



Q3/2016

The Panther

www.theaircadets.org

The official newsletter of 146 (Northwich) Squadron since March 2001

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Tuesday and Friday 19:00 - 21:45pm

LEES Trophy Inspection 2016

June 21st was a momentous day for 146 (Northwich) Air Cadets. The final judging for the prestigious Lees Trophy competition.

Should the Inspection be a success, 146 Northwich Squadron will be the winner of this year's Lees trophy, pipping five other finals to the post.



146 squadron are representing Wales & West region as their Regional winner as selected by Group Captain Richard Allen RAFR on the 26th April 2016.

The Air Cadet Organisation has 1009 squadrons and over 42,000 cadets.

The evening saw the squadron receive Commandant Air Cadets, Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty.

The Lees trophy is awarded to the Squadron that displays the highest standards and the finest values of the Air Training Corps and reflects the efforts and activities of the past 12 months.

Following the inspection the Air Commodore was given a tour of the squadron by Cdt Sgt Elizabeth Barr, Cdt Sgt Barr said "It is such an honour and privilege to be showing the Air Commodore such a hard-working squadron". The Air

Commodore visited the Squadron facilities and observed cadets during their activities. Air Commodore said: "I am thrilled to be at 146 Northwich Squadrons, you are already winners being in the top six nationally, I wish you every success in the competition. I will be announcing the winner at the end of July! Officer Commanding 146 squadron, Squadron leader Paul Thompson RAFVR(T) took over the running of the Squadron in July 2008. He said: "Tonight was a fantastic opportunity for the cadets to showcase what they do and how they do it, I am very proud of all the cadets and the Staff."



The cake designed by Mrs Ann Barr inspired by 146 (Northwich) Sqn colours.

We would like to include a special thank you to Mrs Ann Barr who baked a commemorative cake and brownies for the night's inspection.

146 Squadron is one of the original squadrons in the Air Training Corps, winning the Lees Trophy once before in the 1992. Winning the Lees trophy would be a fitting way of celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Air Cadet organisation.

CI Dutton

Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire Awards 2016

On the 8th June 2016 I was invited to attend the Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire awards along with other cadet forces such as the ACF and SCC. This was the fourth of this year's Lord-Lieutenants' Awards in the North West of England, it took place at Chester Town Hall. The Awards were presented by Mr David Briggs MBE, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Cheshire.



The award ceremony consisted of the Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire presenting Officers, Adult NCOs and Cadet NCOs throughout the three services awards which included the presentation of the next Lord Lieutenant Cadet of Cheshire which went to Sea Cadet: Leading Cadet Jack Preston.

Afterwards the rest of the awards were presented which were all Certificates of Meritorious Achievements which are presented to Staff and Cadets who have excelled themselves beyond the call of duty in their cadet careers.

I am very honoured to have received such a prestigious award and aim to continue pushing myself through my last year in the Corps; and

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Promotions:

Cdt Dutton to Cpl
Cdt Ferguson to Cpl
Cdt Kingston to Cpl
Cdt Smart to Cpl
Cpl Jessop to Sgt
Cpl Worley to Sgt
FS Hensby to CWO
Plt Off Ross to Fg Off

Sports:

Inter-Wing Athletics

Cdt Halliwell
Cdt Westray
Cdt Robinson

Inter-Region Athletics

Cdt Westray -3rd Long Jump
Cdt Robinson -1st 400m

Up-Coming Events:

> Wing Field Training Day
> Blue & Bronze Badge
Radio Courses
> Battle of Britain Dining-In
Night
> Regional Field Training
Day

Editor: CWO Mackintosh

Writer(s): CI Dutton, CWO
Mackintosh, Cdt Dutton, Cdt
Liaukus, (ex) CWO McGough



have it presented twice by both the Mr David Briggs MBE, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Cheshire as well as Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty.

CWO Mackintosh

RAF WARMA March

On the 22nd April, CWO Yale, Sgt Barr, Cdt Barcoe, Cdt Moore and I set off to attempt one of the most gruelling walks the ACO has to offer. For some bizarre reason, we had all decided it was a good idea to do WARMA. Upon completion of the walk you receive the RAF WARMA medal.

RAF WARMA stands for the Royal Air Force Walking and Road Marching Association; it consists of walking 50 miles over two days, we walked 27 miles on day one, and 23 miles on day two. Along the way, we sang songs, we murdered our feet, we made friends, and we tried to not be over taken by other groups, not that we were very successful at that one!



Picture from left to right: Cdt Moore, Cdt Barcoe, CWO Yale, Sgt Barr & Cdt Dutton at RAF Cosford.

I would highly recommend doing WARMA to anyone, provided you have good boots. One of the cadets in my team discovered the value of having decent boots. At the end of day one, he had 7 blisters on one foot, and spent two hours in the medical tent. Regardless, this is still considered one of the highlights of my cadet career, and I loved every minute of it.

Cdt Dutton.R

National Choir Camp

In April, I attended the first ever national choir camp. It was held at RAF Cranwell and throughout the week we rehearsed many songs which we then performed at the Waterside shopping centre in Lincoln to see what the general reaction would be.



On the camp that is coming up in August we will strive to perfect our routine so we can perform it at the 75th anniversary celebrations at RAF Cranwell.

I think that this camp was a really good opportunity and I think that by having a new camp to go to, it further increases the Corps reputation. Coming to a choir camp was much different than any normal camp and I know this will sound cheesy; but, since everyone had the same passion for music, strong bonds were made. This is usually the case on all of the National music camps.

I recommend that you do attend choir or any National music camp as they are as amazing and you learn so much so quickly.

Cdt Liakus

Goodbye CWO McGough!

On June 15th, I turned 20 years old, so my time in the Corps came to an end. I've had an amazing time at 146 Squadron, and wouldn't swap it for anything! From camps and parades to DofE, every minute has been worthwhile and memorable.

I joined 46 Entry in March 2010, and since then I have had so many great experiences. My first camp was to RAF Leuchars, and since then I've been all across the country with cadets. I even had the opportunity to visit USAF Ramstein in Germany, which was an incredible camp. We even had the chance to walk on the top of a Hercules! The Squadron's annual AT Camps at Llanbedr and Capel Curig were also amazing; the chance to spend a week doing adventurous activities with the 146 family is brilliant.

One of the proudest moments in my cadet career was being promoted to Cadet Warrant Officer. I never imagined when I joined that I would ever even be an NCO, so to get the highest available rank was incredible! Being an NCO can be difficult, but the skills I have gained from having a chance to lead will stay with me for the rest of my life.

Thank you to the staff, NCOs and cadets of 146 Squadron for six years well spent. I'm sure I'll be back soon!

(ex)CWO McGough



Percutit Insidious Pardus

