

VEREDUS TALKS



Ministry
of Defence



June 2024

DE&S NEWS
UPDATE

Hello,

We're delivering exciting programmes, supporting both our community and national defence. Discover more below!



DE&S staff recognised for services to defence in King's Birthday Honours list.

The 2024 King's Birthday Honours recognises 13 of DE&S people for their service to UK defence.

A total of eight military and five civilian staff will receive awards for their outstanding service to UK defence, including crucial contributions made in the areas of operations, logistics and ships support.

DE&S CEO Andy Start said: "It is always an incredibly proud moment to see our people in DE&S, and our colleagues across the military and industry, receive recognition for their accomplishments, commitment, and service in keeping the nation safe and helping it prosper.

Each of them plays a hugely important role across our defence enterprise and these honours highlight the variety of work that happens every day to keep us all safe. My congratulations to everyone who has been recognised with these honours."

[Click here to read more](#)



New contract award for respirators sustains hundreds of high-skilled jobs

A new DE&S contract with Avon Protection ensures Armed Forces personnel will continue to be protected with high performance respirators.

Steve Elwell, President of Avon Protection, said: “We are proud to have secured this new contract with the UK MOD, reaffirming our commitment to providing sovereign capability and unparalleled protection for those who tirelessly defend our nation. We remain dedicated to delivering excellence so our protectors can complete their mission and come home safely, every time.”

[Skip to P13 of May's DESider to read more](#)



World War I American ship bell recovered by DE&S salvage team returned to US Navy

A ship's bell recovered from the seabed by our Salvage and Marine Operations (SALMO) team has been returned to the US. Admiral James W. Kilby, the US Navy's Vice Chief of Naval Operations, received the bell that was salvaged from USS Jacob Jones in a ceremony at Lancaster House, London

Andy Liddell, Head of SALMO, said: “Playing a pivotal role in returning this historic bell to US soil is something we can all be proud of and is yet another example of the special relationship between our two nations.

While this is a momentous occasion, this handover ceremony is also a poignant reminder of the brave allies who defended our nation and, importantly, those who lost their lives in doing so.”

[Discover more here](#)



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D-Day80 – A reflection by Lt General Simon Hamilton, Director General Land

To commemorate D-Day80, Lt General Simon Hamilton, Director General Land, reflects on one of the greatest amphibious assaults in military history and the ingenuity and innovation that helped to change the course of World War II.

Lt General Simon Hamilton said: “As we reach 80 years since the Normandy Landings, it got me thinking more about the planning and execution of D-Day that took place during World War II.

The amphibious landings, codenamed ‘Operation Overlord’, were supported by a vast naval armada, codenamed ‘Neptune’, while the enemy was kept guessing by a brilliant deception plan, codenamed ‘Fortitude’ – a masterclass of multi-domain integration and detailed planning.”

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Meet the team

Hear from some of the great people working hard to support national defence and create positive change at DE&S:

- From military transition scheme to hybrid and flexible working, Senior Engineering Manager Maggie tells us about life as a Royal Navy veteran at DE&S
- Technical through-life support specialist Jamie discusses career development, positive impact, and supporting the UK
- Women in Defence award winner and Menopause Network Chair Mo discusses normalising the conversation around menopause and her stand-out moments



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DE&S employee networks create a community for everyone

At DE&S, different perspectives are welcomed and encouraged. We offer a wide variety of staff networks, where you can hear from thought leaders, participate in cultural events, have your opinions heard, and discover new friendships. We champion inclusion and belonging, so all our staff feel supported. After all, support is in our name.

Hear from some of our people:

“Through the network, I’ve heard and met some amazing, inspirational people that all have a story to tell about their own lived experiences and how they’ve overcome personal challenges. We all think differently and that is a gift to our organisation and teams.” – **Neuroinclusivity Network**

“I’ve been involved with STEM and Women in Engineering since I joined the MOD in 1982 as the first Female Engineering Apprentice at the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment. Through the network I get a lot of benefit from hearing from others whose views or experiences are different to mine.” – **Women in Engineering Network**

“We play an important role in raising awareness, providing support, and promoting and celebrating events like National Coming Out Day and LGBT+ History Month.” – **Pride Network**

“We get paid leave for volunteering at DE&S, and I was pleasantly surprised to discover I could volunteer at The Donkey Sanctuary!” – **Volunteers Network**

“The Women’s Inclusive Network’s main goal is gender equality across the organisation, whether that’s sharing the experiences of women, highlighting challenges or barriers to senior leaders, sharing opportunities for development or building equity across the organisation to ensure everyone feel included and valued. The Women’s Inclusive Network bring awareness to key topics, provide safe spaces and continuously challenge themselves and the organisation’s policies to be more inclusive.” – **Women’s Inclusive Network**

When you join us, you can become part of any of our networks:

- Women’s Inclusive Network
- Men’s Mental Health Talking Group
- Race and Culture Network
- Women in Engineering Network
- Neuroinclusivity Network
- Pride Network
- Social Mobility Network
- Parents Network
- Change Advocate Network
- Christian Network
- Disability Network
- Young Defence Network Southwest
- Pregnancy and Maternity Community
- Deaf and Hearing-Impaired Network
- Cancer Support Network
- Volunteers Network
- Reserves Network

[Explore the full network of networks available to staff within the Ministry of Defence](#)

