



VETERANS'

Green Energy Forum

Inaugural Conference

Thursday 23rd February 2023

Kindly sponsored by

the **offshore**
energy alliance



Notes.

About Us.

The Green Energy Forum is a brand-new networking group which has been established to bring together members of the renewable energy supply chain to tackle issues of employment inequality across the sector.

The Government's ambition of achieving its Net Zero target by 2050 is reliant on the sector trebling the number of jobs in the offshore and onshore wind communities within the next seven years.

The Green Energy Forum will host a range of events across the UK to create job opportunities with the renewable sector and become the go-to portal for our ex-military personnel and other groups who want to establish careers in the green energy sector.

30GW

UK's target of 30GW of offshore wind energy by 2030

27k

27,000 jobs to be supported by the Offshore wind sector by 2030

2.6bn

Offshore wind export target of £2.6bn per annum from 2030

The Veterans' Green Energy Forum.

Former armed forces personnel have been identified as key to the success of the sector, with veterans having the transferable skills, abilities, and personal qualities which meet the requirements of both the offshore and onshore wind sectors.

However, despite the sector recognising the great value veterans can bring - current recruitment figures remain disappointing. The Green Energy Forum's inaugural event will explore the challenges facing veterans who want to enter the industry; and develop strategies to make the sector more accessible.

The Veterans' Green Energy Forum will take place at Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) on Thursday 23rd February 2023. Delegates will attend from the armed forces, Westminster, developers and the wider offshore wind supply chain as well as associated training partners to discuss employment and development opportunities.

By working together, the Veterans' Green Energy forum will create opportunities for veterans and help the UK achieve its Net Zero target.

14k

Approximately 14,000 service personnel leave the Armed Forces every year

33%

1/3 of the workforce to be women by 2030

31%

31% of recruiters admit to being reluctant to hire former service personnel

Conference Agenda

Time slot	Session	Speaker Title
16.15 - 17.00	Arrivals	Tea & Coffee
17.00 - 17.05	Jim Hancock - Former Political Editor of BBC North West	Welcome & Conference Host
17.05 - 17.10	Mark Blundell Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside	Official Launch of the Veterans' Green Energy Forum
17.10 - 17.20	Commodore Phil Waterhouse, Naval Commander Northern England	Leaving the Armed Forces and Securing Opportunities for a Bright Future
17.20 - 17.30	Andrew Elmes - Head of Business Development Siemens Gamesa	Talk Softly and Carry a Big Wind Turbine
17.30 - 17.40	Helen Thomas OEA / RWE	Offshore Wind Opportunities and the Growth of the Sector
17.40 - 17.50	Drystan Jones & Tom Forster Cammell Laird and A&P Group	Role of the Supply Chain - Setting an Example to Industry
17.50 - 18.15	Break - Drinks & Canapes	
18.20 - 18.40	Martin Land - Project Director Mersey Tidal - Liverpool City Region	Liverpool City Region - a City of Excellence for Skills Development
18.40 - 18.50	Musa Bashir - Lecturer in Marine & Offshore Engineering Liverpool John Moores University	Supporting the Growth of the Offshore Sector
18.50 - 19.00	Danielle Kershaw Head of Renewables Complete Training Solutions	Training the Workforce for the Future
19.00 - 19.30	Panel	
19.30 - 19.45	Close	

Panellists

Name	Current Company	Armed Forces Credentials
Dom Butler	Wind Turbine Technician Boston Energy	Communications Specialist - Corporal Royal Marine
Jonathan Coleman	Project Manager Liverpool Freeport	Captain, Military Police
Andrew Elmes	Head of Business Development UK&I Siemens Gamesa	Major, British Army
Rob Mitchison	Head of Technical Projects & New Ventures Boston Energy	Royal Marines Commando
Dan Wilkinson	Talent Acquisition Partner Pennine Energy Resources	Major, Infantry Officer Irish Guards
Graham Wright	Supply Chain Manager RWE	Communications Specialist Royal Air Force

Veterans Support Agencies

David Hornsey
Employee Relationship Manager, Career Transition Partnership

Ian Tumilty
General Manager, Veterans HQ



Conference Hosts.



Jim Hancock

Former Political Editor of BBC North West

Jim Hancock has been a broadcaster and writer on politics for several decades. He has interviewed every Prime Minister from Harold Wilson to Boris Johnson.

