



Graduation Ceremony 2008

Stand Out



CEREMONY

This year's ceremony was held at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, where Admiral the Lord West of Spithead, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Security and chairman of the CVQO Board of Trustees, praised the cadet adult training initiative.

"Mobilising the skills systems in Britain is still at the forefront of the political agenda. Many people in this country are out of work, or without the skills they need to progress in work, struggling with out-of-date skills. Enabling people to gain qualifications outside the work environment widens opportunity and gives people recognition and credibility for their broader skills."

Admiral the Lord West of Spithead
GCB DSC DUniv

In October 86 cadet adult instructors from all four cadet forces graduated with City & Guilds Senior Awards gained through the Cadet Vocational Qualification Organisation (CVQO). A further 400 adults have gained additional qualifications from Edexcel and the Institute of Leadership and Management. This brings the total to over 2,600 adults whose CVs have been enhanced by qualifications gained through CVQO over the last five years. Cadets, too, benefit from a vibrant BTEC qualification programme through this Organisation.

CVQO aims to provide members of the Cadet Forces with greater opportunities in the workplace. Many graduates have gained promotion, received pay rises and earned new respect as a result of the skills developed through cadets and the CVQO training programme. Recognising the benefits that will accrue to their organisations, many of their employers, some of whom have assisted with payment and time to study, were present at the Ceremony.

Congratulations to the first recipients of the Membership Award. This was marked by an impromptu presentation by Lt Michele Welsh RNR (one of the 11 Membership Graduates) to Edward Woods, Chief Executive. Michelle presented a Bosun's Oar signed by all 11 Membership Award winners as a token of the graduates' appreciation for all that CVQO has done for the cadets and adults of the Cadet Forces worldwide.



Edward Woods praised all the volunteers' efforts saying: "As these awards are gained in their spare time it is admirable that they have found time to study whilst holding down full time employment and giving hundreds of hours of voluntary service to the nation's youth."

CVQO Celebrates City & Guilds Senior Awards



During the awards ceremony, Professor Kendrick Mortimer FCGI who sits on the accreditation panel for the City & Guilds Senior Awards presented the Most Excellent Work Award for Membership, Graduateship and Licentiatehip.



MOST EXCELLENT WORK AWARD - MEMBERSHIP
Sqn Ldr Pheric Thrussell MCGI,
HQ Merseyside Wing ATC

“It is absolutely marvellous and very poignant to be here today in the hallowed halls of history at Sandhurst. This award means that I have achieved the goals I set myself and recognises much hard work.”

Capt Wallace Williams MCGI,
HQ Trinidad & Tobago Cadet Force



“I feel very proud. I didn't achieve very much at school 30 years ago and yes, it does make me feel proud. It is fantastic to be at the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst ... so historic, it is wonderful to feel that I am part of it today. As a young WRAC soldier I never dreamt I would ever come here. Thank you CVQO for your support in making it happen.”

Capt Karen Barr LCGI,
Humberside & South Yorkshire ACF



MOST EXCELLENT WORK AWARD - GRADUATESHIP
Capt Kim Scott GCGI
Berkshire ACF

“I feel honoured to be amongst so many achievers from all around the country. But above all as I did not achieve many qualifications at school, I am so proud to stand and graduate in front of my parents today. Thank you CVQO for the opportunity.”

Lt Cdr Steve Coles GCGI,
South West Area SCC



“Today is a fitting completion of hard work to obtain this degree-equivalent qualification, and to graduate with such fantastic backdrop at the amazing Royal Military Academy. CVQO has been the catalyst with its unique offering to adult volunteers in the cadet forces.”

Flt Lt John Machin LCGI,
HQ Surrey Wing ATC



MOST EXCELLENT WORK AWARD - LICENTIATESHIP
Capt Ruth Carter LCGI,
Hampshire & Isle of Wight ACF

BFBS Report on the day's ceremony

Also present throughout the day were reporter and video journalist Charlotte Cross and radio presenter Claire Jenkins from BFBS (British Forces Broadcasting Service). Both Charlotte and Claire had the opportunity during the day's events to video and interview Admiral the Lord West of Spithead, Edward Woods CEO and many of the graduates present at the ceremony. To view the news report and radio clipping, go to www.cvqo.org Adult Qualifications, Graduation Ceremony.

visit www.cvqo.org

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