



New Zealand Sub-Branch

NewZletter



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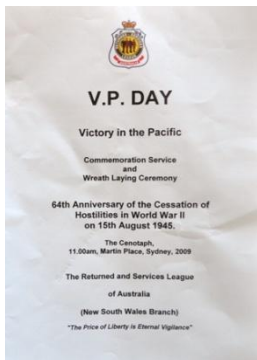
Meetings held at Chatswood RSL The Month That Was

NZ Sub-Branch Notices

Change of Postal Address

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

Victory in the Pacific – Saturday 15 August 2009



Well Veterans, I know that ANZAC and Remembrance Day are the big events for us all but wherever possible we still try and attend other services in our attempts to promote NZ veterans offshore. And it was great that a few of us attended the Victory in the Pacific Day service at the Cenotaph (picture below l-r Neville Berridge (Pacific, Korea) Sarah Craig (Consul General) Sam Wihongi (Navy) Brian Meyer (Vietnam). It

was a very moving service as they all are with the Consul-General laying a Wreath on behalf of all NZ Veterans. It's also great that being a Saturday there were a lot of Veteran attendees and a lot of the general public observing. I must add that it was also nice to see the officials stop skateboarders from riding their skateboards in the general vicinity. Although to be fair the skateboarders certainly appreciated the reason and two stayed to observe the service. Furthermore, HE Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO Governor of New South Wales was guest of honour. Marie Bashir is a passionate supporter of Veterans and has attended almost every



service invitation and I can only remember a few services where she was not available due to being out of town.

Footnote: There may be Veterans aware that VP Day is actually VJ Day but without going into the conflict or politics, I have simply decided to refer to this article as VP Day because that is how it is published and remembered. I apologise for anyone who may be offended by this.

Vietnam Veterans Day Springwood – Sunday 16 August 2009

A few Veterans attended the Vietnam Veterans Day service at Springwood the next day which was nice. There are two Vietnam services that we always try to attend in New South Wales and they are the service at Springwood and the service at the Cenotaph.

The Springwood service changed this year whereby there was no march. It's disappointing that there was no march but at the end of the day it's not how we remember but who we remember and by having our own Veterans attend this service ensures we continue to remember our own.

The Guest of Honour for the Springwood service was WO Keith Payne VC OAM who gave a very moving speech. I also understand that even at these services the speakers and Australian Vietnam Veterans themselves always comment on the important contribution our own NZ Veterans had in the conflict.

Vietnam Veterans Day – Tuesday 18 August 2009

A lot of dignitaries' attend the service at the Cenotaph and again the Consul General laid a wreath on behalf of all NZ Vietnam Veterans and thanks again to those Veterans that also attended.





(picture l-r Selwyn Johnson (Vietnam/Malaya) Margaret McInroy (Navy), Taawhi Kerehona (Vietnam) Brian Meyer (Vietnam), Neville Berridge (Pacific, Korea)).

ANZAC Bridge Wreath Laying Service – Friday 21 August 2009

Dear Veterans, you may or may not have known that The Prime Minister Hon John Key MP and the Premier Hon Nathan Rees MP laid a Wreath at the NZ Soldier Statue on ANZAC Bridge on Friday 21 August 2009. Although the NZ Veterans are part of the NSW RSL, we are also honoured at these events to represent the RNZRSA and as such the President Sqn Ldr (Retd) David Winkelmann AFC MID formed the official party alongside his NSW RSL President Don Rowe OAM. It was a small and selective but still memorable service in which David said he was proud to not only represent NZ Veterans in NSW and Australia but also the RNZRSA. However, keeping with the ANZAC spirit Wreaths were laid at the AU Digger Statue also.



