



Flying Solo

Prince William arrives at RAF Cranwell to receive his wings

The Prince of Wales, Air Chief Marshal, accompanied by The Duchess of Cornwall, presented RAF flying badges to graduates at an RAF wings Graduation Ceremony. Their Royal Highnesses met flying instructors, graduates and their families during a reception, and attended a lunch followed by an aircraft display, at RAF Cranwell, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

The Prince and The Duchess arrived at the main entrance of College Hall to be met by the Chief of the Air Staff before proceeding to the Longcroft Room for the Graduation Ceremony. Their Royal Highnesses were welcomed by the RAF College Band and The Prince of Wales was invited to present Wings to the twenty-five graduating students. His Royal Highness also presented trophies to those students who have excelled in different aspects of the flying course.

After the ceremony, The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall met privately with Prince William to congratulate him on graduating. Following this, the graduates from RAF Linton-on-Ouse and Shawbury gathered in the Rotunda area for photographs. The Prince and The Duchess met guests and families of the graduates during a short reception before luncheon in the Dining Room.

After lunch, The Prince, The Duchess and Prince William left College Hall and travelled by car together to the airfield to view a display of aircraft. On static display, amongst other aircraft, was the Chipmunk T10 trainer plane in which The Prince of Wales learnt to fly forty years ago. Various historic, operational and training aircraft performed a fly-past before Prince William departed.