

ROYAL NAVY

Your career guide



YOUR ROLE | THE PEOPLE YOU'LL MEET | THE PLACES YOU'LL GO



WELCOME

Britain is an island nation, so we've always understood the importance of controlling and defending our seas. This is still a big part of what the Royal Navy does, but by no means all. This publication will explain how our Surface Fleet, Submarine Service and Fleet Air Arm fit together, giving you an insight into everything we do on and under the sea, as well as on land and in the air. We'll go on to explain about all the different jobs available and where you could fit in.

We are first and foremost a fighting force, serving alongside our allies in conflicts around the world. We also protect Britain's ports, fishing grounds and merchant ships and help tackle international smuggling, terrorism and piracy. Increasingly, we're involved in humanitarian and relief missions, where our skills, discipline and resourcefulness make a real difference to people's lives.

We can offer you opportunities and job security you will hardly ever find in civilian life. But Royal Navy life has never been a soft option and isn't a decision to be taken lightly. Your parents, guardians, teachers and friends, particularly those with no previous Royal Navy experience or connections, will naturally want to know that it's right for you. The 'Your questions answered' section deals with some of the most common concerns.

We hope this publication helps you in your choice of Royal Navy career and we wish you every success, wherever you decide to serve.

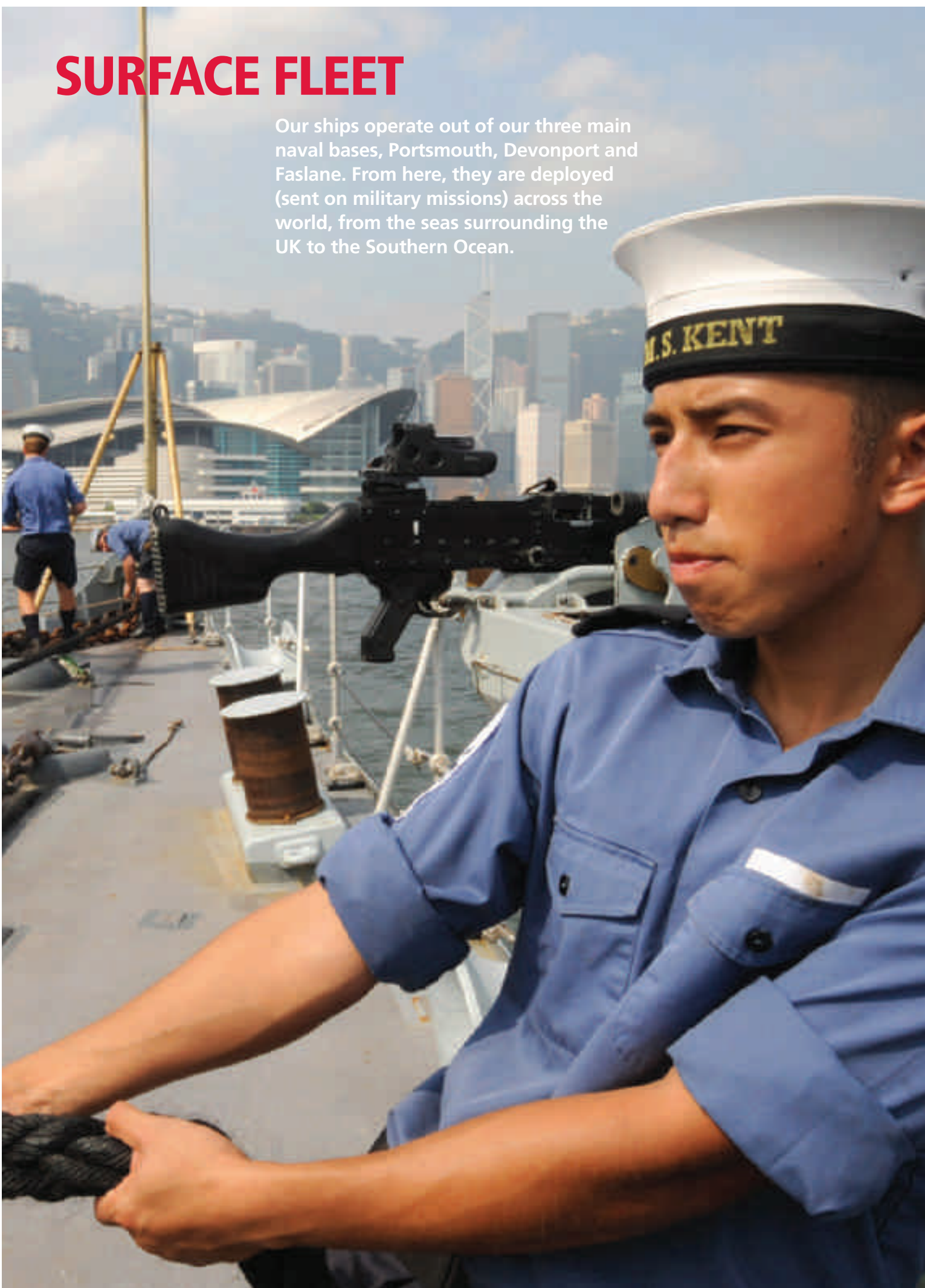
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SURFACE FLEET

Our ships operate out of our three main naval bases, Portsmouth, Devonport and Faslane. From here, they are deployed (sent on military missions) across the world, from the seas surrounding the UK to the Southern Ocean.



Really?

'Jack' – The nickname for Royal Navy sailors. It comes from 'Jack Tar', the name for sailors from the time of Admiral Lord Nelson who put high-grade tar in their hair.



You can sum up our ethos in three words – 'defend, deter, defeat'. You'll find that fighting spirit whichever part of the Royal Navy you decide to join.

Our biggest warships are aircraft carriers, which act as floating airbases for our fast jets and helicopters, and command centres for military and humanitarian operations. We're now developing the next generation, with two new future aircraft carriers due to enter service in the next 10 years. At over 900 feet (280 metres) long and weighing 65,000 tonnes, these formidable ships will be the largest ever built for the Royal Navy. As well as 40 aircraft, each will have a crew of over 1400 people on board. You could be one of them.

Your chosen job could see you serving on board an assault ship, which launch amphibious (landing from the sea) operations involving the Royal Marines Commandos, or on a mine counter-measures ship. In the seas around the UK, our offshore patrol ships protect fishing grounds and carry out anti-pollution, search-and-rescue and maritime policing duties. Meanwhile, our hydrographic ships carry on the vital work of surveying the seas, keeping the charts of the UK and seas around the world up to date.

Destroyers and frigates make up most of the Surface Fleet. In conflict situations, destroyers mainly deal with attacks from the air, while frigates provide defence against other ships and submarines. However, both can handle just about any task, from evacuating a disaster zone to chasing down drug-smugglers, people-traffickers and pirates.

Go to the Global Ops area at royalnavy.mod.uk to see where our ships are today.

HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS

Serving with the Royal Navy will give you unique opportunities to help people caught up in natural and manmade disasters around the world, such as hurricanes or conflict, and become involved in providing humanitarian relief. Around the world, we've restored power to hospitals, helped hard-pressed medical teams and reopened runways for emergency flights. In one operation, we used our ships, aircraft and vehicles to evacuate over 4500 men, women and children from Lebanon. We turned ships' mess decks, offices, storerooms and passageways into makeshift dormitories for them all.



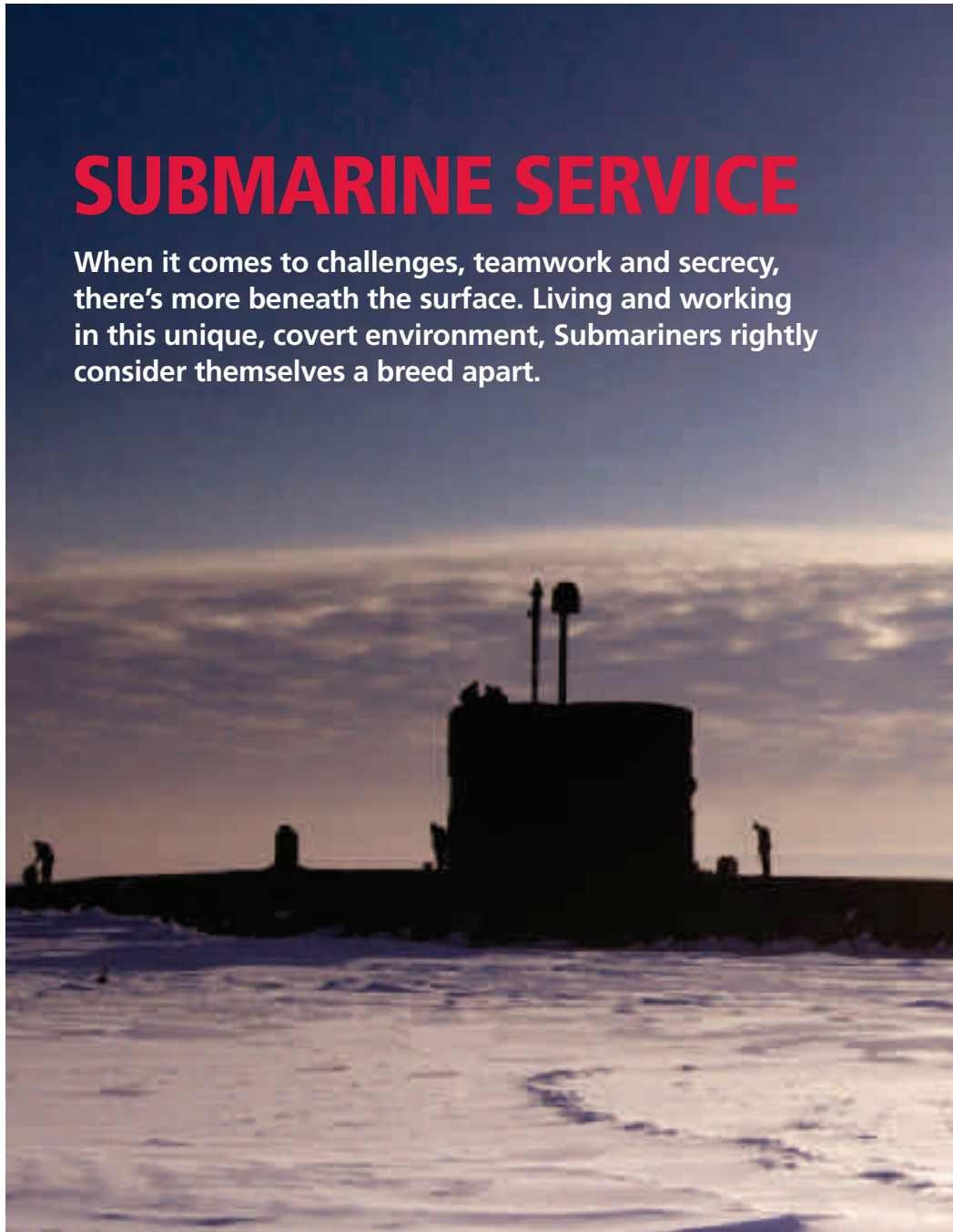
SUBMARINE SERVICE

When it comes to challenges, teamwork and secrecy, there's more beneath the surface. Living and working in this unique, covert environment, Submariners rightly consider themselves a breed apart.



“It’s a job for someone who likes a challenge, mentally and physically. You are important on board.”

Tom, Logistics Officer (Submariner)



On a nuclear submarine, every member of the crew plays a vital role in an environment where lives can literally depend on teamwork, safety and attention to detail. As a result, the 120 or so men on board form a close-knit community with a team spirit you won't find anywhere else.

Their job is to patrol the world's seas, monitoring ships and other submarines, while staying silent and unseen themselves. That's why, once they leave their bases at Devonport and Faslane, we keep their exact location a secret.

We currently have two types of nuclear-powered submarines – attack submarines and the Vanguard-class ballistic submarines. Fast and deep-diving, the attack submarines carry torpedoes to use against ships and other submarines and cruise missiles to attack land targets up to 1000 miles away.

The Trident missiles carried by our Vanguard-class ballistic submarines form Britain's strategic nuclear deterrent. These are weapons of last resort, which have so far never been used and we hope never will be. Being part of the team maintaining them is a massive responsibility, one that all Submariners understand and accept, but never take lightly. It's a unique shared experience that helps explain the extraordinary team spirit and sense of identity you'll find as a Submariner.

The future of the Submarine Service is already here, with the launch of the new HMS Astute. She's the first of a new class of nuclear-attack submarine, which is the largest and most powerful ever built for the Royal Navy.

Only men can serve on Royal Navy submarines.

Really?

When is a ship not a ship? When it's a boat. Submarines are one of the few Royal Navy craft that are called 'boats', nearly everything else is a ship.



WANT TO KNOW MORE? KEEP LISTENING

If you've ever seen a film featuring submarines, you'll have heard the distinctive 'ping' of active sonar being used to detect surface ships and other submarines. In reality, submarines generally don't use active sonar, as it can give away their position. Instead they use passive sonar, which just listens without sending any sound through the water. A very noisy ship can be detected up to 75 miles away. Sonar also picks up the natural sounds of the sea, such as those made by whales and dolphins, known to Submariners as 'bio'.



FLEET AIR ARM

The Fleet Air Arm is the Royal Navy's Aviation branch. Virtually all our operations now involve aircraft of some kind and the Fleet Air Arm has a range of planes and helicopters to fulfil its many roles.



Really?

'Bogey' – Unidentified aircraft; becomes a 'bandit' if it is identified as an enemy aircraft.

“Every day provides a different challenge, hunting submarines or chasing drug-runners to name a few; it's not just a '9 to 5' job.”

Lauren, Aircrew Officer Navigation and Weapons Systems/Observer

Our main strike weapons are the fast jets on board our aircraft carriers, at airbases in the UK or deployed overseas. Our Lynx and Merlin helicopters are designed for operations against hostile ships and submarines. We use the Sea King helicopter for airborne surveillance, search-and-rescue and to support the Royal Marines Commandos. The home bases of our helicopters are the Royal Naval Air Stations (RNAS) at Yeovilton in Somerset, Prestwick in Scotland and Culdrose in Cornwall.

Helicopters, in particular, also play a vital part in our non-combat tasks, including anti-smuggling, piracy and anti-terrorism operations, humanitarian relief, medical and emergency evacuation, transport and reconnaissance (missions to get information).



WHAT NEXT? FLYING INTO THE FUTURE

Looking ahead, work has already started on a new fast jet to succeed the current generation of fast jets. The joint strike fighter (JSF) is a supersonic single-seat aircraft, designed specifically to operate from our new aircraft carriers. It combines the agility of a lightweight fighter with the punch and firepower of a bomber. When it enters service, it will be the best aircraft of its type in the world.



ROYAL NAVY LIFE

When you join the Royal Navy, we promise you a life without limits. The next few pages should give you some idea of what we mean.

In this section:

- **What we can offer you** - Page 12
- **Sports and recreation** - Page 14
- **Understanding the ranks** - Page 16

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WHAT WE CAN OFFER YOU

As well as all its incredible opportunities for travel, adventure, training and teamwork, a Royal Navy career has plenty of practical benefits, too. Throughout your time with us, we're going to ask a lot from you. So, in return, you can expect a great deal from us.

“You get amazing opportunities to develop as a person, travel the world and make some of the best friends you'll ever have.”

Ben, Communications and Informations Systems Specialist

Pay

Pay in the Royal Navy compares well with civilian life. As well as your basic pay, you'll qualify for extra money for having special skills, serving in certain specialist branches (in the Submarine Service and the Fleet Air Arm, for example) and gaining new skills and qualifications. Starting salaries are shown in the branch sections of this publication and you can download our current rates of pay from royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Job security

We offer stability and job security rarely found in civilian life. However, if your circumstances change, or you decide that life in the Royal Navy really isn't for you, you can leave by giving us notice, just like in a civilian job. For more details, please see the 'Your questions answered' section later in this publication, or visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Sponsorship

When you finish school, you generally have to choose between staying on in education or going out to earn money. With us, you can do both. We have several generous sponsorship schemes that will pay you while you study. For full details, please turn to page 78.

Training

We are one of the UK's largest training organisations. We run a wide range of accredited professional courses, lasting anything from a few days to several years and at every level from basic skills to postgraduate degrees.

Most of our courses give you qualifications recognised outside the Royal Navy, so you can easily transfer your skills to civilian life.





