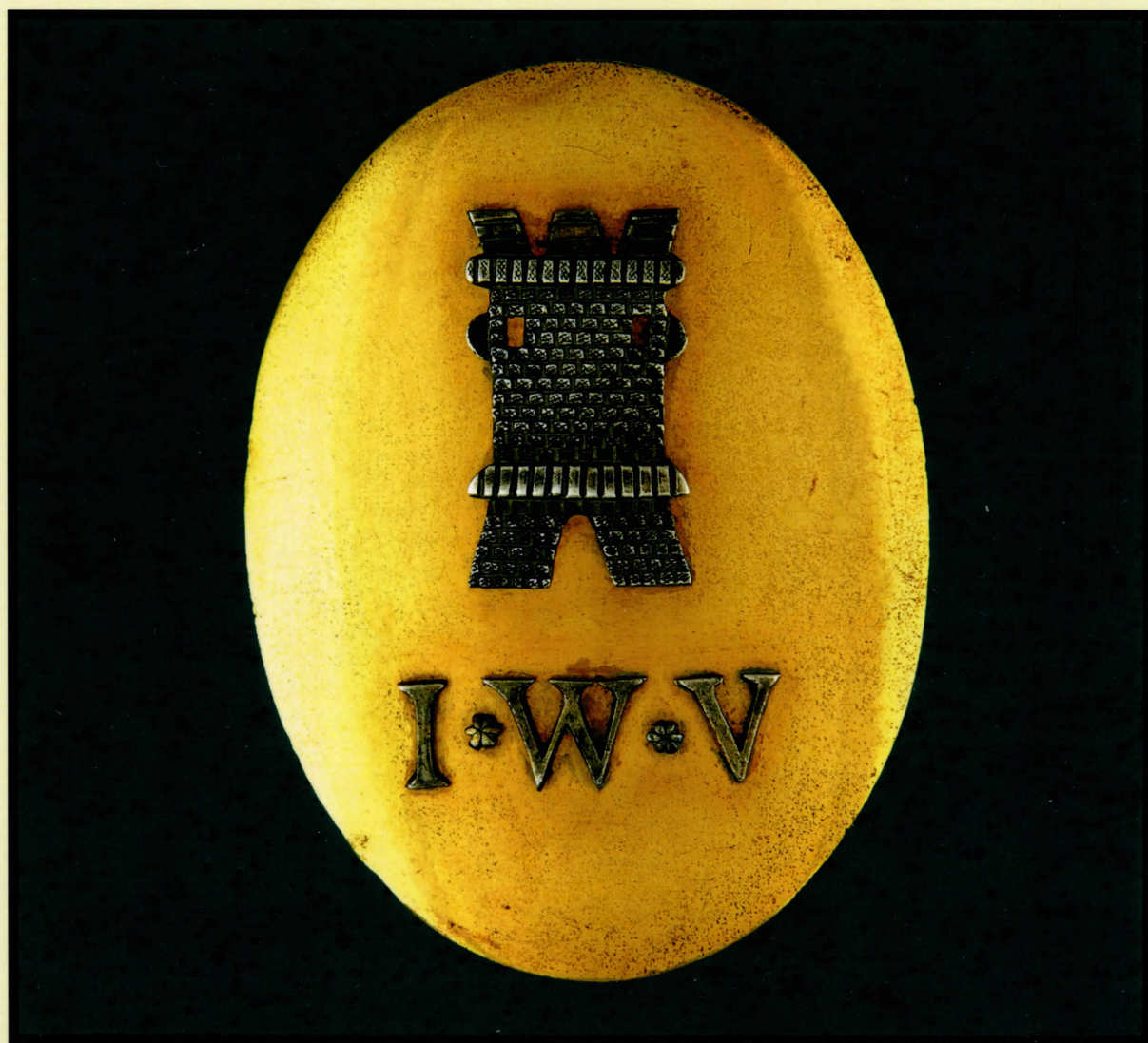


**ADDITIONAL MILITARY INSIGNIA OF
HAMPSHIRE AND
THE ISLE OF WIGHT**

1702-2014

A THIRD ILLUSTRATED HISTORY

Terence R. Woods



FOREWORD BY NIGEL ATKINSON, HM LORD-LIEUTENANT OF HAMPSHIRE

9G
CADETS, 1860–2014
PRICE'S SCHOOL



Vol. I, Fig. 12.42



Vol. I, Fig. 12.43

I am pleased that my references to my old school in Volumes I and II can now be enhanced with various summaries assembled from old *LION* school magazines by ex-scholar and Drum Major David Goldring and by inputs from Julian Hocken, whose grandfather, William Charles Alfred Eyles (born Newport, Isle of Wight in January 1902) was a member of the Cadet Corps in 1915. His photograph (Fig. 9G.1) shows clearly that the cap badge worn at this time was the Regimental 'cat & cabbage' of the

Hampshires and that the tunic had a plain leather belt and bore non-regimental General Service Royal Arms brass buttons. A white lanyard, which later became a standard for the band, is in evidence.

This photograph reflects the uniform worn when the Cadet Corps was formed in 1908 and



Vol. I, Fig. 9.15



9G.1



9G.2



9G.3

was affiliated to the 2nd Battalion The Hampshire Regiment as its H Company, which was subsequently disbanded some years later. The *LION* of the day noted that a close association also existed with the Fareham Company of The 3rd Hampshire Volunteer Battalion while H Company existed.

Price's was always a Cadet Corps and later a member of the ACF and CCF; it was never an OTC despite being a boarding school for much of its early life.

In 1920 the Corps of 22 cadets was disbanded when the Government support for Cadet Corps ceased, only to be revived in 1921/2 with the addition of a signals section. 1926 saw the 50-strong Corps reformed as C Company of the Cadet Battalion of the 6th Battalion The Hampshire Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own), and there is photographic evidence to show that the cap badge changed accordingly to the bi-metal version of the affiliated unit. Fig Vol. I, Fig. 9.15

