

## Commanding Officer Profile – HMS ECHO

### **Commander Matthew Warren Royal Navy**

Matthew joined the Royal Navy in 2002. Since then he has enjoyed a varied career, predominantly spent at sea. A specialist in hydrography and meteorology, in recent years he has undertaken a range of command assignments in patrol and hydrographic ships in home waters and further afield.

The early years of Matthew's career included service in HM Ships MARLBOROUGH, COTTESMORE, NORFOLK and IRON DUKE. He undertook Hydrographic and Meteorological training in 2006 on completion of which he spent a year working as an aviation weather forecaster for 20(R) Squadron (Joint Force Harrier) based at RAF Wittering.

Qualifying as a Fleet Navigating Officer in 2008, Matthew joined HMS ROEBUCK for a busy period that included operations with Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group 1 in the Baltic and northern European waters. Navigating HMS ENTERPRISE from 2010, he was involved in military data gathering in the Red Sea and Strait of Hormuz. He gained valuable early experience of Command during executive assignments in HM Ships SEVERN, CLYDE and TYNE.

Promoted to Lieutenant Commander in 2014, he undertook Advanced Survey training and spent a short period working ashore before returning to HMS ENTERPRISE as Executive Officer. This was the start of a very rewarding 2 years during which the ship was awarded the Firmin Sword of Peace and a Chief of Defence Staff commendation for humanitarian work, for which Matthew himself received a commendation from Commander Joint Operations. During this period he also had the pleasure of being in temporary command for the first visit to South Georgia by an ECHO class ship.

Matthew was selected for promotion to his current rank in 2017 and assumed Command of HMS ECHO in June 2018.

Matthew lives in Devon and is married to Rebecca who shares his passion for offshore sailing.