

# CATTERICK GARRISON GAZETTE

PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER MONTH

ISSUE 208 APRIL-MAY 2024

NEWS AND FEATURES FROM CATTERICK,  
RIPON, TOPCLIFFE AND DISHFORTH



EX SNOWBUCK 24

A BUSY WINTER FOR THE LANCERS

WORLD BOOK DAY AT LE CATEAU SCHOOL



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## FROM THE EDITOR:

Welcome to this edition of the Catterick Garrison Gazette, last time I wrote that it seemed the bleak North Yorkshire winter was finally behind us.....plan too early, plan twice! Within this edition, we have a range of military articles from local units, detailing everything from, sporting prowess to building esprit de corps. We also have articles reporting the great work of local community groups, such as the Armed Forces & Veterans Information Hub and the Fold as well as great articles from busy local schools. I would like to thank the Garrison community 'military and civilian' who continue to support the Gazette and wider Catterick Garrison events. I hope the articles have inspired you to pen a submission for the coming editions of the Gazette highlighting your individual or organisations endeavours. Should you wish to submit an article for the next edition of the Garrison Gazette, then please send them to us at [CatterickGar\[i\]iHub-GpMailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:CatterickGar[i]iHub-GpMailbox@mod.gov.uk) by 10th May 2024.

**Kind regards,**  
**Maj AJ Green**  
**COS HQ Catterick Garrison**



# CONTENTS

ISSUE 208 **APRIL-MAY 2024**

## MILITARY

- 04 EX SNOWBUCK 24
- 06 RECRUITING MUSICIANS AT THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF BRASS
- 08 A BUSY WINTER FOR THE LANCERS
- 10 101ST (NORTHUMBRIAN) REGIMENT ROYAL ARTILLERY - EXERCISE NORTHERN MAGPIE 24

## COMMUNITY

- 12 CATTERICK MGS DOG SECTION HOSTED THE GARRISON COMMANDER AND GSM ON MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 24
- 14 SOURCES OF FREE, INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND INFORMATION
- 20 RISEDALE SCHOOL

- 24 THE HIVE
- 28 PADRE'S ARTICLE
- 29 BARNEY CADET SELECTED FOR PRESTIGIOUS ROLE IN COUNTY DURHAM
- 32 HACKFORTH AND HORNBY SCHOOL
- 34 AFF POSTER
- 37 THE 2024 CATERAN YOMP: 8-9 JUNE, BLAIRGOWRIE, PERTHSHIRE
- 40 WORLD BOOK DAY AT LE CATEAU SCHOOL
- 41 SCHOOL FOUNDED IN A PORTABLE BUILDING JUST FIVE YEARS AGO RATED 'OUTSTANDING.'
- 44 USING CORE ARMY VALUES FOR FUN, TEAMBUILDING AND LEARNING



Published for the Commander  
Catterick Garrison by

**Highland News & Media Ltd,**  
Suite 3.04 Moray House, 16-18 Bank  
Street, Inverness, IV1 1QY.



Design and Typography © **Method Publishing 2020**

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Submit articles in electronic form – on CD.  
Include high quality digital images where possible.  
Please keep the text and images separate.



# EX SNOWBUCK 24



By WO1 C Martinez

**O**n the 5th January 24 JHG(N) started our journey to snowy Austria to attend Exercise SNOWBUCK 24. 4 of us out of the 8 were complete novices, but we were fully committed to the challenge of learning how to snowboard. The first 4 days were challenging and left us feeling sore, but we had all caught the snowboarding bug and nothing was going to stop us from being on the slopes.

The first week for the novices consisted of learning the basics such as using edges, how to stop and basic turns. By day 4 the technique had clicked for most of us, we were bombing down the novice slope and were thirsty for more. Day 5 was our first day on the real slopes. Being a lot steeper, it felt like we were flying down, until we watched some of the video footage back that looked like we were moving in slow motion.

For the first week, while all of us novices slid down the novice slope on our faces, the senior riders took to the slopes practicing and perfecting their skills. Some of the seniors were going on 25km + rides a day, but still finished each day with beaming





smiles from ear to ear. Knowing that competition week was fast approaching, they got as much time in on the snow as possible.

The second week was competition week. For us novices that had just learnt how to snowboard 5 days ago, determination levels were high but there was a slight sense of fear too. The week contained senior and novice slalom and boardercross races, plus a jumps and tricks competition in the park. All in all, it was a great week for JHG(N) as we won 5 medals in total. Lt Byerley won 2 silver and one bronze medal in the female novice events. I (LCpl Douglas) won a bronze medal in the novice men's slalom race. Pte Hill won a silver medal in the senior female boardercross, and Cpl McAulliffe won the riders rider award for being the morale people needed to carry on. We all achieved so much from these 2 weeks and had improved massively as snowboarders. From not being able to stand up, to racing down the slopes, we all had overcome personal challenges and all vowed that we will go again next year!



# RECRUITING MUSICIANS AT THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF BRASS

By Cpl Matthew Taylor

**T**he Band Engagement Team attend several events every year, from secondary schools, to brass band contests. This month, we set up stall at the Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM) for the weekend. Friday night was the start of the International Festival of Brass and the reason why we were there. This was a weekend celebrating brass music from all over the globe and as quoted by the RNCM director of brass bands, "The brass band is capable of much more than we sometimes allow it to be, so let's celebrate dropping the rules and shedding the shackles of tradition."

The current British Open Brass Band champions, Foden's band, started the event that evening with a brilliant concert. Their programme featured classic works from the pen of Percy Fletcher 'Epic Symphony' and Malcolm Arnold 'Fantasy for Brass Band'. They played to a near full house and were well received by all.

By 0900 on Saturday morning, the halls were packed with students from across Manchester. Several students visited our trade stand to have a look at what the army could offer them in a career in music. The team talked about life in the Army as professional musicians, shared stories and answered questions.

The morning festival began with a concert from the Swiss band, Treize Etoiles, featuring their bass trombonist as a soloist, and a great European musical commission from Thierry Deleruyelle, 'Sand and Stars'.

The evening concert featured the world-renowned Black Dyke band and, as our stand had been put away ready for the next day, the band engagement team had the opportunity to watch and listen in full. It was filled with works from Sir Arthur Bliss, Stephen Roberts, Philip Wilby, Dorothy Gates, and featured composer of the weekend Oliver Waespi. Personally, my favourite piece of the evening was Martin Ellerby's Baritone Concerto, featuring their solo baritone player Mike Cavanagh. This is due, in part, to me being a baritone player as it was brilliant to see the instrument played to its full potential in a technically challenging piece of music.



The last day of the festival featured the Cory Band from South Wales, and two bands from Yorkshire: The Grimethorpe Youth Band and the Brighouse and Rastrick Band. Throughout the day there was plenty of interest in our stall, which enabled us to speak to a variety of musicians, and especially youth players in the age range of what we call our Main Target Audience.

We were also visited by the guest speaker of the weekend, James Gourlay from the River City Brass Band (USA), and he gave us fantastic insight into his life and music in the USA. It was interesting to hear about the running of the only professional brass band in the USA and about how it had grown from grass roots to professional.

Overall, the weekend was a great success with many expressions of interest and lots of stories shared with students about brass bands in the army. Our presence at these events really increases the public's awareness and interest of military music.

## Recording week & where you can listen to us.

This month, the band has been busy in the studio preparing some new releases. We recorded nine pieces, including two solos features from two of our very best musicians. First to be put under the spotlight was Cpl Taylor, the only official baritone player in his Majesty's Armed Forces, and a very good one! The piece by Tom Davoran is a movement of *The Healing Power of Flame* called *When Sparks Fly*. This high-energy piece is very demanding of the soloist and Cpl Taylor rose to the challenge.

It was a privilege to record a newly commissioned piece of WO1 Mitchell's, dedicated to Yorkshire. Yorkshire Rhapsody features the melody of Dear Lord and Father of Mankind, and theme of The Last Post. This was a particularly challenging piece to record as no one in the band had heard it before.



Our second soloist of the week was LCpl Howard, our solo trombonist. LCpl Howard's piece was *Shout!* By Rob Wiffin. LCpl Howard's performance of this funky piece was sensational! He has recently been posted to the Band of the Irish Guards and will be greatly missed by all in Band Catterick.

