



**CV –
Cdr Beth Kitchen
MBE BEng (Hons) CEng MIET RN
UK Defence Attaché Bucharest**

Cdr Beth Kitchen joined the Royal Navy as an Aircraft Engineer in 1998, which commenced with attendance at Britannia Royal Naval College to undertake her initial officer training.

During her career at sea, she has served in 8 of the Royal Navy's ships including HMS CORNWALL (T22 Frigate) for her Fleet Time in 2000, RFA FORT AUSTIN during the invasion of Iraq in 2003, and the aircraft carrier HMS INVINCIBLE in 2004. She has sailed from the coast of the USA in the Western Atlantic to as far as Japan in the Pacific to the East. She was also part of the UK team working alongside the US Marine Corps conducting F35B operational trials on the US Navy aircraft carrier, the USS WASP in 2015.

She has worked with all kinds of military aircraft starting with the Sea King Mk6 and Merlin Mk1 helicopters, the Harrier, Jaguar, Hawk and F35 fast jets, and unmanned vehicles including the Scan Eagle.

In the 2nd part of her career, as a chartered engineer, Cdr Kitchen specialised in aviation safety undertaking 5 different roles to optimise the safety of aircraft operating across the Royal Navy, Royal Air Force and British Army, including investigating the RAF Chinook helicopter that crashed in El Centre, California, in 2012. For her safety work she was awarded an MBE in the New Years Honours List in 2015 by Prince Charles.

Her defence diplomacy roles have included being the UK's Liaison Officer to Souda Bay, Crete in 2022 and she is currently the UK's Defence Attaché to Bucharest.