

Air Vice-Marshal Warren McDonald, AM, CSC



Air Vice-Marshal Warren McDonald was born in Hay, NSW and joined RAAF at the age of 15 as an apprentice motor transport fitter. In 1989 he was commissioned and underwent pilot training, flying his first operational tour on the P-3C Orion at No 11 Squadron. In 1993, Air Vice-Marshal McDonald was posted to Canada to fly the CP-140 Aurora on 415 Squadron.

In 1996 he returned to fly the P-3C Orion with No 10 Squadron, where he was then posted to No 92 Wing's Maritime Test and Evaluation Unit to introduce the AP-3C Orion. In 2001 he was Promoted to Squadron Leader and posted to No 10 Squadron as a Flight Commander. In 2002 he was posted to Butterworth Malaysia, as the Officer Commanding Detachment Alpha. In 2005 he returned to Australia to attend Australian Command and Staff Course and was promoted to Wing Commander and made the Deputy Director of Air 7000 Phase 1 in 2006.

In 2007 he was appointed Commanding Officer of No 11 Squadron and in 2009 was placed on acting Group Captain rank and appointed Officer Commanding No 92 Wing. Promoted in 2010 to Group Captain he served at No 92 Wing until October 2011, where he then deployed as the Australian Air Component Commander for Joint Task Force 633 in support of Operation SLIPPER. He has over 5000 hours on the P-3 and has served on four operational tours in the Middle East, all in varying command positions.

Upon his return from the Middle East in May 2012 he was promoted to Air Commodore and appointed the Director General Capability Planning - Air Force, before appointment as the Commander of Air Mobility Group. In 2015, he was appointed Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

In July 2015, on promotion to Air-Vice Marshal he commenced as Deputy Chief of Air Force.

He is married to his very understanding wife.