Other pieces recorded included *ORB*, a brilliant march written by Charles Anderson and *Olympic Fanfare and Theme* by John Williams. This grand, spectacular piece was selected in honour of the Olympic Games taking place this year. We also recorded a Philip Harper arrangement of a classic, *Four Seasons*, written by Vivaldi. This arrangement of excerpts from the movement, *Winter*, is a fast, rousing piece that provided technical challenge to all sections of the band.

Keep your eyes peeled for our new recordings; we have had a great few weeks preparing these pieces and can't wait to release the finished result. In the meantime, we have recordings out now - a selection of pieces chosen to mark the 30th anniversary of the Royal Corps of Army Music. You can find this music at: <https://www.rcamtrust.co.uk/rcam30-band-catterick/>



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# A BUSY WINTER FOR THE LANCERS

By Capt Cameron Smith, Plans O, Royal Lancers



**T**he Royal Lancers (Queen Elizabeths' Own) have defied the weather and dark nights to balance training, operations, and sporting success this winter.

A & B Squadrons have been on the ranges in Warcop, conducting Annual Combat Marksmanship Tests with both the pistol and rifle before moving on to more complex shoots. This included Live Fire Tactical Training with the rifle and a variety of complex shoots with the pistol. While coaching on the ranges, Cpl Terry said: "most Lancers have little experience with the

pistol. We spent lots of time building confidence and getting our people comfortable handling their weapons in every scenario".

Meanwhile, C Squadron have been training expeditiously since the New Year and are now held at 24-hours readiness for resilience operations across the UK. An important duty, ready to deploy wherever and whatever the requirement, they are poised to bolster civilian agencies nationwide. Squadron Sergeant Major, Warrant Officer Class II Younger, said: "while it isn't always the sexiest training, the opportunity has given C Squadron insight into the work of our civilian partners. It has

opened their eyes to how we as a Regiment might aid them". Since the New Year, they have conducted hugely diverse training, including crowd control, tracking, civil liaison, and flood defence. Most notably in recent years, thousands of military personnel assisted the NHS and local authorities during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Hundreds of Lancers played a vital role during this time, supporting delivery of thousands of vaccinations across the North of England.

Ensuring they keep one eye on Armoured Cavalry Tactics, C Squadron have also been conducting an armoured gunnery package on the 30mm Rarden Cannon mounted on the Warrior AFV. Range Conducting Officer, Second Lieutenant Ogilvie, said that "our work here will set the foundations for successful conversion to the AJAX platform later this summer". To this end, the first drivers are set to commence training in Bovington, Dorset and the first gunnery packages will run this spring.

Despite a fast-paced battle rhythm, the Lancers continue to field sporting success. This national hunt season, Major Kellard has been successful onboard Farceur du Large at both the Grand Military Gold Cup and the Royal Artillery Gold Cup, winning both races in front of packed crowds at Sandown Racecourse.

All in all, a busy first quarter for the Royal Lancers which has seen them balance operational commitments with training and sporting excellence.







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From the moment you enter the 150-acre Kentish parkland estate, you will be amazed at the facilities on offer and the breadth of opportunities students can access.

Each student is guided to be the best they can be – the school provide outstanding opportunities be it in the classroom, on the sports field, on stage or during parades. The student-centred approach with a family feel nurtures the skills required to be competitive and confident their chosen paths. Students also benefit from superb teachers who encourage students to achieve academically, and a pastoral team who support social achievement.

The Duke of York's Royal Military School is open to all 11–18 year olds with students partaking in

Saturday morning lessons and co-curricular activities throughout the week and weekends.

Being a Dukie is an amazing credential to have; students thrive, leaving the school with elevated grades, friends for life, and the essential Dukie Values that embody the schools 220 years of heritage – looking forward with confidence, looking back with pride.

Want to find out more? The award-winning school, has regular open mornings and offers private tours, for more information and to book now visit:

**[www.doyrms.com](http://www.doyrms.com)**



# 101ST (NORTHUMBRIAN) REGIMENT ROYAL ARTILLERY - EXERCISE NORTHERN MAGPIE 24

By Gnr Harrison Turner 269 (West Riding) Bty.

**E**x Northern Magpie is 101 Regiment's annual winter skiing overseas adventure training expedition, with the aim of qualifying students in either Ski Foundation (SF) level 1 or 2.

This was my first introduction to skiing and it was a pleasure to go with the Regiment. Our trip started with a 20 plus hour coach journey from Newcastle all the way to the idyllic alpine destination of Meribel- Mottaret. As we arrived up at the cold snowy valley, we began getting ready for the action-packed week ahead. That night we received our initial brief and then spent the remainder of the evening preparing our equipment under the guidance of our instructors.



Skiers of all abilities attended the exercise, from those who had never skied before to those ready to take their next step by completing the SF level 2. I fell into the first category; I was there to pass my SF level 1.

Day one on the SF level 1 course was all about the basics, learning to slide on skis for the first time and then learning how to stop (well hopefully). This proved more difficult than we had all anticipated which meant lots of falls throughout but overall, it was very enjoyable to get out onto the mountains. The highlight had to be watching the Padre achieving speeds as high as 0.5mph!



Day two introduced us to a steeper part of the slope, this was so much better as we now had space to link turns and really practice what we had learnt on day one. After lunch we ventured onto the chairlift for the first time and up to the mountain to take on our first ski run. The first run felt more intimidating than I thought it would, thankfully we all made it down in one piece.

On Day three we tackled the most daunting challenge yet! The dreaded Sittelle run. This run ran all the way from the top of the mountain down to the resort. This run really took us out of our comfort zone, with lots of nerves and lots of falls. It took the group an hour to cover a few hundred meters which was a big blow for our confidence, however by lunch time we had made it down to the bottom. We had nailed our first full run, with far fewer falls this time and a big boost to our confidence.

Day four the SF 1 group was split down amongst all the instructors to help bring along all the skiers on a more one to one basis for a few hours. I was one of the more confident skiers in the group, so the instructor decided to take me down a more challenging blue run which had moguls, (a mogul is where the snow mounds up into huge heaps making skiing much more challenging) it was very exciting. Once past the moguls we had smooth sailing down the slope until we reached a section with a much steeper gradient down to a long flat section. To get enough speed to continue to the flat I had to point my skis down hill and let them run.



The last day was a free ski day giving those of us who had passed our courses time to venture out in groups of three to put into practice



101 Regiment Royal Artillery



everything we had learnt under the watchful eye of our instructor. My group decided to have another try at the dreaded Sittelle route from day 3. This time we nailed it! We then travelled over to Corchevel to spend the rest of our day exploring the long sweeping slopes

flanked by trees. This was my favourite day! The skiing felt fluid, and the freedom was very rewarding after a week of hard graft.

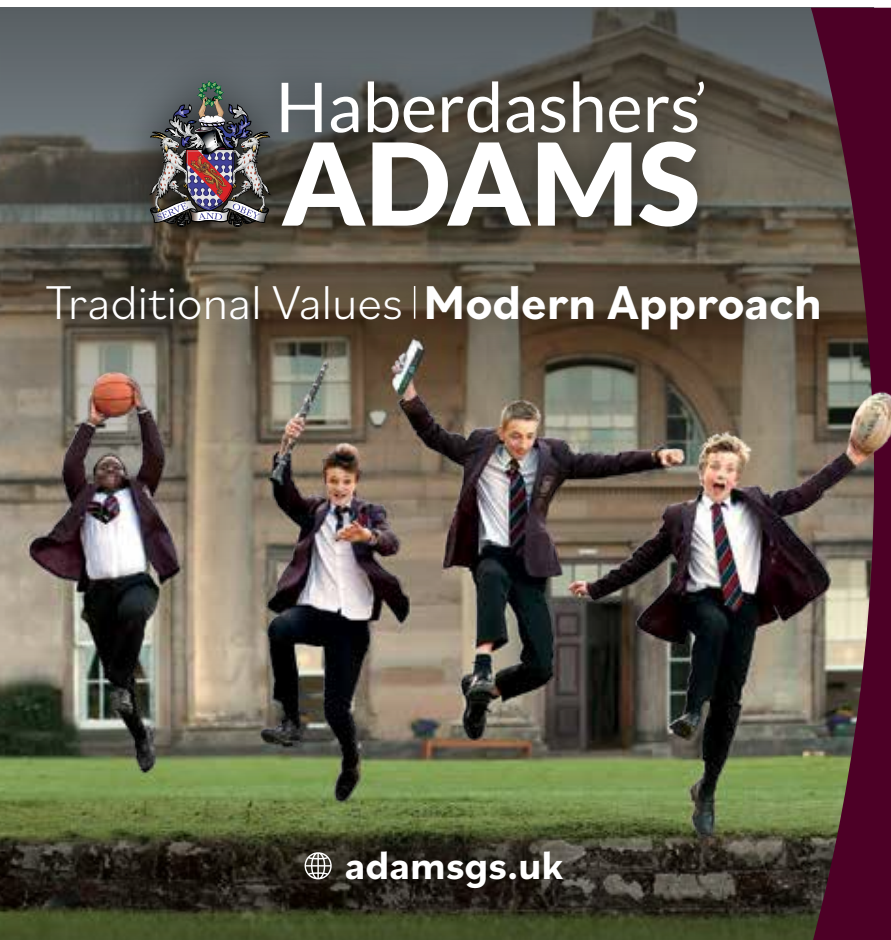
The aim of adventurous training is to push people out of their comfort zone


