

# National VPC Newsletter

October 2022



Welcome to this edition of the National VPC Newsletter, highlighting the activities & achievements of VPC Units, Cadets, and Leaders across the Police Forces of England & Wales.



## The Aims of the VPC

- 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.

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](mailto:vpc.admin@vpc.police.uk)





In memory  
Her Majesty  
Queen Elizabeth II  
1926 - 2022

We start this newsletter acknowledging the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

We in the VPC, as all within the policing family, were saddened to hear the news back in September of the death of Her Majesty.

Many VPC units participated at services of commemoration and thanksgiving for Her Majesty together with ceremonies to proclaim King Charles' III as the new King.

Police Officers are servants of the Crown and swear allegiance to the reigning Monarch when taking up the office of Constable.





## The 2022 Lord Ferrers Awards took place in October at Lancaster House, London.

The awards recognise Volunteers in Policing, which includes, Special Constables, Police Service Volunteers and of course Volunteer Police Cadets.

There are two categories for which Cadets can be nominated –

**Individual Cadet Award**  
**Cadet Team Award**



Winner of the  
Team Cadet Award 2022

## South Pembrokeshire VPC Dyfed Powys Police



South Pembrokeshire Volunteer Police Cadets claimed top prize in the Volunteer Police Cadet Team category, which recognises cadet units who work together to make a significant and sustained contribution to 'youth led social action' that supports policing and their communities.

South Pembrokeshire's Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant, Stuart Wheeler, who nominated the young volunteers said: "The cadets have worked tirelessly for the community during the covid pandemic and beyond.

"They continue to represent Dyfed-Powys Police at events and support their local areas, and it is fantastic that they have been recognised for their efforts and commitment."

Cadets Simon Gough, Madeleine James, Gabrielle Davis, Ella Thomas, and Oliver Monk received their award on behalf of their unit, who all worked hard, while the VPC leaders proudly looked on.

Winner of the  
Individual Cadet Award 2022

## Cadet Lara Semedo Northamptonshire Emergency Service Cadets



Lara, aged 14, was presented with the Volunteer Police Cadet Individual Award for helping to create a trauma-informed custody suite for young people in Northamptonshire. The suite has appropriate reading material and videos to guide young people through the custody process, recognising many have had adverse childhood experiences that have affected their behaviour and choices. The force credited Lara with changing the mindset of officers, highlighting how custody presents a chance to put young people back on the right track.

# VPC Leader making a big impact



Cadet Leader Samuel Wright received the award for Young Person Making the Most Impact at the Thames Valley Criminal Justice Charity Awards Evening hosted by CEO Nikki Ross.

He won the award as he is an outstanding young man who joined as a cadet aged 13 in 2016.

He has worked his way up to being Mayor's cadet and the High Sherriff cadet during his time and been an exemplary role mode to his peers.

Since turning 18 he has become a cadet leader where he has continued to help and support others.

The event was attended by The Countess Howe, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire and the Thames Valley High Sheriffs 2022/2023 who also took part in the judging of the entries. The event was sponsored by P2P, Lloyds Bank Foundation and to the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner who not only sponsored the event but presented the Awards on the night.

# Dorset Cadets complete their first Cadet Challenge



Well done to all the Dorset Cadets who took part in our first Dorset Cadet Challenge.

Congratulations to the Wey Valley Cadets for winning the trophy!

Thank-you to all our volunteers' leaders who helped make the day a great success for all the Cadets.



# Awards for police cadets after caring for injured person

Two young Hertfordshire police cadets have earned an award after they stopped to care for an injured member of the public in Welwyn Garden City.

Cadet's Leah Brackley, 14, and Stephanie Parkinson, 15, were close to the Howard Centre when they came across a member of the public who had fallen over and sustained a head injury.

The pair, who are part of the Welwyn Hatfield cadet unit, immediately stopped to help, providing first aid and reassurance until police and paramedics arrived on the scene.



Following their actions, they were presented with Certificates of Good Work by PC Brad Glover and local Safer Neighbourhood Team Sergeant Emma Francis who said -

*"The Welwyn Hatfield police cadet leaders and I are immensely proud of Leah and Steph for getting stuck in and showing good citizenship, as well as displaying the courage and tenacity to get involved and help," said PC Glover.*

*"As we all know, it's very easy to walk on by and ignore what's going on, as many people do.*

*"The skills learnt during their training as police cadets were put into practice and they were able to quickly spring into action to provide assistance."*

## Cadet Instagram takeover



Thames Valley Cadets from the Whitney Unit took part in International Youth Day on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2022



The cadets, Caitlin & Alfie, pictured, were joined at points by Trainee Police Dog Pepsi, Welfare dog Henley and the Chief Constable, John Campbell.

They got lots of questions via the main Thames Valley Police Instagram page ranging from asking what they do to asking how people can join the VPC and they answered as best they could.



# INTERNATIONAL SECURITY EXPO

27-28 SEPTEMBER 2022. OLYMPIA LONDON



## 100 Volunteer Police Cadets from six police force areas at this year's International Security Expo, London Olympia, thanks to The Security Institute

Cadet teams arrived as VIP guests at this iconic London event, where they were welcomed, briefed, and given their access-all-areas passes.

In a private meeting with former Security Minister and Chief of Defence Staff Admiral Lord West, the Cadets were warmly welcomed and took part in a debate about policing, security, keeping communities safe and how we can all play a part.

Lord West was very interested in hearing from the Cadets about their experiences, hopes and aspirations - a great start to the day!

In their groups with their adult leaders, cadets then explored both main events, meeting specialist teams, corporate and military/policing professionals, innovators, CEOs and many more.



