



Volunteer Cadet Corps

Portsmouth Volunteer Cadet Corps
 Royal Naval and Royal Marines Cadets
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VCC/POR/G9

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All cadets

GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN THE VCC

1. It is recognised that, especially for cadets and their parents/guardians new to the organisation, some of the words, abbreviations and sayings used in the VCC can be confusing or daunting.
2. Therefore, the following list has been compiled to assist in understanding so everyone can communicate effectively. The list is not exhaustive and no doubt will need to be added to in due course.

Term	Meaning	Comments
Ablutions	Showers and sinks	Usually next to the Heads (see below)
AB	Able Cadet	
ABC	All been changed	Usually a remark of frustration after several changes of plan
ABCA	All been changed again	
Ace	Good or excellent	
Adjt	Adjutant	From the Latin <i>adjutans</i> meaning 'to help'
Bag rat	Packed lunch from the galley	Not normally all that good
Bandie	Someone in the RM Band Service	
Bang stick	Rifle or weapon	
Bde	Brigade	
Bergen	A large military style rucksack	Usually in DPM or MTP
Bivvy	Small two-person shelter	
Bimble	Walking at a casual pace	
Bish	Naval Service padre	From the short form of 'bishop'
Bite	To be drawn into an argument or respond to banter	"I wound him up and he started to bite"
Beasting	Serious physical training	
Blues	Full blue RM uniform	
Blue lid	Blue beret	
Bootneck	A Royal Marine	Derives from when Marines on-board ship would have leather neck pieces to prevent having their throats slit
Buzz	A rumour	"Have you heard the latest buzz about summer camp?"
BZ	Bravo Zulu meaning well done	Derives from a naval signal
Call the Hands	Time to get out of bed (Royal Navy)	
Camp concert	A series of skits put on by the cadets	
Casevac	Emergency evacuation of a casualty	Short for casualty evacuation
Cdo	Commando	
Cdt	Cadet	
Chit	Request form	"Put a chit in to request a transfer"
Civvy	A civilian person	
Clear Lower Deck	A parade where everyone has to attend	Derives from when even the lowest of the low on-board ship were required to go 'top side' (ie: on the main deck) to attend an event or parade
Club swinger	Physical training instructor	Derived from a PTI's badge
CO	Commanding Officer	

Colours	The two 'flags' that represent a unit	Queen's Colour and Regimental Colour (never called flags)
Colours	Colour Sergeant (CSgt)	Usually only used to refer to a CSgt by more senior ranks; junior ranks will still call him/her Colour Sergeant
Coy	Company	
Coy Comd	Company Commander	
Cpl	Corporal	
CPO	Chief Petty Officer	Equivalent to a CSgt in the Royal Marines
CQMS	Company Quartermaster Sergeant	The SNCO in a company responsible for stores and logistics
Crab	Someone in the Royal Air Force	Not always intended in a nice way!
Crab Air	Royal Air Force	
Crash out	To fall asleep	
CSgt	Colour Sergeant	See 'Colours' above
CSM	Company Sergeant Major	The most senior non-commissioned rank in a company
Day sack	A small version of a Bergen	Usually in DPM or MTP
Dhoby	To wash (self or clothes)	"I'm going for a quick dhoby"
Dhoby dust	Washing powder	"Can I use some of your dhoby dust please?"
Dig out	To make a really super effort	
Dit	Story	"The RSM will bore us with another dit tonight"
Ditch	To throw away	
Div	Division	
DPM	Disruptive pattern material	Dark green camouflage
DO	Divisional Officer	
Dress	Uniform	"What dress are we in tomorrow?"
Drip	To complain	"Don't drip to me mate, tell the Sergeant Major"
DS	Directing Staff	The staff not tactically involved in an exercise
EASP	Exercise Action Safety Plan	This is the letter that provides further details about an event such as a weekend exercise. It often shows who is doing what and when.
EAM	Exercise Aide Memoire	A document that provides updates to a EASP
ECO	Exercise Conducting Officer	Person in charge of an exercise
Endex	The end of an exercise, extended to mean the end of anything really	"Right, its late so I'm going to endex this session"
Elastics	The dark green twists that are using for 'blousing' the bottom of combat trousers	Always good to have a few spare
Essence	Attractive or in good physical condition	
First Drill	The SNCO or WO in charge of drill and ceremonial matters	
Flap or flapping	To panic or panicking	
Foofoo powder	Foot or talcum powder	
Galley	Junior ranks dining hall	What the Army call a Cookhouse
Gash	Rubbish	"Take the gash bag out Smith"
Gen	The truth	"That dit is gen"
Gizzits	Items bought as gifts or prizes	
Globe and Buster	Affectionate name for the RM Corps Crest	Also, the colloquial name for the Corps Journal
Gongs	Medals	
Gopping	Nasty or horrible	"Your kit is in a gopping state"
Greens	Combat uniform	Derives from when olive green trousers and shirts were worn before CS95 and PCS/MTP were issued
Green lid	Green beret	
Grey Funnel Line	Slang term for the Royal Navy	So called as some Bootnecks would regard the Royal Navy as a ferry service (not our opinion of course!)
Grot or grots	Sleeping accommodation	"Get back to your grots for some rest"
Gucci	Good, new or expensive	"I see you've bought some really Gucci gear again"
Gulpers	A large quantity of drink	
GD	General Duties	Not aligned to a specialist branch
Hang fire	To wait	
Hanging or hanging out	Very exhausted	"I'm hanging out after that yomp"

