



Commanding Officer HMNZS TAUPO



Lieutenant Troy Gorden, RNZN



Lieutenant Troy Jordan Gorden was born in Rotorua on 3 August 1988. He spent the majority of his formative years in Hawkes Bay and Brisbane, Australia. Troy completed his high school education at Bray Park State High School, Queensland where he was elected head boy and school prefect.

Troy joined the Royal New Zealand Navy in July 2008, where he undertook Junior Officer training and was awarded the Minister of Defence Sword of Honour. On completion of Junior Officer training, Troy commenced

the Officer of the Watch (Basic) course in January 2009. After this training, Troy was posted to HMNZ ships TE MANA and ROTOITI to consolidate this training and gain valuable experience at sea both abroad and on the New Zealand station.

Troy commenced Officer of the Watch (Advanced) and (Warfare) training in June 2009 where he was awarded dux. On completion of this training Troy was posted to HMNZS TE KAHA for her historic trip around the Pacific and most importantly, mainland USA where he was awarded his Advanced and Warfare Bridge Watchkeeping Certificates as well as his Harbour Watchkeeping Certificate.

Troy completed his Minor War Vessel Navigating Officer course in 2011 and was subsequently posted to HMNZS ROTOITI as the Navigating Officer. This tenure provided great experience to Troy in departmental management, operational planning and real world search and rescue, specifically the MV RENA grounding where Troy navigated multiple Inshore Patrol Vessels.

On completion of eighteen months of navigator duties, Troy completed OP ANTARCTICA for four weeks before proceeding on a three month Overseas Experience to Europe to gain some life experience and refresh mentally after a busy start to his career. On completion of this break, Troy was posted to HMNZS MANAWANUI to complete her workup and subsequent deployment on the New Zealand station.

In February 2012 Troy was posted to HMNZS TE MANA as Officer of the Watch 2 ahead of her South East Asian deployment and stood in as Navigating Officer for the ships passage from Guam to New Zealand. On completion Troy was elevated to Officer of the Watch 1 for the ships workup and gulf deployment which remains the highlight of his career.

Upon return to New Zealand in January 2014, Troy left the regular force of the RNZN to commence tertiary studies at Massey University, studying a Bachelor of Construction – Quantity Surveying. He remained an active member of the RNZN Reserves throughout this period.

In March 2016 Troy returned to the regular force RNZN as the assistant Operations Officer for Operation Neptune where he was awarded a Maritime Component Commander Commendation.

This position was a great challenge and provided valuable exposure to the high level planning and staff sphere where Troy had no significant prior experience.

In December 2016 Troy was posted as the Officer in Charge of the Reduced Availability Period where he remained until December 2017 on completion of his tertiary studies. Troy completed Minor War Vessel Command Course in May 2018 and was subsequently granted command of HMNZS TAUPO in August 2018.

Troy has a wide range of sporting interests including rugby which he has played at both competitive and social levels.