



Hele's School CCF 80th Anniversary Event 2023



Contingent Commander
Major Randall

The origins of the Hele's School Combined Cadet Force can be seen in the formation of an Air Training Corps Squadron by the Senior Master J A Jenkinson in June 1943.

Current CCF staff and cadets celebrated 80 years of cadet activity at the school recently with former CCF staff, as well as some other invited guests. It was particularly pleasing to have the three most recent Contingent Commanders, as well as the current Commander, Major Kevin Randall, in the same place, especially when some of those appointments dated back to the 1970s.

The celebrations started with a fantastic buffet lunch which was prepared by the school's Year 9 GCSE Hospitality and Catering students, some of whom are also cadets. Our visiting guests then had an opening address by the Principal Mrs Justine Mason, who welcomed the guests and spoke about the benefits of having a contingent based at the school. We then watched a presentation about the history of cadet activity at Hele's School, followed by a video showing photos which covered the span of the last 80 years.



Following this, there were some messages from former cadets detailing the careers they have followed and how the cadet experience helped them in their current roles and their separate journeys through college, university, apprenticeships or the world of work.

Our visitors were then escorted by Senior Cadets to see a normal training evening and were able to witness our Royal Navy cadets practising their drill and then completing PLTs. Our Army cadets were undergoing Skill at Arms training and also shooting on our 25m indoor range and learning first aid and our RAF cadets showed how using the Oculus headset and Virtual Reality scenarios helped develop their leadership skills, as well as class-based activities and some drill skills.

Finally everyone reassembled in the Studio to celebrate the achievements of our very best cadets who received the following awards:

Admiral Nelson Award: Presented by former Contingent Commander Paul Glasspoole awarded to Cadet Dominik Drajer

General Monck Coldstream Guards Award: Presented by former Contingent Commander Tony Williams MBE awarded to Cadet Lily Dyson

Sir Douglas Bader Award: Presented by former RAF Section Commander Wendy Burnman to Cadet Isobel Prowse

Dominik Drajer

Lily Dyson

Isobel Prowse





A number of promotions were also made. One of which was for the school's current Head Girl and CCF cadet, Grace Weaver. She now has the rank of Cadet Company Sergeant Major for the Army Section.

She was presented with the Pete Stabb Pace Stick. This was kindly donated by a former cadet who was in the Army Section in the 60s and 70s and was a Master Cadet.

The pace stick will now be awarded to any cadet reaching the rank of Cadet CSM and we hope that this inspires them to follow in the footsteps of one of our most successful cadets.

We are very much looking forward to building on the successes of those who went before us and continuing to provide lifelong experiences and memories for those to come.

Major K Randall
Contingent Commander



Dartmouth Naval College (BRNC)



Cadet survival experience



Cadet escape and evasion training



Cadet sea experience day



Live fire range RAF St Nawgan



Cadet powered flight experience day



Cadet ships visit HMS Hindustan



Army experience day Footsteps of Discovery



Cadet gliding day



Hele's School
former Contingent Commanders
from left to right
Major Pete Messenger
Tony Williams MBE
Major Kevin Randall
Paul Glasspoole

