



# ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE

Your career guide

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



# WELCOME

For most people, the demands of a job and family life are enough. However, some have ambitions that go beyond the everyday. You may be one of them. In which case, you're exactly the kind of person we're looking for in the Royal Naval Reserve (RNR).

Visit [royalnavy.mod.uk/navyreserves](http://royalnavy.mod.uk/navyreserves)  
or call 08456 00 32 22



## WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

The Royal Naval Reserve is made up of around 2000 men and women from all backgrounds and walks of life. They form part of the Royal Navy's 'total strength'. Around 25% of them have previously served with the Royal Navy, but most have no previous military experience. All are volunteers.

The Royal Naval Reserve is a part-time force of civilian volunteers, who provide the Royal Navy with the additional trained people it needs at times of tension, humanitarian crisis, or conflict. As a Reservist, you'll have to meet the same fitness and academic requirements, wear the same uniform, do much of the same training, you can expect to be deployed in the same places and situations as the regulars. Plus, you'll be paid for the training and active service that you do.

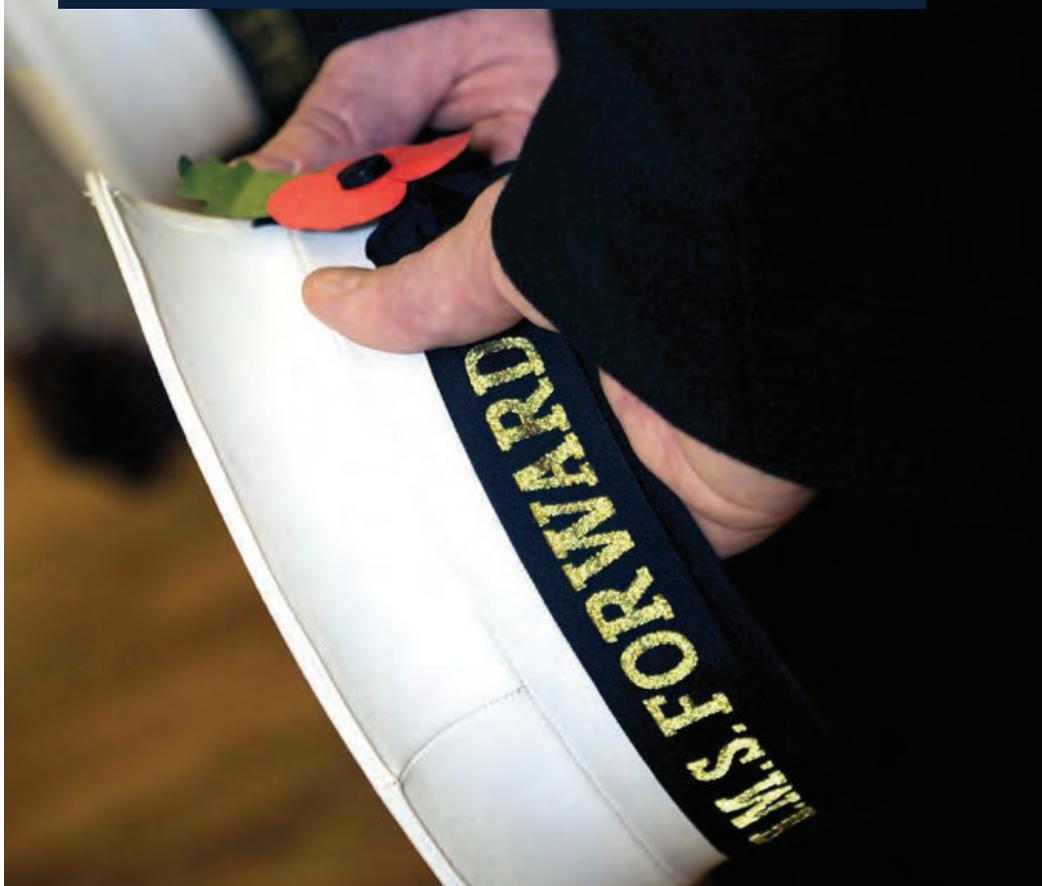
## WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A RESERVIST

Today's huge demands on Britain's armed forces means you're more likely than ever to be called out for active service on operations. In fact, as a member of the Royal Naval Reserve, it's a case of 'when' rather than 'if' you'll get to put your training into practice. In recent years, Reservists have served in various parts of the world, including the Balkans, Iraq and Afghanistan.