Heads	Toilets	Derives from the name given to toilets on board ship, usually located towards the head (front) of the ship
Honking	Very dirty or smelly	
Hoofing	Something that is excellent or amazing	"I think the CO is a really hoofing bloke!"
HMS	Her Majesty's Ship	
Icers	Cold	"That water is icers"
Instn	Instruction(s)	
Instr	Instructor	
Jack	A sailor	Also see 'Matelot'
Jack up	To arrange something	
JNCO	Junior Non-Commissioned Officer	LCpl and Cpl
Jolly	Organised recreation	"Going off on a jolly"
KFS	Knife fork and spoon	Often comes in a clip together set for use in the field (see Racing Spoon)
Leave	Holiday	"I'm off on leave"
Leg-it	To run	
LCpl	Lance Corporal	
Lid	Hat or beret	"Put your lid on"
Limers	A lime or lemonade drink	"It's so redders that I'm gasping for a sippers of limers right now"
Loafing	Hanging around aimlessly	"Are you lot just loafing around?"
Locket Union	Large brass belt buckle with the Royal Crest in the middle worn with plastic white belts on Blues	The smaller brass buckles first worn by cadets with their white belts are just called belt buckles
L98	Cadet weapon system	A modified version of the SA80 A2
Make and mend	An early finish or a period to carry out repairs (ie: to a building or one's kit)	
Manky	Filthy or in in poor condition	
Maskers	Masking tape	
Matelot	A sailor	Pronounced 'matlow'
Mod Plod	MOD Police	
MTP	Multi-terrain pattern	Lighter green camouflage now worn in combat uniform
Minging	Drunk	
Mucker	Very good mate, better than oppo	
NAAFI	Shop within a naval establishment	
NCO	Non-Commissioned Officer	LCpl to CSgt (sometimes includes WOs too)
Neaters	Undiluted pussers rum	
Nine O'Clockers	Mid-evening snack	
Nod	A RM recruit before passing the commando course	
Nutty	Chocolate and other sweets	Also see 'Tuck'
OC	Officer Commanding	
O Group	Meeting where orders are given	
Offr	Officer	
Oggin	Sea or other body of water	"He fell in the oggin"
Oppo	Best mate or opposite number	
ORP	Operational ration pack	A box containing enough food to sustain someone on operations or exercise for 24 hours
PCS	Personal clothing system	
Percy	Someone in the Army	
Phot	A photograph or photographer	
Ping or Pinged	Volunteered	"I've been pinged for duty again"
Pit	Bed or bunk	
Pitchers	Very dark	"It's absolutely pitchers out on the moor at night"
PLCE	Personal Load Carrying Equipment	The modern version of '58 pattern webbing
PO	Petty Officer	Equivalent to Sgt in the Royal Marines
Pongo	Someone in the Army	Derives from the legend that soldiers didn't wash
Prof	To acquire something	
Pussers	Something official or to do with the Royal Navy	
PT	Physical training or sports	
PTI	Physical training instructor	

