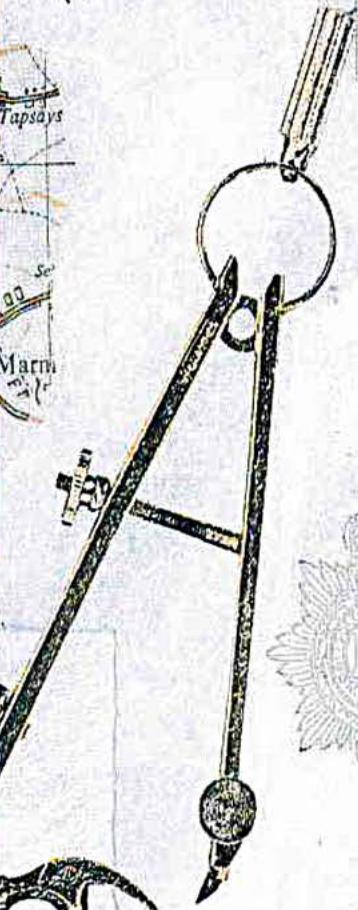
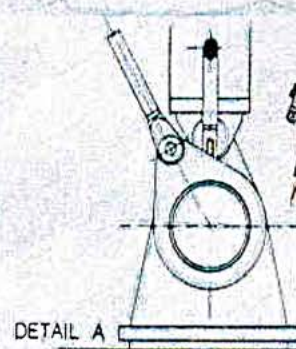
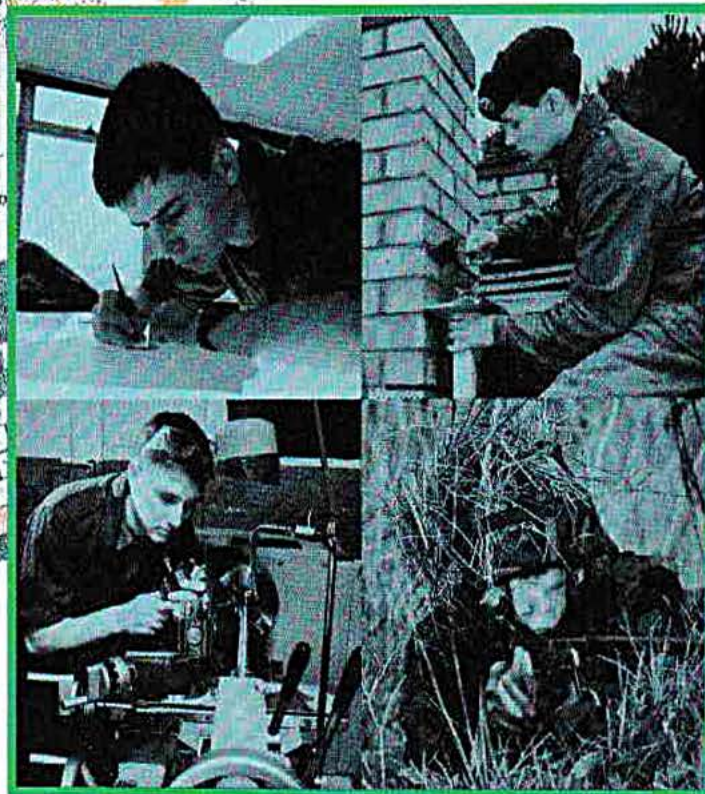


ARMY APPRENTICES COLLEGE *chepstow*



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Pond Farm Hains Great Down Burn Ashley Plantation Iron Age Remains found Quarry G.P. School

21st F.P. Moor Court Farm

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PHILHAM 77

BISHOP'S C

HOLWELL

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FOREWORD

It may seem strange to start this booklet by highlighting an event which takes place at the end of an Apprentice's successful course at the Army Apprentices College, Chepstow - the Passing Out Parade.

We do so, however, for a very good reason...

We want to make you aware, from the outset, that Passing Out from the College is a very considerable achievement... and one that should make both Apprentices and their parents or guardians very proud.

In six terms, successful Apprentices at Chepstow become qualified tradesmen, accomplished professional soldiers, and fully rounded, caring individuals. In short, having fulfilled the College Charter, they then take their place within the adult ranks of the Corps of Royal Engineers or the Royal Corps of Transport - with every prospect of rapid promotion.

The College, itself, can only create an atmosphere where academic and practical skills are able to flourish. It is up to each



and every individual Apprentice to make the most of the opportunity the College provides through dedication and hard work. This booklet gives you some idea of that opportunity... it is for you to decide whether you want to try and take it.

We have sub-titled the booklet *A Training For Life...* because that is exactly what an Apprentice at the College can gain. Chepstow provides young men with the opportunity to achieve rapid promotion and the responsibility that goes with it.

Before you Pass Out from the College, you can be sure that you will have first successfully convinced us that you have the many qualities a rewarding career in the Army demands - technical or craft skill, military expertise and professionalism, mental agility, a caring attitude, physical fitness, total commitment, and leadership ability.

You may feel the Royal Engineers and the Royal Corps of Transport ask a lot of their soldiers. They do so for a very good reason...

THE CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS

The British Army of today is a highly mobile and mechanised fighting force. As a result, the need for the Corps of Royal Engineers is greater than ever. In war the Royal Engineers are tasked with helping the Army to fight, to move, and to live, while preventing the enemy from doing the same. Their tasks include:

- Construction and repair of bridges, roads, obstacles, buildings, airstrips, airfields and helicopter pads, and the preparation of field defences.
- Getting the Army across or through obstacles whether natural or man made.
- Constructing and operating water points and erecting bulk fuel installations.
- Demolition work of all kinds including Bomb Disposal.
- Generating and distributing electric power in both civil and military projects.
- Military survey work to produce (Ordnance Survey) maps worldwide.
- Postal and Courier services.
- Maintaining a Parachute and Commando Engineer capability.



In peacetime, the Royal Engineers make their valuable engineering skills available at the scene of natural disasters, or to developing countries by undertaking various engineering projects - 40 such projects in 1987 which is about average. Natural disasters at which they have assisted include the Mexico City earthquake in September 1985, the El Salvador earthquake of October 1986, and, in 1987, the cyclones which hit Cook Island and Vanuato in January and February, the snows which brought Kent to a standstill in January, and the hurricane which devastated the south east of England in October.

