

Arriving at the Harbour, H.Q. was duly established on a ledge above the beach. The day was spent in swimming and sun-bathing -- with vocal accompaniment.

Dunstan of "A" Flight Aircrew and Tapper of "A" Flight "kiwis" made their presence known in no uncertain manner as per usual. P/O Muff and P/O Perry were on deck enjoying themselves along with the boys. W/O Mannering is in ecstasy over some photographs taken during the day, proclaiming them to be masterpieces -- only, why wasn't she looking the other way!!! That evening, a tired and very red party boarded the launch for the Port and thence to Christchurch, the end of a perfect day.

The Wing has just farewelled F/Lieut. Stedman and welcomed F/Lieut. Preston, outgoing and incoming Wing Commanding Officers. For the Wing, the Observer says "thank you" to F/Lieut. Stedman for the great work he has done for the Wing. To the new W.C.O. we say - "The Observer" represents the Cadets of the Wing, the Cadets who wish to join the Senior Branch of the Service. You set the pace, Sir, and we shall show you what we are worth. The hotter the pace the better.

We have news of two new Squadrons for the A.T.C. in Canterbury. A Squadron was recently established at Ashburton and seems to be making great progress. Good work, Ashburton, send us some news about yourselves soon. The other Squadron is to be formed in Christchurch and we hope that next year it will take its place beside the two existing Squadrons.

News has come to hand recently of the Camp to be held next January at (blue pencil) for our Cadets with the view to selecting N.C.O.s to replace those who are leaving for War service. It is hoped that most Cadets will be able to attend.

Your Editor noticed recently, in a City daily, a report that graduates of the Empire Air Training Scheme are to wear new badges - for example:- a bomber pilot wears a letter B on his wings, a flight engineer wears one wing with the letter E attached to the base, and a navigator wears the letter N on his wing. Quite an intriguing idea.

Airmen and Cadets must be on their toes nowadays as Waaf Officers and N.C.O.s have been gazetted recently. They have to stand to attention and say "madam" when addressed by the girls they once flirted with. We don't think that most airmen will mind; however, as the girls are doing a great job and deserve their respect.

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JOTTINGS FROM THE "KIWIS" DIARY -- DECEMBER 1942

(COMPILED BY W.O.M.A.)

Many times during one's acquaintance with any organisation, one meets with innumerable difficulties and "stone walls" which are very hard to beat. No. 17 Squadron is now approaching its first birthday and we look back over our first squealing months with mingled feelings. At first