

**Commander
Chris Hollingworth
Royal Navy**

Commanding Officer

HMS MEDWAY



Chris joined the Royal Navy in 1999 as an Operator Mechanic (Above Water). Following initial training he served in the Type 42 Destroyer HMS NEWCASTLE and was lucky enough to serve with the 'Geordie Gunboat' throughout NTG 2000; a 7 month global deployment. Upon promotion to Leading Hand in 2001, he then served in HMS LEEDS CASTLE and HMS CARDIFF for deployments in and around the Falkland Islands and as part of APT(S). Selected for Officer training, he attended BRNC in 2005.

Following Fleet time in HMS EDINBURGH he completed OOW time within HMS SUTHERLAND (OP CALASH), then HMS NORTHUMBERLAND for the inaugural OP ATALANTA (Anti-Piracy) deployment. Navigation training was then completed before joining the third of the Type 45 Destroyers, HMS DIAMOND, as her first Navigating Officer.

Initial Command and Staff course was completed in 2011 before undertaking Principal Warfare Officer training in 2012. An assignment to HMS MONMOUTH as PWO(U) / Ops followed, which saw the ship deploy to the Gulf on OP KIPION 1.

Upon promotion to Lieutenant Commander in 2013, Chris completed Anti Air Warfare Officer course in 2014 and then undertook an Op Tour with the RAF at HQ 83 Expeditionary Air Group, Qatar, where he was employed as the RN Liaison Officer to the UK Air Component Commander as the HQ oversaw missions in support of OP SHADER. Shortly afterwards he joined HMS DEFENDER as the Senior Warfare Officer and Head of the Warfare Department for a challenging period of regeneration and a 9-month Middle East operational deployment, working with both FS CHARLES DE GAULLE and USS HARRY S TRUMAN Strike Groups whilst they undertook air operations in Syria and Iraq. A highly rewarding assignment to Flag Officer Sea Training as Staff Warfare Officer (Above Water) followed, which saw the delivery of Warfare training to a wide variety of RN ships and a multi-national training audience.

Selected for Command in 2018, Chris assumed command of MCM 2 Crew 8 in April 2018 within HM Ships CATTISTOCK (NATO & Force Generation), BROCKLESBY (OP KIPION) and MIDDLETON.

In Apr 20 he joined PCAP as the PWO(U) Career Manager and in the same month was selected for promotion to Commander and the honour of further Sea Command. A short but highly enjoyable period in command of HMS FORTH saw tasking to South Georgia and delivery of the Covid-19 vaccine to Tristan da Cunha, the world's most remote inhabited island.

Chris assumed Command of HMS MEDWAY in Jul 21.