It is to ensure that the Royal Engineers continues to receive well-motivated and skilled craftsmen and technicians to fill the all important senior NCO, Warrant Officer and Clerk of Works appointments, that the Army Apprentices College, Chepstow, exists. Here young men aged between 16 and 17 years 6 months on joining are given a thorough foundation training in the respective engineering trades, as well as basic military training and leadership skills. In addition, each Apprentice continues his academic education - and much of this tuition is designed to support trade training directly.

Armed with these combined skills, the Apprentices then progress to the adult Army and the majority undergo combat engineer training at 3 Training Regiment Royal Engineers near Aldershot, prior to joining a field unit.

THE ROYAL CORPS OF TRANSPORT

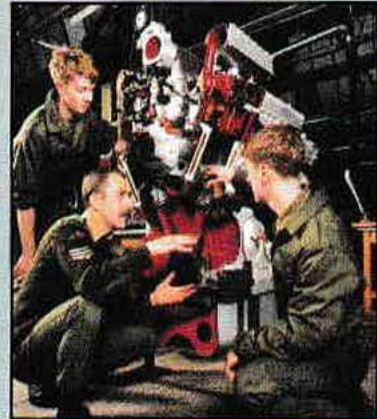
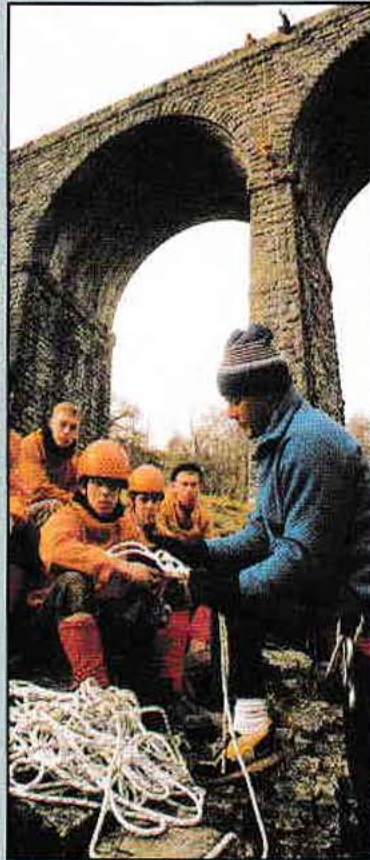
The Royal Corps of Transport (RCT) is responsible for organising, manning and operating the Army's complex transport system by land, sea and air, in both war and peace. The Marine Engineers of the RCT are employed on the ships and vessels of the RCT's maritime fleet. They qualify as diesel fitters at the College and then move on to the Maritime Division of the Army School of Transportation at Gosport to complete their training. The RCT's maritime fleet operates around the world.



THE ARMY APPRENTICES COLLEGE

The College was established in 1923 at Aldershot as the "Boys Technical School", and was the first of its kind in the Army. Designed to satisfy the demand for soldiers with technical training and craft expertise in an increasingly sophisticated Army, the School moved to a purpose-built site on the Beachley Peninsula, near Chepstow, on the 28th February 1924. It became the Army Apprentices College in 1966. During its history it has been responsible for producing skilled tradesmen for a variety of Corps and Regiments. Today, however, with the exception of a small number of Marine Engineers for the Royal Corps of Transport, Apprentices are destined for careers in the Corps of Royal Engineers.

The College offers excellent training facilities in modern, well furnished and equipped accommodation. It is one of the finest residential Technical Colleges in the country, and is situated in very beautiful countryside on the borders of Gloucestershire and Gwent between the rivers Wye and Severn. The majority of the original buildings were replaced throughout the 1960s with modern purpose built accommodation, and the College, today, can train up to 700 Apprentices at any given time.



THE ROLE OF THE COLLEGE

The role of the College is to produce soldier tradesmen who will be a major source of senior NCO's and Warrant Officers, Clerks of Works, and Specialist Commissioned officers. This is achieved by providing military and leadership training, trade training, and educational studies so as to train Apprentices to at least Army Class 3 employment standard. In addition, civilian qualifications may be gained in each trade, although the Army trade test is the primary aim of Apprentice trade training.

AN APPRENTICESHIP AT CHEPSTOW

A technician or craft apprenticeship at the Army Apprentices College, Chepstow, lasts for two years. At the end of these two years, successful Apprentices will leave with a military trade classification and an equivalent civilian qualification. RCT Marine Engineers leave after five terms.

The course at Chepstow covers trade training, the basic military training that all entrants to the Army undergo, education and leadership training.

Trade training and education are, of course, very important, but what makes Chepstow stand out in comparison with civilian Technical colleges is that we attach great importance to leadership training – which encourages the development of character and personal qualities. Leadership training includes adventurous activities, challenge pursuits, sport, travel and also progressive responsibility within the College.

You'll find an apprenticeship at Chepstow is tremendously rewarding – not least because of the quality of your fellow Apprentices. In addition, as you progress through College, increased responsibility will rest on your shoulders – responsibility you will be trained to handle. All Apprentices are expected to maintain high standards both in the way they conduct themselves and through their professional ability. This is a challenge which you may, at times, find exacting... but never dull!

The two categories of Apprenticeship available, the technician and the craft apprenticeship are listed below. (At the time you apply to enter the college you are unlikely to have received your exam results. **Therefore we will accept your headmaster's forecast of your likely grades.**)

TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIPS	ENTRY STANDARDS
Air Survey Technician *	Three GCSE passes at Grade C in: Mathematics English Science/Technical subject
Field Survey Technician *	
Survey Cartographic Technician *	
Survey Photographic Technician	
Survey Print Technician	
Surveyor Engineering *	
Design Draughtsman *	
Draughtsman (Electrical and Mechanical) *	
Construction Materials Technician *	
Marine Engineer RCT	
CRAFT APPRENTICESHIPS	
Fitter RE *	Three GCSE passes in: Mathematics at Grade C English at Grade D Science/Technical subject at Grade C
Fitter Machinist	
Electrician RE *	
Sheet Metal Worker	Three GCSE passes at Grade D in: Mathematics English Craft/Science/Technical subject
Blacksmith	
Welder RE	
Plumber and Pipefitter	
Carpenter and Joiner	
Bricklayer and Concretor	
Painter and Finisher	
	The above are minimum preferred qualifications.

* These Apprenticeships can lead to the award of the Business and Technician Education Council (BTEC) National Certificate. All others lead to a City and Guilds of London Institute (CGLI) Certificate.

THE COLLEGE ORGANISATION

The College organisation is centred round four training squadrons of about equal size. These training squadrons each contain specific trade groups, and the squadron commander is responsible for all aspects of training for his Apprentices. The military staff in a squadron are responsible for the command and administration as well as carrying out part of the instruction.

