

## THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF CHELTENHAM COLLEGE CCF

### The Royal Naval Section



During the winter term and until after their first field day, all 4<sup>th</sup> form Naval cadets are taught a common military syllabus along side their Army and RAF counterparts consisting of drill, turnout and weapon training. Within a very short time these youngsters are brought up to a high standard in preparation for when they finally join the Naval section.

As a new member of the Ship's Company, they will soon be able to participate in a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities, which include water activities on a lake at South Cerney, near Cirencester, kayaking in the College pool, leadership tasks, ship recognition, communication, shooting, navigation, knots and drill. As the cadets move through the section they are given opportunities to have fun as they lead and take responsibility.

During the three Field Days, there are visits to the Royal Naval establishment at Portsmouth, where we have used the resources of the RN to have training afloat or to visit the historical dockyard. We have also enjoyed the challenge of visits to the Fire, Damage and Control facility at HMS Raleigh, Plymouth.

There are opportunities for the cadets to participate in a wide variety of courses e.g. RYA sailing, power boating, diving, gliding, expeditions, and to join central camps e.g. at Portsmouth and the Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth.

I would encourage cadets to book early to avoid disappointment.

*Lt Christine Harrison, OC Naval Section*

## The Army Section



The aim of training within the Army section is to develop the cadets' power of leadership. This is achieved through training to promote the qualities of responsibility, self-reliance, resourcefulness and a sense of service to the community. In addition it is intended to give cadets a background of the way of life in the Army.

The Army Proficiency Certificate (APC) Syllabus consists of five subjects. It sets standards, which are possible for cadets to achieve within one year. The APC is laid down by the Joint Cadet Executive at the Ministry of Defence, and includes drill, map reading, shooting and safe-handling of weapons, self-reliance training which in turn includes campcraft, first aid, knowledge of the Country Code and short camping expeditions.

Satisfactory completion of the Basic Proficiency marks the transition from a recruit to cadet. Thereafter, at Advance Proficiency level, activities are chosen from a very flexible service syllabus. The Army section carries out one Field day per term, where interesting activities are laid on, which could include obstacle course training, minor tactics, visits to a military unit, driving in armoured vehicles and acting as passenger in military helicopters.

At the end of the summer term 4<sup>th</sup> form cadets will participate in either our own Green-field camp or attend the annual CCF Central Camp. Those cadets who opt to remain in the Army section after their first year transfer to the Advance Infantry Section where more advanced infantry subjects are taught.

*Major Stephen Clark MBE College Adjutant*

## The Royal Air Force Section



Training in the RAF Section combines aeronautical skills, both practical and theoretical, with basic military skills such as drill and turnout and shooting. Development of leadership skills and self-sufficiency are the main aims of the section.

Field days (one per term) can be a station visit or flying at RAF Colerne, Wiltshire. At Colerne cadets experience flying in the two-man Tutor aircraft, gaining practical flying experience. The unit follows a programme of extending cadets' flying experience by encouraging them to enjoy aerobatics, and for those who are more adventurous to take control of an aircraft (all under strict supervision).

Gliding days at Little Rissington occur on a Sunday once a term on average. Places are usually limited to 8 cadets per visit and are offered to the most enthusiastic cadets. At the end of the summer term cadets have the opportunity to attend a RAF camp, but once again places are at a premium and parents are encouraged to reply early to avoid disappointment. Cadets who are not successful in obtaining a place at the RAF camp will be expected to attend the Green-field camp or the Central Camp, which as always is great fun.

Cadets remaining in the section after the 4<sup>th</sup> form have the opportunity of more flying and to learn in more detail about aspects of the RAF. Cadets are encouraged to get involved in instructing younger cadets to develop their leadership skills.

It is important to note, flying with the CCF cannot be guaranteed due to the possibility of adverse weather conditions, availability of aircraft and qualified instructors or events beyond our control.

*Flt Lt Paul Chipman, OC RAF Section*