

New Zealand Sub-Branch

NewZletter



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Meetings held at Chatswood RSL

The Month That Was

NZ Sub-Branch Notices

Change of Postal Address

Please note the change to the NZ Sub-Branch Postal Address.

Battle for Australia Day - Wednesday 2 September 2009



Well the brilliant weather certainly complimented a wonderful service. Although, that being said because Martin Place does not get the sun, you could excuse those Veterans that were wrapped up in Jackets

and Scarf's because it really was cold. But as always our hearts

were warm remembering our fallen and those that were involved in this conflict. This is also a service that includes a Fly-Over which is actually a very nice touch to be



honest because it certainly creates an atmosphere commensurate with the occasion. Again the Governor Professor Marie Bashir (picture top) attended as she always does and nice to see the Fuzzy Wuzzuys again. And as always, we may be small but we always have a presence and thanks to Kathleen, Taawhi and Margaret, our presence was yet again on display for all to see.

Merchant Navy Day - Friday 4 September 2009

We do not normally attend this service but not sure if any of our Veterans also served in the Merchant Navy so if they did, this is simply a reminder of when the service is held.

Battle of Britain Day - Tuesday 15 September 2009

WWII Veteran Neville Berridge officially represented NZ Veterans at the Battle of Britain Day service at the Cenotaph this year. Thanks Neville. From a Veteran perspective this was another great opportunity to profile NZ Veterans because there was no other NZ representation present. So Neville along with his NZ Wreath and a small gathering of





officials stood proudly with the other dignitaries in remembrance or our fallen.

Remembrance Day Poppy Selling - 10th - 11th September 2009



As you know we sell Poppies on the two days before Remembrance Day although last year we changed the dates as we found there was more support if we sold on the actual day.

NEW ZEEL END SUB BRENCH

NewZletter



So next month we are at it again selling Poppies in Remembrance of our Fallen. The start time is 0630 through to 0930 followed by Breakfast. So I know it is early and I know we have Veterans scattered near and far but if you have time to spare, come on down to Martin Place Station and join us (picture above: Barrie Leslie) not just to sell Poppies for the reasons we do but again for the camaraderie that only we understand. Although please watch this space as we are still waiting approval of the renewal of our fundraising licence.

Other Notices

NZDF Logo on Notices in Media

Dear Veterans, I have been asked if we can place an NZDF logo in the local news media. The short answer is yes but you need to contact your local News Media and there may be a cost. Furthermore, for NSW the local news media or at least Fairfax media require an EPS version of the logo. The local classified departments for NSW are as follows:

• Sydney Morning Herald: 13 25 35

• The Age: 13 22 43

• *Illawarra Mercury:* 02 4221 2222

• Newcastle Herald: 13 16 96

• Fairfax Community Newspapers: 13 24 25

Now all I have to do is obtain EPS copies of the logo's. Has anyone got friends in the NZDF or your own single Service that can provide EPS versions of your Service or unit logo?

Reminder: Christmas Lunch - Sunday 13 December 2009



Please be reminded that the Christmas Lunch is to be held on Sunday 13 December 2009 at 12pm-3pm at the Chatswood RSL Club. The cost is estimated to be \$25. Our numbers diminishing but we will continue to have a Christmas Lunch as a way to not only thank you all for the support and camaraderie throughout the year, the attendance at the many services, the early hours of ANZAC Badge and

Poppy Selling and the great amount of personal time you give to remember our fallen but also as a way of socialising with those that understand.... Just a reminder our guest speaker is Chris Perrin, State Secretary NSW RSL and he will speak on the relationship between the RSL and NZ Veterans, and the state of the NSW RSL, future direction, membership.....

Reminder: Veteran ANZAC Day Church Service at The Maori Anglican Fellowship, Church of Te Wairua Tapu (Church of the Holy Spirit) in 2010

Veterans, please also be reminded that our main activity for ANZAC next year including the march will be an ANZAC Church service at The Maori Anglican Fellowship, Church of Te Wairua Tapu (Church of the Holy Spirit) in



Redfern. As the 25th April is on a Sunday next year, the Service will be held on Sunday 2nd May 2010 at 1030 hours. Sir Ian Turbott AO CMG CVO Hon.D.Litt is our first confirmed dignitary that will be attending.

Therefore Veterans it would be great if you can come along and support not only ANZAC but also the Church.

