



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/nzdsm/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.

New Zealand Veterans in Australia Incorporated

Dear Veterans, please be advised that the New Zealand Veterans in Australia Incorporated was officially registered as a Not-For-Profit organisation in NSW earlier this year with subsequent financial accounting requirements as at 1 July 2011.



In last months NewZletter we indicated that we would post the Constitution on the website and seek nominations to join the Council as a State Representative. Please go to www.nzvia.com.au to view the Constitution and if you would like to join the Council as a State Representative can you please submit your registration of interest to nzvia@nzvia.com.au

Please note, the organisation is new, it has no intention of taking over other well established organisations such as the Vietnam Veterans but is attempting to represent all NZ Veterans that have an interest in NZ Veteran Matters. We would consider seeking a nominal membership \$5 per year just to cover administration costs as it is the intent that everything we do will be done electronically. Furthermore, all financial members only will receive monthly financial statements with an Annual Report being posted on the website.

Veterans Funded for WWII Commemorations

Dear Veterans, a letter has been sent to VANZ advising of four WWII Veterans interested in attending commemorations overseas as part of the NZ Government funding of WWII Veterans who wish to travel to 70th anniversary commemorations overseas. The WWII Veterans who have so far been nominated are:

NZ1221 Frank Harlow (Greece/Crete) DOB 10.08.1913
NZ4261 Maj (Retd) Bob Wood POW (Italy/North Africa) DOB 12.08.1914

NZ82871 Maurice Borland (Egypt/Italy) DOB 27.06.1918
NZ42758 Arch Campbell (Pacific) DOB 29.11.1920

If you know of any other WWII Veterans that should be considered can you please support them and register their details with VANZ.

NZ Veterans in Australia (New South Wales) Notices

Remembrance Day Poppy Selling at Martin Place Station 10-11 November 2011

NZ Veterans in NSW again sold Poppies at the Martin Place Station from 6:30am – 9:30am on Thursday 10th and Friday 11th November 2011. Our ranks are thinning but our commitment to doing what we can to promote the presence of NZ Veterans in AU and help our own wherever possible remains strong.

Anyone is welcome to join us at the station and for breakfast afterwards. As always the trains arrive and the stampede of citizens keeps us busy but their generosity continues to amaze us every year (Picture l-r: Allan Watt, Gil Brogden, Ron Haira).



Remembrance Day Church Service Sunday 13 November 2011

Dear Veterans, the Remembrance Day Church Service held on Sunday 13 November 2011 at the Sydney Maori Anglican Fellowship Church of Te Wairua Tapu was well attended with about 18 NZDSM presentations conducted to Veterans from K Force, J Force, Borneo, Malaya, Indonesian Confrontation, Vietnam and the many post-Vietnam missions.



The guest speakers were the NZ High Commissioner HE Maj Gen (Retd) Martyn Dunne CNZM and City of Sydney Councillor Philip Black and they also made the NZDSM presentations to the Veterans that attended. (Picture: Charile Karena and Megan Leonard receiving their NZDSM)

It was also great to see our own NZ Veterans Sir Ian Turbott Kt AO CVO CMG attend along with NZDF Adviser to the NZ Embassy in Canberra Commodore Ross Smith MNZM, Myra Wineera (widow of the late Edison Wineera 28th Maori Battalion) and 91 year old Arch Campbell, 93 year old Maurice Borland and 98 year old Frank Harlow. Usually the service is very emotionally charged with the laying of a Poppy at the altar and the playing of the Last Post but to be able to formally present the NZDSM as recognition of the unique requirements of military service such as the: commitment to service; liability for operational service; and imposed constraints on employment conditions and personal freedoms, we as Veterans endure as our duty to the crown, it was a very moving moment not just for the NZ Veterans who received their NZDSM but also their families and the church congregation. Thank you Veterans for making this service memorable through your ongoing support and presence.



Reminder: ANZAC Day March Wednesday 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. Furthermore, directly after the march we will have the school from NZ perform for us again as they do every two years when they are here in Sydney on their reciprocal tour.

Reminder: ANZAC Day Church Service Sunday 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.