In 1930 the Corps was again suspended as Government support was again withdrawn, only to be revived for a short time in 1932 before being disbanded in 1933. There was then no Corps in evidence until 1937/8.

The Band is reported as being formed in 1937/8, comprising four buglers and four drummers, with white belts replacing the traditional black type (Fig. 9G.2); it had grown somewhat by 1942 as shown in Fig. 9G.3. The Drum Major in the early 1960s was David Goldring seen in Fig. 9G.4l when he was a corporal, and he was followed as Drum Major by the

writer, seen in Fig. 9G.5. The full Drum Major uniform of the time is shown in Fig. 9G.6.

1938 saw further change in Corps' affiliation when the 6th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment (Duke of



9G.6



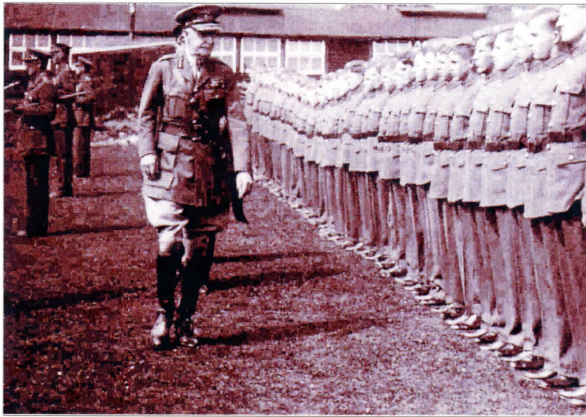
9G.4



9G.5



9G.7



9G.8



9G.9



9G.10

Connaught's Own) TA was restructured as part of the 59th Anti Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery. This association lasted until 1945, and during this time the badge worn would continue to be the existing version as per the letterhead seen in Fig. 9G.7 and in Fig. Vol. I, Fig.9.15 as described on page 84.

There is categoric photographic evidence of the continued use of this cap badge from an ex-pupil, Wing Commander John Suggate. This is important evidence because although the photograph of the uniform worn in 1942 has a cap badge which, although vague, appears to be the same shape as that of the 59th, there is an article in the *British and Commonwealth Forum* suggesting that from 1938 until 1945 the Corps wore standard Royal Artillery insignia. This remains an outstanding query until further evidence is available, but is probably a question of reference to the 6th being part of the Royal Artillery. The available evidence suggests that the standard field gun cap badge was not worn. One definite outcome, however, was that terminology changed: for example, corporal, platoon and company became bombardier, troop and battery.

