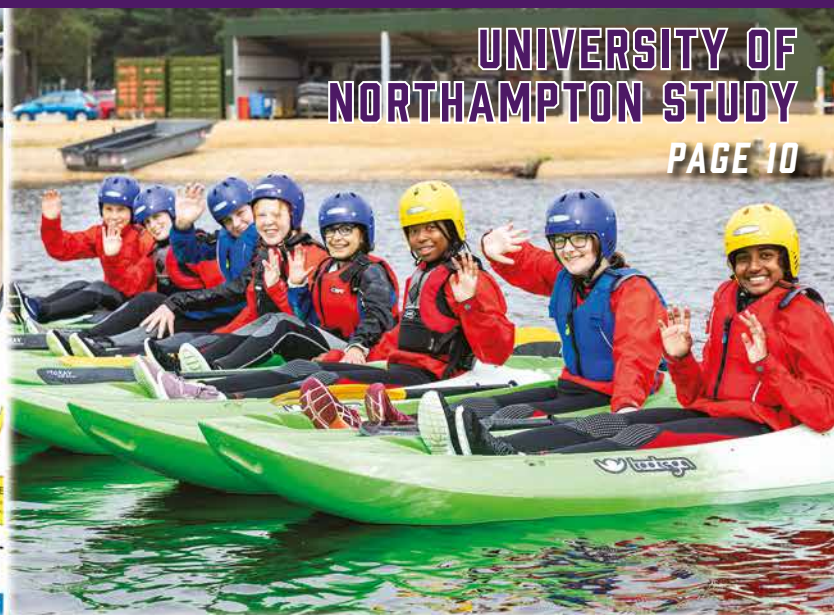


# CADET LINK

AUTUMN 2022



**BAZOOKA GRANT  
TAKES FLIGHT!**  
PAGES 14-15



**UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTHAMPTON STUDY**  
PAGE 10



**CADET CAMBRIAN  
PATROLS**  
PAGES 14-15



**ARMY CADET PLATINUM  
JUBILEE PARADE**  
PAGE 25

PROMOTING THE CADET EXPERIENCE

# MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE



Become a Cadet Force Adult Volunteer and have a great time helping

**Sea Cadets  
Army Cadets  
or Air Cadets**

with rock climbing, shooting, kayaking, first aid, sailing and loads more.

**No qualifications or military experience required as full training is provided.**



**Visit [adultvolunteer.org](http://adultvolunteer.org)**

**You'll make a big difference to their lives  
... and to yours.**

# contents

## FOREWORD

- 3 Gp Capt Al Lewis RAFR, Regional Commandant London and South East Region, RAFAC

## SERFCA

- 4 SERFCA - Our Mission  
6 What have the various Cadet Forces been up to?  
8 Cadet Expansion Programme (CEP)  
10 University of Northampton report into the social impact of MOD Cadet Forces - Back Pocket Brief  
11 11X CTT Military Skills Competition 2022

## COMBINED CADET FORCES

- 12 A thank you to SERFCA from TWGGS CCF for making our Isle of Wight Expedition possible  
13 UTC Reading Cadets prepare for Round the Island race  
14 Reading Blue Coat CCF - Summer Camp with a difference  
15 Cadet Cambrian patrol 2022 Maidstone Grammar School CCF  
16 Gordon's School CCF - Ten Tors  
17 Cranleigh CCF weekend of success  
18 RGS High Wycombe CCF - Cambrian Patrol  
19 Combined Cadet Forces' Biographies

## VOLUNTEER CADET CORPS

- 20 Volunteer Cadet Corps Celebrates its 120th Birthday

## SEA CADET CORPS

- 22 Sweet music to Cadets' ears  
22 Popular Duck Derby returns to Maidenhead  
23 Sea Cadet Corps Biographies

## ARMY CADETS

- 24 Sussex Army Cadet Force win Exercise Rolling Thunder for 4th year running  
25 Kent Cadets take part in Platinum Jubilee parade  
25 Farewell to SMI Bob Bumstead  
26 Berkshire Army Cadet Force - Sergeant Instructor George Manning  
26 Buck ACF cadet wins top cadet on the Master Cadet Course  
27 Army Cadets Biographies

## AIR CADETS

- 28 Connaught Trust Grant Takes Flight for RAF Air Cadets!  
29 Cadet Forces Medal Awarded to Long Standing Warrant Officer  
29 1066 (Hitchin) Squadron - Annual Wing Exercise  
30 Air Cadets' Biographies

## Foreword Gp Capt Al Lewis RAFR, Regional Commandant London and South East Region, RAFAC



**T**he RAF Air Cadets, like all our fellow cadet forces, have worked hard over the COVID-enforced breaks to retain cadet and adult volunteer numbers with many running innovative online virtual training nights. These have been key throughout not just to keep the interest, but also to maintain essential contact which has proved invaluable for all our mental health. All of this does not replace the F2F aspects we all enjoy and all the RAFAC units are

now open for business.

Easter breaks and summer holidays saw the majority of outdoor activities ramp up and the camps are also back both at our parent service units and Defence Training Estate sites. Flying in the form of powered Air Experience Flights has returned and it's great to see cadets return to the skies over Benson and Odiham and the re-opening, after a nearly 5 year gap, of a gliding unit at Kenley.

Many of our supporting processes have gone digital and this has streamlined the time it takes to join our organisation as

an adult volunteer. Recruitment remains fairly buoyant (more are always welcomed) and as a region, we have commissioned over 70 new officers over the past 24 months. This is quite remarkable and a high testament to many people wishing to 'give back' to the community, you are truly inspiring and we thank you.

The cadet experiences we are able to offer are hugely valuable and transferable to wider life; it is great to see cadet activity returning - the summer is just not the same without it!

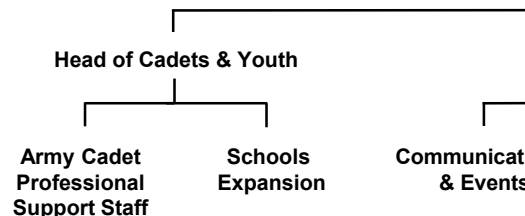
Enjoy - stay safe.

## HOW ARE WE STRUCTURED?



100  
Crown  
Servants

180  
Volunteer  
Members



### Community Engagement

#### Armed Forces' Briefings

The aim of the Armed Forces' Briefing is to facilitate an update on developments within Defence, we provide the only tri-Service (Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force) briefing in Counties to build and nurture enduring relationships between Defence, and the wider community. These briefings include details about Reserves and Cadets and an update on their activities in the local community.

#### MPs & Peers Briefing

Working with Greater London RFCA, we hold a half-day session at the Houses of Parliament to influence Ministers and Peers, on the value of Reserve Service and the Cadet Experience; by providing MPs & Peers current information on activities and opportunities available.

#### Lord-Lieutenants' Awards

The Lord-Lieutenants' Award Ceremony is an opportunity to recognise individuals who demonstrate the volunteer ethos, and to build and nurture the enduring relationships that are so important to the County and local community; this is done through the awarding of Medals and Her Majesty Lord-Lieutenants' Certificates for Meritorious Service, amongst other awards. HM Lord-Lieutenants' Certificates for Meritorious Service were instituted in order to afford public recognition to those members of the Reserve and Cadet Forces whose efforts are not recognised by the twice yearly Honours Lists. The Lord-Lieutenant's Certificate thus ranks second to the Queen's Honours Lists.

**Our Mission**

"To be an enduring pillar in the delivery of the wellbeing of the Cadets (RF&C) effectiveness across the regions, to be a body that represents and promotes the interests of the Armed Forces in the civil society."

## Cadets & Youth Promoting the Cadet Experience

### Army Cadet Force Professional Support

Across the South East, we employ 65 Professional Support Staff (PSS), led by our Head of Cadets and Youth, to support the Army chain of command, 11<sup>th</sup> Security Force Assistance Brigade and Headquarters South East. PSS provide:

administration, organisation, security as well as Safety, Health, Environment and Fire (SHEF) needs. Each County ACF Headquarters is managed by a Cadet Executive Officer who is the professional advisor to the Cadet Commandants. Although SERFCA does not manage the other Cadet Forces' Permanent Staff, a similar structure is in place for the Combined Cadet Force (CCF), Volunteer Cadet Corps (VCC), Sea Cadet Corps (SCC) and Air Training Corps (ATC).

### Cadet Expansion Programme (CEP)

The CEP was launched in 2012 with the aim of establishing 500 new cadet units in state schools across England. The CEP has now entered a new phase of growth and sustainment where the targets are to ensure that the units are feasible and to expand the number of Cadets in school units to 60,000 by March 2024. In the South East, we now have 43 schools established under the CEP and overall, 100 school-based units. The coordination for CEP is carried out by our Schools' Cadet Expansion Officer, working with local Chain of Commands.

### Wider Support for Reserves and Cadets

Besides ACF PSS and CEP, SERFCA also provides publicity, funding and advice to the Tri-Service Reserve Forces and Cadets. We aim to support Reserves recruitment and promote the Cadet Experience.



