



Centre for Port and Maritime History: Battle of the Atlantic 80.

Speaker biographies.

Dr Jayne Friend, University of Portsmouth.

Jayne Friend is a naval historian specialising in the relationship between the Royal Navy, culture and identity within Britain. She gained her master's degree in History at the Open University and her PhD at the University of Portsmouth. After tour guiding in Chatham Historic Dockyard for several years, she developed her fascination with ships and naval pageantry which culminated with her doctoral research examining the cultural role of destroyers. She is currently researching Anglo-American naval diplomacy and the Royal Navy and British culture in the Second World War. She has spoken widely on destroyers and many other aspects of the Royal Navy in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Dr David Kohnen, Naval War College, USA.

David Kohnen completed doctoral studies with the Laughton Professor of Naval History at the University of London, King's College. As a historian in museums, he produced the award-winning exhibits surrounding the captured German submarine *U-505* in Chicago and the Battleship USS *Wisconsin* (BB-64) in Virginia. Kohnen's past published works include *21st Century Knox: Influence, Sea Power, and History for the Modern Era* (Naval Institute Press, 2016) and *Commanders Winn and Knowles: Winning the U-Boat War with Intelligence* (Enigma Press, 1999). Looking outward, Kohnen completed work on his forthcoming book, *King's Navy: Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King and the Rise of American Sea Power, 1897-1947* (Under contract with Schiffer Publishing, 2024).

Dr Sarah-Louise Miller, visiting scholar at the University of Oxford.

Dr Sarah-Louise Miller is a historian of war and conflict, specialising in the Second World War and women in military intelligence. Sarah received her PhD from the Department of War Studies, King's College London, in July 2022. Her thesis examined the work of women in the Allied naval services in British intelligence during the Second World War, focusing on the Battle of the Atlantic and the Pacific Naval War. Sarah is particularly interested in recovering the missing history of women in intelligence work, and throughout her PhD led the WIWIP (Women in War and International Politics) departmental initiative at King's College London. She is an Associate Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, a member of the King's Intelligence and Security Group, and an Associate of both the Laughton Naval History and Maritime Strategy Unit and the Freeman Air and Space Institute at King's College London. She is also a member of the Imperial War Museum's War and Conflict Subject Specialist Network. Sarah is the author of three books: *The Women Behind the Few: The Women's Auxiliary Air Force in British Intelligence During the Second World War*, *Women in Allied Naval Intelligence in the Second World War: A Close Secret*, and *Hawaii's Women at War*. She also appears regularly on British television, having featured on various history documentaries for the BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and Sky History. Sarah is currently a visiting scholar at the University of Oxford's Faculty of History, where she is



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researching the wartime experiences of women in the Pacific theatre of war, specifically Pacific and Polynesian Islanders.

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Dr James W E Smith, King's College London.

James is a visiting research fellow at the Department of War Studies, King's College London, under the mentorship of the Laughton Chair for Naval History and Maritime Strategy, Professor Andrew Lambert. He appointed a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, associate Fellow of the Royal Historical Society in 2022 and helped found the King's Wargaming Centre in 2017.

Rear Admiral James Parkin CBE, Director Develop, Naval Command Headquarters.

James Parkin joined the Royal Navy after university, and graduated from BRNC Dartmouth in 1999. In almost 25 years of service, he has served on operations at sea and ashore across the globe, including an operational tour in Baghdad, and spent time afloat in every ocean on the planet. He is a graduate of both the Advanced Command and Staff Course and the Higher Command and Staff Course at the Defence Academy of the UK, and holds degrees from the University of Oxford and Kings College London.

Parkin has commanded at sea in every rank, including the inshore patrol vessel HMS RANGER, the Type 23 frigate HMS MONTROSE, the Fleet Amphibious Flagship HMS BULWARK, the Joint Expeditionary Force Maritime Task Group, and NATO's Initial Follow-on Forces Group. In his most recent seagoing role, he was Commander of the Littoral Strike Group (COMLSG) from 2018 to 2020, in which capacity he deployed worldwide, and commanded several notable joint operations overseas, including the multinational BALTIC PROTECTOR deployment to Northern Europe in 2019, and the International Maritime Security Construct in the Middle East in 2020. After a year in PJHQ as Assistant Chief of Staff for Joint Plans (ACOS J5), he was promoted to Rear Admiral and assumed the role of Director Develop in summer 2021.



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