

## COMMANDER LAURA WELLINGTON ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE

Commander Laura Wellington was born in Warwickshire and commenced her varied military career aged 17 in the Territorial Army as a soldier in the Royal Signals. After completing a degree in physics at the University of Manchester, she joined the Regular Army in 2002, attending the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and commissioning into the Royal Logistic Corps. Following Troop Commanders' Course, she was posted to 4 General Support Regiment in Abingdon, taking command of a Transport Troop with whom she deployed on Op TELIC 3. In 2005 she attended the Ammunition Technical Officers' Course, during which she was trained as a specialist in the storage and maintenance of Land Service Ammunition, and Explosives Ordnance Disposal. On completion of the course she was assigned to 9 Supply Regiment in Hullavington. Operational deployments followed, including Op TELIC 9 to run the Ammunition Supply Point at Basra Air Station and Op HERRICK 8 as SO3 Ammunition in Joint Force Support HQ in Kandahar, responsible for the Ammunition Supply Chain into and within theatre.

Looking for a new challenge, she transferred to the Royal Navy in March 2009, joining HMS OCEAN to undertake Common Fleet Training whilst the Ship was deployed on Op TAURUS. The Initial Logistics Officers' Course (Maritime) (ILOC(M)) followed which included a 10-week secondment as Assistant Logistics Officer of HMS LIVERPOOL whilst the Ship undertook Operational Sea Training. Her first complement job in the RN was as Deputy Logistics Officer, HMS ARGYLL, which culminated in deployment on Op KIPION in the Northern Arabian Gulf.

After attendance of Intermediate Command and Staff Course (Maritime) in Spring 2012, she was selected for the role of Executive Assistant 2 to the Second Sea Lord. Promotion to Lieutenant Commander followed and a posting to Faslane as Executive Assistant to Naval Base Commander Clyde. She retired from Regular Service in May 2018 and seamlessly transferred to the Royal Naval Reserve, joining HMS DALRIADA and taking on the role of XO DALRIADA shortly after. In September 2020 she had the privilege of being appointed as Commanding Officer HMS SCOTIA.

She is married to Patrick and, outside of her military role, is a stay at home mum for their 3 young children. In her spare time, she enjoys running and reading. She also very much enjoys football although, having played for the Army, Navy and UK Armed Forces in the past, her playing days are well behind her.