

REAR ADMIRAL C J PARRY CBE MA FCMJ

After gaining a Masters degree in History at Jesus College, Oxford, Chris Parry spent 35 years in the Royal Navy as a Seaman and as a Fleet Air Arm officer during which he commanded the destroyer HMS GLOUCESTER, the Maritime Warfare Centre and the assault ship HMS FEARLESS. Along with regular operational tours in Northern Ireland, the Gulf and the Falklands, he was mentioned in despatches during the Falklands War (for engaging and disabling an enemy submarine) and received the 1983 Prince Philip Helicopter Rescue Award from the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators (for the rescue of 16 SAS troopers from a glacier in South Georgia). From 2001, as a Commodore, he was Director Operational Capability in the Ministry of Defence and then, between 2003 and 2005, commanded the UK's Amphibious Task Group. As a Rear Admiral from 2005, he formed the Development, Concepts and Doctrine Centre (DCDC) and spent 3 years as its Director General. Here, he led and supervised the radical revision of all Armed Forces' thinking and operational practices to reflect modern and emerging strategic conditions.

In the Ministry of Defence and in the academic world, he has written extensively on strategic, policy and transformational issues and contributed to all Defence options, cost studies and reviews since 1989. Nowadays, as well as being Chair of the UK's Marine Management Organisation, he works as a non-executive director, consultant and specialist in advising major institutions, leading companies and banks about strategic forecasting, leadership and risk, as well as on security and geopolitical themes. He is a Fellow of the Royal United Services Institute, Chatham House and the Chartered Management Institute and a visiting lecturer at the University of Oxford and other universities in the UK, the US and Europe. He played Rugby Union for the University of Oxford and the Royal Navy and is President of a Rugby League Club.