



Q3/2017

# The Panther

[www.theaircadets.org](http://www.theaircadets.org)

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

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Tuesday and Friday 19:00 - 21:45pm

## Jason (Fair) Bourne

WALES! It's not just the home of seagulls and tacky beach shops but also Fairbourne, the location for this annum's Squadron adventure training camp. To start off the week we went on a two-day expedition through the fields and hills of Wales. We gathered all our strength and ploughed headfirst into the unknown with nothing but our wit and our will to pull us through (as well as compasses, OS maps of the whole area, water, Kendal mint cake and two qualified instructors, but that's not important). We traversed the terrain, plundering through fields, trapesing through knee deep mud, which was apparently the only pathway, until we finally reached our destination, the most important destination of the whole camp. The chippy. It was as if a light from heaven had shone down upon it, highlighting its beauty amidst the greys and whites of the surrounding infrastructure. We decided it would be rude not to visit such a prestigious establishment and ended our first activity there. It was amazing.

Day three brought about a whole new array of challenges in the form of a mountain and a bike, we called this activity: mountain biking. After many, and I mean many, cadets had flown face first into Wales' finest puddles, we realised that it wasn't a good idea to prematurely slam on the brakes as fast as possible at the bottom of an incline. The rest of the day was filled with hair-raising moments, hills, turns and even some minor jumps and then, just to top off the bicycle cake, the rain came careering out of

the sky to bludgeon us. However, this didn't detract from the experience and I personally felt that it added an extra layer of fun to the activity. Cadets also had the opportunity to do some orienteering and even do an assessment for the National Navigation Award Scheme.



For the next two adventurous days, we split off into two large units and were bussed off around the area. My particular group was taken to the lake where we disembarked and awaited our instructions. After much deliberation, we had conjured up a plan to complete the tasks set upon us, and then, after blood sweat and tears had been shed, we had a trolley and a bridge. But the intensities continued as we had to drive the trolley over the bridge. But the trolley was bigger than the bridge. This culminated in a final act of undying awesomeness from the one and only Cadet Tom Ravenscroft, who leapt into the fray, launching the trolley over the bridge and clearing it without any damage to either structure. After lunch, we then headed to the lake itself and the unknown mysteries within it. We kitted up,

mounted our paddleboards and paddled out into the lake. After we had acquainted ourselves with the ways of the paddleboard it was time to stand up and get to the really fun stuff. Mustering up all our strength we thrust ourselves up into the air, hoping beyond hope that we wouldn't topple the board and fall into the murky depths below us. However, this illusion of staying dry didn't last long as once everyone was up you could see the sinister look creep across people's faces and the seed of an idea was planted. The idea of pushing everyone's board over didn't take long to marinate before it began and it took even less time for the idea to be executed. Within just a few minutes everyone was submerged in the freezing lake, scrambling to get back atop their paddleboard. Many games ensued and the more insane cadets attempted to handstand on their boards and even backflip off them like a majestic pin wheel.

This covers just the beginning of what we got up to on the camp. During the rest of the week we took part in climbing, abseiling, geocaching, archery, pony trekking and white-water rafting. And that's only the daytime activities that we did!

### Sgt Dooley



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[www.instagram.com/146atc](https://www.instagram.com/146atc)

### Promotions:

Cdt Gardener to Cpl  
Cpl Dooley to Sgt  
Cpl Mattinson to Sgt  
Flt Sgt Barr to CWO  
Flt Sgt Woodfinden to CWO

### Sports:

Inter Region Athletics -  
Campbell-Briggs, Dooley,  
Dutton.S, Tomlinson.S

Inter Sqn Swimming - 2nd  
Place

Inter Wing Swimming -  
Dutton.S, Scragg, Dooley,  
Krzyzanowska

Inter Region Swimming -  
Dutton.S, Scragg

Inter Wing Junior Hockey -  
Dooley, Campbell-Briggs,  
Tomlinson.S, Tomlinson.G,  
Kaplan

Inter Sqn Junior 5-a-side -  
5th Place

Inter Sqn Netball - 6th Place

### Upcoming Events:

Remembrance Parades -  
12<sup>th</sup> November

Op Xmas Child Visits -  
21/22<sup>nd</sup> November

Tesco Bag Pack - 25<sup>th</sup>  
November

### For Your Diaries:

Fairbourne 2018 - 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>  
August

