

NEWS RELEASE

Date

## Highest Accolade for North Yorkshire Cadets

Three teenagers have been honoured by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for their outstanding service in the Cadets, having been appointed the Lord-Lieutenant's Cadets for North Yorkshire – the highest honour that can be achieved by a cadet in any of the cadet forces.

Liam Frampton, 16 (Filey Sea Cadets), Chloe-May Dent, 16 (Northallerton Army Cadets) and Amelia Luddington, 18 (Whitby Air Cadets) were appointed by Mr Barry Dodd CBE, Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, at a special ceremony held at the Yorkshire (North & West) Army Cadet Training Centre, Queen Elizabeth Barracks in Strensall, in front of family, friends and many local dignitaries, including the High Sheriff of North Yorkshire Charlie Forbes Adam, the Lord Mayor of York Cllr Sonja Crisp and the Mayors of Filey, Northallerton and Whitby among many others.

Joining the Sea Cadets at 10 years of age, Liam has rarely missed any of the twice-a-week training sessions over the last six years and was described in the ceremony as an excellent role model for younger cadets, who he always helps and supports. Confident, immaculately dressed and always willing to step up to the mark, Liam carries out every task to a very high standard. Over the years he has achieved a number of qualifications, including marine engineering and catering and is about to begin his Gold Duke of Edinburgh award. A regular contributor to community activities and fundraising, Liam is often the first to volunteer to help both inside and outside of the unit, where he is also a member of the local sailing club.

Reflecting on the ceremony and his new role as ambassador for the Sea Cadets in North Yorkshire, Liam said: "I am extremely honoured to have received this award, knowing that all my hard work and effort is appreciated by the cadet forces. I would like to thank all the staff at my unit who have helped me so much over the years and in receiving this award."

Impressing her instructors with her enthusiasm and dedication from the moment she joined cadets at the age of 13, Chloe-May was described in the award ceremony as an outstanding cadet who always conducts herself to the highest standards. Already a four-star cadet sergeant at only 16 years of age, Chloe-May has achieved many qualifications and represented her county and region in

national cross-country and orienteering competitions, coming runner-up on both occasions. A gifted all-rounder, Chloe-May has also been selected to take part in other military competitions and is captain of the county first aid team. Chloe-May also continues to be very active in fundraising for local community and military charities, devoting a great deal of personal time.

Reflecting on the ceremony and her new role as ambassador for the Army Cadets in North Yorkshire, Chloe-May said: "I feel very honoured to have received this award. To be the Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet is an amazing opportunity. The cadets has given me so much over the last three years, and I have discovered a range of new skills and learnt that if I push myself hard enough I am able to achieve anything. To have been given this honour is a great privilege and I look forward to continuing to share the experience I have over the next year, alongside everything else I've done, with the younger cadets."

Described at the award ceremony as an exceptional young person, Amelia helps in the running of her squadron in Whitby and throughout her five years in the cadets has taken advantage of many opportunities which have come her way. This included playing the bugle and playing last year in front of the Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street, achieving the Gold Duke of Edinburgh award, passing the prestigious Junior Leaders Cadet course and becoming one of only nine cadets in the country to go to Ghana on a jungle survival course, learning leadership and other essential life skills in addition to taking part in a community project at an orphanage.

Reflecting on the ceremony and her new role as ambassador for the Air Cadets in North Yorkshire, Amelia said: "The cadets have given me experiences and skills I never imagined. It is a great honour and privilege to be appointed as the Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet, and I hope that everything I've achieved in cadets will help to inspire younger cadets to achieve their true potential."

Lieutenant Colonel Jeremy Bleasdale, Deputy Chief Executive of the Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association (RFCA) in Yorkshire and The Humber, which runs the awards, commented: "I'm delighted for these three cadets who are shining examples of what can be achieved when young people involve themselves in extra-curricular activities. The cadet forces are among the most popular youth organisations in the country and exist to expand young people's experiences and life skills, helping them grow and develop into responsible young adults. It's a great pleasure to see these cadets flourish so well within the cadets and achieve such a prestigious award."

Colonel Bleasdale also appealed for more adult volunteers to support the region's 8,500 cadets:  
"The cadet movement's popularity means we need more adult instructors to lead the cadets and deliver the quality of experiences, adventure and community projects which our cadets enjoy. We would love to hear from people who are willing to offer their time and enthusiasm to join our ranks as an adult volunteer – no military experience is needed, just a desire to work with young people."

Liam, Chloe-May and Amelia were among only 12 cadets selected from a total of 8,500 across the whole Yorkshire and Humber region to be awarded the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate. All cadets are between 10 and 18 years of age and can be part of the Sea Cadet Corps, Army Cadet Force or Air Training Corps .

For more information about the cadet movement, or to enquire about becoming an adult volunteer, visit the Reserve Forces' & Cadets' Association website at: [www.rfca-yorkshire.org.uk](http://www.rfca-yorkshire.org.uk).

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