Group Captain Pete Norford AM CSC

Royal Australian Air Force

Director of Studies – Air Australian Command and Staff College

Group Captain Norford was born in Sydney, Australia and, after some time overseas, completed high school in Charters Towers, North Queensland. He joined the Royal Australian Air Force in 1975 and graduated from RAAF Pilots Course in May 1978.

He has flown Iroquois (UH-1H/B) in operational and search and rescue roles and has extensive experience as a QFI; flying the Macchi MB326H jet (1982-1984) and the BAe BAC-167 Strikemaster (1984-1986) in advanced pilot training; the AS350B Squirrel and Iroquois (1986-1988) as a rotary-wing instructor (QHI); and the PC9/A turbo-prop training aircraft in advanced pilot training as a flight commander, chief flying instructor and commanding officer. He was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC) in 1994 for his role as Chief Flying Instructor at No. 2 Flying Training School (2FTS) in 1991-1992.

Group Captain Norford has had staff postings with the Directorate of Flying Safety (DFS) in 1993-1995, as Staff Officer to the CAS/CAF (1996-1997) and the Aviation Capability Improvement Team in Air Force Headquarters, Canberra (2001-2002). He has commanded 2FTS (1998-2000), was appointed Officer Commanding Air Training Wing in January 2003 and served as Acting Commander Training-Air Force (A/COMTRG-AF) in 2005.

Group Captain Norford completed a senior staff tour as Director Defence Aviation and Air Force Safety in 2006-2007 and was the RAAF Adviser / Air Attaché in London 2008 - 2010. Group Captain Norford has been the Director of Studies at the Australian Command and Staff College since January 2011.

Group Captain Norford was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for services to flying training and aviation safety in the Queen's Birthday Honours list 2008.

Group Captain Norford is a graduate of the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College, Toronto, Canada; he is married to Jane and they have a daughter, Christine born in 1985. His interests include current affairs, motor sports, aviation, fishing and basketball.