

CVQO Westminster Award

Cadets and honoured guests enjoyed a wonderful lunch at the House of Lords in June as they celebrated the 14th annual CVQO Westminster Award.

Isabella Scanio of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Army Cadet Force had her name etched on the famous silver lion this year – thankfully she took home a miniature version and didn't

have to carry the full-size trophy home. Winners included **Michaela Wyllie** - London Fire Brigade, Croydon Fire Cadet Unit



Although there could ultimately only be one overall winner, other cadets also had great reason to celebrate on the day, as a number of finalists were singled out for individual achievements:

- Alen Thomas of 275 (Nantyglo & Blaina) Squadron Air Training Corps picked up the Pearson BTEC Award for Most Outstanding Submission
- Rebecca Tierney of York Sea Cadets won the ILM Achievement Award
- Georgina Knapman of St John Wales, Llanelli Division was awarded this year's Lord Lingfield Medal

Of course, all 10 of our finalists are winners, given that they will shortly be departing for a potentially life-changing two week educational expedition to South Africa. The lunch represents the culmination of our yearly CVQO Westminster Award, which seeks to reward those CVQO learners who have not only excelled at their youth group commitments, but gone over and above, helping others around them and displaying real altruism.

Guy Horridge, CVQO Chief Executive, said: "The Westminster Award was set up fourteen years ago to recognise those CVQO cadets who have consistently demonstrated an exceptional level of commitment in their contribution to society and to their cadet services.

There were 30 finalists selected from a shortlist of 200 this year, more than ever before. This reflected not only the large number of nominations, but the fact that we had submissions from the Fire Service, St John Ambulance and Police cadets. It also highlighted the growing number of organisations that are now engaging with CVQO for the delivery of our vocational qualifications."

MASS CASUALTY EXERCISE FOR WALTHAM FOREST CADETS

On Tuesday 30 May young cadets from the Volunteer Police Cadets (Waltham Forest and Redbridge), St John Ambulance, Chingford Sea Cadets and 27F (Chingford) Squadron RAF Air Cadets came together at the Hornbeam Academy in Waltham Forest to take part in a Mass Casualty Exercise.

Having established a joint control room, staffed by Police and St John Ambulance cadets, 8 uniformed police cadets were briefed and sent out on patrol of the local "estate". Very quickly calls started to come in to the control room about suspicious males hanging around some bins, a suspect seen with a knife and a window cleaner who had fallen from his ladder.

The control room staff had to answer the phones, get the information and then dispatch appropriate units to the scene. Over the next hour they logged, recorded and dispatched their ever-shrinking resources to a man having a heart attack, a road rage incident, a child with a snake bite, a stabbing and a domestic assault where the first medical responders had to call for police assistance.



All the casualties, witnesses and members of the public were played by cadets from the VPC, Air Cadets and Sea/Marine cadets.

No sooner had they gotten on top of what would have been a busy day for their parent



organisations than reports came in of a young person trapped under a crashed car. With the assistance of the London Fire Brigade (LFB), the car was removed and the casualty treated.

However, as tensions on the "Estate" were running high there was soon a report of a car on fire and a large crowd surrounding it. When the LFB turned up they were pelted with bricks (soft balls) and had to withdraw and await police assistance which turned up in the shape of public order kitted up, shield carrying VPC cadets and our Territorial Support Group colleagues. After a 10 minute running battle during which they were bricked (tennis balled) from front and back, and the occasional smoke bomb going off, they managed to clear the area and push the crowd back.

So the fire was put out, the burns victims treated and order restored, so they all thought. Just as they were starting to relax there was an explosion within the crowd that they had just cleared from the car fire disorder. This left about 20 casualties both dead and walking wounded for the police and St Johns cadets to triage and deal with as well as the crime scene aspect of the incident.

It was a great day and I believe the cadets from all the branches got a lot from it. From the command and control aspect for the control room staff, the hands-on role specific scenarios that the cadets had to deal with, to the crowd getting to throw things and the police intervention. We will definitely be running another one next year.