Lifelong learning

As a member of the Royal Navy, whatever your job and rank, you'll have the chance to study for extra or new qualifications. These can be academic, practical or connected with an interest, sport or hobby. As well as helping you in your job with us, many of our courses lead to qualifications that will be recognised by civilian employers. If you join us without any formal qualifications, we'll help you gain GCSEs, A-levels or even a degree or Masters during your career.

As well as providing our own courses, we have two schemes that offer generous financial support if you want to carry out other training, whether it's directly relevant to your work with us or not. The Standard Learning Credit Scheme, which is available to everyone, gives you up to £175 every year for all kinds of training courses. The Enhanced Learning Credits Scheme, which is open to you after a minimum period of service, provides funding of up to £6000 over three years, which you can use for training for up to 10 years after you leave the Royal Navy.

Holiday

You'll get six weeks' paid holiday each year, plus public holidays.

Medical and dental benefits

We provide all your medical and dental care free of charge, whatever your rank, job or where you're serving.

Maternity and paternity leave

We offer 26 weeks' maternity leave on full pay and an extra 26 weeks on reduced pay. We offer men two weeks' paternity leave on full pay.

Where you'll live

Your accommodation at sea is free. When you're working and living on shore, we offer a choice of accommodation which we help pay for, including single accommodation. We also offer rented housing for married couples, people in civil partnerships, and families with children.

At the end of your career

If you decide to leave, you can take advantage of our generous resettlement package, which currently includes up to 11 weeks' paid holiday (depending on how long you've served), plus financial help while you find a new job and settle back into civilian life.

Pension

Our pension package is one of the most generous offered by any UK employer. It's non-contributory, which means you don't have to pay anything into it out of your salary. Unlike many civilian pensions, it's also based on the salary at the time you leave and the amount of time you've served.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

The Royal Navy is a team. From the moment you join, you're part of it, with your own contribution to make. We live, work and relax together, forming friendships that can last a lifetime. There aren't many other jobs that can promise that.



See the world

For centuries, people have joined us to see the world and visit places they might otherwise never get to go to. The opportunity to travel is still one of the attractions of a career with us.

We operate in literally every part of the world, from UK home waters to the Far East, the South Atlantic, the Gulf, the Mediterranean and Antarctica. Life at sea offers sights and experiences you won't find in any guidebook or holiday brochure. Once your duties in port are complete, you'll have a chance to explore the country, which could be anywhere from Hong Kong to Hawaii.

A sense of adventure

During your career, there'll be times when you have to dig deep and find something extra within yourself.

That's the kind of fighting spirit, grit and positive attitude we like and which our adventurous training courses are designed to encourage. You don't have to pick activities related to your job; this is a chance to try something you've always wanted to do, or maybe done before and want to take further.

These courses offer a real taste of adventure, whether you're diving in the Red Sea, snowboarding in the Alps, caving, hang-gliding, mountaineering, parachuting or sailing. For some people, it's a once-in-a-lifetime experience. For others, it's the start of an interest that stays with them long after they leave us.

Playing for fun

We encourage everyone to take part in sport, both for the fitness benefits and the fantastic social life that goes with it. We provide free, high-quality sports facilities at all our shore establishments and on most ships.

You can play a huge range of team and individual sports at every level, from total beginner to experienced competitor. As well as the 'traditional' sports like football, rugby, hockey and cricket, we offer activities such as archery, bobsleigh and fencing. Each of the sports and activities listed opposite has its own association, which organises training and coaching sessions, competitions and social events.

Really?

'Blueys' – this is armed forces' slang for letters home – from the colour of lightmail airmail envelopes. Emails are 'e-blueys'.



“When we say we ‘work hard and play hard’, we really mean it!”

**Christopher “Chip”,
Mine Warfare Specialist**

Playing to win

If, like many of us, you’re competitive, we’ll let you go as far as your potential and commitment can take you. You can compete in virtually all the sports listed here, generally starting at inter-unit level, before progressing to take part in Royal Navy open and inter-command events. At a higher level, we send teams to inter-service competitions, where you’ll go up against our colleagues in the Army and RAF, as well as top civilian amateurs and professionals. We now have women’s teams representing us in most sports, including football, rugby, cricket and basketball.

If you have the talent and determination, we’ll help you go on to compete at national or international level, including the Olympic Games.

Time to relax

We all need time to relax and chill out. Our accommodation areas are equipped with TVs, DVD players and stereo systems. You can use your own laptop or MP3 player to watch films and listen to music. We also provide quiet places to study.

Some of the sports you can take part in

- Angling
- Archery
- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Bobsleigh
- Boxing
- Canoeing
- Cricket
- Cycling
- Fencing
- Football
- Golf
- Hockey
- Judo
- Martial arts
- Motor sports
- Netball
- Polo
- Rowing
- Rugby league
- Rugby union
- Shooting
- Squash
- Tennis

All sports and activities are open to both men and women.



UNDERSTANDING THE RANKS

Although everyone goes through almost the same recruitment process when joining the Royal Navy, depending on your qualifications or the job you choose, you will do so either as a rating or an officer.

Your career as a rating

Ratings are our specially trained personnel, fully prepared for vital operational jobs anywhere in the world.

Whatever your job, you'll start your career as an Able Rate.

ABLE RATE



With some experience and further training, you could be promoted to Leading Hand, often managing a small group of Able Rates.

LEADING HAND



As a Petty Officer, you'll have responsibility for certain sections within your department.

PETTY OFFICER



The rank of Chief Petty Officer gives you more responsibility in the team, with the officers relying heavily on your skills and experience.

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER



Known as a WO2 you'll provide a crucial leadership link between your officers and the ratings serving under you.

WARRANT OFFICER 2



WO1 is the highest rank you can achieve as a rating.

WARRANT OFFICER 1



If you show the right commitment, skills and academic ability, you may also have the chance to become a Commissioned Officer at any time during your career as a rating. To qualify for commission, you have to be chosen at a promotion board. You'll be chosen on merit, so if you work hard and show potential, you can quickly rise through the ranks.



Your career as an officer

Officers are our management team, providing leadership and taking the decisions needed to fulfil our many and varied jobs. You'll also be responsible for the training and development, welfare, morale and ultimately the lives of the people under your command.

Your career progression is very much in your hands and depends on your choices and achievements.

You'll join as a Midshipman if you're under 20 years old or a non-graduate...

MIDSHIPMAN

...or a Sub-Lieutenant if you're over 20 years old and you already have a degree.

SUB-LIEUTENANT

Promotion to Lieutenant is automatic as long as you perform to the required standard.

LIEUTENANT

You'll now be in charge of a department on a large ship or shore base, or Executive Officer (XO) or even Commanding Officer (CO) in a smaller unit.

**LIEUTENANT
COMMANDER**

You may command a warship or submarine, Fleet Air Arm squadron or shore installation. You could also serve as a Staff Officer.

COMMANDER

With the rank of Captain, you'll be commanding a large ship or hold a more senior position on shore.

CAPTAIN

As a Commodore, you'll be the Commanding Officer of a large Royal Navy establishment and well on your way to the top.

COMMODORE

As an officer of flag rank, you'll have your own flag flying on your ship or headquarters.

REAR ADMIRAL

By now a very senior officer, you'll be second-in-command to a full Admiral.

VICE ADMIRAL

Admiral is the highest active rank in the Royal Navy, equivalent to a General in the British Army.

ADMIRAL



JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Over the next few pages you'll learn about the jobs available and the branches in which you may serve.



WARFARE

Watching, warning, making decisions and taking action in conflict and peacetime.
See page 20.



ENGINEERING

Maintaining our ships, submarines, planes and helicopters round the clock.
See page 34.

LOGISTICS

Making sure everyone has everything they need, where and when they need it.
See page 44.



Your place in the team

Like any large, complex organisation, we are divided into a number of different areas, each responsible for a particular aspect of our operations. We call these branches. You'll see that each branch is then split into smaller specialist sections. Within Engineering, for example, you'll find weapon, marine and air departments.

So when you join the Royal Navy, you'll also be part of a branch, according to which job you've chosen to do. Over the next few pages, we explain what each branch does, the jobs open to you within them, what you'll be doing and how you'll be contributing to the work of the team.

Whether on a ship, submarine, Naval Air Station or shore unit, all the branches work closely together as part of one big team. Everyone respects each other's skills, talents and experience, knowing that, ultimately, we all depend on one another.



MEDICAL

Keeping every member of the team healthy and fighting fit.
See page 52.



CHAPLAINCY

Providing support and advice to all of us, regardless of rank.
See page 60.



AVIATION

Operating fast jets and helicopters over land and sea, from ships and shore bases.
See page 64.





WARFARE

The Warfare branch is responsible for combat operations involving our ships, submarines and aircraft, but it has plenty of vital work to do in peacetime, as well.

In this section:

- **Combat operations** - Page 22
- **Communications** - Page 26
- **Environment and surveying** - Page 28
- **Seamanship** - Page 30
- **Jobs** - Page 32

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WARFARE COMBAT OPERATIONS

In combat operations you'll be working with the systems and making the decisions that will decide the outcome of the mission.

Really?

Sonar and radar – Systems that find or track a moving object from the time taken for a 'ping' or ultrasonic wave to 'bounce back' from a surface.

Sonar is used for underwater target-finding and navigation; radar is used above sea, on land and in the air.

What you'll be doing

You'll be part of the ship's main 'fighting' team, working with complex weapons and defensive systems. You'll use radar, sonar and other sophisticated systems to look for hostile aircraft, ships and submarines and provide crucial tactical information to those in command. You'll also be responsible for driving and navigating the ship or submarine you're serving in.

As part of the Warfare branch, you'll be right at the heart of the action when your ship or submarine is involved in combat. You're joining a fighting force and, sooner or later, the day will come when you have to use your skills 'for real'. That's when your training, which continues throughout your time with us, and the close bonds you'll form with your crewmates, will really count.

Of course, you won't always be in a conflict situation. Like every member of the Royal Navy team, you'll be involved in dealing with humanitarian issues, disasters, maritime policing, piracy and environmental protection. On a submarine, you'll generally be on a covert (secret) mission, keeping an invisible eye on the UK's interests around the world. Welcome to the sharp end.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

WARFARE SPECIALIST

**WARFARE SPECIALIST
TACTICAL (SUBMARINER)**

**WARFARE SPECIALIST
SENSORS (SUBMARINER)**

WARFARE OFFICER

WARFARE OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 32.

Why did you join the Submarine Service?

"I did an internship in an office, but it just wasn't for me. I wanted something a bit more challenging, a bit different."

How does your job compare to working on a warship?

"I get a lot more exposure to the war-fighting side of things. We work in the control room, so we have an input into navigating the sub; we're also plotting all the intelligence that comes in from outside."

**BEN
WARFARE OFFICER
(SUBMARINER)**



“Warfare Specialists can do a bit of everything – it’s hard work, but I wouldn’t want to do anything else.”

Matthew, Warfare Specialist





WARFARE COMBAT OPERATIONS

Enemy ships, submarines and aircraft aren't the only threats you could be dealing with in combat operations.



What you'll be doing

In waters around the world, mines are a constant danger. As well as endangering our ships in combat areas, mines also threaten merchant ships and civilian craft, including those carrying refugees, casualties and humanitarian aid. As part of the Warfare branch, you could use minehunting sonar to detect mines, helping to make the sea a safer place. You could also be one of the select group of people who actually get hands-on with these potentially lethal weapons and either make them safe or destroy them under controlled conditions.

The jobs open to you here are some of the most physically and mentally demanding the Royal Navy has to offer. If you've got the focus, resilience and ability to work as part of a team, they're also some of the most rewarding.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

MINE WARFARE SPECIALIST

MINE CLEARANCE DIVER

WARFARE OFFICER

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 32.

What attracted you to a career in the Royal Navy?

"I wanted to travel and to do something where every day was different, not just sit in an office."

What's your advice to someone thinking of joining?


"Do your research and work out which job is going to be best for you."

CHRISTOPHER "CHIP" **MINE WARFARE SPECIALIST**

Really?

Mine countermeasure ships also help to prevent illegal fishing in British waters.





"Training for this job has been hard but the 'real Navy' starts when you get on the ship!"

Charlotte,
Communications and Information
Systems Specialist

WARFARE COMMUNICATIONS

In communications, you'll gather, process and interpret the huge amounts of information we depend on to make our decisions, then get it to the right people.

Really?

The sonar suite of an Astute submarine has the processing power of 400 laptop computers.



What you'll be doing

You'll be working with high-speed satellite links, IT and other advanced communications systems on your ship or submarine. There's also the chance to develop advanced skills in foreign languages to analyse and interpret signals you've intercepted.

All communications jobs come with a high level of responsibility. Getting the right information to the right people at the right time is vital in making decisions that affect lives, so everything could depend on your speed, skill, accuracy and powers of concentration. The information you'll be handling will be extremely important and often very sensitive, which means you'll need to be discreet, methodical and absolutely reliable.

You'll also play a big part in maintaining morale among your crewmates, as you'll be looking after your ship's or submarine's email and phone links with home. As a bonus, you'll always be first to get the latest football results!

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS) SPECIALIST

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS) SPECIALIST (SUBMARINER)

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 32.



WARFARE

ENVIRONMENT AND SURVEYING

In environment and surveying, you'll measure and predict the weather and sea conditions that affect every aspect of our operations.

Really?

'Draft' – The amount of time you spend in one ship's company, or at one shore base. A draft is usually between two and four years.

What you'll be doing

Every aspect of the environment has a bearing on our operations and tactics. You'll map, measure and interpret the world around you, using advanced survey equipment and environmental sensors to provide essential information on tides, sea depths, the seabed and the weather. This information is vital in submarine warfare, as you'll be identifying possible hiding places for both 'friendly' and hostile submarines.

You'll also carry out port and approach surveys, which provide vital information about currents, depths and seabed conditions needed to plan amphibious landings.

You'll have plenty to do in peacetime, too. As well as warships and submarines, we operate a number of survey ships. As one of the crew, you'll be providing detailed information for admiralty charts and other nautical publications, helping to make the sea a safer place for everyone.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

HYDROGRAPHIC METEOROLOGICAL AND OCEANOGRAPHIC SPECIALIST

WARFARE OFFICER

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 32.