This will be another official opportunity to be presented the NZDSM by our dignitaries of which one will be Indigenous Veteran Sub-Mariner David Williams. Anyone wanting to have their NZDSM presented at this service, can they please contact me to ensure the efficient planning and preparation for the service is conducted:



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NZ Veterans in Australia (Queensland) Notices

Unveiling of Poona War Memorial 29 October 2011

Dear Veterans, you will be aware that Alstair Martin has been working on a memorial for Poona for a few years now and an article has been in a past NewZletter on this. Well it has been completed and on 29 October 2011, the memorial was unveiled. Article from Brian Meyer follows:

Yesterday afternoon at 3 30 pm the above memorial was unveiled and dedicated by the local Federal MP. This memorial is different from the norm as it has no long list of names likely because the small community of POONA did not exist when WW1 and 2 took place. The front of the memorial has the crests of the ADF and the NZDF and word ANZAC on the rear. Where is POONA? East of GYMPIE North of TIN CAN BAY about 230/40 km from BRISBANE. The only other ANZAC memorial that I am aware of is at the NORTH SYDNEY ANZAC Memorial Club and unfortunately the club is now defunct though the RSL Sub Br is still there and now conducts their ANZAC service at the memorial every year. In the official party was Lt Col Darren Beck RNZAC the Military Adviser at the High Commission in CANBERRA. Thank You to the POONA Community and in particular to Alastair Martin W1 who was the leader of the Sub Committee charged with getting a War Memorial for your hospitality. The Vets present who have served in the NZDF were wide ranging in Corps units etc and my thanks to them for coming. They were in no particular order

Edmund Ted Parkinson RNZA 161 Bty 16 Fd Regt RNZA K Force Ted also served in J Force in the Australian Army
Tasman 'Alec Graham RNZA 161 Bty SVN 2 tours 66/67 & 68/69 Alec also served 1 RAR in MALAYA
Lyall Ferguson NZ REGT/RNZIR 2 NZ REGT 59/61 1 RNZIR 66/68 V2 SVN Lyall also served Australian Army
Alastair Martin RNZIR W1 SVN
Mike Perreau RNZSigs W1 SVN Mike is over from NEW ZEALAND
Leon Orange RF CADET KIPPENBERGER CLASS 1959 RNZSigs 1 RNZIR 69/70 went to SVN on a short TOD
Bob Nichols RNZIR 1 RNZIR 66/68 W1 SVN
Maureen Javes (Alexander) RNZNC 1 ALSG SVN att FD AMB/FD HOSP
Murray Broomhall RF CADET GENTRY CLASS 1962 RNZA 161 Bty SVN 2 tours 66/67 & 69/70 Murray was att D Coy 6 RAR on the 18th of Aug 66
Ray Te Ringa RNZIR/RNZASC/RNZCT 1 RNZIR 70/72 NZ COMP SVN 1971
Bevan Inwood RNZE RNZE Det Att 1 NZATTV SVN
Trevor Mailman NZ REGT/RNZIR 1 NZ REGT 61/63 & 1 RNZIR 65/66
Alan Buck Peters RNZAF RNZSigs 161 BTY SVN 69 and Australian Army
Brian O'Donohue RF CADET Stewart Class 1961 NZ REGT/RNZIR 1 RNZIR 65/67 Brian also served later as Chief Clerk in 1 RNZIR
Jim "Lofty" Walcroft RNZIR 1 RNZIR 65/67 V1 SVN
Brian Meyer RF CADET PUTTICK CLASS 57 RNZA 1 RNZIR 63/65 161 BTY 66/67 SVN TF 16 FD REGT & TSU LAND FORCE COMD

An excellent speech was given by the Guest speaker Maj (Retd) Peter Rogers DFC with particular reference to the NZ part of ANZAC whilst the ode was given by Mr Keith Payne VC. Many wreaths were laid with the The NEW ZEALAND connection ones being: Lt Col Darren Beck NZDF; Alastair Martin RNZIR; Alan "Buck" Peters RNZA and Brian Meyer NEW ZEALAND VETERANS in AUSTRALIA.

The National Anthems were sung with the NEW ZEALAND Anthem sung in both Maori and English.

