



Dan Crooke

I was born in Surrey but at the age of three moved to a small village just outside Peterborough where I have spent the majority of my life. My childhood was spent running feral around the fields and dykes of the fen with my brother.

Having left school with a set of average GCSE's I had a number of jobs from stacking shelves at Tesco to packing leaflets in magazines. I needed a trade and figured that if I was going to drive it would be better if I knew how to fix them. Having completed my apprenticeship at MG Rover I made my way as a vehicle technician working for a mixture of Main Dealers and Independent Garages.

At the age of 17 I enrolled into the Army Reserves in Peterborough in the Royal Logistic Corps. Whilst helping out the local ladies' football club that my father managed and mother played I met Philippa my future wife. In 2008 we were married at Holy Cross, Ramsbury, the village where Philippa grew up.

In 2011 I deployed to Afghanistan as a driver as part of 2 Logistic Support Regiment attached to 45 Commando. 2011 was a watershed year. My return from Helmand Province coincided with the tragic passing of my mother. From that point I set my sights on a new career and studied a history degree at the Open University.

Our family had swelled to four by my graduation in 2017 with the arrival of my son in 2012 and my daughter 2014. In 2017 we embarked on our big adventure moving to Somerset and I started an MSc in Historic Building Conservation at the University of Bath.

I graduated in 2019 and am delighted to take the first steps in my new career at Salisbury with the DAC.

My hobbies include cycling, shooting, and running.