in a different setting, allowing soldiers to put into practice leadership, physical robustness, and mental fortitude in a relaxed and yet still taxing environment. Ex Northern Magpie achieved this aim for all involved.

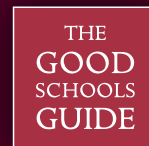


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# CATTERICK MGS DOG SECTION HOSTED THE GARRISON COMMANDER AND GSM ON MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 24

By James Gildroy, MGS Operational Manager

**T**he MGS dog section provide mobile dog patrols to the Garrison. Although the MGS guards well over 100 MOD sites, not all of them have guards who use dogs. We have sections from Kirkcudbright in Scotland, through Northumberland, Yorkshire, the Midlands, Oxford, Warwickshire, Wiltshire, Hampshire, Dorset, and Somerset.

Because of their better senses of smell, hearing, and speed, dogs are recognised as what we refer to as a "force multiplier," meaning that one dog team on the ground is as effective as four roving non-dog patrols.

Furthermore, most individuals will yield if confronted by a dog team. They are almost impossible to get away from, and when needed, they are trained to follow and apprehend a suspect who is running away by biting and gripping their right arm. German Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, Czech Shepherds, and Dutch Herders are among the dog breeds we currently offer. These breeds are tried and tested for police and security work, due to their intelligence, agility, and size. The Defence Animal Training Regiment offers a three-week basic dog course for handlers and after passing, handlers are paired with a dog and returned to their unit. Numerous incursions have been successfully stopped or dealt with by handlers, and there are undoubtedly countless

more that have just moved on upon noticing a dog patrol nearby.

We are a mobile, agile, and flexible service adhering to MOD, military and statutory standards for training and welfare. Providing overt and covert patrols dog teams improve the security profile of any site to which they are deployed. We provide an excellent service in difficult and uncertain times. We received the National Security Inspectorate Gold Medal for the provision of security dog services in 2015 following an independent examination and audit.

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**Website:** [www.themoneycharity.org.uk](http://www.themoneycharity.org.uk)

**Email:** [hello@themoneycharity.org.uk](mailto:hello@themoneycharity.org.uk)

**Social Media:** Twitter, Instagram, Facebook @TheMoneyCharity and LinkedIn The Money Charity

### Citizens Advice

Advice on a range of issues including debt and money, benefits, housing, legal, discrimination, employment, immigration and consumer advice.



**Tel:** 0800 240 4420 (England) / 0800 702 2020 (Wales) / 0800 028 1456 (Scotland) / Text Relay UK Service: 18001 then 0800 240 4420

**Website/Live Chat:** [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) and select the country you live in. Online chat available through the website Mon-Fri 8am-7pm for Debt; Mon-Fri 9am-5pm for General

**Visits In Person:** check the website and enter your postcode to find your nearest Citizens Advice centre

**Home Visits:** available in some areas, check the website for details



#### MoneyHelper

Provides money advice and support along with online tools and calculators to help keep track of finances and plan ahead. MoneyHelper brings together the support and services of three government-backed financial guidance providers: the Money Advice Service, the Pensions Advisory Service and Pension Wise.

**Tel:** 0899 138 7777 (England) / 0800 138 0555 (Wales) / Mon-Fri 8am-6pm

**Webchat:** [www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/contact-us](http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/contact-us) Mon-Fri 8am-6pm; Sat 8am-3pm

**Website:** [www.moneyhelper.org.uk](http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk)

### Gov.UK

The place to find government services and information.



**Website:** [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

### MoneySavingExpert.com

#### Money Saving Expert

Offers lots of practical advice, money saving tips and comparisons. You can sign up for the weekly newsletter.

**Website:** [www.moneysavingexpert.com](http://www.moneysavingexpert.com)

### Unbiased

A website that shows you how you can get free financial advice. It is independent and will give you a list of financial advisors in your area.



**Website:** [www.unbiased.co.uk](http://www.unbiased.co.uk)

### Debt



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Advice on debt and money including bankruptcy, Individual Voluntary Arrangements (IVAs), Debt Relief Orders, bailiffs, employment, benefits, mortgage and repossession support. You can create a budget using StepChange Debt Remedy and it will identify the extent of your debt problems and provide you with a tailored recommendation to resolve your situation. It's free and you don't have to give your name.

**Tel:** 0800 138 1111 Mon-Fri 8am-8pm; Sat 8am-4pm

**Website:** [www.stepchange.org](http://www.stepchange.org) / [www.stepchange.org/Debtremedy.aspx](http://www.stepchange.org/Debtremedy.aspx)

**Webchat:** Offers guidance and information to help you with general queries Mon-Fri 8am-6pm



## National Debt Line

Provides debt advice, support with budgeting and guidance about how to deal with debt. Helpful debt management videos are also provided on the website.

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**Website:** [www.nationaldebtline.org](http://www.nationaldebtline.org). National Debtline's My Money Steps website is a secure, confidential and free online self-help debt advice service, visit [www.mymoneysteps.org](http://www.mymoneysteps.org)

**Webchat:** [www.nationaldebtline.org](http://www.nationaldebtline.org)



## Business Debt Line

Advice to self-employed people across the UK on how to deal with debt problems.



**Tel:** 0800 197 6026 (England, Wales, Scotland) Mon–Fri 9am–8pm / 0800 915 4604 (Northern Ireland) in partnership with Advice NI Mon–Fri 9am–5pm

**Website:** [www.businessdebtline.org](http://www.businessdebtline.org)

**Webchat:** [www.businessdebtline.org](http://www.businessdebtline.org) (England, Wales and Scotland only)

## Debt Advice Foundation

A specialist debt charity offering free, confidential advice on any aspect of debt.

**Tel:** 0800 043 40 50 Mon–Fri 8am–8pm; Sat 9am–3pm

**Website:** For information on debt solutions and tools to help with budgeting and debt, visit [www.debtadvicefoundation.org](http://www.debtadvicefoundation.org)



## PayPlan

Provides debt advice and debt solutions including Debt Management Plans (DMPs), Individual Voluntary Arrangements (IVAs), Bankruptcy, Settlements, Trust Deeds and Sequestration (in Scotland).



**Tel:** 0800 280 2816 Mon–Fri 8am–8pm; Sat 9am–3pm

**Website:** [www.payplan.com](http://www.payplan.com)

## Christians Against Poverty

Provides debt support, money management, budgeting, and support to pay outstanding bills through a Christians Against Poverty (CAP) plan.

**Tel:** 0800 328 0006

**Website:** [www.capuk.org](http://www.capuk.org) where you can register for their online services.

**Home Visit:** If you live in a postcode covered by a Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre, a Debt Coach will visit you



## Benefits

### Turn2Us

Offers a free online benefits checker and have a huge database of grants that you might be eligible for.



**Tel:** 0800 802 2000 Mon–Fri 9am–5pm

**Website:** [www.turn2us.org.uk](http://www.turn2us.org.uk)

### entitledto

entitledto have a benefits calculator that will check which means-tested benefits you may be entitled.



**Website:** [www.entitledto.co.uk](http://www.entitledto.co.uk)

## Money & Mental Health

### Mental Health & Money Advice

Help and support for to people understand, manage and improve their money and mental health issues. Mental Health & Money Advice have a Savings Calculator, Budget Planner, Debt Health Check, and Universal Credit Money Manager.



