

# TRUST TALK

Brooke Weston Trust  
Combined Cadet  
Force News

Special issue -  
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**All five of our most senior cadets in Brooke Weston Trust's Combined Cadet Force did themselves proud as they received top honours in senior cadet training programmes. They attended two separate Senior Cadet Instructor Cadres (SCICs), which are week-long courses that develop leadership skills in the highest calibre cadets.**



After the first intensive course Sgt Sonny Dalziel and Cpl Ethan Mathieson, both from Corby Business Academy, were awarded Best Cadet and Second Place, giving the next trio, Cpl Kearnu Stapleton, Sgt Peter Sammons and Cpl Damian Domanowski, all from Brooke Weston Academy, a hard act to follow.

However they also put in maximum effort to be ranked Best Cadet, Second and Third respectively in the following cohort. The cadets' achievement is made more remarkable by the fact that our CCF has been running for just three years, and so, to attain recognition at this level, against some of the oldest and most well-equipped contingents in the country, shows a high degree of skill, professionalism and determination.

Each cohort of the SCIC courses is open to just 30 cadets from both the CCF and

## BWT CCF cadets scoop top awards



*Back from left: Cpl Kearnu Stapleton, Sgt Sonny Dalziel, Contingent OC Capt Matt Isherwood. Front from left: Sgt Peter Sammons, Cpl Damian Domanowski and Cpl Ethan Mathieson.*

Army Cadet Force in the 7th Infantry Brigade region, comprising 12 counties across the East and Midlands. It was the first time that Brooke Weston Trust CCF applied for its cadets to attend this training. This high achieving group of students were the ones that signed up for our first ever cohort three years ago and

so they are the most experienced and senior of all our recruits.

The training comprised all aspects of operation, including drill, skill at arms and fieldcraft. The students learned new skills and handled unfamiliar equipment and then developed lesson plans in order to pass their knowledge on to younger cadets.

The training culminated in a battle exercise where the cadets had to traverse rough terrain in treacherous weather. One week saw snowfall and the next week an added element of surprise was the appearance of Storm Doris!

Sgt Sonny Dalziel said: 'Most of our instructors had 20 plus years' experience in the military so when they gave us feedback and commended us on our performances it made us feel a lot more confident and gave us a lot of pride. It was a team effort. I did enjoy being



*Best Cadet - Sgt Sonny Dalziel from Corby Business Academy.*



*Best Cadet - Cpl Kearnu Stapleton from Brooke Weston Academy.*

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awarded Best Cadet but the highlight was being able to work with people I had never met before and co-ordinate on the final exercise which involved going out in the night in torrential rain and being able to use equipment that, on a normal camp, you wouldn't have access to.'

Cpl Ethan Mathieson said: 'My biggest highlight was the final section attack. The night before we traversed the terrain using as much cover as we could and observed the enemy for five or ten minutes and fed the information back to plan the final assault the next day.'

Sgt Peter Sammons said: 'We were given methods of instruction in order to guide and teach junior cadets and there were some things we hadn't done before, such as use of night sights. We went through all aspects of the cadet curriculum and taught a lesson in each.



'The instructors graded us on our confidence and knowledge. The last couple of days on exercise were great as we went out and perfected all the skills we had learned. When you come back from these camps you have much more drive and determination.'

Cpl Damian Domanowski said: 'On Wednesday Kearnu and I demonstrated fieldcraft where two people had to patrol an area, with one person covering and

firing while the other person moved. It is a way of moving effectively across different types of terrain. We were being assessed 24 hours a day on how we conducted ourselves in all areas.'

Cpl Kearnu Stapleton said: 'The whole point of the camp was to do well and enable us to teach. One of the things I most look forward to in cadets is taking that senior role and passing down the information I have learned. It is more about what it means when we are back at base as a contingent and how we can make a difference. Leading up to the training we did a lot of planning. I read the manuals and did everything I could to prepare myself. I really wanted us to do well as especially as Sonny and Ethan did so well on the first week; it really put the pressure on us to perform!'



On their return the students were congratulated by contingent OC, Capt Matt Isherwood, who promoted them all to sergeant. He said: 'They exceeded all expectations. These results were due to their own thoroughness, preparation and their application. They are a great example to our younger cadets of what hard work and a professional attitude can achieve.'

## Our cadets received excellent feedback:

*Following the course our cadets each received a personalised report from the course instructors detailing their individual marks in key disciplines as well as a general overview of their strengths and performance.*

### **Sgt Sonny Dalziel:**

Hardworking with a great attitude, he demonstrated from the outset a determination to succeed and this was displayed during individual and Section lesson preparation ... A very good all round performance from Cpl Dalziel who has shown great potential for the future. Cpl Dalziel should be congratulated on his performance, he finished top of his Section and the course.

### **Cpl Damian Domanowski:**

is an enthusiastic, confident and infectious young man. He worked hard during the exercise phase ... He was valued and respected within his Section and the Platoon and was natural in his desire to help the less established members of the course.

### **Cpl Ethan Mathieson:**

was able to gain respect of others, due to his all-round knowledge ... He worked hard throughout the course and should be pleased with his conduct and sound performance.

### **Sgt Peter Sammons:**

is a polite and well mannered young man. He is equally comfortable in both the classroom and field environments. His personnel skills are of a high standard and he was natural in Command.

### **Cpl Kearnu Stapleton:**

worked extremely hard throughout the course and was, without question, deserving of the award of best student. He displayed a positive attitude in all areas ... and was always willing to assist others. Of note was the extra support he gave to the other cadets when needed. Showing great patience, diligence and ability he coached and aided others so that they passed their own Teaching Practices.



*Cpl Mathieson conducting weapons training back at base with a younger cadet.*



*The Brooke Weston contingent in training.*