There'll be times when you'll need real determination and motivation to balance your home, work and Royal Naval Reserve commitments. In return, we promise you opportunities to see places and do things most people only dream of, with some of the best friends you'll ever make.

# RATINGS AND OFFICERS

Your civilian job does not have to dictate what you do in the Reserves. Just because you're a manager in your civilian job does not mean you have to be an officer as a Reservist.



## JOINING AS A RATING

For those with no previous military experience, you'll generally join the Royal Naval Reserve as a rating. As in the Royal Navy, ratings are the Royal Naval Reserve's workforce, trained to do specific jobs within the team. We'll expect you to maintain the same professional standards and levels of physical fitness as your colleagues in the full-time Royal Navy.



## BECOMING AN OFFICER

During the recruitment process you may show you have an interest in becoming an officer. If you have the right qualifications and are suitable, you could be identified as a fast-track commission candidate. However, whatever your qualifications, you'll need to complete the new-entry officer training course so that you understand the basics of naval life.

## PROSPECTS

As in all parts of the Naval Service, promotion within the Royal Naval Reserve is based entirely on merit. How far you progress through the ranks depends on your performance, ambitions and circumstances.



## ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE RATING

<b>Age:</b>	16 to 40. If you are under 17-and-a-half, we will need your parent's or guardian's permission.
<b>Nationality:</b>	British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.
<b>Qualifications:</b>	No specific qualifications are needed.
<b>Sex:</b>	This role is open to both men and women.
<b>Plus:</b>	Open to ex-regulars up to the age of 45.

## GENERAL ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE OFFICER

<b>Age:</b>	16 to 40. If you are under 17-and-a-half, we will need your parent's or guardian's permission.
<b>Nationality:</b>	British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.
<b>Qualifications:</b>	180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.
<b>Sex:</b>	This role is open to both men and women.
<b>Plus:</b>	Open to ex-regulars up to the age of 45.

## SPECIALIST ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE OFFICER

<b>Age, nationality and qualifications:</b>	The requirements for each specialist role are different. Contact local AFCCO.
<b>Sex:</b>	This role is open to both men and women.
<b>Plus:</b>	The role is open to ex-regulars with appropriate specialist skills.



# 1

## GET IN TOUCH

Call **08456 00 32 22**.  
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/navyreserves](http://royalnavy.mod.uk/navyreserves)

# 2

## MEET US

Book a place at an informal presentation evening or live event at your local Royal Naval Reserve unit, where you'll learn more about us and the job options open to you.

# 3

## 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 mechanics.

# 4

## FIT TO JOIN

You'll need to take a medical, an eye test and the pre-joining fitness test (PJFT), which is a 2.4 km run. Make sure you get yourself in shape both to pass the test and prepare for your initial training.

# 5

## YOUR WAY AHEAD

After the fitness test, you'll have a formal interview with a Careers Adviser.

# 6

## WELCOME ABOARD

When you've passed all the checks, and before you are formally accepted into the Royal Naval Reserve, you will have to sign the Official Secrets Act and carry out formal attestation (where you swear an oath). You can then officially begin your Royal Naval Reserve training.





