



**Captain Richard Harris Royal Navy**

**Commanding Officer HMS Raleigh**

Born in Cardiff, Rich Harris completed a BA(Hons) in History at the University of Reading before initially joining the RNR as an AB(MW), after which he joined the RN in 1995 as a Short Career Supply Officer. As part of his training at BRNC, he undertook sea training in HMS BEAVER and HMS NOTTINGHAM, both deployed to the Adriatic enforcing the embargo against the Former Yugoslavia. On completion of Junior Supply Officers Course at HMS RALEIGH in 1997, Rich was promoted to Lieutenant and commenced his first appointment as the Assistant Secretary to the Commodore of HMS COLLINGWOOD.

In 1999 Rich joined HMS SOMERSET for 18 months during which he undertook a 6 month Atlantic Patrol Task South deployment, before joining HMS MONTROSE as the Secretary to Captain F6. In Apr 01, he joined the Defence Procurement Agency as the Staff Officer to the Controller of the Navy, during which time he was selected for promotion to Lieutenant Commander, and assumed that rank in Oct 02. He joined HMS CHATHAM in Apr 03 as the Logistics Officer and undertook the latter part of Op TELIC, followed by an Op ORACLE deployment before deploying again to the Middle East in Sep 04.

Joining the training staff at BRNC in Jan 05, Rich undertook a spell as a Divisional Officer before becoming the Training Execution Officer for 2 years, responsible for the day-to-day delivery of initial officer training. Thereafter, he completed the Advanced Command and Staff Course at the Defence Academy in 2007/8, during which time he was selected for promotion to Commander, and also received a MA in Defence Studies, attaining a Distinction.

He joined PJHQ in Aug 08 on promotion to Commander in J1 where he was responsible for the delivery of operational welfare, decompression, pay and allowances, and repatriation of the deceased during the concurrent drawdown from Op TELIC and the height of Op HERRICK. He left PJHQ in Oct 10 to join the Commander Amphibious Task Group (COMATG) as the Group Logistics Commander during time which he coordinated the mounting of Op COUGAR11 (to become Op ELLAMY).

Rich left COMATG to become the Commandant of the Defence Maritime Logistics School in Oct 12. His penultimate appointment as a Commander was as the Executive Assistance to the Assistant Chief of the Naval Staff (Policy) in the MOD from Apr 15 to Jun 17, before undertaking 5 months as the senior Logistics Career Manager. He was promoted to Captain in Nov 17 as Deputy Head of Royal Navy Media Communications and Engagement and joined HMS RALEIGH as the Commanding Officer in Sep 18.

Married to Claire (who is also in the RN), they live near Portsmouth where they both share hobbies of occasional fine wine, watching rugby (Rich supporting Wales, Claire supporting England), and playing golf. Rich has two grown up sons, Tristan and Tom.