334  
Royal Navy  
Reserves

2359  
Army  
Reserves

886  
RAF  
Reserves



934  
Combined  
Cadet  
Volunteers

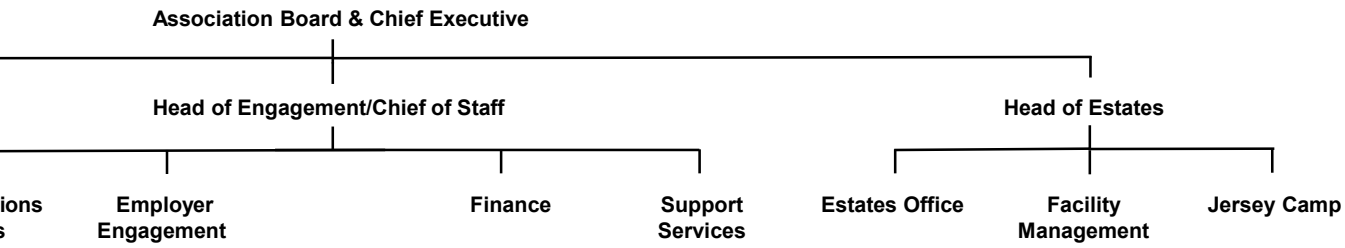
100  
Volunteer  
Corps  
Volunteers

887  
Sea Cadet  
Volunteers

1200  
Army  
Volunteers

## Our Business

1. Support to single Service units and funded.
2. Support to Cadets and Youth.
3. Provide and maintain appropriate infrastructure.
4. Deliver wider Employment Support.
5. Review, develop and identify wholly as a Pandemic environment.
6. Inform and support Reserves recruitment and promote the Cadet Experience.



**Mission**

...ring and essential  
...very of support for  
...g of Reserves &  
... and, through our  
... and position in the  
... the independent  
...sents their interests  
...nderstanding between  
...d Forces and  
...society.”



<p><b>Armed Forces' Covenant</b></p> <p>We encourage the signings of Armed Forces' Covenants across the South East. The Armed Forces' Covenant (AFC) is a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly.</p> <p>AFCs in the South East = 1,169</p>	<p><b>Defence Employer Recognition Scheme</b></p> <p>The Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) encourages employers to support defence and inspires others to do the same. The scheme encompasses bronze, silver and gold awards for organisations that pledge, demonstrate or advocate support to Defence and the Armed Forces.</p> <p>ERS in the South East: Gold = 58, Silver = 132, Bronze = 561</p>	<p><b>Regional Employer Engagement Committees</b></p> <p>We hold a number of Committee Groups to encourage more Employers to voice their organisations' support to Defence, and to share with Defence what they can do to support their organisation:</p> <p><b>Regional Employer Engagement Board:</b> Setting the engagement priorities for the forthcoming year <b>Regional Employer Engagement Group:</b> Selected employers giving their voice to Defence (Connecting and Feedback) <b>Regional Employer Engagement Advisory Committee:</b> Supporting the REEG and working on a regional basis</p>
--	--	--



**Business Priorities:**

...vice Reserves' recruitment as directed  
...d administration support to the ACF.  
...n, within resources, a compliant and  
...ure.  
...er, Civil and Community Engagement  
...l implement novel working practices  
...result of operating in the COVID 19  
...nt.  
...the Implementation of the RFCA  
...ions.

**Volunteer Estate Management**  
Providing the Best Place to Work and Train

**Volunteer Estate**  
We manage and maintain over 330 sites (over 700 buildings) across the South East of England, these buildings include: Army Reserve Centres (as well as RNR & RAuxAF facilities), Cadet Training Centres and Joint Cadet Centres alongside individual cadet huts. We manage our estate by; improving and modernising existing buildings, and where economically viable building new centres, all of which meet a required legal standard. We ensure regular maintenance regimes for all our sites and buildings, this means all our sites are kept in good order, fit for purpose and secure.

**Facility Management**  
The Facilities department provides a number of services to support the SERFCA assets. This support involves mainly procurement and maintenance of equipment (vehicles, safety equipment etc.). There is also the coordination of private hirings for all SERFCA buildings in the South East. These hiring's could be for shooting clubs, private events, catering needs and even car parking spaces. This is all achieved by encouragement and promotion at a local level, whilst liaising directly with Permeant Staff Admin Officers at unit level.

**Newtown Ranges & Jersey Camp - Isle of Wight**  
Jersey Camp is situated within a 810 acre adventure and training area on the Isle of Wight. This facility is ideal for training of Regular, Reserve, Cadet and Civilian Organisations. The Camp is equipped to accommodate up to 120 personnel (segregated male & female), with a fully functioning kitchen, combined mess, recreational areas, and other provisions for training events. The Estate offers a number of ranges and areas for adventure and water based activities.

The area also offers a Site of Special, Scientific Interest (SSSI ) alongside marginal coastal line that is protected, these additional areas offer further resource and opportunity to better understand the environment.



64 y Cadets unteers	1108 Air Cadet Volunteers	♂ ♀	10242 Combined Cadets	296 Volunteer Cadets	2193 Sea Cadets	4475 Army Cadets	3919 Air Cadets	♂ ♀
---------------------------	---------------------------------	-----	-----------------------------	----------------------------	--------------------	---------------------	--------------------	-----

© PR18 - As at 20200608

# WHAT HAVE THE VARIOUS CADET FORCES BEEN UP TO?



## VOLUNTEER CADET CORPS

This year continues to be a very busy one for the VCC in the south-east. Aside from our VCC120 celebrations in April, delayed from last year for reasons with which we'll all be familiar, our cadets have really enjoyed getting stuck into face-to-face training again. Refreshing old skills and learning some new ones, our cadets have been out in the field on exercise and engaged with leadership and development through Command Courses at HMS Sultan. The VCC's Cadet Field Gun crews have been out on the track again after a break of two years, appearing in their first competition run at HMS Collingwood's Open Day in July. Before that, the VCC was heavily involved in Armed Forces Day and Falklands 40th anniversary commemorations, supporting events in Portsmouth and Lee-on-the-Solent.

In August, cadets and CFAVs from the VCC in the south travelled down to Dartmoor to enjoy a VCC-wide summer camp, joining with peers from Plymouth, Chivenor, Lymington and Arbroath. A packed week full of field and adventurous activities

was delivered, we hosted VIPs from the Army Cadets and Royal Navy, and we even managed to arrange a fly-past by the RAF's Red Arrows. As we head in to autumn our events programme is fast filling up, and as ever we are always keen to hear from people, young and older, who would like to join the Volunteer Cadet Corps. Find out more at [www.volunteercadetcorps.org](http://www.volunteercadetcorps.org).

## SEA CADET CORPS

Sea and Royal Marines Cadets from Southern Area Sea Cadets have had a very busy Summer with Annual Camps, Competitions, Courses and Offshore Voyages throughout the Holiday period. Southern Area comprises of units in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Dorset, Hampshire, Kent, Oxfordshire, Surrey and Sussex and is split into eight districts. All districts had cadets taking part in exciting activities including Sailing, Windsurfing, Rowing, Power Boating, Kayaking, Offshore Sailing, Shooting, Fieldcraft, D of E, Mountain Biking, Field Gun Runs, Ships visits and more. Surrey travelled to Scarborough for their boating camp under canvass at the fantastic North Yorkshire Water Park. Berkshire had their boating camp at Weymouth Boats Centre. Hampshire Cadets and Juniors had a great week at SERFCA's own Jersey Camp IOW, shooting,





kayaking and having a Marine Cadet experience. West Kent held training courses onboard HMS Cavalier and boating courses at Sheppey Unit. Zulu Company Royal Marines Cadets had a great week of Fieldcraft and exercises at Longmoor for their Annual Camp. Our Junior Sea Cadets aged 9 to 11 weren't left out of the action contributing to a 600 strong National Junior Summer Camp at Dearne Valley Adventure Centre in Doncaster. Our volunteers certainly needed a well-earned break after that.

On the competition front cadets took part in our annual Windsurfing Competition in Poole Harbour and Sailing Regatta held at Bough Beach Reservoir Kent. Over 100 cadets and volunteers from Southern Area went on to the National Combined Regatta at the Excel Centre London 19-20 Aug. SA did exceptionally well winning medals in all classes as well as winning the Overall Paddlesports Trophy and being the joint overall winners of the competition with Eastern Area.

All in, a very successful Summer with some excellent weather to boot.

### ARMY CADET FORCE

Cadet Forces in the South East have been busy since the end of COVID 19 restrictions. Almost

all of our Counties are parading at all of their detachments and our cadet numbers are close to, or in some areas above, pre COVID levels. This was particularly apparent during this year's summer camps which were well attended with both adult volunteer and cadet numbers reaching similar levels to the pre-COVID period.

There is plenty for everyone to be getting on with. Our adult volunteers are managing a new safeguarding regime which puts greater emphasis

on a child's welfare and also the implementation of a new ACF syllabus. The Combined Cadet Force (Army) have been equally busy with a plethora of summer camps and good attendance on the 11 Security Force Assistance Brigade sponsored CCF (Army) central camp. Overall this has been a good return to the business of inspiring cadets to achieve.

### ROYAL AIR FORCE AIR CADETS

Royal Air Force Air Cadets recognise that Air is their Unique Selling Point and have followed their parent service by adding Space and Cyber training to their prime aims. They have great relationships with the National Space Academy and Royal Air Force's Space Command and are set to launch a level 2 BTEC in Space Studies (the first in the UK) in autumn and 4 Space camp scholarships to the USA in the summer. In Cyber, all cadets (including the ACF) receive MOD sponsored Cyber-First training. RAFAC was delighted to award its first Arkwright Engineering scholarships early this year and plans to evolve this offer to a further 5 each in Space and Cyber aimed at year 12/13 students.