**Website:** [www.mentalhealthandmoneyadvice.org](http://www.mentalhealthandmoneyadvice.org)

## Pensions

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 **Tel:** 0800 011 3797 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm / For Self-employed 0345 603 7021 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

 **Website:** [www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/pensions-and-retirement?](http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/pensions-and-retirement?)

 **Webchat:** [www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/pensions-and-retirement?](http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/pensions-and-retirement?) Mon-Fri 9am-6pm



## Fraud



### Action Fraud


The UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime where you can report fraud if you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cyber crime in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

 **Tel:** 0300 123 2040

 **Website:** [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

### Victim Support

Support victims of crime and traumatic incidents in England and Wales. Provides specialist help to support people to cope and recover to the point where they feel they are back on track with their lives.

 **Tel:** 0808 1689 111 Mon-Fri 24/7

 **Website:** [www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk)

 **Webchat:** <https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/help-and-support/get-help/support-near-you/live-chat/> England & Wales 24-hour support



### Citizens Advice


Provide an online scams helper to get advice that's specific to your situation and information on how to recognise a scam and protecting yourself online.

 **Website:** [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/check-if-something-might-be-a-scam/](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/check-if-something-might-be-a-scam/)



### Financial Conduct Authority

Provide support on how to avoid investment and pension scams.

 **Website:** [www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart/resources](http://www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart/resources)

## Other Support & Information



### Shelter

Provides housing advice, homelessness, benefits help, managing your money, prioritising debts and negotiating with lenders and other creditors.

 **Tel:** 0808 800 4444 Mon-Fri 8am-8pm; Sat-Sun 9am-5pm


 **Website:** [www.shelter.org.uk](http://www.shelter.org.uk)

 **Webchat:** [www.shelter.org.uk/get\\_help/webchat](http://www.shelter.org.uk/get_help/webchat) Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

### Surviving Economic Abuse

Financial Support Line for Victims of Domestic Abuse.

 **Tel:** 0808 1968845 Mon-Thurs 9am-5pm; Fri 9am-12.30pm

 **Website:** [www.survivingeconomicabuse.org](http://www.survivingeconomicabuse.org)



### Which?

Independent, has a really good calculator for looking at pension contributions.

 **Website:** [www.which.co.uk](http://www.which.co.uk)



## Age UK

Provides help and support to older people

**Tel:** 0800 678 1602 Mon-Sun 8am-7pm

**Website:** [www.ageuk.org.uk](http://www.ageuk.org.uk)

**Home Visits:** [www.ageuk.org.uk/services/in-your-area/](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/services/in-your-area/)



## Stop Loan Sharks

Investigates and prosecutes illegal money lenders and provide support for borrowers. It provides emotional and practical support that is tailored to your needs.

**Website:** [www.stoploansharks.co.uk](http://www.stoploansharks.co.uk)

## GamCare

Offers free information, advice and support for anyone harmed by gambling.

**Tel:** 0808 8020 133 available 24 hours a day

**Website:** [www.gamcare.org.uk](http://www.gamcare.org.uk)



## TaxAid

Offers free, confidential advice on tax to those on low incomes.

**Website:** [www.taxaid.org.uk/pages/contact-us](http://www.taxaid.org.uk/pages/contact-us)



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## Risedale pupils get a taste of fashion at The Barbour Factory

On Wednesday 10th January 2024, Mrs K-A Vizor and her Year 10 Design and Technology class embarked on a unique learning adventure to the Barbour Factory in South Shields. This wasn't just any school trip; it was a rare opportunity to peek behind the scenes of the fashion industry and witness first-hand how iconic Barbour jackets come to life.



The day started with an exclusive tour of the factory. The pupils were amazed to see how skilled craftspeople turned raw materials into the long-lasting and fashionable jackets that have been popular for many years. Some fortunate pupils had the chance to try the iconic waxing process, which gave them a real understanding of the design and manufacturing processes involved.

After delving into the production process, the group explored the Barbour Factory Outlet. Here, they saw the full range of Barbour's offerings, from classic waxed jackets to contemporary sportswear.

The group then journeyed to the South Shields Beacon, the inspiration for Barbour's "Barbour Beacon" sub-brand. This impressive landmark, a lighthouse overlooking the North Sea, served as a stunning backdrop for lunch and provided a fascinating glimpse into the town's maritime heritage. Despite the January weather being rather wet and wild, everyone appreciated the chance to visit the harbour and enjoy the scenery.

The trip to the Barbour Factory was more than just a field trip; it was a chance for pupils to connect with the real world of design, fashion, and history. They saw the passion and skill that goes into creating a quality product, and they learned how a local landmark can inspire a global brand. This unique experience undoubtedly sparked creativity and curiosity in the Risedale pupils, leaving them with a newfound appreciation for the world of textile manufacturing.

## Pupils journey back in time to the Globe Theatre with VR!

Year 7 English pupils at Risedale School recently embarked on a truly immersive learning experience, using virtual reality (VR) headsets to transport themselves back in time to the iconic Globe Theatre.



This innovative lesson was designed to bring Shakespeare's plays to life for the pupils in a way that traditional textbooks and classroom discussions simply cannot. By experiencing the Globe in VR, the pupils were able to gain a deeper understanding of the context and atmosphere in which Shakespeare's works were originally performed.

*"It was really fun," said one pupil. "I felt like I was really there and could walk around."*

*"This was such a valuable and enjoyable learning experience for our pupils," said Senior Teacher and Head of English, Miss Roberts. "It helped them to connect with Shakespeare and his life in a much more personal way. They were engaged, excited, and eager to learn more."*

This is just one example of how Risedale School is using technology to create engaging and effective learning experiences for its pupils. With VR, the possibilities for learning are endless, and we are excited to see what the future holds.

## Risedale School Remembers Holocaust Memorial Day and Remembrance Poetry Competition

Risedale School held a poignant and impactful assembly on Thursday 25th January to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. Led by our Head of History, Mr Houlgate, and dedicated pupils, the assembly explored the horrors of this dark chapter in history and the enduring importance of remembrance.

Joining the school community were three members of the Garrison Veterans' Catterick Historical Archive Group: Veterans Mark Hill MBE, Paula Rogers, and Pete Wine. Pupils delivered a confident and educational presentation, their research and heartfelt words ensuring the victims of the Holocaust were never forgotten. Veteran Pete Wine's unique perspective, gained from visiting Bergen-Belsen in the 1980s, added further depth to the occasion.



**L-R Head of History Mr Houlgate, Army Veterans Paula Rogers, Mark Hill MBE and Pete Wine accompanied by some of the Remembrance Poem Competition winners and other pupils who delivered the Holocaust Memorial Day school assembly.**

Mr Houlgate said, *"It filled me with great pride to see our pupils standing side by side with local veterans, remembering the horrors of the Holocaust, united in the conviction that we must never let it happen again."*



## Honouring Remembrance Through Creativity:

The assembly also celebrated the Remembrance Day Poetry Competition, a collaboration with the Garrison Armed Forces Veterans iHub. Showcasing the remarkable creativity of Risedale's pupils, the competition's poems served as powerful testaments to remembrance and reflection. The winning entries will be displayed in a local museum later this year, amplifying their message to a wider audience.



## Community Collaboration and Appreciation:

Mark Hill MBE commended the assembly and collaboration, stating, *"It was a profound and moving experience, strengthening the school's ties with the local community."* He further acknowledged the support of local entrepreneur and Veteran Simon Hilliard, of Ellerton Lakeside Cafe, whose generous prize sponsorship solidified the connection between Risedale and the veterans' community.

## Learning and Legacy:

Risedale School's Holocaust Memorial Day assembly and Remembrance Day Poetry Competition stand as powerful examples of the school's commitment to holistic education. These initiatives not only educate and inspire pupils but also strengthen community ties. Through such meaningful activities, Risedale ensures the lessons of the past are not forgotten and future generations continue to stand against hatred and intolerance.

## Beyond the Classroom: Our Hedgehog Hero

What you might not know about Head of RE, Mrs Laheney, is that in her spare time, she runs a hedgehog rescue centre from her home at Pepperfield Farm.

Mrs Laheney was interviewed by the Daily Express newspaper on Monday 29th January and you can read a transcript of the story that was published below.