ANZAC Day 2010



ANZAC Day in 2010 will more than likely be the same format as this and previous years. However, just to clarify, the term 'veteran' in today's context refers to all serving and ex-service personnel not just those

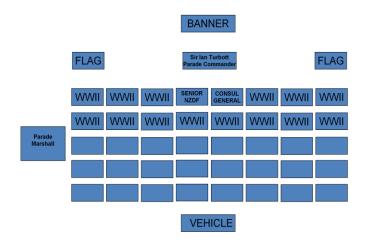
that served overseas. So whether you have a medal or not, as long as you served in the military you are considered a veteran and I would be very privileged to march alongside you at ANZAC Day every year. Furthermore, I will be more 'pushy' this year so please form up early, be smartly dressed and stand proudly in your ranks and files. The ANZAC Day March structure is shown below.

The vehicle has been placed at the rear of the marchers due to the exhaust fumes causing problems in previous years and WWII veterans (declining in numbers) are to be given pride of place at the front.





Also please note that Sir Ian Turbott AO CMG CVO Hon.D.Litt (UWS) NZ World War II Veteran has accepted our offer to be the Parade Commander.



Army Softball Reunion 6-7- November 2009

Did you play softball in the Army? If so, we are having a celebration/reunion 6 - 7 November 09 in Trentham to



mark 60 years of softball. If you would like more information, please contact me at work <u>dean.groves@nzdf.mil.nz</u>

150th Birthday Celebrations of the 4th Otago Southland Battalion Group 26-28 February 2010

Veterans please be advised that 4th Otago Southland Battalion Group will be celebrating their 150th Birthday during the period 26-28 February 2010 in Dunedin. A flyer is attached. Congratulations 4O'South and all the best for your celebrations.

Force and British Commonwealth Occupation Forces Final Reunion 15-17 March 2010

Veterans please be advised that there is to be a final reunion for J Force Veterans during the period 15-17 March 2010. It is to be held in Gisborne and if you are interested please send your registration fee of \$25 single Veteran, \$35 Veteran and Partner, \$15 Widow or Widower, \$30 Visitors to:

T.O. Tuhaka N.Z. J Force + B.C.O.F. Veterans Ass Gisborne Branch 59 Valley Rd Gisborne N.Z. 4010 If you want to know more about J Force and BCOF Veterans log on to http://www.riv.co.nz/if/index.htm

Thank you J Force and BCOF Veterans.

Query from Queensland Veteran Wayne Lindsay

Dear Veterans, Wayne is the Queensland Pension Rep for EVSA and is currently managing 17 Veterans. However, if anyone has experience in welfare matters but more specifically ACC claims, could they please let me know so I can pass your details on to Wayne.

RF Cadet 50th Anniversary Reunion 2010 (Thorpe Class)

Well there seems to be a number of RF Cadet Reunions coming up which is great as the RF Cadets produced some very high calibre and high profile soldiers so it makes sense that ex-RF Cadets are so proud of their involvement. And the



Thorpe Class are also intending to hold a reunion in 2010. So for you Thorpe Class members please email Andrew (Simmo) Simpson with your support and camaraderie and I do hope your reunion goes ahead and is not only enjoyable, but full of memories of your younger Cadet years. Contact Andrew by email below:

sgtsimo@hotmail.com asimpson@tanknology.com.au

I do hope Thorpe Class and Bennett Class (below) members can support their respective reunions and I wish you all the best for your celebrations.

RF Cadet 50th Anniversary Reunion 2013 (Bennett Class)

Reminder for any RF Cadet Bennett Class veterans to please contact Roy Jones or Ben Hadfield as follows:



Ben Hadfield <u>benzza@iprimus.com.au</u>. Roy Jones <u>royvjones@dreamtilt.com.au</u>.

Ex-Malaya Veterans



Please be advised that the NZ Malaya Veterans Association Inc has a new website http://www.malayavets.co.nz/





Ex-Vietnam Services Association Inc

Reminder for all NZ Vietnam Veterans to keep in touch with your fellow comrades and keep up to date with the latest information through your association.



The website address as follows:

www.evsa.org.nz

Committee Meeting Matters

The next Committee meeting is on the Sunday 29 November 2009 at 1030 hours at the Chatswood RSL Club. Therefore, if you have any ideas or suggestions even if you are not a financial member, then please let me know as we continually look to improve how the NZ Sub-Branch NSW operates.

Upcoming Events

Veterans please note changes to dates and timings of activities at the end of this NewZletter. Changes have been highlighted in yellow.