# CADET EXPANSION PROGRAMME (CEP)

## THE CADET EXPANSION PROGRAMME (CEP) SINCE ITS LAUNCH ON ARMED FORCES DAY JUNE 2012 CONTINUES TO THRIVE IN THE SOUTH EAST

The Cadet Expansion Programme (CEP) Phase 3 has an ambition to grow Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Cadet numbers to 60,000 by April 2024. Nationally the total number of CCF Cadets is 51,635. Within the SERFCA Area cadet numbers are 11,095 which is 21.42% of the total CCF National figures. The CCF has seen a growth of 1784 cadets since October 2020. The SE has 100 CCF Schools which consists of 46 Independent and 54 State Schools of which 43 are CEP Schools. The Service Sections consist of 76 Army Sections, 47 RAF Sections, 34 Royal Navy Sections and 5 Royal Marine Sections. The table below (Fig 1) shows the breakdown of schools by Counties, Legacy and CEP 100.

COUNTY	LEGACY				CEP				TOTALS
	IND	STATE	PARTNER IND	PARTNER STATE	IND	STATE	PARTNER IND	PARTNER STATE	
Kent	8	8	0	0	2	8	0	5	31
Surrey	5	1	0	0	1	1	1	2	11
Sussex	6	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	12
Hants (IoW)	4	3	0	0	2	3	0	4	16
Berks	5	2	1	1	1	3	0	2	15
Oxon	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10
Bucks	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Army Partnerships</b>			<b>16</b>		<b>RAF Partnerships</b>			<b>1</b>	
<b>Independent</b>			<b>46</b>		<b>State</b>				<b>54</b>
<b>SERVICE SECTIONS</b>									
<b>ARMY</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>RAF</b>	<b>47</b>		<b>RN</b>	<b>34</b>		<b>RM</b>	<b>5</b>

Cadet Force Adult Volunteers are the vital component in achieving the MoD target of 60,000 cadets by 2024. Without these inspirational volunteers the CCF like many other youth organisations would not exist.

### IN THE SOUTH EAST OF ENGLAND WE HAVE 43 CEP SCHOOLS:

CLAIRES COURT SCHOOL  
 PIONEER SECONDARY ACADEMY  
 MILTON KEYNES ACADEMY  
 SIR THOMAS FREEMANTLE  
 THE BRAKENHALE SCHOOL  
 JOHN MADEJSKI  
 UTC READING  
 ALTON SCHOOL  
 THE PETERSFIELD SCHOOL  
 HAVANT AND SOUTH DOWN COLLEGE  
 CITY OF PORTSMOUTH COLLEGE  
 ASH MANOR SCHOOL  
 SOUTHBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL  
 ARK ALEXANDRA ACADEMY

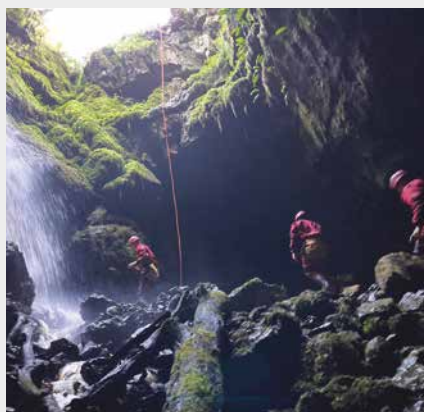
CHICHESTER FREE SCHOOL  
 ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE  
 GREATER METROPOLITAN COLLEGE  
 ASHFORD SCHOOL  
 WYE FREE SCHOOL  
 BENENDEN SCHOOL  
 THE JOHN WALLIS CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY  
 BROMPTON ACADEMY  
 CHATHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS  
 FOLKESTONE ACADEMY  
 THE FOLKESTONE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS  
 KNOLE ACADEMY  
 THE HAYESBROOK SCHOOL  
 TUNBRIDGE WELLS GIRLS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

CHATHAM AND CLARENDON GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
 GRAVESEND GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
 COSTELLO SCHOOL  
 DENEFIELD  
 BROCKENHURST COLLEGE  
 SKINNERS ACADEMY  
 CHENEY SCHOOL  
 COURT MOOR  
 BROADWATER  
 MAIDEN ERLUGH  
 ANDOVER COLLEGE  
 ARCHBISHOP SCHOOL  
 ST TERESA'S  
 CRANMORE AND EMBLEY





**WITHOUT THESE INSPIRATIONAL VOLUNTEERS THE CCF LIKE MANY OTHER YOUTH ORGANISATIONS WOULD NOT EXIST**



Any new School that wishes to form a partnership with an existing CCF Contingent school must first send an email to: **expansion.CADET@education.gov.uk** expressing an interest in forming a partnership CCF with the nominated CCF Contingent School, please copy the SCEO (Rod Gray) **se-sceo@rfca.mod.uk**. The following info is required:

- » RoC for the School (Name, email and contact number)
- » Address of School
- » Head's Name and Contact Details
- » Short statement expressing an interest to form a partnership

The process for forming a new single Service Section (Army, RN, RAF or RM) within an already established Contingent is the same. SERFCA are very keen to promote any good news stories within the cadet community. It is important if you have good news stories (Events, Activities, Adventure Training, Cadet Force Adult Volunteers and Cadet Achievements, Life Saving Actions, Battle Field Tours etc.) they forward their articles to **se-sceo@rfca.mod.uk**

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTHAMPTON REPORT INTO THE SOCIAL IMPACT OF MOD CADET FORCES**

The Ministry of Defence (MOD), the Combined Cadet Force Association and CVQO commissioned the Institute for Social Innovation and Impact at the University of Northampton to undertake a four-year study designed to help understand the social impact of the spending on cadets and the Cadet Expansion Programme, as well as the benefits of the qualifications provided by CVQO. This report details the findings of this research and the impact that Cadet Forces have on UK society. Search 'Northampton University Report'.



# UNIVERSITY OF NORTHAMPTON REPORT INTO THE SOCIAL IMPACT OF MOD CADET FORCES

## BACK POCKET BRIEF

Participation in the Cadet Forces increases performance at school and career prospects. This relates to the concept of self-efficacy (the confidence in your ability to exert control over your own motivation, behaviour, and social environment). The impact is particularly strong for those cadets who suffer economic and other disadvantages.

- ★ Attributes developed: confidence, leadership, teamwork, resilience, social and communications skills.
- ★ Positive outcomes: social mobility/levelling up, better education (due to improved behaviour and attendance), mental and physical wellbeing, employability, reduced vulnerability to bullying/extremism, community cohesion; note that benefits accrue across many Govt Departments.
- ★ **KEY FACTS** (the report is based on 2019 figures):
  - **Return on Investment:** MOD spends c.£180M per annum on its Cadet Forces.
  - The Institute for Public Policy Research estimates the cost of school exclusion as £392,000 per young person in lifetime education, benefits, healthcare

and criminal justice costs.

**Therefore, if every year the Cadet Forces helps just c.460 of its 130,000 cadets to change their life outcomes from 'not in employment, education or training' into education and work, then the annual cost of the Cadet Forces is covered.**

460 is less than 4% of those cadets who are from a disadvantaged background.

- Activities associated with improvements in health, physical and mental wellbeing for both cadets and Cadet Force Adult Volunteers produce an indicative annual return on investment of c.£562M.
- The report notes that the calculation of the value of social impact is not an exact science,

but the returns on investment delivered indicate that this expenditure is a very good use of taxpayers' money.

- **Education:** 5-8% increase in school attendance, especially males and those eligible for free school meals (eFSM – i.e. not affluent).
- **Employment:** Lifetime financial gains for each child due to better jobs: boys £199,000; girls £131,000.
- Vocational Qualifications gained by each annual cohort of cadets have a lifetime value of >£108 million.
- **Military:** Soldiers who were cadets serve at least 6 years longer and are 4 times more likely to be an officer or senior NCO than those who were not cadets.

## TRUSTEE POSITION AVAILABLE

### The Trustees of the Connaught Trust are looking to appoint a new Trustee to the Board.

The Connaught Trust is a Charity whose objects are to provide financial support for the Reserves and Cadets based in Hampshire and the IOW as well as the surrounding Counties. Further background information can be found on the Trust's website: [www.connaught-trust.co.uk](http://www.connaught-trust.co.uk)

Previous involvement with Reserve or Cadet organisations would be preferable. The Trustees are particularly looking for a candidate with marketing/media expertise.

This is a voluntary position and as a Trustee you would be expected to attend three trustee meetings a year (in person) which are normally held in South Hampshire.

For further information on this opportunity please contact the Executive to the Trust  
Julian Walker: [jwalker@connaught-trust.co.uk](mailto:jwalker@connaught-trust.co.uk)



## THE CONNAUGHT TRUST

Charity no: 1179469

[www.connaught-trust.co.uk](http://www.connaught-trust.co.uk)

# 11X CADET TRAINING TEAM (CTT) MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION 2022

The initial event was planned for the same weekend in two locations, one being SMP - St Martins Plain & the other in Longmoor Camp. It was unfortunate but we lost the event in SMP due to operational commitments. 11X CTT up lifted both events to one single location and trimmed down the stands to ensure that we could maximise time on task for the teams.

The competition was attended on both days with a total of 26 team



participating in the event over the 12-13 March 2022. The Friday night began with the arrival of the teams. All teams were processed and briefed by the event planning Officers of their next timings for the Saturday morning. Reveille was called 0600hrs and the CCF & ACF teams started their preparation and administration before the 0800hrs start.

