



The Bugle Call

The Newsletter of Durham Army Cadet Force
Annual Camp Edition

Commandant's Address



"Hello Team

This year Annual Camp was very different to our usual camps.. With lots of uncertainty around the possible relaxation or retention of restrictions due to coronavirus I took the difficult decision to hold a local non-residential camp. This was by no means the easy option and this choice presented many unprecedented challenges. A huge thank you to all of our CFAVs and Cadets who worked extremely hard to make camp a success for everyone.

It presented a fantastic opportunity for our cadets to explore the area local to where they live. This was particularly noticeable when out on our expeditions with many Cadets and CFAVs remarking that they didn't realise just what was on their doorsteps.

Camp involved lots of extra daily travel for Cadets and CFAVs to and from centralised training locations. Special thanks to our MT team and all of our drivers who had extended working days making sure everyone got to where they needed to be each day. Also thanks to parents who also pitched in to drop off/pick up their children again on a daily basis.

We had some fantastic packages this year. The weather was kind to us and the outdoor activities were all able to go ahead and be enjoyable. I particularly liked visiting Cadets and CFAVs at some of our local landmarks whilst out on expedition.

Excellent use was made of temporary detachment ranges as well as Ponteland to enable our cadets to progress through the shooting syllabus and tests.

Our senior cadets did some JCIC training / testing and some advanced drill. Cadets and CFAVs refreshed their first aid skills and it was clear that this training was made very engaging with the scenarios.

A Company took some of their cadets on a Bushcraft training package which as well as being fascinating taught the cadets some useful life skills. The team at Northern Limits Bushcraft and Survival were clearly very knowledgeable and kept the cadets engaged and eager to practice their newly learned skills.

The fun days each Company had were excellent and put all of our new equipment including laser shotguns, taggers, tag archery etc to excellent use.

C Company cadets also got to take part in an adventure training day at Seaham Harbour. They were canoeing, stand up paddle boarding and enjoying some fun team building exercises.

A Company cadets visited Silksworth Ski Slope and attempted some skiing and tubing which looked like it was great fun. They also tried their hand at some command tasks to develop leadership skills.

Visitor day during camp was our chance to showcase our talents, visitors loved chatting to Cadets, left suitably impressed enjoyed their day..

The CFAV training was excellent and sets us up for success in the next training year to continue to deliver high quality ,engaging training in a safe environment.

Finally, am really looking forward to a fully residential annual camp next year from 13th to 26th of August at Barry Buddon in Scotland. Please put this date in your diary and let your DC know you wish to attend what promises to be a fantastic two weeks away.

See you all soon at your up and coming company weekends,

Yours

Commandant

Christmas camps are just around the corner. Keep working hard on your training and make sure you turn out for all of the weekends so that you can pass your star level and progress!

Are you a Senior Cadet and are you ready for October Camp?

**Booked on
the Event**

**Checked
Uniform Fits**

**Started
Packing**



A FEW OF OUR ANNUAL CAMP 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

Annual Camp 2021 was a very different camp than we are used to in Durham Army Cadet Force. This camp was non-residential and held at local locations. We were still able to provide an excellent camp for both cadets and adults despite the difficulties that came with this approach.

Week 1 saw A & B company cadets training whilst C & D company adults trained. This was then switched for week 2 with C & D cadets training as well as A & B company adults.

Camp for A company saw their two stars honing their navigation skills prior to setting out on their Expeditions.

The more junior cadets confirmed their expedition skills and set off on day one of their expeditions on the north east coast.



The cadets saw some range time firing on our indoor ranges practising their marksmanship principles and seeing their performance improve.



The senior cadets got a chance to learn some new skills on the parade square.



While the cadets were busy training and being tested the adults of C & D company were undertaking Expedition Supervisor Training and Assessments.



Our CFAVs enjoyed the assessment walk in the fabulous Teesdale scenery.



Of course our cadets will always find time to have some fun!



The weather was very changeable but we are used to that up in the North of England and are always prepared. Poor weather never seems to dampen anyone's spirits. Although cadets had extra time added to their days travelling in and out to locations attendance at camp was excellent.

Whilst out on Expedition the cadets were set photo challenges which they all loved. One challenge was to get a photograph of your team with our Commandant.



There was also many landmarks on our routes which always makes for a good photo opportunity.



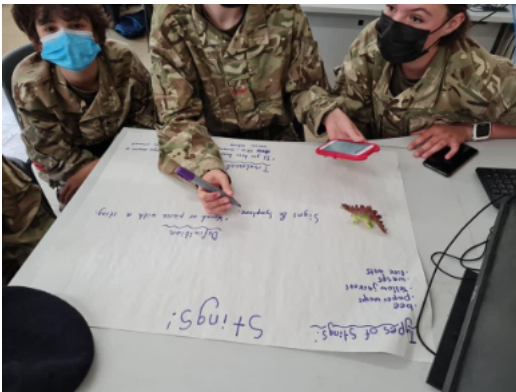
Of course camp wouldn't be the same without a few promotions and week 1 of camp saw B Company appoint a new cadet CSM Abigail Wearmouth. A huge congratulations to her.



Life skills are an important part of our training and Annual Camp saw cadets and adults refreshing their first aid skills.



Expeditions are always a huge part of camp and when the weather is good are a fantastic boost for cadets who hone their navigation skills and bond as a team.



As part of the Expedition training we demonstrated and tested out our emergency shelters.



Our more senior cadet groups got to do some full bore shooting at Ponteland Ranges with some background fieldcraft skills training.



Adult first aid training continued with lots of fun scenarios to make sure focus is maintained and skills are practiced.



