

## Captain Marcus JC Hember MA Royal Navy



Educated at Monkton Combe and St Laurence School, Marcus Hember joined Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth in 1996. His initial appointments included Aircraft Carriers, Type 42 Destroyers, Island Class Patrol Vessels, and combat operations as the navigator of a Type 23 during the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Awarded the Black Prize during initial Staff training, and qualifying as a PWO, Hember then completed general and specialist PWO “Communications & Electronic Warfare” seagoing appointments concluding as the Force Warfare Officer for the ILLUSTRIOUS Carrier Group. He then joined the Operational Policy staff of COMOPS at the Maritime Operations Centre in Northwood.

Selected for Sea Command, Hember was appointed to HMS SEVERN, an Offshore Patrol Vessel, winning the 2012 Surface Flotilla Efficiency Prize, then HMS CLYDE, the Falkland Islands Patrol Vessel, a period which included two winter patrols to sub-Antarctic South Georgia.

After Advanced Staff Training, Hember commanded the Type 45 destroyer HMS DIAMOND 2015 - 2016, regenerating the ship post refit, deploying and conducting operations off the coast of Libya. This was followed in 2017 by command of HMS DARING, completing a prolonged Middle East and Black Sea deployment.

As Commander Mobile Sea Training to FOST, Hember launched ‘Training Analytics’, a digital initiative rapidly fielding new technology to measure and improve the fighting effectiveness of FF/DD and optimise their Sea Training.

Appointed as the maritime operations lead in the Overseas Crisis & Plans team of the Ministry of Defence from 2018 – 2020, Hember was part of a small team delivering MOD’s contribution to various Disaster Relief operations, the strategic response to illegal Iranian detention of Stena Impero in 2019, and a plethora of subsequent Broader Middle East security challenges. Alongside developing a programme to improve MOD’s crisis management capability, this busy period concluded with the rapid development and training of the 160-strong COVID-19 MOD response team.

From 2020 – 2022 Hember was ‘Captain N5’ to COMOPS in the Maritime Operations Centre, leading the team developing medium term maritime operational planning for the Fleet Commander and managing the RN’s operating budget, whilst delivering significant changes to the way the Royal Navy plans and delivers operations as a component.

A Freeman of the Honourable Company of Master Mariners, Hember lives near Salisbury with Hazel, a hospital doctor, and has a son, Hektor. Spare time is spent maintaining and sailing an aged schooner, reading modern history, and running very slowly.