

Commodore Steve Davies, RAN

Commodore Submarine Force and Senior Naval Officer Western Australia

As Commodore of the Submarine Force he is responsible for delivery of Australia's submarine capability.

The majority of his career has been spent in seagoing appointments in the submarine Force Element Group, including command of the submarines HMAS COLLINS (1996-1998) and HMAS DECHAINEUX (2000-2003)

Steve Davies joined the RAN College in 1981 after high school in Victoria. He undertook Seaman officer training and was awarded his Bridge Watchkeeping Certificate in the Canadian ship HMCS QU'APPELLE during a year-long attachment in 1985. Davies commenced submarine training in 1986, qualifying as a submarine officer later that year.

In 1995 Davies attended the Royal Netherlands Navy Submarine Command Course. On return to Australia he was selected for command of the recently-commissioned submarine HMAS COLLINS. Highlights of this command were the first torpedo firings from the new class, participation in its first international exercise and its first overseas deployment. Davies was promoted to Commander after leaving COLLINS and served as Commander Sea Training – Submarines, managing and conducting workup training at sea for the submarine fleet.

In 2000 he was selected for command of HMAS DECHAINEUX. The highlights of this command were the submarine's commissioning in early 2001 then its first operational deployment later that year. In mid-2002 Davies handed over command of DECHAINEUX and took up the position of Chief of Staff in the Submarine FEG.

On promotion to Captain in 2003 Davies moved to Canberra as the Director of Sailors' Career Management, responsible for planning and executing the postings of Navy's 10,000 sailors. He gained valuable experience in broader Navy management from this position. In 2005 he was selected as the ADF student at the Royal College of Defence Studies in London, where he studied international relations in the defence environment. In December 2006 Captain Davies took command of HMAS STIRLING, Navy's Fleet Base West.

In July 2008 he assumed command of the Submarine Force on promotion to Commodore. Commodore Davies holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of NSW and a Master of Arts degree in International Relations from Kings College, London. He is a graduate of the RAN College and the Royal College of Defence Studies, London. He is married to Josiane and has two teenage daughters.

The family lives in Perth and enjoys an active outdoor lifestyle.