## "I Run an A&E for Hedgehogs"

Joanne Laheney, 58, an RE teacher from Catterick, North Yorkshire, runs Pepperfield Farm Hedgehog Rescue with husband Terry, 63, a retired teacher.

Farm Hedgehog Rescue with her husband Terry, 63, a retired teacher.

*"When a hedgehog comes to Pepperfield Farm it's on the verge of death, often hit by a car, attacked by a dog, or they've eaten slugs and developed lungworm. The life of every hedgehog counts, and myself and Terry work in shifts throughout the night to nurse the sick. Our home has now become a hedgehog A&E."*

*There's a set routine at our rescue, which we've run for three years. If a member of the public calls, we do a phone triage to make sure we can help- if the animal has a broken leg, or something we can't deal with, they need to see a vet.*

*If we can help, the hog is admitted to our hospital, a purpose-built building attached to the house, and checked for dehydration, hypothermia and parasites like ticks or flies.*

*If dehydrated, we inject saline fluids. All the sick are put in incubators to keep them warm. If an animal has flystrike, we carefully remove the fly eggs with a*



*mascara brush. It's time-consuming but rewarding to know you've stopped suffering. Sometimes, we need to syringe-feed the hedgehogs.*

*When the animals are stronger and heavier, we transfer them for re-wilding to hedgehog houses dotted around our home's 15 acres.*

*Once we're satisfied the hog is healthy, it's returned to its original environment, like a park, wood or graveyard. Or it's rehoused in a safe space - a home with a hog house, in an accessible garden, where they'll get feeding support.*

*I often have to explain to people, though, that while they may have bought a hedgehog house, the animal might only spend one night inside, then leave to make its own nest.*

*Hedgehogs are on the red list, meaning they're at threat of extinction, and it's crucial that people get involved. Making your garden hedgehog-friendly will have a positive impact on the hedgehog population in your area, and help one of the nation's favourite animals."*

### Year 9s celebrate "La Chandeleur" in true French style with a crêpe-making extravaganza!

Friday 2nd February marked the French cultural tradition of "La Chandeleur" and some of our Year 9 pupils celebrated the event by making crêpes!



"La Chandeleur" equates to our Candlemass. It marks 40 days since Christmas and the beginning of spring and, according to Christian beliefs, is when baby Jesus was presented to the temple and God by his parents.

French families celebrate "La Chandeleur" by making pancakes, the shape and colour representing the sun at the end of a harsh winter. A French superstition is that if farmers don't eat crêpes at "La Chandeleur", they'll always have a bad harvest. And it's also considered good luck in France if you toss your crêpe with your right hand while holding a coin in your left!

Year 9s have been recently learning about French traditions and celebrations, and to mark "La Chandeleur" at Risedale, Group 9FRI made their

own crêpes with Mr Miller and Mrs Louison and then filled them with a range of sweet and savoury fillings. Yum Yum...or as they say in France, "Miam Miam, c'est délicieux!"

### Harry steps up to keep the school library running smoothly

While School Librarian Miss Sellers was away, the library remained in capable hands thanks to the dedication of Year 8 Pupil Librarian, Harry Iddon. Harry ensured the library continued to operate seamlessly, earning him a well-deserved reward and praise from staff and pupils alike.



To express their gratitude, Harry received a set of new books by his favourite author. His commitment even extended beyond his official duties, as Ms Dunphy, Head of Social Studies, remarked, *"Harry worked tirelessly to keep the library running - and to keep the teachers in check! We couldn't have done it without you!"*

Mrs Davies, SEND Specialist Teacher, echoed the sentiment, *"Harry was an absolute star! He stepped into Miss Sellers' shoes and kept everything in perfect order. I relied on him to return books, organise shelves, and troubleshoot any issues. Thank you Harry for keeping us right."*

Miss Sellers was overwhelmed with pride and appreciation. Upon her return, she found the library immaculate and efficient. Staff and pupils showered Harry with praise for his exceptional work, which he continues to perform with quiet confidence.

*"Harry did a better job than I do! Thank you, Harry,"* Miss Sellers exclaimed, summarising the collective gratitude.

### KS4 Work Experience with Amey

**Green Dream Team: Risedale pupils build a sustainable future with Amey**

Risedale School's Year 10 and 11 pupils with their sights set on Engineering or Construction got a head start this half-term holiday, thanks to a unique collaboration with Amey, a leading provider of engineering, operations, and decarbonisation solutions for UK transport

infrastructure and complex facilities. The "Building a Sustainable Home Project" gave the pupils a thrilling glimpse into the world of green jobs and the skills needed to thrive in this fast-growing sector.



The project wasn't just about hammering and building, it was also about understanding the impact of sustainable practices in construction and engineering. Green jobs are about being employed to do a job that contributes to protecting or restoring the environment, including those that mitigate or adapt to climate change (Office of National Statistics). It is predicted that this will become a fast-growing sector for skilled individuals by 2030.

Reflecting on the week of Work Experience, Year 10 pupil Nathanael Hall said, *"All the activities and tasks that we took part in were really fun and engaging. After we completed the classroom work and got started on the teamwork activities for the project everything was really fast-paced and fun. I enjoyed learning lots of new leadership and team-building skills especially while working with friends and new people."*



Michelle Wiggins, Social Value Manager at Amey said, *"The company and its associated partners were amazed at how hard the Risedale pupils worked with our staff. They came up with some really good ideas and insightful solutions for the project and worked in a mature way. Their presentations were very impressive."*

The dedicated group included Lennon Boila, Max Greaves, Nathanael Hall, Lucas Kirk, Keira Laver, Kalob McLoughlin, Reece Squire, Jay Stevens, Connor Wall and Jake Wills. Their participation



in this project bodes well for their futures, demonstrating their ambition and commitment to a sustainable future.

Risedale Careers Leader, Mrs Porritt, commended the hard work of the pupils by saying, *"Well done and congratulations for all your hard work over the half-term break. I was so impressed with your commitment and dedication to the project. You are all a credit to the school."*

This collaborative effort between Risedale School and Amey showcases the positive impact of engaging young minds in practical, real-world learning experiences. It not only ignites their passion for green careers but also equips them with the necessary skills to become the eco-warriors of tomorrow.

## Year 11 Pupils Take On Elite Army Training Challenge

On Monday 19th February, some of our Year 11 pupils embarked on an exceptional day of Army-led team-building exercises and an adrenaline-pumping assault course challenge. This adventure served as the culmination of their previous Army Work Experience at Otterburn Training Camp which took place last July.

The action-packed day began with an insightful careers briefing about the Army Foundation College, followed by hands-on STEM activities like building catapults. But the real test was yet to come: challenging team-building tasks tested their communication, leadership and problem-solving skills as they navigated a simulated warzone using obstacles. And their final mission was to conquer the gruelling assault course.

Led by experienced soldiers from the Marne Barracks Outreach Team, the Risedale pupils pushed their limits, demonstrating impressive teamwork and perseverance. The Outreach Team commended them for their exceptional conduct throughout the day.



For some pupils, this wasn't just an exciting experience; it solidified their career aspirations. Witnessing the Army first hand and having their skills tested fuelled their ambition. Among them

was Logan Fegan, who has now successfully passed the Army selection process, turning his dream into reality. He will begin his training at the Harrogate Army Foundation College in September 2024.

*"I found the Army work experience last year to be really helpful and enjoyable. It helped me to decide what I want to do in the future,"* Logan shared.

*"I particularly enjoyed the elite training session; it was a fantastic experience."*

A special thank you goes to the dedicated Army Outreach Team at Marne Barracks: SSGT Hardstaff, CPL Monaghan, CPL Smith, LCPL Johnson, LCPL Chase, LCPL Clark-Cordy, RFN Duggan, and PTE Robinson. They played a crucial role in empowering these Risedale pupils to discover their potential and chase their dreams.

## Sporting Highlights at Risedale School

### Rugby: A Thrilling Draw for Risedale's Year 9 Team!

Risedale's Year 9 rugby team, joined by some Year 8 players, battled it out against Thirsk School and Sixth Form College in a nail-biting match on 24th January. The closely fought game ended in a well-deserved 10-10 draw, showcasing great skill and determination from both teams.



