



New Zealand Veterans in Australia Incorporated NEWZLETTER



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The Month That Was

NZ Veterans in AU is now on Facebook

After unsuccessfully attempting to generate NZ Veteran discussion using an online forum from within the NZVIA website (www.nzvia.com.au) it was decided that Facebook may be better forum as it is used by many other Veteran organisations including the RNZRSA not to mention that Facebook is immensely popular. Therefore, whilst most information including pictures will be on the website, please use NZVIA Facebook as a possible form of discussing issues regarding NZ Veterans [NZVIA Facebook](#)

New Zealand Defence Service Medal



Dear Veterans, please be advised that applications are now being taken for the NZDSM.

You can apply directly online, or download the application form. Click on the following link

<http://medals.nzdf.mil.nz/nzdsdm/index.html>

For those that can assist, please help out our Veterans complete their application if they are not in a position to do this. Brian Meyer has been very active advising NZ Veterans of this entitlement and I have been assisting some older NZ Veterans apply with the easiest method being online.

Korean Presidential Unit Citation

Dear Veterans, if you know of any NZ Veterans that served in Korea between 15 December 1950 and 1 November 1951 while

posted to or attached on strength to 16 Fd Regt, please inform them that they are able to wear the Korean Presidential Unit Citation.



The eligibility requirements for the citation are:

"the insignia of the award being permanently worn by personnel who served in Korea between 15 December 1950 and 1 November 1951 while posted to or attached on strength to 16 Fd Regt."

Current serving members of 16 Fd Regt will also be eligible to wear the Citation from 26 May 2011, while serving in 16 Fd Regt."

So, there has to actually be an attachment/posting to 16 Fd Regt between the dates indicated above. This is unlikely to incl any from 10 Tpt Pl/Coy.

Any Korea Vets (or their families if deceased) from 16 Fd Regt who qualify may now apply by email or in writing to the Medals Office, Trentham Camp, PB 905, Upper Hutt attention Maj Peter Stitt. The citation will be couriered/mailed to those eligible or to the NOK.

The award is a unit citation so is worn like a medal ribbon on the right chest.

Seeking NZ Veterans that served in the Greek campaign

Katrina Russell is seeking NZ Veterans that served in the Greek campaign as follows:

My name is Katrina Russell and I am writing in regards to some research I am undertaking on behalf of the TV series "Who Do You Think You Are?" which is broadcast on SBS Television. The program follows well-known Australians as they make a personal journey back in time to explore the world of their ancestors.

I am currently researching an ancestor that served in the Australian 2/7 Infantry Battalion during the Greek campaign of

April 1941, and was subsequently captured and interned at Stalag 18-A in Austria, Germany from 1941-1945.

I write in the hope that you may be able to provide some information to advise if there are any surviving NZ veterans in Australia that served in the Greek campaign or who was interned at Stalag 18-a?

I can be contacted on (08) 9228 4719, and if I am unavailable please speak with the senior researcher Kirrilly Brentnall.

Thank you for your time.

NZ Veterans in Australia (New South Wales) Notices

NZ Veterans in NSW Margaret McInroy Seeking Assistance

Dear Veterans, WRNZNS Veteran Margaret McInroy is seeking help to identify her fellow WRNZNS Veterans in the photo. Margaret thinks the photo was taken at Fort Dorset in 1963 but she cannot remember their names. If you can help please contact Margaret at margaretm0137@yahoo.com.au



Reminder: Remembrance Day Church Service 16 November 2011

The Remembrance Day Church Service is on Sunday 13 November 2011 at 1030 hours, the first Sunday after Remembrance Day. The service is held at the Sydney Maori Anglican Fellowship Church of Te Wairua Tapu, 587 Elizabeth Street, Redfern and includes Laying Poppies at the altar. However, this year it is hoped that some of the NZ Veterans that have received their NZDSM Medal will have them formally presented at the service



this year which would be great. The service is always followed by Coffee/Tea and something to eat.