Editor: Sgt Dooley

Writer(s): Sgt Dooley, Cdt  
Moore, Cdt Collinson, Cdt  
Cengiz, Cdt Campbell-Briggs



## Cdt Moore is the Squadron Leader?!

Have you ever wanted to be a Corporal? I have. But why be a Corporal when you can be a Squadron Leader Thompson? Exactly. On Trading Places evening, all staff and Cadet NCOs swapped their ranks and uniforms with Cadets for an enthralling evening. Countless cadets got to experience the exhilaration of being an NCO (or even Staff Officer) and perform such exciting tasks as: running the evening's many activities (more on that later), sorting the supply room, telling "cadets" that their Beret is a form of headwear and \*not\* a projectile, standing around while looking imposing and filling in paperwork. Lots and lots of paperwork. Meanwhile, the "Cadets" enjoyed a drill session run by CWO "Sammy Dutton" Hensby, which was just as interesting as every other drill session that has been run by anyone ever. No, it was very well-prepared and run by "staff" who are dedicated to the preservation of drill. Everyone needs their hobby, right? After break, there was also a session of team-building activities run by the "staff". And Sqn Ldr "Dan Moore" Thompson enjoyed sitting in his office drinking a lot of tea. The media team developed a Pop Quiz too, with such interesting and useful questions such as "What jobs do Dan Moore's parents have?" and "What is Dan Moore's home address?", as well as a gauntlet of Cpl Dooley's favourite obscure movies.

It was to be expected that everyone would take to their roles and nobody disappointed, with each Cadet and Staff Member striving to perfectly impersonate their chosen person. To the extent of extremely patronising mickey-taking, yes... But all in jest, and keeping in theme with the relaxed nature of the evening.



To finish the fun evening was a spectacular Final Parade! Cadet "Thompson" Moore was promoted to Corporal, an experience which I'm sure was overwhelming, except nobody could really tell due to his characteristically stern "Moore Face" expression (photo included for reference). The Squadron was awarded the "Thompson Trophy of Absolute Unbias Towards His Own Squadron" award after our unfortunate exclusion from the Morris Trophy Wing Selection Stage (which was, \*obviously\*, a categorically misinformed and just generally wrong decision). Not only that, but Fg Off "Andy Peacock" Moores romantically proposed to Fg Off "Eleanor Lever" Ross with a Haribo Ring. It was so adorable that Cpl Dooley displayed emotion!

### Cdt Moore



### #GIB17

During the 25<sup>th</sup> July - 1<sup>st</sup> August, I attended a summer camp to the military base in Gibraltar. I decided to apply for this camp because it was a new opportunity for me and I wanted to go out of my comfort zone. I didn't know anyone on the camp, so I was a little nervous. However by the end of it I came out with brand new lifelong friends and some amazing memories.

I took part in various activities such as visiting all of the military bases, the bomb disposal unit, the Spanish waterpark and even

a dolphin safari. One huge memory I will take away is 13 of us being stranded in Heathrow for hours because BA overbooked! We got to Gibraltar 9 hours after we were supposed to get there! After visiting Ireland and Malaga we were, we are and always will be known as the Heathrow B!! This is a camp I would definitely go on again and I would recommend to anyone. But remember don't fly with BA (unless you want to visit half of Europe in one Night)!

### Cdt Collinson



## Stem Camp

Cdt Campbell-Briggs and I attended the Engineering STEM Camp on 31<sup>st</sup> July-4<sup>th</sup> August 2017. We took part in many activities over the five days, including making model gliders out of a variety of materials. We also, tackled many challenges like bleep tests, "Operation X" and the challenge of keeping our spaces tidy! My favourite moment was going into the Jaguar and putting the hydraulics on; getting quizzed whilst in the aircraft on our fast jet knowledge. One of Cdt Campbell Briggs' favourite parts was doing sports which included: basketball, the bleep test, sit-up and press up tests and leadership tasks were also undertaken in the sports hall. At the end of the week we were awarded silver CREST award and silver youth cadet awards. Overall, we think that it was a good experience, although it wasn't a typical "cadet" camp, being more civilian in nature.

### Cdt Cengiz and Campbell-Briggs



# Percutit Insidians Pardus