Risedale took an early lead with their impressive running skills, but Thirsk's experience came through, and they led 6 tries to 3 at halftime. However, Risedale never gave up. Fuelled by their fighting spirit, they clawed their way back with four unanswered tries in the second half to secure the draw. Both teams should be proud of their performance in this exciting match.

### Football: Victories and Close Calls!

The Year 7 boys' football team celebrated a fantastic 4-2 in the Area Plate Competition quarter-final on 6th February. Every player contributed to their win, displaying excellent teamwork and clinical finishing.

The Year 8 boys' football team, despite not playing together for a while, showed great promise in their match against Easingwold. While they were unlucky not to score themselves, their strong defence held Easingwold scoreless for most of the game. The final score was a narrow 0-2 defeat, but Coach Mr Allen was proud of the team's effort and sportsmanship.



The U13 girls' football team also had a dramatic game in their Area Plate Competition quarter-final. Trailing 5-3 with minutes remaining, they displayed incredible grit to score a last-minute equaliser and take the game to penalties! The girls triumphed 5-4 in a nerve-wracking penalty shootout, with special mentions to Ellie-Mae Reid for her 4 goals and Mabel Thirlwell for her outstanding saves.

Reflecting on all the matches of the day, Head of PE, Miss Brierley, said, *"Overall it was a great day for Risedale School football! All our teams showed spirit, determination, and skill. Keep up the good work!"*

### Year 9 Rugby Tens: Risedale Takes Second Place!

Risedale's Year 9 rugby team put on a stellar performance at the annual Year 9 Rugby Tens tournament at Wensleydale RUFC on 7th February. The boys faced tough competition in four back-to-back matches, showcasing their resilience and fitness throughout. While they lost their first game, they bounced back with two wins and a draw, securing a well-deserved second-place finish.

Teacher of PE, Mr Lawson, commented, *"I'm incredibly proud of every player who took part. They displayed true sportsmanship and represented Risedale with outstanding spirit. Seeing their faces beaming with smiles at the end of the tournament made it all worthwhile. A huge congratulations to the entire team – you were simply magnificent!"*

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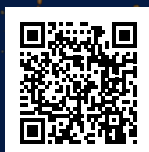
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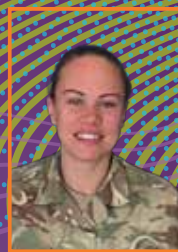
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# PADRE'S ARTICLE

By Rev'd Trudy Hobson

**L**ast year, fresh from training at Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, I came up to Catterick Garrison to my new role as Padre for the Royal Lancers.

One of the greatest joys of being with the Royal Lancers has been getting to know the soldiers and simply 'being' with them. This has meant that I have the privilege of visiting Royal Lancers wherever they are, on the Garrison, on operations and on exercises. I visited one sqn on Op CABRIT, another on Op ELGIN, and spent six weeks on Salisbury Plain with two Sqns on EX SCORPION CYCLONE and Iron Titan. And this coming year will see me again visiting Sqns on various operations.

I try to be 'out and about' as much as possible, getting to know the troops, working hard to build trust and negate preconceived ideas that the Padre is only there to deal with problems. So often people do not know how to interact with a Padre expecting us to only talk about 'religious stuff', yet nothing can be further from the truth. Yes, we come with a belief, a heart of faith, but when we speak to you, we simply want to get to know you, hear your stories, have a laugh with you and when you need us, support you. I know and trust that God puts us in the right place at just the right moment enabling us to have 'that' conversation to offer spiritual support, pastoral care and moral guidance when needed, which can make all the difference to an individual, a Squadron, and therefore the Regiment as a whole.

I hope that the troops know that I am interested in their lives, their stories, their hopes, and dreams and recognise that speaking with me as their Padre is as natural and normal as speaking with each other. Knowing the soldiers and their stories helps me live out St Paul's call for us to "Rejoice with those who rejoice; [and] weep with those who weep" (Romans 12:15). This truly is a blessing and a privilege.



I have loved this last year with the Royal Lancers as their Padre and I have learnt so much with God affirming daily my calling to serve all the

Army's people, and I know that Padres are valued by all and we have a vital role to play now and in the future Army.



# BARNEY CADET SELECTED FOR PRESTIGIOUS ROLE IN COUNTY DURHAM



BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL

By Stuart Nicholls

**A** Barnard Castle School pupil is celebrating after receiving a prestigious honour.

Sergeant Livia Cooke, a Year 11 student and member of the School's Combined Cadet Force (CCF), has been recruited by County Durham's Lord-Lieutenant, Mrs Sue Snowden, as one of her cadets for 2024.

This latest success marks the sixth pupil from 'Barney' to be appointed a Lord-Lieutenant cadet over the last three years, an unprecedented achievement for its CCF contingent, adding to its five 'Master Cadet' accreditations over the same period.

A military boarder at the school, Livia will support the King's representative of the county when she performs civic duties. The Lord-Lieutenant

appoints cadets to act as 'batmen' as she performs a host of duties that could include meeting visiting members of the Royal Family and presenting medals and awards on behalf of King Charles III.

Livia, 16, will be officially sworn into the role at an upcoming ceremony, having passed a rigorous selection process and impressing during interviews.

She said: "I am delighted and incredibly proud to have been selected as a Lord-Lieutenant Cadet, which is a massive personal honour. The values and leadership skills that the CCF has instilled in me have been invaluable, which will stand me in good stead for this important role."

"The opportunities in this role that I am going to receive, along with the many events I will be privy to, are very exciting, and I am looking forward to

continuing my development at Barney and in its CCF over the coming years."

Lieutenant Colonel Caroline Connor, Head of Barney's CCF, added: "I am over the moon for Livia, who continually surpasses the cadet values and standards. This is the highest honour a cadet can receive and there is no one more deserving than Livia, who has been chosen for this position by virtue of her outstanding performance as a cadet, personal qualities and contribution to the local community."

"Barney's CCF continues to go from strength to strength and I am incredibly proud of all our cadets' achievements in recent times. These prestigious honours are a direct consequence of the hard work and dedication of our staff and volunteers, who continually go above and beyond for the contingent."





## SWALEDALE ALLIANCE – SUPPORTING CAREERS IN SCHOOLS

The Swaledale Alliance is a partnership of schools sharing common values and improving education for all children within their settings.

Established in 2017, over fifty local primary schools work together to provide a range of personal development and school improvement programmes. The Alliance aims to offer development opportunities "for teachers, by teachers".

This network of schools also promotes and encourages careers in education, understanding that each local school is part of a wonderful community providing the school workforce of the future.

The route into education can be confusing! The Swaledale Alliance focuses on two main career paths:

### TEACHING ASSISTANTS

The Swaledale Alliance offers the nationally recognised NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Supporting Teaching & Learning. Through the Alliance's sponsorship opportunity, 'real work' placements are available in local schools.

*"I completed the CACHE level 3 Teaching Assistant programme in 2020 and felt well supported by the placement school, as well as the Swaledale Alliance's knowledgeable team. On completion, I took a full-time role in a primary school as a teaching assistant. I am now studying a BA Hons in Education and hope to be teaching my own class within the next 12 months."*

- Tania Freeman (HLTA, Hutton Rudby Primary School)

### GET INTO TEACHING

In partnership with Red Kite Teacher Training and Carmel Teacher Training Partnership, the Swaledale Alliance schools support Initial Teacher Training (ITT) programmes. ITT programmes are aimed at those with a degree who would like to get into teaching. The network of placements provides opportunities in schools near the student's home, a major advantage when living in North Yorkshire.



Swaledale Alliance students have gone on to secure roles with local schools, enabling them to continue to work close to their homes and families.

*"I trained as a primary teacher in 2010, my first placement was at Brompton-on-Swale where the Swaledale Alliance is based. After working in County Durham, I moved to North Yorkshire as a headteacher with no connections! Being part of the Swaledale Alliance & their network of supportive headteachers has allowed me to be more successful in my role."*

- Justin Peoples (Headteacher, Applegarth Primary School, Northallerton)

The Swaledale Alliance is proud of the quality of support, training and work experience given to their trainees ensuring each starts their new career with confidence, secure in the knowledge they have an established support network of local colleagues.

Further details of programmes starting in September 2024 can be found on their website.

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# HACKFORTH AND HORNBY SCHOOL

By Mrs Debbie Gibson



**T**he children have had a fantastic Spring term at Hackforth and Hornby CE Primary School.

In celebration of the changing season, children have busied themselves planting different seeds and experimenting on what conditions they need to germinate.