Reminder: ANZAC Day March 25 April 2012



The ANZAC Day March next year will be the same format as every other year. However, just a further reminder, 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.

Reminder: ANZAC Day Church Service 29 April 2012

The ANZAC Day Church Service will be held at the Sydney Maori Anglican Fellowship Church of Te Wairua Tapu, 587 Elizabeth Street, Redfern, on Sunday 29 April 2012 at 10:30 hours, the first Sunday after ANZAC Day.



NZ Veterans in Australia (Queensland) Notices

NZ Veteran Reg King Visits Mudgeeraba Military Museum



Today some of the members of the Greenbank RSL sub branch visited a military museum in Mudgeeraba near the Gold coast. They have an amazing amount of war items on show there from the Colonial wars to the present day. I took this photo of Roger. Standing beside Roger is Paul Ryan, ex Navy and further along is John Whittaker, ex NZ Army. After the visit to the museum we had a very pleasant lunch at the Wallaby Hotel nearby with some refreshments before heading home.

NZ Veteran Alistair Martin's Continuous Efforts to Honour the Fallen

When a dedicated kiwi wants to honour the fallen, nothing will stop him. Check out the following from Alastair Martin in Poona. It is amazing what he has done in the nearly two years that he has settled there.

Alastair did an amazing amount of work in the same vein in the Solomon's when he worked there also. He has had bad luck with his health as well but nothing stops him. Alastair and I keep in touch and he keeps me informed as to what he is up to so I will pass on information as it comes to hand.

POONA WAR MEMORIAL UPDATE

This is a general update on the Project and its status:

Funds in hand are now just over \$6,000.00. This has been achieved by.

Initial donation by the Progress Assoc of \$1,000.00.
Donations on ANZAC Day 2011 of \$550.00.
Grant by Premier Anna Bligh MP of \$1,000.00.
Donation by Chris Foley MP of \$100.00.
Donation by Vince Anderson of \$500.00.
Fundraising by way of raffles, Spit Roast, donations etc.

Additionally

Grant from Fraser Coast Regional Council of \$1,000.00 pending.
Release of the FCRC Grant is triggered by DVA Grant approval.
Grant application lodged with DVA for up to \$4,000.00.

Memorial

Site approved and allocated in Market Alley by FCRC.
Waiver of most Council Permit fees and charges.
Memorial design and cost finalised.
Engineering drawing for base slab completed and lodged with FCRC.
Local Poona contractors have offered to lay slab.
3 Flagpoles donated by Maryborough RSL and are in store now.
FCRC will be replanting trees in market Alley to allow for better Memorial access.
A "Gallipoli Lone Pine" seedling has been purchased and is at present in the FCRC Nursery.
FCRC will prepare a bed for the Lone Pine seedling close to Memorial site.
It is intended that the "Lone Pine" seedling will be planted on ANZAC Day 2015, the Centenary of the landing.

Time Frames

The next DVA Grants Committee meeting is in July.
After DVA Committee approval the application goes to the Minister of Veteran Affairs for sign off.

Ministerial approval can take up to 10 weeks.
The Construction time frame of the Memorial itself is 8-10 weeks.

If all goes well it is hoped that the Memorial can be completed, and official dedicated in time for Armistice Day 11-11-2011.

LEST WE FORGET

Alastair Martin	4129 8250 amartin@skymesh.com.au
Marilyn Laffey	4129 8102 jackandmaz@hotmail.com
Graeme Darroch	4129 8806 graeme@gdarroch.com

Reunion Notices

1 Battalion RNZIR Reunion Singapore 22-29 April 2011



Dear Veterans, just a couple of photos courtesy of Allan Watt from the reunion which may bring back some memories of a wonderful past.



More photos are available if you add Allan as a 'friend' on Facebook.