He has been a Westminster Lobby Correspondent for the BBC and Independent Radio News, but most of his career has been based in the North West.

He has held the post of Political Editor at both Granada TV and the BBC North West.



Emma Parker-Goff

Managing Director, Artemis Media Profile Ltd,
Associate Director of Marketing for A&P Group,
A&P Australia and Cammell Laird,
Founder Veterans' Green Energy Forum

Emma founded Artemis, an international marketing agency in 2007. Her first significant achievement was promoting the return of the illustrious Cammell Laird name to its Merseyside home.

Emma soon developed a reputation for delivering hard-hitting results-driven campaigns across the maritime, engineering, offshore wind and defence sectors, which deliver significant return on investment to global businesses.

In 2014, Emma and her team began representing A&P Group, one of the UK's largest commercial ship repair operations. In 2018, Emma was appointed as Associate Director of Marketing, A&P Group and subsequently Associate Director of Marketing A&P Australia and Cammell Laird in 2020.

Highlights include delivering a media campaign which covered the departure of the RRS Sir David Attenborough, a campaign that reached more than 1 billion people world-wide.

In 2022, Emma founded The Green Energy Forum - a brand-new networking group which has been established to bring together members of the renewable energy supply chain to tackle issues of employment inequality across the sector.

Speakers



Mark FW Blundell

Lord-Lieutenant of Merseyside

Mr Mark Blundell was appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Merseyside on 13th September 2017.

Mr Blundell is the present incumbent of the Crosby Hall Estate in Little Crosby which has been in the possession of the Blundell family for many centuries. He was educated at Downside School and was a scholar at Balliol College, Oxford, where he studied Physics and Philosophy. He was articled as a solicitor with Weightmans in Liverpool, and then moved to London where he later became a partner at Boodle Hatfield in Mayfair.

In 1986 he moved back to Merseyside to the estate at Little Crosby. In 1988 he founded Crosby Hall Educational Trust, a residential centre for children, created out of redundant 17th Century stables.

For many years he was a member of the Council of Liverpool University, holding the posts of President and Pro-Chancellor and serving on numerous committees. He was a member of the Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the Northwest between 2001 and 2007. He has been a member of the Council of Tate Liverpool, a trustee of Liverpool Charity and Voluntary Services, a governor of Royal Northern College of Music, chair of Liverpool University Pension Fund, and a trustee of Merseyside Buildings Preservation Trust.

He is currently Chair of Crosby Hall Educational Trust and a trustee of Heritage Trust for the Northwest.

Mark is married to Suzanne, a child psychotherapist of Swiss origin. They have two children and five grandchildren, all of whom live on the estate at Crosby Hall.

Speakers



Commodore Phil Waterhouse

Naval Commander Northern England

Commodore Phil Waterhouse was born in 1966 and grew up across the four ridings of Yorkshire. Educated in Sherburn-in-Elmet, Pontefract and at Hull Trinity House Naval School, he joined the Royal Navy as a Junior Sailor in 1982. After initial training he served in HM Y Britannia and HM ships NAIAD and CORNWALL; he was about to embark on Petty Officer's courses when he was promoted to the Officer Corps in 1988

Early appointments included logistics posts in HMS BROADSWORD, HMS BULLDOG, HMS COVENTRY, HMS BEAVER and HMS EDINBURGH as well as seagoing staff appointments as Flag Lieutenant to the 3* Flag Officer Surface Flotilla and as Personal Staff Officer to the 1* Commander Amphibious Task Group. Key shore appointments included being the Personal Staff Officer to the 2* Naval Secretary and as Deputy Fleet Logistics Officer on the Staff of Commander-in-Chief Fleet. He graduated from the Advanced Command and Staff Course in 2005 and, on promotion to Commander, took command of the Defence Maritime Logistics School. Thereafter, he returned to sea as Commander Logistics, HMS BULWARK supporting the ship whilst on worldwide operations. He joined the DE&S as Programme Manager of the £250M support chain enabling project MJDI in early 2010. Departing on the successful delivery of the project, he returned to Navy Command HQ as the Logistics Branch Career Manager. Promoted to Captain in 2013 he moved within NCHQ to be DACOS Logistics Strategy and Capability before enjoying 2 years as the Deputy Naval Base Commander Devonport and The Captain HMS DRAKE. On selection for Commodore, he assumed his current assignment as Naval Regional Commander Northern England and the Isle of Man in early 2017; he was made ADC to the Queen in 2018. He flies his Broad Pennant from his HQ in Liverpool.