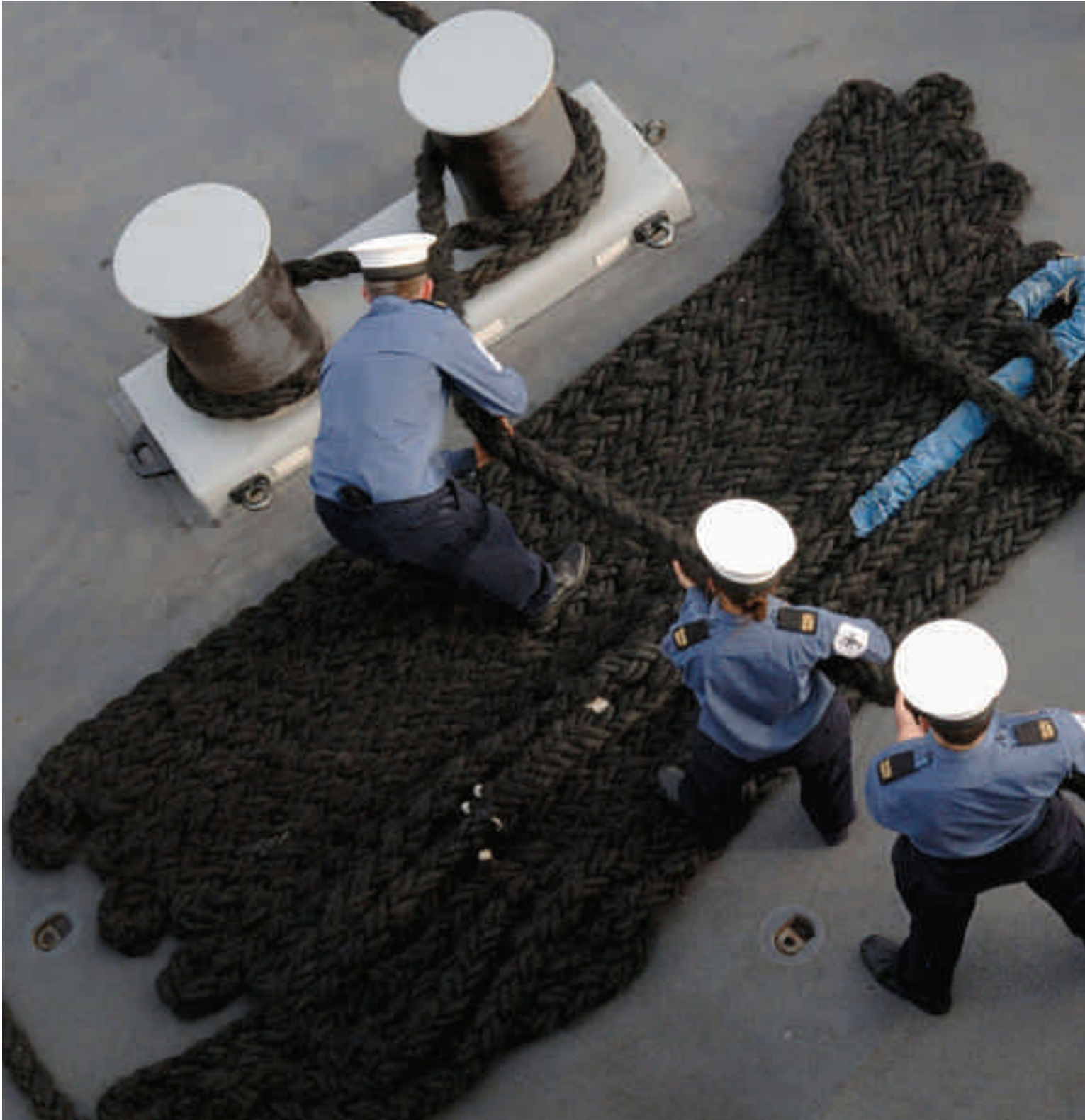
MAPPING THE WORLD

Our surveying service has been operating throughout the world since 1795. The technology's moved on a bit since then, of course. Instead of sextants and plumb lines, modern survey ships like HMS Echo and HMS Enterprise have echo sounders, side scan sonars, sat-nav and other advanced ways of measuring everything from depths and currents to the Earth's magnetic field. Launched in 2002, they're fitted with special engines called azimuth thrusters, controlled by a joystick, which allow them to turn 360° on the spot for inch-perfect positioning. The accommodation on board is built to an extremely high specification, so the crew can live and work in complete comfort anywhere from the tropics to the poles.



WARFARE SEAMANSHIP

In seamanship, you'll be part of the hands-on crew responsible for getting your ship wherever it needs to be and safely home again.



What you'll be doing

Today's ships are incredibly sophisticated machines, designed to perform many different tasks. The day-to-day work of keeping the ship running smoothly is a very technical job.

As well as steering, acting as lookout and communicating with other ships, you'll anchor and berth your ship and maintain vital equipment on the upper deck. You could also crew the fast, rigid inflatable boats carried on your ship.

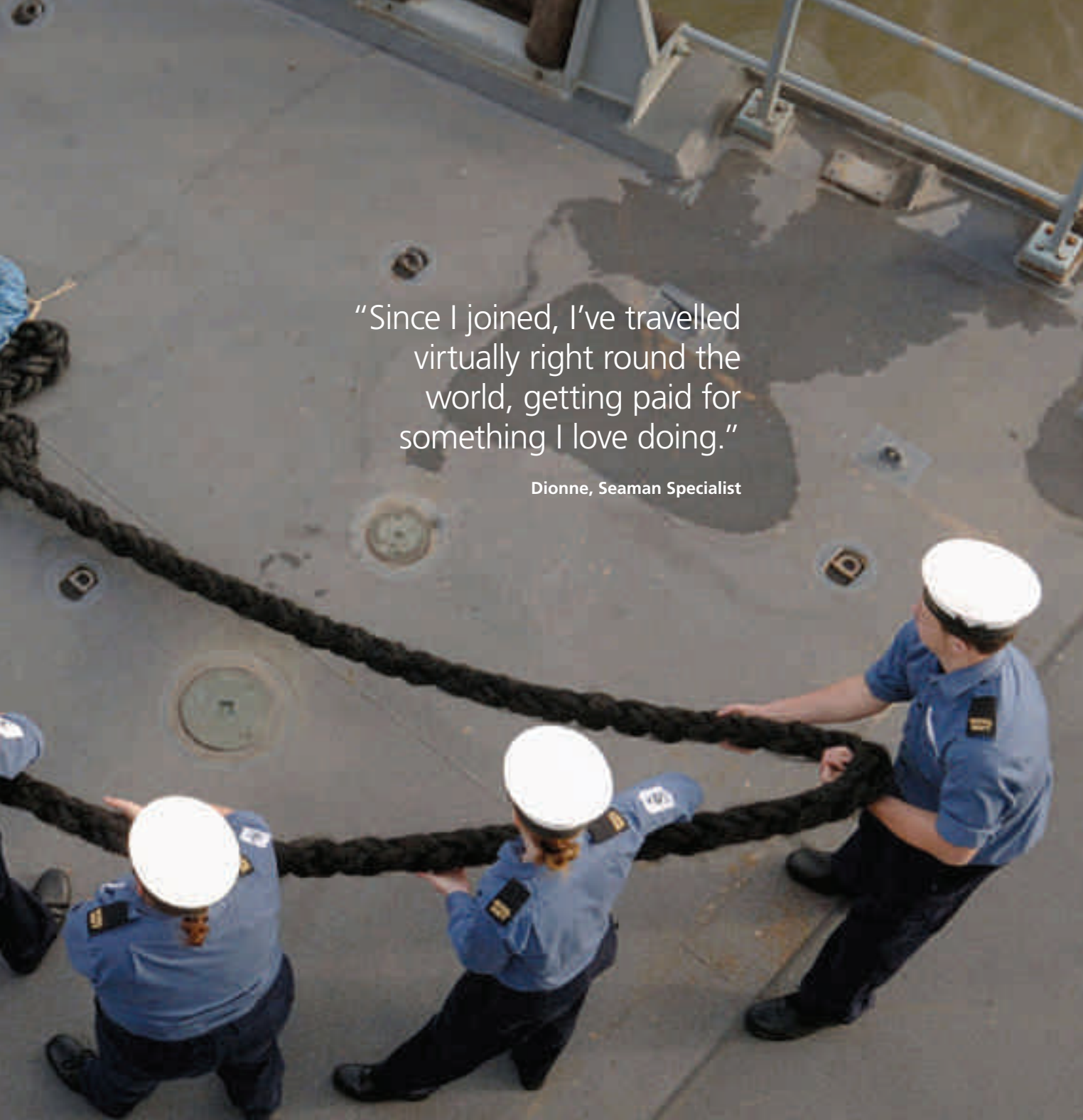
You will, in fact, be doing the nearest thing we have to the traditional job of 'sailor' on a modern warship.

You'll also be right in the thick of it when your ship goes into action, helping to defend it using various close-range weapons. In conflict and peacetime, you'll be working outside in every sort of weather. It's the real, hands-on life at sea the Royal Navy has always offered.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

SEAMAN SPECIALIST

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 32.



"Since I joined, I've travelled virtually right round the world, getting paid for something I love doing."

Dionne, Seaman Specialist

WARFARE JOBS

OFFICER

WARFARE OFFICER

You'll need to be a decisive leader, tactician, seaman and navigator to handle your ship safely in all conditions and represent the Captain on the bridge as an Officer of the Watch. You'll have opportunities to specialise as a Mine Clearance Diver Officer, Fighter Controller or Hydrography and Meteorological Officer and, with the right qualities and talents, eventually achieve your own command.

Age: 17 to 25.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

For direct graduate entry, you'll need a degree or equivalent, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £15,268 a year rising to £24,132 a year (on passing out of Britannia Royal Naval College).

Graduate starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061 a year.

RATING

WARFARE SPECIALIST

Using radar and other advanced equipment, you'll monitor events on the sea and in the air, then pass the information direct to the Warfare Officer. You'll also be part of the team that loads and aims the ship's weapons systems and become a trained weapons safety expert.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

RATING

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN

You'll gather and analyse information, which the Captain and senior officers will use to make their decisions. As your career progresses, you could train in analysing radio signals using computers, or learn a foreign language.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: Full British citizenship.

Qualifications: Two GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades (1 to 3) or equivalent, in English and maths.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

OFFICER

WARFARE OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

Managing a highly-skilled team, you'll take your submarine through the deep oceans, close to shore, or through busy shipping lanes, staying hidden but always alert.

Age: 17 to 25.

Nationality: Full British citizenship.

Qualifications: 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

For direct graduate entry, you'll need a degree or equivalent, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

Sex: This job is open to men only.

Starting salary: £15,268 a year rising to £24,132 a year (on passing out of Britannia Royal Naval College).

Graduate starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £26.14 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

RATING

WARFARE SPECIALIST TACTICAL (SUBMARINER)

You'll use a range of advanced systems, including radar and electronic listening equipment, to identify and track potential threats and targets. As well as giving those in command vital information to make tactical decisions, you'll be part of the team keeping your submarine safe and undetected on covert operations.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Gender: This job is open to men only.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £20.80 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

RATING

HYDROGRAPHIC, METEOROLOGICAL AND OCEANOGRAPHIC SPECIALIST

In this specialised job, you'll give those in command vital information about the environment you're operating in. Using advanced survey and sensing equipment, you'll analyse tides, currents, sea depths and the seabed, and record and forecast weather. You'll also have an important peacetime job, too, surveying the world's oceans and keeping admiralty charts accurate and up to date.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.



RATING

WARFARE SPECIALIST SENSORS (SUBMARINER)

Using advanced sonar systems, you'll detect and listen to other submarines and ships, giving those in command advanced warning of potential threats and targets. You'll also be directly responsible for keeping the submarine safe and undetected, whether you're on routine surveillance or going into action.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to men only.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £20.80 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

RATING

SEAMAN SPECIALIST

As well as steering the ship, acting as lookout and communicating with other ships, you'll be a vital part of the fighting team when your ship goes into action as you will be taking charge of the high-calibre machine guns. You will often be working outside on the ship's safety equipment and crewing fast, rigid inflatable boats in all conditions, making this a real 'life at sea'.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

RATING

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS) SPECIALIST

Using sophisticated information systems, you'll be responsible for sending and receiving crucial messages, much of it classified top secret. It'll be your job to manage the information distribution system and get the information to those in command quickly, accurately and securely. This will put you right at the centre of every operation.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

RATING

MINE WARFARE SPECIALIST

You'll be trained to find mines using mine-hunting sonar, then launch and control your ship's remote controlled mine-disposal vehicle (an unmanned miniature submarine) to deal with them. The safety of your ship and crewmates could depend on your skill, quick thinking and powers of concentration.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

RATING

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS) SPECIALIST (SUBMARINER)

Part of a tight-knit team on board one of our most formidable fighting machines, you'll be responsible for maintaining vital communications while on covert operations. As well as the latest technology, you will be trained to send and receive messages in Morse code using a signal lamp.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: Full British citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to men only.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £20.80 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

RATING

MINE CLEARANCE DIVER

Based either on shore, or on board a highly-sophisticated mine countermeasures (MCM) ship, you'll specialise in identifying mines and other explosives and disposing of them. You'll also be trained to carry out major engineering jobs on your ship's propeller or hull, working at a maximum depth of 60 metres.

Age: 18 to 32.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job. However, we will give preference to those with previous commercial or other diving experience.

Sex: This job is open to men only.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.





ENGINEERING

From sensitive electronics and information systems to massive gas-turbine engines and nuclear weapons, you'll be responsible for some truly incredible kit when you join the Engineering branch.

In this section:

- **Weapon engineering** - Page 36
- **Marine engineering** - Page 38
- **Air engineering** - Page 40
- **Training management** - Page 41
- **Jobs** - Page 42

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or call 08456 07 55 55



What was your route into the Royal Navy?

"I joined as a university cadet which meant that after completing basic training at Britannia Royal Naval College, the Royal Navy paid me a salary while I was at uni."

Your job must be very technical?

"It is! I'm responsible for managing all the weapon, sensors and communications systems on board my ship ensuring they're fully operational 24/7."

RICHARD
**WEAPON ENGINEER OFFICER/
INFORMATION SYSTEMS
ENGINEER OFFICER**

ENGINEERING WEAPON ENGINEERING

In weapon engineering, you'll be keeping our advanced weapon and electronic systems ready for action in extreme, often hostile environments.

Really?

In the Engineering branch, you'll develop technical knowledge and skills far beyond anything you'd get from a civilian apprenticeship.

What you'll be doing

Technology is at the heart of everything we do. On both ships and submarines, the weapon engineering department maintains the communications, radar, weapon and IT systems. As well as the missiles, torpedoes, guns and other weapons, you'll take charge of the electronic equipment used to detect submarines and the air and surface surveillance radar that spots potentially hostile ships, missiles or aircraft. On a submarine, you could work with conventional weapons or Trident missiles, the UK's strategic nuclear deterrent. The kit you'll be working with is very sophisticated, often worth millions of pounds and sometimes highly-classified. The safety of your crewmates, not to mention the nation, will literally be in your hands.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN – WEAPON ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN – WEAPON ENGINEERING (SUBMARINER)

WEAPON ENGINEER OFFICER / INFORMATION SYSTEMS ENGINEER OFFICER

WEAPON ENGINEER OFFICER / INFORMATION SYSTEMS ENGINEER OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 42.



ENGINEERING

MARINE ENGINEERING

In marine engineering, you'll be part of a hands-on team keeping your ship or submarine in fighting order, round the clock.

What you'll be doing

The marine engineering department is responsible for all non-weapon-related electronics and mechanical systems. This means you'll be working on your ship's hull, engines, electrical, fuel, hydraulic and firefighting systems. You may be away from port for weeks at a time, so the workshops have everything you'll need to repair complex parts and even make new ones if needed.

On a submarine, you'll have the extra challenge of maintaining some of the world's most technically advanced and highly-classified nuclear reactors. You'll also look after the vital water purification, air-conditioning and other specialist equipment that allow your submarine to stay underwater almost indefinitely.

All marine engineering jobs need a high degree of technical knowledge and practical skill. You'll need to know every nut, bolt, plate, pipe, diode, display, cog and control valve in your ship or submarine and what to do if it's not as it should be. When the nearest source of help and spares is halfway across the world, your ability to think on your feet and come up with a solution could make all the difference.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN – MARINE ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN – MARINE ENGINEERING (SUBMARINER)

MARINE ENGINEER OFFICER

MARINE ENGINEER OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 42.

Really?

All Royal Navy submarines are nuclear powered; ballistic submarines also carry Trident nuclear missiles.





“The electrical supply on an aircraft carrier comes from eight diesel generators, which produce enough power to light up a medium-sized town.”

George, Marine Engineer Officer

ENGINEERING

AIR ENGINEERING

In air engineering, you'll make sure our fast jets and helicopters keep flying, whatever the conditions at sea or on shore.



What you'll be doing

You'll take charge of scheduled maintenance, pre- and post-flight servicing and inspections for the Fleet Air Arm, specialising in either fast jets or one of our three main types of helicopter. At sea, you could work with Lynx or Merlin helicopters on frigates and destroyers, or the full range of helicopters and fast jets deployed on aircraft carriers. You may also serve at a Royal Naval Air Station, looking after our search-and-rescue helicopters, or the camouflage-painted Sea Kings, known as 'Junglies', that take the Royal Marines Commandos into action.

All air engineering jobs are technically demanding and need knowledge, skills and teamwork of the highest order. Safety is paramount and lives may literally depend on your precision, planning and attention to detail. Keeping up to date with our rapidly changing technology means you'll be doing further training throughout your career. This will include the chance to specialise in mechanical technology, such as airframes, engines, control and fuel systems, or avionics, including radar, communications, weapon and electronic warfare systems.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

AIR ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

AIR ENGINEER OFFICER

"I'm making genuine engineering decisions every day, turning situations around and finding solutions."

**Adam,
Air Engineer Officer**

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 42.

What's been your biggest hurdle so far?

"My qualifying exams to become an Air Engineering Technician were very challenging, as was my first bungee jump! Passing out from HMS Raleigh was definitely my proudest moment."

And the biggest surprise?

"Realising how little I knew when I joined up compared to how much I know now!"

**JULIE
AIR ENGINEERING
TECHNICIAN**





TRAINING MANAGEMENT

TRAINING MANAGEMENT OFFICER

In training management, you'll make sure all our personnel have the right knowledge, skills and qualifications to do their jobs.

