



REAR ADMIRAL P. A. MCALPINE, CBE
ROYAL NAVY
DEPUTY COMMANDER, STRIKFORNATO



Born and educated in Northern Ireland, Paddy McAlpine joined the Royal Navy in 1982 and spent the next ten years either at sea or undertaking specialist training. A Ship's Diver Officer, then a Mine Warfare and Clearance Diver Officer, he has enjoyed sea command twice, the T23 Frigate HMS SOMERSET (00-01) and the Type 45 Destroyer HMS DARING (09-11), taking the latter through the First of Class sea training and on the first overseas deployment.

Selected for promotion to Captain in 2005, he joined the UK Maritime Battle Staff as CTG 58.1 and deployed to the Gulf as the Maritime Security Operations Commander. During a 6 month deployment, the majority of which was embarked in USN Ticonderoga Class Cruisers, he directed the activity of a multi-national, multi-agency and Joint Coalition Task Force in defence of Iraq's maritime oil infrastructure and the integrity of Iraq's territorial waters.

When not at sea or deployed on operations, he has trained others for the Frontline. He has been a Divisional Officer and Navigation Instructor at BRNC Dartmouth (92-93), led the Tier 1 training effort in 32 RN and 29 foreign warships as Commander Sea Training (03-05) and was Director of the Joint Tactical Exercise Planning Staff, which planned and delivered the biannual, tri-service, multi-national JOINT WARRIOR series of exercises (07-09). During his time as DJTEPS he was temporarily appointed as JTFC for Op ZEST, the PJHQ operation to repair the only harbour on the remote island of Tristan Da Cunha. His time within the Naval Training Command culminated with his appointment as Deputy Flag Officer Sea Training from Feb-Nov 11. His time ashore has also included the Advanced Command and Staff Course (98-99), a Ministry of Defence staff appointment in the Directorate of Navy Resources and Plans (01-03) and as Chief Staff Officer to Chief of Staff (Transformation) (06) during a Fleet wide change programme.

Promoted to Commodore in 2011, he flew his pennant from the Fleet Flagship, HMS BULWARK, as Commander United Kingdom Task Group during both the 2012 (Mediterranean) and 2013 (Gulf) COUGAR deployments and was then appointed in Command of the Portsmouth Flotilla in 2014. He was appointed as Deputy Commander Naval Striking and Support Forces NATO in 2015.

A Younger Brother of Trinity House, he was mentioned in dispatches during the 1991 Gulf War, appointed OBE in 2006 and elevated to CBE in 2014. Paddy is married to Janette, who has remained in the UK with their 2 children, Harry (95) and Emily (99). A sports enthusiast, he is a qualified rugby coach, a keen golfer and fly fisherman.