**THE JOBS AVAILABLE TO JOIN IN  
THIS AREA ARE**

**LOGISTICS**

**SEAMAN**

**DIVING**

**MINE WARFARE**

**AMPHIBIOUS WARFARE**

**MARITIME TRADE OPERATIONS**

**INFORMATION OPERATIONS**

**INTELLIGENCE**

**COMMUNICATION INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

**SUBMARINE OPERATIONS**

# CIVILIANS WITH SPECIALIST SKILLS



**THE JOBS AVAILABLE TO JOIN IN THIS AREA ARE**

**MERCHANT NAVY (MN)  
AMPHIBIOUS WARFARE OFFICER**

**NAVAL NURSE**

**MEDICAL OFFICER**

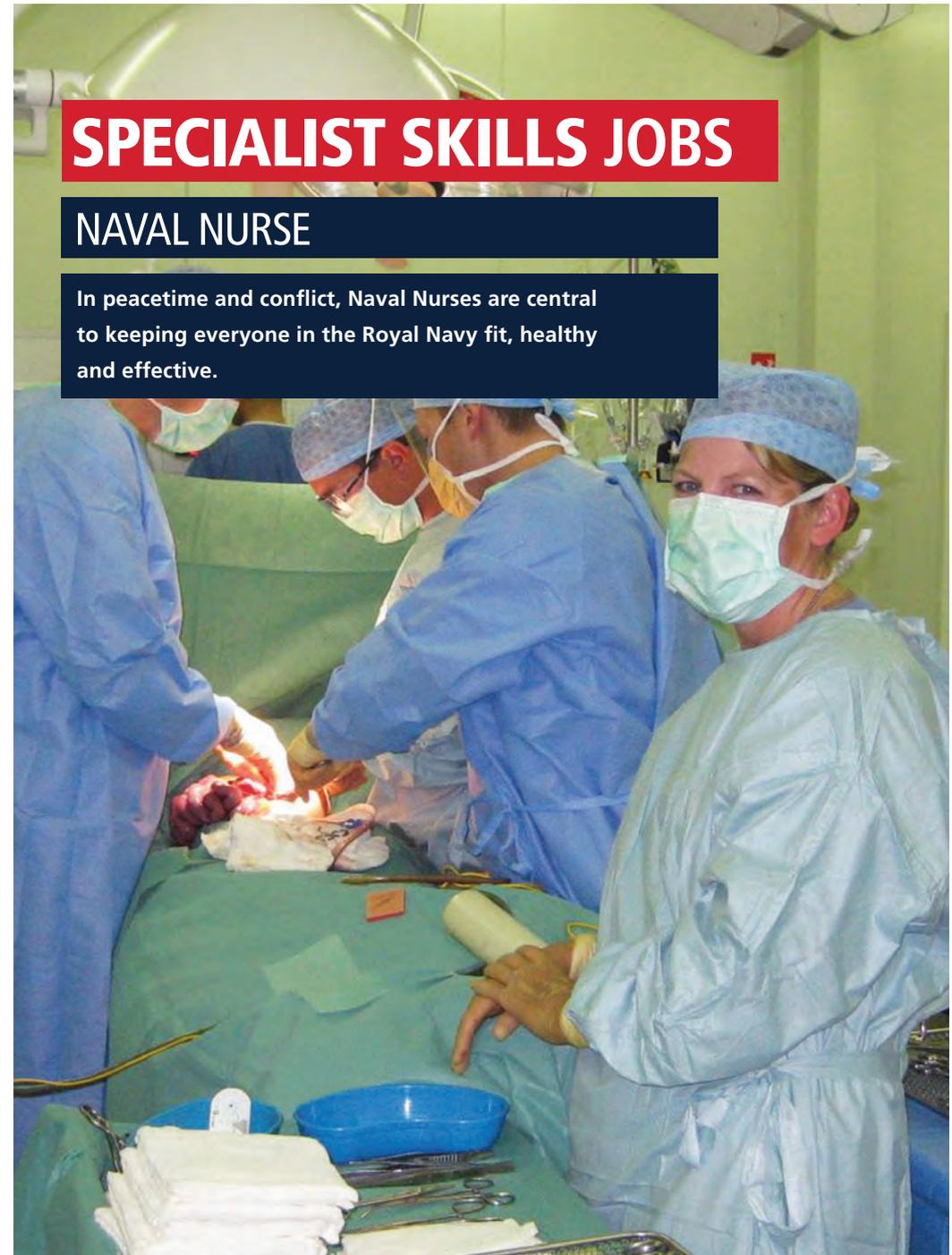
**CHAPLAIN**



## SPECIALIST SKILLS JOBS

### MN AMPHIBIOUS WARFARE OFFICER

Once you reach a certain stage in your specialist civilian career, the Royal Naval Reserve offers outstanding extra opportunities to develop new skills and gain experience you simply can't get any other way.