The 7 stands had been located on the training area and around the camp facilities. The stands were varied in task; First Aid/ Casualty Extraction, Scorpion Shoot, Command Task, Paint Ball Patrol Lane, Section Battle Drills, CIS & Navigation. These tested all the Cadets in a variety of skills, using Brainpower and Fitness in some taxing situations. The day ended

with the Saturday teams departing from the location with great smiles and happy with their achievements, not knowing if they had won due to the next day's teams arrival. 11X Cadet Training Team reset all the stands and started booking in as soon as the teams started departing for the next day.

### » WO1 A BATCHELOR

#### OVERALL WINNERS FROM THE 2 DAYS

**1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE**  
TWGGS Tunbridge Wells Girls Grammar School

**2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE**  
Churcher's College

**3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE**  
Charterhouse

# A THANK YOU TO SERFCA FROM TWGGS CCF FOR MAKING OUR ISLE OF WIGHT EXPEDITION POSSIBLE

This year Tunbridge Wells Girls Grammar School CCF has been fortunate to have received a donation from SERFCA to go towards purchasing new equipment. We decided that this gift would be best spent on new bergens for the contingent in order to allow an increasing number of cadets to be able to go on camps and other exercises.

The bergens have recently come into great use as 12 cadets signed up to complete their Gold DofE expedition in the Isle of Wight. A requirement for this hike is that all participants must carry around 25% of their body weight (approximately 15kg) and so the trip would not have been possible had it not been for the kind donation from SERFCA, as many members would not have had a suitable hiking rucksack to use. Having these new bergens has also allowed many more cadets to be able to sign up and complete the Duke of Edinburgh's award as they are now able to borrow this kit when going on weekends away.

CCF camps are not only the perfect time to learn a lot of new skills but also a chance to make new friends and build self-confidence. They also offer cadets the chance to partake in unique opportunities, for example, on our recent Isle of Wight expedition we got to hike across the beautiful coast and see parts of the Island that we're unlikely to visit again. It is really important to us that every member of our contingent gets to experience moments like these and

now, thanks to SERFCA, CCF trips have been made more accessible to cadets as they are no longer required to purchase their own equipment at an extortionate price.

Everyone at TWGGS CCF is

extremely grateful to SERFCA for the donation and look forward to participating in future expeditions and exercises which we are now able to send a substantial number of cadets on.





# UNIVERSITY TECHNICAL COLLEGE (UTC) READING CADETS PREPARE FOR ROUND THE ISLAND RACE

A GROUP OF LANDLUBBERS HAVE BEEN LEARNING TO SAIL IN PREPARATION FOR THE ROUND THE ISLAND RACE, TAKING PLACE THIS SUMMER

The race, the largest of its kind, sees around 1,200 yachts race around the Isle of Wight.

None of the CCF cadets who took part had any sailing experience, but all had shiploads of enthusiasm.

To prepare for the race, the cadets have been doing theory lesson on sailing, and on March 28, they set sail for a week, living and sleeping aboard a 44ft yacht and sailing around the Solent - sometimes in adverse weather which even sailors shun!

Over five days the students learnt to tie rope knots, how to tack and jibe, sail out of port and dock in the marina. At one point the winds were gusting force eight, the crew were caught in snow and sleet and being bombarded by squalls, which called upon all their newly learned experience.

Student Carl Tipper said: "Our boat broke down at one point, we were trapped in a blizzard and I felt like I would never be warm again! It was still one of the greatest weeks I've ever had."

All the students PASSED and are now qualified competent crew.

David McArthur, a teacher at UTC Reading, said: "I'm so impressed by how well they all did. They arrived not knowing one end of a boat from the other and by the end of the week they were out tacking, gybing and sailing in a force seven!

"The week was more than just about learning the fundamentals of boat handling – it takes a team

working together to make sure everything happens in a safe, controlled way."

UTC Reading thanks the RAF Charitable Trust, Ulysses Trust and Connaught Trust, which have given very generous donations to help fund this exercise.

#### » Neil Pouney

Vice Principal & CCF Contingent Commander





READING BLUE COAT CCF

# SUMMER CAMP

*with a difference*

**R**eading Blue Coat (RBC) CCF Army Section deployed to Longmoor Camp 2 - 5 July 2021 for the annual summer camp package, however this time it would be "with

a difference". Unlike previous camps we had attended this year would require us to commute on a daily basis as unfortunately COVID 19 was rearing its ugly head again.

Initially we were concerned that the commute would affect our numbers however after day one our concerns were soon forgotten, this was due to the brilliant activities the boys had on day one.

Activities over the package included survival & tracking, mountain biking, archery, climbing, rafting, first aid, shooting, house clearance and fieldcraft. The cadets were kept busy and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

We would like to thank the 11 SFA Bde CTT for all their hard work and enthusiasm for what was a memorable experience.

» **Capt Stuart John**  
CCF Contingent Commander





## CADET CAMBRIAN PATROL 2022 MAIDSTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOL (MGS) CCF

The MGS section put on an unmatched display of their commitment and sheer grit over the weekend of the competition, pushing themselves and each other through the hardest parts of the patrol, whether it was through the constant laughs and smiles or through the burning desire to reach the end. We slaved all through the 35 kilometre patrol on the Saturday, before crashing in our shelters and shivering for almost the entire duration of the night.

Sunday morning at 06:30, the section arose and was quickly on

their feet, albeit still shivering and with blistered feet, before taking down their shelters and sorting kit to be able to step off at 07:55 for Dixie's corner. The section used a collimator to prepare for their shoot, then left Dixie's corner in their van for the start point of their tab to the ranges – which they made excellent and quick work of. After the range was reached, Charlie and Delta fireteams separated and went to their respective range as their last stand of the competition. Exhausted yet relieved, the section had completed their task in all its grandeur. We congratulated each

other and celebrated – endlessly proud of one another and the section as a collective, for we had all assisted each other in reaching the final goal. We achieved the silver award for our efforts – something we are all truly proud of.

The eight of us that attended loved every moment, even though it was truly a hardship, and we all agree that it was such a worthwhile experience – one to savour forever and one we wish to have the opportunity to complete again.

» Cpl. Luke Terry

### MGS SECTION AFTER FINISHING THE RANGES

Lt. Rai, Cpl. Luke Terry  
Sgt. Jacob Langley  
RSM Nathan Gray  
Sgt. Liam Ellis  
2nd Lt. Owens  
CSM Myles Johnston  
Sgt. Jadon Friel  
CSM Harrison Keeping  
Sgt. Ryan Kelly  
(back left to front right)



# GORDON'S SCHOOL CCF

## Ten Tors

IT ALL STARTS WITH A SIMPLE CHOICE. THE CHOICE TO EXIT THIS MONOTONOUS SCHOOL LIFE AND PUSH YOURSELF TO THE MAX. MOST TURN DOWN THE OFFER, BUT SOME 'CRAZY' PEOPLE LIKE US DECIDE TO GO FOR IT

We started our training in January 2022. It was commonly known as EMT, which stands for: Early Morning Training. The first challenge was the early start. We were ordered to wake up at roughly 6am three times a week to get to school for 7am and begin our session. These lasted for 45mins and mostly consisted of the famous '1-minute fast lap' around the parade square which will be forever remembered.

After the episode of our initial physical training, the true test began. This involved the journey down to Dartmoor, including 22 keen students, equally attempting

to gain a place in the official Ten Tors team.

We spent 4 days down in this unique area, successfully navigating around the moor and sleeping in tents overnight. The true focus of this practice was to assess the candidate's skills on the job. This branched out from just physical fitness and considered attributes such as practicality and congenial behaviour. It was a truly tough decision, but the 12 members were decided.

With all our training now completed, the real expedition approached swiftly. Our optimal fitness was maintained as we eagerly waited for our second trip

down to Dartmoor.

Upon arrival it was obvious something about this event was truly special. It was a rare occasion to see so many tents in one beautiful area, and the abundance of teenagers was overwhelming. The atmosphere of the campsite was exciting and joyous, with many new friends made.

The real event is ultimately too long to describe in much detail, but it's safe to say the experience was absolutely unforgettable. It was exciting and entertaining, and it made you feel part of something great. The event came with extreme learning curves and will undoubtedly influence our future. It certainly had its ups and downs on everyone's part, but I know most of the memories made were positive.

» Maj John Balmer  
Contingent Commander





# CRANLEIGH CCF WEEKEND OF SUCCESS

CRANLEIGH  
D CADET FORCE

ON THE WEEKEND 14-15 MAY  
CRANLEIGH CCF TOOK PART  
IN A SERIES OF FIRSTS FOR  
THE CONTINGENT

On Saturday three Cadets took part in the Royal Windsor Horse Show. The event has been held annually since 1943. It is the largest UK outdoor premier horse show and takes place in the private grounds of Windsor Castle. This year was special as it formed part of the Queens Jubilee celebrations.

Megan, Tom and Madeline took part in the show jumping competition in front members of the Royal Family and a huge crowd. The Cadets coped brilliantly with the big atmosphere gaining a bronze medal presented by Prince Charles.

A highlight of the day was Tom leading the procession of riders and the salute past the Royal box and watching the Musical ride of the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment.

On Sunday Cranleigh hosted a Target Sprint national qualifying event. Target Sprint is a new discipline from British Shooting which involves running 400m,



shooting 5 knockdown targets with 15 pellets, run, shoot, run. First passed the line wins, combining athleticism with skill and accuracy. Its simple, its fast and its fun!

