



Promoting a practical understanding of policing amongst all young people

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Encouraging the spirit of adventure and good citizenship

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Supporting local policing priorities through volunteering and giving young people a chance to be heard

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Inspiring young people to participate positively in their communities.

Welcome to the August 2024 edition of the National VPC Newsletter. This issue highlights the activities & achievements of VPC Units, Cadets, and Leaders across the Police Forces of England & Wales and as you will read, Cadets have been enjoying the Summer.

Do you have a story that can be shared with everyone? Has your Cadet unit done something to shout about?

If so, contact us at - vpc.admin@vpc.police.uk

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Cadets get to experience the Magic.



In July cadets from 8 VPC schemes took up the invitation from the Walt Disney Company (TWDC) Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) security group HQ in London, to find out how professionals and partners 'Protect the Magic'.

100 Cadets from **North Yorkshire, Cleveland, Norfolk, Suffolk, Met, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Thames Valley** travelled to Disney HQ in Hammersmith, London and met senior leads, security specialists & technical professionals.



The cadets earned about film set & major event security, scene management, major events, VIPs, filming, operating in countries around the world, looking after staff, risk assessments, threat mitigation, travel, communications, online digital environments, brand management & protection. It was also fascinating listening to personal stories, the diverse range of opportunities, inclusion, training & qualifications offered. A fantastic experience for everyone taking part.

One VPC Leader from North Yorkshire's Scarborough VPC unit said, *"From a leader point of view (and we mentioned this to a few people on the day) it was great to see the cadets engaging with the stall holders and asking some excellent questions."*

"We have struggled with the cadets this last year, with trying to get them to engage with guest speakers, so to see a different side to them was great. Hopefully this will carry over when we start back in September."

"Thank you again for the opportunity on behalf of all the cadets and leaders from Scarborough. P.S. The rainbow Micky was my favorite."



Don't just take our word that the Cadets enjoyed the day - here are just some of the comments from those cadets to took part.....

"I really enjoyed today, learnt about what has gone on behind the scenes at Disney & how much effort actually goes into it"

"It was a really good day. I loved being able to walk around the stalls/stations & learn more about the area they work in."

"I enjoyed myself very much, learnt a lot about security & how they all linked with each other, would recommend!"

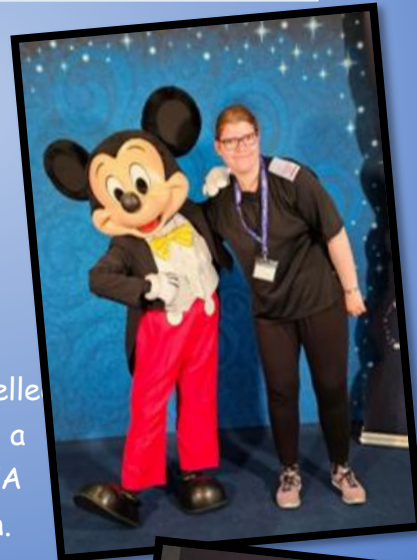
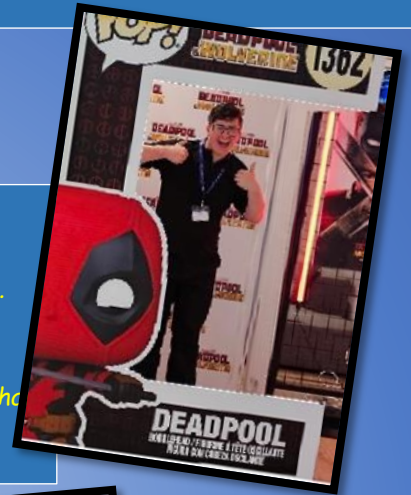
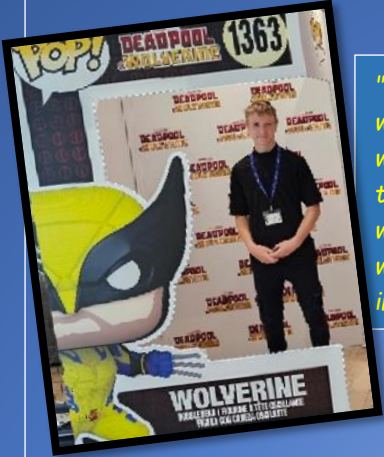
"This event was amazing, inspiring, I found it great to learn not only about Disney's place in the world of security but more about security & protection in general. The presenters for each topic were super engaging & clearly enthusiastic about what they do. The staff on the stalls were so easy to talk to & didn't treat us like children but as teenagers transitioning into new parts of life & the world of work. The staff members working on the inclusivity stall and the theatre production stall were incredible and more than happy to talk about their subjects. It made me feel very welcome & interested."

