

Dan joined the Royal Marines in 1996, initially serving as a Troop Commander in 40 Commando which included deployment on operations in the Congo. He then trained as a Regimental Signals Officer and served with Commando Logistic Regiment conducting desert training in Oman and operations in Kosovo.

In 2001 he was selected as Aide-de-Camp to the Commandant General Royal Marines/COMUKAMPHIBFOR during a hectic period which saw the General's Staff based twice in Bahrain alongside the US Navy's 5th Fleet and the deployment of the Royal Marines to both Afghanistan on Op JACANA and Iraq on Op TELIC.

As an Acting Major he commanded SBS Signals Squadron. On promotion he attended Intermediate Command and Staff College (Land) before moving to the Permanent Joint Headquarters (PJHQ) as the Afghanistan Intelligence Team Leader.

Returning to 40 Commando he commanded Bravo Company in Sangin, Helmand Province on Op HERRICK 7 for which he was appointed MBE.

Following a period as OC Command Company, he moved to the Ministry of Defence as a Counter Terrorism Desk Officer.

Selected for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in 2009, he attended Advanced Command and Staff College before assignment to FLEET Operational Policy as the Royal Navy's liaison officer to PJHQ and lead planner during the Arab Spring. In 2012 he was selected as Chief of Staff Headquarters 3 Commando Brigade as the formation reorientated from Afghanistan to readiness for contingency operations. This period included two amphibious deployments to the Mediterranean and Gulf. He assumed command of 45 Commando Royal Marines in December 2013.

Dan is married to Jo, and they have one very energetic baby boy. When not learning how to be a Dad, his Ducati, the mountains, kitesurfing and kayaking are next on the list.