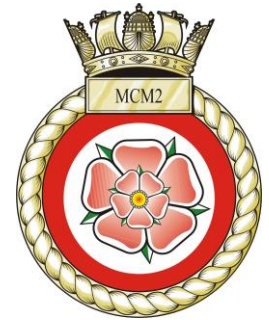


Lieutenant Commander Chris Easterbrook Royal Navy

Commanding Officer
MCM2 Crew 5



Joining the Royal Navy in 2002 as a graduate Warfare Officer, Easterbrook took up his first complement appointment in HMS MONTROSE, seeing two operational deployments to the Middle East in support of Op TELIC and Op CALASH. Selected for flying training in 2005, he enjoyed a seven-month holdover in Virginia at NATO HQ SACT as the Flag Lieutenant to the UK admiral before being awarded his wings as a maritime Lynx pilot in 2009.

Returning to the trained strength in 815 Naval Air Squadron, he deployed to the Arabian Gulf in HMS MONMOUTH as the Flight Pilot before being selected for sub-unit Command of 202 Flight. This appointment led to a short deployment in RFA CARDIGAN BAY and a hugely rewarding period in the Caribbean in HMS LANCASTER, where the Flight were instrumental in the seizure of cocaine with a total street value of over £200m.

Hanging up his flying boots in 2013, he completed the Principal Warfare Officers' (PWO) course, during which time he was selected for promotion to Lieutenant Commander. Easterbrook subsequently joined HMS KENT as the PWO (Underwater) when the ship was the Anti-Submarine Warfare Commander for the FS CHARLES DE GAULLE Carrier Strike Group within the Arabian Gulf. Becoming the Operations Officer when the ship returned to the UK, he oversaw KENT's transition to the Adaptive Force role in the pilot scheme for this operating model.

In 2016 he joined the Navy Operations Division at HQ Northwood as Surface Major, the staff officer for capital ships, destroyers and frigates. In this role he managed the ships' operational programmes, prioritising resources and providing contingency plans in response to emergent situations.

He assumed Command of MCM2 Crew 5 and HMS CATTISTOCK in November 2018.