

## Commander David Noakes

### Commanding Officer HMS CERES



Commander David Noakes joined the Territorial Army on leaving school and learnt to drive very large lorries. In 1989 he joined the Royal Naval Reserve, initially based at the former HMS CERES near Leeds and then HMS EAGLET (Liverpool) and HMS PRESIDENT (London) before returning to the newly opened CERES Division in Leeds in 2005 as the Unit Training Officer. He became the 1st Lieutenant in October 2009 and was selected as the Officer in Charge, CERES Division in January 2011. Overseeing a growth in numbers and an extension to the training space, he was privileged to lead CERES Division through its Commissioning as HMS CERES in February 2016 in the presence of HRH The Princess Royal. Returning as the Training officer and then the Executive Officer, he was appointed as the Commanding Officer of HMS CERES in March 2021.

As a member of the Logistics Specialisation he undertook many exercises and courses including sea time in HMS ILLUSTRIOUS and FS SIROCO and spent two operational training periods as Flag Lieutenant to the Commander-in-Chief Fleet. He was mobilised in January 2009 and served in Djibouti for six months in support of the EU sponsored anti-piracy mission. He has recently transferred to the Maritime Trade Operations Specialisation.

In his civilian career, David is the Company Secretary of a marine towage company based in Middlesbrough. He has an MSc in Financial & Legal Management and is a Fellow of the Chartered Governance Institute and a Fellow of the Pensions Management Institute. He is a Freeman of the City of London and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators.

David is married to Cath, a Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Leeds. They have a teenage son, Simon and live near Thirsk, North Yorkshire.