

Beauchamp refused to agree to the arrangement and shortly afterwards Lady Lettice obtained a divorce.

With the threat of criminal investigations hotting up Beauchamp resigned most of his offices to avoid a public scandal and fled abroad to Venice. Strangely he held on to his title of Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.

It is recorded that Beauchamp tried to return to his homeland for his wife's funeral but when the ferry was off Folkestone he was warned by a friend on the pier that he might be arrested. So he remained on the ship and quickly returned to Boulogne. Then, in 1936, he heard the news that his

favourite son Hughie had died in a motor accident. This time the Earl did not care if he was arrested and he stepped ashore at Folkestone, without any interference, in order to attend his son's funeral.

Little more is known of the Earl after that, although there were reports of a threatened suicide. He went abroad again and died of cancer in New York City in November 1938, aged 66.

*\*It is claimed the Lord Beauchamp, who had three sons and four daughters, was the model for Lord Marchmain in Evelyn Waugh's novel Brideshead Revisited.*

## Dover County School RE Cadets

Phil Eyden

Under the instruction of the Kent Territorial Association, Dover County School raised its own Cadet Force which officially was recognised by the War Office on the 8th October 1915. The cadets were attached to the RE Territorials and were designated the No.1 Company (Cadets), Cinque Ports Fortress Royal Engineers. Over sixty boys signed up immediately and were issued with service pattern khaki uniform. The school Headmaster, Fred Whitehouse, accepted a commission as Captain and Officer Commanding, teachers Edward Owen-Jones became Captain, Josiah Slater and William Pearce became Lieutenants and the school's Physical Training Instructor, Mr. Frederick 'Paddy' Pascall, was appointed Sergeant Major. All the officers were given military training to assist them in their duties. Captain Mowll granted permission for them to use the Liverpool Street Drill Hall and their 80 rifles on the ranges. The Cadets performed their first parade on



Cadets

14th December in the Maison Dieu Hall to Viscount Duncannon, M.P. for Dover and Lady Duncannon.

By March 1916 the Cadets had reached full capacity of 75 with four officers and had begun to set up their own bugle and drum band thanks to generous donations of instruments by ex-Mayor William Crundall, Dr. Ian Howden of the Dover Anti-Aircraft Corps, Mr. Hugh Leney of the Dover Higher Education sub-Committee and Mr. Morford. The boys were organised in standard RE Company pattern, the Company was divided into four Sections, each commanded by a Sergeant. Each section was divided into two Squads each commanded by a Corporal, so the total number in the Company was four sergeants and eight corporals. Parades took place each Saturday and were accompanied by evening lectures, signalling practice in both semaphore and Morse code, knot tying and telephone operation and at least two route marches per term, frequently on the Deal road.

Territorial officers of the Cinque Ports Fortress RE provided every assistance and staff to complete lectures and assisted the boys in building a practice field telegraph and telephone. Boys were encouraged to attend Archcliffe Fort to observe, learn and assist in duties.

On the 23rd May 1916 the cadets performed an exercise on the east side of the village of Ewell Minnis. The Company was divided into two, attackers and defenders. The defenders set up outposts who reported back to Headquarters information reported by scouts. A flock of sheep were reported back by one scout as "a squad of the enemy approaching from the North-East!" The attack was deemed by the judges as too straggling to succeed

and the defence clearly won. The boys then retired exhausted for their tea.

On June 2nd Frederick Pascall, the PT instructor, received his commission as 2nd Lieutenant.

September 26th 1916 was a nerve - wracking day for the Cadets as they were inspected by Colonel Skey, the Commanding Royal Engineer of the South Eastern Defences. Fortunately the veteran Lieutenant T.T. Richards attended the Drill Hall and gave the lads thorough training in etiquette and appearance. Skey was reportedly delighted with the cadets and complimented them drill skills and on their physical training. On October 16th Dover County School was moved from Ladywell to Frith Road enabling the cadets to use the new school grounds to parade in.

Dover's peace celebration march took place on the 19th July 1918. It was a long afternoon procession of marching bands, charitable and civic organisations. All the local RE units took part, following the Anti-Aircraft Defence Command lorry with its 3 inch gun and ammunition lorry, the 3rd Fortress Company drove past with their lorry decked out to represent their functions, mining, carrier pigeons, tunnelling and fighting men. They were followed by a lorry containing a 120cm Anti-Aircraft searchlight and then the lorry of the 600th Company representing electric lighting, telephones, signalling and yet more pigeons. Following them was a procession of cadets from the Dover County School contingent. The 2nd Buffs, Royal Artillery, RASC, RAMC and RAOC completed the army procession.

*Sources: Pharos magazine archives, Dover Express.*