The uniform of 1942 is described as service dress tunic with brass buttons, leather belts, trousers and side caps, shoes (no gaiters) and no shoulder flashes. The uniform can be seen in the General Inspection Parade photograph of 1942, where the Inspecting Officer is Major General Rowan Robinson. The script at the base of the photograph is incorrect in calling the Corps a CCF; this was a change that would not be seen until ten years later. Fig. 9G.8

In 1941 (other ex-scholar opinion suggests 1939) the Price's Corps lost a great deal of its school-based autonomy when it was faced with lessening numbers (50) and required to become a company of the Fareham area's 14th Hampshire Cadet Battalion, much against the views of many in the school, who saw it as a retrograde step. The unit was known as 'The Price's School Company' although officially it became the No. 2 Company in 1945. This particular move, which involved an association with the Army Cadet Force (ACF) perhaps explains why the School Corps did not follow the example of Winchester, Bournemouth, Churcher's or Portsmouth Grammar Schools in becoming part of the Junior Training Corps (JTC) system at this time.

The Price's Corps was recorded as being termed an Artillery Corps in 1949/1950 'following a change in parent unit', although the school magazine does not

specify which; the corps formed into two batteries in 1951. Subject to confirmation, the dates of the parent unit change suggest that it could have been the remerging of the 59th and 69th Regiments of the RA (see Volume I, page 83).

Being part of the ACF lasted until 1952, when it was decided it should join the ranks of Combined Cadet Forces (CCFs).

The RAF section commenced life in 1953 and the Navy section in 1962.

From the end of the Second World War until 1955 the *LION* reports that the Corps was again affiliated to the Royal Hampshire Regiment; however, in 1955 the dark blue beret of the CCF army section sports the Price's Lion cap badge for the first time (Vol I, Fig. 12.42). The RAF section also wore the Lion cap badge until 1970 when it changed to the standard brass RAF cap badge with QC. Fig. 9G.9

After the re-formation of the band in 1959 as a permanent platoon of the Corps, promoted ranks used Rifle Brigade chevrons, green for corporals and red for sergeants. Drum Majors' chevrons consisted of four red chevrons inverted at the base of the arm. Examples of the coloured chevrons plus the normal Army CCF type for corporals can be seen in Fig. 9G.10. Drummers in the band were categorised as 1st or 2nd class with numerous tests to be completed before the former could be achieved and recognised. The green felt from the rear of chromed drums worn on the lower forearm denoting 2nd class was replaced by red felt in recognition of achieving the 1st class level. The writer's drums are shown in Fig. 9G.11.

The School magazine's last reference to the Band occurred in 1965, and its last reference to the PRICE'S

CCF in December 1975 when the last edition of the *LION* was published as the school ceased to be a Grammar School and became a 6th Form College.

I feel that I must add a note of caution when it comes to the range of dates associated with the wearing of different cap badges: the availability of *LION* magazines is patchy and the written memories of ex-Corps and CCF cadets vary somewhat – they often conflict with each other, particularly with regard to the 1938 to 1955 period. A considered view of the range of dates and insignia worn would be:

1908 to 1926: Regulars' Hampshire Regiment cap badge worn.

1926 to 1945: 6th Battalion Hampshire Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) cap badge worn.

1945 to 1955: Either Regulars' Hampshire Regiment cap badge worn (although in 1949/51 the Corps is recorded as an Artillery Corps; a possible conflict of record exists here) or more probably the 6th Battalion's insignia was worn until the introduction of the Lion badge.

1955 to 1975: Price's Lion cap badge worn.

Note: The Old Priceans' CCF website refers to a Royal Artillery cap badge for 1938 to 1945 and a Hampshire Regiment cap badge for 1945 to 1955; I believe that the available evidence such as it is does not confirm the use of two separate badges. The reference to these two units could be accommodated by the continued use of the 6th Battalion Hampshire Regiment cap badge and its evolution into a Royal Artillery TA Regiment whilst retaining the 'Hampshire' link in the unit's title? As ever, all this is subject to any alternative and as yet unfound evidence.



9G.11