

Christopher Bellamy Greenwich Maritime Institute Director



Professor Chris Bellamy became Director of GMI in September 2010. For the previous 13 years he had been first Deputy Director, then Director, of the Security Studies Institute, Cranfield University, based at the Royal Military College of Science, now part of the Defence Academy of the UK, Shrivenham. Here he devised, implemented and ran the full-time Cranfield MSc in Global Security from 1999 and the MSc in International Security by Distance Learning from 2007. He numbers many who are now admirals and generals among his former students. He took his first degree in Modern History at Oxford in 1973-76 and, after leaving the Royal Artillery, took the MA in War Studies at King's College, London, obtaining a Distinction. He worked for nine years as an Administration Group civil servant in the Ministry of Defence. Here his postings included a Dockyard Study and the Directorate of Naval Plans where he was for a time, including the 1982 Falklands War, the only civilian member of the Naval Staff. He left the MoD in 1987 to complete his PhD on the Russian and Soviet View of Future War at Edinburgh University under the supervision of John Erickson, Nato's top adviser on the Soviet military system. In 1990 he completed his PhD and was appointed Defence Correspondent of the *Independent*, where he worked until 1997 and reported from the 1991 Gulf War, the Bosnian civil war from 1992-96, and Chechnya in 1995.

Chris Bellamy began his career as a professional soldier but has always been fascinated by ships and the sea. As a renowned authority on defence and security he understands the importance of the 70 percent of the planet that is ocean, as well as the 30 percent that is land. During his time with the MoD, and as Defence Correspondent of the *Independent*, he also worked a lot with the RAF. After joining Cranfield in 1997 his interests broadened further and he made the Environment and Energy a core part of his Security programmes. In 2010, he was given the opportunity to lead the GMI. Having spent 13 years teaching Global Security, here was the chance to focus on the 70 percent of the earth, and the air and space above, that is Maritime. His vision for the Institute involves building on its existing strengths and expanding into the areas of modern maritime security, energy, the environment and disaster management. His experience as a journalist has reinforced his conviction that field work is essential to any programme of study. During a career that has embraced Government service, teaching, scholarship and journalism, Professor Bellamy was shortlisted for Foreign Reporter of the Year in the 1996 British Press Awards for reporting from Chechnya, and in July 2008 was awarded the Royal United

Services' Institute's Westminster Medal for Military Literature for *Absolute War: Soviet Russia in the Second World War*.

Research Interests

Prof Bellamy's research interests currently focus on the development of a new degree in Maritime Security for the University of Greenwich, and on the principal maritime security problem of the moment – sea piracy, which is the subject of his latest book. To this he brings the perspective of a distinguished military and security historian and modern security studies expert. His previous book, by contrast, was more land-centric. *The Gurkhas: Special Force* was published in hardback by John Murray in April 2011 and in paperback in October.

Principal Publications

The Future of Land Warfare (Croom Helm, London and St Martin's Press, New York, 1986);

Red God of War: Soviet Artillery and Rocket Forces (Brassey's Defence Publishers, London, 1987). Translated into Hebrew;

Consultant Editor, The Eastern Front 1941-45 to John Keegan, ed., *The Times Atlas of the Second World War* (Times Books, London, 1989);

The Evolution of Modern Land Warfare: Theory and Practice (Routledge, London, 1990);

Expert Witness: a Defence Correspondent's Gulf War (Brassey's Defence Publishers, London, 1993);

Knights in White Armour: the New Art of War and Peace, (Hurtchinson, London, 1996 and Pimlico, London, 1997);

Associate Editor to Richard Holmes, ed., *The Oxford Companion to Military History* (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2001);

Absolute War: Soviet Russia in the Second World War (Macmillan, London and Knopf, New York, 2007, Vintage New York and Pan, London, 2008, Pan Military Classics London 2009). Winner of the 2008 RUSI Westminster Medal for Military Literature. Translated into Italian, Spanish, Polish, Czech and Estonian;

The Gurkhas: Special Force (John Murray, London, 2011);

Visas for Love. Documentary on the interpreters for the Arctic Convoys to Russia, 1941-45 (DVD), Poseidon Films, London, 2010;

The Siege of Leningrad, Documentary (DVD), CentreMedia, London, 2010.