Megan was out again in between revising and got gold in the Juniors girls, (16-20yrs). The RSM, Ruari, led from the front getting gold, setting a new course record on the way in the junior boys, with Theo getting silver.

The Contingent Officers got involved too. Major Reed, gold in the seniors and Major Money bronze in the masters.

Congratulations to all those who took part and good luck in the national finals taking part at Bisley later in the year.





# ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL HIGH WYCOMBE CCF

## *Cambrian Patrol*

**C**ambrian patrol is the premier cadet competition. It is based in the Brecon Beacons which is the birthplace of the infantry. It aims to push cadets, testing them both physically and mentally on the skills they have learnt throughout their time in CCF or ACF. Teams come from the whole of the UK and are pitted against each other as well as an expected standard.

Our competition started on a Friday night with the IC being briefed on orders whilst the rest of the team had a kit check. With 2 kit checks before that you would have hoped we had everything. Thankfully we did and scored the maximum points possible. The following morning began at 0400 with a full English breakfast and by 0600 the 12-hour patrol began.

Our first stand was a military

knowledge test. We felt went well and set a good precedent (despite it beginning to snow). The next stand was one of the ones we were looking forward to, the section attack. This was over difficult terrain with a hidden enemy using a GPMG. For much of the attack half the section couldn't see the enemy until pushing over a few barb-wire fences. To get to the enemy position Charlie fire team flanked and had to jump a few more fences before clearing out the enemy. The section attack was difficult but clearly went well.

The next section of the Cambrian patrol was the casevac, which the whole team felt was our best performance. The set up was brilliant - 4 different casualties all with different injuries. It made an all-round defence difficult and

tested all our medical skills. There was some brilliant acting from the shock victim, and we quickly learnt how essential a first aid kit is as it was difficult to create a tourniquet using a waterproof coat.

The next 2 stands seemed to fly by, despite the long walks before and after them. The observation post and target indication stands were both good fun and allowed us to fire off the last of the blanks we had been given. The final 2 areas to be assessed were a set of orders given by the IC, who had never given a set before and a range without zeroed rifles. Clearly some preparation had been missed. None the less after many km walked and not enough sleep, we found out we had still achieved a silver medal.

» **Cadet CSgt Dominic Wood**

**SQUADRON LEADER CATHERINE LUPTON - SOUTH EAST COMBINED CADET FORCE**

I support schools and CCF events within the South East area. I also set up and help run 2 leaderships courses for the area a year as well as supporting national leadership courses run at RAF Cranwell. My civilian job is a Bursar at a Prep School and they are very supportive of my volunteering. I enjoy seeing how, through the activities we organise for the cadets, young people can develop and grow. There's a real sense of satisfaction from seeing them learn and grow through their time in the CCF.

**LIEUTENANT JESS MCKINNON - LORD WANDSWORTH COLLEGE COMBINED CADET FORCE**

The school I worked for had recently gone co-ed but there were no female officers in the Contingent. I felt strongly that the girls needed female representation within the CCF and wanted to support them. Although I had no military experience, I had an interest in outdoor activities and I could see how much the cadet experience benefitted young people, so I put myself forward. It is a privilege to work with young people as they take on a variety of new challenges which test their resilience, develop their teamwork and hone their leadership skills.

**CADET FLIGHT SERGEANT MATTHEW GROVE - UNIT: READING SCHOOL COMBINED CADET FORCE**

I am currently an A Level student studying Maths, further maths, physics and computer science and my school is very supportive of me being in the Cadets. Since a young age, I have aspired to become a fighter pilot in the RAF so joining was the first step. Air experience flights have been an amazing experience and I hope to use the skills to gain a career in the armed forces. In my role at Cadets, I lead a team of cadets both on exercise and during weekly training.

**CADET FLIGHT SERGEANT JOHN SUTHERLAND - STOWE SCHOOL COMBINED CADET FORCE**

In Year 10, we were given the option to either join the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme or join the Combined Cadet Force (CCF). Having always held an interest in the military, I chose to join the CCF. As I had a strong interest in Aviation, I chose to then join the Royal Air force section of CCF which, to this day, I have never once regretted and have enjoyed every moment. I have flown both gliders and small engine aircraft as well as experienced flight in a Chinook and visited multiple RAF bases around the county.

# VOLUNTEER CADET CORPS CELEBRATES ITS 120<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

THE VOLUNTEER CADET CORPS (VCC) CELEBRATED 120 YEARS SINCE ITS FORMATION ON 14TH FEB 1901 AND PARADED AT HMS EXCELLENTON SUNDAY 3 APRIL WITH OVER 250 CADETS AND ADULT VOLUNTEERS FROM UNITS ACROSS THE UK

The Volunteer Cadet Corps (VCC) celebrated 120 years since its formation on 14th Feb 1901 and paraded at HMS Excellent on Sunday 3 April with over 250 cadets and adult volunteers from units across the UK.

Amongst the array of VIPs and inspecting officers were Mr Nigel Atkinson (HM Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire), Rear Admiral Philip Hally CB MBE (Assistant Chief

of the Defence Staff (Personnel Capability) and Honorary Captain VCC) and Brigadier Tony Turner ADC (Deputy Commandant General Royal Marines).

The VCC were joined by the Band of HM Royal Marines (Royal Marines School of Music) who provided the musical support throughout the event including performing Dignus for the march past - this is the Royal Marines Cadet march

and takes its name from the Royal Marines Volunteer Cadet Corps motto 'Be Worthy'.

During the parade, the VCC presented WO2 (VCC) Jim Coomber

from Portsmouth Division RMVCC his 4th Cadet Force Medal Clasp for 36 years' service and WO2 (VCC) Paul Holden from Lympstone Division RMVCC his 3rd Cadet Force Medal Clasp for 30 years' service. The VCC was also glad to welcome Mr Terry Wing and Mrs Shirley Wing to the parade. Terry was Commander VCC until 2020 and was instrumental in making sure the VCC not only survived but thrived, gaining for the VCC full MOD sponsored status. Shirley volunteered for many years as one of the VCC's senior headquarters staff, and was at the forefront of setting up its administrative and financial processes and systems.

The VCC offers its young people a cadet family where they can develop life skills to provide them with a springboard for success as they progress through their formative years. The VCC aims to develop young people into



dependable and reliable members of society, prepare them for life and offer them a cadet experience that augments and enhances what they learn at school.

Commenting after the parade, Lt Col (VCC) Chris Spratt (Commander VCC) said "Whilst a year later than planned due to Covid, today's parade was a magnificent way to celebrate our 120th anniversary. I'm very proud of all of our cadets who paraded today, demonstrating the very best of our youth."

### HISTORY OF THE VCC

As with all legends, there are elements of truth and elements of fiction, often for dramatic or historic effect, or morphed by the ravages of time. The founding reasons for the Royal Navy's Volunteer Cadet Corps are no different, and whilst there is no official account as to why the Cadet Corps was established, the 'legend' that we have seems fairly plausible.

The VCC started with one unit at what was then the Royal Marines Artillery (RMA) barracks at Eastney in Portsmouth. First known as the Royal Marines Artillery Cadet Corps, not only was it the first cadet unit in what was to become the VCC but it was the first cadet unit formally established and recognised by the Admiralty.

Whilst the old Royal Marines barracks at Eastney is known as the ancestral home of the VCC, the first cadet night wasn't held there. In fact, for reasons that remain

THE CADET CORPS HAS ALWAYS BEEN BASED WITHIN ROYAL NAVY AND ROYAL MARINES ESTABLISHMENTS, UNLIKE THE MAJORITY OF OUR PEER COMMUNITY CADET FORCES

unknown, the enrolment night took place about a mile away in the Mission Hall at Prince Albert Street (now known as Prince Albert Road). That first night was 14 February 1901, a date that has played havoc with anniversary celebrations ever since thanks to St Valentine!

The VCC 'legend' has it that, apparently the children of Royal Marines Artillerymen (all of whom lived 'on board' in the barracks) had very little to gainfully occupy their spare time and were often to be found outside playing around throughout the barracks. This included impromptu football games and sometimes the ball would be 'accidentally' kicked through a barrack room window. But on one occasion the ball was kicked through the Commanding Officer's office window and so he summoned the Adjutant to find a way to keep this from happening. The VCC was subsequently born.

The first commanding officer was Captain William Harkness, the Adjutant of the barracks and the person we regard as the 'founding father' of the VCC. Indeed, right up

until the Royal Marines departed the barracks in 1991, the Adjutant at Royal Marines Eastney was always the CO of the cadet unit.

It was in 1904 that the first Royal Naval Cadet unit was established at the then HMS Victory Royal Naval Barracks (now HMS Nelson). It was modelled on the RMA Cadets at Eastney and it was in this year that further RMA and Royal Marines Light Infantry (RMLI) cadets were stood up in Chatham and Plymouth. Such was the success of these cadets' units, all sponsored and recognised by the Admiralty, more units were set up. We don't know when the title Volunteer Cadet Corps was first used but the earliest record we have is from a Navy List in 1913.

Because of the way the VCC was set up back in the early 1900s the Cadet Corps has always been based within Royal Navy and Royal Marines establishments, unlike the majority of our peer community cadet forces.

This remains our practice to this day, and whilst we are now open to young people from civilian families, we still have a sizeable proportion of service children joining as cadets. Our unit COs are now cadet force adult volunteers (CFAVs) but there is always someone from our parent establishments appointed as our liaison officer, retaining the important link between the cadets and the base that supports them.

