



Commanding Officer HMNZS HAWEA



Lieutenant Dave Luhrs, RNZN

Lieutenant Dave Luhrs was born in Christchurch, New Zealand. After attending Christ's College he joined the Royal New Zealand Navy in 2005 as a General List Executive Officer.

On completion of his Junior Officer Common Training, he undertook a period of 12 months training ashore and at sea where he completed both the Grade 3 and the Grade 1 & 2 navigation courses. Upon completion, Dave joined HMNZS TE MANA for a period of 18 months when he gained his Grade 1 & 2 Bridge Watch-Keeping endorsements while enjoying deployments to the Indian Ocean, South East Asia and Australia.

In 2008, Dave commenced his first of a number of roles as Executive Officer onboard a Minor War Vessel with a posting to HMNZS KAHU. During this posting, Dave took part in an exchange with the Irish Naval Service.

After his time with HMNZS KAHU, Dave completed the Minor War Vessel Command Course in 2009 and posted to HMNZS ROTOITI as the Executive Officer for a period of two years. Following this, he posted to HMNZS TE KAHA for 12 months where he occupied the role of Bridge Watch-Keeper 1, and took part in a further two deployments to both South East Asia and the East and West coasts of Australia.

In mid 2012, a posting to the dive tender HMNZS MANAWANUI was completed for 15 months. During this time Dave took part in Operation Pukaurua, an explosive remnants of war disposal tasking in the South Pacific.

After a two year period of part time study, in February 2014 Dave undertook a period of 12 months full time study at Massey University. Here, Dave completed the second half of a Bachelor of Business Studies majoring in Management and Property Valuation and Management. This allowed for a welcome change of focus to academic study and he achieved a place on the 2014 Dean's List.

Dave took up his first command of the Inshore Patrol Vessel HMNZS HAWEA on 17 July 2015.

Dave enjoys spending his spare time with friends and family, playing sports, and is involved in property investing. His other interests include travel, mountain biking and an enjoyably slow renovation of his family home. LT Dave Luhrs lives in Birkenhead on Auckland's North Shore with his wife Olivia, and dog Xander.