Really?

Lots of Royal Navy personnel get seasick. You may not discover this until you first serve on board a ship. Every ship has a medical team who can help. Nelson was seasick for his whole career!



What you'll be doing

You'll make sure that all 35,000 officers and ratings in the Royal Navy have the up-to-date technical skills and knowledge they need, both to improve their careers with us and their job prospects outside the Royal Navy. You'll be responsible for all aspects of education, training and development from teaching and designing courses to analysing jobs and equipment. This puts you right at the heart of our operations, with a crucial role in maintaining our effectiveness and morale. Because even in this hi-tech age, people are still our most valuable asset.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

TRAINING MANAGEMENT OFFICER

TRAINING MANAGEMENT OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 42.

ENGINEERING JOBS

OFFICER

MARINE ENGINEER OFFICER

At sea, you'll lead a team of skilled technicians, with responsibility for the ship's hull, engines, power, water, air and hydraulics systems. On shore, you could join an integrated project team, reviewing and improving the performance of our ships, or manage a maintenance programme for Royal Marines landing craft.

Age: 17 to 30.

Nationality: British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: A degree in an engineering or physics-based subject, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061. Plus up to £12,000 joining bonus.

OFFICER

TRAINING MANAGEMENT OFFICER

You'll be directly responsible for our most valuable asset, our people. Specifically, you'll be in charge of education, training and development for ratings and officers. You will make sure they have the skills, knowledge and qualifications they need to do their demanding, technical jobs.

Age: 17 to 30.

Nationality: British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: A recognised first degree in engineering, maths or physics (we have a limited number of places available for Arts graduates), 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061.

RATING

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN – MARINE ENGINEERING

You'll work on everything from the ship's hull and engines to its electrical, fuel and hydraulic systems, making spare parts when necessary in the ship's fully-equipped workshops. You'll also be involved in refuelling the ship, and be trained to be part of a damage-control and firefighting team.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job. However, fast-track opportunities may be available if you have GCSEs or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent or A-levels or Higher grades or equivalent.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

OFFICER

MARINE ENGINEER OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

Combine the engineering challenges of a warship, a nuclear power station and a spacecraft and you get some idea of what this job involves. The mission – and the lives of 120 people – will depend on your technical and management skills, in one of the most extreme and hostile environments on Earth.

Age: 17 to 30.

Nationality: Full British citizenship.

Qualifications: A degree in an engineering or physics-based subject, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

Sex: This job is open to men only.

Starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061. Plus up to £12,000 joining bonus. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £26.14 a day. Plus Submariner nuclear pay: £20.10 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

OFFICER

TRAINING MANAGEMENT OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

On a submarine, you'll be the single point of contact for the education, training and development of all the ratings and officers on board. You will make sure they have the skills, knowledge and qualifications they need to do their demanding, technical jobs.

Age: 17 to 30.

Nationality: Full British citizenship.

Qualifications: A recognised first degree in engineering, maths or physics (we have a limited number of places available for Arts graduates), 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

Sex: This job is open to men only.

Starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £26.14 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

RATING

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN – MARINE ENGINEERING (SUBMARINER)

You'll be responsible for maintenance on every vital system from air and water purification to the nuclear reactor. You'll also operate steering gear, power-generation equipment, engines and pumps and be part of a damage-control and firefighting team. On shore, you'll be based at a fleet maintenance unit.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: Full British citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job. However, fast-track opportunities may be available if you have GCSEs or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent or A-levels or Higher grades or equivalent.

Sex: This job is open to men only.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £20.80 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

ENGINEER OFFICER SPONSORSHIP

We can offer you up to £5500 while you study at university as part of our defence technical undergraduate scheme (DTUS). For full details turn to page 79.

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN OPPORTUNITIES

All Engineering Technician jobs lead to an advanced apprenticeship and the option to gain a foundation degree. Fast-track opportunities may be available if you have GCSEs or Scottish Standard grades (or equivalent) or A-levels or Higher grades (or equivalent).

OFFICER

WEAPON ENGINEER OFFICER / INFORMATION SYSTEMS ENGINEER OFFICER

At sea, you'll supervise the maintenance of all the ship's combat, communications and IT systems. When the ship goes into action you'll take charge of the weapon repair team, leading highly-skilled technicians to make sure that the ship's systems are still available to the command. On shore you could be involved in anything from developing new systems and equipment as part of an integrated project team to training technicians.

Age:	17 to 30.
Nationality:	British or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	A recognised first degree in engineering or a computer science-based subject (on a case-by-case basis), 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	£29,006 to £32,061. Plus up to £12,000 joining bonus.

OFFICER

WEAPON ENGINEER OFFICER / INFORMATION SYSTEMS ENGINEER OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

To stay silent and unseen, our submarines rely on their sensors, surveillance and communication systems. To deliver their torpedoes and missiles, they're equipped with some of the world's most sophisticated weapon systems and maintained by a team of highly-skilled technicians. Keeping all this technology operational is a job that demands technical, leadership and management skills of the highest order.

Age:	17 to 30.
Nationality:	Full British citizenship.
Qualifications:	A recognised first degree in engineering or a computer science-based subject (on a case-by-case basis), 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.
Sex:	This job is open to men only.
Starting salary:	£29,006 to £32,061. Plus up to £12,000 joining bonus. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £26.14 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

OFFICER

AIR ENGINEER OFFICER

You're ultimately responsible for the people and hardware that keep the Fleet Air Arm flying. On an operational squadron, you'll maintain, fit and test propulsion, weapon, navigation, communications and control systems, to keep your aircraft constantly ready. You could also work as a project manager on new systems and solutions.

Age:	17 to 30.
Nationality:	British or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	A degree in mechanical, electronic, aeronautical engineering, physics or a related subject, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	£29,006 to £32,061. Plus up to £12,000 joining bonus.

RATING

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN – WEAPON ENGINEERING

You'll maintain the ship's complex communications, detection and weapon systems. As well as highly-sophisticated electronic equipment, like sonar for submarine detection and surveillance radar, you'll work with missiles, guns and anti-submarine torpedoes. You'll also be part of a damage-control and firefighting team.

Age:	16 to 36.
Nationality:	British or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job. However, fast-track opportunities may be available if you have GCSEs or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent or A-levels or Higher grades or equivalent.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	£13,377 to £16,681 a year.

RATING

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN – WEAPON ENGINEERING (SUBMARINER)

On a fleet submarine, you'll work with powerful conventional weapons like torpedoes and cruise missiles. On a ballistic submarine, you'll be part of the team maintaining Trident missiles – the UK's strategic nuclear deterrent. You'll also look after the sophisticated systems used to identify and track potential targets and hide your own position.

Age:	16 to 36.
Nationality:	Full British citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job. However, fast-track opportunities may be available if you have GCSEs or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent or A-levels or Higher grades or equivalent.
Sex:	This job is open to men only.
Starting salary:	£13,377 to £16,681 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £20.80 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

RATING

AIR ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

A central part of our air operations team, you'll take charge of scheduled maintenance and pre- and post-flight servicing and inspections for the Fleet Air Arm's helicopters and fast jets. You could work on shore at a Royal Naval Air Station, or at sea on board a frigate, destroyer or aircraft carrier.

Age:	16 to 36.
Nationality:	British or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job. However, fast-track opportunities may be available if you have GCSEs or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent or A-levels or Higher grades or equivalent.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	£13,377 to £16,681 a year.





LOGISTICS

We are a huge and complex organisation. Every day, over 35,000 people need food, supplies and administrative support to keep them operationally effective. As a member of the Logistics branch, it'll be your job to provide these essentials.

In this section:

- **Supporting operations** - Page 46
- **Catering and hospitality** - Page 48
- **Jobs** - Page 50

**Visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers
or call 08456 07 55 55**

LOGISTICS SUPPORTING OPERATIONS

In supporting operations, you'll be part of the team managing all the people and supplies that keep our 24-hour worldwide operation functioning.



"You've got to be switched on, because there's a lot of thinking involved."

Neil,
Personnel Logistician (Submariner)

What you'll be doing

You'll be responsible for making sure everything we need is in the right place at the right time. That includes people, as well as supplies. This makes the jobs in this area the most wide-ranging you'll find anywhere in the Royal Navy.

You'll need excellent planning and management skills, since it'll be your job to see your ship or submarine has all the spares, equipment and people it needs to stay operational for weeks, or even months. Once you're at sea, you'll be responsible for managing and distributing the millions of pounds' worth of equipment and supplies on board.

You could also be in charge of pay, legal, leave and other personnel matters for your crewmates, which is vital in maintaining morale and making sure the unit runs efficiently at all times.

All supporting operations jobs will put you at the heart of life on your ship or submarine. As manager, administrator, accountant, legal adviser, travel operator and supplier of everything from aircraft parts to ammunition and clothing, you'll have up to 1000 crew members depending on you.

If you have a flair for organisation, love a challenge and want to be right at the heart of everything we do, you've come to the right place.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

SUPPLY CHAIN LOGISTICIAN

SUPPLY CHAIN LOGISTICIAN (SUBMARINER)

PERSONNEL LOGISTICIAN

PERSONNEL LOGISTICIAN (SUBMARINER)

LOGISTICS OFFICER

LOGISTICS OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 50.



Really?

'Beer locker' – An ordinary household fridge, which is fitted with a padlock and contains beer rations.



What does a Steward (Submariner) actually do?

"I not only look after all the officers and their accommodation, but also get to help run hospitality events when we're docked in foreign ports. It's a great way to see the world. I'm also trained to steer the submarine, which is amazing and beats what my mates drive back home!"

Are you allowed to tell us where you are?

"I'm currently serving on board HMS Victorious, which is a Vanguard-class ballistic submarine or SSBN. I'm afraid I can't tell you our exact location because that's classified."



JOE STEWARD (SUBMARINER)

LOGISTICS

CATERING AND HOSPITALITY

In catering and hospitality, you'll be at the heart of your ship or submarine's crew, providing food and service for everyone on board.



"To be a Chef in the Royal Navy all you need is the ability to learn, enthusiasm and not be shy of a bit of hard work."

Ben, Chef – Catering Services Logistician

What you'll be doing

You'll be responsible for making sure everyone on board your submarine or ship, which on an aircraft carrier could be up to 1000 people, is well fed and properly looked after. As well as your crewmates, Captain and senior officers, this could include visiting Admirals, heads of state, or even royalty.

You'll need excellent planning and management skills to order and store the supplies you'll need to give everyone on board the balanced diet they need to stay healthy and effective. On a submarine, that means planning meals and taking on provisions for up to six months at sea. Plus, when you're visiting ports overseas, you'll be in charge of the arrangements when you're entertaining local dignitaries and other guests on board.

All catering and hospitality jobs are vital to maintaining the well-being and morale of your crewmates. Like everyone else on board, you'll also have a crucial operational role, such as first aid, firefighting and damage control, when your ship or submarine goes into action. On a ship, you could lead a boarding party searching for drugs, guns, illegal immigrants or terrorists, while on a submarine, you could be trained to operate the steering and depth controls. It's the ideal area for anyone with a head for organisation, high standards and a taste for adventure.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

CHEF – CATERING SERVICES LOGISTICIAN

CHEF – CATERING SERVICES LOGISTICIAN (SUBMARINER)

STEWARD – CATERING SERVICES LOGISTICIAN

STEWARD – CATERING SERVICES LOGISTICIAN (SUBMARINER)

LOGISTICS OFFICER

LOGISTICS OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 50.

LOGISTICS JOBS

OFFICER

LOGISTICS OFFICER

Logistics Officers have overall responsibility for making sure a ship has everything it needs to be operationally effective, including personnel. You'll also advise your Commanding Officer on personnel, legal and accountancy matters. When the ship's in action, you'll be in charge of the battle damage-control and first-aid teams.

Age: 17 to 31.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

For direct graduate entry, you'll need a degree or equivalent, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £15,268 a year rising to £24,132 a year (on passing out of Britannia Royal Naval College).

Graduate starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061 a year.

RATING

PERSONNEL LOGISTICIAN

Even on a warship, people must be paid and records must be kept. As part of the ship's administration and accounting team, that'll be your task. It's no 'desk' job though – you'll also train as an Incident Board Operator, helping the battle damage-control team fight fires and floods.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

RATING

SUPPLY CHAIN LOGISTICIAN

From stationery to ammunition, you'll make sure the crew have everything they need at all times. That could mean working with colleagues on shore or other ships to get hold of urgently needed items quickly and efficiently. On a warship, you'll train as an Incident Board Operator, helping the battle damage-control team to fight fires and floods.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

OFFICER

LOGISTICS OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

The supply situation will decide how long a submarine can stay underwater and away from land. This is crucial to keeping its position secret. It's your job to make sure the crew have everything they need for a covert mission that could last several months.

Age: 17 to 31.

Nationality: Full British citizenship.

Qualifications: 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

For direct graduate entry, you'll need a degree or equivalent, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

Sex: This job is open to men only.

Starting salary: £15,268 a year rising to £24,132 a year (on passing out of Britannia Royal Naval College).

Graduate starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £26.14 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

RATING

PERSONNEL LOGISTICIAN (SUBMARINER)

A submarine crew is a very close-knit unit. Making sure everyone gets paid and that any employment issues are sorted out quickly is crucial to maintaining morale. You'll be more than just an administrator though – you'll also be trained to operate the steering and depth controls which drive the submarine.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: Full British citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to men only.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £20.80 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

RATING

SUPPLY CHAIN LOGISTICIAN (SUBMARINER)

Monitoring and maintaining stocks of everything from torpedoes to toilet rolls, you'll be key in deciding how long the submarine can stay underwater and away from land, which is crucial to keeping its position secret. Train as a planesman and you'll operate the submarine's steering and depth controls, putting this formidable fighting machine directly in your hands.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to men only.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £20.80 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.



RATING	
STEWARD – CATERING SERVICES LOGISTICIAN	
<p>As well as organising, preparing, serving and being responsible for food and drink, you'll manage the officers' accommodation, dining room and bar. You'll also have your own vital operational job in a first-aid team, or a boarding party searching for drugs, guns, illegal immigrants or terrorists.</p>	
Age:	16 to 36.
Nationality:	British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	£13,377 to £16,681 a year.

RATING	
CHEF – CATERING SERVICES LOGISTICIAN	
<p>Join a small team with a big responsibility. As well as providing three meals a day for the entire ship's company, you'll be involved in ordering and storing ingredients and making sure everyone on board has a balanced diet. You'll also be a fully-trained member of the ship's firefighting team.</p>	
Age:	16 to 36.
Nationality:	British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	£13,377 to £16,681 a year.

RATING	
STEWARD – CATERING SERVICES LOGISTICIAN (SUBMARINER)	
<p>As well as serving officers in the wardroom, you'll work closely with the chefs and will be given the skills to help prepare food yourself. You'll also have a vital operational job as a member of the first-aid team. You may also train as a planesman, a unique job that involves operating the submarine's steering and depth controls.</p>	
Age:	16 to 36.
Nationality:	British or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job.
Sex:	This job is open to men only.
Starting salary:	£13,377 to £16,681 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £20.80 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

RATING	
CHEF – CATERING SERVICES LOGISTICIAN (SUBMARINER)	
<p>Catering on a submarine presents special challenges, like planning meals and then getting food to feed 120 men for six months. You'll need to provide tasty and varied meals when you're on a long patrol. You'll also be a fully-trained member of the ship's firefighting team.</p>	
Age:	16 to 36.
Nationality:	British or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job.
Sex:	This job is open to men only.
Starting salary:	£13,377 to £16,681 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £20.80 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.







MEDICAL

Care doesn't get more 'front line' than this. Serving with the Royal Navy is a chance to practise hands-on medicine in sometimes extraordinary circumstances.

In this section:

- **Medical, nursing and healthcare** - Page 54
- **Dentistry** - Page 56
- **Jobs** - Page 58

Visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers
or call 08456 07 55 55

MEDICAL

MEDICAL, NURSING AND HEALTHCARE

In medical, nursing and healthcare, you'll be an essential part of the team keeping everyone in the Royal Navy fit, healthy and effective, in peacetime and conflict.



What you'll be doing

Life in the Royal Navy can be physically and mentally tough, even in peacetime. So, you'll have the huge responsibility of helping the people around you stay healthy, teaching them how to manage their own health and getting them back to fighting fitness after illness or injury.

