



COMMANDER SERENA DAVIS

COMMANDING OFFICER HMS VIVID

Commander Serena Davis joined the Royal Navy Reserves in 1997 and spent 3 years with Sussex University URNU, before transferring to HMS President. Her early RNR career was as a Submarine Operations Officer, but as a shipping litigation solicitor at the time, she undertook a short period of Operational Law training with the Navy and participated in RNR exercises in that capacity. Commander Davis then transferred into NCAGS (now MTO) in 2004, before embarking on a two-year Full Time Reserve Service post at Britannia Royal Naval College in 2009: As the Sponsored Undergraduate Staff Officer, she took charge of c.175 medics, dentists, bursars and UCEs and supported various general staff duties whilst there, including staffing Leadership Exercises. On completion, she supported NATO exercises as Ops room support to her specialisation around Europe, before assuming the role of Exercise Coordinator, and subsequently Exercise Director of MTO's main Practical role-based assessment; a particularly busy role following the merger of the NCAGS and AWNIS branches, and a new area of operation. From here she moved seamlessly to assume the role of MTO Directing Staff on Ex Triton Warrior.

With the RNR Strategic review then underway, she was asked to assist her SO1 with Project Beagle in support of the review now known as the Maritime Reserve Directive, a project that saw her working closely with various civilian and military stakeholders. She then returned to support her base unit HMS Vivid, within which she has undertaken all Senior Management Board functions during her time, only handing over the reins as Executive Officer in March 2021. She has also been the unit Equality & Diversity lead for some years, a role that sits well with her civilian career.

After Law School in Guildford, Commander Davis trained and worked as a (shipping) litigation solicitor in London and the Southwest. More recently she re-trained as a commercial and workplace mediator in London and has established her own mediation business. During 2021, she will extend her consultancy business by launching a mediation panel with a nationwide law firm and work alongside a team of solicitor-mediators with differing skillsets. She acted as a Director for Maritime Plymouth 2008-2010, provides occasional legal support to various charities and is a Trustee for the Britannia Association.

Commander Davis assumed Command of HMS Vivid on 5 May 2021. She lives in the South West with her husband, her children, 'Digby' the working retriever, 'Daisy' the Pig and a brood of chickens. When not juggling the usual school and work commitments, she enjoys spending as much time as possible on the water.