

Surgeon Rear Admiral Lionel J Jarvis
QHS MB BS (London) FRCR MRCS LRCP MIEE rcds

Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (Health)
& Chief Naval Medical Officer/Medical Director General (Naval)



Lionel Jarvis qualified in Medicine at Guy's Hospital London in 1977, thereafter joining the Royal Navy, serving initially in Royal Naval Hospitals Plymouth and Haslar. Medical posts then took him to HMS COCHRANE in Rosyth, and overseas serving on HM Ships JUPITER, AMBUSCADE, BERWICK and AMAZON. He trained as a specialist in General Medicine in Plymouth and was appointed General Physician, RNH Gibraltar from 1982 to 1984.

He accredited as a Consultant Radiologist in 1990, was appointed to RNH Haslar and promoted Surgeon Commander. He was Defence Consultant Adviser in Radiology 1995–2002, was awarded the Erroll-Eldridge Prize in 1998 for developing the Defence Magnetic Resonance Imaging, and has published over 20 peer reviewed articles and book chapters. He served on the Faculty Board of Clinical Radiology and Chairman of the IT Committee of the Royal College of Radiologists. In 1999 he won the Award of UK Diagnostic Imaging Hospital Doctor of the Year. He is a member of the British Executive Overseas Service, and was elected a Member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers in 2003.

He has seen operational experience at sea on RFA Argus in the 1990/91 Gulf Conflict, and on land with 34 Field Hospital in Iraq in 2003 on TELIC 1.

He was promoted Surgeon Captain in 1999, and Commanded Ministry of Defence Hospital Unit Portsmouth, subsequently Commanding Royal Hospital Haslar and Fort Blockhouse (2001-03); and serving as an Executive Director of Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust. He attended The Royal College of Defence Studies in 2004, following which he was appointed as Deputy Director Medical Operations in the Fleet HQ in Portsmouth. Promoted to Surgeon Commodore in 2005, he was Director of Medical Policy in the Defence Medical Service Department in MOD. He was appointed Honorary Surgeon to Her Majesty the Queen in 2006.

He was promoted Surgeon Rear Admiral in June 2008 to take up the post of ACDS(H), and in December 2009 additionally appointed Chief Naval Medical Officer and Medical Director General (Navy).

Lionel is married to Dr Penelope Gordon, Consultant Radiologist and Director of Education in Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust; they share time between London and their home in Droxford, Hampshire. They have 4 children and share leisure interests including skiing, riding, sailing and art.

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