

Rear Admiral Lee Goddard CSC, RAN



Rear Admiral Goddard has been fortunate to have experienced many 'careers within a career' during more than 30 years in the Navy. Before assuming his current role as Branch Head to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Rear Admiral Goddard has held the roles of Commander Surface Force in Sydney, he spent two years at sea commanding the upgraded Anzac Class warship HMAS *Perth III* based in Western Australia; his first sea posting in 1990 was in HMAS *Perth II*. Rear Admiral Goddard is to take up command of Maritime Border Command on promotion to Rear Admiral in the New Year.

Rear Admiral Goddard joined the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) in 1987 from Melbourne through the Australian Defence Force Academy (Canberra), where he completed his degree studies graduating with a Bachelor of Science in 1989. In his final year he was appointed as the first Naval Academy Cadet Captain and was awarded the RSL Sword of Leadership on graduation. In the following year while completing Seaman Officer training at the RAN College (Jervis Bay) in 1990 he was appointed College Captain and awarded the Queen's Medal.

Throughout his career he has served at sea in RAN, Canadian, Malaysian and US Navy warships, and on operations in the Middle East. He gained his Bridge Watchkeeping Certificate in early 1992 while posted on exchange with the Canadian Navy, in the warship HMCS *Yukon* based in Victoria, BC. Later in 1993-1995 he served as a Watch/Executive Officer onboard Australia's national tall ship STS *Young Endeavour* and he has been posted overseas to Malaysia and Bahrain.

In 1996 he completed the RAN Principal Warfare Officer's course when as dux he was awarded both the Sydney-Emden prize and the RAN Sword of Excellence. He commanded the ANZAC Class frigate, HMAS *Parramatta*, from 2006 to 2008 and the ship was awarded the Gloucester Cup in late 2008. Previously he was a member of the commissioning crews of the ANZAC Class frigates HMAS *Arunta* (Warfare Officer) during 1997 to 1999 and HMAS *Stuart* (Executive Officer) during 2001- 2003. Following on from his first sea command in 2008 he was appointed Commander Sea Training.

In 2009 he was posted as an inaugural member of the 'New Generation Navy' Team, as the Deputy Director Transformation & Innovation working closely with the Nous Group that reported directly to the Chief of Navy. He was then selected to attend the US Naval War College in Newport RI, where he joined the Naval Command College, graduating in June 2010 when he was awarded the War College's International Leadership Prize. He was subsequently asked to remain at the War College as an International Fellow, teaching within the Department of Strategy and Policy at the Masters level. On his return to Australia in early 2011 he assumed the position of Director Military Strategic Commitments at the Australian Defence Headquarters, working within the strategic level of Defence and across Government. He returned to sea in late 2012 to assume command in the upgraded Anzac Class warship HMAS PERTH (F157). On promotion to Commodore in late 2014 he assumed the role of Commander Surface Forces.

He was awarded a Master of Arts (International Relations) in 1996, is member of the Australian Naval Institute council and has previously served as councillor with the Australian Institute of International Affairs. He has contributed to a range of professional and academic journals focused on international affairs and security issues. His personal interests evolve around family, sport and sailing.

Rear Admiral Lee Goddard is married to Alexandra who works within DFAT (AusAID) and they reside in Sydney with their son Dom (b. 2004) and daughters Asha (b. 2006) & Mathilde (b. 2008). He was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC) on Australia Day 2007. He was promoted to Rear Admiral in December 2018. He took command of Maritime Border Command on 04 February 19