

**COMMANDING OFFICER HMS CATTISTOCK**  
**MCM2 CREW 8**

**Lieutenant Commander Charles Wheen Royal Navy**

Charles Wheen was educated at Wells Cathedral School and spent three years working in Peru before joining the Royal Navy in 2002.

Awarded the Beaufort-Wharton prize for navigation on Junior Warfare Officer's course, he was appointed to HMS BANGOR as the Gunnery Officer in 2004, deploying widely in Northern Europe and in support of NATO historic ordnance disposal operations in the Baltic. Specialising as a Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Officer in 2006, he then served as the Operations Officer in Crews 4 and 8 of MCM2 Squadron, during which time he completed two deployments on Op KIPION, the detailed Route Survey of a number of UK ports in support of Op ROCOCO and extensive sea trials of the Seafox Mine Disposal System.



Selected to join the FOST(MPV) organisation in 2009, he spent an enjoyable and rewarding two years in Scotland responsible for the delivery of mine warfare, diving and demolitions training with particular focus on developing tactics, techniques and procedures for the introduction into service of Clearance Divers Life Support Equipment.

Promoted to Lieutenant Commander in 2012, Charles completed PWO training before joining HMS ARGYLL on Counter Narcotics operations in the eastern Pacific in 2013. As Operations Officer he guided the ship through regeneration, RADAR 997 sea trials and Fleet Ready Escort duties before deploying to the Caribbean in 2014 for a further period of highly successful Counter Narcotics tasking, Disaster Relief operations and Defence Engagement.

On leaving HMS ARGYLL in 2015 he took a seven month career break, this time deploying with his wife and two young children to France and Peru.

He assumed Command of MCM2 Crew 8 in March 2016.