Please click on link to see news footage

http://bigpondnews.com/articles/National-Regional/2009/08/22/Anzacs_honoured_in_Sydney_365098.html

Christmas Lunch – Sunday 13 December 2009

Please be advised that the Christmas Lunch is to be held on Sunday 13 December 2009 at 12pm-3pm at the Chatswood RSL Club. Our numbers are 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, care, know what it is to be a Veteran, a NZ Defence Force Member, a soldier, a sailor, a seaman, served in



the Battalions, the Regiments, the Squadrons, the Ships, the Battery, the Corps, the Regular Forces, the Territorial Forces, the Reserves, the Compulsory Military Training, the National Service, Army, Airforce, Navy, WWI, WW2, J Force, the Korean War, Malayan Emergency, Indonesian Confrontation, Vietnam War, Gulf War, the many UN operations:

Bosnia, East Timor, Pakistan, Middle East, Lebanon, Congo, Thailand, Yemen, Cyprus, Golan Heights, India, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Namibia, Angola, Cambodia, Somalia, Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Haiti, Mozambique, Croatia, Yugoslavia, Arabian Gulf, Laos, Bougainville, Sierra Leone, East Timor, Kosovo, Sudan and the many military bases: Papakura, Devoport, Auckland, Philomel, Ngaruawahia, Woodbourne, Trentham, Ohakea, Waioru and the many more reasons to attend.

The lunch is estimated to cost \$25 per head same as last year so if you have the time we would welcome your attendance. Just email me your intentions so I can confirm with the Chatswood RSL Club for seating and meal arrangements. I will be sending a more formal separate invitation shortly. If you would like to make a speech please also let me know and I will see what can be accommodated. Our Guest Speaker this year is Chris Perrin the New South Wales State Secretary (Vietnam Veteran). Chris has always been a very strong supporter of NZ Veterans in New South Wales and along with Don Rowe OAM (President) led the charge to erect a NZ Soldier Statue on ANZAC Bridge. Chris is also committed to ensuring the ANZAC tradition is upheld and has always ensured the NZ Veterans retain their place at the head of the March.



Picture above taken at Gallipoli Sand laying sunrise service for NZ Soldier Statue l-r Neville Berridge, Don Rowe, Greg Makutu, Chris Perrin.

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

Veterans this year was the one year anniversary of the NZ Soldier Statue and we hosted a small ANZAC service at the Statue attended by the NZ and State Governments, the NZ and AU Defence Forces and the State RSL.



However, for many years now we have also attended an ANZAC Church service at The Maori Anglican Fellowship, Church of Te Wairua Tapu (Church of the Holy Spirit) in Redfern. The ANZAC service was initiated by Clarence Ormsby (Vietnam Veteran) in consultation with The Venerable K. Malcolm Karipa Archdeacon for Maori work in the Diocese of Sydney (picture above l-r: Bunny Tareha, Marsh Tawa, Charlie Karena, Taawhi Kerehona, Clarence Ormsby, Neville Berridge)

Continuing with the efforts to have some form of official NZ Veteran hosted or sponsored service during the ANZAC Period and with the ongoing support of The Venerable K. Malcolm Karipa, it is proposed to host the official NZ Veteran activity at the Church in 2010.

At this time planning is underway to invite dignitaries including the Governor, the Premier, NZ High Commissioner and Consul General, Lord Mayor of Sydney, NZ and AU Defence Force Chiefs and the State RSL. However, not only will it commemorate ANZAC but also commemorate 25 Years of Maori Fellowship in Sydney.

As the 25th April is on a Sunday next year, the Service will be held on Sunday 2nd May 2010 at 1030 hours.

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

Other Notices

Originals Gather in the South

Two stalwarts of the original 1 NZ Regt Band that was based in Malaya from 1957 to 1959, recently paid a visit to their old comrades in the South Island. Fred Clarke and Brian Miller flew down from Auckland to Christchurch and travelled by rental car to stay with Arthur Hooper in Timaru. The following morning at 0500 hrs the intrepid trio headed off to Temuka and got lost in the thick fog before finding



Graham Shuker and attending the Anzac Day Dawn Service together (Picture right: found in the Temuka fog. Messrs: Hooper, Miller, Clarke and Shuker)

That was only the start of a very long day as they then boarded the RSA hospitality van and headed off to Winchester Primary School for a very touching service, followed by the local domain where a local pilot flew over ok but forgot to drop the poppies...too much rum onboard the boys reckon. Then it was off to the main Temuka service, the football club for a revivor, the RSA to be entertained by a pipe band, off home for a quick sleep, back to the RSA where Arthur entertained the crowd with his squeeze box, and finally a BBQ back at Arthur's house. No one had any trouble sleeping that night.