A massive well-done to teams who travelled far and wide (especially Northumbria VPC, who were on their first major deployment outside the county, a 600m round trip and a fab London experience they'll never forget!



*"I really enjoyed the demonstrations we were shown, and I enjoyed getting out of my comfort zone a bit and managing to interact with different people"*

Some of the feedback from Cadets who attended-

*"I really enjoyed chatting to all the companies, it was very interesting, also getting some of the freebies was very lovely!"*

*"I enjoyed all the stands and interactions with all the people and hosts of the expo and other people hosting events."*

*"It's so special to be allowed access to an event like this! Going around and experiencing the future tech and security of this country, it's an absolute honour"*





# Northumbria Police open their first VPC unit for disabled young people

8 students at Hedley's College have been sworn in at a ceremony attended by Chief Constable of Northumbria Police, Winton Keenen QPM, alongside Master of Ceremonies, Tim Cousins, and a group of community police officers, came along to the ceremony held within the college.

Being part of the scheme means students will take part and learn about important topics like the phonetic alphabet, hate crime, anti-social behaviour, knife crime, crime prevention, internet safety, dog handling, wellbeing and mental health, theft, road safety/drink driving and anti-bullying.



*"We are thrilled to be the first college in the country to be able to offer our students this amazing opportunity. We strive to offer our students education and experiences that help them reach their fullest potential in all aspects of their lives, and this cadetship will certainly support that."*

– Joanne Rees-Proud



# Cadets clean up

Kent Cadets spent 1 ½ hours collecting 14 bags of rubbish, from plastic bottles, discarded road signs, clothing, food wrappers and some other rather unpleasant items left in the area!



Great partnership working all round and well done to the cadets for working hard in the rain.



On Sunday 2 October, two Essex Police Cadets, Clacton Unit, and their leaders gave up a few hours of their Sunday morning to carrying out a litter pick on Clacton beach.

1 x black bin bag filled between them - Thank you for helping to keep our environment clean!



**KEEP  
BRITAIN  
TIDY.**



# Humberside Volunteer Police Cadets at this year's Hull Fair 2022



Cadets from Humberside Police attended this year's Hull Fair.

As the fair this year was taking place during Hate Crime Awareness week Leaders were very keen for the cadets to play their part in promoting the very important message of reporting Hate Crime and especially to the "Showmen" of the Fair this year.

During the Fair the cadets engaged with not only the Showmen but also the attending public giving directions and advice on staying safe and joining the ranks of the VPC.



All in all, it was an excellent opportunity to showcase the cadets in Humberside and to deliver the important message of reporting Hate Crime and staying safe and of course joining their ranks.



# Northamptonshire Cadets support 'Matters of Priority' week

Northamptonshire Emergency Service Cadets were again supporting the Matters of Priority week of action.

Working alongside Police Crime Prevention Initiatives they delivered information about the Licensing Savi initiative, which aims to help make venues safer for customers and staff.

Mark Morgan, Business Manager at Licensing SAVI said –

*"I'm absolutely delighted that Northamptonshire Emergency Service Cadets have been helping to raise awareness of The Licensing Security and Vulnerability Initiative."*



*"What a great way of contributing towards safer venues, for themselves as they reach an age where they may want to enjoy visits to licensed premises, or for friends, family and indeed the wider communities who enjoy time at hospitality venues."*

*"We really appreciate the efforts and further information about the initiative is available at [www.licensingsavi.com](http://www.licensingsavi.com)"*





# Cadets support fundraisers

Cadets assisted at Cancer Research UK Shine Night Walk in Cardiff and London



SHINE NIGHT-TIME WALKING MARATHON

*Shine Night Walk is an illuminating night-time walk passing a city's famous landmarks.*

*For one night, the streets belong to the 'Shiners'. Stride by stride they make our way through the lights of a city and get closer to beating cancer.*

*The walks range from a full marathon distance, half marathon or 10k*

*The walk is built for all ability levels, all while raising money*

## Local young people out making a difference



*Cadets from the Cardiff East unit (pictured above and below) attended the Shine Night Walk held in Cardiff supporting fundraisers.*



*Whilst Cadets from the Metropolitan Police Southwark Unit (pictured below) proudly supported the Shine Night Walk held in London.*



*The Cadets cheered all the Shiners, helping stewards & organisers,*





# Cheshire Cadets outside their comfort zone

A small team from Cheshire Police Cadets attended an activity weekend in North Wales in mid-October that was funded by [CVQO](#), an education charity that supports vocational qualifications. The purpose of the weekend was to encourage the cadets to work outside their comfort zone and to complete credits towards the BTEC level 2 in Teamwork and Personal Development.



The weekend was attended by several different cadet groups including St John's Ambulance, Sea Cadets and Air Cadets who all enjoyed getting an understanding of other uniformed groups.



The cadets were challenged with making a rocket with a plastic bottle, water and a bike pump and each team was awarded points for the distance flown. Cadets were then able to buy additional items to improve the rocket's performance. Cheshire cadets really enjoyed working on this task with other cadet groups over the weekend and it helped to develop positive relationships between them.

The weekend's activities focussed on leadership, communication and team working skills that were designed to complete some of the BTEC level 2 qualification.

They completed caving, which was more exciting due to the thunder roaring outside, a woodland walk whilst blindfolded, zip line and archery. Many of these activities were completed in heavy rain but the police cadets did not let the Welsh weather dampen their enjoyment. Cheshire cadets were proud to break the record for the crate stack challenge achieving a stack of 20. The police cadets and leaders were exhausted by the Sunday afternoon, but all agreed they had a really fun weekend.



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with everyone?**

**Has your Cadet unit done something to  
shout about?**

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