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It was good fun, and it was very interesting to find out about Disney and what they did in security and with all of their teams and how many people it takes to make a good team.

A big thanks to the Cadet Leaders, many of whom travel long distances to bring their young people. Most off all, a huge thanks to our outstanding partners at TWDC EMEA Security team, without whom none of this would happen.

We at the National VPC team are looking forward to our next partnership events & bringing even more young people into the security universe, a world many never knew existed or realised how far it could open up!



"I only hope that we never lose sight of one thing.... that it was all started by a mouse."
- Walt Disney





Kent Cadets had a busy July!



The **Maidstone Junior Cadets** had their CVQC Lion Award Graduation Ceremony in July. The Juniors celebrated all their achievements from 12 weeks of work where they have worked to improve their communication, listening, teamwork, problem solving and confidence.

The most wonderful thing we, as leaders, noticed was how the cadets grew together as a unit. We asked them to write a compliment about other members of the unit, and even the most reluctant writers didn't hesitate and found something really kind to say about their fellow cadets.

As part of the Graduation, cadets wrote in their own words what they wanted to say about the award and all of them took a speaking role. This was a huge achievement as speaking in the lecture theatre at the Kent Police college in front of a large group of people at 11 or 12 years old is really scary prospect, but each and every one of them did it.

The cadets then got their family members to take part in 2 of the Lion Award activities, which was really fun for the cadets to watch but also gave the adults a taste of what the Lion Award is all about, and how their young people have felt being pushed outside of their comfort zone and having to try new things and work as team. It was really funny seeing the family members getting so competitive! Kent are rightly proud of the Maidstone Junior Cadets.

Dartford cadets undertook a successful litter pick on an evening in July. Not only did they collect a significant amount of rubbish, but they also recovered a stolen bike!

After a bit of detective work by the cadets and their leader on social media, they managed to track down the owner of the bike and it was reunited with a very grateful member of the public a day after being stolen.

We are very proud of the work the Cadets do in their community and in a world where environmental concerns are paramount the cadets have set a commendable precedent showing that even the smallest actions, like picking up litter, can lead to significant and positive change - as well as reuniting a young child with a prized possession.



Also, in July Kent Police held its 12th annual open day Kent Police College in Maidstone, welcoming over 15,000 visitors across three days.

The Kent cadets demonstrated their commitment and enthusiasm through various roles and activities and contributed hugely to the success of the day and in bridging the gap between the police and community.

Sussex Cadets provide engagement.



Crawley Police Cadets from Sussex Police took part in the Armed Forces Day that was held in Crawley Town Centre in June.

The day was an opportunity for different services to be able to demonstrate and educate around what they do.

The Cadets engaged with the public, handing out crime prevention leaflets, demonstrating finger printing with children and Young People.



Cadets gave out Police colouring books to take home with them and allowing them to try on an array of different Police clothing, equipment and vehicles.

The Cadets were given the opportunity to demonstrate their parading skills alongside other armed forces cadet units.

The event was enjoyed by all and a fantastic experience for the cadets to take part in and demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have learnt.



Adur & Worthing VPC were invited to attend the Durrington Infant and Junior School Summer Fayre. The Cadets spent a few hours engaging with parents and children of all ages, showing them around the police car and carrier and demonstrating how the equipment works.



Cadet Anderson found an innovative way of staying dry! (Left)

Cadet Charge spent over half an hour with one young man lad, patiently answering all his questions and showing him around the police car.

Cadets Atree-Chivers and Sherrat enjoyed explaining how the PSU shields were used.

All the Cadets happily answered questions, and they received a great interest in what being a Cadet entails, with quite a few applications of interest arriving in the inbox following their



Norfolk Cadets provide support to runners.



The **Broadland VPC Unit**, in Norfolk, have been supporting and raising money for the East Anglian Air Ambulance service (EAAA) for some while now. The charity provides amazing care and service to residents all year round.



The cadets helped to give out medals, drinks and gifts to the finishers of the Trek 24 fundraising event in Holkham.

Recently the East Anglian Air Ambulance service attended a cadet session where the cadets and their parents/careers were delivered Defib and resuscitation training.



Police Cadets' Harry Carver and William Muir couldn't wait to dress up in Helibob, the EAAA mascot, (pictured left).