(Picture below l-r: Laurette O'Donohue , Lyall Ferguson NZ REGT/RNZIR 2 NZ REGT 59/61 V2, Mrs Ferguson , Alastair Martin RNZIR 1 RNZIR 66/68 W1 (the MC and Chairman of the Sub Committee) Alan "Buck" Peters RNZAF/ RNZSigs 161 Bty SVN , Trevor Mailman NZ REGT/RNZIR 1 NZ REGT 61/63 & 1 RNZIR 64/65 Mike Perreau RNZSigs W1 Brian O'Donohue RF CADET /NZREGT/RNZIR 1 RNZIR 65/67 Maureen Javes (Alexander) RNZNC att FD AMB/FD HOSP SVN Lt Col Darren Beck RNZAC Bob Nichols RNZIR W1, Bevan Inwood RNZE RNZE Det att 1 NZATTV , Jim Lofty Walcroft RNZIR 1 RNZIR 65/67 V1 , Ray Te Ringa RNZIR/RNZASC/RNZCT NZ Comp 71 , Edmund Parkinson

RNZA K Force 161 BTY 16 FD REGT, Murray Broomhall RF CADET/RNZA 161 BTY 66/67 & 69/70 Brian Meyer RF CADET/RNZA 1 NZ REGT/1 RNZIR 63/65 161 BTY 66/67 Leon Orange RF CADET/RNZSigs 1 RNZIR 68/70 VISITOR SVN Also there but not in photo was Alex Graham RNZA 161 BTY 66/67 & 68/69)

The ladies in the POONA Community hall afterwards did an excellent job



Reunion and Other Notices

Royal New Zealand Armoured Corps 94th Cambrai Commemoration 18 - 19 November 2011, Waiouru Camp



I hope the RNZAC commemoration was well attended and everyone had an enjoyable and memorable time.

1NZ Regiment 1957-59 Reunion



I hope the 1NZ Regiment Reunion was well attended and everyone had an enjoyable and memorable time.

Vietnam Veterans Reunion 2012



Vietnam Veterans are advised that planning for the 2012 National Reunion to be held at Waitangi over Queen's Birthday Weekend 2012 is well underway under the able leadership of Rihari (Dick) Dargaville (V2). The reunion will be centered on the Copthorne Hotel & Resort just across the bridge at Waitangi and adjacent to the Treaty grounds which will play a prominent part in proceedings.

Further article from Ross Miller:

Colleagues ... on Saturday I attended the latest meeting of the organising committee charged with the planning of the 2012 National Reunion scheduled for Waitangi over Queen's Birthday weekend. There is a huge amount of effort going into this and at the risk of naming names (and leaving some out) it would be remiss of me if I weren't to acknowledge the efforts of 'Tricky' Dick (the Chair) and Mere (the Secretary) and Barb and Pete and Neil and Hazel and Robbie and Graeme and Dave and Joe and Theo, and, and.

I can't speak for what happened in previous reunions but what I can say is that the committee set themselves the ambitious goal (in these troubled times) of raising \$30,000 to keep costs down. All indications are that we will achieve that goal and that will be no mean feat.

So now folks it is up to you. The next 'Contact' will include details concerning registration. The reunion will be based on the Waitangi Copthorne Resort Hotel and we have pre-booked a large number of rooms at a discounted price which includes breakfast. There is a range of other discounted alternatives all within 5k of the conference venue. For those flying into Auckland we have arranged a special bus to take you to and from Waitangi at a special price. Again, the detail is in Contact.

The programme is everything you would expect with bells on. From the Friday night 'Meet and Greet' with three special venues; the Copthorne, Jimmy Jack's Rib Shack (with Tiger Beer at massively discounted prices for Infanteers - and other wannabee infanteers) and the Paihia Ex-Serviceman's Club (complementary transport to and from, band in attendance and special prices for drinks); through to the formal welcome at the Ti Ti (Lower) Marae on the Saturday morning; the special programme for the ladies; the incredibly discounted trip to the 'Hole in the Rock' on the Saturday afternoon (tourists pay \$90, you pay a third of that - but we have to fill the boat); the Presidents function with complementary drinks; the Saturday night function with the Governor General as the Guest of Honour (tbc); the Sunday morning commemoration service at the Treaty Grounds with the RNZN Band in attendance along with a massed choir through to the Kangaroo Court leading onto the Sunday evening BBQ. I tell you, this Reunion will be missed at your peril.