Much of the trade training and education is, however, undertaken by civilian instructors who are also part of the squadron staff, and therefore get to know their Apprentices extremely well. This system helps to create a good community atmosphere and ensures continuity so that all Apprentices are able to achieve their best.

86 TRAINING SQUADRON

Welder RE
Sheet Metal Worker
Blacksmith
Plumber and Pipefitter
Electrician RE

87 TRAINING SQUADRON

Fitter RE
Marine Engineer RCT
Fitter Machinist

88 TRAINING SQUADRON

Carpenter and Joiner
Painter and Finisher

89 TRAINING SQUADRON

Air Survey Technician
Field Survey Technician
Survey Cartographic Technician
Survey Photographic Technician
Survey Print Technician
Bricklayer and Concretor
Design Draughtsman
Surveyor Engineering
Construction Materials Technician
Draughtsman E & M

THE TRAINING TRIANGLE

The training you will receive at Chepstow is split between trade training, education, and military and leadership training. These three areas converge and interact with each other, and training in one will help development in the other two areas. During your two years at Chepstow, about half of your time is spent on trade training and the organisation reflects this.

MILITARY AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING

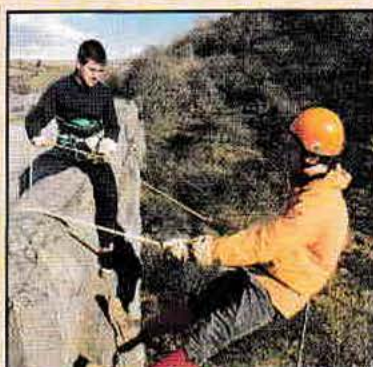
Although Military and Leadership training represents only a part of your training at Chepstow, we give it top priority for two reasons.

Firstly, no matter what your skills in your particular trade, you are primarily a soldier and therefore your basic military training needs to be covered first. Once this initial period is out of the way you can take your place in the College as an Army Apprentice and concentrate on other aspects of your training. Secondly, it is in this area of training that you will develop most – finding new qualities of personality and character, and new confidence in your abilities. It is a most important part of your training and one which you will find demanding. It will require resolve and determination on your part. Your military training starts on arrival, and the first half of your first term is devoted almost entirely to teaching you the basic military skills required of any soldier – however he joins the Army.

In addition to this basic training you will spend about a week each term furthering your military training. This training becomes increasingly demanding and takes place in all weathers.

Physical training and sport play an important part throughout your two years at Chepstow. The College has excellent facilities, and, in addition to the six periods a week of organised physical training, you will have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of sports and activities.

The last five weeks of your final term is also devoted to military training, and testing your military skills. On a final arduous exercise you will be given the opportunity to practise all your various skills in a realistic setting before going on to complete your training at the adult training unit.



However, it is the development of your leadership potential that concerns us most during your time at Chepstow – as you discover your own abilities under exacting conditions. Leadership training takes place throughout your time with us and is carried out in a variety of ways. The most enjoyable and challenging of these are adventurous training exercises which are designed to develop your confidence, personality and your leadership skills – all of which are essential for a successful career in the Army. In a nutshell, we are helping you to find yourself.

EDUCATION

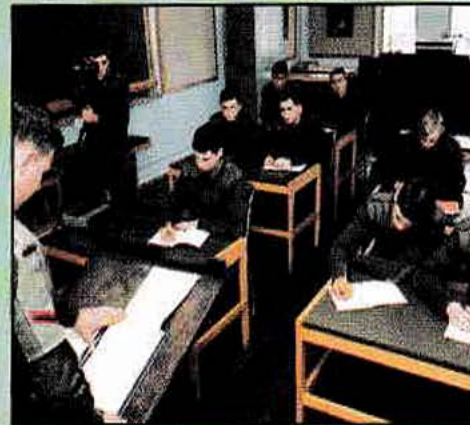
Education at Chepstow is an integral part of your training. The instruction is carried out by Royal Army Educational Corps officers and civilian instructors attached to each squadron. There are three parts to the education training.

IN SUPPORT OF TRAINING

This provides the necessary skills to enable you to take full advantage of trade training and assists you in gaining not only a military trade qualification but also a Business and Technician Educational Council (BTEC) Certificate or a City and Guilds of London Institute (CGLI) Certificate. Both of these qualifications are of great benefit. The BTEC National Certificate is equivalent to two or three 'A' levels and is acceptable to universities and polytechnics as an entrance qualification for many degree courses.

FOR SERVICE

In addition to receiving instruction on the role and organisation of the Army, on insurance and financial matters, and on health education, you will have the opportunity to sit two of the four subjects required for the Education Promotion Certificate. This certificate qualifies you for promotion to Sergeant in the adult Army.



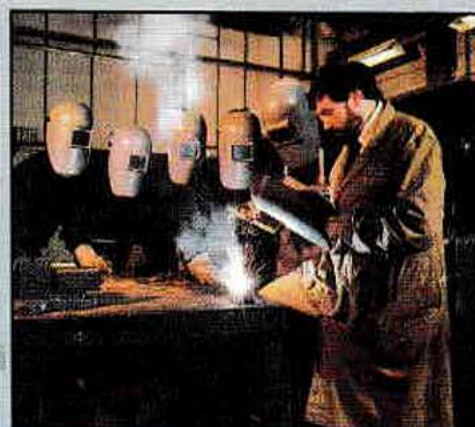
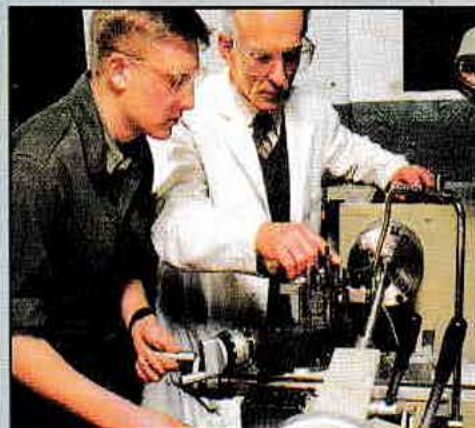
FOR INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT

This part of education is purely voluntary and provides an opportunity to attend evening classes which lead to GCSE examinations. The subjects available are limited, but it does give you a chance to improve your qualifications.