» **Captain (VCC) Louis Colpitts**  
Executive Officer (Support)



# SWEET MUSIC TO CADETS' EARS

**LITTLEHAMPTON SEA CADETS HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR WINNING WAYS, TAKING FIRST PRIZES IN THE FIRST DISTRICT DRILL AND PIPING COMPETITION AFTER A TWO YEARS' ABSENCE OF THE EVENT DUE TO COVID-19**

The team came first in the colour party competition as well as winning the individual piping competition. Additionally, a combined team from Bognor Regis and Littlehampton won the junior trophy. The competition was held by Central District Sea Cadets at HMS Excellent in Portsmouth. Lt (SCC) RNR Brian Osborne,

Littlehampton Unit's Commanding Officer, said: "Littlehampton unit came a well-deserved first. It was a great result after training for only three weeks, since Covid-19 restrictions were only recently lifted by our organisation."

The team members were AC R. Orchard, Cdt 1st Class B. Williams, Cadet 1st Class A. Barratt and

Colour Party Commander AC A. Smallbone. The pipers were OC R. Ward and Junior Cadet E. Hill.

Littlehampton cadets went on to compete in the area competition, where the senior piping team taking the third place and the combined junior team placed fourth.

## POPULAR DUCK DERBY RETURNS TO MAIDENHEAD

The much-anticipated duck race was recently held on the River Thames in Maidenhead, a tradition dating back more than 40 years.

The Maidenhead Lions Duck Derby fundraiser saw the Maidenhead Sea Cadets release the 3,000 rubber ducks downstream, with cash prizes on offer for holders of tickets for the first three ducks which crossed the finish line, with those caught up in banks recovered by the cadets.

Ray Mill Island at Boulter's Lock was a hub of activity as crowds

browsed stalls and enjoyed games alongside the river. Activities included face painting, music and balloon modelling.

The town's MP Theresa May was spotted at the event and even rode on the Lions' popular fun train. The

Royal Borough Mayor, Cllr Christine Bateson was also present.

Jo Manisier, member of the Duck Derby committee and Maidenhead Lions Club, said: "It was fabulous to be back running the Duck Derby in the summer and be a part of an event which was so well supported by the local community, with everyone having a good time and enjoying themselves. The Duck Derby committee is delighted that the event was so popular and enjoyed by so many people."



**MR. ROBERT SAVIDGE - TS APOLLO, MARLOW SEA CADETS**

The reason I joined the Cadets is, at the time, the unit was closing within one week and I was determined for it to remain open for the cadets and many other groups in our local community. Nearly 20 years later we are still open! The teamwork and development of the cadets and being able to support our many local community groups to be economically viable whilst supporting both the young and older generations has been the most enjoyable experience.

**PETTY OFFICER (SCC) DIANE SMITH - ASHFORD SEA CADETS & ROYAL MARINE CADETS**

My roles within the unit is primarily unit training officer but I'm also the unit Bandmaster and stores officer. I also work in a print and embroidery shop and my employer is fully supportive if I need time off for cadets. I originally joined as an unit assistant because both my sons had joined cadets and my husband was an instructor. After a while I took the decision to go into uniform as I could get more involved. I have grown in confidence, learnt to play an instrument. Being part of a good team means no problem is unsolvable.

**ABLE CADET EMILIA PLESTED - OXFORD UNIT SEA CADET CORPS**

I joined Sea Cadets because I wanted to meet people with similar interests to me. I have loved water based activities ever since I can remember and I knew I would find a special place in the corps. I have gained so much from being in cadets. I have learnt the importance of team work, self-discipline and dedication. It is amazing that I have met such a variety of people from lots of different places too. I have definitely enjoyed kayaking the most.

**LEADING CADET THOMAS NOLAN - HERNE BAY UNIT SEA CADET CORPS**

I am a leading cadet at Heine Bay Sea Cadet Corps. As the most Senior Cadet at the unit, I provide a positive role model, as well as mentoring the younger cadets. Plus I am a student aspiring to study medicine and potentially practice within the armed forces. I joined cadets to gain new experiences, become a confident leader and educator and gain new skills and qualifications.

# SUSSEX ARMY CADET FORCE

WIN EXERCISE ROLLING THUNDER  
FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> YEAR RUNNING



Exercise Rolling Thunder is the epitome of cadet signals. With the competition being located at Blandford (the home of The Royal Signals) in Dorset, cadet units from all over the country gathered to compete against one another.

Having been a signaller since 2018 and working up to my current role of platoon sergeant, I was extremely excited to bring my team to this competition. From hearing about it when I joined, those who went stated Rolling Thunder as being the best cadet competition to attend. Recently however, there has been more emphasis on participating in Rolling Thunder due to Sussex winning the previous three years in a row!

All stands presented to us tested us on a wide range of the syllabus taught to cadets across the country. For example, logging information received over the radio and plotting co-ordinates to find the enemy location. Additionally, we were

also assessed practically using methods such as setting up a field telephone and utilising historic methods of communication, such as semaphore (flags) in order to crack a code to free a 'prisoner'. Although these tests proved challenging, we thoroughly enjoyed them as they required us to work together as a team to problem solve. All tests involved both theory and practical knowledge from the course. The assessors were clear when giving instructions and throughout the weekend we were tested on our knowledge, application to the course and most importantly how effectively we worked together as a team. Although some nerves were present prior to the competition, once practising our skills within the assessments everyone was confident that we performed well.

I was accompanied by some amazing people from my county: Corporal Stingone, Corporal Dunkley, Corporal McKay

and Lance Corporal Hawkes. Without these people and more importantly our directing staff (Lieutenant Hawes and Colour Sergeant Williams) Sussex would not have performed so well at this competition. We had a great preparation day prior to the competition, which was extremely helpful due to the huge disruption Covid-19 has caused. When it came down to the real thing the team were constantly encouraging one another on, and everyone was fully aware of their strengths prior to going into this competition.

Finally, I would like to say many thanks to the team at Blandford for running this competition as well as a huge well done to all the other teams who competed on this weekend. I'm looking forward to next year with hopes that Sussex can defend their title and win for the fourth year running!

» Cadet Sergeant Lawton  
Sussex ACF





## KENT CADETS TAKE PART IN PLATINUM JUBILEE PARADE

Recently over 400 Kent Army Cadets took part in a once-in-a-lifetime parade at 36 Engineers, Invicta Park Barracks in Maidstone. Cadets were joined by Cadet Force Adult Volunteers (CFAVs), parents/carers and guardians and VIPs including: Brigadier Peter Gilbert TD DL, County Councillor Lesley Game, Chairman of Kent County Council and Councillor David Brake representing Medway Council.

After weeks of practice and preparation a moving drumhead service delivered by the Padre, Stefan Thomas was followed by the largest parade of Kent ACF cadets in its history.

A host of stands demonstrating

army cadet activities showcased the exciting options open to young people and adults when they join. The stands included: First aid, a climbing wall, a shooting stand and a communications and information systems (CIS - including military radios).

Cadet William Murray from Sheerness Detachment said: "Recently I took part in a parade at 36 Engineers at Invicta Park Barracks in Maidstone for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It was the biggest parade I have ever taken part in, meaning I got to meet people from all over the county which was a unique experience.

It was a very proud moment and a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and

I was proud to wear my uniform and celebrate with the rest of the county. "Colonel Richard Long, TD, Commandant Kent ACF comments: "I was delighted to see such a strong turnout from our cadets and adult instructors. Thank you to everyone for your effort in making it happen and to those who were able to attend in person.

Most importantly, it's very unlikely that any of us will ever see a Platinum Jubilee again and I hope it is something that the cadets will look back on and remember their parade with pride".

» **Captain Victoria Robinson**  
County PRO, HQ Kent ACF

## FAREWELL TO SMI BOB BUMSTEAD

Past and present members of Kent ACF were honoured to join family and friends today for the funeral service of Corporal Robert (Bob) Bumstead, ex-1 Royal Sussex & 3 Queen's (SMI in Kent Army Cadet Force).

He passed peacefully in the early hours of 7 June 2022 at the Conquest Hospital, St. Leonards-on-Sea, with his family by his side. Bob is well known locally for his long service as Branch Secretary of the Hastings Branch of the Royal Sussex Regimental Association and also his 36 years' loyal service to the Kent ACF. Many will also remember Bob with fond

memories as being their school bus driver.

Bob joined Kent ACF in May 1978, he received his ACF medal in 1990, Clasp 1 in 2000, 2 in 2006 and clasp 3 in 2013.

He was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002 and the Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.

Bob was also awarded a Lord Lieutenant's Certificate in 2008.

Bob and his wife Tricia ran the mess for many years providing a first class service, always a friendly smile and chat, with nothing being too much for them.

He will be sorely missed by all that knew him. Requiescet in pace

and thank you for all you did for the county.

» **Kent ACF**



# BERKSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE

## SERGEANT INSTRUCTOR GEORGE MANNING

I had previously learnt some Makaton sign language from my brother who attended a Special Needs school where signing was used routinely. However I decided to do the British Sign Language course after meeting a deaf lady when raising money for the Poppy Appeal with Cadets as a Cadet Force Adult Volunteer (CAV).

I was able to sign a little bit with her but not that much. I thought it would be beneficial to start learning British Sign Language so that if I were to meet a deaf person again I would be able to communicate better with them and help them feel included. I hope to be able to use this skill in the Cadet Force in the future to communicate with deaf cadets/CAVs and the wider public. I completed my Level 1 BSL course in July

and will be moving on to Level 2 in September.

