

**Cdr Carl Necker RNR  
Commanding Officer  
HMS VIVID**



Carl Necker joined the RNR as a Tactical Radio Operator a week after his sixteenth birthday in 1984. He served in HMS SHERWOOD, Nottingham and undertook frequent seagoing weekends with ships of the Tenth MCM Squadron and a three month deployment to Norway with 45 CDORM where he conducted arctic survival training. In 1987, he decided to swap his reserve service for a full time career and joined BRNC Dartmouth as a Midshipman. His early years were spent navigating the mine countermeasures vessel HMS BROCKLESBY and frigate HMS CORNWALL prior to becoming a navigation instructor at HMS DRYAD. Operations included mine hunting in the Northern Arabian Gulf, protection of British Overseas Territories in the South Atlantic and counter narcotics enforcement in the Caribbean.

Following an appointment as First Lieutenant and British Sea Fisheries Officer in HMS SHETLAND, he qualified as a Principal Warfare Officer (Above Water Warfare) in 1998. He spent two years as Operations Officer in HMS CUMBERLAND deploying twice to the Gulf, before qualifying as a Specialist Navigator. As the Squadron Warfare Officer (Navigation) he provided warfare and navigation advice to ships of the 4<sup>th</sup> Frigate Squadron before navigating HMS ALBION in her first commission.

From the mid 2000's, Necker was Executive Officer of the frigate HMS PORTLAND and worked as the Senior Navigator on the staff of Flag Officer Sea Training. Having graduated from the Advanced Command and Staff Course, he was promoted to Commander in 2009 before undertaking an appointment in 2SL's personnel strategy area within Navy Command. He assumed the position of Queen's Harbour Master Plymouth in February 2011. This post was civilianised in September 2015 and Necker was successful in applying to remain QHM as a Civil Servant within the newly established MoD Maritime Specialist Service; concurrently, he seamlessly transferred to the RNR in the AW specialisation. He was delighted to have been selected for command and took up his current position of Commanding Officer HMS VIVID in September 2017.

Outside of work, his hobbies of swimming, surfing, darts and horse-racing are largely in abeyance while he prioritises his spare time enjoying the company of his wife and children.