Membership 2009



NSW Veterans reminded are that the 2009 RSL and NΖ Sub-Branch (NSW)



As stated in my email, the

NZ Sub-Branch (NSW) would welcome your contribution to the operations of the association regardless of whether you retain your voting and speaking rights with your parent Sub-Branch and remain as an associate member of the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW) (picture above new Members Peter and Jan Dicken receiving their membership badge from Lindsay Taylor 2009). So for \$5 please send in your application form for Associate Membership. For current full service members please send \$29 (of which \$24 goes to the NSW RSL). For new members wanting associate or full service membership let me know and I will send you an application form.

Now that the NewZletter goes to Veterans in other States, I have been asked how they can become involved in the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW).

Please note the following:

- *Interstate veterans can join the NSW Branch of the RSL* via the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW) as Service members, if you are not currently Service Members interstate;
- 2. If you are currently Service Members interstate you can:-
- transfer to the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW); or a.
- become "Associate" members of the NZ Sub-Branch for \$5 BUT you can only speak, vote & hold office at one RSL sub-Branch in Australia.

Whilst we would gladly accept your membership I would request you contact me so we can discuss your expectations against what is achievable.

Acknowledgements / Personal Notices

Happy Birthday to Malcolm Jackman, Noel Baigent, Allen Sutton, Eddie Hawkins, Colin McDonald, Lester Radford, Rick Harawira, Graeme Bolton, Ross Himona, David Winkelmann, Tanya White, John Leatham and Lou Ehrler.

The Last Post

213818 Lt Col (Retd) Roger THOMPSON

We have been advised of the following:

213818 Lt Col Roger Winston THOMSON, RNZASC, RNZCT, 1 ALSG SVN, passed away during the past few days. Details are sketchy at this stage. However, it is understood that after taking ill while travelling on the Plenty Highway in Central Queensland, Roger was flown to hospitals, first in Mt Isa and then Brisbane, but never recovered.

The funeral details are as follows:

9.30.am Saturday 12 September 2009 Albany Creek Crematorium 400 Albany Creek Road Bridgeman Downs Brisbane.





39623 Patrick PAUL

We have been advised of the following:

39623 Patrick PAUL, 1NZ Regiment RNZIR, Malaya, V1 SVN passed away at Melbourne on Thursday 3 September 2009.

Pat funeral will be held in Whakatane.

NZ Vietnam Veterans Last Post

Vietnam Veterans please go to the following link to keep updated on the passing of Vietnam Veterans in NZ.

http://premierstrategics.com/funeral.html

Last Post Reminder

Veterans, I can honestly say (albeit with great sadness) that after attending many funerals in NSW, the families have been overwhelmingly grateful, appreciative and welcomed our ability to coordinate the military aspects of the funeral for our fallen comrade. It is incredibly moving to see the pride in the families not only when they hear and sometimes first learn of our fallen comrade's military service, but also when they see the Casket covered with the NZ Flag, respective service hat (Army, Airforce or Navy) and Korowai. Furthermore, all the families I have coordinated funeral details with have also been very comfortable with photos being taken knowing the reason for such photos e.g. veteran only distribution. You would have seen such photos in previous NewZletters.

Therefore, please let us know as veterans pass away in Australia so I can advise all the veterans in Australia. For NSW veterans, we try to attend wherever possible funerals of our comrades so please keep us informed.

Lest we forget

Other News



NEW COMBAT KIT FOR NZ SOLDIERS

NZ soldiers wearing the new protective equipment in predeployment training for Afghanistan. September 2009. OH 09-0562-013 New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) troops deploying to Afghanistan this October will be equipped with the latest, battle tested body armour and protective equipment.

The Army has invested in a variety of gear, from patrol packs to ballistic glasses, to ensure the modern soldier is equipped to do the job they need to do on operations overseas.

The improved body armour has been developed based on lessons learned in Afghanistan and Iraq. The body armour is a Special Forces



variant and is currently in use with US Navy SEAL's and US Army Rangers.

The protective equipment includes new, lighter combat helmets, improved body armour, ballistic goggles and gloves, modular webbing and pouches, an enhanced individual torch, ergonomic camelback patrol pack, and for some, an improved hand-held GPS unit. "While the soldier is the first part of Army capability, it is also about ensuring our soldiers are well-equipped to do the job they are required to do," says the Chief of Army Major General Rhys Jones. "This new protective equipment will enable our soldiers to undertake the tasks and demands we require of them in a range of complex operational environments like Afghanistan, Timor-Leste and the Solomon Islands."

The equipment will be first used by NZDF personnel deploying to Afghanistan in October. Remaining missions will be supplied with equipment in order of threat level over the next six months.

