



# THE PANTHER

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The Official Newsletter of 146 (Northwich) Squadron Air Training Corps

July 2006

## Four Cadets gain Flying Awards

In what has been the most successful year ever, four Northwich cadets were selected for, and completed, Flying Awards up to solo flight standard. CWO Martyn Hooker, FS Harry Ebbitt, Sgt Rob Jones and Cpl Jonathan McEwan are now entitled to wear their Flying Scholarship 'Wings'. Before attending the selection board, cadets must have already gained their gliding wings by completing solo flights on one of the ATC's Vigilant or Viking gliders.



Squadron Leader Paul Twose presents Flying Award certificates to CWO Hooker, FS Ebbitt and Cpl McEwan. Sgt Rob Jones (not present) was still completing his course.

## Cpl Jonathan "Top Gun" McEwan selected to complete his Private Pilot's Licence

Cpl Jonathan McEwan has been selected as one of the top Corps cadets nationally, who have gained Flying Awards in the last year, to receive further training up to Private Pilot's Licence (PPL) standard. He was nominated by the flying school in Tayside where he completed his Flying Award, based on his flying aptitude and ability. The Cunningham Scholarships are awarded annually to the top four Air Training Corps cadets, based on the reports and recommendations of the flying schools where they undertook their flying training. Jonathan, who is a qualified glider pilot, works weekends as a staff cadet at the Air Cadet gliding school at RAF Ternhill. He hopes that this will be just his first step towards a future career in either military or civil aviation.



Cpl Jonathan McEwan beside the Grob Heron Aircraft in which he will be training for his PPL in July.

## Air Cadet Exchange to India

CWO Martyn Hooker was one of eight cadets selected to represent the United Kingdom at India's Independence Day Celebrations earlier this year. Top calibre British Air Cadets, Sea Cadets and Army Cadets were selected for this prestigious event, where they met up with cadet representatives from military youth organisations from all over the world.



CWO Martyn Hooker meets the Indian Chief of the Air Staff at the India Independence Day celebrations.

## 146 Squadron Tops ECSM Wing D of E Award Tables for 5th Year

Northwich Squadron has again topped the East Cheshire South Manchester Wing's Duke of Edinburgh Award table with a whopping 65 awards, including half of the Wing's Silver Awards and all but one of the Wing's Gold Awards. The table (below) shows the Awards gained by the ECSM Wing's 24 squadrons between April 2005 and March 2006.

SQUADRON		B	S	G
55	Woodford & Bramhall	10		
70	Croft & Culcheth	5		
145	Altrincham & Hale	6	3	
146	Northwich	29	24	12
162	Stockport			
174	Manchester	1		
182	North Trafford	4	9	
184	Manchester South			
201	Macclesfield		1	
202	Winsford	5		
236	Bollington			
284	Cheadle & Gatley	7		
318	Sale			1
391	Wilmslow	11		
468	Hyde & Hattersley			
1196	Bredbury, Romiley, Marple	10	1	
1330	Warrington	1		
1804	Four Heaton		5	
1940	Levenshulme			
2056	Knutsford	6		
2137	Lymm	13	5	
2448	Poynton	7		
2468	St Gregory's School			
2517	Buxton			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>13</b>

Over the last four years cadets from 146 Squadron have gained 260 Awards including 94 Silver Awards (over half of the Wing's total of 179) and a very creditable 43 Gold Awards (over two-thirds of the Wing's total of 64).

Nationally, fewer than half of the *Wings* in the Corps have gained more Awards than 146 Squadron this year, and only four or five *Wings* achieve more than 12 Gold Awards annually.

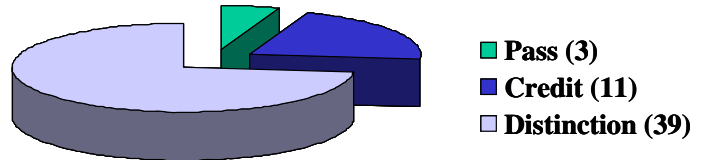
## Air Cadet Exchange 2006 – FS Hooker Keeps it in the Family

Not to be outdone by his brother's Air Cadet Exchange to India (see over), Flight Sergeant Peter Hooker will also be enjoying the high life in Austria in July, courtesy of the Austrian Air Cadet organisation and Austrian Air Force. Peter had been selected as first reserve for this prestigious tour but enthusiastically stepped into the breach when the no 1 candidate had to withdraw. The intensive two-week programme includes visits to a number of military bases, aviation establishments, museums, city tours, high level social functions and banquets. Enjoy!

## Record Examination Successes

146 Squadron cadets have continued to increase their percentage of examination passes with 'Credit' or 'Distinction'. On completing First Class Cadet training, cadets must pass three subjects to be reclassified 'Leading Cadets'. A further two subjects passed for 'Senior' and two more for 'Staff Part 1'.

160 individual subjects have been taken between November 2005 and May 2006 with just 2 failures. Of the 53 cadets who have passed all their reclassification examinations in the period, 3 did so with a basic 'Pass' (52% and above), 11 passed with 'Credit' (75% and above) and 39 cadets, almost three quarters, passed with 'Distinction' (90% and above).




Four of our new NCO's have now passed all seven subjects with aggregate marks of over 96%. They are:

Cpl Graham Clarke	96.6%
Cpl Christopher Beasant	97.1%
Cpl Michael Simpson	98.3%
Cpl Thomas Beasant	98.9%


## Region 'Blue' for Cadet Percival

Cadet D. Percival was selected to represent North Region in the Corps athletics competition at RAF Cosford on 25<sup>th</sup> June having won the 100 metres event in the inter-wing competition. He had been selected to run in both the 100 metres, in which he came third, and the 100 metres relay, where the team also came third. Congratulations!

## Register for Future Newsletters on the Squadron Website



**146 (Northwich) ATC**  
Queen Street, Northwich, CW9 5JN  
Tel: 01606 49927 - Parade Nights - Tuesday and Friday 7pm to 9.30pm



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Fri 23 Jun, 2006

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**Introduction**

A message from the Commanding Officer

We have two aims. Firstly, that every cadet who joins our squadron gains something which will be to their advantage in future. Most will build a considerable record of achievements.

Secondly, that they enjoy it.

Employers now look beyond academic abilities, seeking candidates with positive, enthusiastic attitudes, organisational and leadership experience, self-discipline, determination and proven team-working skills.

In addition to developing character and personality, there are opportunities to participate in a wide range of activities. 'Blues' for sporting representation, marksmanship badges for shooting, the Duke of Edinburgh's bronze, silver and gold awards, and "wing" for successfully completing gliding and powered aircraft flying courses, are just some of the many achievements which could enhance a cadet's C.V. The programme is balanced by a variety of social activities, such as ten-pin bowling, theme park visits, barbecues and disco's.

There is no better foundation for a career than responsibility and integrity, and no other organisation can offer young people such a wealth of opportunity.

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