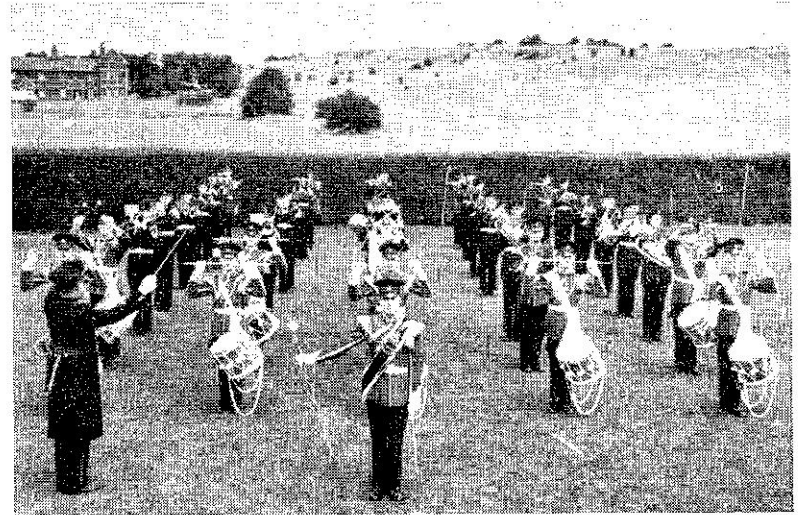


**The Junior Soldier's Wing  
Bandsmen & Drummers**

The  
Home Counties  
Brigade

Canterbury, Kent

THE  
JUNIOR SOLDIER'S  
WING.



**HOME COUNTIES' BRIGADE DEPOT.**

**CANTERBURY, KENT**

Telephone : 5281, Ext. 208 or 234

All photographs by courtesy of :—

Lambert and Weston, Folkestone, Kent.

## FOREWORD

The Junior Soldiers' Wing of The Home Counties' Brigade trains Junior Bandmen and Drummers for the four County Regiments of the Brigade :—

THE QUEEN'S ROYAL SURREY REGIMENT.

THE QUEEN'S OWN BUFFS : THE ROYAL KENT REGIMENT.

THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT : (Duke of Cambridge's Own).

All these Regiments are World Famous, have a glorious History and continue to add honour to their names in all parts of the world.

They all have first class Bands and Corps of Drums of which they are most proud.

This little booklet will tell you something of the prospects of a MUSICAL CAREER in the Army, and about life as a Junior Bandman or a Junior Drummer whilst under training at Canterbury.

You may join us at any time between the age of 15 and 17½ (of course, the younger, the better), and receive all the excitement of Junior Leader training coupled with expert training for a Musical Career.

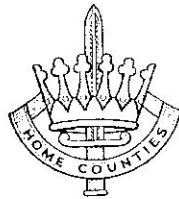
For any further information you require contact The Junior Soldier's Wing, Home Counties' Brigade, Canterbury, Kent. Ask for The Officer Commanding or The Brigade Bandmaster. Telephone :— Canterbury 5281. Extensions 234 or 208.



SURREY



KENT



HOME COUNTIES BRIGADE



SUSSEX



MIDDLESEX



## A MUSICAL CAREER IN THE ARMY

The Army offers you a fully comprehensive musical education completely FREE. In fact, the Army pays you a first class wage whilst you are studying and making a musical career for yourself.

Most of the best Orchestras, Bands and Dance Ensembles have a large percentage of musicians who received their musical training in the Services, a training which otherwise they could never have afforded.

The musical training provided by the Army to suitable candidates would cost a tremendous amount of money to obtain in civilian life. Even if you have the high standard of musical proficiency required to be awarded a Scholarship to one of the Colleges of Music, you would still be dependent on your parents for clothing, living accommodation and spending money.

In the Army, on the other hand, you can obtain the same high standard of musical training not only FREE, but with full pay, clothing and accommodation provided.

## JUNIOR DRUMMERS



The Corps of Drums is the oldest musical combination in the British Army, and dates back to about 1557. Drummers are, however, essentially first class soldiers, and their musical ability comes second.