The next day everyone trotted off to Oamaru to visit Blue and Fely Parker. Over a scrumptious lunch prepared by Fely, many tall tales were exchanged about their past exploits as bandmen in Malaya. Visiting the local Maori supervised penguin colony on their way ome they noticed that some wag had put up a sign stating, "Plucked penguins ready to eat eh, \$20.00 each!!" Apparently some locals did not see the humour.

The next day Fred and Brian were flying back up north, but they managed to say goodbye to Graham and Leslie Shuker first, and then raced out to Geraldine to visit Graham Reid an ex-baritone player. Graham's brother Jim also played in the original battalion band many years ago.





(Picture above: Messrs Clarke, Hooper, Miller, Leslie Shuker, Blue Parker, Graham Shuker and Fely Parker)

Graham like many bandsmen of this vintage has not been well but manages ok by himself. The Canterbury Plains were once famous for their sheep and lambs, but all the boys could see on their drive over the back roads were thousands of milking cows. How times change. It must have been a wonderful weekend for all concerned, and shows that the camaraderie of the forerunners of the present NZ Army Band is far from flagging. Terry Moloney once informed me that the band might have had over thirty soldier/bandsmen pass through its ranks, but the number available for concerts and parades was never more than fifteen or sixteen, so to see that six of these pioneers can gather around their fellow musicians after fifty two years is an example to us all.

I would like to add that all these ex bandsmen take a keen interest in what the present bands are up to and Brian Miller is still involved with at least two bands in Auckland.



(Picture above: in Geraldine, Fred Clarke, Graham Reid and Brian Miller)

Do You Know This Veteran?

Veterans, this Black and White photo was handed to us from a Sydney Australian Veteran taken in Japan in 1946/1947. It is of a NZ Army female soldier and he thinks it was taken on a train returning from Tokyo to Yamaguchi. It is estimated that the soldier was about 22 to 23 years of age at the time.

Tracking down past Veterans is always difficult but every now and then when pictures like these pop up, someone does remember so if you do remember, please let us know so that we can reunite the two veterans if possible.



Tinui for ANZAC Day

If you remember in the June NewZletter I explained that there is a push to promote Tinui as an alternative ANZAC Day service other than Gallipoli. I have had a wonderful letter from Dave Foreman (Vietnam Veteran) who came from Tinui and as a child used to attend ANZAC Parades with his father from about 1948 on. Thanks Dave. I have included a website link for those that are interested in reading about Tinui.

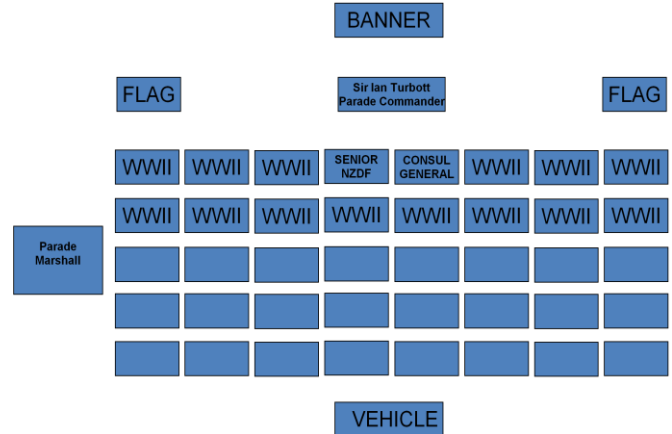
<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/2343111/Tiny-Tinui-proposed-as-our-new-Gallipoli>

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 dean.groves@nzdf.mil.nz

J 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/jf/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 2013 (Bennett Class)

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



Ben Hadfield benzza@iprimus.com.au.
Roy Jones royjones@dreamtilt.com.au.

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 27 September 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 are reminded that the 2009 RSL and NZ Sub-Branch (NSW) membership renewal is due. 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:

1. 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:-
 - a. transfer to the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW); or
 - b. 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 **Wally Butt, Janet Barclay, Frank Harlow, Bob Wood, Vaughan Malins, Valerie Brae, Bob McKenzie, Ken Stevenson and Ken Frank.**

The Last Post

Colin NUNNS

We have been advised of the following:

Colin NUNNS passed away in Rotorua on Sunday 2 August 2009.

Colin was an ex-NZ Army Band member from 1966 to 1974 and was a highly respected Cornet player.

The funeral was held in the Rotorua Crematorium at 1100 hours on Thursday 6 August 2009.