## SPECIALIST SKILLS JOBS

### NAVAL NURSE

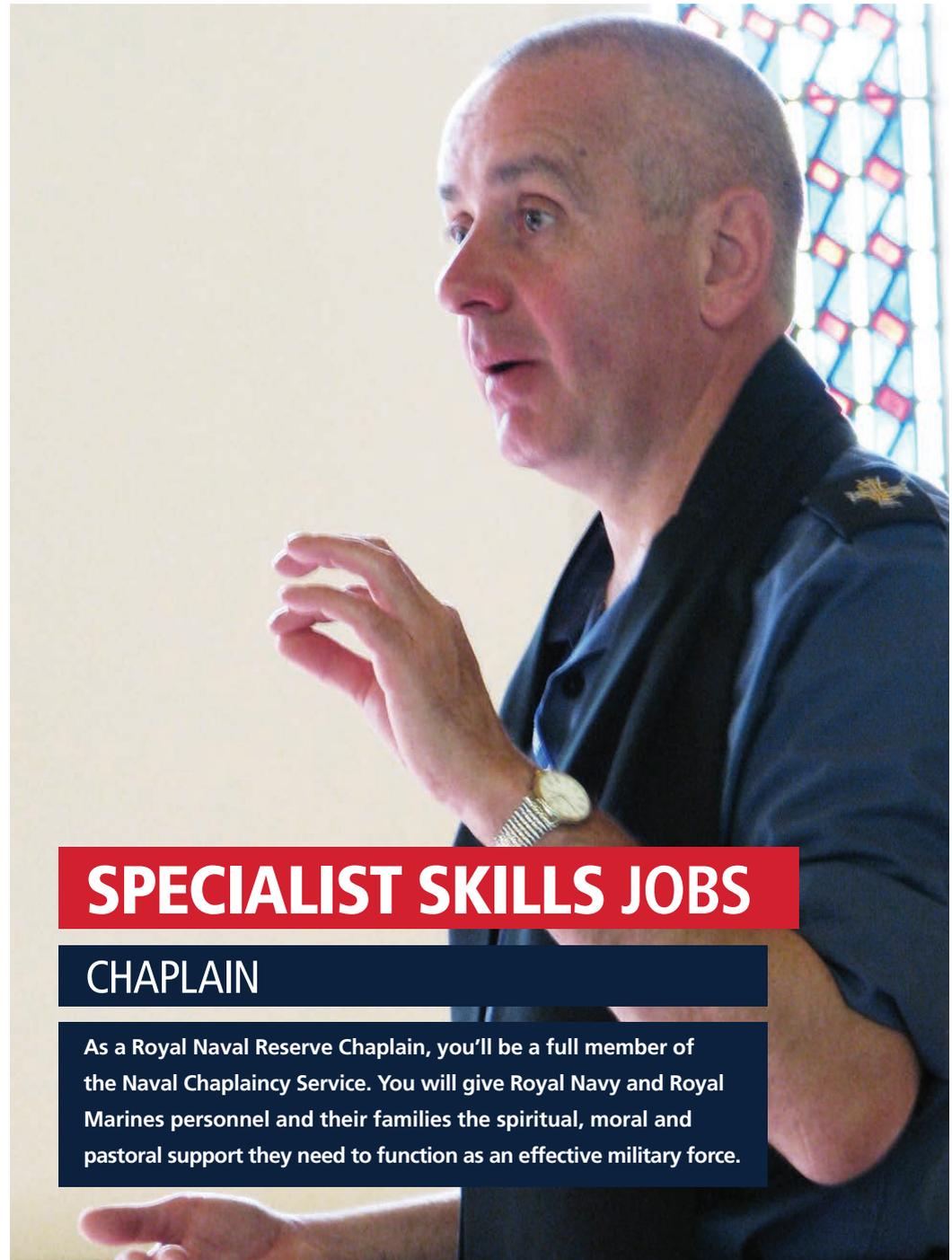
In peacetime and conflict, Naval Nurses are central to keeping everyone in the Royal Navy fit, healthy and effective.



## SPECIALIST SKILLS JOBS

### MEDICAL OFFICER

Whether in peacetime or on operations, the Royal Naval Reserve provides a uniquely wide-ranging, challenging and rewarding environment in which to practise and increase your knowledge of medicine.



## SPECIALIST SKILLS JOBS

### CHAPLAIN

As a Royal Naval Reserve Chaplain, you'll be a full member of the Naval Chaplaincy Service. You will give Royal Navy and Royal Marines personnel and their families the spiritual, moral and pastoral support they need to function as an effective military force.

# EX-REGULARS

Serving with the Royal Naval Reserve is the ideal way to put your hard-earned skills and experience to real practical use, and keep in contact with Royal Navy life after you've left the service.



