

VPC NEWS

SOCIAL ACTION SEPTEMBER AND BEYOND



The Aims of the VPC are: -

- To promote a practical understanding of policing amongst all young people.
- To encourage the spirit of adventure and good citizenship.
- To support local policing priorities through volunteering and give young people a chance to be heard.
- To inspire young people to participate positively in their communities.

WELCOME BACK

We hope you're enjoying your first few weeks back with the Cadets after the Summer Holidays.

If your unit or forces does some great work let the National Team know and we will add it into the Newsletter.

YOUTH VOICE

If you are one of the Midlands forces, the Youth Voice Event will be 25th January 2020 at West Midlands FHQ. If you are interested, please your National VPC Force Engagement Officer - Rose Barnes

WORKBOOKS

VPC Workbooks have been made available in a digital format and can be accessed via Marshall in the 'Resources' section. Forces wishing to use them can now download and print locally.



FIND US ON...



TRIBUTES PAID TO NORTHUMBRIA MINI POLICE OFFICER – MELISSA TATE

Tributes have been paid to 10 year old Northumbria Police Mini-Police Officer Melissa Tate, who was tragically killed in a road traffic collision in the Kenton area of Newcastle in September.

Sgt Nicola McGregor, Mini-Police lead for Northumbria said, ‘Melissa could always be relied upon to be mature, showed great listening skills and encouraged her peers to take part as fully as she did.’

She added: “As a member of our extended police family, we will continue to help both her family and the school in any way we can.”

Melissa’s mother Kim and her father Michael spoke of their pride at Melissa joining the Mini Police. Kim said:

“Melissa was so excited to be part of the Mini Police and I was so proud that I saw her in her uniform.

“She was a really kind girl who just wanted to help people so it didn’t surprise me she wanted to be part of it.

“The fact that she wanted to help the police keep her friends and family safe does make me smile but it was just the kind of person she was.

We miss her so much and it is still difficult to come to terms with the fact that she isn’t here any more.’



In his opening speech at this years Lord Ferrers Awards, celebrating volunteers in policing, the Policing Minister, Kit Malthouse MP paid special tribute to Melissa for her commitment and work as part of the Mini-Police.

Hundreds gathered at Melissa’s funeral to pay their respects.

The thoughts and prayers of all the VPC family go out to Melissa’s family and her friends and we hope her memory will live on in the great work that the Mini Police do every day in their schools and communities.

SOCIAL ACTION SEPTEMBER

At our July conference a challenge was laid down by Alex Goodwin to all VPC units to create social action activity during September to raise awareness of environmental issues in their local area. There have been some great examples of cadets carrying out Social Action.



SUFFOLK POLICE CADETS SUPPORT ALEX

Suffolk Constabulary's police cadets are supporting Alex who has been diagnosed with cancer. In December 2015 at just eight years of age, Alexander Goodwin from Leicestershire was diagnosed with a rare type of cancer in the pelvis and right leg called Ewing's Sarcoma. Fewer than 30 children in the UK develop Ewing's Sarcoma each year.

In October 2016 he was confined to a wheelchair and told that he may only live just months. The family found life-saving treatment in America and received treatment from hospitals in two states. Part of the surgery saw Alex's right femur and knee with a state-of-the-art telescopic prosthetic bone.

To raise money and show support to Alex the cadets, aged 13-18, teamed up with Sudbury Town Council wardens to complete a litter pick around the town, followed by refreshments laid on by their local Tesco. Haverhill cadets and Mildenhall cadets also went out into their local neighbourhood to help clean up the street, while Ipswich police cadets helped at a local community garden in Castle Hill. The cadets dug a pond out and fitted the lining, made bird feeders, turned over a bed and removed a load of grass for that it could be used as a vegetable garden.

Samantha Hallatt, Suffolk Constabulary Cadet Co-ordinator said: "Alexander is an extraordinary young boy who gives hope and inspires those fighting their own battles. He still has to go back to America for regular intensive checks, scans and essential femur extensions. All of this cost a great deal of money. As a way to support Alex, the National Volunteer Police cadet team set a challenge to all police cadets across the country to show support and raise money to help. The cadets looked for ideas in the community with the help of Community Action Suffolk to find projects for them to do.

"He has a great love of nature and cares more about wildlife and others than himself. The aim was to do something that Alex loved and cared about."

You can follow Alex's story at: <https://alexanders-journey.com> or follow him on twitter @alexs_journey

TORBAY VPC CLEAN UP FOR SOCIAL ACTION SEPTEMBER

In support of Alexanders Journey a young 12 yr old cadet based in Warwickshire who has cancer and is passionate about wildlife and the environment, prior to being sworn in by Warwickshire cadets Alex was an honorary wildlife crime Mini Police officer with Lincolnshire Police.