I understand there will be delegations from both Australia and the USA reflecting their desire to honour NZ Veterans at the birthplace of our nation.

So, get those registrations rolling in. How many more National Reunions to follow is a moot point. We are not getting any younger and Waitangi will never be repeated again.

I am not part of the team doing registrations and you should contact the Secretary of EVSA who will be able to forward the detail:

Address is:

The Secretary Ex-Vietnam Services Association P.O.Box 72-260 PAPA KURA or e-mail nzevsa@xtra.co.nz

Vietnam Veterans and their Families Trust Annual General Meeting (AGM) To be held at the Manurewa RSA, Auckland on Saturday 26 November 2011 at 1.00pm

I hope the AGM was well attended and the discussions were beneficial as you plan for another demanding year ahead.

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 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

NZVIA NSW Veteran Membership 2012



NSW Veterans are reminded that the 2012 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 \$30 (of which \$25 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 2012



VIC Veterans are reminded that the 2012 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: Warren Evans, Trevor Phillips, Mark Allingham, Mike Hannan, Ron Martin, Sir Brian Dudley, Aaron Simpson, Kathleen Kerehona, Francis Thurston, Bryan O'Hanlon, Lindsay Taylor and Arch Campbell

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.



Other News



RESOLUTION connects with historic WWII naval battle in Solomon Islands

Photo: 20111103_PH_L1020290_0128 - Historian Ewan Stevenson briefs the crew of RESOLUTION on imagery collated on WWII wrecks.

8 November 2011

While undertaking a hydrographic survey in Tulaghi Harbour, Solomon Islands, the crew of HMNZS RESOLUTION took time to connect with the past and remember the crew of WWII Corvette HMNZS MOA.

On 7 April 1943, Japanese aircraft sank MOA, killing five ratings and seriously wounding seven. Earlier that year, MOA assisted her sister ship KIWI take on a much bigger foe, the Japanese submarine I-1. KIWI rammed the submarine and it sank on 29 January 1943. It was the first major WWII surface action of the newly formed Royal New Zealand Navy.

American divers discovered a Japanese naval code book on board the sunken submarine. It was decoded and ultimately led allied fighters to kill Admiral Yamamoto, commander of the Japanese Imperial Navy, and the man held responsible for planning the attack on Pearl Harbour.

WWII historian Ewan Stevenson last week assisted RESOLUTION to identify and accurately position a number of WWII wrecks from his extensive historic records.

"It's been great to work with historian Ewan Stevenson to collate this detailed data on what occurred. It will be used to update navigational charts and also identify and accurately position a number of WWII wrecks and other hazards.

"Tulaghi Harbour and the Solomon Islands was the scene of many dramatic and fierce battles during WWII. HMNZS MOA played a pivotal part in the campaign against the Japanese.

"The ship's company took time to remember and honour the crew of HMNZS MOA," said Lieutenant Commander Matt Wray, Commanding Officer, HMNZS RESOLUTION.

During the survey of Tulaghi Harbour, RESOLUTION also located previously undiscovered wrecks of a US Grumman Wildcat Fighter Aircraft and a number of Landing Craft.

RESOLUTION and detachments from the Royal NZ Navy Littoral Warfare Support Group (LWSG), including the Operational Survey Unit (OSU), and Operational Diving Team (ODT) utilised high tech equipment such as the Multi Beam Echo Sounder (MBES) and the Sea Eye Falcon Remotely Operated Vehicle to collate the data.

[ISF remembers fallen comrades](#)

[Resolution connects with historic WWII naval battle in Solomon Islands](#)

[Disposal of WWII remnants of war in Papua New Guinea](#)
[Navy Band to play free concert in Taihape](#)

www.navy.mil.nz



NZ Defence Force Personnel Receive Us Medals

Caption: Major General Talleri presents the Meritorious Service Medal to Group Captain Greg Elliott who served as Commander of the NZPRT from April to October 2009.