I would highly recommend undertaking a Level 1 BSL course so that more deaf/hearing impaired people can be understood by hearing people. Even just knowing a few basic signs can really help



more deaf people feel included.

I joined cadets in late 2012 when I was 13 because a few of my friends were cadets. My dad had been a cadet and at the time I wanted to join the Army. I progressed through the star levels and ranks to Cadet Sergeant Major at 4\*. I was in the county shooting team for 3 years and was in the Cadet 100 2 years in a row. Once I aged out, I knew that I wanted to become a CAV because I thoroughly enjoyed my cadet experience and wanted to give back and ensure future cadets have the same positive experience. I have found my almost 5 years as a CAV very rewarding and challenging and would definitely recommend becoming an instructor.

## BUCKS ACF CADET WINS TOP CADET ON THE MASTER CADET COURSE

Since joining the ACF, Cadet Company Sergeant Major (CSM) Egan Carter has demonstrated excellent leadership skills and even prior to his first promotion was a strong leader and role model amongst the Cadets both in his unit and in the wider company.

He has achieved his ILM (The Institute of Leadership & Management) qualification and has developed a sound knowledge of many leadership models and has no problem in putting these into practice. His achievements since joining the ACF have been numerous and varied with his



latest being achieving his Master Cadet. He has attended trips to

Bavaria which was an adventure training camp and Belgium and France for a battlefield tour. He was a member of the Rifles cup team in 2019 which achieved 3rd place nationally.

He excels in all elements of the Army Cadet force syllabus and has performed extremely well without exception. He is now able to teach the syllabus to junior Cadets passing on his considerable knowledge in an engaging and inclusive way. He also intends to join the Army as an officer and has recently passed selection board resulting in a fully funded scholarship place at Sandhurst.

**MAJOR MARK CHALFONT - BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE**

I am a Project Manager in my civilian role and a Company Commander in A Company, Bucks ACF. I am responsible for 4 Detachments comprising of 15 CFAVs and 120 Cadets. I have also held the roles of County Training Officer and County Adult Training Officer. I joined as a cadet along with a group of friends from school and after 5 years, I was keen to remain part of the movement and assist in the development and training of future young people so became a CFAV when I had to leave.

**LIEUTENANT TARA YOUNG - A COMPANY, KENT ARMY CADET FORCE**

It is an honour to be part of such a worthwhile organisation that provides so many with so much. I became a CFAV because I enjoyed once in a lifetime trips and experiences as a cadet and wanted to help to create similar opportunities for more young people. I genuinely am inspired by the excitement and passion in our cadets and staff. The smiles of a cadet that realises they have surpassed their own expectations in achieving something that hadn't thought possible are truly infectious.

**CADET CORPORAL CALLUM PORTER - DARTFORD DETACHMENT, KENT ARMY CADET FORCE**

I have reached the rank of Corporal whilst being at cadets. I am also the detachments senior in Dartford, 1 Troop Senior for the squadron, member of the squadron shooting team and the only marksman shooter in squadron. I have always had an interest in the army and have looked at this as a career for the future and joined cadets as a stepping stone. I have gained life skills. I have grown into a confident, responsible, hardworking young adult. I have also made a lot of new life time friends and overcome fears.

**CADET CORPORAL ABIGAIL GREEN - WALDESLADE DETACHMENT, KENT ARMY CADET FORCE**

I joined Cadets because I had stopped most of my other extra-curricular activities and was looking for something new. This drew me in as my dad had served in the army. I am now the Detachment's senior cadet which means I often take parades, help cadets with any problems and have the privilege to teach them. I have gained friendships, an array of practical and soft skills and I have so many great memories.

# CONNAUGHT TRUST GRANT TAKES FLIGHT FOR RAF AIR CADETS!

FOLLOWING A GRANT FROM THE CONNAUGHT TRUST'S BAZOOKA INITIATIVE, A £100,000 GRANT HAS MADE POSSIBLE THE REALISATION OF TWO AEROSPACE CENTRES AND 13 PORTABLE AEROSPACE UNITS

The Connaught Trust is a grant making charity that provides funds for the Reserve and Cadet Forces across Southern England. As a result of surplus funds, units were encouraged to apply for the substantial funds which were made available under a scheme known as Project Bazooka.

Project Bazooka enabled the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wing RAF Air Training Corps (ATC) to apply for a grant of up to £100,000 in order to enhance the training experience of unit members, including both core training opportunities and outward pursuits. ATC applied for the grant to enable the realisation of two Aerospace

centres to increase the Aviation training offering of the counties RAF Air Cadets. The trustees of The Connaught Trust awarded Hampshire & IOW ATC the full grant.

Thanks to the grant, Blighmont Barracks - home to 424 (Southampton) Squadron ATC, and 413 (Aldershot) Squadron ATC have been remodelled to house these aerospace centres. There are also mobile kits to enable delivery at other unit sites across the county.

Using virtual reality elements alongside traditional simulators, the centres will rival other RAF Air Cadet centres in the country, delivering engaging, immersive and relevant training to over 1000 RAF Air Cadets

per year across Hampshire & IOW. Additionally, there will be provision for the centres to link up and expand the training opportunities available.

The number one attraction of the RAF Air Cadets to young people joining

is often the opportunity to fly and develop their aviation knowledge. With the availability of real-life flights reducing, due to various factors such as fuel and maintenance, the RAF Air Cadets initiative of utilising emerging technologies available, Hampshire & IOW Wing will be able to increase and bolster the aviation offering.

Alongside RAF Air Cadet training, the volunteer staff have also had the opportunity to upskill to train the Cadets in various aspects including flight operations and air traffic control.

Expected to launch later in the year, Hampshire & IOW Wing ATC are excited for the opening of these centres and the enhancement of the RAF Air Cadet experience.

To find out more about The Connaught Trust and how you can apply for a grant for your unit's activities, please visit [www.connaught-trust.co.uk](http://www.connaught-trust.co.uk).



Staff from 424 (Southampton) Squadron testing the equipment.

Providing grants to Reserve and Cadet forces across Central Southern England



**THE CONNAUGHT TRUST**  
Charity no: 1179469

Find out more and apply at:  
[www.connaught-trust.co.uk](http://www.connaught-trust.co.uk)

# CADET FORCES MEDAL AWARDED TO LONG STANDING WARRANT OFFICER

Warrant Officer Stu Clark joined 413 (Aldershot) Squadron ATC in 1984, following in his brother's footsteps and rose through the ranks to Cadet Warrant Officer, leaving in 1991 after a great cadet career including, 7 annual camps, gaining his RAF marksman, gliding scholarship, parachuting course and taking part in the International Air Cadet Exchange.

Returned to 413 (Aldershot) Squadron ATC after 18 years, he returned to uniform as the rank of Sergeant in 2010. Stu joined the Wing training team in 2011 assisting with the delivery of the Pre-Uniformed service courses, which he continued to deliver until they ceased in 2018. Stu became a DI in 2015, an Archery GB instructor in 2021 and a Warrant Officer in 2018. Stu now



Stu receiving his Cadet Forces Medal from Officer Commanding Hampshire & IOW, Wing Commander Mark Trevena

holds the role of Wing Training and development Warrant Officer, and the configuration manager for all of the new Flight sims bought under the Gate project. He has also attended annual camps at Waddington, Coningsby

and Halton, 2 RIAT camps, and 2 Vectis discovery camps. Stu also assist with the running of Cadet Drill Courses, and will take a very active role in standards on all of the upcoming Junior and Senior NCO courses.

## 1066 (HITCHIN) SQUADRON - ANNUAL WING EXERCISE



On the May Bank Holiday weekend, squadrons from around Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire Wing travelled to the Hampshire Estate at DTE Longmoor to take part in their Annual Wing Exercise. A three-day long exercise which comprises of 19 Command Tasks for our Units to take part in. All the Command Tasks test a variety of the Squadrons skills such as First Aid, Radio, Orienteering and of course, teamwork. Navigating their way around the Urban Training Complex certainly tested their map reading skills, and sometimes walked over 30,000 steps.

With two years off due to the Pandemic, the Wing was excited to get back to normality with the heated competition that comes with the Wing Exercise. Every Unit did incredibly well, given the fact that

most of the experience the more senior cadets bought to the team, had unfortunately left the Corps.

This year, the Wing battled all manner of weather, with sunshine one day, and pouring rain the next! Adapt and Overcome was the motto of the weekend though, and HBW were even lucky enough to get a visit from the BFBS Operation Ice Cream van! A well-deserved treat on the penultimate day of Exercises.

Congratulations to 2313 (Rickmansworth & The Chalfonts) Squadron who bagged First Place in this prestigious event. Followed by 955 (Stevenage) Squadron, 118 points behind the leaders!

The cadets of Herts and Bucks Wing are very much looking to coming back next year and improving further on their scores from 2022, and hopefully placing in the Top 3.

**REVEREND ALAN HEWITT** - 2513 (ROMNEY MARSH) SQUADRON, KENT WING ATC

I am an ex cadet and served in the Royal Air Force (National Service) and have a great regard for this organisation. It has been a delight to share some of my engineering and pastoral skills with the squadron. It has kept me young! All my time with the Squadrons have been enjoyable. Guiding the cadets in the flight simulation project has been particularly rewarding to me.