PC Stuart Reid

The Boys' Brigade - Celebrate Juniors 100 in London

In 2017 The Boys' Brigade celebrate the centenary of the Junior Section (Juniors), a significant anniversary in the life of the Brigade.

More than 400 young people and leaders came together in North London for a fun packed weekend to celebrate the centenary of the Juniors age group.



The Boys' Brigade started working with young people under the age of 12 years old in 1917 known originally as Boy Reserves, today the age group is known as Juniors and works with 8 to 11 year olds.



At the special weekend camp activities included an It's a Knockout Team Challenge, climbing, rifle shooting, archery, bungee run, sulk suits, bag drop, gladiator duel, crafts, face painting, laser tag, puppets, football freestyling, magic/illusions, toasting marshmallows, bonfires, disco, late night film and lots more.

A celebration service on the Saturday included a time of worship and the release of 100 balloons. This was a great opportunity for Juniors from across London to join together and celebrate.

We hope to encourage every section to hold a special birthday party in September 2017, the month that The Boys' Brigade first started working with this age group back in 1917.

Chris Norman





THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY MARK AND SUPPORT ARMED FORCES DAY 2017

Over the weekend of 24th and 25th June, in support of Armed Forces Day, Haringey's YOU held a Competition Day in which a number of the YOU groups competed in exercises to showcase their skills and teamwork.

This was followed on the Sunday by a Civic March and Parade. Haringey's Mayor, Councillor Stephen Mann, took the salute and awarded prizes to the winning teams from previous day.

It was a very close and hard fought competition and the overall winning team was 16F (Hornsey) Squadron ATC.

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Air Cadets Help Celebrate 110 years of Motor Racing

Air Cadets from Surrey have helped celebrate 110 years of motor racing at Brooklands Museum's Double Twelve event. The cadets from 11F (Brooklands) Squadron and 1034 (Surbiton) Squadron helped the museum volunteers at the event, which also included the official reopening of the finishing straight of the world's first purpose built race track, originally opened in June 1907. The museum also marked significant progress in the refurbishment of Brooklands aircraft factory, which helped produce such classic British aircraft as the Wellington, VC10 and Concorde.



Surrey Air Cadets had always supported Brooklands Museum at important events and this year the museum needed more support than ever. The cadets, under the guidance of Flt Lt Patrick Smith (Officer Commanding 11F Sqn) and his team liaised with Peter Stammers, Chair, Surrey Wing Civilian Committee and Brooklands Volunteers to train the Cadets to steward the many aircraft at the museum that weekend.

After the cadets received an extensive Health and Safety and Security briefing, the aircraft were open to visitors with the cadets guiding them around the aircraft or cockpit. Many of our adult stewards also came in and the Air Cadets were able to meet and talk to such aviation professionals as an ex-V Force pilot, Cranwell instructor, Hunter Squadron Wing Commander, a couple of 747 Flight Engineers and ex-ground crew and production engineers.

A record number of 5500 visitors arrived on the hottest weekend of the year to see the President of the British Automobile Racing Club, Lord March, officially open the refurbished finishing straight and, of course, the Cadets were impeccably turned out. In addition to the aircraft, the Cadets ran the recruiting stand and we had enquiries from, literally, all over the world, from Australia and New Zealand, to Scotland, Wales, and the north and south of England.



The Wing Chairman and Brooklands Volunteer, Peter Stammers, commented, "What I remember from that weekend – the hottest in the year – was not only how well turned out the Cadets were but the pleasure of talking with visitors about how impressed they were with the Air Cadets they saw and spoke to. Undoubtedly the Cadets were a great credit not only to their squadrons, Surrey Wing, and the Air Training Corps, but represented the best of the youth in Britain today."

Coralie Young

Have you got news for us ?
The stories we are looking for
are those where YOU partners
are working together.
Email yours to :

YOULondon1@gmail.com

YOU Croydon Competition Day

On Sunday 4th June Croydon, the first London Borough of the former 'Project YOU' initiative, held their 'YOU' London 2017 Competition Day held in the delightful grounds and facilities of Royal Russell School. The day attracted over 80 young people from the various Croydon 'YOU' organisations in this 2nd annual competition held in the borough.