The EAAA thought the cadets were absolutely brilliant and said, "They threw themselves into whatever was asked of them and with a smile on their faces. They were up for wearing the mascot, making sure visitors were safe when the helicopter came into land and took off, entertaining some of our younger supporters and were all round good sports. It was a baking hot day with lots of little jobs that needed doing and put simply, we couldn't have done it all without them. A massive thank you from EAAA!"



Thames Valley Cadets go Olympic.

In July **South Buckingham Cadets** took part in the Burnham Fayre on Sat 13th July.

The theme was the Paris Olympics, and everyone had to design their stall around this.

The cadets did an amazing job and won 1st Prize for their Olympic stall and winning £200 for the unit.



The cadets had the opportunity to meet Andrew Du Beck (below left) who opened the event and was dutifully arrested by our cadets. They also meet their local MP Joy Morrissey (below right).



This was a lovely community event which allowed the cadets to work on communication and teamwork.



Merseyside role play for major incident.



No, it's not a scene out of Hollyoaks - these are **Merseyside cadets** assisting with a JESIP multi agency event at the Emergency Services Training centre in Birkenhead, acting as role players for a gas leak event.



The cadets also had a visit to the JCC (Joint Control Room) in Bridle Road in Bootle and were able to listen into some live events with staff who were dealing with 999 calls.

The cadets have raised several hundred pounds by completing a ten mile walk in aid of the High Sheriff and Merseyside Police Charitable Fund. High Sheriff and Merseyside Police Charitable Fund - JustGiving This charity raises money for good causes around the Merseyside area.



And finally, the cadets were at the Southport Air Show providing HVP around the site and assisting with patrolling the area, offering advice to the public and assisting in looking for a missing child.

Durham hike.... and celebrate.



It's been a busy time for **Durham Volunteer police cadets**.

Two groups of cadets were successful in completing their Bronze Qualifying Expedition.

They started their expedition at Penshaw Monument where the legendary Lambton worm once had its lair! Then continued along the many footpaths before arriving at their campsite, Moorhouse, which is a local Scout site.

The groups smashed the last day despite climbing a number of hills and were elated to have finished. Well done to you all. A brilliant achievement!



The cadets have had several guest speakers including the Red Cross, Independent Office of Police Complaints (IOPC). Some specialist officers have visited to give talks. There have also been several visits including mock role plays at the custody suite, a visit to Roads Policing and an exciting trip to our Tactical Firearms Centre.

The cadets have also assisted in 4 recent beach cleans and continued to support Operation Trail Blaze delivering leaflets to residents to make them aware of how to report anti-social behaviour.



To end the academic year, the cadets enjoyed a BBQ and games night at Durham Police HQ, going on to celebrate the achievements of their young people at an annual awards evening at Ramside Hall, Durham.

They were delighted to welcome along Mick Urwin from the National VPC Safeguarding & Standards Hub and their Operational Delivery Manager, to present some of the awards.

Awards included Fittest Cadet, Best on Parade, Most Volunteering Hours, Sectional certificates for Duke of Edinburgh's Awards and a full Bronze Award. Commendations were also awarded to 4 Junior Cadets

One Junior Cadet. Cadet Thomas Murphy received the prestigious, Norma Cowen Award, for his caring attitude towards new recruits, his own personal development as a cadet and the extra mile he always goes. Well done Cadet Murphy! Thomas can be seen receiving his award from Norma's husband. Malcolm (right).





Cadet annual competition another success.

The 2024 annual **Metropolitan Police VPC** competition to pace at the Gravesend Public Order training centre



This year 27 London boroughs took part in the Gravesend Competition which also included Cadets from the **City of London VPC**.

Competing Cadets faced 7 scenarios which were, CBRN, Search, Shield Run, Evidence Gathering Traffic, Training Village and Drill.

The cadets are always very committed to giving this competition their all. They practise months in advance for this weekend. A good time was had by all!

The overall winning unit was **Bexley VPC** Congratulations!!

Category winners were:

CBRN: Bexley VPC

SEARCH : Bromley VPC

SHIELD RUN : Lewisham VPC

EVIDENCE GATHERING : Camden & Islington VPC

TRAFFIC : Hounslow VPC

TRAINING VILLAGE : Richmond VPC

DRILL : Bexley VPC

Everyone is already looking forward to next year's competition!!



From competition to crisis, Cadets step up.

