

**Commander O C Hucker Royal Navy
Commanding Officer
HMS MONTROSE PORT**



Born and educated in the Westcountry, Ollie Hucker joined the Royal Navy as a Midshipman in 2001. He completed Fleet Time in HMS Cumberland and HMS Brocklesby which included service in the Middle East as part of Operation TELIC in 2003. A short career pause ensued, due to a rugby injury, before returning to sea as an Officer of the Watch in HMS Exeter; during which time the ship deployed to Norway, the Mediterranean and West Africa.

In early 2007, he joined the Naval Staff in London, as the Flag Lieutenant to the First Sea Lord and Admiralty Board; a fascinating appointment that gave a rare insight into the higher levels of strategic decision and policy making within the Ministry of Defence. Leaving London, in July 2009, he returned to sea as the Navigating Officer of HMS Cornwall. The ship's programme included a deployment on Operation CALASH conducting successful counter-piracy operations East of Suez and providing the Command Platform for an embarked Coalition Task Force Battle Staff.

He joined the Maritime Warfare School as a Navigation Instructor in September 2011 teaching the Initial Warfare Officers' Course, before assuming Command of HMS Sabre, based in Gibraltar, in June 2012. There followed a very rewarding assignment, which encompassed a significantly busy period in British Gibraltar Territorial Waters, promotion to Lieutenant Commander and overseeing the transition of a new Squadron construct as the Commanding Officer Royal Navy Gibraltar Squadron.

Returning to the UK and back to the Maritime Warfare School in late 2014, he commenced the Principal Warfare Officers' course and on completion he joined HMS Portland as the PWO(U) in November 2015. Whilst in HMS Portland he was involved in her generation process and Operational Sea Training, prior to deploying for nine-months in June 2016 on a combined Operation KIPION & Atlantic Patrol Task (South) deployment; the majority of which he served as the Operations Officer. The deployment covered over 40,000 miles and stretched from the North Arabian Gulf to South Georgia.

Appointed to the Maritime Battle Staff in May 2017 as the Surface Warfare planner; highlights there included embarking in the American aircraft carrier the USS George H W Bush, with the UK Carrier Strike Group, and engaging in a multitude of operational exercises with numerous staffs from multiple nations. Whilst assigned to the Maritime Battle Staff he was selected for promotion to Commander and further Sea Command in June 2018. He then conducted a short staff appointment as the Chief of Staff to Commander Devonport Flotilla, prior to taking Command of HMS Montrose in April 2019.