

TACTICAL SUPPLY WING AIRMAN OF THE YEAR 2021



SAC Chadwick is employed on the Tactical Supply Wing (TSW) Operations Flight; a role which she has undertaken for the past 18 months. From the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 her enthusiasm, professionalism and dedication to every task she has undertaken has been nothing short of exceptional. She is an integral part of a small team within an extremely heavily tasked operations room, which is the nucleus to all TSW activity; Chadwick is responsible for assisting with the planning, deployment, sustainment and recovery of a multitude of personnel, vehicles and fuel equipment in support of operations and exercises across the globe.

At the start of the UK COVID-19 pandemic, TSW was tasked with providing short notice Military Aid to the Civilian Authorities as part of Operation RESCRIPT. TSW detachments were rapidly established at Oban Airfield and RAF Kinloss in Scotland, to provide 24/7 rotors turning refuel capability for Puma and Scottish Air Ambulance helicopters; this enabled the aircraft to provide critical aid and medical care to the most remote parts of the Scottish Highlands. Instrumental in the planning and deployment of two teams of personnel and bulk fuel carrying vehicles, Chadwick meticulously co-ordinated the requirements with the professionalism and expertise typically displayed by much more senior personnel. Utterly trusted, she was specifically tasked with developing a plan for the resupply of aviation fuel; consulting with a wide network of military and commercial agencies, her forward thinking and continuous communication ensured fuel supply was constantly available to the deployed teams, assuring the Aviation Task Force Commander that rotary wing assets both military and civilian were able to conduct taskings when required.

As COVID restrictions began to ease, the wider operational and exercise tempo increased; using previous knowledge and experience from her employment in other roles on TSW, she ensured a smooth Relief in Place of teams deploying to and returning from operations in 4 different overseas locations, spread across the globe. She was particularly instrumental in harmonising and overseeing the COVID-19 pre-deployment preparation and isolation plans. Chadwick has also spent a significant amount of her own time collating and building welfare packages for TSW deployed personnel, enhancing the quality of life for those spending significant periods of time away from home. She investigated possible funding sources, including internal Wing budgets and engaged with HQ Air Command to secure a substantial budget with which she procured televisions, gaming consoles and a multitude of additional items to help make the life of those deployed more enjoyable.

In summary, this has been a unique and challenging year for TSW and the shear effort from Chadwick has been way beyond that expected. She has demonstrated huge reserves of motivation and skill to ensure continued support to enduring operations, no-notice taskings in support of the COVID Response Force and an ever-increasing exercise programme. Pivotal in ensuring TSW continue to supply a liquid lifeline of aviation fuel to Joint Helicopter Command assets globally, she is an invaluable asset to the RAF, the Supply Trade and TSW, and is thoroughly deserving of her nomination for TSW Airman of the Year.