V3 1 Battalion RNZIR Reunion 3-6 June 2011

Following the very successful V3 Company reunion held in Te Araroa last year it has been decided to hold a further reunion in Greymouth over Queen's Birthday Weekend 2011. All members of the V3 family are most welcome to attend. Full details can be found on the reunion website <http://www.premierstrategics.com/victor3/victor3.html>

RNZN Reunion in Melbourne 2013

RNZN Veterans, please be advised that the next reunion will be held during the Melbourne Easter weekend in 2013. The reunions are blessed with a large attendance of RNZN Veterans and I am sure the 2013 reunion will also be the same.

Will advise RNZN Melbourne contact person once notified.

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 royvojones@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

NZVIA NSW Veteran Membership 2010



NSW Veterans are reminded that the 2011 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. Application forms are also on the NZVIA NSW page of the www.nzvia.com.au website. Just scroll down to the end of the Membership column or email nsw@nzvia.com.au

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:

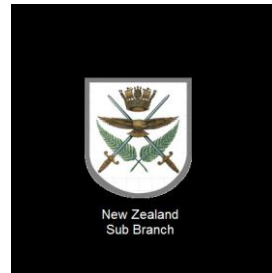
1. Interstate veterans can join the NSW Branch of the RSL via the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW) as Service members, if you are not currently Service Members interstate;
2. If you are currently Service Members interstate you can:-
 - a. transfer to the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW); or
 - b. become "Associate" members of 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.

Just a reminder, the NZ Sub-Branch is the legal entity for the NZ Veterans in Australia NSW so membership must remain with the NZ Sub-Branch in regards to its association with the NSW RSL.

NZVIA VIC Veteran Membership 2010

VIC Veterans are reminded that the 2011 RSL and NZ Sub-Branch (Vic) membership renewal is due. As stated in my email,



the NZ Sub-Branch (Vic) 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 a member of the NZ Sub-Branch (Vic). So for \$35 please send in your application form. Forms are available from the NZVIA Victoria page of the www.nzvia.com.au website. Just scroll down to the end of the Membership column.

Just a reminder, the NZ Sub-Branch is the legal entity for the NZ Veterans in Australia VIC so membership must remain with the NZ Sub-Branch in regards to its association with the VIC RSL.

Acknowledgements / Personal Notices

Happy Birthday to: Kevin Bulman, Peter Dicken, Murray Millar, Steve Berry, Clarence Ormsby, Ian Conway-Powell and Brian Edmonds.

The Last Post

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.



Last Post Reminders in NZ

Dear Veterans, there are notices sent for our Veterans that pass away in NZ. I do not repeat them in this NewZletter but if you want to keep in touch with notices regarding Veterans in NZ please let me know and I will send you the link(s). I think most Veterans here get the notices anyway.

Lest we forget

Other News



Visiting NZ Navy ship brings two sailors home

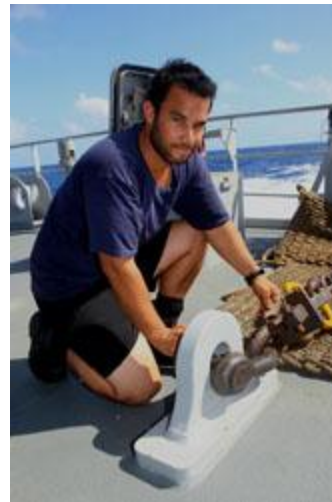


Photo Caption: 0002- Leading Seaman Combat Specialist Beau Milner

2 June 2011

Offshore Patrol Vessel HMNZS OTAGO is visiting Rarotonga for the first time in its history from Thursday 2 June 2011. While the ships company are looking forward to visiting the island, there are two sailors in particular that are excited; they are coming home.

Leading Stores Assistant (LSA) Noel Hirovaana and Leading Seaman Combat Specialist (LSCS) Beau Milner both have family ties to the region.

LSA Hirovaana was born in Rarotonga before moving to New Zealand with his family. He then returned for a year before joining the Navy. He has been in the Navy for 5 years and the last time he was back in Rarotonga was in 2008. This is the first time he has been to Rarotonga where his transport has been his workplace.

"To be honest, it's a bit weird returning to Rarotonga with the Navy, because I will be mixing work with a place that is very special to me", said, LSA Hirovaana.

