

Commander Ed Vaughan RN



Cdr Edward Vaughan joined the Royal Navy in 2002 and followed the traditional flying training route; bar the rather enjoyable holdover at the Defence Section in the British Embassy Warsaw, Poland in 2004.

Awarded Wings as a Commando Sea King pilot in December 2006 and appointed to 845 NAS, he quickly deployed to Iraq in support of Op TELIC and then to Norway on Ex CLOCKWORK and COLD RESPONSE.

Awarded the Darren Chapman Trophy in 2008 for Certificate of Competence pilot with the best 'Jungle' ethos, he then deployed in support of Op HERRICK in Afghanistan where he quickly became the Flight 'bullet magnet'. Remaining on 845 NAS for a second tour, he was appointed 845 NAS Operations Officer 2. During this period he returned to Afghanistan twice more in support of Op KINDLE.

In 2010 he completed both Intermediate Command Staff Course Maritime (ICSC(M)) at the Defence Academy Shrivenham and Qualified Helicopter Instructional training at RAF Shawbury; returning to 848 NAS to instruct on the Sea King. This tour included joining the M Flight roster, particularly for the coverage of the London 2012 Olympics and successfully achieving A2 instructional status.

In 2013 he joined HMS ILLUSTRIOUS as 'Strike Ops' (the Air Operations Officer) and was promoted to Lt Cdr later that year. He deployed on Ex COUGAR 13 which subsequently became Op PATWIN; the humanitarian and disaster relief effort to the Philippines in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan – an immensely rewarding experience.

On his return he was appointed to Joint Helicopter Command (JHC) as SO2 Strategic Plans before being selected as Senior Pilot/Executive Officer 845 NAS (Merlin) in Jun 2014. He promoted to Cdr and took command of 846 NAS in the summer of 2018.