"There are currently 790 New Zealand Defence Force personnel deployed on 14 operations, UN missions and defence exercises in 10 countries around the world," MAJ GEN Jones says.





"They are often twelve months away from their families and the Army is committed to investing in their safety by ensuring they have the equipment and training to achieve their goals to a world-class standard. "The new equipment is lighter, more comfortable and provides the wearer with enhanced ballistic and fragmentary protection. The modular system can also by personalised by the soldier in how they attach the pouches to their webbing.

The current operational pool of equipment will be distributed for wider Army training purposes as the new equipment is phased in.

Feel free to download a poster of the new <u>NZ Survivability Kit PDF [2,352]</u> for NZ Troops.

Closer defence relations between NZ and Vietnam
Special surprise for deployed troops
Disaster relief skills tested
Enduring conflict facing Army
Army transforms Manawatu and Rangitikei
Part-time soldiers fight for historic sports trophy
Part-time Army service recognised with honours

www.army.mil.nz



Naval ships: arrivals and departures



HMNZS
PUKAKI on
her way home
to the
Devonport
Naval Base
(MC09-0306014).

In a mini-fleet entry this

morning, the Navy's Amphibious Sea Support Vessel, HMNZS CANTERBURY, accompanied by two of the new In Shore Patrol Vessels, HMNZS HAWEA and HMNZS PUKAKI arrived home to the Devonport Naval Base.

HMNZS HAWEA, under the command of Lieutenant Grant Judson, returned home after completing a circumnavigation of New Zealand. HAWEA visited the West Coast (Westport/Greymouth) between 18 – 24 August for her first ever regional homeport visit prior to completing a short transit though Fiordland and a seaboat transfer into Bluff before heading into Dunedin for a formal port visit.

HMNZS PUKAKI, under the command of Lieutenant John McQueen, is returning home after completing her final sea trials this week prior to preparing for visits to Akaroa and Wellington before her first ever port visit to her homeport region of Nelson/Marlborough in mid October.

HMNZS CANTERBURY, under the command of Commander Jim Gilmour is returning from EX TROPIC ASTRA in Samoa. She departed the Naval Base on 23 July enroute to Apia, Western Samoa to transport No. 3 Squadron RNZAF to conduct a tropical flying exercise - TROPIC ASTRA 09. CANTERBURY then berthed in Darwin to load vehicles and stores to transport to Dili, Timor Leste, prior to sailing to Bitung Waters in Indonesia where she joined 30 warships from 15 countries to participate in the Indonesian Fleet Review.

On completion she made the return journey to Apia in Western Samoa to uplift No. 3 Squadron RNZAF helicopters and personnel from EXERCISE TROPIC ASTRA. Embarked onboard CANTERBURY for the return journey home this morning were four RNZAF Iroquois Helicopters, 70 personnel, 15 containers and support vehicles/equipment.

We now farewell Navy Warship, HMNZS TE MANA, who is all set to depart the Naval Base on Sunday 6 September. Commanding Officer of HMNZS TE MANA, Commander Blair Gerritsen and his crew of 167 men and woman are bound for exercise areas in and around Singapore and Australia.

"The next three months will see TE MANA undertake a busy exercise programme working with the Singaporean Navy, our Five Power Defence Arrangement (FPDA) partners and the Australian Navy. These exercises will provide some superb training opportunities with professional development of the next generation of RNZN sailors and officers a major objective for the deployment. We have had a very busy operational year which has seen the ship spend 6 of the last 8 months deployed in Asian and Australian waters", says Commander Gerritsen.

Meanwhile, Naval Replenishment Tanker HMNZS ENDEAVOUR, under the command of Commander Dave Toms, departed at the beginning of this week enroute to Cairns prior to meeting up with HMNZS TE MANA in Darwin on 16





September. ENDEAVOUR will accompany TE MANA on the same operational deployment.

HMNZS ENDEAVOUR is due home to the Naval Base on 28 November. HMNZS TE MANA is due back home on 11 December for a joyful reunion with friends and family – just in time for Christmas.

<u>Naval trainees set to graduate</u> Navy conducts survey operations around Coromandel

www.navy.mil.nz



Air Force rescue flight to Antarctica

An RNZAF C130 Hercules in Antartica (OH 03-0542-01)



A Royal New

Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) C130 Hercules aircraft took off from Christchurch at 7am this morning on a rescue mission to the Antarctic to evacuate an American man suffering cardiac problems. The American has been working as part of the United States Antarctic Programme (USAP) and is believed to be in a serious but stable condition. He will be returned to New Zealand for further treatment.

