



Newsletter

January - March 2026

A Message from the CO

As we look back on the first quarter of 2026, it's clear that the year has begun with exceptional momentum, achievement and enthusiasm across every part of our unit. From promotions and qualifications to competitions, community engagement and national events, our cadets and adult volunteers have set an inspiring standard for the months ahead.

January and February saw a remarkable number of promotions across the Junior, Sea Cadet and Royal Marines Cadet sections, welcoming new faces into the organisation and celebrating the hard work of those continuing to progress. It has been equally impressive to witness so many cadets gaining qualifications, from engineering and seamanship to mountain biking, catering and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, demonstrating the breadth of opportunities available and the dedication our young people bring to each one. Our adult volunteers have also continued their professional development, strengthening the support we offer across the board.

Our presence at events and competitions has been equally strong. From the outstanding success at the Warwickshire District Drill & Piping Competition, representing the District at the Birmingham International Tattoo, or supporting our local community at Sutton Rose Care Home, the unit continues to live its values through teamwork, service and pride. The successful AGM and attendance at the South West Area Conference further highlight the professionalism and commitment of our staff and UMT.

March continued this excellent trajectory, with more promotions across all sections, including several new Leading and Petty Officer Cadets, and additional qualifications earned by both cadets and adults. Our teams at the South West Area Drill & Piping Competition once again represented the unit with talent and determination, bringing home well-deserved medals.

If the first quarter is anything to go by, 2026 promises to be a year of growth, opportunity and achievement for everyone involved.

Yours Aye,

Sub Lieutenant (SCC) Ryan Richards RNR

Officer in Charge, Sutton Coldfield Sea Cadets & Royal Marines Cadets

Warwickshire District Drill & Piping Competition 2026

On 25th January 2026, our cadets attended the Warwickshire District Drill and Piping Competition, representing the Unit with pride, discipline, and outstanding teamwork.

Their hard work and preparation clearly paid off, with some fantastic results across the competition:

Unarmed Squad: 1st 🏆

Unarmed Squad Commander: 1st 🏆

Continuity Drill: 1st 🏆

Standard Party: 2nd 🏆

Piping Team: 1st 🏆

Individual Piping: 6th and 10th

Junior Sea Cadet Piping: 2nd 🏆

Junior Sea Cadet Individual Piping: 6th and 9th

It was a brilliant day for the Unit, showcasing the commitment, confidence, and high standards of our cadets across both drill and piping. We are incredibly proud of everyone who took part and represented Sutton Coldfield so well.



Care Home Visit

On 8th February 2026, our Junior Sea Cadets had the pleasure of visiting a local care home, where they spent time with the residents and joined them in a variety of games and activities.

It was a fantastic opportunity for our Juniors to build confidence, practise their communication skills, and give something back to the local community.

The visit was full of smiles, laughter, and friendly competition, with cadets and residents enjoying the chance to chat, play, and spend time together.

We are incredibly proud of our Junior Sea Cadets for representing the Unit so well and showing the values of Respect, Loyalty, and Commitment throughout the visit.

A huge thank you to the care home for welcoming us so warmly.



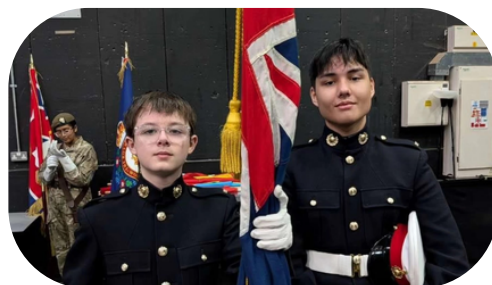
Birmingham International Tattoo

On 14th–15th February 2026, our cadets had the fantastic opportunity to be involved in the Birmingham International Tattoo, supporting both the opening and closing ceremonies across the weekend.

Our cadets represented the Unit with pride and professionalism, taking part in the ceremonial elements of the event and helping to contribute to a truly impressive occasion.

We were also honoured to provide a Standard Bearer for the event, a responsibility carried out with confidence, discipline, and respect.

It was a brilliant experience for our cadets to be part of such a prestigious event, showcasing their commitment, bearing, and teamwork in front of a large audience.



South West Area Drill and Piping Competition 2026

From 6th–8th March 2026, our cadets proudly represented the Unit at the South West Area Drill and Piping Competition, competing against strong teams from across the Area.

The results were a fantastic reflection of their commitment:

Unarmed Squad: 2nd 🏆

Unarmed Squad Commander: 4th

RMC Drill Team: 2nd 🏆

RMC Guard Commander: 3rd 🏆

Continuity Team: 4th

We are incredibly proud of every cadet who took part, as well as the staff who supported and prepared them. A brilliant effort from all involved.



Divisional Parades

Across January, February, and March 2026, our cadets have taken part in the first three Divisional Parades of the year, with some very close competition between Maintop, Quarterdeck, and the Royal Marines Cadets.

