

Captain John S Navin, RAN

Captain Navin was born in Sydney, NSW and joined the Royal Australian Navy as a Seaman Officer in 1989. He completed initial entry and Seaman Officer training in numerous Ships and Establishments during his first two years of service, including a two-month exchange posting with the Republic of Singapore Navy. Navin was awarded his Bridge Watchkeeping Certificate in Dec 1991 as a recently promoted Sub-Lieutenant whilst serving in HMAS GAWLER. He consolidated his Officer of the Watch qualifications in HMAS DERWENT in 1992-93 before completing a range of seagoing postings and shore based training and staff officer postings between 1993 and 2000. Highlights of this period were successive Navigation Officer and Executive Officer postings in the Fremantle Class Patrol Boats.



Captain Navin was given his Command as CO of HMAS BALIKPAPAN. During Navin's twenty-month tenure in Command, BALIKPAPAN conducted a number of OP TANAGER deployments in support of the United Nations Transitional Administration East Timor and the posting culminated in BALIKPAPAN being awarded the LCH Proficiency Shield in Dec 2001.

Captain Navin was appointed as the Commanding Officer of the Armidale Class Patrol Boat Trials and Transition Crew (ACPB TTC) in January 2005. Following the introduction of the ACPB into service, Navin transitioned TTC to form up the Darwin based element of the Minor War Vessel Sea Training Group in 2006. Navin was promoted to Commander in January 2007.

Captain Navin served as the Maritime Surveillance Advisor to the Cook Islands 2007 – 2010 before returning to Australia to assume Command of ACPB crew ASSAIL TWO. Following a two year tenure in Command which included numerous Operation RESOLUTE deployments and a very successful deployment to PNG, he was selected for the position of Commander Sea Training - Minor War Vessels which he commenced in January 2013. The ensuing year encompassed collective training and certification activities in excess of 20 ships and crews across all classes of Minor War Vessel and a number of Major Fleet Units.

Captain Navin was appointed Commanding Officer HMAS COONAWARRA in Darwin on 11 December 2013. During his ensuing three year Command tenure, HMAS Coonawarra directly supported a high tempo of Major Fleet Unit and Minor War Vessel operational and exercise activity and was the inaugural Naval Establishment to undertake a Seaworthiness Board.

Captain Navin then completed the 2017 Capability and Technology Management Program and was posted to Navy Capability as the Deputy Director Patrol Force and subsequently promoted to Captain in March of 2019 and assumed his current position as Director MHP.

Captain Navin is married to Melanie and they have a young son. His interests include camping, boating, fishing, reading and armchair sport.