You could be working in the medical centres of our shore bases, dealing with day-to-day healthcare and education for all personnel, or at sea. On larger ships, you'll be part of a medical team, while on smaller ships, you may be one of only two medics on board, providing health education, first-aid training and medical care. On a submarine, alongside your regular clinical duties you'll monitor air and water supplies and carry out the health and environmental safety checks so important when you're dealing with nuclear power.

You may work with surgical teams and specialise in areas such as intensive care, theatre nursing, orthopaedics, burns and plastic surgery, A&E nursing and primary care. You could be providing primary healthcare, with opportunities to work on shore or at sea, fly in helicopters, or serve with a Royal Marines Commando unit. Or, if you choose to work in the Submarine Service, you'll undergo specialist training in areas such as radiation medicine and atmosphere control.

This area of the branch is also responsible for securing safe water supplies and sanitation for all personnel while they're in the field, which can involve working in extreme conditions.

We provide an incredibly wide-ranging, challenging and rewarding environment in which to practise medicine. In times of tension or conflict, you'll be a critical part of the team, carrying out some of the most important, demanding, but ultimately rewarding jobs we have to offer.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

**MEDICAL ASSISTANT
(GENERAL SERVICE)**

MEDICAL ASSISTANT (SUBMARINER)

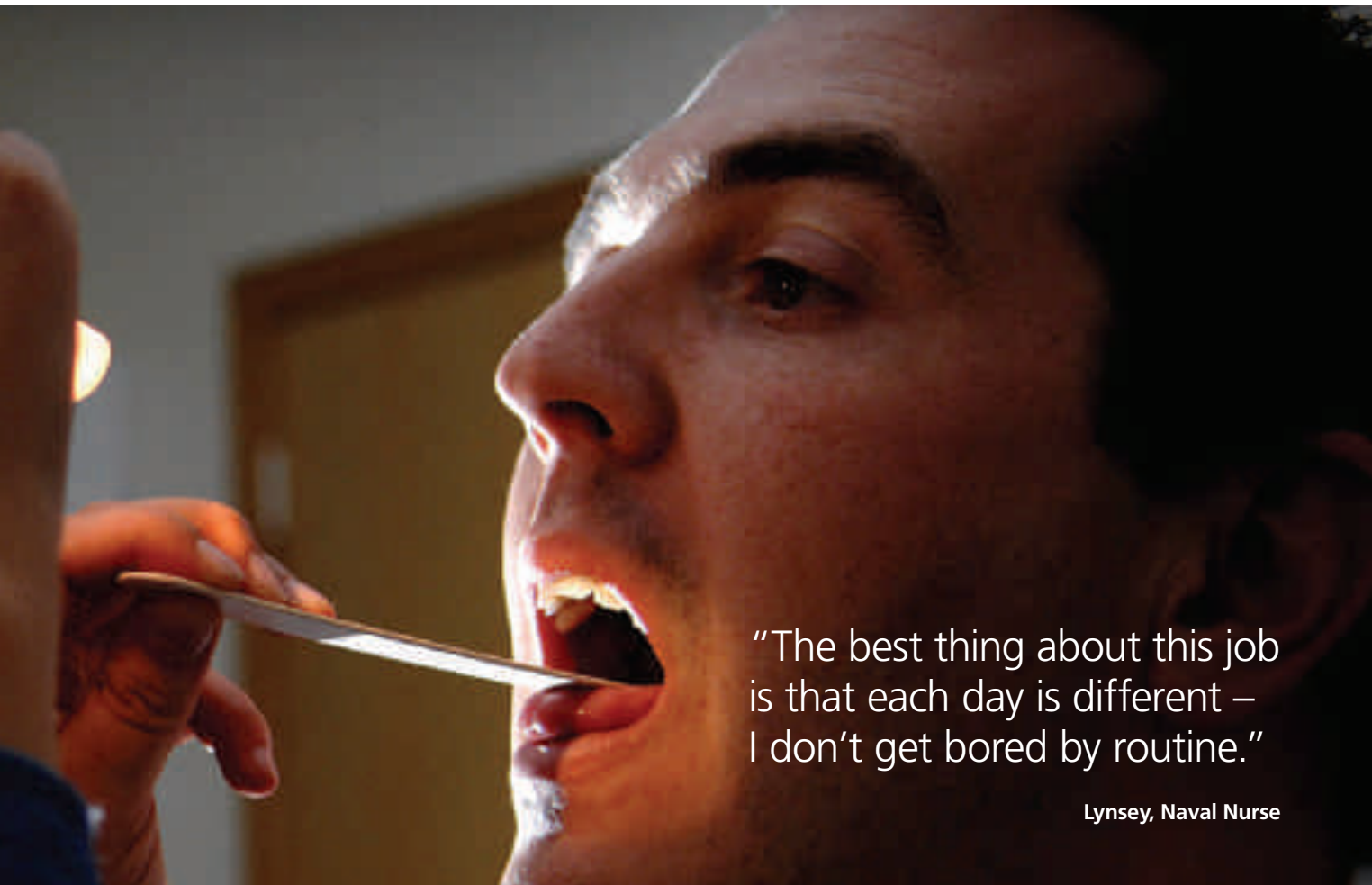
NAVAL NURSE

NURSING OFFICER

MEDICAL OFFICER

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 58.



“The best thing about this job is that each day is different – I don’t get bored by routine.”

Lynsey, Naval Nurse

Have you always wanted to be a nurse?

“Yes, but somehow I ended up being an accountant, which I hated! I went into the Armed Forces Careers Office, signed up and never looked back.”

How did you make the career change?

“I had to pass the Admiralty Interview Board (AIB), which is one of the most challenging things I’ve ever done. My passing-out parade was the proudest moment of my life.”

**HEATHER
NURSING OFFICER**





MEDICAL DENTISTRY

Your professional dentistry and patient-care skills will have a direct effect on our morale and fighting effectiveness.

Really?

'Julie Andrews' – Tea or coffee with milk and without sugar (in other words, a white nun); as opposed to NATO standard (milk, two sugars).

What you'll be doing

Anyone who's ever had a toothache will know how distracting it can be. That's why you'll be such a crucial part of the medical team on board ships, which may be away from their home port for months at a time. In most respects, it's just like working in any modern, well-equipped dental practice. The big difference is that your patients will be the crew of a ship or submarine, or Royal Marines Commandos.

Like other dentists, you'll provide primary care and treatment, including dental hygiene and preventative care and advice. On a large ship, you'll work in a fully-fitted dental surgery, with access to the sick bay's operating theatre and ward facilities. You could also travel between smaller ships with a portable dental unit.

For all dentistry jobs, you'll need a bright, positive attitude and, since you could have anyone from an Able Rate to an Admiral in the chair, the ability to relate to people of all ranks and backgrounds. It's a challenging job, but one you'll find incredibly fulfilling.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

DENTAL NURSE

DENTAL HYGIENIST

DENTAL OFFICER

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 58.



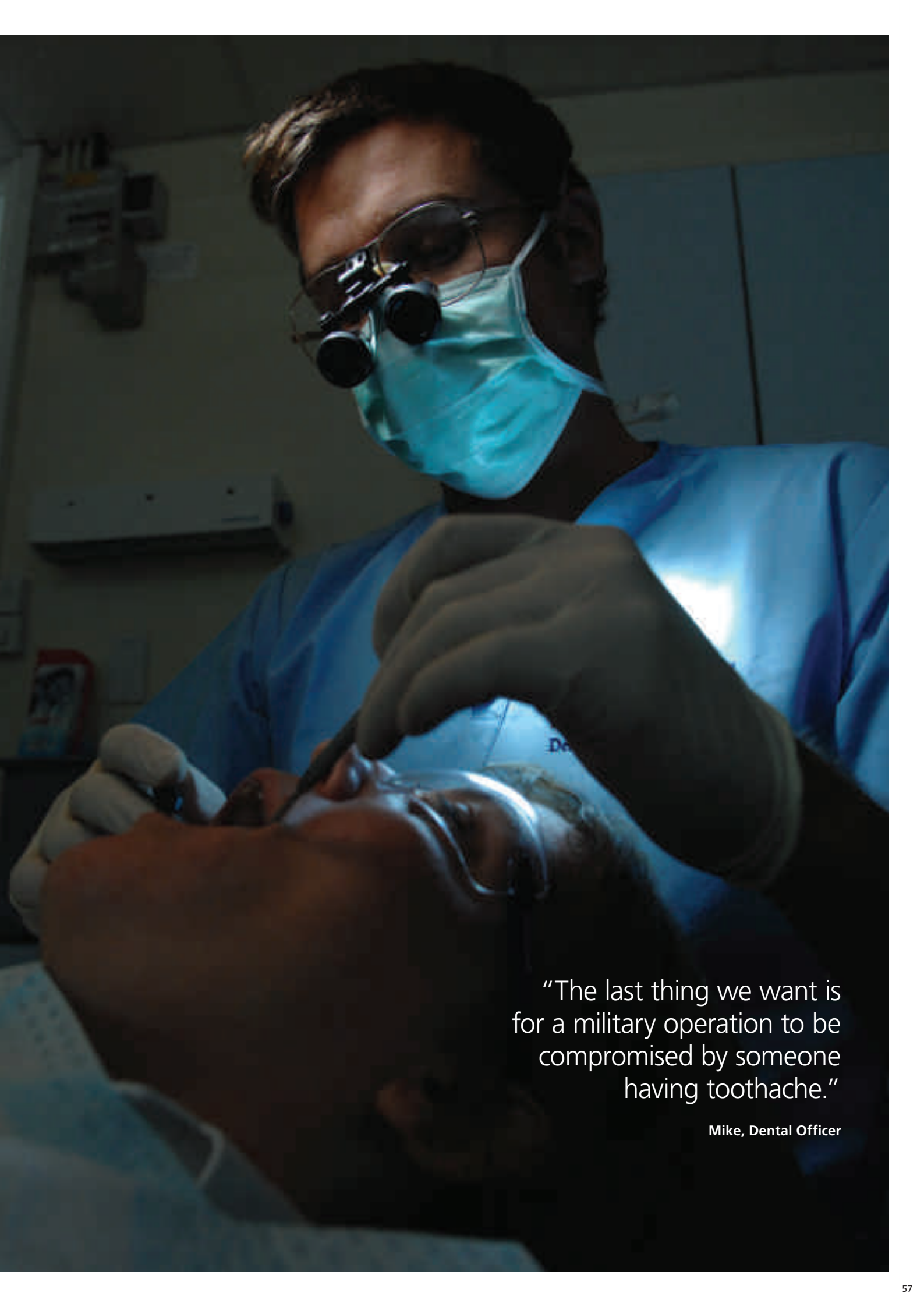
Why the Royal Navy, rather than a civilian practice?

"I couldn't imagine living and working in the same place my whole career. I wanted to travel and experience things I wouldn't in a civilian job."

What do your parents think?

"They're very supportive. They're pleased that I'm happy in a secure job and getting so many opportunities I would never have had if I'd just stayed at home."

**SOPHIE
DENTAL NURSE**



“The last thing we want is for a military operation to be compromised by someone having toothache.”

Mike, Dental Officer

MEDICAL JOBS

OFFICER

MEDICAL OFFICER

We provide one of the most wide-ranging, challenging and rewarding environments in which to practise medicine. You can serve at sea or on shore, specialise in a major discipline, practise occupational medicine, or explore areas you might never come across in an entire civilian career, including submarine, diving, aviation and radiation medicine.

Age: 17 to 54 (under 46 if you need career professional training).

Nationality: British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship. Medical Officers (Submariner) need full British citizenship.

Qualifications: If you're at university, you can apply for a medical cadetship in your final three years at medical school. If you're a qualified doctor, you'll enter on a short commission of three to six years.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women. However, only men can serve as Medical Officers in the Submarine Service.

Starting salary: £53,008 after receiving GMC Registration.

RATING

NAVAL NURSE

In peacetime and conflict, Naval Nurses are central to keeping everyone fit, healthy and effective. You can enter either as a student nurse or after you've qualified, joining the nursing team in an MOD hospital unit, caring for Royal Navy and Royal Marines personnel. You can also specialise as a critical-care nurse.

STUDENT NURSE

Age: 17^{1/2} to 36.

Nationality: British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: 240 UCAS points at A2 Level or higher grades or equivalent and GCSEs or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English language, maths and a science at grade C or above.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 (weeks 1 to 26 and qualified nurses) to £16,681 (after week 26) a year.

NAVAL NURSE

Age: 21 to 36.

Nationality: British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: RGN/RN (Adult) on part 1 or 13 of the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Register. Degree level only.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary £28,133 to £33,832 a year after your initial professional courses transition to military practice (TMP) and post basic professional qualifying course (PBPQC). Plus £20,000 bonus for joining as a critical-care nurse.

OFFICER

NURSING OFFICER

Alongside your clinical work, you'll be responsible for training student and junior nurses. You'll also have opportunities to further your own training and career, with fully-funded postgraduate training in areas such as intensive care, theatre nursing, orthopaedics, burns and plastic surgery, A&E nursing and primary care. You can also specialise as a critical-care nurse.

Age: 21 to 38 (up to age 48 in exceptional circumstances, please speak to a Careers Adviser for details).

Nationality: British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: You must be a registered nurse with at least two years' post-registration experience. A further professional qualification will be an advantage.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061 a year. Plus £20,000 bonus for joining as a critical-care nurse.

RATING

MEDICAL ASSISTANT (GENERAL SERVICE)

Medical Assistants provide day-to-day healthcare for all our personnel. On larger ships, you'll be part of a medical team. On smaller ships, you may be the only medic on board, providing health education and first-aid training as well as medical care.

Age: 17 to 36.

Nationality: British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

Salary and pay details correct (1 March 2010).

Visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers to download the full details and latest rates of pay for each job.

OFFICER

DENTAL OFFICER

As a Dental Officer in the Royal Navy, you'll have the opportunity to work in a variety of environments. You can serve on board a ship, with a Royal Marines Commando unit, or on shore, providing dental care for your crewmates. You'll also have opportunities to pursue a number of specialist disciplines.

Age:	17 to 54 (under 46 if you need career professional training).
Nationality:	British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	You can join after qualifying from dental school, after vocational training or after a job in civilian life. Dental cadetships are open to you as a dental student in your last nine terms of undergraduate training.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	£53,008.

OFFICER

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER

Operating in extreme conditions can put our personnel at risk of all kinds of environmental health hazards. When you are deployed with the Royal Marines or joint operations, you'll manage a team of technicians securing safe water supplies and sanitation in the field. You'll also be in charge of environmental health policy and practice on board ships and submarines.

Age:	17 to 42.
Nationality:	British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	You'll need a BSc or MSc in Environmental Health and to be registered with the Environmental Health Registration Board (EHRB).
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	£36,160.



RATING

MEDICAL ASSISTANT (SUBMARINER)

As well as your clinical duties, you'll carry out specialist tasks unique to the submarine environment. You'll monitor air and water supplies, and carry out vital health and environmental safety checks, reporting your findings direct to the Commanding Officer. You'll also become an expert in first aid and lifesaving and have opportunities for further training.

Age:	17 to 36.
Nationality:	Full British citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job.
Sex:	This job is open to men only.
Starting salary:	£13,377 to £16,681 a year. Plus Submariner qualifying bonus: £5000. Plus Submariner extra pay: £11.88 to £20.80 a day. Plus operational Submariner pay: £5 a day.

RATING

DENTAL NURSE

Being a Dental Nurse in the Royal Navy is just like working in any well-equipped civilian dental practice, except you'll be seeing patients on board a ship, or in a shore establishment anywhere in the UK or overseas. Working alongside the Dental Officer, you'll be responsible for preparing materials and instruments, making appointments and maintaining surgery stocks.