Commodore Waterhouse is a Fellow of the Institute of Logistics and Transport, a past Fellow of the Institute of Hospitality, a past Fellow of the Institute of Administrative Management and a Younger Brother of Hull Trinity House. He holds a MA in Defence Studies from Kings College London, an NVQ Level 5 in Management from OCR and Diplomas from CILT(UK) and Inst AM. He is Chairman of the Board of Trustees for a veteran's care home in Manchester and a Children's nursery in Plymouth; he is also a trustee of the Battle of Atlantic Memorial Trust, the National Museum of the Royal Navy (North) and is a former Trustee of the Association of Royal Navy Officers and the Royal Navy Benevolent Society for Officers. His hobbies are centered on home life and an unhealthy obsession with Rugby League and cricket; he is Vice President Royal Navy Rugby League Association as well as a practicing ECB Cricket Umpire and lapsed FA Referee. Commodore Waterhouse is married to Colleen and lives in Liverpool whilst conducting his Regional Command duties; he travels to the family home in Lancashire as often as possible.

Speakers



Andrew Elmes

Head of Business Development UK&I
Siemens Gamesa Offshore

Andrew represents Siemens Gamesa Offshore in UK and Ireland.

From a first career as a military engineer, Andrew joined Siemens Wind Power in 2007, project managing UK onshore windfarms as well as establishing the first UK project and construction teams.

After a brief emigration to Australia, he returned to Siemens in 2015 to manage the port and preassembly development for Siemens Gamesa's flagship Port of Hull facility.

He then led the wind turbine team to deliver Scottish Power's East Anglia ONE offshore windfarm, on a project that saw the first scale deployment of 66kV electrical design, as well as completing through the outbreak of the CV-19 pandemic.

Andrew lives in Surrey with his wife and 2 young sons.



Helen K Thomas

Senior Supply Chain Manager
RWE Renewables

Helen K Thomas is a Senior Supply Chain Manager at RWE Renewables. Her work is focused around furthering the company's engagement activities with businesses and others across Wales (including RWE's Awel y Môr project), the wider UK and beyond.

A key focus of Helen's role is building effective relationships with the supply chain, improving tier-to-tier interactions, raising awareness of industry needs and subsequently increasing local content. Helen also liaises with key political stakeholders updating them on RWE's projects and lobbying for change in the supply chain, ports and manufacturing space.

Helen leads the Offshore Wind Industry Council (OWIC) Supply Chain Workstream helping to deliver on Sector Deal targets and during her time at RWE, has been instrumental in establishing a new supply chain cluster in the North Wales, North West region called The Offshore Energy Alliance.

Before joining RWE, Helen worked for the Trade Association Energy UK and in energy research at Imperial College London. She has a BSc in Environmental Management and a First Class MSc in Renewable Energy Engineering.

Speakers



Drystan Jones

Director Port Development Falmouth & Director General Manager, FDEC A&P Falmouth, Energy Lead, Cammell Laird and A&P Group

Drystan joined A&P Group in 2007 and has been employed in the management of coastal harbour related businesses since 1996. Between 2008 and 2009 Drystan held the role of Marine Renewables Business Development Director and led the diversification of the business.

In 2009 Drystan took up the role of Managing Director of Marine Designs Ltd owned by A&P Group Ltd. Through the period to 2020 the business became a prime contractor for concrete pontoons systems to the offshore wind industry and supplied over 13 O&M base projects in the UK.

In 2014 Drystan took on the role of Port Operations Director of the Falmouth Docks and Engineering Company which is a Statutory Harbour Authority, owned by A&P Group. In 2021 he became Director Port Development Falmouth and General Manager of the business.

The ports business continues to diversify with new services and development plans underway including a new port development scheme and an Enterprise Zone Initiative in partnership with the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly LEP. A&P Falmouth is the lead industry partner in the Celtic Sea and as such Drystan is a key stakeholder in the Celtic Sea Alliance.

In January 2018 Drystan became a Director of Cornwall Marine Network and is committed to the development of marine jobs in Cornwall. Drystan also sits on the Cornwall Council Harbours Board as an independent member.

Drystan attained an Honours degree in Outdoor & Science Education at Liverpool John Moores University and is therefore delighted to be able to return and support this event tonight at LJMU.