The port visit to Rarotonga is very important to LSA Beau Milner as his parents live on Aitutaki. Like LSA Hirovaana, it is the first time to the Cook Islands on a naval ship.

"I see this as a pretty good opportunity, to show my family the professional side of my life as a Leading Seaman Combat Specialist, onboard an Off Shore Patrol Vessel."

LSCS Milner joined the Navy nine years ago and says that his career has been a good opportunity to see the world and be a part of a great team.

While in port, HMNZS OTAGO will be open to the public on Saturday 3 June 2011 from 1230 pm to 3pm. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Commander Simon Rooke warmly invites the public to have a look around OTAGO and meet the friendly ships company.

Background

The Royal New Zealand Navy's first Offshore Patrol Vessel, HMNZS OTAGO, has spent the past 3 weeks in the Pacific undertaking maritime security tasks, fisheries patrols, and supporting diplomatic tasks.

Concurrent to the diplomatic tasks, OTAGO has been conducting warm weather trials to confirm the ships capability to tolerate and operate in Pacific waters and higher temperatures. The ship has visited Raoul Island, Tonga, Samoa twice and the Tokelau Islands before its visit to Rarotonga then continues onto Niue.

ENDS

[Frigate TE MANA in exercise with Indian Navy warship](#)
[Forces face off for Men's Health Week](#)
["I have the ship" - Change of Command for HMNZS CANTERBURY](#)
[South Pacific voyage helps beat Winter blues for Helenville man](#)
[Court Martial for senior rating](#)
[Navy sailor escaping the cold of Winter](#)
[New Zealander to command US-led counter piracy task force](#)
[Visiting NZ Navy ship brings two sailors home](#)
[Golden opportunity for HMNZS OTAGO](#)

www.navy.mil.nz



Statement by Chief of Defence Force re NZSAS

02 May 2011

A recent article in Metro magazine makes serious allegations concerning the handling and treatment of people detained in ISAF operations involving the NZSAS. I have reviewed this article and advise that it is founded upon a number of factual inaccuracies, especially concerning NZSAS operations.

I reconfirm that the advice given to the Government by the NZDF regarding NZSAS operations in Afghanistan is correct and that our current processes are legally and morally sound.

First, the Metro article suggests that in the so-called "Tiger" raid in December last year the NZSAS detained people and

handed them to the National Directorate of Security (NDS) who were known to use torture.

This is not correct. The "Tiger" raid was a short-notice operation directed by ISAF and cleared by the Kabul Police. ISAF feared equipment at this site was going to be used in an imminent terrorist act. The NZSAS and the Afghan Crisis Response Unit (CRU) responded and when the SAS were fired upon, after correctly identifying themselves, our troops responded within the rules of engagement. Mr Barialy, the security guard interviewed by John Stephenson, the author of the Metro article, was the person who fired first. Classified video footage of this incident was reviewed during an ISAF investigation and confirmed this fact. The NZDF has also viewed this footage.

The area was then made safe by the combined force until the arrival of Afghan security forces. In fact, no detainees were taken by either the NZSAS or anybody else.

Second, last year the NZSAS is alleged to have prevented a man being tied and dragged behind a vehicle by the Afghan National Army after an operation in Wardak province.

However, no such operation, or any operation resembling the account in Metro magazine has occurred. There has never been an operation involving the NZSAS in which any CRU or ANA personnel have been killed or a commander wounded as claimed in the article. The NZSAS has never witnessed nor had to intervene to prevent a person being dragged behind a vehicle as the article describes.

Elsewhere in the article it is alleged that the commander at the CRU base in Kabul, "Colonel M", told the journalist that the NZSAS was involved in detaining insurgents. The CRU commander says he has never spoken to this journalist.

This allegation was first made in the Sunday Star-Times last year under the headline "SAS HQ: walk right in". The journalist did not enter the HQ - the guards turned him away at the gate. In the Metro article this is now referred to as the CRU base.

Neither Metro, nor TV3 which repeated the article's claims, has approached the NZDF for comment on these matters.

