

Q1/2018



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

Cdt2Cpl Course

The Cadet-to-Corporal course (Cdt2Cpl) is a Squadron-based NCO training course, spanning the Parade nights of a few months. During the course, the Cadets chosen to participate learn the roles of an NCO. More subjects include the personal upkeep and inspection of the Squadron's uniform standards, as well as how to command a Squad in drill, how to deliver a lesson and how to lead and evaluate leadership activities.

One of my fondest memories was on one of the intensive bi-weekly Uniform Checks from Flight Sergeant Doherty. He looked me up and down and I remember him berating me for my lacklustre standard of uniform that week. It was just like when you get the "I'm not angry, I'm just very disappointed" chat from your Dad. Which granted, I receive a lot!



Cdt2Cpl Drill Session

The final days of the course saw all of us Cadets being assessed on everything we had learned thus far, through practical assessment

After this weekend, we were debriefed in the following weeks, having our achievements and progress assessed by the three Squadron Flight Sergeants; FS Hensby, FS Doherty and FS Royle. The course inevitably is of a

collaborative - yet competitive - nature and in the end, not everyone gained one of the limited NCO positions. What is important to note, however, is that those who don't get their double chevron tapes straight away simply need work on items discussed during their de-brief.



Assessment Day

If anyone wishes to take on the responsibilities of being an NCO in the future, I'd highly recommend this course. Cadets are automatically eligible upon passing their second Senior classification assessment Cpl Moore

Team Bowling Trip

Team 2, the ultimate victors of 2016-17 inter flight competition. Through their immense wisdom they were able to rise above the competition and the other side emerge triumphant, scoring an impressive amount of points. Such brilliance rewarded. should he therefore team 2 boarded the mini bus and travelled along to the most prestigious bowling establishment in all of the known lands. To be frankly honest with you, considering the cadets on worked hard trip SO throughout the year and did so much, they were really terrible at bowling. Like, really atrocious.



Team 2, Inter-Flight Winners

But regardless the sheer force of power that was the dodgems could not be stopped. I'm surprised it wasn't a health and safety violation to have cadets hurl themselves at each other at speeds of just about up to 0.5mph. Truly there has been no such activity which has given me such an adrenalin rush. To quote Paul Engemann, "push it to the limit. LIMIIIT!" Overall the night was a blast for the winners and most importantly, saved them from having to watch 'The Emoji Movie" at the squadron film night. And truly that is a fate worse than death that we were lucky to avoid.

Sgt Dooley

Christmas Revue

The 2017 Christmas revue was really funny and a great way to spend a Tuesday night. From home made movies to the NCO's funny acts, and the staff dancing to "man's not hot". The movie was about Sgt Dooley and his Christmas adventure to get garlic bread and fight Satan?!



The garlic bread adventure!

At the end, the NCO's where

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Promotions:

Cdt Moore to Cpl Cdt Dutton to Cpl Cdt Ravenscroft to Cpl Cdt Ferguson to Cpl Sgt Ferguson to Flt Sgt Sgt Jessop to Flt Sgt

Sports:

Inter Sqn Cross Country - 1st Place

Inter Wing Cross Country
- Tomlinson.S,
Tomlinson.G, Dooley,
Krzyzanowska, Cpl Dutton,
Scragg, James, Cpl
Ferguson.K, Cpl
Ravenscroft

Girls 5-a-side - 2nd Place

U14 5-a-side – Place TBC

Senior 5-a-side – Place TBC

IW Snr Hockey, Jnr Netball and IR Cross Country and Jnr Hockey postponed

Upcoming Events:

Bronze DofE expeditions Silver DofE expeditions 62 Entry start Classification Assessments

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doing MTV cribs around the Squadron and it was so good! They also did their own renditions of classic fairytales.



Staff showing their "moves"?

The staff where doing a show saying what they would be doing "if they weren't in the ATC" and overall it was a very funny night and one to remember.

Cdt Blanck

Christmas Curry Meal

It was the eve of the 20th of December, the staff, Civilian Committee and NCOs joined together, to uphold this ancient tradition of humorous gifts, old friends reuniting and, of course, getting fat on curry.

The evening started off with the anticipation of who would arrive and the wafting smell of naan bread filling everyone's nostrils. Before too long, the call to eat was heard and, with a clattering of chairs and a shuffling of feet, the NCOs (who had positioned themselves closest) raced to get their share of the selection of curries, dips and poppadoms, before the rest of the gathered guests.



Tucking in!

After five minutes, half of the food was demolished and almost all the poppadoms had gone. However, that didn't stop people getting up for seconds, thirds and even fourths.

An hour in, and the curries had been exhausted, which could only mean one thing: time for dessert. On offer that evening was a fine, fresh strawberry gateau, a rich, dark chocolate gateau or a velvety smooth toffee cheesecake, all accompanied by full fat squirty cream. As you can imagine, it didn't take long for these cakes to disappear.



Whilst everyone sat wondering how they'd managed to eat enough for three grown men, the time came to unveil the secret Santa presents. First up, the NCOs. There was a huge selection of gifts ranging from practical joke sets to balloon modelling kits to alcoholic baubles (for the over 18's of the group). There was even a mini golf set for use whilst on the loo. After the NCO gifts, it was time for the staff's. My personal favourite was the CO's new Christmas hat, which was Santa descending down a chimney.



The boss loving his new hat!

Once all the gifts had been opened, the socialising began. Long into the night, tales of events and cadets gone by were told by all. I think it's safe to say

that everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable evening, and we shall definitely be upholding this tradition again for years to come.

Cpl Holland

Nesscliff Camp

The annual "Nesscliff" camp is a Wing wide camp held every October, with several hundred cadets from across all Merseyside Sqns attending!

In 2017, nine cadets from 146 attended, taking part in a variety of activities, such as fieldcraft, field cooking, leadership and teambuilding, arms drill, sports, zorbing and marksmanship training.



Cdt Berry, Noone and Crowley

Three of our older cadets, CWO Hensby, Sgt Jessop and Flt Sgt Dutton, took on additional responsibility this year. CWO Hensby coached on the shooting range, Flt Sgt Dutton acting as a flight leader and Sgt Jessop helped run the climbing wall for the week.

I can highly recommend this camp to all cadets. Full details for 2018 are yet to be released, but the dates are set at the 21st to the 26th of October. Keep an eye on the upcoming events board!

Fg Off Moores