In The Home Counties' Brigade today each Drummer is required to be a highly trained Infantryman, and The Corps of Drums is indeed the leading platoon in the Regiment.

### TRAINING.

As a Junior Drummer at Canterbury you learn a certain amount of musical theory, and are taught to play the Flute, Bugle and Drum. At the same time you are introduced to Weapon Training, Fieldcraft and your Military Training runs parallel to your musical training.

Junior Drummers carry out much the same programme at Canterbury as the Junior Bandsmen except there is more emphasis on Military Training.

On reaching the age of 17½, Drummers go on to The Brigade Depot for Basic Infantry Training and then join their Regiments. Thus as a Junior Drummer you get a real head start over other recruits and have every opportunity of becoming a Non-Commissioned Officer within a short space of time.

### PROMOTION.

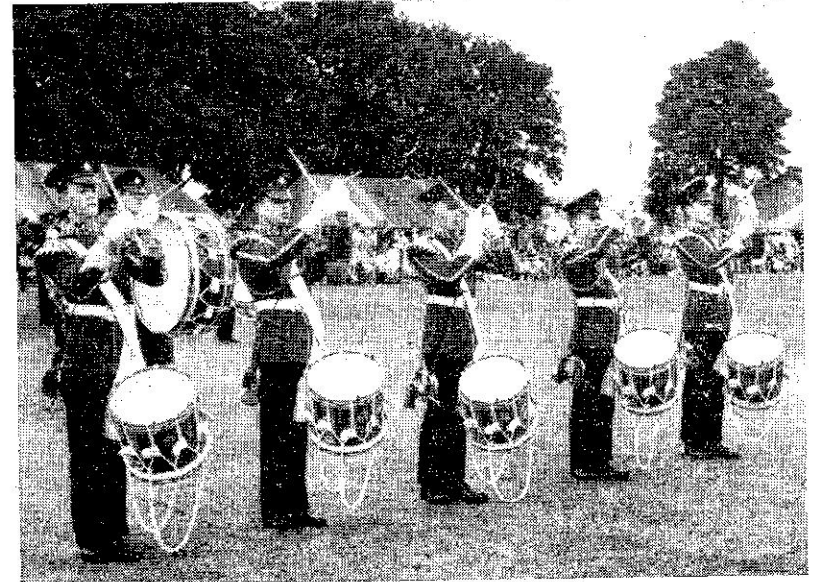
Promotion in The Corps of Drums is rapid for the right type of man. The Drum Major who is chosen for his military bearing and knowledge of The Corps of Drums is on a par with the Band Sergeant, and can reach the rank of W.O.II on time promotion. Thereafter he can qualify for promotion to Regimental Sergeant Major (R.S.M.), who has the rank of Warrant Officer Class One, the same as the Bandmaster.

So you see there is plenty of scope for the lad who becomes a Junior Drummer and who is keen to get on and make a career for himself in one of the Regiments of The Home Counties' Brigade.

## LIFE IN THE JUNIOR SOLDIER'S WING

Here at Canterbury we have The Junior Soldier's Wing. At present there are 80 Junior Soldiers under training as Bandsmen and Drummers for the four Home Counties' Regiments.

You will want to know something of the type of life you will lead until you join your Regiment.



## TRAINING.

All Junior Soldiers carry out an interesting balanced programme of training which includes—Music, Military Training, General Education, Physical Training, Sport, Adventure Training, Hobbies and Pursuits.

The Bandsmen naturally concentrate more on Music whilst the Drummers have more Military Training, but all take part in other subjects, and all the training is made interesting and practical.

The Adventure Training is linked to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, and camping expeditions, canoeing, cycling and mountaineering trips are organised for those interested.

The Hobbies and Pursuits are also organised on the lines of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and include:—First Aid and Stretcher Bearing, Fire-fighting, Drama, Printing, Photography, Wood-work, Pottery, Art, etc., etc. In fact, we aim to encourage you in all interesting and useful hobbies and pursuits; which incidentally also qualify you towards earning Bronze, Silver and Gold awards from the Duke of Edinburgh.

