



Commander A S Brown MBE Royal Navy

Andy Brown was born and raised in Cheshire before reading Applied Geology at the University of Birmingham. After a short period working in industry, and completing an MSc in Mining Geology at the University of Exeter, he joined the Royal Navy in 1999 as a Warfare Officer. He completed his Fleet Training in HMS Iron Duke in the South Atlantic and HMS Chiddingfold as part of the Fishery Protection Squadron in UK waters.

His early career was spent at sea in HM Ships Richmond, Newcastle and Grafton, where he participated in a number of operations which included deployments to the Atlantic, Black Sea, Mediterranean, and the Arabian Gulf. The latter as part of Op Telic providing naval gunfire in support of amphibious operations on the Al Faw peninsula. As a Principal Warfare Officer he served in HMS Westminster for her work up from refit and sea training before the Ship assumed the duty of the high readiness anti-submarine frigate protecting UK waters. During this time HMS Westminster was activated in support of Op Deference off the coast of Libya as the groundwork was laid for the No-Fly-Zone and NATO airstrikes. He then deployed in HMS Westminster, as the Operations Officer, to the Arabian Gulf as part of Op Kipion. During the operation the Ship contributed to the protection of UK interests in the region and the promotion of international partnerships whilst also conducting a number of successful counter-piracy and counter-narcotics patrols.

Command appointments have included the Patrol Vessel HMS Explorer and the affiliated Yorkshire Universities Royal Naval Unit, undertaking maritime security and training in UK and Northern European waters; the Mine Countermeasure Vessel HMS Middleton, for her work up from refit and sea training; and HMS Chiddingfold deployed as part of Op Kipion protecting British interests in the Arabian Gulf and wider region.

Staff appointments have included Naval Command HQ, as the staff officer responsible to Captain Surface Ships (Portsmouth Flotilla) for the timely generation of ships deploying on operations, and as a Career Manager charged with the career development and appointing of some 220 warfare officers. Brown is an alumnus of the Joint Services Advanced Command and Staff course, and was appointed MBE in the 2016 Queen's Birthday Honours List for operations in the Gulf of Aden.

Promoted to Commander in 2017 he assumed command of HMS Kent in January 2018.