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The Panther

The official newsletter of 146 Northwich Squadron



March / April - 2013

Awards All Round At 146

The cadets and staff at Northwich have been achieving big so far in 2013, the list below demos just some of the courses and opportunities that the Squadron has been taking up:

Cpl McGough and Keegan are half way through their gliding scholarship course at RAF Woodvale. They have been training, eventually to solo standard, to fly a Vigilant Glider.

Civilian Instructor Moores will be travelling to The Defence School of Transport in Yorkshire, to complete his D1 minibus driver training in April.

Cpl Webb has recently completed his Qualified Aerospace Instructors Course, an intense course over many weekends throughout the year. He has been trained in advanced aerospace topics, including Air Traffic Control, radios and flight sim. A full write-up of his course will be included in the next edition of The Panther

Sixteen cadets completed their Youth First Aid course in December, a national qualification that builds on the first aid training all cadets receive during their First Class training. It will also lead onto the adult Activity First Aid and First Aid At Work courses.

Twelve members of staff have also been trained as Traffic Management Operatives. This qualification allows the Sqn to run its own parades through Northwich, without the Police, who due to cut backs, can no longer provide assistance.



Far Away Lands Await Flt Sgt Byrne

Flt Sgt Jordan Byrne has been shortlisted for a once in a lifetime opportunity, a three week trip to Africa.

The trip is organised annually by CVQO and is awarded to the best cadet, chosen from the Air, Sea and Army cadets in the UK.

Jordan has made it to the final twenty one and now, just a final selection weekend stands between him and the trip.

Jordan was also selected for a place on this year's prestigious International Air Cadet Exchange, out of one and a half thousand Merseyside Cadets, but unfortunately had to turn it down, due to it clashing with the CVQO trip.

Best of luck from all the Squadron to Flt Sgt Byrne!

WATEX Team Reach For The Top

2013 marks the second year that Northwich cadets have entered the annual Wing Adventure Training Exercise (WATEX). With lots of lessons learnt at last year's event, the 2013 team stormed up the leader board and finished in a respectable 5th place.

As well as the good overall result, the team also came top of some of the challenges. In the climbing wall event, the 146 team came in first place, which shows that the training the team did at the Warrington climbing centre paid off!

Well done and fingers crossed for next year.



Other News

Promotions:

*Cdt Wallace to Cpl
Cdt Earp to Cpl
Cdt Doyle to Cpl
Cdt Jessop to Cpl
Cdt Martin to Cpl
Cdt Houghton to Cpl
Cdt Keegan to Cpl*

*Cpl Jessop to Sgt
Cpl Braithwaite to Sgt
Cpl Carolan to Sgt*

*Sgt Quayle to Flt Sgt
Sgt Byrne to Flt Sgt*

Flt Sgt Rathbone to CWO

Sports Representations:

Regional Cross-country
*Cdt Brown
Cdt Harvey-Kelly*

Regional Netball
*Cdt Harvey-Kelly
Cdt Bennett*

Wing 5-A-Side
*Cdt Mackintosh
Cdt Brown*

Wing Netball
*Cdt Harvey-Kelly
Cdt Bennett
Cdt Prime*

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Editor

CI M Moores

Cadets Receive DofE Awards At Presentation Evening

Twelve Northwich cadets have been awarded with their Bronze and Silver Duke Of Edinburgh certificates, at a presentation evening for units and schools in Cheshire West and Chester.

Over the past year, Northwich cadets have been presented with over fifty DofE awards, at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. Each award requires the cadets to complete four sections of volunteering, physical achievement, skill and the hill walking expedition.

There were also special awards presented, DofE leaders with Cheshire West and Chester Council chose a champion for each of the Awards sections, based on what all of the participants had achieved. Cadet Laragh Harvey-Kelly from 146 Squadron was presented with the physical achievement section award, for her many triumphs in Hockey, Netball and Cross-country.



Top Sporting Trophy For Northwich Cadet

A cadet from 146 Northwich Air Cadets has been named one of the top sporting cadets in the country, after a great year of sporting achievements.

Cdt Laragh Harvey-Kelly was presented with the Wales and West Sports Woman of the Year trophy, after making it to the top six out of forty five thousand Air Cadets for her sporting achievements.

Laragh represented Wales and West Region in Netball and Athletics, after being selected from Squadron and Wing teams. She also went all the way to represent the Air Cadets in Hockey at a national level, playing Tamworth Ladies and the Corps Vets, a team made up of Air Cadets staff, at RAF Cosford. The cadets came second in the tournament, an excellent feat for an amateur team.

Flt Sgt Aiming For Pilot's Licence

Flt Sgt Matthew Nightingale has been awarded with the Leah Alderson Gliding Trophy, presented to the Merseyside cadet who gains the highest gliding qualification during the year.

Matthew completed his Advanced Glider Training (Gold Wings), which involved advanced flying of the Vigilant glider and completing five solo circuits of RAF Woodvale.

He has now been invited back as a staff cadet and is working towards becoming a graded pilot!

Many other cadets have also been awarded gliding scholarships, with only a few cadets per Squadron gaining this qualification each year.