TRADE TRAINING

Trade training is carried out by teams of fully qualified instructors – both military and civilian. The facilities are excellent and consist of well equipped classrooms, workshops and laboratories. The ratio of apprentices to staff is particularly good – thereby allowing a greater degree of individual attention than is normal in a Technical College. Wherever possible, project work both within and outside the College is undertaken by Apprentices; the aim being to give them experience of practical on-site work. The projects below were completed in addition to regular training – so you can see that trade training is comprehensive, and life at the College very full!

- installation of a new WC suite at a RAF Station.
- overhaul of submersible pumps for a wildfowl trust.
- fabrication of a mild steel arch for a military cemetery in Wales.
- construction of display cabinets for use at Chepstow.
- re-painting of a small aircraft hangar in South Devon.
- rewiring of a church at Usk.
- installation of computer cabling at Chepstow.
- soil investigation and alignment survey for a new road on the Sennybridge ranges.
- production of map of a golf course in Kent.



Many trades taught at Chepstow will be familiar – such as Electrician, Blacksmith, Welder, Draughtsman, Plumber and Pipefitter, Carpenter and Joiner, Bricklayer and Concretor. Others may need further explanation ... and we provide a brief outline of what Apprentices in the less familiar trades are trained to do overleaf.

FIELD SURVEY TECHNICIAN

Conducts land surveys using triangulation, astronomical, and satellite survey equipment.



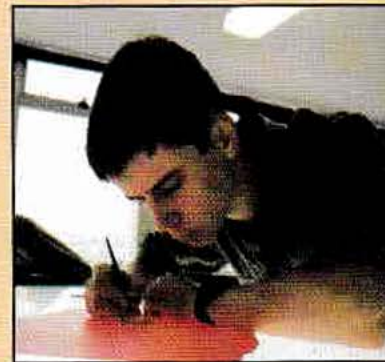
AIR SURVEY TECHNICIAN

Produces flight plans for aerial photography and uses the resulting photographs for new mapping and map revision.



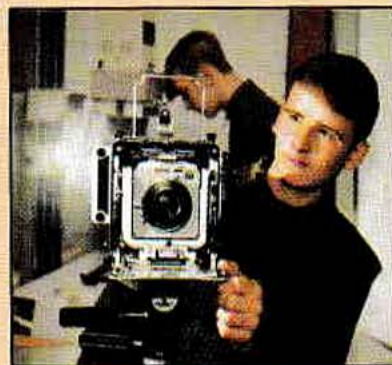
SURVEY CARTOGRAPHIC TECHNICIAN

Designs, compiles and draws topographical maps in a form ready for reproduction.



SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHIC TECHNICIAN

Prepares negative and positive photographs and produces printed plates and colour proofs.



SURVEY PRINT TECHNICIAN

Sets up, maintains and operates a range of lithographic printing machines.



Primarily you are training to be a combat soldier. Expertise in your trade alone, will not guarantee success at Chepstow or in your career. You must be both soldier and tradesman.

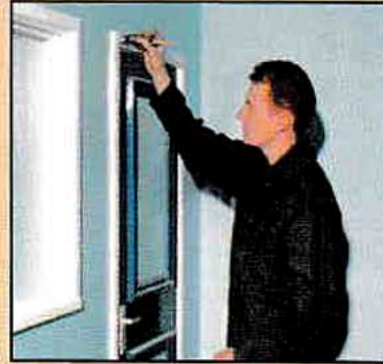


FITTER RE

Repairs the Army's fleet of Engineer construction plant and, in addition, mechanical equipment and engines in power stations, water and petroleum installations.

PAINTER AND FINISHER

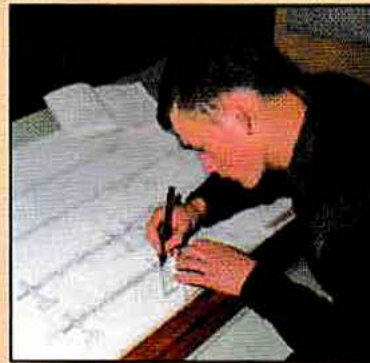
Applies paint and other treatments for preservation, hygiene, decoration and camouflage. Also applies floor finishes, tiles and plaster.



CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TECHNICIAN

Provides the Civil Engineer with data on construction materials for planning, design and quality control on engineering projects.

SURVEYOR ENGINEERING
Establishes control networks, measures ground features for representation on drawings or maps. Designs and sets out roads and airfields.



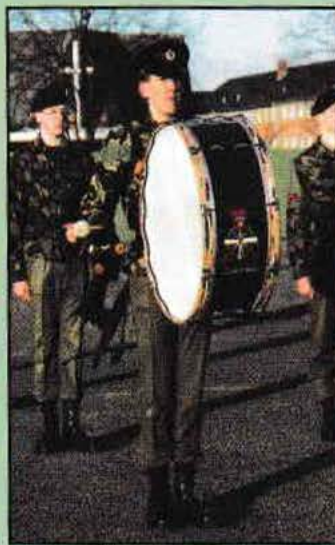
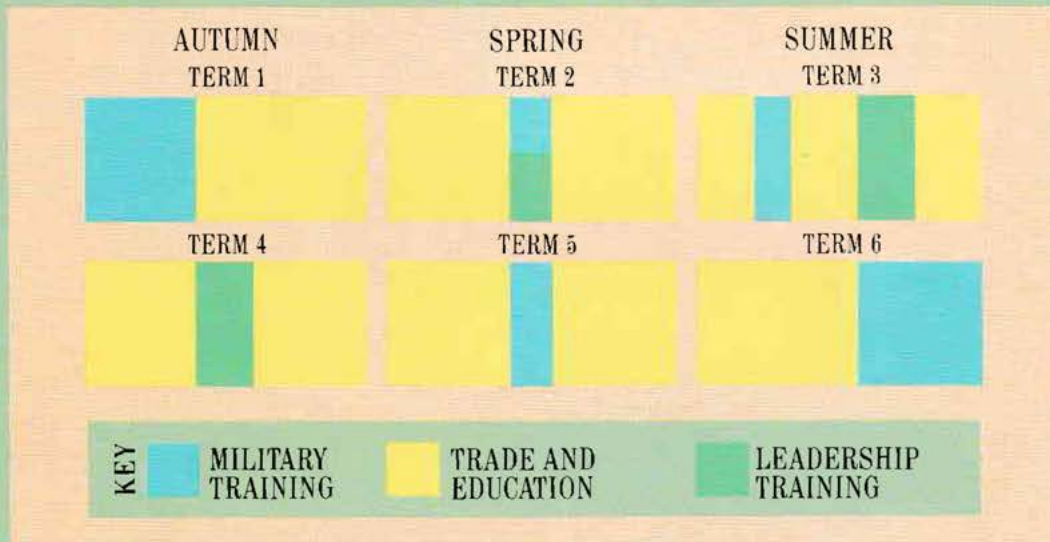
MARINE ENGINEER RCT

Maintains all the mechanical and engineering equipment on RCT fleet vessels.



