

BIOGRAPHY

Commander Tony Mullan, RAN

Commander Tony Mullan was born in Swan Hill, Victoria in 1968 and spent his early years growing up on his parent's farm at Lalbert, Victoria. Following tertiary studies at the University of Ballarat, where he obtained a Bachelor of Engineering, he entered the Royal Australian Naval College, HMAS CRESWELL, as a Direct Entry Officer in 1991.

On graduation from HMAS CRESWELL in August 1991, then Sub Lieutenant Mullan filled various training positions with postings to the RAN Combat Data Systems Centre in Canberra (where he was promoted to Lieutenant), the RAN Communications School at HMAS CERBERUS, the Training Development Cell at HMAS CERBERUS and finally Naval Training Command in a Staff Officer position.

In 1998 Lieutenant Mullan was posted to HMAS ALBATROSS to head a Computer Based Learning cell. He was then posted as the Training Development Manager for Training Authority Aviation at HMAS ALBATROSS. In 2000 Lieutenant Mullan was promoted to Lieutenant Commander and also gained a Master of Professional Studies (Instructional Systems) from the University of New England.

In 2001 Lieutenant Commander Mullan was posted to sea as the Training Manager in HMAS KANIMBLA. During this period he was also the ship's Senior Boarding Officer deploying on border protection and peace monitoring operations as well as undertaking two deployments to the Middle East; the first deployment was in 2001 in support of the Global War on Terror and the second in 2003 in support of combat operations in Iraq. As a result of his efforts as the Senior Boarding Officer Lieutenant Commander Mullan was awarded a Maritime Commander's Commendation.

In late 2003 Lieutenant Commander Mullan moved to Canberra to take up a posting as Officer Commanding Navy Squadron at the Australian Defence Force Academy. In this position he was responsible for the welfare and progression of approximately 180 junior officers undertaking initial officer training and degree studies.

In January 2005 Lieutenant Commander Mullan was posted to a Staff Officer position in Navy International Relations. During this posting he was fortunate to be given the opportunity to travel extensively, working closely with allied and friendly Navies and Armed Forces around the world. In January 2006 Lieutenant Commander Mullan was posted to the position Staff Officer Training Systems, Health Services and Legal in the Directorate of Naval Officers Postings. In this position he managed the careers of approximately 300 officers at the rank of Lieutenant Commander and below in a diverse range of five Primary Qualifications.

Lieutenant Commander Mullan attended the Australian Command and Staff Course in 2007 and after graduating was promoted to Commander in January 2008. He is currently Deputy Director of the Centre for Defence Leadership Studies at the Australian Defence College.