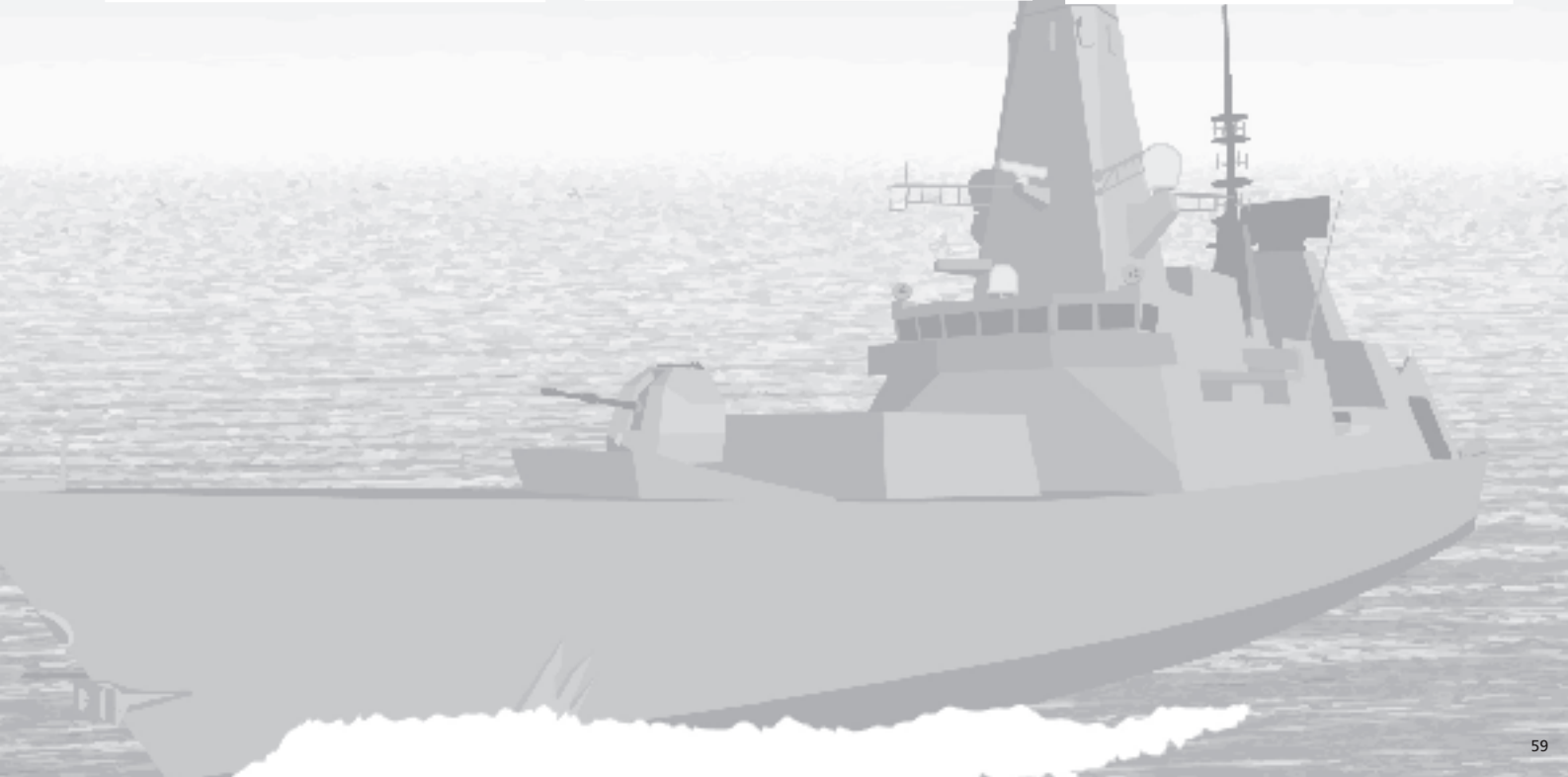
Age:	17 to 36.
Nationality:	British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	Two GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English language.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	£13,377 to £16,681 a year.

RATING

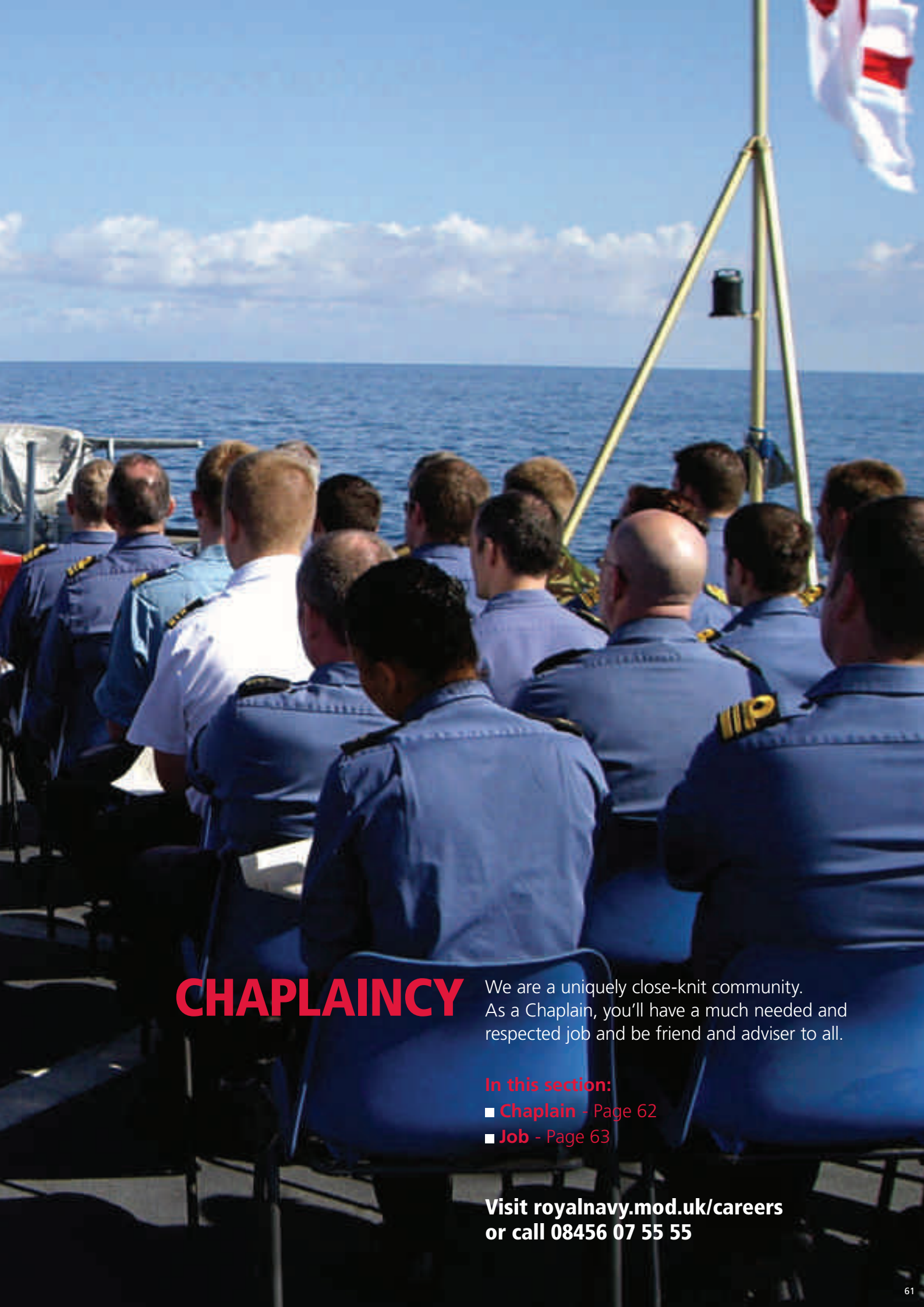
DENTAL HYGIENIST

You'll be responsible for running, restocking and maintaining your own surgery and have control over your own diary. Although this is mainly a clinical job, there's an educational angle, as well. You could give advice on oral hygiene, diet and nutrition to everyone from new recruits to families and children of fellow personnel.

Age:	18 to 36.
Nationality:	British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	You'll need to be registered as a dental hygienist with the General Dental Council.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	£13,377 to £16,681 a year.







CHAPLAINCY

We are a uniquely close-knit community. As a Chaplain, you'll have a much needed and respected job and be friend and adviser to all.

In this section:

- **Chaplain** - Page 62
- **Job** - Page 63

Visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers
or call 08456 07 55 55



“Chaplains serve across all areas of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines – on the land, on (and under) the sea and in the air. But wherever you are, you are seen as the people specialists.”

James, Chaplain



CHAPLAINCY

CHAPLAIN

Chaplains hold a unique commission within the UK forces. Although not an officer, the Chaplain is part of the command structure, but with freedom to talk to anyone and everyone on an equal, informal and confidential basis.

What you'll be doing

Every unit, whether a ship, shore base, squadron or commando unit, is a community. Most of its members will be aged between 18 and 40, many of them far from home and all doing a demanding job, often in tough and dangerous conditions. You'll provide them and their families with the spiritual, moral and pastoral support they need to function as an effective military force.

Personnel come from all backgrounds and traditions, so we recruit Chaplains from the Anglican, Church of Scotland, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, Congregational and various Free Church traditions to meet their different pastoral and spiritual needs.

As well as serving people from the various Christian denominations, we also provide for the spiritual needs of Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim and Sikh personnel. So, you'll be working within a multi-faith environment, ministering to a wide group of mainly young men and women from a range of religious traditions.

It's not just the men and women serving on ships, submarines and airbases who need your support. You may also be posted to a training base, where you'll be working with some of our youngest recruits, or a large naval base, which will bring you into contact with the thousands of family members waiting at home while their sons, daughters, parents and partners are away on active duty. The Royal Marines Commandos also need Chaplains who are willing to train and serve alongside them, whether at sea or on land.

CHAPLAIN

Your 'parish' is a community of ordinary people doing everyday jobs in extraordinary circumstances and places. As their Chaplain, you have a unique position which gives you the remarkable privilege of being 'friend and adviser to all', no matter what rank.

Age: Up to age 39.

Qualifications: 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

You must be a member of the clergy of the Anglican Communion, the Church of Scotland and other Presbyterian Churches, the Roman Catholic Church, the Methodist Church, the Baptist Church, the Congregational Church, Assemblies of God or Elim Pentecostal Church. We normally expect you to have completed three years of ministry following ordination or completing full-time ministerial training.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women. However only men can serve in the Royal Marines Commandos.

Starting salary: £37,172 to £43,837.

Salary and pay details correct (1 March 2010).





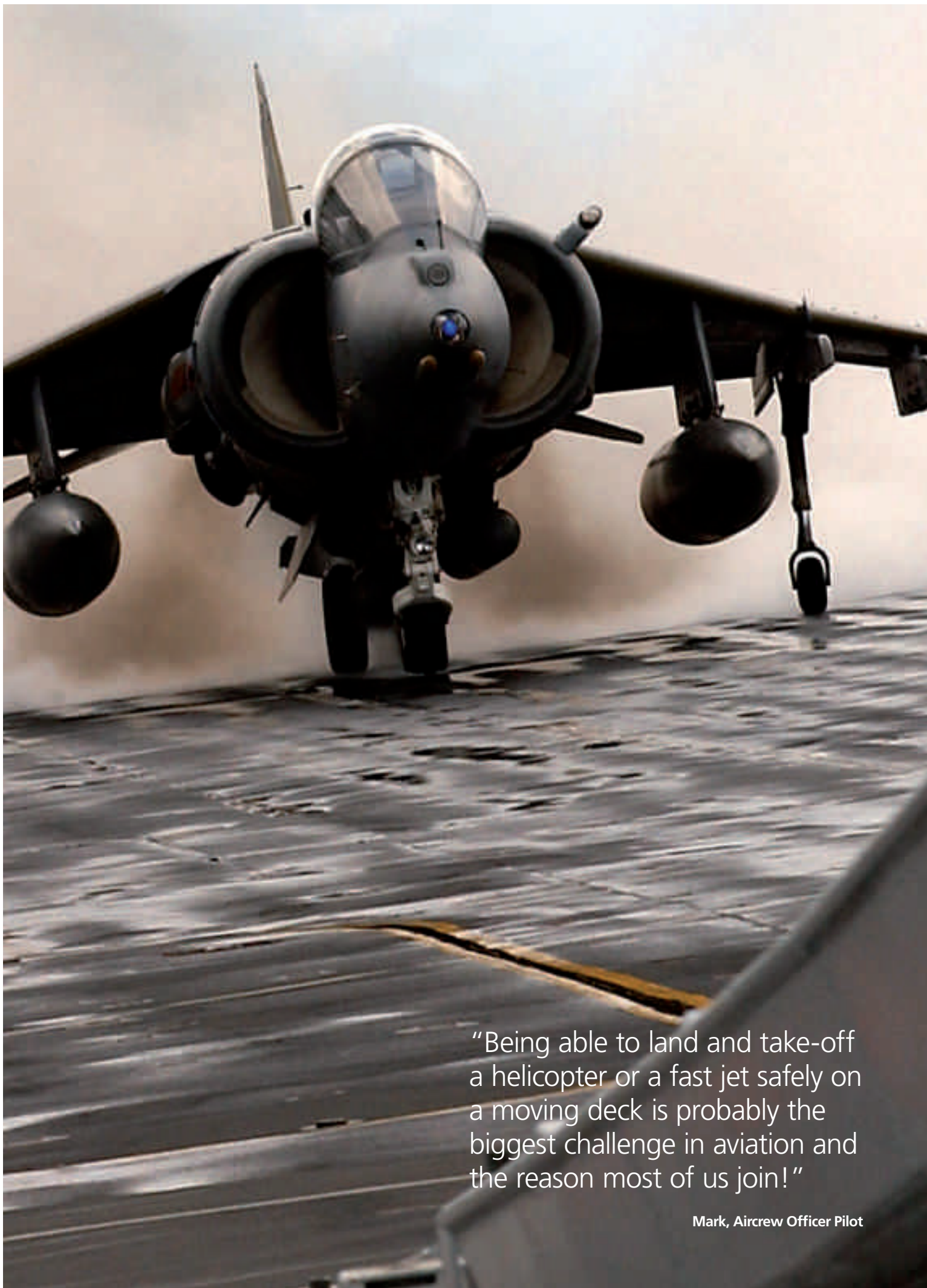
AVIATION

The Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm, delivers air power and air support from the sea and shore bases. Its helicopters and fast jets can operate in all environments, day and night, over the sea and land.

In this section:

- **Aircrew** - Page 66
- **Air operations support** - Page 68
- **Jobs** - Page 70

Visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers
or call 08456 07 55 55



“Being able to land and take-off a helicopter or a fast jet safely on a moving deck is probably the biggest challenge in aviation and the reason most of us join!”

Mark, Aircrew Officer Pilot

AVIATION AIRCREW

As Aircrew, you'll be flying in fast jets or helicopters and managing a range of complex and powerful systems on some of the most challenging operations in military aviation.



Really?

'Muster' – Formal inspection of issued kit. If it's up to standard, it 'passes muster'. Also, an order for all members of crew to group together in a given place, for example 'all hands muster on deck'.

What you'll be doing

You'll be trained either on fast jets or helicopters, operating from a ship or a shore base in the UK or overseas. Whatever you're flying and wherever you're serving, you'll be one of the world's most highly-skilled military aviators.

In fast jets, you'll be operating at speeds of more than 600 mph and using sophisticated weapons including Paveway laser-guided bombs and Sidewinder air-to-air missiles. In helicopters, you'll work as a team of up to four people, using the helicopter's sophisticated detection equipment and weapon systems to hunt hostile submarines and ships and be the 'eye in the sky' for Commanders in combat situations. You could also drop a troop of Royal Marines Commandos and their equipment into action, or carry out surveillance and reconnaissance missions over land and sea. As Aircrew, your powers of observation and concentration and your ability to take account of all possibilities will be crucial.

Aircrew need dedication, focus and professionalism of the highest order. You're responsible for the safety of your aircraft and everyone on board, as well as completing your mission, so attention to detail is critical. Although you'll be in a leadership role, you're very much part of a team, both in the air and on the ground, in which everyone depends on each other. There are few jobs in the Royal Navy, or anywhere else for that matter, that can match Aircrew for variety, challenge, team spirit and job satisfaction.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

AIRCREW OFFICER PILOT

AIRCREW OFFICER NAVIGATION AND WEAPONS SYSTEMS / OBSERVER

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 70.