COLLEGE LIFE

Each year is divided into three terms (of approximately 14 weeks) interspersed by leave periods and half-term breaks. The instructional periods start at 0830 hours and continue until 1700 hours - with an hour and 15 minutes break for lunch. During term time the programme keeps Apprentices fully occupied with instructional periods from Monday to Friday and sport on Wednesday afternoons. The weekends are taken up with military training, sport, hobbies, and squadron and troop administration. Each term there is a one week half-term break. The table below shows the organisation of training during the two year course:



LEAVE

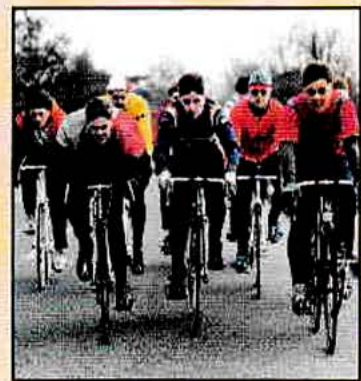
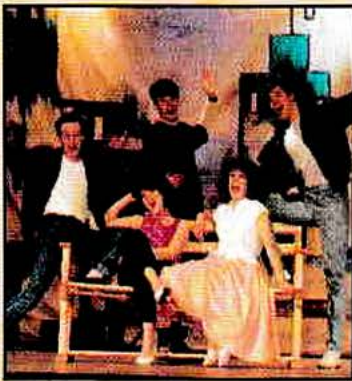
Leave between terms usually amounts to: 2 weeks Spring and Christmas holidays and 4 weeks in the summer. A half-term break of 1 week is granted in the middle of each term. Please note that Apprentices should not ask for extra leave as it unsettles them and deprives them of instruction.

TRAVEL FACILITIES

Apprentices receive four rail warrants a year. Additionally, they are issued with a Forces Railcard entitling them to two-thirds' fare travel on British Rail.

HOBBIES AND SPORTING ACTIVITIES

The College places great importance and value on hobbies and sports. So much so, that two evenings a week plus Wednesday afternoon are devoted to hobbies and sports which are compulsory for all. There is an extensive list to choose from, and each Apprentice must choose two. The list includes:



- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Angling | Modelling |
| Athletics | Model Railways |
| Badminton | Music and Drama |
| Band | Orienteering |
| Basketball | Parachuting |
| Board Sailing | Photography |
| Boxing | Printing |
| Canoeing | Rafting |
| Car and M/C Club | Rugby |
| Choir | Sailing |
| Climbing | Skiing |
| Computer Club | Small Bore Shooting |
| Cricket | Soccer |
| Cross Country | Squash |
| Cycling | Sub Aqua |
| Fencing | Swimming |
| Full Bore Shooting | Table Tennis |
| GCSE Classes | Tennis |
| Gliding | Tug of War |
| Golf | Vehicle Renovation |
| Gymnastics | Volleyball |
| Hockey | Water Polo |
| Judo | Weight Training |
| Karate | |

THE COLLEGE FACILITIES

Some of the College's various facilities are described in detail below:

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation in the College is relatively modern, centrally heated, and comprehensively equipped. Most Apprentices sleep no more than six to a room - although there are some 8 bed rooms. There are, however, a number of rooms that accommodate four, and senior Apprentices have their own rooms.

All the accommodation is designed to give a degree of privacy, and there are modern showers and baths, toilet facilities and service rooms for ironing, drying, cleaning - and a laundry room equipped with washing machines. In addition, each squadron has its own television/recreational room in its particular barrack block. Centrally, within the accommodation area, there is a laundrette for which only a small charge is made. Your needs are well catered for!

CATERING

The College has a large, spacious restaurant - which is not only well equipped but which was Egon Ronay recommended a few years ago! It caters for up to 750 people, and offers a wide self-service selection for all three meals. As the Egon Ronay recommendation would suggest, the quality of food on offer is of a very high standard.

PAY

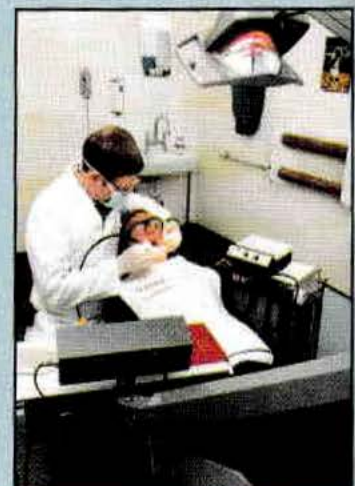
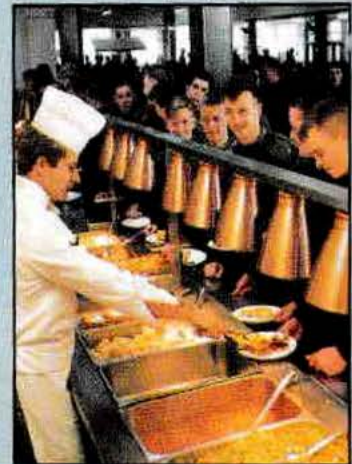
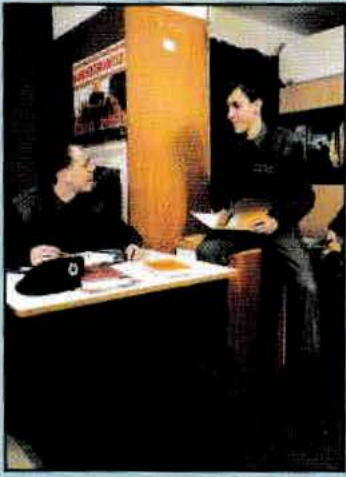
During their first 3 months Apprentices are paid in cash. Thereafter, they become banking soldiers - and have their pay deposited directly into a bank account of their choice. Lloyds Bank operates a College branch which is open once a week on Wednesday. Their cashpoint in the camp also accepts cards from Barclays and the Royal Bank of Scotland.

Current rates of pay are published separately and show the deductions made in respect of Income Tax, National Insurance, food, and accommodation charges. Even after deductions for such items as College track suits and laundry, there is sufficient left in the bank! All Apprentices receive instruction on how best to handle their money during their first term. In addition, pay, banking, savings and insurance are covered in the General Studies syllabus.

