

**MPCT**<sup>™</sup>  
Motivational Preparation College for Training



# North East



## Newcastle Launch Event

What a hugely successful and positive day the launch event turned out to be. The location of St. James' Park set the scene perfectly and the sun was shining. MPCT learners and staff alike were full of excitement and motivated to get started on such a hugely anticipated event. M.D Huw Lewis firstly addressed the VIP filled congregation, educating them on what MPCT does and has done for previous learners via touching and vivid case studies. Mr. Lewis was then followed by Mrs. Sue Wilburn, Lord Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear. who spoke encouragingly about the opportunities that MPCT can provide for young people, who then went on to declare the colleges officially open. This was then followed by learners from MPC Liverpool who spoke about their daily lives at MPCT and the fantastic things they have achieved during their time at MPCT.

The physical demonstrations by MPC's Liverpool and Wrexham that followed their speeches were outstanding, these included log displays and PT. Comments from some of the VIP visitors were highly complimentary and some even said they hadn't seen that standard at military level. Icebreakers and the recital of the "IF" poem by Rudyard Kipling were further highlights and perfectly demonstrated the confidence and ability of the learners.

The afternoon launch followed much the same course, however, the opening speech came from Alasdair MacConachie Esq., O.B.E., D.L. Vice Lord Lieutenant of County Durham who keenly advocated MPCT and its ethos, which was fantastic to see as he is highly influential within the Infantry Board and great to have as a support.

The ceremony was closed by General Lieutenant General Robin Brims who has been a bedrock in the setup of the new North East Colleges, and we thank him and all of our VIPS, guests and staff for their support and attendance. We are hugely excited to see these new colleges grow and develop and look forward to seeing everyone again on November 21st for their Awards Ceremony.

# MPC South Shields' Learner impresses VIPs



## Lewis Connolly

One of the highlights of our North East Launch Event was when one of our newest learners, Lewis Connolly, 17, decided to volunteer himself to do his Icebreaker. Icebreakers have long been an established part of the MPC Curriculum, as it enables learners to confidently speak in public, a task which is highly challenging but invaluable for positive progression in life.

Learner Connolly took to the stage after learners from MPC Wrexham and Liverpool had confidently spoken, and delivered a confident and clear Icebreaker to a fully packed VIP crowd and Senior members of MPCT Head Office.

Mr. Connolly spoke about his hobbies which included Jujitsu and other physical activities. Mr Connolly also said that he loves the course as the staff are willing to do anything and everything to help the learners, something which we at MPCT were proud and pleased to hear.

Mr. Connolly stated that his confidence levels and leadership had already risen due to being entrusted in leading the drills, and is enthusiastic in his journey toward his goal of becoming a Marine Engineer in the Royal Navy.

Congratulations Mr. Connolly and MPC South Shields, keep up the excellent and inspiring work.

## Check out the video on

[mpct.co.uk/military-preparation-college-south-shields-learner-lewis-connolly-impresses-vips/](http://mpct.co.uk/military-preparation-college-south-shields-learner-lewis-connolly-impresses-vips/)

# In other news...

## BBC TEES

### BBC Tees

On Friday 3rd August, BBC Radio Tees spoke to The Lead Instructor David Huggins at MPC South Shields about our newly opened college. Staff Huggins answered questions concerning a day in the life of an MPC South Shields learner which he perfectly explained is a balance of skills and PT, all done in the MPCT way. He also described how the majority of learning if possible is done outside, and that diet and nutrition are also key aspects. BBC Radio Tees are now due to visit the college as they were so impressed by the radio interview.

### Rifles

The Commanding Officer of the 8th Battalion of the Rifles, an Army Reserve Battalion headquartered in Bishop Auckland visited Military Preparation College Bishop Auckland on the 2nd of August and reported that they were excited to see the new generations working with the older ones.

It's fantastic when the Armed Forces engage with our Learners, it inspires them and also gives them goals to work towards. Thank you to both organisations that have already got involved with our North East colleges, we are looking forward to a even more engaging future as our colleges continue to flourish.



# #CreateYourStory



## Black Rats

Much Military Engagement has already occurred in the opening months of the colleges being opened; The British Army Youth Engagement Officer Mark Hill MBE and the "Black Rats", a 4th Infantry Brigade based at Catterick Garrison visited Military Preparation College Newcastle on the 31st of July. They delivered a practical leadership and team building afternoon promoting teamwork, communication and problem solving. The Learners thoroughly enjoyed themselves and gained valuable insight into the lives of their role models

## Vlog

Every week we create a Vlog of all the provisions here at MPCT. To celebrate the launch we created a "Let us introduce MPCT North East!" Vlog. To watch the Vlog visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOelawzScUE>. Our YouTube channel is full of amazing videos, be sure to check them out too!

## Facebook Frame

We've created a Facebook Frame for you to take your selfies and Create Your Story. Visit our Facebook page to access the frame and snap away! Make sure you to post and tag us, and say which college you're from.

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