I have taken the liberty of including some memories ex-Band Member Roger Carter has of Colin Nunns.

Colin and his wife Diedre were special friends of mine, and as I grew up in Gisborne their families were household names in the music and the swimming/surf lifesaving world. Deidre's family were very active in the Gisborne Swimming Club and Colins name was always in the paper as he played his cornet and trumpet with distinction in the Stuart Skeet Swing Band, the Gisborne Silver Band, the St Johns Ambulance Band, the Gisborne Municipal Band the Gisborne Civic Band, the operatic society orchestra, the Gisborne Savage Club Orchestra, and the

Cosmopolitan Club Orchestra. Colin was also a member of the Gisborne Home Guard Band during World War Two. In the 1950's Colin was the lead cornet for a brass quartet from Gisborne that always came home from the National Brass Band championship with a medal. Colin also competed in duets with much success. Colin's father and uncles were all actively engaged as administrators and players also. Colin's sister was in my class at school, and when I was married in 1970 Colin and Deidre stood in as parents for my wife Trisha.

As a player Colin always had a beautiful warm sound that made you want to hear more. He gained many placing's in the NZ Brass Band championships on cornet, but when he switched to playing the flugel he romped home with the gold medal by a record number of points. When he was picked for the National Band to tour America for three months, the conductor, the late Mr. Mervyn Walters said that there was no other choice. Colin was so far ahead of any other flugel player in the country. High praise indeed but well deserved. When other players were complaining about the cold and frosty mornings during the weekly battalion parades on a Saturday morning, Colin just kept on blowing and held the cornet section together. I can remember seeing Colin's lips after the parades sometimes and he had blown that hard that the blood was trickling down. Colin was his own man and often disagreed with things that he did not like, but nine times out of ten he was right and what's wrong with having your own opinion anyway? Many bandsmen have played Post Horn Galop on the Post Horn and I have heard the best, but I have to say that the best that I have ever heard the Post Horn Galop played or sounded was during an army band concert in Greymouth when Colin was featured. His wonderful sound just filled the large hall and every bandsman on the stage was left gasping with admiration, and enthralled to have taken part in such a fantastic musical moment in their lives. Many of my friends always say that Colin had the best sound of them all, and I totally agree with them.

Deidre passed away several years ago and I know that Colin missed her terribly. I was lucky that I had to chance to visit Colin in recent years and have phoned him up from Australia several times. He was unable to walk, and did not always recognise visitors but we always had a good yarn, and he would tell the nursing staff that was his old Gisborne friend ringing up from Australia. He was extremely proud of his banding achievements, and his hospital room was full of many old band photographs that reflected his continued keen interest in bands, family and old mates.

Over the years at many sunset ceremonies we have played and sung the evening hymn, "The Day Thou Gavest Lord Has Ended." For Colin it finally has, but he was one of the best and we will miss his golden sound.

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

with the School of Music, conducts a tour of the region from Sunday 16 to Friday 21 August.

Director of Music Captain Leanne Smith says the 34-strong group will play at a variety of events over the week including school and public concerts, starting in Blenheim and working their way through Marlborough and down to Nelson. They will also be tutoring selected high school students in workshops; teaching the students several musical numbers that they will later on perform later with the band.

Although a traditional Brass Band, the Army Band has incorporated into its ranks a complete rhythm section enabling the band to broaden their repertoire and perform with modern music.

"We're looking forward to entertaining local communities with a wide variety of music including several numbers from the band's latest album 'Enchanted' such as You Raise Me Up, Rhythm Of Our World and Aranjuez featuring Sgt Tyme Marsters on Flugel Horn."

"The strong musical communities in both Nelson and Marlborough allow the band to perform world class concerts in venues that we are sure will reach maximum capacity," says Captain Smith. "This year's school concert theme is 'Around the World' and will feature music and acts from many different cultures and origins. From Mexico to the North Pole, America to Samoa, the New Zealand Army Band will portray the music in a way that will capture our audiences and leave them with a positive lasting impression.

"Our school concerts give the band an opportunity to let really let loose and have a great time performing on stage to an audience that is eager to listen, learn and have fun. It is also a ideal opportunity for the students to gain knowledge about the New Zealand Army as career choice."