# YOUR COMMITMENT

Although the Royal Naval Reserve is a 'spare-time occupation', we do need a certain level of commitment from our Reservists.

As a Reservist, you'll serve part-time, unless you're called out for an operational tour of duty. However, you'll need to keep your skills and fitness at a consistently high level, which means you'll generally be expected to fulfil a commitment of 24 days a year, made up as follows.

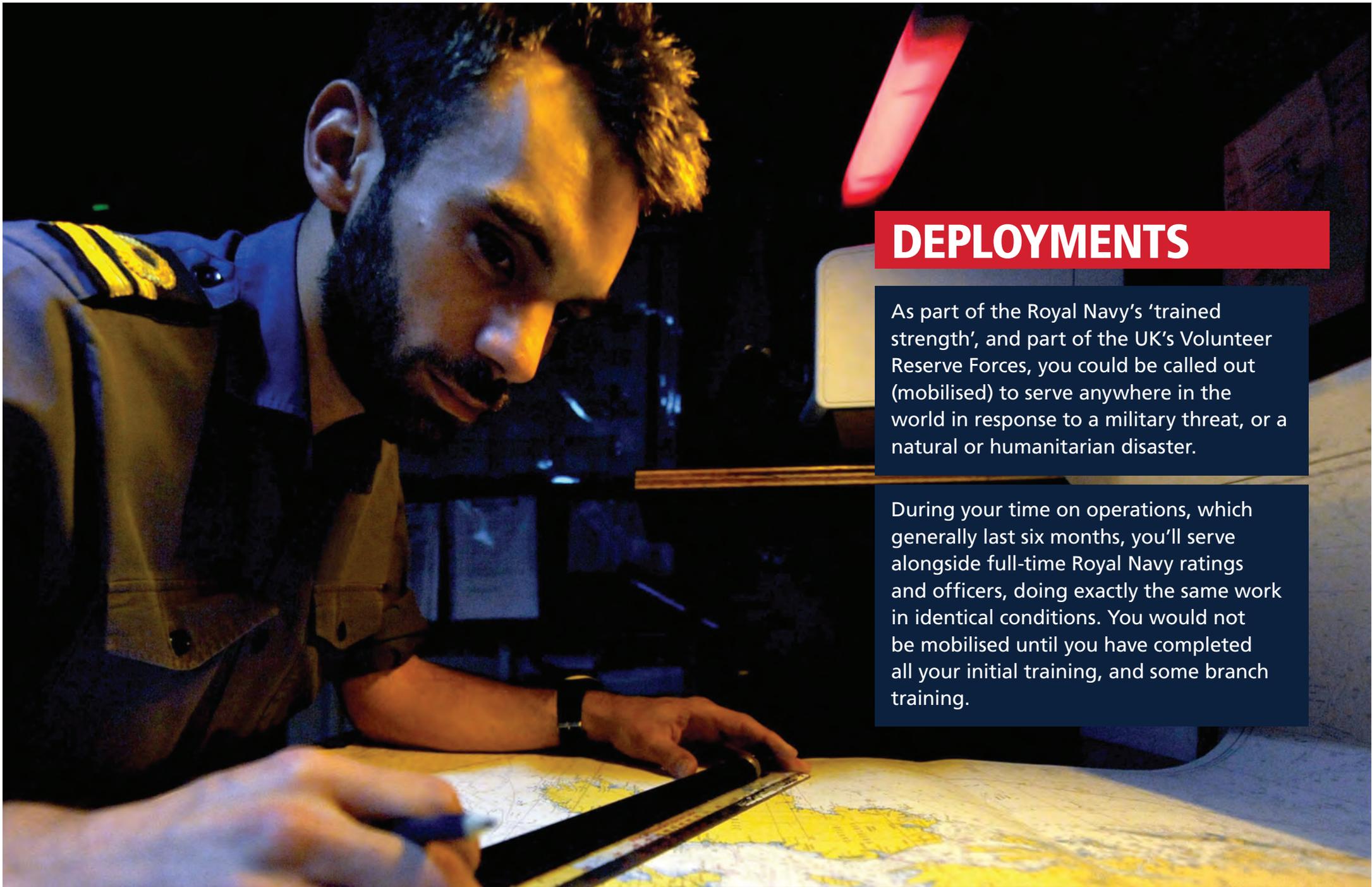
## NON-CONTINUOUS TRAINING (NCT) – 12 DAYS EACH YEAR

This is made up of a midweek training night and weekends, for which you will be paid. Each two-hour period is the same as a quarter day's training, so doing four periods will give you a day of NCT. As well as training nights, you will need to complete at least three training weekends each year, and it is quite likely this will be elsewhere in the UK.

