

Commander Brian Drewett Royal Navy

Commanding Officer HMS SEVERN

Educated at The Henry Box School in Oxfordshire, Brian Drewett joined the Royal Navy in 2004 after reading for a BSc in Exploration Geology at Cardiff University and an MSc in Global Security at Cranfield University. As a junior officer, he completed a number of navigating appointments in mine hunters and destroyers. In 2009 he became the Navigating Officer of USS WINSTON S CHURCHILL, a US Navy destroyer, based in Norfolk, Virginia. For 18 months he served on frontline operations with the US Navy in the Middle East and Atlantic. On return to the UK in 2011 Brian took Command of HMS TRACKER, and assumed duties as Officer-in-Charge of Oxford University Royal Naval Unit.

As a Principal Warfare Officer, Brian joined the Air Defence Destroyer, HMS DUNCAN, once again deploying to the Middle East. He moved ashore in 2016 and worked on the Staff of Flag Officer Sea Training, helping to train UK and Foreign warships. Selected for Sea Command, he joined Mine hunters PEMBROKE and BLYTH, deploying with NATO to the Mediterranean and to the Middle East as part of the UK's commitment to regional security. Following command, he moved to the Maritime Operations Centre, Northwood, where he was responsible for UK and North Atlantic reactive operations. Utilising the educational opportunities of military service, he completed a Law degree in 2019 through the Open University.

On promotion to Commander in 2020, Brian worked in the Ministry of Defence creating bespoke strategy, before attendance on Advanced Command and Staff Course, gaining an MA from King's College, London. On completion of staff training, Brian worked at Joint Force HQ, UK Defence's Extremely High Readiness crisis response headquarters, where he was the lead planner. During this extremely busy period he was involved in the evacuation from Afghanistan, response to the crisis in Ukraine and leading the UK military planning for Caribbean hurricane response. Following selection for further Sea Command, he joined HMS SEVERN in winter 2022.