



DEFENCE MEDIA RELEASE

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Forrestfield's Navy Policeman

Forrestfield's Marc Lawrence, 26, is a Royal Australian Navy rarity — a sailor who still lives in his original hometown.

“I joined the Navy in 1998 straight after Forrestfield Senior High,” said Marc. “After 11 weeks basic training at HMAS CERBERUS (near Melbourne) I first started off as a marine technician and went to sea aboard HMAS BRISBANE. I made some good friends on that trip and decided that I'd transfer to become a Naval Police Coxswain.

“Since then I've been promoted to Petty Officer and I've got a raft of qualifications — Certificate IIIs in Business, in Public Safety, and in Transport Distribution, and Certificate IVs in Workplace Training and in Fraud Control. There's a few more too!

“I've already deployed to South East Asia and I was also involved with security for the Commonwealth Games last year.

“At the moment I'm based at HMAS STIRLING and my job is more like regular police work — traffic control, conducting investigations, and enforcing the law with random breath tests and so on.

“The job at sea has more variety as you take on a lot more responsibility for the whole crew. But I have a good work/life balance now I'm ashore again — I can spend far more time with my wife and our two kids.

“But I love being at sea too, because the role is more challenging and diverse. On a ship you are there to help the crew and make their life easier — and I also love the social aspect of my job.”

Caption: *Forrestfield's Marc Lawrence has travelled Australia and South East Asia in the Navy but now he's home and working at HMAS STIRLING.*

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