## EDUCATION.

In the modern army all promotion is linked to educational standards because of the variety and often technical nature of the jobs each soldier is required to master. Every soldier must be capable of accurate and well informed judgement and be able to fend for himself under all conditions. The aim at this Wing is to extend your general education to give you an all round knowledge of essential subjects and to see that you are capable of passing the necessary examinations to qualify for promotion. Obviously the sooner you can do this the better career prospects you will have in the Army. The highly qualified teaching staff from The Royal Army Educational Corps give you every help and encouragement.

## SPORT



Apart from regular P.T. under the Army Physical Training Corps, all Junior Soldiers are given expert instruction in all popular games and sports. This Wing produces teams for most games and competes with other Service and Civilian Clubs at Football, Hockey, Cricket, Basket Ball and Athletics. Swimming is also encouraged and instruction given to beginners.

## MUSICAL TRAINING



As Bandsmen you are given a well graduated course of musical instruction. If you have already started to play an instrument you can continue, otherwise you are helped to choose the instrument most suited to you. In the Military Band the following instruments are used:—Flute and Piccolo, Clarinets, Oboes, Bassoons and Saxophones, French Horns, Cornets, Trombones, Euphoniums, Bases and Percussion (Orchestral Drums, Tympani, etc.). In addition to the above: Dance Band Instruments such as Trumpets, Guitars and Double Bass are also encouraged.

The Theory of Music is taught in conjunction with your instrument, and facilities are provided for you to learn to play the piano-forte or a stringed instrument such as the Violin, Viola, 'Cello and Double Bass.

Fully qualified musical instructors are here to give you lessons and help you to widen your musical range.

## THE DAILY ROUTINE



The Junior Soldier's Wing is conducted on the lines of a Boarding School, but under Military Discipline. We realise that this training period for you is an apprenticeship for the Army and we spare no effort to make it thorough, realistic and encouraging.

We have a staff of Officers, Warrant Officers and N.C.O.'s assisted by the Padre and Medical Officer who realise your problems and needs and can give you individual care and attention.

After the day's work you will find relaxation in the Social Club, which is run and organised by a committee of Junior Soldiers chosen by vote, and under the guidance of the Officer Commanding. In the club you have a Games Room, Television, Quiet Room and Library, a Refreshment Room and Lounge.

It is a Social Centre, and we organise Dances and other social activities to which you may bring guests.

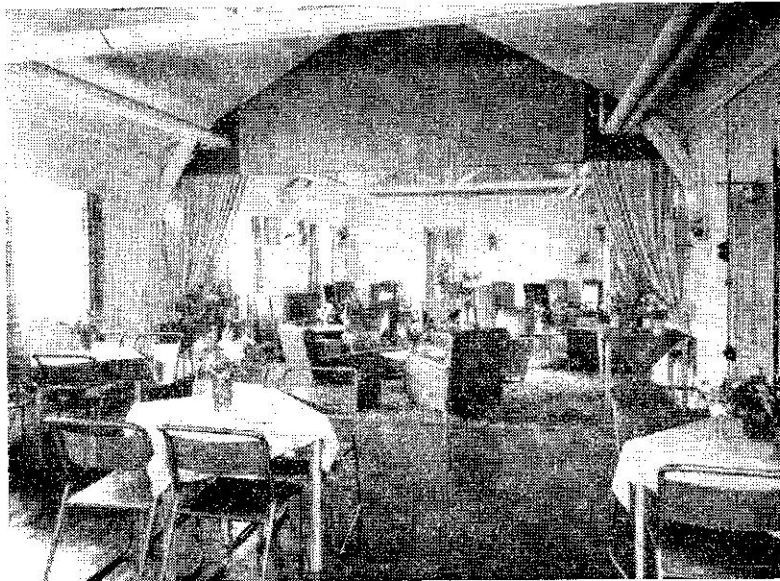
You are also allowed to go out into Canterbury most evenings, and you can earn further privileges by steady progress and good behaviour.

## HOLIDAYS

Like any normal boarding school we work to set school terms; here you have at least 10 weeks PAID holiday each year, which usually consists of four weeks in the summer, three at Christmas and three at Easter. In addition you will have a long half-term break during each term.

