

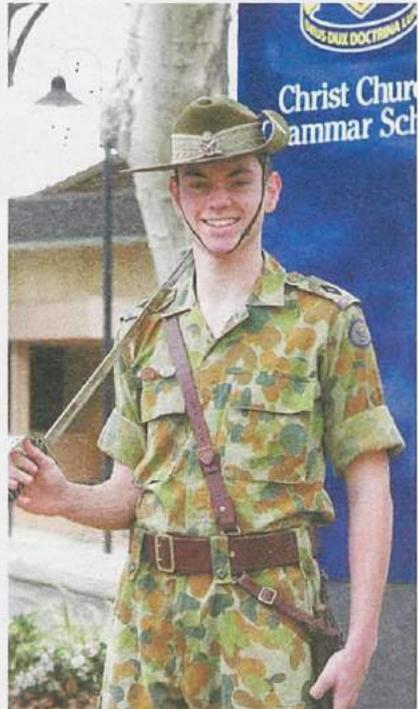
Carrying on a proud army tradition

Edward Elias is a full bottle on Sam Browne.

Edward, a Year 12 Christ Church Grammar School student and army cadet, wears the Sam Browne belt with a sword as part of his duties.

“Sam Browne won a Victoria Cross with the 2nd Punjab in Uttar Pradesh in 1858,” Edward said. “He single-handedly silenced a nine-pounder gun.

“His left arm was severed at the shoulder. Afterwards he designed the belt so he could still draw his



Edward Elias is in charge of 1300 army cadets. Photo: Billie Fairclough

sword while on parade.”

Edward started cadets in Year 10, and has taken on the role of Regional Cadet Under-Officer, making him the most senior cadet in WA and in charge of 1300 cadets.

The change of guard came after a senior leadership course at Irwin Barracks, where Edward and five other Christ Church cadets had intensive training.

Edward said army training was different from the cinema stereotype of a non-commissioned officer shouting abuse at new soldiers.

“We tend not to yell,” he said. “There are more constructive forms of appraisal. But polishing brass is still a key component [of cadet life].”

During the course Edward instructed in and learnt about leadership, drill and field craft, and mastering complicated theory behind logistics.

This weekend Christ Church will join cadets from St Hilda’s and Guildford Grammar on tasks that include a 16km navigation exercise.

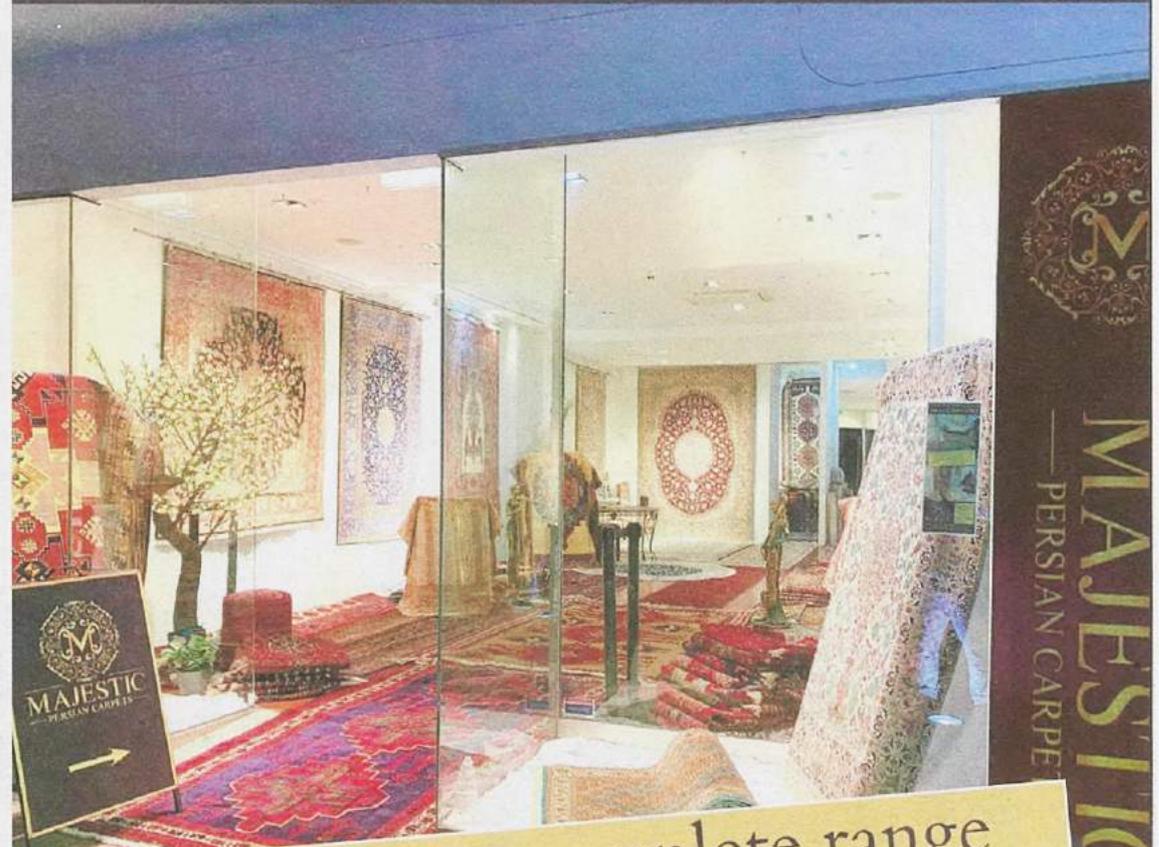
Christ Church cadet coordinator Major Duane Nurse said cadets’ skills were useful in all aspects of life.

“That is why the school has such a significant number of boys participating in cadets year after year,” Major Nurse said.

“It also contributes to cadets being successful in attaining leadership positions within and outside the school.

“We are extremely proud of Cadet Under-Officer Elias and commend him on his latest achievement.”

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