributed to our unit's growing success and development.

Your determination to overcome challenges- whether through individual perseverance or collective teamwork- has not gone unnoticed, and you should all be incredibly proud of yourselves and your comrades. A special thank you must go out to my NCO team- thank you for your trust, support and determination. I cannot express how deeply honoured I am to have served alongside such a capable, resilient team. Watching you grow in confidence has been a privilege, and I'm certain you will all exceed expectations in the next few years to come.

To the next Warrant Officer- I wish you the best of luck, and I look forward to hearing all about the future successes you bring to our unit.

I wish you all the very best in the year to come. Keep pushing forward—your potential is limitless!



Message from the USC Chair

2024 has been a busy year for the Unit Support Committee seeing the finishing of our Sir Peter Blake classroom and general maintenance around the site. We are excited that we have our Portacom building down this end of the airfield and closer to its final resting place! We have also been busy raising funds to keep the Unit running, ensure that Cadets were fed at Basic Camp and on Exercise Phoenix and served meals at Dining In.

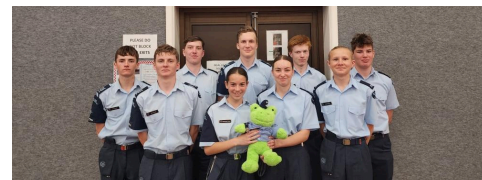
Through all of this we have managed to fundraise over \$4500 and subsidised camps, flying, exercises and ensured the Tank was able to be utilized for activities. None of this comes without hard work and we are ever so grateful to those families that when asked, put their hands up to help us out. As we look forward to 2025, we ask if you can spare a few hours to help us out, it makes our fundraising needs that little bit more reachable. We are responsible for all the day to day running costs of the unit including power and insurance. We have had a few families put their hands up to offer their help and we are grateful for those. A few more hands next year would be even more amazing. Without a support committee, the unit can't exist so we are just a little important! We are on the hunt for a new secretary and someone who is okay with numbers to understudy with our Treasurer Sean. If you think you can help with this, please reach out and let us know.

Finally to JJ and your team. It has been a privilege to see you grow your team and find your feet in your first year as Unit Commander. We thank you all for your dedication and commitment to the rangatahi before us and providing

such a valuable opportunity to all involved. We are excited for a great 2025 and look forward to continuing to support the officer team. On behalf of the USC, we wish you all a safe and restful summer break and look forward to seeing you in 2025.

Term 4 Activities

Aviation Skills



Our Mighty 88 Team competed in SA Aviation Skills which included various events such as First Aid Scenarios, mental puzzles, team building challenges and gruelling fitness tests! They came out of the Weekend finishing 2nd Place after a strong performance, our best placing since 2018!

Dining In

The dining in is a formal dinner where cadets have the opportunity to practice a long standing military tradition and engage with guest speakers. This year we enjoyed the knowledge shared by Mr Stan Hauraki Tumu.

Lego Build Challenge

The Lego Build Challenge challenged cadets to express their creativity and teamwork. Three teams competed to build a lego aerodrome over the period of a day. This activity was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended



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Ex Auxilium



1st Aid is an important part of our curriculum, Ex Auxilium saw cadets practice essential 1st aid skills and be introduced to advanced techniques. It was also combined with a flying weekend which was fully funded by our sponsors.

Wai Ex



Wai Ex is our annual navigation exercise run in the Waikuku Beach Forest park. We were most grateful for the skills of Mr Kelly Meyers, an ex-officer who returns to conduct this activity. Cadets practice manual navigation skills throughout the day with a range of physical challenges in between

Community Service Activities

Armistice Day

It is an important part of our duties to attend remembrance occasions. This year, as with previous years, we were able to send a delegation to represent the SQN at the Armistice Day service.

Santa Parade



Once again our Squadron had a presence in the Rangiora Santa parade. This activity was largely spearheaded by our cadets. The theme this year was 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas' and was a hit with the local community.

Toot for Tucker



We were privileged to be able to assist the Salvation Army with their annual food drive. The SQN Van, with its unique horn, was driven around the streets of Rangiora and cadets collected food from the doorsteps of Rangiora residents.

CONTACT US

Please note when sending general enquiries and questions to the unit please use the email below. This email is monitored by all Officers.

Cadets are reminded that all absences are to be notified to the 88sqn@cadetforces.org.nz email. As this is the only way that the duty officer and adj team can be informed of any absences.

Unit Contact Details:

Email: 88sqn@cadetforces.org.nz
Website: www.88squadron.org.nz
Location: Rangiora Airfield, Rangiora

Facebook:

The Unit Support Committee has a Facebook page for parents / caregivers. This is updated regularly with important notices, cadet news, upcoming events and working bees.

This page is for parents of cadets only.

Our page is:

ATC 88 Squadron Support Team

Cadets can join the cadets Facebook page:

88 Squadron Cadet Groups

Unit Support Committee (USC)

The USC manages the financial administration and runs the facilities for the unit. We also fundraise for the unit. We are a group of parents, ex cadets, ex Air Force members who meet once a month. We allocate funds where needed, organise working bees and support the unit. If you have any questions regarding the USC – please do not hesitate to contact us.

Chairperson – Jo Croteau
USCchair@88squadron.org.nz

Treasurer – Sean Buttle
USCtreasurer@88squadron.org.nz

Secretary – Petrina Austin-Wood
USCsecretary@88squadron.org.nz

Upcoming Dates

First Parade Night - 13th February