

## **Biographical Details**

### **Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Dudley GARDINER, Royal Australian Armoured Corps**

Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Gardiner entered the Australian Defence Force Academy in 1995 and graduated from the Royal Military College – Duntroon in 1998. He was posted to 1st Armoured Regiment and served as a tank troop leader, special equipment troop leader, second in command of a tank squadron, Officer Commanding of a tank squadron, operations officer, and is currently serving as the Commanding Officer.



Since 2003, Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner has undertaken a range of appointments spanning training, staff, and command. He is a recent graduate (2015) of the Joint Advanced Warfare School, Norfolk, Virginia; where his thesis received the General Douglas MacArthur Foundation award. Prior to this opportunity, Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner worked within Career Management Army as the Senior Officer Manager. Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner served as the Military Assistant to Head Modernisation and Strategic Planning – Army, Tank Officer Instructor - School of Armour, and as the Combined Arms Package Master at the Royal Military College – Duntroon. He completed an additional staff appointment as a logistics development officer within Headquarters Joint Operations Command.

Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner's operational service includes deployments to Iraq (2005 and 2017) during Operation CATALYST and Operation OKRA, and Afghanistan (2009) during Operation SLIPPER. In Iraq 2005, he deployed as a staff officer within the Multi-National Division South East, being employed as the Division Battle Captain. He was awarded a Commander Multi-National Division South East commendation and a Deputy Chief of Joint Operations Command commendation (Bronze) for his service during this deployment. In Afghanistan, Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner deployed as a staff officer within Headquarters Regional Command South. He was employed as the Divisional Chief of Operations, being awarded a Commander Regional Command South commendation and Chief of Joint Operations Command commendation (Gold) for his service and in recognition of establishing the Division's forward command post in support of Operation MOSTARAK. Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner recently returned from Iraq where he was deployed as the Commanding Officer of the Training Task Unit Task Group Taji IV.

Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner holds a Bachelor of Arts majoring in History (1997), a Master of Arts in Strategy and Policy (2011), and a Master of Science in Joint Campaign Planning and Strategy (2015).

An enthusiast of outdoor activities, Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner enjoys family bush walks, snorkelling, cycling, and rugby. Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner has been married to Nadyne since 2003 and is the father of three beautiful daughters aged between eleven and four.