15 November 2011



The service of New Zealand Defence Force personnel serving in Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom was

recognised today in a special United States medal presentation in Wellington.

US Marine Corps Major General Peter Talleri presented a Bronze Star, nine Meritorious Service medals and 15 Army Commendation medals to 25 NZ Defence Force personnel.

At the presentation Major General Talleri said, "The accomplishments of your Defence Force in Bamyan Province, Afghanistan are quite impressive. I've had the opportunity to read some of your award citations that you will be presented with today and I am truly humbled by the selfless acts and sacrifices that you have accomplished."

Among the recipients were 11 NZ Defence Force personnel who served with the New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team (NZPRT) in Bamyan Province, Afghanistan.

Group Captain Greg Elliott and Air Commodore Steve Moore who served as Commanders of the NZPRT in 2009 and 2006 respectively were both awarded the Meritorious Service Medal. Both men were recognised for their outstanding leadership, dedication, and the numerous accomplishments of their PRT teams.

Captain Stuart Beckman was awarded the Army Commendation Medal. His citation states that he demonstrated exceptional courage and bravery while conducting and supervising counter Improvised Explosive Device operations in a high threat environment under constant danger.

Among the recipients were also personnel who served as part of the National Support Element in Bagram, and personnel attached to the coalition training team for the Afghan National Army as well as NZ Policemen who are also Territorials, Major Grant Arrowsmith and Warrant Officer Colin Murphy, who were awarded the Army Commendation Medal for their work in Afghanistan in 2009.

Special permission had to be granted by the Governor-General for the defence personnel to wear the US medals on their uniform.

This is the second time US medals have been awarded to NZ Defence Force personnel since Vietnam. The first was in 2006 when US Ambassador William McCormick presented the United States Bronze Star Medal to ten NZ Defence Force personnel and the United States Army Commendation Medal to seven NZ Defence Force personnel at a ceremony held at the American Embassy.

Further US Award presentations will be made to a number of recipients who were not able to attend the presentation today who are either serving in Afghanistan, Timor Leste or at sea on duty.

[NZ Defence Force personnel receive US medals](#)
[Armistice Day 93rd Anniversary Service](#)
[Kiwis return from six month deployment to Timor-Leste](#)
[Southern Reaper underway in South Island](#)

www.army.mil.nz



www.airforce.mil.nz



21 November 2011 [Governor-General's address to National Council](#) Speech to open the RNZRSA National Council, Michael Fowler Centre, Wellington

14 November 2011 [New look RSA to be launched at annual Conference](#) At the annual RSA conference starting in Wellington today over 300 delegates will launch the new RSA brand for its second century.

"We're only five years from our 100th anniversary," says Chief Executive Dr Stephen Clarke, "2016 will not only be about celebrating but taking stock of how far we have come in terms of our transformation."

The new "Living the Anzac Spirit Today" strategy challenges the RSA to transform perceptions of itself from a place which old blokes disappear into, to an organisation that is known to stand for something and is seen to play a valuable role in society. The vision is to champion the Anzac spirit across all generations, by embracing its foundation values of compassion, camaraderie, courage and commitment.

"At the heart of our new thinking is not just looking at pictures of Anzacs but celebrating, every day, that Anzac spirit living in our hearts as New Zealanders. That's how we will honour them," says Dr Clarke.

"We've been rolling out the strategy with our RSAs with positive responses and it is exciting to be launching the new look

this week. It really is a first for the RSA," he says.

Dr Clarke said the public will begin to see the new approach from next April.

The 2011 annual report reveals that RSA membership this year has increased to 117,000 members, making it still one of the largest voluntary organisations in the country.

These and other matters will be covered in National President Don McIver's inaugural address together with addresses from the Governor-General and the Prime Minister at this afternoon's Formal Opening. The Opening will also be the first for Corporal Willie Apiata VC since being made a RNZRSA Life Member in 2007

10 November 2011 [Armistice Day 2011](#) "News came through late last night that armistice had been signed, and hostilities ceased at 11 a.m. Thank God!"

2 November 2011 [Air Force Proms](#) The Central Band of the Royal New Zealand Air Force will perform the popular Air Force Proms concert in Wellington on Sunday 6th November.