Pupils celebrated World Book Day with a fun Reading Collaboration Day at Thornton Watlass Primary School, during which they met Sue Banner, author and illustrator of 'Knobbly Nora'; received top tips on how to improve their own creative writing and shared stories read by local Bookseller- Claire from The Wonky Tree, in Leyburn.

As part of British Science Week, children attended a Science Collaboration Day at Thornton Watlass Primary School. The children had a fantastic time exploring fossils, rocks and geology with a Cavewoman; discussed the impact of plastic in our Oceans and learnt all about the role of a Vet.

In March, pupils took their lessons outside with a trip to Baydale Farm. Children explored the farm and learnt all about the links between farming, conservation and food production. A particular highlight of our visit was getting to meet the newborn lambs!

## Caterpillar Class

Caterpillars have had a brilliant Spring term! The children fully immersed themselves into their exciting new topics.

In History, Caterpillars learnt about Significant Individuals throughout history- some from 7 centuries ago! The children were fascinated to learn more about individuals including Queen Elizabeth II, Neil Armstrong, Rosa Parks and Emmeline Pankhurst. They sorted them by their achievements and ordered them on timelines.

In Science, Caterpillars have learnt all about plants. They have dissected and studied bulbs and planted peas, beans and tomato plants,





lavender and onions. The children have also set up a Florist in the outdoor role play area. This has been enjoyed by all year groups and has allowed the children to practise their money, writing and communication skills as well as learning about the different flowers being sold.

### Butterflies Class

Butterflies really enjoyed the story 'Varmints' by Helen Ward. Butterflies' children received two letters from The Secret Society of Gardeners asking for their help to keep our Earth green and protect the wildlife. The children responded to this plea for help by planting seeds, writing letters of reply, writing instructions on how to plant seeds and speeches to pass the message on to others.

During computing classes Butterflies explored and created their own fantastic stop motion animations.

In RE children developed their knowledge of other religious beliefs, focussing on Hinduism. Butterflies found it interesting to compare the beliefs of different religions and to consider where their own views fit into the bigger

picture. They researched the Trimurti and created fact files using explanatory questioning.

Visit our website page ([www.hackforthhornby.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.hackforthhornby.n-yorks.sch.uk)), if you would like more information

about our school, where you can also find our latest Ofsted Report (November 2022).

If you would like to arrange a visit, please call the school office on 01748 811698.





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- Foreign & Commonwealth
- Allowances & Money.

# Army&You

### Army&You magazine

AFF's award-winning magazine, Army&You, containing news, features, interviews, reviews and much more, is delivered four times a year to Army families in the UK and overseas. Go to [armyandyou.co.uk](https://armyandyou.co.uk) or find it on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @ArmyandYou

# Forces Families Jobs

### Forces Families Jobs

This is a tri-Service jobs platform, which links spouses, partners and family members of serving UK military personnel with Forces-friendly employers and training organisations, as well as providing access to careers information. [forcesfamiliesjobs.co.uk](https://forcesfamiliesjobs.co.uk)

Army Families Federation is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England and Wales with registered charity number 1176393 and a charity registered in Scotland with registered charity number SC048282 having its principal office at IDL 414, Floor 1, Zone 6, Ramillies Building, Marlborough Lines, Monxton Road, Andover SP11 8HJ



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# THE 2024 CATERAN YOMP: 8-9 JUNE, BLAIRGOWRIE, PERTHSHIRE

By Jack Leggetter, ABF

**T**he Yomp makes its much-anticipated return to Blairgowrie, challenging serving soldiers to tackle 54 miles of rugged Scottish terrain in under 24 hours, all in an effort to secure the Gold Distinction award – an exclusive award for army personnel. Far from just a walk, it's a true test of endurance, teamwork, and determination, designed to push participants to their limits for a worthy cause.

This year, thanks to a new partnership with Babcock, we're proud to introduce the Babcock Cadet Challenge. This unique initiative invites serving cadets (16ys+) and instructors to join the fray at no cost, complete with a £50 travel subsidy and a commitment to match the first £100 of fundraising for each cadet.

The CATERAN Yomp offers more than just a physical challenge; it's your opportunity to contribute to a vital cause that supports the entire armed forces community through the Army Benevolent Fund. By stepping up to the challenge, you're not only proving your mettle but also making a tangible difference to army lives by directly supporting the Fund's mission to provide a lifeline for soldiers, veterans, and their families when they need it most.

With army participation on the rise each year, the 2024 Yomp is set to showcase a record number of competing military units, in a grand display of unity and spirited rivalry. This increase not only highlights the



event's growing popularity amongst serving soldiers, but also its appeal as a genuine military-style event.

Sign up now in teams of four or more and take on the Yomp. Test your limits, showcase your unit's strength, and see if you have what it takes to outpace and outlast the competition. Will you conquer the Yomp?

*Registration opens from 14:00 on Friday 7 June, with the first wave of 'Yompers' setting off from Basecamp at 06:00 on Saturday 8 June.*

To register, search CATERAN Yomp, or send an enquiry to [yomp@armybenevolentfund.org](mailto:yomp@armybenevolentfund.org).

If you would like to know more about the Army Benevolent Fund, or if you have any great fundraising ideas, please get in touch with the Regional Office based in Catterick Garrison by calling 01748 874127, 07900 707654 or 07900 707657. Alternatively, email [northeast@armybenevolentfund.org](mailto:northeast@armybenevolentfund.org). Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/abfne](https://www.facebook.com/abfne). Further information can also be found at [www.armybenevolentfund.org](http://www.armybenevolentfund.org).

***The Army Benevolent Fund is the National Charity of the British Army, there to support soldiers, veterans, and their immediate families in times of genuine need.***



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# WORLD BOOK DAY AT LE CATEAU SCHOOL

By Mrs Carrie Galloway

A host of literary characters came to life as Le Cateau CP School took part in World Book Day. Children and teachers went all out with a variety of interesting and colourful costumes to celebrate the day, which aims to promote reading.

Characters chosen by the children included, Harry Potter, Moana, Where's Wally and Cindy-Lou Who. The staff dressed in a variety of costumes with Pippa Long-stockings, Little Red Riding Hood and The Tiger who Came to Tea were just some of

the amazing characters that could be seen teaching lessons throughout the school.

All of the children have created bookmarks for the school competition. Year 2 have turned detective on a library book hunt while Year 5 have been catching the Evil Pea with FS2. The nursery children have been building big rockets from their book Whatever Next by Jill Murphy, Year 3 enjoyed a visit to year 6 with year 4 reading stories with year 1.

The day was a fantastic success ending with some very happy but slightly tired children and staff.





# SCHOOL FOUNDED IN A PORTABLE BUILDING JUST FIVE YEARS AGO RATED 'OUTSTANDING.'

By Christopher Barron



**A** school founded just five years ago in a portable building has been awarded 'outstanding' status across the board. Staff at Cambrai Primary School, in Catterick, were overjoyed to learn the school had been rated as 'outstanding' by Ofsted in quality of education, behavior and attitudes, personal development leadership and management, early years provision, and overall effectiveness.

The school, which is part of Lingfield Education Trust, was established in 2019, with just 22 children in a portable building, and now has more than 150 children in modern facilities.

Head of School, Laura Robinson, said: "This report is testament to the fantastic team we have. Our staff work incredibly hard to ensure our children receive the best possible experience at school, and it's wonderful to have this effort recognised." She also acknowledged "the amazing contribution" of pupils and their families, saying: "We couldn't do what we do without children who are keen to learn and love coming to school, and that's down to the support they receive at home."

The report highlights how the "strong partnership" between the school and families ensures excellent pupil attendance, adding: "Pupils enjoy attending school and parents value the exceptional quality of education."

Many pupils come from military families based at Catterick Garrison, and the report recognises the active part they play in the school.

"Pupils' behaviour is exceptional. From the youngest age, children are kind and caring. As pupils get older, they take responsibility for other pupils' well-being," the report adds.

"Pupils learn the 'Cambrai Way' from the day that they start. They embrace the values of the school. As a result, pupils are happy and safe. Opportunities for pupils to take on different leadership roles are extensive."