You receive FREE travel warrants on British Railways for the main holidays, and H.M. Forces rates for all other journeys, which is a considerable saving on the normal civilian rates.

## ACCOMMODATION AND WELFARE



The rooms at Canterbury are bright, modern and comfortable; if you do not believe us, come and see for yourself (without obligation).

The uniform is FREE, and all Junior Soldiers wear a form of Service Dress. Those who qualify to play in the Junior Band and Drums (formed by the Seniors) wear the smart Blue No. 1 Dress, whilst Drummers can on special occasions wear the ceremonial scarlet.

Television is supplied to the Social Club and Wireless to all living rooms through a Rediffusion system.

The policy of this Wing is to lead, rather than compel in the matter of Religion. The Padre holds weekly services which you may attend, and all denominations are catered for. The Padre is always available to give you help and advice.

## TERMS OF SERVICE

Junior Bandsmen and Drummers enlist to serve for a period of nine years with The Colours, which commences from the day you become 18, and three years with the Army Reserve. Your overall service starts from the day you enlist and counts for everything except pay and pension.

## PAY

Pay in the Army, like pay throughout the country, is liable to alteration owing to the rising cost of living, etc., and your rates of pay are under constant review by the War Office to ensure that at all times you are on a par with the civilian population.

At the present moment the undermentioned rates are correct, your local Army Information Office will be able to inform you if there has been any alterations.

The Army feed you, clothe you and house you completely FREE of charge, and they also pay you extra money called Ration Allowance (at present 6/2d. per day) when you go on leave of 72 hours or more. Also a small allowance is credited to you each week as a Clothing Allowance.

When overseas, a Local Overseas Allowance is paid if the cost of living in the country you are stationed is higher than the cost at home. Germany (B.A.O.R.), Cyprus, Singapore, Malaya and Hong-kong are but a few of the many places where this Allowance is paid.

On enlistment as a Junior Soldier your pay is £2 2s. 0d. per week, and this rises by service and other qualifications up to £3 17s. 0d. after two years' service.

Enlisting as a Junior Soldier (Bandsman or Drummer) you are required to contract for at least a nine year engagement, therefore the following pay rates are based on a nine year contract.

On becoming 17½ years of age you cease being a Junior and are classified as a Bandsman or Drummer and your pay increases to a **BASIC wage of £6 9s. 6d.** if you have the necessary qualifications this rate **can be as high as £8 8s. 0d.** When you consider that this is virtually pocket money, you will be able to see how very favourably you compare with your friends who are still in civilian life.

If you decide to marry; from the age of 18 years you can receive a further £2 16s. 0d. to £4 4s. 0d. per week on top of your normal salary depending on your rank.

If you are living with your wife you are also entitled to Ration Allowance, which gives you a further £2 3s. 2d. per week.



Your rates of pay then continue to increase as you are promoted, and if you become a Class 1 Tradesman (as you can in the Band because a Bandsman is classified as a Tradesman), and also hold the rank of Corporal your weekly rate of pay will be **£9 16s. 0d. plus**; if you are married you will receive an extra £2 16s. 0d. and if your wife is with you a further £2 3s. 2d. Ration Allowance.

Soldiers are liable to P.A.Y.E. Income Tax on all pay, but Ration Allowance and Local Overseas Allowance are untaxed.

## **HOW TO JOIN**

If you are between the ages of 15 and 17½ all you have to do is to write to us and tell us that you are interested in a Career in the Army. We will then arrange for the Officer Commanding, the Bandmaster, or one of our qualified representatives to come and interview you in your home, because we like to meet your parents as well as you, then any points that you wish to raise can be explained.

Having made sure that you are keen, suitable and the right type, we arrange for you to be enlisted by your nearest Army Information Office.

If there is still anything further that you wish to know about this Wing and life at Canterbury or your prospects in the Home Counties' Brigade, please write, or come and see us; there is no obligation.

Remember the address :—

**JUNIOR SOLDIER'S WING,  
HOME COUNTIES' BRIGADE DEPOT,  
CANTERBURY, KENT.**

**Telephone :—Canterbury 5281. Extensions 234 and 208.**