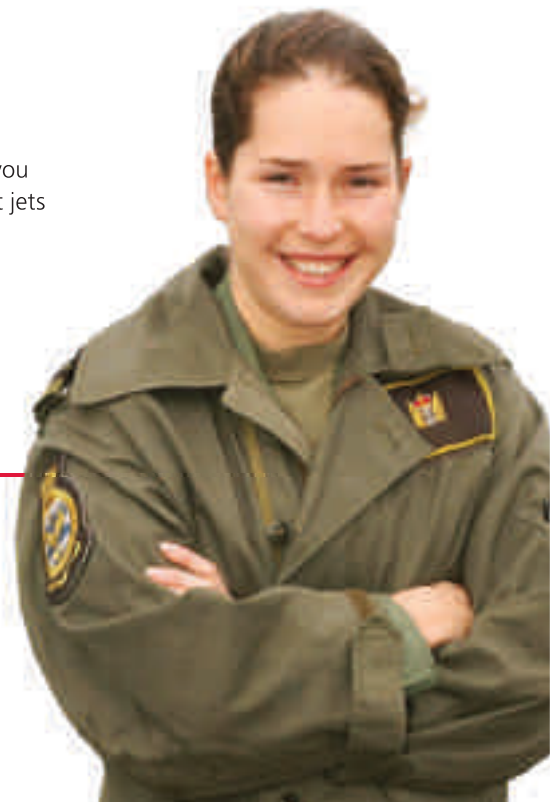
Why did you join the Royal Navy?

"I was still in the sixth form at school when I found out that you get paid the whole time you're training for a career flying fast jets or helicopters – I jumped at the chance to join!"

What about getting a degree?

"You get a degree as well as being paid to train as a Pilot or Observer with the Royal Navy. So unlike a lot of my student friends, I got a flying start to a fantastic career with no money worries!"

AMY
AIRCREW OFFICER
NAVIGATION AND WEAPONS
SYSTEMS/OBSERVER



AVIATION

AIR OPERATIONS SUPPORT

In air operations support, whether on deck or on the ground, you're as vital to the success of the mission as the Aircrew.



What you'll be doing

You'll be responsible for making sure our aircraft and their crews can operate safely and effectively. You could be in charge of fast jets or helicopters while they're on the deck or ground, getting them in the right place ready for action. On an aircraft carrier, that'll include operating the lift that brings them up out of the hangar, then securing them on the flight deck. It's a challenging and physically demanding job, especially in bad weather.

You could also be responsible for the safety equipment on which people's lives may depend. That means looking after the crew's protective gear, such as immersion suits, flying helmets, oxygen masks, parachutes and emergency breathing equipment and maintaining the aircraft's survival packs, radio beacons, distress flares, life jackets and life rafts. Just as importantly, you'll train people how to use them.

Air operations support also includes air-traffic control, which provides the critical link between the aircraft and its base. You'll be involved in the mission at every stage, from sending the aircraft safely off the deck or runway, to co-ordinating its movements, which may be through a combat zone or bad weather, before landing it safely again.

Air operations are complex even in peacetime. Add in factors like political tension, natural disaster, conflict or bad weather and it's easy to see why you'll need a cool head and excellent technical, analytical, communication and decision-making skills when you're working as part of our close-knit and highly-professional team.

The Fleet Air Arm would never get off the ground without its air engineers. You'll be responsible for servicing aircraft before and after every flight, as well as regularly checking the engine, hydraulics and fuel systems.

You'll train either as a helicopter specialist, working with the Lynx, Sea King or Merlin at sea and on shore, or work on fast jets, on board aircraft carriers or stationed overseas.

YOU COULD JOIN AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

AIR ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

AIR ENGINEER OFFICER

AIRCRAFT HANDLER / NAVAL AIRMAN (AIRCRAFT HANDLER)

AIR SURVIVAL TECHNICIAN / NAVAL AIRMAN (SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT)

AIRCRAFT CONTROLLER

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICER

For detailed job descriptions, including salaries, please turn to page 70.

“With the training I’ve had and the people I’ve got round me, I always feel confident and safe up on deck.”

Graeme, Aircraft Handler



Really?

‘Killick’ - Naval slang name for a Leading Hand. A Killick is a small anchor: the badge of a Leading Hand is an anchor. The word is said to come from the Erse word for a wooden anchor.



How would you describe your job?

“I’m the link between the aircraft and its ‘home unit’ or base – in my case, that’s a ship. I provide all the communications to make sure it takes off, completes its mission and comes back home safely.”

What kinds of pressures are we talking?

“You could be sending aircraft into a combat zone or disaster area, controlling a large formation or dealing with a mid-air emergency. Talking the aircraft safely back onto the flight deck, in all kinds of weather, makes you realise your importance in the team.”

NATALIE
AIRCRAFT CONTROLLER

AVIATION JOBS



OFFICER

AIRCREW OFFICER PILOT

As a Fleet Air Arm helicopter Pilot, you'll drop Royal Marines Commandos and their equipment into action, carry out surveillance and anti-submarine operations and fly reconnaissance missions over land and sea. Follow the fast jet route and you'll be our front-line strike force, operating from aircraft carriers and shore bases.

Age: 17 to 25.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

For direct graduate entry, you'll need a degree or equivalent, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths. You'll also have to pass flying aptitude tests at RAF Cranwell.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £15,268 a year rising to £24,132 a year (on passing out of Britannia Royal Naval College).

Graduate starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061 a year. Plus extra flying pay after qualifying: £13.66 to £36.84 a day.

RATING

AIRCRAFT HANDLER / NAVAL AIRMAN (AIRCRAFT HANDLER)

Your main responsibilities are safety and getting aircraft in the right place, ready for action. On board a ship, you'll operate the lift that brings aircraft out of the hangar, then secure them on the flight deck. You'll also be trained to fight fuel, hangar and aircraft fires.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed. However, you must be between 166 and 193cms (5ft 4ins and 6ft 3ins) tall.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

OFFICER

AIRCREW OFFICER NAVIGATION AND WEAPONS SYSTEMS / OBSERVER

In this job, you will stand as one of the world's most highly-skilled military aviators. After an intensive six-month initial training, you'll go on to specialise in navigation and operational skills. These include mastering our helicopters' complex surveillance, anti-surface and anti-submarine warfare systems.

Age: 17 to 25.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

For direct graduate entry, you'll need a degree or equivalent, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths. You'll also have to pass flying aptitude tests at RAF Cranwell.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £15,268 a year rising to £24,132 a year (on passing out of Britannia Royal Naval College).

Graduate starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061 a year. Plus extra flying pay after qualifying: £13.66 to £36.84 a day.

RATING

AIR SURVIVAL TECHNICIAN / NAVAL AIRMAN (SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT)

You'll look after the Aircrew's protective gear, including immersion suits, oxygen masks and parachutes, and maintain the aircraft's survival packs, radio beacons, distress flares, life jackets and life rafts. You'll also train people in using safety equipment, underwater escape from a ditched helicopter and other survival drills.

Age: 16 to 36.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.



Salary and pay details correct (1 March 2010).

Visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers to download the full details and latest rates of pay for each job.

OFFICER

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICER

To maintain the safe passage of air traffic in our increasingly crowded skies, you'll rely on sophisticated radar and communications systems and your skilled team of controllers. You'll need a cool head, excellent analytical and decision-making skills and be a clear, decisive communicator, especially in combat situations.

Age: 17 to 25.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

For direct graduate entry, you'll need a degree or equivalent, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths. You'll also have to pass flying aptitude tests at RAF Cranwell.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £15,268 a year rising to £24,132 a year (on passing out of Britannia Royal Naval College).

Graduate starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061 a year.

OFFICER

AIR ENGINEER OFFICER

You're ultimately responsible for the people and hardware that keep the Fleet Air Arm flying. On an operational squadron, you'll maintain, fit and test propulsion, weapon, navigation, communications and control systems, to keep your aircraft constantly ready to fly. You could also work as a project manager on new systems and solutions.

Age: 17 to 30.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: A degree in mechanical, electronic, aeronautical engineering, physics or a related subject, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £29,006 to £32,061 a year. Plus up to £12,000 joining bonus.

See page 42 for more Engineering job opportunities.

RATING

AIRCRAFT CONTROLLER

You're the vital link between the aircraft and its base, whether that's a ship or Naval Air Station on shore. You're involved in the mission at every stage, from getting the aircraft safely off the deck or runway then co-ordinating its movements before bringing it safely in to land.

Age: 16 to 25.

Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: Two GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

RATING

AIR ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

A vital part of our air operations team, you'll take charge of scheduled maintenance and pre- and post-flight servicing and inspections for the Fleet Air Arm's helicopters and fast jets. You could work on shore at a Royal Naval Air Station, or at sea on board a frigate, destroyer or aircraft carrier.

Age: 16 to 36.

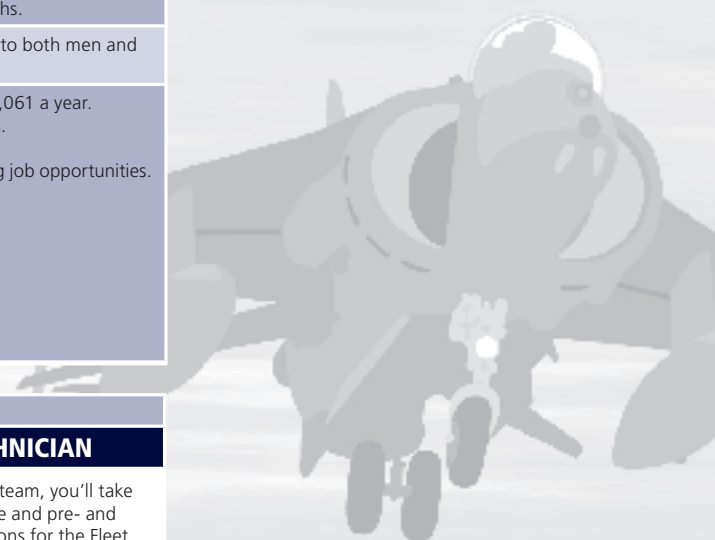
Nationality: British or British dual citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job. However, fast-track opportunities may be available if you have GCSEs or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent or A-levels or Higher grades or equivalent.

Sex: This job is open to both men and women.

Starting salary: £13,377 to £16,681 a year.

See page 42 for more Engineering job opportunities.







JOINING, TRAINING AND SPONSORSHIP

In this section:

- **How to join** - Page 74
- **Your training and development** - Page 76
- **Sponsorship** - Page 78

**Visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers
or call 08456 07 55 55**

HOW TO JOIN

Once you've decided that you're interested in a career in the Royal Navy, it's time to begin the formal recruitment process.

Helping you succeed

The recruitment process might seem a bit involved, but that's because we want you to be absolutely sure it's the right decision for you. We also have a duty to choose people with the right attitudes and personal qualities to take on the responsibilities of life in an armed service. During the process, you'll have plenty of opportunities to show us what you're made of and we'll help you make the most of your potential.



Get in touch

Call **08456 07 55 55**. You'll be asked a few basic questions to check you're eligible to apply. Or you can fill in a short form online at **royalnavy.mod.uk/careers**

Meet us

We'll book you a place for an initial careers presentation (ICP) at a careers office near you, where you'll learn more about us and the job options open to you.

Find out more

After the ICP, you'll have a chance to ask the Careers Adviser any questions you may have. You'll then fill in a short application form. You'll also tell us when and how quickly you want to move on with your application. At this point, you're still not committed to joining the Royal Navy.

Visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers or call **08456 07 55 55**

Don't forget

We're here to help. If you have questions or concerns at any stage in the process, please ask your Careers Adviser. It's what they're there for.

4 5 6 7



Show us what you've got

We'll arrange for you to take the recruit test (RT), which covers basic English and maths, problem-solving and understanding of mechanics. We'd recommend you work through the examples at royalnavy.mod.uk/careers before you sit the real thing. You should also start thinking about which job you want to do. This is important because we'll consider your results, alongside your existing qualifications and interests, in deciding which route into the Royal Navy is best for you.

Your way ahead

Based on your RT results and any existing qualifications you may have, we'll discuss the most suitable jobs open to you. If you don't pass the RT first time, don't worry, as you can take it again. Your Careers Adviser can tell you what the timescales are likely to be.

Fit to join

You'll need to take a medical, an eye test and the pre-joining fitness test. Make sure you get yourself in shape both to pass the test and prepare for your basic training. To help you, there's a pre-joining fitness programme you can follow at royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

For some jobs you will have to take extra aptitude tests. You'll then have a short interview at the careers office. If we feel you have the potential to train as an officer, you'll enter the selection process, which ends in the Admiralty Interview Board (AIB). For details, please see royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Welcome aboard

When you've passed the various tests, we'll make you a formal job offer. As soon as a place becomes available, you'll begin your basic training.

Remember to keep your fitness levels up after receiving your formal job offer to make sure you're still fit to start your training.



Basic training

Whichever job you choose within the Royal Navy, you'll begin your basic training at either HMS Raleigh or Britannia Royal Naval College (BRNC).

Your basic training is designed to help you make the move from civilian to Royal Navy life. There's a huge amount to take in and get used to, so be prepared for some of the biggest physical and mental challenges of your life. It'll be hard work, but most people enjoy it and find they learn a great deal about themselves. You'll also make friendships that last right through your Royal Navy career.

HMS Raleigh

As a rating, you'll spend nine weeks at HMS Raleigh learning about all aspects of Royal Navy life and what it takes to be part of the team. You'll practise specific skills like firefighting, first aid and using a weapon, as well as developing important general qualities like teamwork and discipline. You'll go on an adventure training weekend, which includes a trek across Dartmoor. For more details on HMS Raleigh, please see royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Britannia Royal Naval College

As an officer, you'll spend eight months to a year at Britannia Royal Naval College (BRNC) in Dartmouth. You'll learn leadership and teamwork skills and the principles of command and management, which you'll put into practice during exercises on Dartmoor and the River Dart. Alongside your academic studies, you'll be taught to handle small ships and spend 10 weeks at sea, working in every department on board, learning how they operate and gaining first-hand experience of life in a warship. For more details on BRNC, please see royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Passing-out parade

At the end of basic training, you and your fellow recruits will be full members of the Royal Navy. To mark your achievement, we'll invite your family and friends to watch you march past together, in full dress uniform, at your passing-out parade. It's one of the biggest days of your life and one you will never forget.

Professional training

After basic training, you'll start learning the specialist skills you'll need to do your job through a combination of time at sea and in the classroom. It's the start of a training process that will last right through your career. Many of the qualifications you'll gain along the way will be recognised and valued by civilian employers, as well as the Royal Navy. The exact length, location and content of your professional training depends on your job. Detailed training information for each job can be downloaded at royalnavy.mod.uk/careers



YOUR TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

There's a lot to learn on the way to becoming a fully-qualified member of the Royal Navy. It starts with your basic training and continues right through your time with us. There'll be plenty of challenges, but plenty of rewards, too.

Promotion

Promotion within the Royal Navy is on merit. If you work hard and show potential, you will be promoted, gaining the extra responsibility and pay that goes with the higher ranks. So, how far and fast you progress is very much in your hands. Turn to pages 16 and 17 to see how you can progress through the ranks.

Transferring your skills

During your career, you'll have the chance to gain a range of qualifications such as NVQs, GCSEs, BTEC awards, or even a degree. All of these are nationally recognised and valued by civilian employers, a great boost to your job prospects if you decide to leave the Royal Navy. Naval training and experience is also recognised by many civilian professional organisations such as the Chartered Management Institute and City and Guilds.

Really?

It may come as a surprise, but there won't be anyone to wash, iron or look after your clothes. So if you don't know how to do these things already, make sure you've learned before you arrive.



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

With our sponsorships, bursaries, cadetships and joining bonuses you don't have to choose between gaining higher qualifications and earning decent money.



AFTER SCHOOL

Your last couple of years at school are when you take important exams and make the first really big decisions of your life. You could progress onto further education, either in the sixth form or at college and you'll probably enjoy having greater freedom, but with it comes new responsibilities and expenses. We can provide financial support during your studies, helping you achieve your ambitions.

Really?

'Salute' – Mark of recognition and respect between any two people in the Royal Navy uniform. You will quickly find out how (and who) to salute in your first week of training.

