



**REAR ADMIRAL JOHN WEALE OBE
FLAG OFFICER SCOTLAND & NORTHERN IRELAND
REAR ADMIRAL SUBMARINES
ASSISTANT CHIEF OF NAVAL STAFF SUBMARINES**

John Weale was born in Glasgow and educated by Benedictine Monks at St Augustine's College, Thanet, Kent before studying Life Sciences (Biochemistry) at Westminster University, London. Post a rugby tour of the Far East with London Scottish; he joined the Royal Navy in 1985 for initial training at Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth. A volunteer for the Submarine Service, he joined HMS SOVEREIGN for Part III training in 1988 and HMS OPPORTUNE as the Sonar Officer in 1990.

Appointed the Operations Officer to HMS TRENCHANT in 1992, a busy 2 year period of operations followed in both the Arctic and Antarctic prior to selection for Submarine Command Course in 1994. Appointed as the Executive Officer to HMS SPLENDID in early 1995, further deployments to the North Atlantic and the Adriatic followed, prior to inaugural UK trials for the introduction into service of the TOMAHAWK cruise missile system (TLAM). Post a busy XO tour he served on exchange with the United States Navy as the Force Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer to SUBLANT in Norfolk, Virginia (1997-1998).

On promotion to Commander in 1999 John assumed command of HMS TRAFALGAR, for deployments to the South and North Atlantic, and introduced TLAM into the T Class submarine. In late 2001 he was appointed to Fleet Commitments where he contributed to the planning for OP VERITAS, the second Gulf War. Appointed to the Naval Staff in the MoD in 2003, he was the Desk Officer for naval relations with AUS, FR, RUS and the US, responsible for revitalising the FRUKUS engagement. Successfully completing a Masters degree in Defence Administration from Cranfield University, he was appointed to the Maritime Battle Staff in 2006.

Joining HMS ILLUSTRIOUS as the Operations Officer for the AQUILLA deployment to the Near East, he was consequently the lead maritime planner for OP HIGHBROW, the evacuation of entitled personnel from Lebanon. Appointed as the Chief of Staff for the UK command of CTF158 in 2008, from where he was awarded an OBE and selected for promotion to Captain and Command of FOST North.

Working with industry to bring HMS ASTUTE out of build and through sea trials, he was subsequently seconded to the staff of Director Submarines to establish and lead the Submarine Training & Education Programme (STEP) from where he was selected for promotion to Commodore and appointed as DFOST in 2012. Following promotion to Rear Admiral, John assumed the role of Assistant Chief of Naval Staff Submarines (ACNS(SM)) and Flag Officer Scotland and Northern Ireland (FOSNI). On the 15 October 2015 Admiral Weale was given the role of Rear Admiral Submarines (RASM).

Married to Julie, they have four children and live in Cornwall where they run a smallholding.