Speakers



Tom Forster

Defence Business Manager - A&P Group

Former Royal Navy Officer, Tom Forster joined the Royal Navy in 2009 and spent the majority of his time within the RN serving onboard Type45 Destroyers, latterly as the Navigating Office in HMS Dauntless, working closely with both the US and French Carrier Strike Groups in direct support of Air Operations over Iraq and Syria.

Following selection for Sea Command in late 2016, Forster had the privilege of Commanding TS JACK PETCHEY as part of the Marine Society's Offshore Fleet. This rewarding assignment saw Forster deployed around the UK and Europe supporting the sea training of over 1500 Royal Navy Regular, Reservist and Sea Cadet personnel.

Subsequent Sea Command ensued, and Forster assumed Command of HMS SCIMITAR as part of the Royal Navy Gibraltar Squadron. Leaving the warm waters of the Mediterranean behind him, Forster joined the Overseas Patrol Squadron in 2017 as the Executive and Commanding Officer of both HMS TYNE and MERSEY, working predominantly in support of CTF 320; during this period, he completed a Masters in Maritime Science, graduating with a distinction from the University of Portsmouth.

Forster took the decision to leave RN in early 2019 to take up post as Marine Operations at Falmouth Docks and Engineering Company, part of A&P Group in Falmouth. A rewarding and eye-opening 18 months ensued, where he was responsible for circa 1500 MOD and Civilian ship movements into and out of the Port and Docks estate.

With the opportunity to diversify within the business, Forster moved to a position within in the Defence Team, enabling him to capitalise on his on previous MOD experience.

Speakers



Martin W Land

Project Director
Mersey Tidal, Liverpool City Region

Martin joined Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) in May 2020 to lead for the development of Mersey Tidal Power and to promote the wider clean energy agenda across LCR as we strive for Net Zero. He also champions the Liverpool involvement in Offshore Energy Alliance (OEA) for marine energy development across North West and North Wales.

Martin has worked across energy and infrastructure for over 30 years. Martin has held senior development and delivery positions with Alstom, Westinghouse, Bechtel, EON, AECOM and Black & Veatch across energy and rail projects. He started his career locally in Cheshire with ICI as an apprentice so has worked from a trade based technician role to engineering and management roles.

Martin has worked on a full range of technologies including offshore and onshore wind, underground gas storage, nuclear and conventional thermal power plants. In Rail, Martin was previously Rail and Power Manager on HS1 (CTRL) for the works between St Pancras and Ebbsfleet and an Alliance Delivery Director on West Coast Route Modernisation.

Speakers



Dr Musa Bashir

Lecturer in Marine and Offshore Engineering
Liverpool John Moores University

Dr Bashir is a Senior Lecturer in Marine and Offshore Engineering at Liverpool John Moores University. He obtained his MSc and PhD from Newcastle University. Dr Bashir is a chartered engineer and has previously worked as a Senior Subsea Engineer in the oil and gas industry.

His research interests include design of offshore renewable energy installations, structural health monitoring of fixed and floating offshore structures (as part of O&M of marine structures), experimental and numerical hydrodynamic modelling of offshore structures, design of moorings and application of intelligent decision-making tools in offshore operations.

Dr Bashir currently manages the array health diagnosis and prognosis of floating offshore wind farms (ARCWIND), as part of an ERDF-INTERREG (North Atlantic Region) funded Project and leading the development of MSc Renewable Energy at LJMU.



Danielle Kershaw

Head of Renewables
Complete Training Solutions (CTS)

Danielle Kershaw is the Head of Renewables at Complete Training Solutions (CTS), the UK's second largest Global Wind Organisation Training Provider. Her extensive history of working within the Skills Sector and passion for driving social mobility makes Danielle the perfect fit to drive CTS to the forefront of Green Construction and Renewables Training in the UK.

CTS is in the process of acquisition by RelyOn Nutec, the global leader for training in the Renewable Energy Sector with over 30 training centres in over 20 countries. Danielle will continue to use her skill and expertise as Head of Sector: Public Services, leading on skills innovation projects to ready the renewables workforce for the Green Industrial Revolution, ensuring the North West is at the fore of re-skill, upskill and retrain initiatives.

Thank you to our exhibitors.



Notes.



VETERANS'

Green Energy Forum



For further information on the Green Energy Forum and to keep up to date with our other events, please contact Emma and Rebecca:

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