

GPCAPT PAUL CARPENTER

Officer Commanding No 92 Wing

GPCAPT Paul Carpenter joined the Air Force in 1991 as an Officer Cadet at the Australian Defence Force Academy where he completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics and Mathematics.

In 1995, GPCAPT Carpenter completed number 166 pilots course and was posted to 10SQN at RAAF Edinburgh to fly P-3C Orion aircraft. After completing a tour in which he gained a captaincy qualification on the P-3C, he undertook Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI) training in 1999.



From 1999 to 2001, GPCAPT Carpenter instructed student pilots and assessed new pilot applicants at the Australian Defence Force Basic Flying Training School in Tamworth on CT4B and CAP-10 aircraft. Following this posting he returned to P-3C operations where he performed a variety of roles including P-3C conversion training and pilot transition training onto the upgraded AP-3C aircraft. During this time he attained Category B Qualified Flying Instructor and Maritime Captaincy qualifications and trained as an Instrument Rating Examiner, Aviation Safety Officer and Crew Resource Management facilitator.

In 2006, GPCAPT Carpenter was promoted and posted to Capability Development Group as the Desk Officer for Project AIR 5428, the replacement ADF Pilot training System. During this time he undertook postgraduate study at UNSW and in 2009 attended Australian Command and Staff Course before returning to 11SQN as a Flight Commander in 2010.

The following year he was promoted to WGCDR and appointed Commanding Officer of Number 2 SQN on the E-7A Wedgetail aircraft. From 2012-2014, GPCAPT Carpenter managed the transition and growth of this pre-Initial Operational Capability through to operational readiness, which culminated with him leading the Squadron's first deployment to the Middle East on Operation OKRA.

GPCAPT Carpenter continued to support the E-7A capability from 2015-2016 as Executive Officer Number 42 Wing, then posted to the Air and Space Operations Centre within HQJOC as Chief Strategy Division from 2017-2019. Following this tour he was awarded a Queensland Police Service Citation for support to the Commonwealth Games, and a Conspicuous Service Medal for meritorious achievement in joint air operations planning and force generation of command and control personnel for the Royal Australian Air Force.

In January 2020 GPCAPT Carpenter was promoted to his current rank and appointed Director of Air Force's Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) Transition Office to manage the integration of Distributed Ground Station – Australia, MQ-4C Triton, MC-55A Peregrine, MQ-9B Sky Guardian and P-8A Poseidon Phase 2C into Air Force service. In December 2021 he qualified on the P-8A and commenced his present role as Officer Commanding No 92WG at RAAF Edinburgh.

GPCAPT Carpenter holds a Bachelor of Science and a Masters of Engineering Science in Project Management from the University of NSW. He is married with two children and personal interests include Running, Photography and Military History.