The public concerts show brass band music at its finest. "We really do encourage you to come and check out your very own New Zealand Army Band live in concert and sit back and relax and appreciate what New Zealand music has to offer you," concludes Captain Smith.

Other News



Nelson and Marlborough set to march to Army beat

Army Band
(OH08-0356-71)



Nelson and Marlborough will soon be marching to the Army's beat as the NZ Army Band, along

[The NZDF marks ten years in Timor](#)
[Defence Force personnel raise 10K for Telethon](#)
[Afghanistan review decisions announced](#)
[Nelson and Marlborough set to march to Army beat](#)
[Students deploy to Waiouru](#)
[Defence Force personnel raise funds for Telethon](#)

[Capture of Taliban Leader in Bamyan Province](#)
[Five nations working together to overcome simulated threat](#)

www.army.mil.nz



NZDF brings back Buck - as Rugby Patron



Former All Black and ex Navy Buck Shelford tries on his new Defence Force jacket, helped by Chief of Defence Force LT GEN Jerry Mateparae and Chief of Navy R ADM Tony Parr (WN09-0035-43).

It's been nearly 20 years since Buck Shelford terrorised opposition as All Black No.8 and Captain, but even today you'll still see signs in the crowd saying, "Bring Back Buck".

So it was with great delight that the Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant General Jerry Mateparae was able to officially appoint him as the Patron of NZDF Rugby at a function held at Defence House. Buck served in the Royal New Zealand Navy in the late seventies through to mid-eighties.

"Buck is a great role model as a New Zealander, as an All Black, and as a member of the Defence Force family," said LT GEN Mateparae. "Buck consistently reflects the New Zealand Defence Force values of Courage, Comradeship, Commitment and Integrity."

In receiving his NZDF Blazer from the Chief of Defence Force and Chief of Navy RADM Tony Parr, Buck said he was very proud to be the NZDF Patron in addition to being patron for Navy rugby.

"Along with my involvement with Navy rugby I look forward to being a part of NZDF rugby and assisting where I can with the

development and mentoring of both players and management," he said.

During a lighter moment after receiving his NZDF Blazer, Buck told those gathered that things had certainly moved on since he departed the Service: "I left the Navy as a Leading Hand and here I am having my blazer helped on by a General and an Admiral!"

Buck Shelford amassed 48 games as an All Black, including 22 tests. He was All Black captain 31 times, including 14 tests – all of which were undefeated. He also scored 22 tries for the Men in Black.

During his time in the Navy Buck played in many Ship 1st XV's, inter-service rugby tournaments and Combined Service Rugby teams.

Buck will travel to the United Kingdom with the Navy Rugby Team in October for the Commonwealth Cup competed for by the Royal New Zealand Navy, Royal Australian Navy, Royal Navy, and South African Navy.

- [HMNZS Manawanui departs Tonga for home](#)
- [Navy ROV formally identifies sunken Tongan ferry](#)
- [Navy ship returns home after no sign of missing vessel](#)
- [New Navy ship assists search for missing vessel](#)
- [Royal NZ Navy REMUS sonar image of sunken ferry](#)
- [Royal New Zealand Navy Divers locate Tongan ferry](#)
- [In true Anzac Spirit: NZ Navy ship assists Aussie mate](#)
- [NZDF brings back Buck - as Rugby Patron](#)
- [Navy Patrol vessel to visit Wellington](#)

www.navy.mil.nz



Students learn about helicopters in Exercise Tropic Astra

Picture follows: Helicopter crewman CPL Miller and students from Peace Chapel Christian primary school, Apia, Samoa. (WN09-0035-83)

Year 4 students from Peace Chapel Christian Primary School visited the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) contingent

on Exercise TROPIC ASTRA 09 at Faleolo Airfield in Apia, Samoa.

The 26 students have been learning about transport and thought a visit to see helicopters would an excellent way to enhance their learning.



The visit consisted of a brief tour of the camp where students got to look at some military transport including refuelling trucks, forklifts and 4x4s.

The camp Warrant Officer, Brian Looker, highlighted to the students that to fly aircraft in support of missions like TROPIC ASTRA 09, the RNZAF requires a large team and support equipment.

The tour also included a close-up view of the Iroquois helicopter. Helicopter Crewman Corporal Luke Miller said the students were very interested in the helicopter and asked loads of questions.