All youth members were placed into mixed teams containing other 'YOU' organisation youth members from Combined Cadet Force, Fire Cadets, Police Cadets, Air Cadets, Girl-Guiding and Croydon Scouting, and were given differing coloured T shirts for group identification.

All teams then proceeded to participate in a 'round robin' style competition, offering various organisation typical, and specialist activities.

All uniformed organisations that participated on the day ran an activity base. Croydon Scouting also operated their mobile climbing wall. The weather was overcast but dry helping what proved to be a very successful day which finished with a prize giving ceremony.

During the afternoon the Mayor of Croydon, Councillor Toni Letts, visited the event taking time to talk to the young people. Royal Russell School kindly provided a welcomed afternoon BBQ.

This is the second annual event and hopefully is now established and building momentum for future years.

Steve French
(District Commissioner)
CROYDON SCOUTING



Queens Garden Party 2017

A proud moment for members from Croydon Scouting who attended the Queens Garden Party on Tuesday 16th May 2017.

In total, 22 members from the Scout Association including 5 members from Croydon Network joined the Palace team for the Queens garden party. Duties like helping to collect tickets, open the ambassador's doors, provide information to the public, push wheelchairs for those who were less able to do so and to welcome members of the Royal Family into the Royal tea tent. Once everyone had arrived at the Palace our members were then able to join the invited guests in the Royal gardens providing them with information about what was going on as well as perhaps having a well-deserved cup of tea themselves.



Some outstanding comments were received about the team, both on the day and since directly to Matt Hyde, The Scout Association CEO. Well done to our Network Members who clearly represented Croydon Scouting with tremendous pride and showed that much respected Scouting spirit.

*Steve French (District Commissioner)
CROYDON SCOUTING*

Life-changing adventures with the JST

If you've never heard of the Jubilee Sailing Trust, you are in for a treat!

The sailing charity operate the world's only fully accessible tall ships - think Pirates of the Caribbean and you're picturing the right kind of ship. Next year, the STS Lord Nelson (pictured) will be embarking on an epic voyage around the UK stopping off in each capital city. Spaces on board are exclusively available for cadets and injured soldiers. "Lord Dannatt's Round Britain Challenge" will begin in London, in July 2018. The ship will then set sail on four 10 day journeys to Edinburgh, Belfast, Cardiff and then back to London.

In each port, the crews will change over and take part in special ceremonies and festivals to commemorate 100 years since the First World War. The challenge will finish with cadets marching a wooden shield to the Tower of London, where it will become a memorial to WW1. This is a totally unique event and one not to miss! You can expect to take part in extraordinary challenges on the 10 day voyages. The ship is specially designed to allow people of all abilities and experience to climb the mast, helm (steer) the ship, set the sails and much more.



On board you'll meet incredible people, form new friendships and take away invaluable life skills. Our permanent crew will guide you through every step, plus our professional cook will produce you three hearty meals a day. Everyone on the ship will have their own bunk with storage, power supply and reading lights. There's heating and air con on board too - after 10 days it'll feel like a home from home!

For more details, you can email voyages@jst.org.uk. Or find the JST on Facebook and Twitter, @JubileeSailing.

Organisation	Contact Name	Email Address
Air Training Corps	Steve Rudd	ACO-RHQ-LondonSouthEast-ARC@mod.uk
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It's all about



The aim of YOU London is to work together

to support young people by maximising the benefits of the existing youth organisations. Working together takes many forms including inter-group competitions, sharing premises, exhibiting together at recruitment events in borough, or simply being aware of who is who in the boroughs' youth groups. Working together often produces for the groups much more than the sum of the individual parts can do.

Z cards

Fold out business cards sized which advertise all of the YOU London groups are available from

Donna

gl-offcadets@rfca.mod.uk

