



The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights



The King's Silver Medal Competition 2025

Since 1944 The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights has delivered The King's Silver Medal Competition, a demanding, interesting and very rewarding programme for final year apprentices from the maritime sector, the primary focus of which is personal development.

The competition takes individuals out of their comfort zone and challenges them, but is specifically designed to ensure that every participant benefits from each stage of the process and develops as a result.



I can push myself a lot more now and I'm more capable of being a team leader that I thought!"

Ryan Beard, Pendennis, Bronze Medal Winner 2022

Every year the Shipwrights' Company invites well motivated apprentices from yards across the UK to apply for the programme. Eighteen applicants are selected to attend the week long Phipps Leadership and Development Programme at a purpose built camp on Kielder Water in Northumberland. The course, which is delivered by specialist tutors, is designed to be challenging but also to provide every participant with significant opportunities to learn and develop. Self-assessment and peer review play a vital role in the process and participants receive individual guidance from the tutors and a personal report.



"The course has been instrumental to me as a person and as a professional. I have such a sense of pride having done it and it has given me such confidence knowing I am much more capable than I previously thought.

I could not recommend it more!"

Alice Steen, BAE Systems. Winner, the King's Silver Medal 2024.

Following the course the Shipwrights short list six successful participants for interviews in London with the Education and Charities Committee. These interviews are the culmination of the KSM Competition and result in the award of the following prizes:

The King's Silver Medal: £2000

The Shipwrights' Bronze Medal: £1500

The Derek Kimber Medal: £1000.

The prize for Most Notable Endeavour receives £750.

The Prime Warden presents the prizes to the winners with due ceremony in front of their invited guests in London.



About The King's Silver Medal



In 1944 His Majesty King George VI, Permanent Master of the Shipwrights' Company, instituted a Silver Medal to be awarded to the Shipyard Apprentice of the Year. Kenneth Wood was the first winner of The King's Silver Medal.

The King charged the Shipwrights' Company with running the competition and it has been doing so ever since. In 1978 a Bronze Medal for the runner-up was included, followed in 1998 by a medal in memory of late Derek Kimber OBE, a former Prime Warden and noted shipbuilder with a great interest in apprentice training. A prize is also awarded to the candidate who displays the most notable endeavour at Kielder by having excelled in respect of at least one of the competition's main criteria.

The criteria against which applicants are assessed by the Shipwrights' King's Silver Medal Committee are:

- Leadership Qualities
- Teamwork Skills
- Problem Solving Skills
- Communication Skills
- Willingness to Learn
- Good Citizenship & setting an example
- Diligence at trade and quality of output



"Please could I thank everyone from the Shipwrights who made the competition what it is! The experience has been amazing and one I will treasure. To say I am thankful for the opportunity would be an understatement.."

Ben Craven, BAE Systems. KSM Finalist 2024.

Who can apply? Final year apprentices from all trade backgrounds and disciplines, in small or large companies, are eligible. There is no longer an upper age limit. Are you interested?

**What's stopping you? Are you up for a challenge?
Apply now and reap the rewards!**

Find out more at:

www.shipwrights.co.uk/education/kings-silver-medal

The 2025 KSM Competition Dates are:

By 30 May 2025 – Applications to be submitted

By 30 June 2025 – KSM participant selections confirmed

14-19 September 2025 – KSM Course at Kielder Water

20 November 2025 – KSM Final Interviews in London

15 January 2026 – KSM Prize Winners' Lunch

We look forward to receiving your completed application by Friday 30 May 2025.

The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights

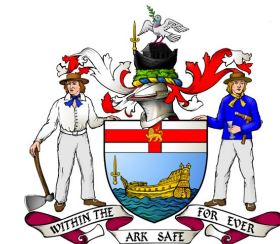
London has long been an important port and the trade of shipwright was one of the oldest in the City. There are no records of the origins of The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights but it is officially recognised as being prescriptive, so it originated before formal records began in 1199.

Today the Company prides itself on being the principal maritime Livery Company has members from every profession across the sector amongst its ranks including naval architects, lawyers, insurers marine engineers, sea-farers and brokers.



The Kings Silver Medal is a course that I'd recommend to everyone, it pushes you so far out of your comfort zone that all future challenges no longer seem as daunting.

Hugo Keeble, A&P Falmouth. Bronze Medal winner 2024



The Shipwrights' Company
Ironmongers' Hall
Barbican
London EC2Y 8AA