"You never know one of these students may end up being a 'crewy' or a pilot one day," he said.

Charlotte Letcher, the head teacher said it was a good opportunity to see different types of transport in action.

"We were quite surprised to see all the different modes of transport required for this deployment, not just the helicopters and we are very grateful to the RNZAF for showing us around."

The Iroquois helicopters from No. 3 Squadron, RNZAF are taking part in Exercise TROPIC ASTRA 09. It is being conducted from 29 July to 1 September 2009 and is an annual RNZAF exercise designed to provide readiness training in tropical flying operations, including civil tasking and aircrew survival training for selected aircrew personnel.

The RNZAF will also be conducting flying tasks in support of the Samoan Government as directed through the New Zealand High Commission. All of the activities being conducted will simulate what will happen in real time air operations whether it

is disaster relief, humanitarian aid or search and rescue and aid to local Governments.

- [The sky's the limit as Air Force drop into schools in Samoa](#)
- [New Air Force pilots get their wings](#)
- [Students learn about helicopters in Exercise Tropic Astra](#)
- [Local Firemen put through paces with RNZAF helicopter](#)
- [Air Force Orion locates missing fishing vessel](#)
- [Air Force Orion In Kiribati Search And Rescue](#)
- [Air Force Iroquois drops trophy into Apia Park](#)
- [Air Force boosts Samoa women's rugby team before key game](#)
- [NZ High Commissioner to Samoa visits RNZAF contingent in Apia](#)
- [Flying solo with the Central Band of the RNZAF](#)
- [Air Force helicopters give disabled kids in Samoa a lift](#)
- [Air Force Orions in Ferry Search and Rescue](#)

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.

September Wednesday 2 nd	0830 Battle of Australia Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)
Friday 4 th	1100 Merchant Navy Day Service Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)
Friday 11 th	1100 Battle of Britain Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)
Sunday 27 th	1030 Committee Meeting
October Wednesday 21 st	1130 HMAS Australia Veteran's Association Martin Place Cenotaph (No Attendance Required)



NewZletter



Friday 23 rd	1000 United Nations Association Martin Place Cenotaph (No Attendance Required)	Friday 23 rd	0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place Station (Wear Medals)
	1200 Ninth Australian Division Martin Place Cenotaph (No Attendance Required)	Saturday 24 th	0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place Station (Wear Medals)
November Tuesday 10 th	0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place Station (Wear Medals)	Sunday 25 th	ANZAC Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Banners/Flags/Medals)
Wednesday 11 th	0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place Station (Wear Medals) 1100 Remembrance Day Service Martin Place Cenotaph (Banner/Flags/Medals)	May Sunday 9 th	1030 ANZAC Church Service Te Wairua Tapu Maori Anglican Church Redfern (Korowai/Lemon Squeezer/RNZAF Hat/RNZN Hat/Medals)
Sunday 29 th	1030 Committee Meeting	Friday 28 th	1100 Indigenous Veterans Service Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)
December Sunday 13 th	1200-1500 Xmas Lunch Chatswood RSL Club (Wear Medals)	Sunday 30 th	1030 Committee Meeting
January Thursday 21 st	1100 ANZAC Participants Meeting (Greg)	July Sunday 5 th	1100 Reserve Forces Day Hyde Park (Standard/Flags/Medals)
March Thursday 4 th	1100 ANZAC Day Participants Meeting (Greg)	Sunday 19 th	1200 Mid-Year Lunch Chatswood RSL (Wear Medals)
Sunday 7 th	1030 Committee Meeting 1100 AGM	Sunday 26 th	1030 Committee Meeting
April Friday 16 th	1900 Chatswood RSL Dinner Invitation Only (Wear Medals)	August Saturday 15 th	1100 Victory in the Pacific Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)
Saturday 17 th	1400 Kapyong Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Banner/Flag/Medals)	Sunday 16 th	1130 Vietnam Veterans Day Springwood (Banner/Flags/Medals)
Sunday 18 th	0930 Coogee/Randwick ANZAC Service 1000 St Stephens ANZAC Church Service Willoughby (Wear Medals) 1100 NZ Soldier on ANZAC Bridge 1500 North Sydney ANZAC Service and March (Banner/Flags/Medals)	Tuesday 18 th	1030 Battle of Long Tan Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Banner/Flag/Medals)