Sixth form scholarship scheme

If you're currently in Year 11 or 12 (4th or 5th Year at Scottish secondary schools), you can apply for one of our sixth form scholarships. As well as receiving £1050 a year while you study, you'll also have the chance to experience Naval life before you start training. You can still apply for a university sponsorship, too. For more details, please visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Welbeck College

Welbeck, the Defence Sixth Form College, near Loughborough, is a purpose-built, fee-paying residential centre with some of the finest facilities and equipment in the country. You'll live on-site and study alongside other aspiring engineers heading for the armed forces and the MOD civil service. You'll then go on to study engineering at university and join us as an Engineer Officer when you graduate. For more details, please visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers or visit the Welbeck website www.dsfc.ac.uk

Special Flying Award

If you're aged 16 to 21 and eligible to join the Royal Navy as an Aircrew Officer, we offer two residential courses under the Special Flying Award Scheme to help kick-start your aviation career. The gliding award lasts eight days, while the powered award runs for two weeks. For more details, please visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

AFTER A-LEVELS

After your A-levels (or equivalent), you have a number of options: go straight to university, take a gap year, get a job or apply to join the Royal Navy, then study and get paid while you train.

Defence Technical Undergraduate Scheme (DTUS)

Each year, we sponsor around 70 students who want to become Engineer Officers to read accredited engineering degrees at certain universities in the UK. This bursary scheme currently pays you £4000 a year, plus an extra attendance-based payment equal to around £1500 a year. You will be a civilian while you're studying. In fact, one of the conditions is that you take a full and active part in university life. All we ask is that you complete at least 45 training days each year, including weekly training nights during term-time and military attachments and exercises during the Easter and summer holidays.

When you graduate, you'll join us as an Engineer Officer and serve for at least three years once you've completed your professional training. For more details, please visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers



Military Aviation Academy

This unique joint venture between the Royal Navy and the Open University allows aspiring Aircrew Officers to gain a foundation degree in Military Aviation Studies while learning to fly. You can apply straight from school or college. You won't have to pay any tuition fees and you'll be on a full salary while you study. For more details, please visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Foundation degree for Warfare Naval College entrants

If you don't have a degree when you join BRNC as a Warfare Officer, you'll automatically be registered with the University of Plymouth for a foundation degree in Naval Studies, fully-funded by the Royal Navy. As with the Aircrew foundation degree, you'll receive your full salary and you can move on to a fully-funded honours degree if you want. For more details, please visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Have you always wanted to be a Pilot?

"My taste for flying developed as a cadet at secondary school. It was great fun and I found I had some ability too. So I decided to join the Military Aviation Academy – I thought it would be silly to turn down the opportunity of getting paid while training to fly and getting a degree!"

What qualities do you need to succeed?

"The Fleet Air Arm is suited to people who want a varied, rewarding and enjoyable lifestyle. Every day is different and always proves challenging. You're constantly encouraged to better yourself."

CHARLIE AIRCREW OFFICER PILOT



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

UNIVERSITY YEARS

You probably don't need us to tell you that three or more years at university is going to cost you – or your family – a fair bit of money. So we offer a range of financial support packages to help ease the burden, allowing you to concentrate on your studies, achieve your aims and enjoy student life to the full.

Bursary schemes

If you're planning to go to university, or you're already studying for your degree, you can apply for one of our bursary schemes to help you pay for your studies. As a bursar, you will still be a civilian while studying, but you'll be expected to spend part of your summer holidays with us, getting to know the Royal Navy.

Standard bursary: These are available to those wanting to join the Warfare, Logistics or Fleet Air Arm branches, to help with the costs of studying any subject at any UK university. The bursary is currently worth £1500 a year.

Technical bursary: If you're currently studying for an accredited engineering degree and want to join us as an Engineer Officer, you can apply for a technical bursary, currently worth £4000 a year.

Medical and dental cadetships

If you want to join the Royal Navy as a Medical Officer or Dental Officer, you can apply for one of our cadetships.

Medical cadetship: As a medical student, you can apply for an undergraduate cadetship up to three years before you qualify. You'll have to pass both the Admiralty Interview Board and a competitive selection board. If you're successful, you'll receive a Royal Navy salary and have all your tuition fees paid, while living university life to the full as a civilian.

Dental cadetship: If you're in the last nine terms of your undergraduate dentistry training, you can apply for a dental cadetship. You'll receive a Royal Navy salary and we'll also pay your tuition fees.

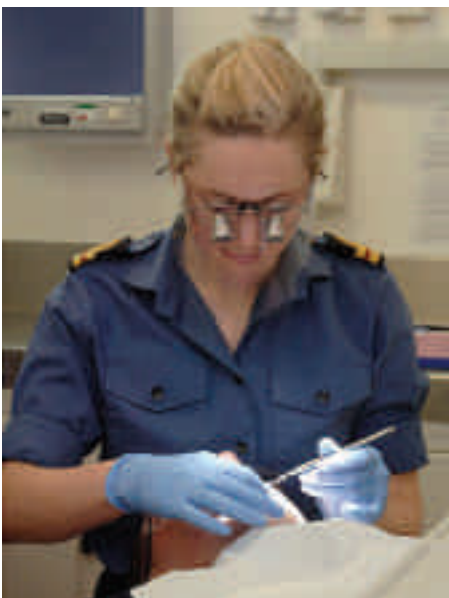
As a medical or dental cadet, you'll receive a substantial salary for each of your three years.

• First year	£14,301
• Second year	£16,087
• Third year	£17,881

In return

Our sponsorship schemes are extremely generous and have helped many students fulfil their ambition to join the Royal Navy. However, along with the cash comes a responsibility. Once you complete your studies, we'll expect you to serve for a minimum period (exactly how long varies between jobs), as part of your terms and conditions.

If, having received financial support under any of these schemes, you decide not to join the Royal Navy after all, or you leave before your service period is up, we may ask you to repay some or all of the money. So, please think carefully before you apply for sponsorship. For more details, please visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers



Salary and pay details correct (1 March 2010).

Really?

'Wardroom' – The area on board ship where officers have their meals and socialise. Known as the 'officers mess' in the other armed services – this area is still called the wardroom on shore bases too.



Engineering branch joining bonus

As a final-year engineering student, you could be eligible for a joining bonus of up to £12,000 if you choose to join the Royal Navy as an Engineer Officer. You'll have the chance to specialise in air, weapon or marine engineering, with the Submarine Service offering the extra enticement of working with nuclear reactors and weapons plus an extra £5000 when you qualify.

If you already hold an engineering degree, joining the Royal Navy as an Engineer Officer offers fantastic opportunities to take your career further and faster than in civilian life, including reaching chartered engineer status. You'll begin your service as a Lieutenant, achieving the rank of Lieutenant Commander (and the salary of up to £49,000 that goes with it) in your early 30s. We'll encourage you to study further, making a huge range of fully-funded higher degrees and other training available to you.

Continuing professional development

During your professional training and throughout your career, you'll gain qualifications accredited by leading academic institutions, professional bodies and industry organisations. All are recognised internationally and will be valued by civilian employers. This can greatly improve your prospects if you decide to leave the Royal Navy.







AND FINALLY...

In this section:

- **Your questions answered** - Page 84
- **Equal opportunities** - Page 86
- **The Naval Service** - Page 88

Visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers
or call 08456 07 55 55

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Joining the Royal Navy is a big step. We want you to be happy, successful and sure you've made the right choice. These are some of the questions we get asked most often by people thinking of becoming recruits, and their families. You can find other questions on the website, email questions to us through our regular online webchats or just call us on 08456 07 55 55.

Q: How long do I have to sign up for?

A: It depends on which part of the Royal Navy, and the job, you're considering. Generally, all Royal Navy ratings join on a full career, which is for 18 years or to age 40, whichever is later. As an officer, you'll join on an initial commission of 12 years. You may be able to extend this, depending on our needs.

Q: What if I change my mind?

A: If you want to leave, you can send in a request one year before completing your specified return of service. How long this return of service is, will depend on the branch you join. You will need to give 12 months' notice.

If you seriously believe that the Royal Navy isn't for you, we may give you some time and space to work out what you want to do next. As a rule, you can't buy yourself out and you may have to repay some or all of any sponsorship you've received, so it's not something to consider lightly.

Q: Can I see if I like it before I apply?

A: Yes. We run four-day 'acquaint' courses on the south coast and in Scotland, which will give you a taste of life during initial training and on a ship or submarine, as well as a chance to ask questions and find out more about the different options available to you. It's free and we'll even pay your travel costs. For more details, visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Q: Are there age limits to joining?

A: You can join most Royal Navy branches between the ages of 16 and up to and including your 37th birthday. To become an officer you must be within the age limit on the first day of the month you enter Britannia Royal Naval College. If you're too young, we can put you on a waiting list, but we can't consider you until you're at least 15 years nine months, when you can make a formal application.

Q: Can I change jobs once I join?

A: No, you'll be processed for the branch you applied for. There are very few opportunities to transfer once you're in, so don't expect to be able to. Similarly, as an officer you'll be processed only for your chosen branch, unless there are shortages in other branches (as sometimes happens in Engineering and Warfare) which may be offered as an alternative if the branch you applied for is full.

Q: Can women join the Royal Navy?

A: We will not accept any form of sex discrimination. Women can serve in all branches of the Royal Navy except the Mine Clearance Diver branch and the Submarine Service. This is purely for medical reasons. The Government also doesn't allow women to serve in front-line units, so if you're female, you can't join as a Royal Marines Commando. However, women do serve in the Royal Marines Band Service.

Q: When I join, how much holiday will I get?

A: You will get six weeks' paid holiday and time off on all non-working weekends whether at home or abroad.



Q: Can I join and work locally?

A: No. You have to be prepared to serve anywhere in the world – which for most people is one of our main attractions!

Q: How can I keep in touch while I'm away?

A: All our ships and shore units have satellite phones for emergencies. We also give everyone at sea 20 minutes' worth of free satellite calls a week. All ships have email access and mobile phones are also allowed on board, although there may be some restrictions about when they can be used. Your friends and family can also send letters and parcels when you're at sea.

Q: Will a criminal record stop me from joining?

A: Not necessarily. Under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, convictions are said to be 'spent' after a period of time, which varies according to the offence. As long as you have no 'unspent' convictions, a criminal record should not prevent you from joining the Royal Navy.

Q: What's the policy on drug use?

A: We do not tolerate drugs in the Royal Navy or any area of the Naval Service. Everyone has compulsory drugs testing. If you're found guilty of drug use, you will usually be discharged from the Royal Navy and may be prosecuted.

Q: I have a partner. Can you help us with accommodation?

A: For married couples, civil partnerships and those with children, rented family housing is available after you've completed phase-two training or week 26.

Q: I live overseas. Can I join?

A: When you apply, you must be a British citizen, or a citizen of either a Commonwealth country or the Irish Republic. Certain career paths are only open to British citizens and we do not accept asylum seekers into the Naval Service.

Q: I'm disabled. Can I join?

A: If we accept your application, you'll have to pass a full medical examination. If you fail to meet the minimum required standard for entry because of an illness, injury or other condition, we won't be able to offer you a career with the Royal Navy.

Q: When will I take command of my own ship?

A: That's very much up to you. Minor warships can be commanded by Lieutenants – if you work hard, learn fast and show ability, you could achieve this within six years of joining as an officer. Commanding Officers of frigates and destroyers are Commanders and Captains, some of whom are only in their mid-30s.

Q: How easily will I be able to start a civilian career once I leave?

A: Most people, whether ratings or officers, find the high levels of training, responsibility and management skills they gain from their Royal Navy career are highly desirable among civilian employers.

Q: IF I HAVE ANY MORE QUESTIONS, WHERE SHOULD I LOOK?

A: You'll find the answers to any of your questions at royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

In the Royal Navy, we look for people with commitment, enthusiasm and high standards. Show us you've got them and we'll find a place for you – whatever your background.



We believe in equal opportunities. This means we'll consider your application no matter what your sex, race, ethnic origin, religion, sexuality or social background.

The only exceptions are the Royal Marines Commandos, the Submarine Service and Mine Clearance Divers, where we can't accept applications from women on the advice of the medical authorities.

All other officer and rating jobs in the Royal Navy, Fleet Air Arm, Royal Naval Reserve and Royal Fleet Auxiliary are open to both sexes.

We'll make every effort to take specific religious and cultural requirements, such as diet, into account where possible.

Really?

Sailors are often called 'Hands' – believed to come from climbing the rigging in sailing ships. Naval ratings' first promotion is to 'Leading Hand'.



Please remember though, that we have to consider factors such as operational needs, health and safety and our duty of care to all our personnel.

We offer everyone employment and promotion in the Royal Navy on the basis of their ability and merit, nothing else.

We do not accept bullying or harassment of any kind within the Royal Navy. We encourage anyone suffering any form of abuse to report it. We always treat any complaints seriously, sensitively and in absolute confidence.

Those found guilty of bullying, harassment or other unacceptable behaviour will be dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

If you have any other questions on our equal opportunities policy, visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

THE NAVAL SERVICE

We hope this publication has given you an insight into life in the Royal Navy and the career opportunities available to you. But the Royal Navy is just one part of the Naval Service.

To see what other career opportunities there are, simply visit the websites shown below.



Royal Naval Reserve (RNR)

The Royal Naval Reserve are an important part of the Naval Service, and are made up of more than 2000 men and women (about a quarter of them are former Royal Navy personnel), who combine military and civilian life. As fully-trained members of the team, they help the Royal Navy meet its operational needs in times of crisis, tension and war. And although they're volunteers, Reservists get paid for any training and work they do.

royalnavy.mod.uk/rnr



Royal Marines (RM)

The Royal Marines are an elite unit – they have to be physically tough, mentally strong and totally dedicated to wear the coveted green beret. They work in harsh environments, including mountains, jungles and deserts, and show “courage, determination, unselfishness and cheerfulness in the face of adversity.”

royalmarines.mod.uk



Royal Marines Reserve (RMR)

The Royal Marines also has a Reserve Force, who all go through the same training as their full-time colleagues. Some have previously served with the Royal Marines or other armed force – many have no previous military experience, but have what it takes to earn the green beret. This could be an ideal first step to a career in the Royal Marines.

royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr



Royal Marines Band Service (RMBS)

Historically, drums and bands have been central to the Naval Service. Today, the Royal Marines Band Service are thought of as some of the world's most talented and versatile military musicians. But as well as making music, they're also Royal Marines, trained for medical support and other operational roles.

royalmarines.mod.uk/rmbs



Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA)

The Royal Fleet Auxiliary supplies Royal Navy ships with the fuel, food, stores and ammunition they need to stay operational while at sea. It's a civilian service, made up of over 2000 officers and ratings trained to Merchant Navy standards, with military skills that allow them to provide close support in combat operations.

rfa.mod.uk



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If you know what job you're looking for it couldn't be easier – simply use the chart on the left. Or explore the possibilities, based on your qualifications, with the chart on the right. Or, you can visit our website and use the online job finder.



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Logistics Officer (Submariner)		50
Naval Nurse (student) NB: 240 UCAS points required		58
GCSEs, SCOTTISH STANDARD GRADES, DIPLOMAS OR APPRENTICESHIPS <small>(We will assess diplomas or apprenticeship qualifications individually.)</small>		Communications Technician
	Dental Nurse	59
	Aircraft Controller	71
NO SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED	Seaman Specialist	33
	Warfare Specialist	32
	Warfare Specialist Tactical (Submariner)	32
	Warfare Specialist Sensors (Submariner)	33
	Hydrographic, Meteorological & Oceanographic Specialist	32
	Communication & Information Systems Specialist	33
	Communication & Information Systems Specialist (Submariner)	33
	Mine Warfare Specialist	33
	Mine Clearance Diver	33
	Medical Assistant (General Service)	58
	Medical Assistant (Submariner)	59
	Engineering Technician – Weapon Engineering	43
	Engineering Technician – Weapon Engineering (Submariner)	43
	Engineering Technician – Marine Engineering	42
	Engineering Technician – Marine Engineering (Submariner)	42
	Air Engineering Technician	43/71
	Aircraft Handler / Naval Airman (Aircraft Handler)	70
	Air Survival Technician / Naval Airman (Survival Equipment)	70
	Personnel Logistician	50
	Personnel Logistician (Submariner)	50
	Steward – Catering Services Logistician	51
	Steward – Catering Services Logistician (Submariner)	51
	Supply Chain Logistician	50
	Supply Chain Logistician (Submariner)	50
	Chef – Catering Services Logistician	51
	Chef – Catering Services Logistician (Submariner)	51

CONTACTING US

We hope this publication has given you an insight into what life in the Royal Navy is like and what career opportunities are open to you.

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- Check you're eligible to apply and book your appointment to visit an Armed Forces Careers Office.

We want you to succeed and will do all we can to help. If you have any questions, or would like any further information or advice, please get in touch today.

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