It should be noted that Apprentices holding Apprentice NCO or Warrant Officer rank do not receive any additional pay - although Apprentice rank does offer some non-financial benefits... such as the most sought after living accommodation!

MEDICAL AND DENTAL CARE

The College has its own full time civilian medical practitioner. From first arrival, when medical and dental inspections and inoculations take place, Apprentices are well cared for medically throughout their time at Chepstow. There is an excellent Medical Reception Station in the grounds of the College with a resident Matron and a full time physiotherapist. The College also has its own Dental Officer and supporting surgery facilities.



A CARING COMMUNITY

Most new Apprentices to the College are leaving home for the first time and come from all over the UK. Whilst Apprentices are part of the Army, and are treated as adults, every effort is made to recognise their relative youth. The College staff do all they can to make them happy and at ease in their new environment.

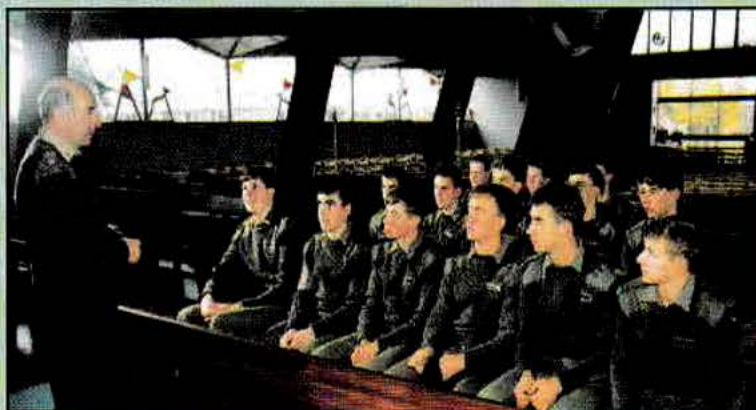
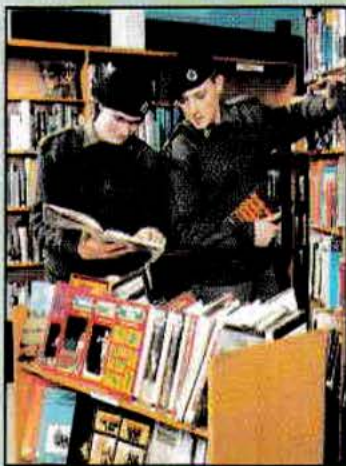
Home sickness can be a problem – even for the most seemingly mature and independent character – and the Squadron officers are there to lend a sympathetic, confidential ear. The Squadron Commander acts in loco parentis and has responsibility for the welfare of the Apprentices under his command. He does, however, delegate much of this responsibility to his troop commanders – who can call upon a number of agencies within the College to assist them in the tasks of welfare, counselling and pastoral care.

All new Apprentices are, however, very much in the same boat... and the great majority soon find new friends and settle happily into College life after a few short weeks. There is certainly enough to keep them occupied!

Pastoral care is well provided for. The College has a regular Army Chaplain – from the Royal Army Chaplain's Department - who is responsible for the spiritual welfare of all ranks and their families working in the College. The Roman Catholic community is served by a local civilian priest – but has its own church within the College.

In addition, there is a Womens Royal Voluntary Service (WRVS) lady who is an integral part of the social and welfare services available within the College. She helps maintain Apprentice morale by providing welfare, leisure, and recreational facilities. The counselling service she provides is particularly important - where the presence of a kindly, mature, feminine influence is often both necessary and effective. The WRVS recreational complex consists of several rooms, comfortably furnished and equipped with billiard tables, bar billiards, darts, small exchange library and magazines, music centre, TV and Video.

The College's Peninsula Club provides a club type environment where Apprentices can relax and unwind during their free time. It also helps them to develop their social awareness and social skills in a controlled, supervised, environment. The Club Committee organises a number of events such as discos, a regular live group performance, social events such as the Summer Dance, out-of-camp trips, and various games and competitions.



YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED...

How will I be selected?

In all cases you must pass the Army Entrance Tests which you will take at your local Army Careers Information Office. After passing these you will take further tests when you attend the Army Personnel Selection Centre. If you wish to apply for either a Design Technician or a Survey and Mapping Technician apprenticeship you will spend three days at the College completing aptitude tests specific to these disciplines before attending APSC for your final tests and interviews.

You will be asked to choose three trades in order of preference. Selection to a specific trade will depend on many factors – including the results of your Army Entrance Tests (and aptitude tests if taken), your achievements at school and what vacancies may be available.

Can I choose any trade I want?

Can I visit the College?

If you appear suitable and wish to be considered for a Design or Survey apprenticeship, you will spend three days at the College as explained above. If you are being considered for trades other than Design or Survey and appear likely to be offered an apprenticeship, the Army Careers Information Office can arrange for you to visit the College. When you are finally allocated a vacancy here your future Squadron Commander will write to you, giving full details of the squadron you will be joining, inviting you and your parents to spend a day at the College to see where you will sleep, eat, work and play.

A soldier's training continues throughout his career. You will, however, be very nearly ready to join your Regiment. Before doing so, depending on your trade, you'll either spend three months at 3 Training Regiment, Royal Engineers, or three months at the School of Military Survey. RCT Marine Engineers spend 5 terms at Chepstow and then attend a 6-month Marine Fitter conversion course. Military training is a vital part of the curriculum, and the College's overall aim is to revise, improve and continue military training throughout the whole of your stay at the College – but at the same time to permit trade and educational studies to continue with the minimum of disruption.

Will I be a fully trained soldier by the time I leave?

Will I need to be physically very fit?

It will help you to be as fit as possible when you arrive. However, you will become very fit during your time at Chepstow. The College – like the Army in general – attaches considerable importance to physical fitness – which thus plays an important

part in the training programme. You'll attend two formal double periods of PT a week and, in addition, you'll have two periods of Squadron fitness training. Fitness is essential to a soldier – not only because you'll need to be fit for your military training, but also because you'll find learning far easier if you are fit and healthy.

Is there much opportunity for playing sport?

Most certainly! On Wednesday afternoons sport takes priority over most other activities and many College teams play at the weekends. The College has tremendous sporting facilities including 38 acres of sports fields, an athletics track, a well equipped gymnasium and a heated indoor swimming pool. In addition, sailing, climbing and canoeing expeditions (amongst others) are arranged and led by permanent staff. Matches are held with other Apprentice Colleges, with units of the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force, and with civilian teams. Sport is encouraged, and as a result, the standard is high.

