



THE PANTHER

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The Official Newsletter of 146 (Northwich) ATC

MAY/JUNE 06



With Summer fast approaching it's nearly time for summer camps, IACE, Gold Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and the Windermere Adventure Training Course, but the past two months have also been very busy, so much so that for the first time this year THE PANTHER is double sided! With the World Cup now well underway, this season's all about competition, and unsurprisingly we've been winning some more...

WING PRESENTATION EVENING

A selection of NCO's and officers recently represented 146 when we took home several of this year's trophies at the annual Wing Presentation Evening held in Trafford. During the course of the evening various awards were received including those won throughout the year at Wing events, and the more prestigious awards such as the Jackson and Dobson Trophies.



This past year has been a success for the squadron and we left with the following awards: Athletics overall, Female Swimming, Table Tennis and the Duke of Edinburgh's trophy. Also specially mentioned were the eight flying scholarships of which four were awarded to cadets from 146. Congratulations go to Sgt Clarke, Sgt Jones, FS Ebbitt and Cpl McEwan.

Amongst the Special Awards, the Best Male and Female cadet in the Wing is presented. This is a highly impressive award and incorporates nominations for the Dacre Sword as well as the cadets' general contribution to the Air Cadets. For the second year running, the best male has been awarded to a 146 cadet, this year being awarded to CWO Martin Moores.

ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Once again the inter-squadron athletics competition took place one Sunday in May. The 5 teams and supporters filled 3 minibuses and a people carrier, plus a trailer carrying the barbecue and tent!

Although the weather wasn't as sunny as usual, 146 were high spirited as always and as successful as ever, winning overall and many cadets coming



first in their event or heat. Well done to everyone who entered and special congratulations to the cadets who made it to the inter-wing competition: Cdt Hudson, Cdt Percival and Cdt Bamber.



WING TRAINING DAY

During May, each squadron in the wing puts forward a number of teams to compete in many different events throughout Wing Training day which takes place yearly with competitions ranging from aircraft knowledge to volleyball.

This year's wing training day brought many members of 146 to Wilmslow High School for the competition. Events were tough, with the volleyball team missing out on a place in the semi-final by just one point! An RAF officer marked both the recruitment display (2nd) and the immaculate drill team (7th), and a Band Sergeant from the Scouts was able to spend time marking the Band Display, giving tips for the future. The model aircraft and the balsa-wood gliders were also successes for 146 which positioned us overall in (4th) place.

COWBOYS AND INDIANS
SUMMER BONANZA!!

**4th August at Hartford golf club-
get your tickets from Cpl
Woodhead or Cpl Hughes, £12.50.**



PROMOTIONS

Another set of top exam results and completion of the Staff Part II course brought another round of promotions. The new corporals are settling into their positions around the squadron. The most recent promotions were Cpl Houghton and Cpl Campbell.

PHOENIX III by WO Moores

This year's Phoenix Ex was long awaited, with 2005's Phoenix being cancelled due to a lack of numbers! The weekend started on the Friday with packing, checking and repacking kit onto the buses ready for the weekend. All the cadets and staff from Northwich and Winsford sqns traveled to Leek Army Training ground on the Friday night for briefings and kit sorting. Saturday kicked off with fieldcraft training all day, cam and concealment, shelter building, movements in the field and radio comms. Later on in the day, with the cadets split up into their various sections with supervising staff and NCOs, they used their newly learnt skills to complete a series of tasks. This involved map reading their way to various points, picking up supplies, dealing with a first aid and an emergency evacuation incident. The exercise led the groups back to the shelters they had built previously where they would be sleeping for the night. But, just to keep things interesting,

the staff had another exercise planned for that night, so just when they thought they would be safe for the night they were yet again out on exercise. This time, all the exercises were under the cover of darkness, they had to covertly approach enemy positions, recording information, collecting equipment for the following day and scoring points by completing various tasks. Finally everyone got some sleep for another long day on Sunday. This was more of a relaxed day. The groups completed various leadership tasks including blister-ex (building a large medieval siege weapon) and stew-ex (using basic materials to make stew and cake!). The weekend came to a close with a big final exercise, cadets VS staff, the air was filled with water balloons and lots of water from a variety of water pistols.

Overall, everyone involved had a great time during the weekend and will hopefully attend again next year.

Keep your eyes peeled for the Phoenix-Ex review which is currently in production, they will be available for £3 from myself. Proceeds to the squadron funds.

WO Moores



Budding Journalist?

Want your voice to be heard?

THE PANTHER is looking for new writers, NCOs and cadets alike, to report on events at the squadron. If you're interested in starting to write regularly or would just like to put one of your experiences into words, please see FS Ross.