Torbay VPC wanted to get involved and do our bit for this great initiative by carrying out local beach cleans over 2 consecutive weeks which was also supported by Torbay safer communities who joined us and supplied



all necessary equipment whilst also donating for future use some high vis tabards.

Week 1 saw the cadets meet at Preston beach in Paignton and carry out a beach clean across Preston, Paignton, Fairy Cove Roundham head and into Goodrington. We were joined by some family members of cadets and a special thanks to the South Quay Café/Bistro Paignton Harbour who kindly offered soft drinks, Pizza's and Chips.

Week 2 the cadets again met at Preston and walked the coastal path to Torquay finishing

the evening at Torre Abbey, on route they even found a knife!!

Over the 2 weeks the cadets collected around 15 bags of rubbish and walked around 6.5 miles. Torbay VPC really enjoyed this initiative which also helped with appreciation of our beautiful local environment coupled with some positive local social action which certainly obtained positivity from the local community who saw them in action!! There was great teamwork throughout the 2 weeks."



CLEVELAND PLAY 'SPOT THE ANIMAL' FOR SOCIAL ACTION SEPTEMBER

Cleveland's Middlesbrough VPC Unit took to twitter for the whole month of September with daily posts for a 'Spot the animal' quiz. Posting pictures of stunning endangered wild animals raising awareness and asking you to spot them in pictures where they were heavily camouflaged – some easier than others.

Here's an example – can you find the Red Panda in picture 2?



FORCE NEWS

NOTTINGHAM ON THE ROAD

Nottinghamshire Police CIP in partnership with the local Neighbourhood Policing Team delivered the forces second Cadet Roadshow in the Lenton Abbey area of Nottingham.

A total of 24 young people from different background attended and were given the opportunity to get involved in a variety of activities delivered by Nottinghamshire Police and Trent Frist Responders including a crime scene exercise and First Aid.

After the event one of the participants said “Overall it was a really good experience, I would definitely do something like that again”. Another added: “I really liked doing the police investigation, looking for and spotting the clues. I'd like to thank everyone involved – I felt included.”



The Cadet Roadshow is due to travel around the City and County of Nottinghamshire with an event each month.

GWENT LAUNCH NEW VPC UNIT



Gwent Police have launched a Cadet Unit at Trinity Fields Assisted Needs School in Ystrad Mynach Caerphilly

Trinity Fields pupils join the ranks of Gwent Police Force Cadets Pupils from Trinity Fields School in Ystrad Mynach, Caerphilly, have joined the ranks of the Gwent Force Cadet Scheme.

They will learn about the police in dedicated classroom sessions with the Next Gen Officers and Community support officers and will help to share this information with their friends and families.

The pupils had to take part in an interview process, explaining why they wanted to join the Cadet Scheme, and will be issued with their own uniforms.

Trinity Fields is the first specialist SEN school in Gwent to join the Volunteer Police Cadet Scheme.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY 'TREASURE SEEKER CADETS' FINALISTS IN THE 2019 WORLD CLASS POLICING AWARDS

Gloucestershire Constabulary have been selected as finalists after being nominated for this year's World Class Policing Awards to be held on 14th November

This new initiative, that we believe is the first in the country, will see the recruitment of 15 adults with learning difficulties into the force. The Treasure Seeker Police Cadets initiative was launched in November 2018 and saw the introduction of four Community Police Cadet Officers, Adam, Richard, Carl and Rime have been Treasure Seeker Cadets for the past six months and have undertaken several duties alongside members of the Special Constabulary such as speeding operations, public engagement and building surveillance in a training environment.



All four said that they felt proud to be a part of the police family and hoped that other people in similar situations would feel the same.

Carl said: "I'm learning to help other people; I give them advice and now I'm looking forward to making a difference. "When officers go into a place where they have people with learning disabilities, they know that they have cadets who have disabilities too and if there is someone who cannot understand then we are there to help the officers to talk to them."

TOWER HAMLETS CADETS SAMPLE THE FRENCH LIFE

10 cadets from the Metropolitan Police Tower Hamlets VPC unit were rewarded with a trip to Toudon, Nice, France. The cadets were selected as they had worked the most amount of Aid over the last quarter.

The money for the trip was raised via bag packing at ASDA and via Tesco Bags for life charity.

The young people attended a Mosque in Cannes and a Cathedral in Nice

The top 10 cadets who have worked the most amount of Aid by Christmas will be fighting Zombies in Suffolk in January!