Having just won first place in the traffic scenario; **Hounslow VPC** Police Cadets were travelling home from Gravesend when their journey took an unexpected turn. They were faced with a real-life road traffic accident involving a pedestrian who had been hit while walking for charity.

Without hesitation, the cadets sprang into action, using their minibus to block the road, cordoning off the area with police tape, and comforting bystanders, including children.

While some Cadets and staff tended to the injured pedestrian and gathered information and statements, others managed traffic and secured the scene.

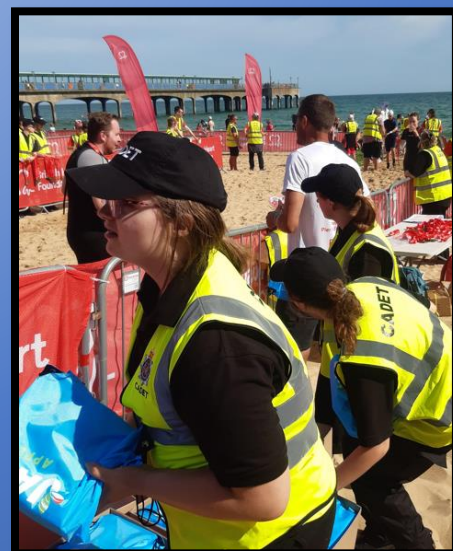
The Cadets demonstrated exceptional teamwork, compassion and courage throughout, translating what they had learnt and putting their skills into action during a real-life incident.

Andrew Bennion, Local Community Engagement Officer, says, "We all work for the Met in many varied roles, but we have one goal: to keep our public safe and well. Actions like this shine a light on the great role our Cadets and staff have in the organisation."



Dorset Cadet take up...line dancing???

Dorset Cadets assisted at 2 local Race for Life events where the last of the runners crossing the finish line were greeted by cheers and a surprise everyone....., a spot of line dancing Cadets unfortunately no video supplied! They also supported the British Heart Foundation Pier to Pier Swim, supporting 2 amazing charities.



All 5 Dorset VPC Units came together in July for their 3rd annual Cadet Challenge.

Cadets competed against each other on the high ropes, at Archery in a Drill off plus much more.



Congratulations to the **Grange Unit** for lifting the trophy for their second consecutive year but it was very close between all units and great to see so many cadets and leaders from across Dorset taking part in such a fun full-on day.



Cadets also visited Force HQ to observe and learn about Firearms and Firearms Training, the Operations Training Team also put on demonstrations and taught them some personal safety moves. Another great day out



New Cadets in Lancashire get a taster.

New Cadets in Lancashire were invited to meet existing Cadets and Leaders before beginning their VPC journey. They joined up with **South and East Lancashire Police Cadets** spending a fabulous evening at Bibby's Scout Farm near Rivington.



The Cadets took part in various activities, axe throwing, pedal cars, climbing wall and rifle shooting, followed by a BBQ and cooking s'mores on an open fire. The Cadet Leaders are looking forward to welcoming new and existing Cadets back to the classroom in a few weeks.





City Police VPC host awards evening.

The City of London VPC hosted their annual awards evening at the Honourability Artillery Company, who together with several livery companies and funders make it possible to have these awards and the City of London VPC unit. The awards were presented by Chief Inspector Nikki Gander. Well done to all!



Cadet of the Year
Cdt Grace



Perseverance Award
Cdt Lorna



Probationary Cadet of the Year: Cdt Izzy



Promotion to Drill Lead: Cdt Simon



Staff Member of the Year: Pc Will Steed



Promotion to Dep. Team Leader; Cdt Will



Outstanding contribution
Cdt Max



Bronze DofE
Cdt E. Tyler



Promotion to Dep. Team Leader; Cdt Lucas



Promotion to Head Cadet: Cdt Grace



Bronze DofE
Cdt E. Heli



Cadets' Cadet Award
Cdt Lucas



Nottinghamshire Cadets Positively Empowered



In June, two **Nottinghamshire Cadets** attended the Positively Empowered Kids Festival held at The Arboretum, Nottingham.

Hundreds of families attended the festival and enjoyed the free event which saw officers from the Neighbourhood Policing Teams, Youth Outreach Team and the Police Cadets engaging with members of the public enjoying the activities and warm weather.

The Police Cadets assisted members of the public in and out of the van and helped the children try on Police kit. At the end of the event, the Cadets also did some litter picking and helped with the clearing of the park.

A massive well done to the Police Cadets who took part!



Volunteer Police Cadets

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Has your Cadet unit done something to shout about?

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SCAN ME