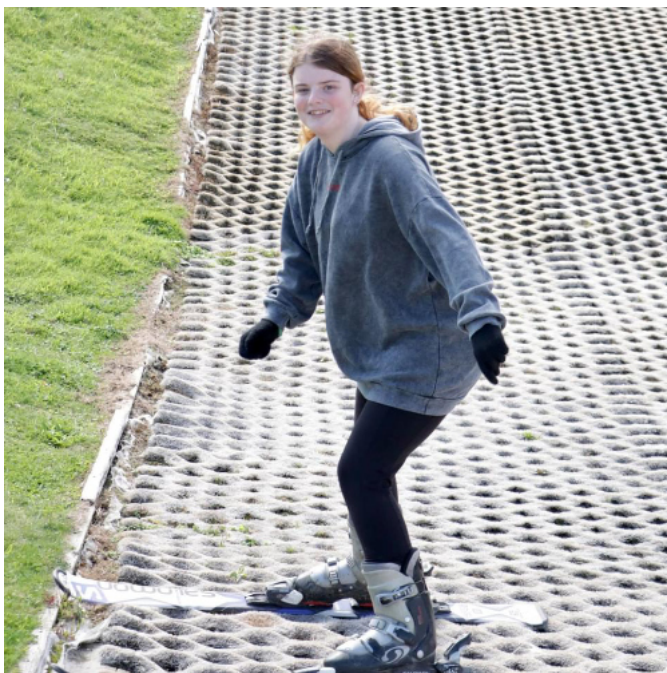
Some lucky A Company cadets got to spend a few days learning some Bushcraft skills with the fantastic team at Northern Limits Bushcraft and Survival. They learned how to forage for food in the wild and basic skills such as making shelter and fire.



No cadet camp would be complete without some kind of fun day. A Company cadets got to visit Silksworth Ski Slope and try skiing, tubing and some problem solving.



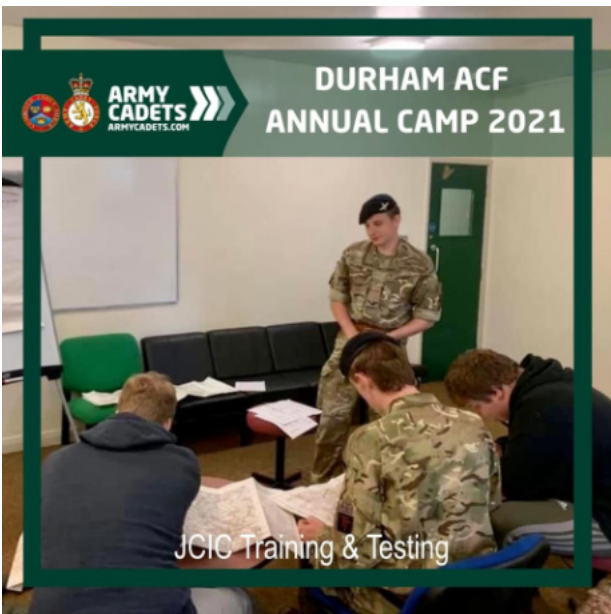
Signals training is a very interesting addition to our syllabus and Annual Camp presented an opportunity for our adults to bring their skills up to speed.





Finally for A & B Company cadets they got to try out all of our new kit such as laser taggers, laser shotgun, tag archery etc.

Our Senior cadets had the opportunity to undertake a JCIC and hone their teaching skills.





Week two of our Annual Camp saw C & D cadets, and A & B adults training. The adults started the week with some first aid training.



The cadets got to attend Ponteland Ranges while some had a try at shotgun shooting.



We had a visit from Mountain Rescue who demonstrated their equipment and talked to the cadets about what their role involves.



C & D Company cadets also undertook their Expeditions this time on the Seaham coast and around Teesdale.





D Company cadets got to visit Marne Barracks and take a look at some of the equipment regular soldiers use.



No camp would be complete without Visitor Day when we get to showcase everything we do for our cadets.



NEW ARMY CADET FORCE WEBSITE & JOINER TRACKER

You should all be aware of our new website Nationally at www.armycadets.com and the Durham Army Cadet Force page at www.armycadets.com/durham-acf

Potential new cadets should either visit a detachment or visit our website and click on Join Now.

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH OUR SOCIAL MEDIA FEEDS

For all the latest Durham Army Cadet Force news you need to keep an eye on our social media accounts. You not only need to be on your local detachment pages but also on our County social media feeds. If you have not visited and liked our County feeds, then do so now as this will be where you can get the latest information on the return of face-to-face training.

Our Facebook feed is: www.facebook.com/durhamarmycadetforce and our twitter feed is <https://twitter.com/durhamacf>

RECRUITMENT POSTERS

We now have a range of recruitment posters available to detachments. Just ask your HQ to email them to you. If you want anything custom made then please email the County Media Officer – 2Lt Shaun Trevor

SHOUT OUT CORNER

A huge shout out to all those cadets and adults who were promoted during Annual Camp. Also a shout out to everyone who passed a subject or star level.

Well done all!

Keep your eyes peeled for our next issue which will have all the latest Durham Army Cadet Force News. If you have a news story then please get in touch.



The poster features the Army Cadets logo with the tagline 'GOING FURTHER' and the Durham Army Cadet Force logo. A stylized cadet head icon is in the top left. The main text reads 'We want you!' followed by 'FUN, FRIENDSHIP, ACTION and ADVENTURE'. A central photograph shows three cadets in kayaks on a river. At the bottom, there is a website URL www.armycadets.com/durham-acf and a QR code.

Having trouble paying for a camp?

Do you know we have access to various hardship funds?

Just have a quiet word with your Detachment Commander who will do their best to assist. These funds are specifically set up to help people out so don't be shy.



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