

THE ROYAL NAVY

SUPPORTING THE 2012 OLYMPIC GAMES



FIRST PATROL BOAT SQUADRON

Fourteen P2000 Fast Inshore Patrol Craft form the First Patrol Boat Squadron. Their role is to support the University Royal Naval Units (URNU) but they also contribute to a wide range of Fleet tasking.

The Patrol Boats HMS BLAZER (CTU), HMS EXPRESS and HMS PUNCHER will be on the Thames and HMS TRACKER (CTU), HMS RAIDER and HMS EXPLOIT off the coast of Dorset during the Games.

Specifications

Displacement: 54 tonnes	Draught: 1.8m
Complement: 5	Top Speed: 24 knots
Length: 20.8m	Range (Nautical): 550 miles
Beam: 5.8m	

Detail

The Archer Class P2000 fast patrol boats have a top speed of 24 knots, delivered by two turbocharged V12 MTU diesel engines. With a complement of 5 full-time Royal Navy personnel, including the Captain who is also the Officer-in-Charge of the attached URNU, up to 12 students can be accommodated on board. The craft's primary peacetime role is to give members of the Unit training in navigation, operations and seamanship. They also have a number of subsidiary roles including Initial Officer and small ship Navigator training and the provision of sea experience for members of the Combined Cadet Forces, Sea Cadets and the Royal Naval Reserve. P2000s also protect submarines operating to and from their Clyde base.



SOUTHERN DIVING GROUP

The Royal Navy will be providing support to the police with their maritime operations in a number of areas. An element of this support includes the provision of an underwater bomb disposal capability for the River Thames and Weymouth in order to disrupt, render safe or otherwise mitigate maritime improvised explosive devices found. The Southern Diving Group will provide this capability and will build on a standing commitment they have with the Home Office to provide EOD support to the civil police.

The Southern Diving Group (SDG) is the lead Royal Navy Clearance Diving Group, responsible for the southern region of the United Kingdom, consisting of two Units based at Portsmouth and Plymouth.

Royal Navy Clearance Divers

The Royal Navy maintains various teams of Divers. These teams can be either serving in warships, onboard submarines at sea or based in Units ashore. Every Clearance Diver has undergone lengthy and arduous training in the following fields:

- Diving in all types of Naval diving equipment, to depths of up to 60 metres.
- Mine Countermeasures (or MCM), the clearance of mines at sea.
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal (or EOD), for bomb disposal by either sea or land.
- In Water Maintenance and Repair and Demolitions.
- Maritime EOD Force Protection
- Underwater and Maritime Emergencies

SDG is a highly adaptable and mobile organisation of professional military Clearance Divers. The skills they require allow them to deal with a wide range of missions at short notice. SDG have founded an excellent relationship with the local communities which they represent and also with the emergency services such as the Coast Guard, Police and Lifeboat Service, where they are often called upon to conduct military aid to the civil powers.