Each month, the divisions have been scored not only on the results of the divisional game, but also on attendance, qualifications gained, and individual achievements. This has made the competition much more than just one activity, rewarding consistency, commitment, teamwork, and personal development across the Unit.

After the first three months, the scores remain incredibly close, with all three divisions showing strong effort and determination. It has been fantastic to see cadets supporting their teams, encouraging each other, and taking pride in representing their division.

The competition is already shaping up to be a strong one for the year ahead, and there is still everything to play for.

We would like to thank representatives from the ASSLF and the Wylde Green Rotary Club for being our VIPs for the parades!



Promotions



Junior Sea Cadet to Junior Cadet First Class

Junior Sea Cadet Hodaj
Junior Sea Cadet Sniukstaite

Able Junior Cadet to Leading Junior Cadet

Able Junior Cadet Collins
Able Junior Cadet Jenkins

New Entry Cadet to Cadet:

New Entry Cadet Azmy
New Entry Cadet Bolton
New Entry Cadet Chauhan
New Entry Cadet Goffe-Wood
New Entry Cadet Jackson
New Entry Cadet Kanengisser
New Entry Cadet Nelson
New Entry Cadet Taylor

Recruit to Royal Marines Cadet

Recruit Bakhshi
Recruit Newey

Cadet to Cadet First Class

Cadet Caldecott
Cadet Gibbons
Cadet Jones

Royal Marines Cadet to Cadet Lance Corporal

Royal Marines Cadet Bailey
Royal Marines Cadet Bolton

Able Cadet to Leading Cadet

Able Cadet Birdi
Able Cadet Kanengisser
Able Cadet Poole

Leading Cadet to Petty Officer Cadet

Leading Cadet Kanengisser
Leading Cadet Sitch

Promotion to Petty Officer

Probationary Petty Officer Ingram
Probationary Petty Officer Murphy

Qualifications

Advanced Marine Engineering (Mechanical)

- Leading Cadet Kanengisser

CyberFirst Defenders

- Able Cadet Ng

Intermediate First Aid

- Cadet First Class Poole
- Cadet First Class Satish
- Cadet Corporal Wilkinson

Basic Seamanship

- Cadet First Class Hopkins
- Ordinary Cadet Collins
- Cadet First Class Caldecott
- Cadet First Class Gibbons

Basic Marine Engineering

- Cadet First Class Jones

Basic Catering

- Cadet First Class Davies

Basic Mountain Biking

- Able Cadet Ng
- Leading Cadet Poole

MIAS Gears Level 3

- Able Cadet Ng
- Leading Cadet Poole

RYA Seamanship Skills

- Cadet Lance Corporal Marfo

RYA Powerboat Level 2 (Planing)

- Cadet Lance Corporal Marfo

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh

- Cadet First Class Jones
- Able Cadet Ng
- Leading Cadet Poole

Weapon Handling Test (GP A2)

- Royal Marines Cadet Bailey
- Royal Marines Cadet Bolton
- Royal Marines Cadet Bratt-Rose
- Royal Marines Cadet Roberts

Junior Sea Cadet Red Module

- Junior Cadet First Class Hodaj

Junior Sea Cadet STEM Module

- Leading Junior Cadet Jenkins

First Aid for Mental Health, Level 2

- Petty Officer (SCC) Blick
- Probationary Sergeant (SCC) Ani-Haghaniati

Dates for your Diary

April

Sunday 5th April – Unit Closure (Easter Sunday)
Friday 24th – Sunday 26th – National Drill & Piping Competition

May

Sunday 24th May - RMC Care Home Visit
Sunday 31st May – Royal Sutton Fun Run

June

Saturday 6th – Sunday 7th June – Warwickshire District Combined Regatta
Saturday 20th June – Warwickshire District Sailing & Windsurf Regatta
Friday 26th June - Andrew Mitchell MP Visit
Saturday 27th June – South West Area Paddle & Yole Regatta

July

Saturday 4th July – South West Area Combined Regatta
Saturday 11th July – Sutton Triathlon
Saturday 11th July – Sunday 12th July – Sutton Community Games
Friday 17th – Sunday 19th July – South West Area Sailing Regatta
Sunday 26th July - RIAT26

August

Friday 14th - Sunday 16th - Dawn til Dusk*
Friday 21st – Sunday 23rd August – National Band Competition

September

Saturday 5th - Sunday 6th September - Powells Pool Users Regatta*
Friday 25th September – Unit Review
Friday 25th – Sunday 27th September – National Sailing Competition

October

Sunday 18th October – District Trafalgar Parade*
Sunday 25th October – National Trafalgar Parade*
Saturday 31st October - Concert of Remembrance

November

Saturday 7th November – Poppy Selling
Sunday 8th November – Remembrance Sunday
Friday 13th – Sunday 15th November – National First Aid Competition

December

Saturday 19th December – Mess Meal*
Sunday 20th December – Last Parade

***Date is subject to change**