

Lieutenant Commander Ritchie Wilkinson Royal Naval Reserve OiC Medway Division MEDIA OPERATIONS SPECIALISATION

Ritchie Wilkinson joined the RNR with HMS PRESIDENT in 2010 passing out of HMS Raleigh shortly after. He passed out of BRNC and commissioned into the RNR in 2012 and joined the Media Operations Specialisation.

Ritchie was guard officer before becoming the Initial Naval Training Officer (PR) at HMS PRESIDENT then moved to the Medway Division in Chatham, initially as 2iC. In 2016 Ritchie undertook a full time reserve service to assist with the delivery of the RNR Accelerated Officer Programme as well as continuing his Media duties. He took over command of the Medway Division in 2019

In his civilian career Ritchie has worked for all the major UK broadcast television companies and for 15 years ran the technical side of the live Daytime output for ITV as well as directing a number of live programmes. Having worked in a variety of roles in feature films, theatre and all genres of television as director, assistant director, studio manager, stage manager, producer, camera operator, editor, sound, lighting and engineering he has a breadth of knowledge of the media industry. He is taking some time away from broadcast television to teach media full time and freelancing in television to keep his skills current. He is also on the board of several film festivals and continues to make his own independent films.

Ritchie was educated at Harrogate Grammar School before studying Film and Television at University, he returned to study with the Open University to also gain a degree in History of Art and Cultural Studies. He completed his qualified teacher status and PGCE with Canterbury Christ Church University.

Ritchie lives with his partner Fiona and their 2 children on the Kent coast. Always the frustrated musician he rarely travels without a guitar. He likes to keep fit paddle-boarding, surfing and swimming off his local coast as well as fencing for the Navy.