PW	Platoon weapons or platoon weapons instructor	
Quarterdeck	Large open space used for parading which will usually have a ceremonial flag	Derives from the space towards the rear of the ship used for assembling the sailors and Marines on board
QM	Quartermaster	Officer or senior person in charge of stores and logistics in the Royal Marines
Racing spoon	A spoon tied to a piece of string fixed to the inside top pocket of a combat jacket	So called as you can whip it out and 'race in' to grab a spoonful of your oppo's scran
Rapped	To give up	
Rct	Recruit	
Recce	Reconnaissance	"I'm going on a recce to that training area"
Redders	Warm or hot	"Wow, its redders out here today"
Reveille	Time to get out of bed (Royal Marines)	From the bugle call
Rig	Uniform	
Rock Ape	Someone in the RAF Regiment	
Rover	Landrover	
Royal	Royal Marines	Something pertaining to the Corps
RQMS	Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant	
RSM	Regimental Sergeant Major	
Run ashore	Allowed out of camp to visit the local town	Derives from Sailors and Marines on board ship being allowed shore leave
Rupert	Slang description for officer	
Sad on	Upset or annoyed	
Sadders	Same as Sad on	
SB	Someone in the Special Boat Service	
Scran	Food	"I'm going to the galley to get some scran"
Scratcher	Bed or bunk (also see 'Pit)	
Secure	To tidy away after a job	
Sgt	Sergeant	
Skit	A small play or act during a camp concert, often involving some dodgy impressions of senior personnel	Usually a fun way to make a dig at the staff or officers
Shreddies	Underpants	
Snurgle	To advance warily or to crawl	
Sigs	Signals	
Sippers	To take a sip of a drink or to describe a small portion of drink	"Can I grab a sippers of your drink mate?"
Sitrep	Situation report	"What's the sitrep?"
Slug	Sleeping bed	"I'm all warmers in my slug"
Sods opera	Camp concert that contains skits	
Sprog	Someone who is young or inexperienced	
Stand easy	An official break	
Stripey	Sergeant	
SNCO	Senior Non-Commissioned Officer	Sgt and CSgt (sometimes also includes WOs)
Swamp	Urinate	"I'm going for a swamp"
Sweating neaters	Worried about something	"I'm sweating neaters about my test"
Sy	Security	
SA80 A2	The standard combat and drill weapon used by British forces	Stands for 'Small Arms 1980 version A2'
The Corps	Generic term for the Royal Marines	
Thin out	To disappear or leave quickly	"The RSM is coming so I'm going to thin out"
Threadders	Tired or exhausted	"After that run I'm threadders"
Three badger	A Royal Marine of great experience but with no rank	Derived from having three Good Conduct Badges
Toppers	Very full	"This bottle is toppers with water"
Tp	Troop	
Trg	Training	
Trg Offr	Training Officer	
Trg prog	Training programme	
Troop bible	A book containing all the relevant details of the individuals in that troop (eg: name, next of kin, qualifications)	

Tuck	See 'Nutty'	
Tuck shop	Cadets' canteen	
Turn to	To parade or begin work	
Ulu	Jungle, sometimes refers to any large wooded area	
Wagon	Coach, bus or mini-bus	"Right you lot, jump on the wagon"
Warning order	A letter sent out to advertise an event (eg: weekend exercise) providing initial details like location, times and dress	This is basically an invitation and will be followed by a EASP to those who say they will be attending
Warmers	To describe something that will warm you up (eg: clothing or a hot drink)	"It's cold, go and put some warmers kit on"
Warrant Officers	WO2 and WO1	Sometimes included in SNCOs but strictly it's not correct to do so
Waz	Better than hoofing	
Webbing	The utility pouches and belt worn with combat uniform on exercise	Also called CEFO (combat equipment fighting order) or PLCE (see above)
Wet	Drink, usually warm	"Go and get yourself a wet"
Wooly pully	Dark green jersey heavy wool worn in winter with training rig	Sometimes known as JHW (jersey heavy wool)
WO2	Warrant Officer Class 2	Usually a CSM or Bandmaster
WO1	Warrant Officer Class 1	Usually the RSM
WO	Warrant Officer	The Royal Navy only has WOs, equivalent to WO1
Wrap	To give up	
Yomp	Long arduous walk	Derives from the famous yomp by commandos in the Falklands War
Zeds	Sleep	
2IC	Second in Command	

3. If you have a question about the above just ask the RSM, First Drill or your Coy Comd/Div Offr.



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CO