



## **Lieutenant Commander Bobby Crewdson Royal Navy**

Bobby joined Britannia Royal Naval College in 2006 as a Fleet Air Arm Observer. After commissioning, he commenced flying training at RNAS Culdrose, initially at 750 NAS on the Jetstream where he undertook the Basic Observers Course before moving on to 824 NAS Operational Conversion Unit for Merlin Mk1 training. He was awarded his wings in Feb 2010.

Joining 829 NAS - HMS RICHMOND flight, his operational career began with anti-submarine missions in the North Atlantic. This was followed by a counter piracy deployment to Somalia on OP OCEAN SHIELD.

In 2011 he was appointed to 820 NAS, embarking in HMS ILLUSTRIOUS, HMS OCEAN and HMS WESTMINSTER as well as deploying shoreside to the Gulf for two tours as the detachment Ops Officer and a third as the detachment Training Officer. After attending the Defence Academy for the Initial Command and Staff Course (Maritime) he underwent Merlin Mk 2 conversion training and was re-toured on 820 NAS. He embarked in RFA WAVE KNIGHT, providing Search and Rescue support for military exercises in the Mediterranean and finally in RFA ARGUS for OP GRITROCK as part of the UK's response to the 2014 West African Ebola virus outbreak.

His final Merlin tour was on 824 NAS as a Qualified Observer Instructor. Initially employed as an Operations Officer before completing his time on the Squadron as the Observer Training Officer.

Outside of his core role, he has served as Flag Lieutenant to Commander-in-Chief Fleet, worked with the RAF at the Directorate of Flying Training and, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, deployed to the Isles of Scilly on Op RESCRIPT as an air liaison officer, emergency planner and emergency healthcare co-ordinator.

Selected for Squadron Command in 2019, he assumed the role of Commanding Officer 750 NAS in June 2020.