After a time, you could be selected for promotion to Apprentice non-commissioned or warrant officer. You will then gain not only privileges... but also the responsibility of controlling certain aspects of College life. Remember, there is no extra pay for the ranks held. It is, however, likely that your success at Chepstow will be reflected in your adult career.

How do I gain rank and privileges?

Can I become an Officer?

Exceptional Apprentices are put forward by their Squadron Commanders as possible candidates for a commission. After you leave Chepstow, you can again be recommended for a commission if you prove your suitability whilst serving as an adult soldier.

There are many definitions of leadership in an Army context. Here, it is perhaps wise to say simply that Chepstow will bring out any leadership ability you have. The College's aim is to ensure that you are capable of taking on the responsibility of leadership. The opportunity exists for you to become a senior non-commissioned officer during your career in the Corps of Royal Engineers or Royal Corps of Transport and the College course is designed to help you achieve this. Before an adult corporal can be promoted to substantive sergeant he has, amongst other things, to have passed the four subjects in the Education Promotion Certificate (EPC) examination. An Apprentice has the opportunity to take two of these four subjects whilst still at College.

What does 'leadership ability' mean?

Is there any opportunity to attend social events?

Yes, the Peninsula Club, for example, has three local girls on its committee who help to arrange discos and dances.

Yes, after your first year – provided you are over 17 years old, or, after six months if you have been promoted to apprentice rank. The vehicle must be kept at the College and must be licensed and insured. In addition, you must obtain your Squadron Commander's permission, and have written consent of your parent or guardian. Keeping a vehicle at the College is, however, a privilege which can be withdrawn.

Can I have a motor car or motor cycle at the College?

Can I wear my civilian clothes?

Yes, when you are off duty... provided they are presentable and acceptable!

No, the College provides all the books you require for your training. In addition, there is a well stocked library with large fiction and reference sections, and a Study Centre equipped with all the latest Visual Aids – including video equipment and computers.

Do I have to buy any books?

Will my parent or guardian know how well I am doing?

Yes, they will receive detailed reports on your progress at the end of your first term and at the mid-point of the training.

Yes. The College is a part of the Army, and is run with the same professionalism and efficiency as any Army organisation. During military training, for example, you'll experience living in the field under canvas, eat Army rations and learn all the basic military skills. In addition to your trade training, you'll learn about the Army and its role in the modern world.

Will I find out what the Army is really like?

What if I want to leave?

The Army and Chepstow will not suit everyone. You may find that, for any number of reasons, you are not happy... and believe it unlikely you will ever adapt to College life. You will probably discover this early in your apprenticeship – so the Army makes it possible for you to discharge yourself by right within your first six months, but not until you have served for 28 days.

If you have any further questions please contact your local Army Careers Information Office, in the phone book under 'Army' or write to the address below:

The Staff Officer 2
Army Apprentices College
Chepstow
Gwent
NP6 7YG

AN ALL EMBRACING TRAINING

In summary, the Army Apprentices College, Chepstow, provides young men with the opportunity to gain a head start in life, and is a true and solid foundation for their future. The College aims to produce technicians and craftsmen ready to take their place within the adult ranks of the Army. To do so, they need to be both skilled tradesmen and highly professional soldiers. Before Passing Out from Chepstow, they will have gained the skills and knowledge to ensure that they are.

The Army devotes a great deal of time and money training Apprentices, and expects a return on that investment. You do not, however, have to join the Army for life... and the civilian



qualifications obtained both at Chepstow and throughout a career in the Army, ensure that all trade trained soldiers are more than able to find challenging, rewarding, civilian employment when the time comes.

The training for life you'll receive at Chepstow has to be measured, however, in more than purely paper qualifications. The vast majority of Apprentices leave Chepstow as completely rounded individuals – aware of their own potential and capable of fulfilling that potential. Training is designed to bring out the very best in a young man – both in terms of character and ability.

YOUR FUTURE

You've now been given a brief insight into what the life is like, what you will learn, and what you might achieve through being an Apprentice at Chepstow. But what of life after Chepstow?

We started this booklet with a brief look at the role of the Royal Engineers – the Corps which the great majority of Apprentices join as adult soldiers. It is a Corps with a long and glorious past, and one that will play an increasingly vital role in the Army of the future. You could be an important part of that future as both a highly skilled and respected tradesman, and combat soldier. Those Apprentices destined for the Royal Corps of Transport as Marine Engineers will fulfil an equally important role.



Life as a soldier is challenging, demanding, and, at times it must be said, downright uncomfortable. You will, however, be trained to expect and overcome any eventuality, and your life will be, above all else, tremendously rewarding.

Within a few months of leaving Chepstow you could find yourself as a Combat Engineer on exercise in Germany supporting a Battle Group - clearing minefields, demolishing or building a bridge, or helping your Troop undertake any one of a myriad of battlefield engineering tasks. Your training as a tradesman will then be tested under conditions far different from those in a workshop... as will your abilities as a soldier.