Two New Zealand Defence Force medics in addition to two civilian medical staff are also on the flight to provide in flight medical aid during the transit back to New Zealand. The USAP request to evacuate the man came from through Antarctic New Zealand yesterday and the C130 Hercules from No 40 Squadron was prepositioned in Christchurch to prepare for today's flight. It is expected that the Air Force Hercules will make the return 16 hour flight today and is due back in Christchurch at 1145pm tonight.

"Aero Medical Evacuation is a capability the Air Force can deliver as and when required. Our crews are experienced flying in and out of Antarctica and this task doesn't present any issues for us and our aim is to safely return this man to New Zealand for treatment" said Squadron Leader Richard Beaton, Acting Commanding Officer No 40 Squadron.

Exercise Wiseowl flies into Whakatane
Battle of Britain remembered
North Shore woman flying high for Air Force
Royal New Zealand Air Force thanks Samoa

www.airforce.mil.nz

NZ Sub-Branch Executive Appointments 2009

President Sqn Ldr (Retd) David Winkelmann

AFC MID

Senior Vice President Ron Haira
Vice President Taawhi Kerehona
Honorary Secretary Greg Makutu
Honorary Treasurer Greg Makutu

UPCOMING EVENTS

Veterans please note that the dates are tentative and subject to change as invitations and confirmation of activities are received. Yellow highlight indicates there has been a change.

October Wednesday 21st 1130 HMAS Australia Veteran's

Association Martin Place Cenotaph

(No Attendance Required)

Friday 23rd 1000 United Nations Association

Martin Place Cenotaph (No Attendance Required)

1200 Ninth Australian Division Martin Place Cenotaph (No Attendance Required)

November Tuesday 10th 0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place

Station (Wear Medals)

Wednesday 11th 0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place

Station (Wear Medals)

1100 Remembrance Day Service

Martin Place Cenotaph (Banner/Flags/Medals)





Sunday 29 th		1030 Committee Meeting	Squeezer/RNZA Hat/Medals)		F Hat/RNZN
December Sunday 13 th		1200-1500 Xmas Lunch Chatswood RSL Club (Wear Medals)		Friday 28th	1100 Indigenous Veterans Service Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)
January	Thursday 21st	1100 ANZAC Participants Meeting (Greg)		Sunday 30th	1030 Committee Meeting
March	Thursday 4th	1100 ANZAC Day Participants Meeting (Greg)	July	Sunday 4 th	1100 Reserve Forces Day Hyde Park (Standard/Flags/Medals)
	Sunday 7th	1030 Committee Meeting 1100 AGM		Sunday 18 th	1200 Mid-Year Lunch Chatswood RSL (Wear Medals)
April	Friday 16th	1900 Chatswood RSL Dinner Invitation Only (Wear Medals)		Sunday 25 th	1030 Committee Meeting
	Saturday 17th	1100 NZ Soldier on ANZAC Bridge 1400 Kapyong Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Banner/Flag/Medals)	August	Sunday 15 th	1100 Victory in the Pacific Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals) 1130 Vietnam Veterans Day Springwood (Banner/Flags/Medals)
	Sunday 18th	0930 Coogee/Randwick ANZAC Service 1000 St Stephens ANZAC Church Service Willoughby (Wear Medals) 1500 North Sydney ANZAC Service and March (Banner/Flags/Medals)		Wednesday 18 th	1030 Battle of Long Tan Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Banner/Flag/Medals)
			Septeml	oer Saturday 4 th	1100 Merchant Navy Day Service Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)
	Friday 23rd	0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place Station (Wear Medals)		Sunday 5 th	1100 Battle of Australia Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)
	Saturday 24th	0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place Station (Wear Medals)		Tuesday 14 th	1100 Battle of Britain Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)
	Sunday 25th	ANZAC Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Banners/Flags/Medals)		Sunday 26 th	1030 Committee Meeting
May	Sunday 9th	1030 ANZAC Church Service Te Wairua Tapu Maori Anglican Church Redfern (Korowai/Lemon			



IF YOU ARE A CURRENT OR PAST MEMBER OF THE NZ ARMY WHO SERVED IN UNITS BASED IN OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND, YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO ATTEND THE 150TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE 4TH OTAGO SOUTHLAND BATTALION GROUP BEING HELD IN DUNEDIN, 26-28TH FEBRUARY 2010.

For information and to register your interest:

Please email

fiona.stewart@nzdf.mil.nz

Or write to:
Secretary
Birthday Committee

4th Otago Southland Battalion Group
PO Box 2045
South Dunedin
Dunedin 9044

