



The Panther

The official newsletter of 146 (Northwich) Squadron



Winter 2014 Edition

146 IS A NATIONAL SUCCESS

Over the past few months, 146 has achieved several national successes, with cadets competing at the top level against other cadets from the Corps.

Cdt Thurston, for the first time in as long as anyone can remember, made his way through several competitions to represent Wales and West Region in the National Aircraft Recognition competition at RAF Cosford.

This is a huge achievement, being up against tough competition, with some cadets coming away with full marks!

2014 was again a good year for the Sqn band. Flt Sgt Yale was selected for the solo snare drummer category and travelled to RAF Halton to perform alongside other top Sqn marching bands.

There to watch was the Air Cadet's new ambassador, Hon Grp Capt Carol Vorderman!

Finally, in sports, Sgt Harvey-Kelly again excels, being selected for the Corps Netball and Hockey teams! We wish her the best of luck for these competitions in February 2015.



Flt Sgt Yale performs for judges

VIP VISIT TO NORTHWICH SQUADRON

Defence Secretary visits Northwich Cadet Squadron.

Thursday 4th December 2014, saw 146 Squadron Air Cadets receive a flying visit from the Secretary of State for Defence, Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP!

The Defence Secretary's visit was to meet and discuss the reasons for joining the armed services, in particular the Royal Air Force. Mr Fallon then spent an hour discussing the services and new equipment that was being procured, in particular, the new F35B Joint Strike Fighter.

The Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP was appointed Defence Secretary on 15 July 2014. He has been the Conservative MP for Sevenoaks, Kent, since 1997. Cpl Cawley -Cooke, was among the Cadets involved, Cpl Cawley-Cooke, is aiming to become a pilot.

"It was a real honour to meet the Secretary of State for Defence, he asked me what I wanted to fly, I advised him that I was very interested in flying Merlin Helicopters. He then told me a little about the type and wished me luck!"

Also during his visit, Mr Fallon, also spoke to Cpl Tomlinson. "I was really excited to meet the Defence Secretary, he asked about what I wanted to do in the RAF. I said I wanted to fly the new F35B Joint Strike Fighter, the latest aircraft chosen by the RAF. The Defence Secretary knew all about it and even said, I have just bought four of them!"



Promotions:

Cdt Campbell.A to Cpl
Cdt Campbell.D to Cpl
Cdt Lishman to Cpl
Cdt Everall to Cpl
Cdt Prime to Cpl
Cdt Murray to Cpl
Cdt Tomkins.J to Cpl
Cdt Graham to Cpl

Cpl Cawley-Cooke to Sgt
Cpl England to Sgt

Sgt Doyle to Flt Sgt
Sgt Yale to Flt Sgt
Sgt Bennett to Flt Sgt

Sports Representations:

Wing Rugby
Cdt Henderson
Cdt Lewis

Region Rugby
Cdt Henderson
Cdt Lewis

Wing Cross Country
Cpl Mackintosh

Region Netball
Sgt Harvey-Kelly
Cpl Everall

Corps Representations:

Aircraft Recce
Cdt Thurston

Band - Solo Drummer
Flt Sgt Yale

Facebook

www.facebook.com/atc146

YouTube

www.youtube.com/atc146

Editors

Plt Off M Moores
Cpl Mackintosh

Writers

Cl Dutton
Cdt Snelson
Cdt Doyle

55 ENTRY ENROLMENT PARADE

December 2014 saw 146 Squadron welcome 25 new entrants, at their enrolment ceremony. The proceedings also welcomed a very special guest of honour, the High Sheriff of Cheshire, Susan Sellers.

The High Sheriff is appointed by Her Majesty the Queen to represent her in the County of Cheshire in matters relating to law and order. "I look forward to being involved with and offering support to the Police, Judges, Magistrates, Coroners, the Prison and Probation Services, the emergency services and all branches of the Armed Forces"

The Enrolment ceremony welcomes the latest cadets to join the Squadron and is a chance for their friends and families to come along and wish them well.

"We hold two intakes a every year, in March and September and this is the ceremony where the new cadets make solemn declarations to do their duty to the Queen and the Air Training Corps." said Pilot Officer, Martin Moores, RAF VR(T). "We are very proud of our traditions, especially this year, when we as a Squadron have celebrated our 75th Anniversary. This is a great chance for families to come along and meet the staff and see their child, take a new step, making new friends and learning new skills, is what The Air Cadets is all about." - *Cl Dutton*



MERSEYSIDE WING ANNUAL TRAINING CAMP

Eighteen cadets and NCO's headed to Nesscliffe for the annual fieldcraft training camp organised by Merseyside Wing. Nesscliffe Army camp is found near Shrewsbury in Shropshire and this was home to more than 300 cadets for the week. On arrival we were split into four Squadrons of two Flights each and points were awarded for skill, effort and performance for each task. Activities included Day Exercise, Night Exercise, Radio Exercise, Shooting, Climbing, Teamwork Building and Sports. A new activity for this year was football-zorbing which was a great laugh trying to play football whilst cocooned in an inflatable ball with only your legs sticking out!

Some of our cadets and NCO's opted to use this week as their residential for their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, having responsibility for organising cadets and running certain activities.

This camp is certainly physically demanding and we all crawled into our beds at night exhausted, however, the activities boost your confidence and make you realise that you can undertake some of the toughest challenges in the worst weather and succeed! Certainly a great camp that gets better every year. - *Cdt Snelson*



CDT DOYLE PASSES INTERVIEW FOR WELBECK DEFENCE COLLEGE

I decided that I wanted to attend Welbeck Sixth Form Defence college due to my interest in aviation and the Air Training Corps as well as my future aspirations of joining the RAF.

Upon arrival at the college, I had to sit a two stage interview, the first half was dedicated to my hobbies, extracurricular activities, as well as my experiences of adventure training. 146 Squadron had given me plenty of opportunities within these subjects and therefore gave me plenty to discuss with the interviewer. I spoke about how in my spare time I attended cadets as well as events on the weekends, for the adventure training aspects I mentioned how I had attended camps such as Llanbedr NACATC as well as Capel Curig Army Base. Attending these proved useful as they have given me plenty of experience within adventurous sports.

The second half of the interview involved how I believed I would cope with military life, I stated how cadets had prepared me for the military style life as well as giving a taste of what it is like. Furthermore, I was questioned about my fitness, luckily 146 offers a weekly sports session, which has helped me to maintain my physical fitness. On top of this I was quizzed on my general knowledge of aircraft recognition and NATO.

Cadets has helped me with this interview as they have developed my team working and leadership skills, the college consider being able to work as a team essential in a working environment. As part of the interview I had to broaden my knowledge on three recent news articles, for example, I chose to go into detail about the Malaysia airline incident.

At the end of the interview, I was informed on how well I performed as well as improvements for future interviews, the next stage included interviews which would be held at RAF Cranwell. Finally passing the interview was incredibly rewarding and has given me a huge confidence boost. - *Cdt Doyle*

For comments, feedback and contributions, contact: panther@theaircadets.org

If you are a parent and wish to be added to our mailing list, please contact: webmaster@theaircadets.org