## CONTINUOUS TRAINING (CT) – 12 DAYS EACH YEAR

Each year you need to complete 12 days of CT and ideally we'd like you to do this in a single 12-day block. However, we understand that your work or other circumstances may sometimes make this difficult. Occasionally, it might be possible for you to do your CT in two one-week blocks.

By completing your minimum training commitment satisfactorily, you'll also qualify for your yearly tax-free bounty (bonus), on top of the pay you'll receive for each quarter-day you train.



## DEPLOYMENTS

As part of the Royal Navy's 'trained strength', and part of the UK's Volunteer Reserve Forces, you could be called out (mobilised) to serve anywhere in the world in response to a military threat, or a natural or humanitarian disaster.

During your time on operations, which generally last six months, you'll serve alongside full-time Royal Navy ratings and officers, doing exactly the same work in identical conditions. You would not be mobilised until you have completed all your initial training, and some branch training.



## EMPLOYER BENEFITS -SaBRE

Juggling Reserve life alongside your day-to-day job commitments is a balancing act. When you join the Royal Naval Reserve, you must tell your employer or give the Ministry of Defence (MOD) permission to inform them for you. We recommend you refer your employer to the Supporting Britain's Reservists and Employers (SaBRE) website at [sabre.mod.uk](http://sabre.mod.uk)

A woman in a blue uniform and headset is working in a control room. She is looking towards the right. In the background, two other people in blue uniforms are working at a desk. The room is filled with various pieces of equipment and monitors.

# WHAT WE CAN OFFER YOU

## PAY AND EXPENSES

Although, as a Reservist, you're a volunteer, that doesn't mean we expect you to do all this for nothing. Quite the opposite. You'll be paid for all training and you'll receive travelling expenses too. And, when you're on operations, you'll be paid at the same rate as your regular rank equivalent.

## AN ADDED BONUS

You'll also qualify for a tax-free bonus, or 'bounty', when you complete your yearly training commitment satisfactorily. This currently ranges from over £400 in your first year up to over £1600 after five years.

# SPORTS AND RECREATION



## PLAYING FOR FUN

Keeping yourself fit is a basic part of Royal Naval Reserve life. We encourage you to take part in sport, both for the fitness benefits and the fantastic social life that goes with it.



# YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



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

**A:** For ratings the normal period of engagement is in five-year blocks, and it is possible to serve up to age 55. Officers are on a continuous commission until aged 55 but with a review point every six years.

**Q:** If I find I can no longer make the commitment how much notice must I give?

**A:** We recognise that your circumstances can change so if you feel you have to leave the Royal Naval Reserve, you must give us a month's notice, in writing.

**Q:** What happens to my civilian work when I am mobilised?

**A:** Your job is protected during your mobilised service. For more details refer to [sabre.mod.uk](http://sabre.mod.uk)

# YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



**Q:** If I am mobilised do I have to go?

**A:** Occasionally a call-out notice could prove very difficult at work or at home so there is a recognised procedure by which you, or your employer, can appeal against mobilisation. You can find more details on the website [sabre.mod.uk](http://sabre.mod.uk)

**Q:** If I have any more questions, where should I look?

**A:** You can find answers to other questions at [royalnavy.mod.uk/navyreserves](http://royalnavy.mod.uk/navyreserves) or you can talk to the team at your local Royal Naval Reserve unit.

**Q:** I am in full-time education, will I be called-out?

**A:** No. People in full-time education are not called forward for mobilised service.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

## Visit

[royalnavy.mod.uk/navyreserves](http://royalnavy.mod.uk/navyreserves)

[royalnavy.mod.uk/marinereserves](http://royalnavy.mod.uk/marinereserves)



## RESERVES

[royalnavy.mod.uk/navyreserves](http://royalnavy.mod.uk/navyreserves)



## RESERVES

[royalnavy.mod.uk/marinereserves](http://royalnavy.mod.uk/marinereserves)