If that had occurred, the NZDF would have pointed out that: The reporting of the "Tiger" raid was incorrect.

The ANA operation referred to by the journalist alleging that a person in detention in Wardak province was mistreated by the Afghan National Army, in order to be dragged behind a car was not a NZSAS / CRU mission and the NZSAS have no knowledge of any such event having ever occurred.

That the CRU commander denies speaking with this journalist. The journalist has provided no evidence that he has ever entered the CRU Base. We have evidence that he was denied entry.

The NZDF rejects the implication that there has been some kind of cover up or lies told concerning detainees.

The NZSAS has an excellent reputation in Afghanistan and across the world for their assiduous attention to human rights. They are consistently respectful of the rule of law in Afghanistan.

The CRU, with whom the NZSAS works in Afghanistan, is a thoroughly credible and professional law enforcement organisation. This is well recognised by Afghan and ISAF.

The NZSAS is fulfilling a very important role not only helping to remove threats to security and lives and property of Afghan citizens but also in preparing Afghan forces to adopt professional standards of conduct.

The NZDF takes its responsibilities towards respecting the human rights of people in Afghanistan seriously and has always acted to ensure that they are treated within the law of armed conflict and human rights law.

The New Zealand Special Air Service operates in a difficult and dangerous environment in Afghanistan. At all times the NZSAS applies the highest ethical and moral standards in its operations. The implication that members of the NZSAS would hand over prisoners knowing they would be tortured is abhorrent.

LTGEN R.R. Jones
Chief of Defence Force

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[16 Field Regiment's Korean efforts recognised](#)
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[Youth Development Unit helping to keep Upper Hutt beautiful](#)
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[Battle for Crete remembered](#)
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[Kiwis depart for six month deployment to Timor-Leste](#)
[Defence Force leaves long lasting benefits with Santo communities](#)
[Applications flood in for NZ Defence Service Medal](#)
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[Statement by Chief of Defence Force re NZSAS](#)
[IED attack on Kiwi Patrol in Afghanistan](#)

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Air Force welcomes upgraded P-3K2 Orion

The flight deck of an upgraded P-3K Orion [20110502_PH_V1020230_00_06.jpg]



02 May 2011

The Royal New Zealand Air Force today accepted the first upgraded P-3K2 Orion from the Ministry of Defence during a short ceremony at Air Force Base Whenuapai.

Chief of Air Force Air Vice-Marshal Peter Stockwell said the upgraded aircraft represents a significant advance in technology and will introduce a fundamental change to the capability of No. 5 Squadron as they transition from their traditional role as a Maritime Patrol Force to an Airborne Surveillance and Response Force.

"The return of the P-3K2 Orion is an important milestone for the RNZAF. The upgraded P-3K2 will transform the fleet, improving the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) capability in support of government agencies such as Fisheries and Customs, and government directed military operations.

"The upgrade will enhance the aircraft's existing capability across its range of missions including; long range maritime surveillance, search and rescue, effective monitoring of our Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and supporting our South Pacific and Asia Pacific relationships," said AVM Stockwell.

The P-3K2 Orion project includes upgrades to the aircraft's communication, navigation, surveillance and data management systems; a state-of-the-art glass flight deck and mission preparation and analysis systems. Also included in the upgrade are crew training and software testing and integration tools.

The aircraft will now undergo a period of Operational Testing and Evaluation (OT&E), which will enable the crews to develop

the procedures to optimise safe and effective use of the new systems to maximise the capability of the transformed aircraft.

[*Air Force and French parachute exercise*](#)

[*Air Force's new helicopters and hangar unveiled*](#)

[*Night flying exercise gets underway*](#)

[*Historic flight for maritime aircraft*](#)

[*Opening of helicopter hangar and welcome ceremony for new*](#)

[*A109 Light Utility helicopters*](#)

[*Air Force welcomes upgraded P-3K2 Orion*](#)

[*www.airforce.mil.nz*](http://www.airforce.mil.nz)