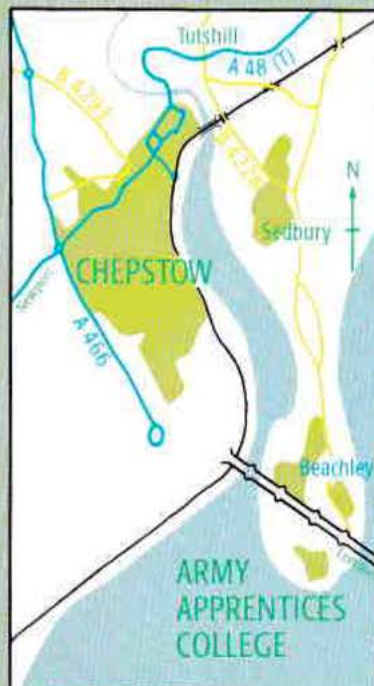
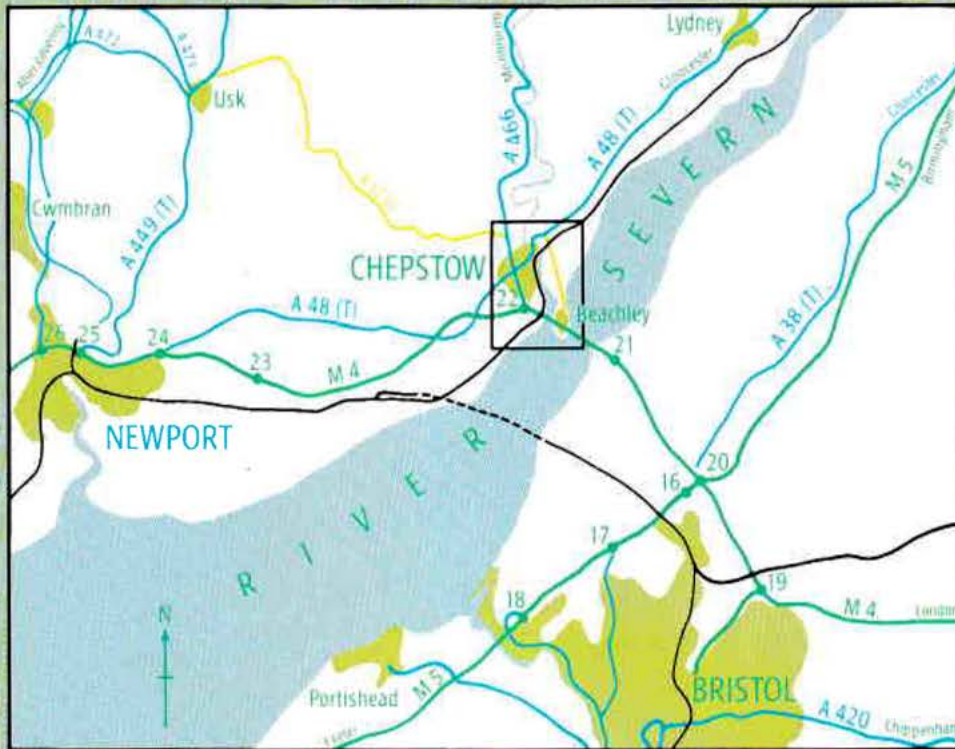
To return to the theme on which we started this booklet...

Should *you* find yourself Passing Out from Chepstow in a couple of years time, then you will truly have gained a training for life. For each Apprentice there are opportunities for a career up to senior Warrant rank, and the very best gain a commission. It can only be grasped, however, through determination and hard work.

YOUR NEXT STEP

If after reading this booklet you feel that you would like to become an Apprentice at the College, or require further information, do call in and see the recruiting staff at your nearest Army Careers Information Office (in the 'phone book under 'Army') or write to:

The Staff Officer 2
Army Apprentices College
Chepstow
Gwent
NP6 7YG



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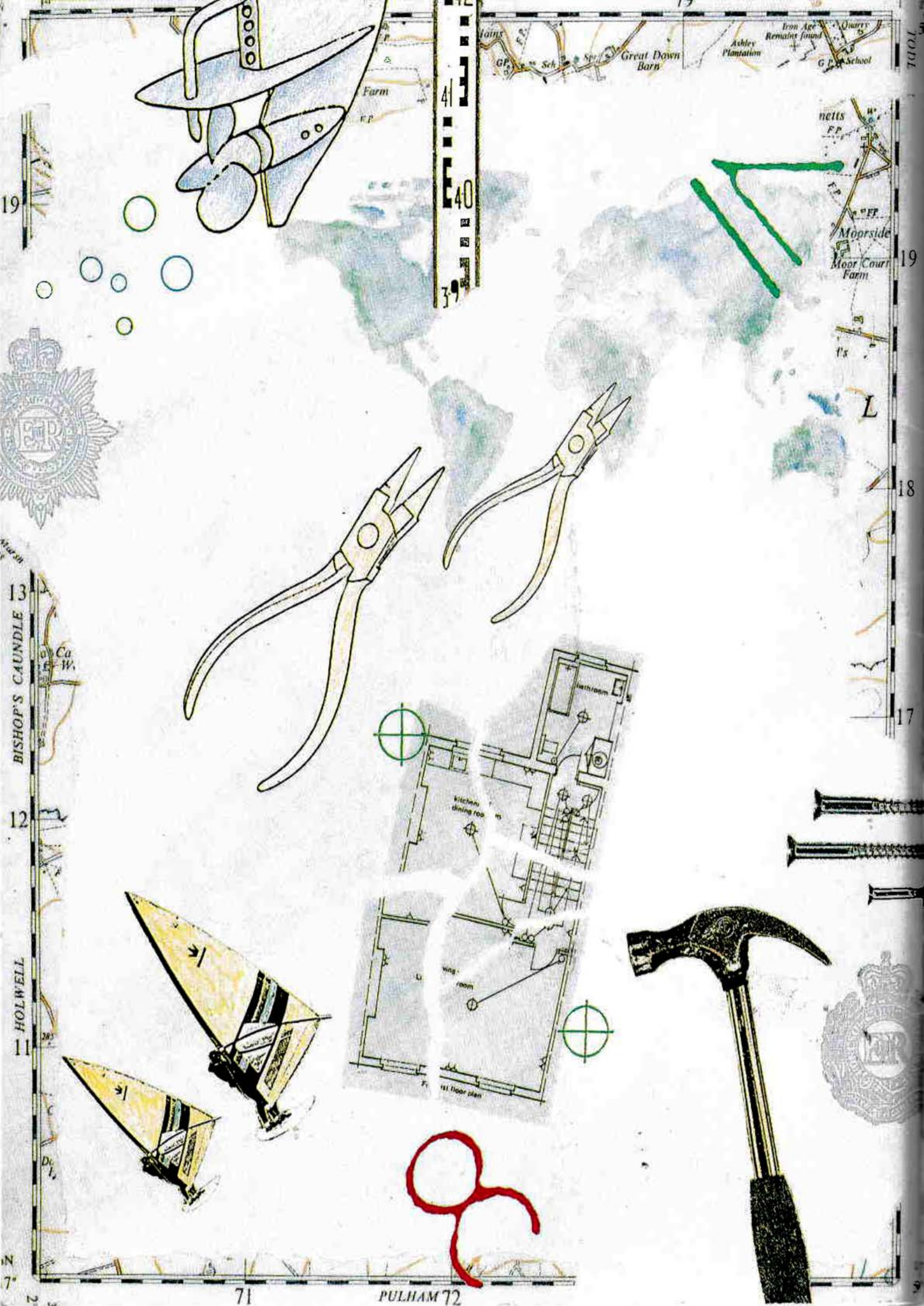
The contents of this booklet are intended for guidance only and cannot be quoted as an authority.

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19

13

12

11

7

40

39

19

18

17

71

PULHAM 72



BISHOP'S CAUNDLE

HOLWELL

Farm

Moorside

Great Down Barn

Ashley Plantation

Iron Age Remains found

Quarry

netts

Moorside

Moor Court Farm

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