

**Lieutenant Commander  
Ian Dorward**

**CO HMS WILDFIRE**

**Equerry to  
HRH Prince Michael of  
Kent GCVO**



Lieutenant Commander Ian Dorward was appointed to Command HMS WILDFIRE in July 2022.

Ian was born in Sunderland and read law at the University of North London before being admitted as a Solicitor of England and Wales.

He joined the Royal Naval Reserve in 2013 and passed out of HMS RALEIGH as Class Leader in 2014. He was immediately selected for officer training and joined the inaugural Accelerated Officer Program in 2015 passing out of BRNC Dartmouth and passing Fleet Board later the same year.

In 2016 he was appointed as assistant Command Leadership and Management officer at HMS WILDFIRE where he envisaged, planned and delivered the inaugural Ex ATHENA. This unit led CLM event included the integration of civilian aviation, tactical exercises and a simulated humanitarian disaster with 25 civilian actors.

Mobilising in 2017 as the Executive Assistant to Commodore James Morley RN, Commander SNMG2, he spent 3 months at the Maritime Battle Staff preparing the UK staff to deploy to the Black Sea and Mediterranean. He continued in this role for a further 6 months embarked in HM Ships DUNCAN, DIAMOND and OCEAN.

During his time at sea and within an international NATO staff he supported command during Operation SEA GUARDIAN and Exercises BREEZE, BRILLIANT MARINER, DOGU AKDENIZ and NIIRIS17. As a Battle Watch Captain he was a key conduit of information between the task group, flag ship and the wider operational environment. He also spent considerable time preparing COMSNMG2 for interfaces with the media by drafting speeches and rehearsing press conferences. Towards the end of the assignment he contributed to the draft post deployment report, on behalf of COMSNMG2, that was written for a 3\* audience.

Early attendance at the Intermediate Command and Staff Course at MOD Shrivenham saw Ian achieve second place overall.

In 2018 he was appointed as Equerry to HRH Prince Michael of Kent. Acting as the liaison between the Royal Household, Navy Command, Foreign Office and Security Services he has delivered a number of high-profile engagements including Op Westlant18 off the coast of the US. Ian had the opportunity to brief a 4\* audience in preparation and delivery of this. More recently it was his privilege to support HRH during the funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

In 2020 Ian was mobilised as Deputy Chief of Staff at CMR HQ in support of the COVID19 Response Force. This was a wide assignment that saw him create the Standard Operating Procedures for the HQ along with creation and transmission of the Command Narrative. During the appointment he assisted in the drafting of CMRs Command Estimate and Interim Operation Report that now inform the transformation agenda.

With three children under 15 and living in rural Oxfordshire he spends most of his spare time outdoors either skiing, swimming, or running.