LORD FERRERS AWARDS 2019

CADETS & MINI POLICE AMONGST THE WINNER AT THIS YEARS LORD FERRERS AWARDS – CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERING IN POLICING



Ferrers Volunteer Police Cadet - Individual Award:

Awarded to Cadet Hasan Hussain, West Midlands Police. Hasan has educated children about the life of Stephen Lawrence and passed down his legacy to the next generation by planting a tree in his memory. Pictured here with the Policing Minister Kit Malthouse MP and CC Shaun Sawyer NPCC VPC lead.

Runner up: Cadet Catherine Henderson – Derbyshire

Ferrers Volunteer Police Cadet - Team Award:

Awarded to Eden Valley Cadets, Cumbria Constabulary

The Eden Valley cadets have encouraged their community to talk about mental health with banners across the entire county. Starting in a small town, the team won the backing of a local charity, enabling them to have banners in every major town in Cumbria.

Runners up: Ewanrigg Junior School Mini Police – Cumbria

IN OTHER NEWS



#iwill week is **18th – 24th November** an opportunity to shout about the **positive change young people are creating** in communities across the country, as volunteers, mentors, campaigners - and much more. It's a time to shine a spotlight on organisations that are **empowering and supporting** young people to take action on issues they care about.

Yet it's also a chance to recognise that **we need to do more** to ensure that every young person, whatever their background, is able to make a difference and have their voice heard.

Click the image below to open our **supporter pack**. It's **full to bursting** with resources for both **young people** and **organisations**, including a 5 Day Challenge, tweets, graphics, template press release, case study guidance - and loads more.

#iwill Week supporter pack -
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/4gewjciju2lu3br/AADerbcrViKKeamPL4vwfe-wa?dl=0>

OPPORTUNITIES

Cadets invited to International Security Expo, London Olympia, Tuesday 3 December

The national VPC partnership with the Security Institute's **#NextGenSecurity** project has been a real success with over 500 cadets from 15 different police force areas taking part in events, activities and careers opportunities over the last 12 months.



<https://vpc.police.uk/news-and-events/volunteer-police-cadets-are-the-next-generation-at-international-security-expo-2018/>

BIG thanks to all who have taken part so far!

We've now been invited to bring several cadet teams to the International Security Expo on Tuesday 3 December at London Olympia.

<https://www.internationalsecurityexpo.com/> (please do NOT contact the event organisers directly or try and book tickets yourself via this public link).

VPC Adult Leaders / Coordinators – if you would like to register an expression of interest for your cadet group for this event, please email vpc.admin@vpc.police.uk headed “ISE 2019” with your details ASAP.

TRAINING FOR VPC LEADERS & ASSISTANT LEADERS

The National Volunteer Police Cadet Hub Team is committed to providing support and training, in addition to any training provided locally by Forces. Training is developed from feedback Leaders provide. Each policing **region** is currently entitled to 15 days of training per year.

What is on offer?

- **SOCIAL ACTION TRAINING COURSE**

A one-day course for senior cadets on how to prepare and deliver youth led social action projects, while understanding the personal development benefits gained through their activities.

- **ADULT LEADER TRAINING (LEADER 1)**

A one-day course for adult leaders providing an introduction to leading young people in the VPC.

- **SAFEGUARDING (E-LEARNING)**

E-learning safeguarding courses via Emagination – which includes level 2 and level 3 training, these are free.

***** NEW *** YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AND FIRST AID**

- Funding has been secured to allow the delivery of a Youth Mental Health First Aid course by MHFA England. We are offering regions in England the choice of either:
- A one day ‘Champions’ course or a Two-day First Aid course leading to a qualification in Youth Mental Health First Aid (similar to physical first aid) – both courses are limited to 16 places per region places and will be coordinated on a regional basis by the National VPC Hub.
- MHFA England have promised to deliver another set of courses in the next financial year meaning 288 leaders will be trained in Youth Mental Health First Aid to a Champion or First Aider level.
- We are looking at similar opportunities for our colleagues in Wales as unfortunately MHFA England don't have a licence to operate outside of England

To arrange training from the National VPC Hub team please contact your Force VPC coordinator. Please remember this is regional training and will be opened up to other Forces in your region. A minimum of 25 attendees are required to make the training viable.



WANT YOUR STORY ON HERE? GET IN TOUCH!

We regularly look for thrilling and exciting stories about cadets and their units from across the country. So, if you're a cadet leader, unit leader or force coordinator and want to let us in on the good news don't hesitate and email us at vpc.admin@vpc.police.uk quoting "NEWS STORY"

If you are struggling to find the right material, here are some things that we look for:

- Social action projects
- Individuals achievements
- General good news around the VPC world.

**Marshall users REMEMBER you can always tick the "SHARE WITH NVPC" button, this automatically shares the news story with us. **

