

Commanding Officer: **Captain Anthony K Rimington Royal Navy**



Anthony Rimington joined the Royal Navy as a University Cadet in September 1991. Following Fleet Training in HMS BOXER, which included the Orient 92 Far East deployment, he went to Durham University and studied Geography, graduating in 1995. His first complement appointment was as the Navigating Officer of the Hunt Class MCMV, HMS BROCKLESBY, and included the full array of mine warfare operations around the UK, north-west Europe and the Mediterranean.

Selected for flying training, he was awarded his Wings at 702 Naval Air Squadron as a Lynx helicopter pilot in 2000. Frontline flying tours at 815 Naval Air Squadron were completed in the Caribbean conducting counter-narcotic operations, and two deployments to NATO's Standing Naval Force Mediterranean in support of Op ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR. This was followed by a return to 702 as a Qualified Helicopter Instructor for two highly enjoyable years on the staff, the second as Senior Pilot.

In 2006 he re-joined the surface warfare community and completed the Principal Warfare Officers course, qualifying as an Above Water specialist. Appointed to the Fleet Flagship, HMS ILLUSTRIOUS, he deployed for operations East of Suez in the Gulf of Oman. Rôled initially for Carrier Strike with the GR9 Harrier embarked, ILLUSTRIOUS then supported helicopter operations during the evacuation of UK entitled personnel from Beirut (Op HIGHBROW).

He returned to flying when selected as Senior Pilot and then Executive Officer of 815 Naval Air Squadron in 2007. Two rewarding years of support to the frontline Flights were followed by a year of study when he attended the Joint Service Command and Staff College at Shrivenham for the Advanced Command and Staff Course, and completed the MA in Defence Studies.

Following promotion to Commander, he was assigned to the Navy Command Headquarters and completed a staff tour as the desk officer responsible for Carrier Strike and Aviation within the Fleet Resources and Plans division during the 2010 Strategic Defence and Security Review. Moving to become the lead SO1 Planner in 2011, he led work across the Navy Command's budget for Planning Round 12 and the financial management of SDSR outcomes.

Command of 702 Naval Air Squadron 2012-2013 brought a return to flying, training the next generation of maritime attack helicopter aircrew and maintenance engineers for the Lynx, and helping to shape the transition of the Force from Lynx to Wildcat. By the end of his Command, he had logged over 2500 flying hours, with the majority in the maritime environment, and conducted over 1000 deck landings.

Moving back to operations, 2014 was spent deployed to the Middle East on OP KIPION in Bahrain as the UKMCC N5 lead, working alongside US and other coalition forces. He was subsequently awarded a Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in recognition of this work in the Gulf theatre. Selected for promotion to Captain, he assumed duties as DACOS Navy Commitments in February 2015, dealing with a broad portfolio, from Operational Policy and MOD/PJHQ liaison, through to the scheduling of all ships, submarines, naval aviation and Royal Marine units.

In April 2016 he moved to the Ministry of Defence as the Chief of Staff to the Carrier Enabled Power Projection team, and spent 2 years assisting in delivering two new aircraft carriers, and the F-35B jets and Crowsnest helicopters to operate from them.

Capt Rimington is married with a young family. His wife is a lawyer who works in the City, and they base themselves in London as a consequence. A now long-retired RN Oarsman, he is an enthusiastic sports fan, following rugby, rowing and cycling in particular, and stays fit on his road bike and through running.