**MR DAVID HOLMAN** - 211 (NEWBURY) SQUADRON THAMES VALLEY ATC

I joined the RAFAC to show support for my son, who was very keen to join our local Squadron in Newbury. Being part of a Civilian Committee helped me drive and steer the Squadron and Wing in the right direction. This in turn helped develop, not just my son but all of our Cadets in their progression to young adults, thus also ensuring they can get the very best the Air Training Corps has to offer for their future plus the career paths they will undertake in future life.

**CDT CPL CHARLOTTE COOK** - 332 (HIGH WYCOMBE) SQUADRON, HERTS & BUCKS WING ATC

I joined the ATC because my friend did. I hadn't done a lot of research before my first night but I am so glad I went with her because I have never looked back. My main role within the cadets is training all the new recruits. Our intakes learn drill, military and air history and reading our principles of flight. My confidence has grown enormously. Before cadets I could barely read a PowerPoint without panicking but now I teach and lead virtually every parade night using the skills I have learnt.

**CADET WARRANT OFFICER BEN MADGWICK** - 1350 (FAREHAM) SQUADRON, HANTS & IOW WING ATC

I joined the RAF Air Cadets aged 13 with the intention of gaining necessary skills and experiences to stand me in good stead for when I apply to commission in the Royal Marines. My role as a Cadet Warrant Officer is to lead the cadets in my squadron as the most Senior NCO and ensure the Cadets are making the most of the opportunities on offer. As well as this I have a wider responsibility within the County as an instructor in radio commitments, field craft and leadership, as well as drum major for the wing marching band and bearer of the Wing banner.

# CADETS IN THE SOUTH EAST



## HAMPSHIRE – ALDERSHOT 1

Combined Cadet Force for the South East  
 SO2 Cadets, 11th Security Force Assistance Brigade,  
 Roebuck House, Cavans Road, Aldershot GU11 2LQ  
 Tel: 01252 347888



**VOLUNTEER  
 CADET CORPS**  
 ROYAL NAVAL & ROYAL MARINES CADETS

## HAMPSHIRE – PORTSMOUTH 2

Volunteer Cadet Corps Headquarters  
 158 Building, HMS EXCELLENT, Whale Island, Portsmouth PO2 8ER  
 Tel: 023 9254 7495



## HAMPSHIRE – PORTSMOUTH 2

Southern Area Sea Cadet Headquarters  
 Old Management Building, HMS NELSON, Portsmouth PO1 3HH  
 Tel: 023 9272 5664



## BERKSHIRE – READING 3

County Headquarters, Berkshire Army Cadet Force, Anson Block  
 Brock Barracks, Oxford Road, Reading RG30 1HW  
 Tel: 0118 902 3540

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE – AYLESBURY 4

County Headquarters, Buckinghamshire Army Cadet Force  
 Army Reserve Centre, Viney House, Oxford Road, Aylesbury HP19 8RN  
 Tel: 01296 744553

## HAMPSHIRE & IOW – WINCHESTER 5

County Headquarters, Hampshire and The Isle of Wight Army Cadet  
 Force, Newburgh House, Newburgh Street, Winchester SO23 8UY  
 Tel: 01962 865711

## KENT – MAIDSTONE 6

County Headquarters, Kent Army Cadet Force  
 Yeomanry House, Boxley Road, Maidstone ME14 2AR  
 Tel: 01622 750328

## OXFORDSHIRE – BICESTER 7

County Headquarters, Oxfordshire Army Cadet Force  
 Brotheridge House, St George's Barracks, Arcott Wood Road,  
 Upper Arcott, Bicester OX25 1AB  
 Tel: 01869 259681

## SURREY – GODALMING 8

County Headquarters, Surrey Army Cadet Force  
 Queens House, Hallam Road, Farncombe, Godalming GU7 3HW  
 Tel: 01483 425371

## SUSSEX – BRIGHTON 9

County Headquarters, Sussex Army Cadet Force  
 Highcroft House, 198 Dyke Road, Brighton BN1 5AS  
 Tel: 01273 552222



## ABINGDON – THAMES VALLEY WING 10

Headquarters Thames Valley Wing, RAF Air Cadets, North Lewis Block,  
 Edward Brooks Barracks, Cholswell Road,  
 Shippon OX13 6HW  
 Tel: 01235 547990

## HALTON – BUCKINGHAMSHIRE WING 11

Headquarters Herefordshire & Buckinghamshire Wing, RAF Air Cadets,  
 The Station Learning Centre,  
 RAF Halton, Aylesbury HP22 5PG  
 Tel: 01296 656116

## MAIDSTONE – KENT WING 6

Headquarters Kent Wing, RAF Air Cadets  
 2 Yeomanry Cottages, Boxley Road,  
 Maidstone ME14 2AR  
 Tel: 01622 754188

## SEAFORD – SUSSEX WING 12

Headquarters Sussex Wing, RAF Air Cadets  
 17a Broad Street, Seaford,  
 Sussex BN25 1LS  
 Tel: 01323 899900

## SOUTH LONDON – SURREY WING 13

RAF Northolt, West End Road, Ruislip,  
 Middlesex HA4 6NG  
 Tel: 020 8589 3313

## WINCHESTER – HAMPSHIRE & IOW WING 5

Headquarters Hampshire and The Isle of Wight Wing, RAF Air Cadets  
 Newburgh House, Newburgh Street,  
 Winchester SO23 8UY  
 Tel: 01962 890728

## CADET TRAINING CENTRES

### NATIONAL – CAMBERLEY 14

Cadet Training Centre Frimley Park  
 Frimley Road, Camberley GU16 7HD  
 Tel: 01276 898205

### BERKSHIRE – TADLEY 15

Berkshire Cadet Training Centre  
 Campbell Road, Bramley, Tadley RG26 5BQ  
 Tel: 01256 883610

### HAMPSHIRE – LISS 16

Hampshire Cadet Training Centre  
 Longmoor Training Camp, Longmoor, Liss GU33 6EL  
 Tel: 01420 538567

### ISLE OF WIGHT – PORCHFIELD 17

Isle of Wight Cadet Training Centre  
 Jersey Camp & Newtown Range, Locks Green, Porchfield,  
 Isle of Wight PO30 4PF  
 Tel: 01983 523503

### KENT – FOLKESTONE 18

Kent Cadet Training Centre  
 Dibgate Camp, St Martin's Plain, Folkestone CT20 3JG  
 Tel: 01303 261947

### OXFORDSHIRE – BICESTER 7

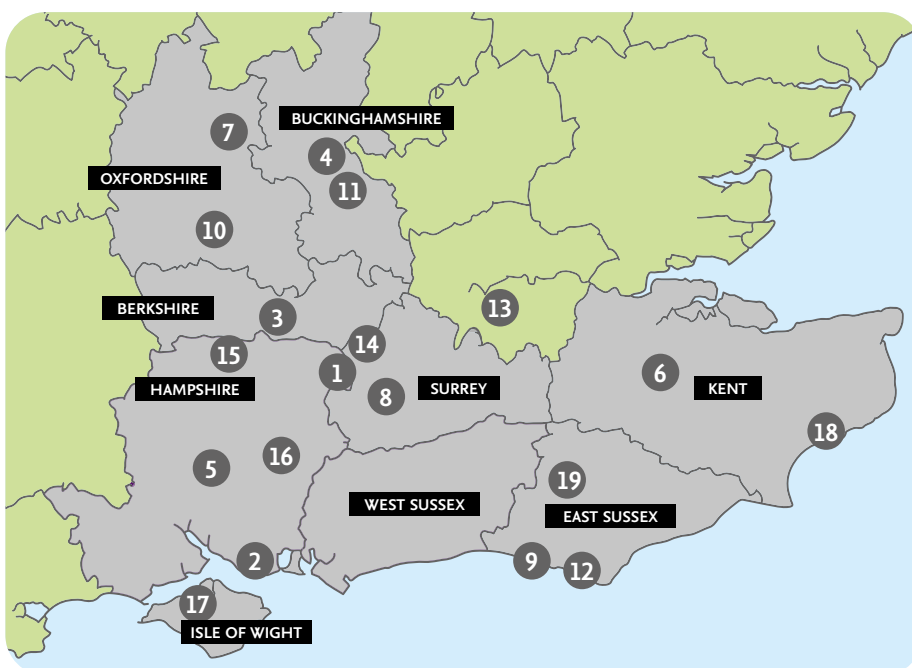
Buckinghamshire / Oxfordshire Cadet Training Centre  
 Read House, St George's Barracks, Arcott Wood Road,  
 Upper Arcott, Bicester OX25 1AB  
 Tel: 01869 259681

### SURREY – GODALMING 8

Surrey Cadet Training Centre  
 Queen's House, Hallam Road, Farncombe, Godalming GU7 3HW  
 Tel: 01483 425371

### SUSSEX – CROWBOROUGH 19

Sussex Cadet Training Centre  
 Crowborough Camp, Beacon Road,  
 Crowborough TN6 1UB  
 Tel: 01892 667968





# THE CONNAUGHT TRUST

(charity no 1179469)



**We have funds available to promote military efficiency within the cadet forces for all three services in Hampshire, Isle of Wight and adjoining counties.**



Many units have benefited from the support we have provided for the following:

- Adventure Training Expeditions
- Improvements to Existing Facilities
- Sports Equipment
- Transport
- Training Equipment
- Battlefield Tours



For more information please contact:

**Julian Walker TD, BSc, MRICS**

Major (Retd)

phone: **07836 774406**

e-mail: [enquiries@connaught-trust.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@connaught-trust.co.uk)



Please see our website for applications:

**[www.connaught-trust.co.uk](http://www.connaught-trust.co.uk)**