Mark Dent, Executive Headteacher, said: "We're thrilled that the report emphasizes pupils' behaviour as exceptional, and the way they embrace our values of kindness, respect, bravery, coolness, fairness and stickability.

"Our school motto is 'We Grow Good People, Who Do Great Things', and the report recognizes that it's the pupils who really bring that to life through their attitudes to learning."

The report also highlights the positive role played by governors, stating: "The school, governing body and trust unite to ensure an exceptional and memorable school experience for pupils. The high level of challenge and support that governors provide ensures the school strives for perfection.

"Leaders, governors, and the trust make sure the workload and well-being of staff remains at the forefront of everything they do. As a result, staff are proud to work at Cambrai Primary School and feel highly valued."

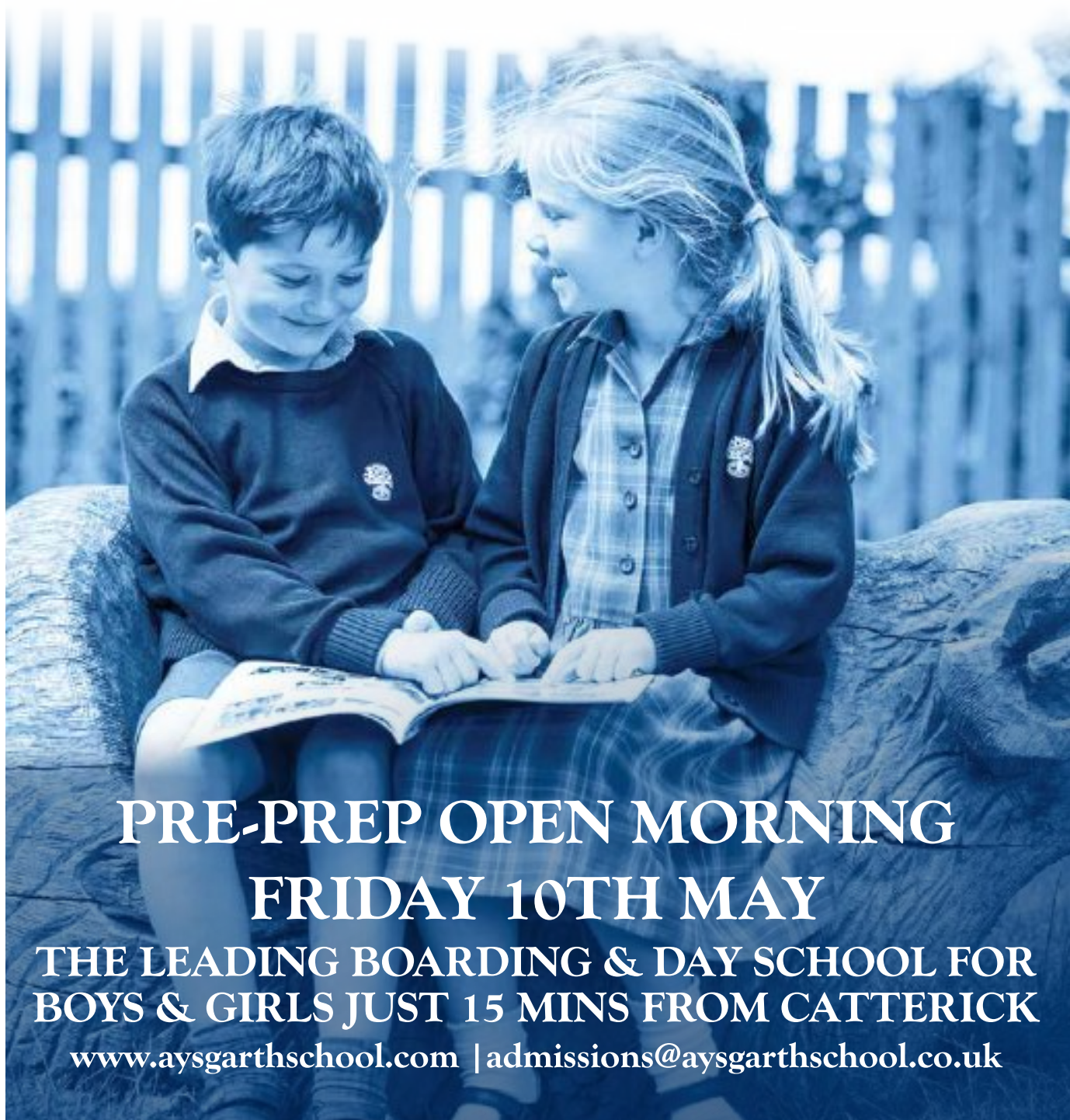
Lingfield Education Trust Chief Executive, Nick Blackburn, said: "We're incredibly proud of the brilliant leadership and staff team we've assembled at Cambrai, and of all the pupils and families.

"This result is entirely deserved, and a true reflection of the school's exceptional work with this wonderful community."



“When we moved to Catterick in 2019 we settled him into the Aysgarth Pre-Prep with the hopeful intention to give him a secure education and settle him in one location with a school team who could really understand his background, help him socially and provide kindness and compassion. It was the best choice we ever made and the best gift we could ever give our son. The Pre-Prep is a truly magical and special school.”

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# USING CORE ARMY VALUES FOR FUN, TEAMBUILDING AND LEARNING

*Army veteran, Danny Abdy, discusses the new Forces Club for ages 5-10 at Chapter House Preparatory School and the impact it is having on their military children.*

Drawing on my experience of serving in the army for 25 years, along with the skills I learnt through volunteering and working for organisations including SSAFA, Barnardo's, the Army Cadet Force, Skill Force, and the Youth Justice Service, I launched a new Forces Club for primary school children in January. The club is predominantly about fun, but it also develops transferable life skills and military values within the children without them realising it because all our activities are based around the six core army values of courage, discipline, respect, integrity, loyalty, and selfless commitment.

Forces Club uses a mix of different challenges to promote teamwork, communication, and respect for the opinions of others. Some activities involve leadership and others are leaderless, but every class begins with a 'double bank formation' where the children line up independently in two rows with the tallest to the left. The first row kneels, the second row stands, and the children listen closely and inventively to the instruction for each week's game. We take this time to 'check in' on how the children are doing before beginning the activity. Every class also ends the same way, with a 'check out' debrief on how we think the activities went, ideas for improvement and a general calm down session.

Each week, we have approximately 15 children from different year groups, many who are young Forces boarders, come together to complete fun teambuilding tasks that develop collaboration and problem-solving skills. For example, we might set up a floor puzzle game where blank pieces are scattered on the floor, which is labelled lava. Only one person can stand on a piece at a time and if any team member touches the floor, the whole team must start again. This creates an environment where a lot of communication and teamwork is required to put the pieces back together. We consider finishing the set tasks a bonus, because our primary focus is on building core skills and reflecting afterwards.

Another example game is called 'Riverbank' which is similar to 'Simon Says' and works on listening and reacting to instructions. For the game, the children need to go to the 'river' to avoid the lions or jump onto the 'riverbank' to avoid the crocodiles. When people get out for the wrong move, they help support the game leader.

From the moment we introduce the games, we are working towards the children leading them independently so that we are promoting confidence and improving leadership and public speaking skills. We also progress the games by adding more complex rules, for example, no speaking, as the weeks go on to promote creative thinking, self-discipline, and teamwork. To add excitement, we often challenge the children to compete against staff, which helps encourage self-belief.

At the end of the spring term, the club members were presented with certificates and received pin badges for being part of the Forces community onsite. The pin badge is like a Prefect badge, and in addition to fostering a sense of pride, helps to promote an understanding that there are other children onsite who understand the challenges faced by a military child and that QE is a place where you can have discussions around those topics. It is a chance to remind some of our 340 Forces students that they are part of a community and can approach other Forces children, Prefects, Peer Mentors, Forces Liaison Officers, Pastoral Coordinators, House Parents, or our Independent Listener if they are ever struggling.

We empower our club members to choose who deserves a core value certificate. Each week, children can nominate a student for showing respect, being honest, opening a door for someone, or any other action that fits our core club values.

For Month of the Military Child, we are doing an activity where we're writing letters home from QE, which is acting as the front-line trenches. These tea-stained letters encourage our students to talk about the mission they've completed through an exercise in communicating with parents.

To find out more about Forces Club and Chapter House, visit [www.qe.org/chapter-house](http://www.qe.org/chapter-house).





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