

WO2 (SCC) Ben Mearing Bsc (Hons) RNR



Ben Mearing has demonstrated exceptional commitment and dedication in his roles as a Police Officer, lecturer and volunteer with Sea Cadets. His thoughtful contributions, generous personal qualities and desire to help leave a positive impression on all he engages with.

Ben's journey in public service began as a Police Officer with British Transport Police, where he served diligently for many years. Motivated by a passion for sharing knowledge and skills, and always taking pleasure in helping others, he then decided to become a full-time lecturer at the University of East London, where he delivered the Policing Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF) course with distinction whilst inspiring hundreds of future police officers.

In addition to his academic pursuits, Ben holds the position of District Warrant Officer for Hertfordshire in the Sea Cadet Corps. As the senior non-commissioned Cadet Force Adult Volunteer in the county, he provides invaluable guidance and support to the Senior Ratings and non-commissioned Officers. Simultaneously, he also serves as Executive Officer of the Letchworth and Hitchin Sea Cadet Unit, where he has made a significant impact on enhancing the unit's activities and developing its cadets and volunteers.

Ben's dedication to his volunteer role within Sea Cadets is evident through his continuous personal development and high levels of achievement. And having developed his own successful methods he is passionate about sharing them, so that others can advance and achieve their own objectives. Ben consistently goes above and beyond what is expected of him, and this was particularly appreciated during COVID-19 when he selflessly took on additional responsibilities to ensure the unit kept cadets and volunteers engaged and supported – ensuring a successful return to normal activities as soon as restrictions were relaxed.

More recently, his swift recognition that a fellow Sea Cadets volunteer was having mental health challenges allowed him to make an intervention and provide the necessary support, mentoring and guidance. This decisive action reflects both Ben's track record of providing a safe and stable environment in which young people and adult

volunteers can thrive, and his personal commitment to promoting the importance of mental health and emotional wellbeing throughout the Sea Cadets family.

Ben's outstanding work for Sea Cadets and the young people of Hertfordshire was deservedly recognised in March 2022, with a Meritorious Service Award from the Deputy Lord-Lieutenant of Hertfordshire. The award was hugely popular with his colleagues, who describe him as honest, approachable, flexible and someone who gets the job done. He consistently offers support to others, regardless of his own workload or personal circumstances, and is a larger-than-life character who boosts morale wherever he goes. With his unwavering dedication to the development of young people, and to training the police officers of the future, he is performing a great service to his nation. lasting influence on the charity.