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We Will Remember Them

Thanks Veterans for sending me your pictures and articles for the ANZAC services and commemorations.

ANZAC Day Queensland

ANZAC Day in Poona



NZ Veteran Alastair Martin organised the **first** Dawn Service at Poona this year. Poona is in the Great Sandy Straits, north of Tin Can Bay, inside Fraser Island. Alistair describes the day as follows: It

was a really wonderful day. As it was our first Dawn Service, we had absolutely no idea as to numbers, so after great scratching of heads and consulting chicken entrails we "reckoned" on a max of about 80. We nearly doubled that with a count of 147 as the Service started. The kitchen was stretched but everyone was fed, rum lasted till the end but we had to make several emergency runs to purchase more milk. Think I got home "around" 4:30 !.

Alistair is now working on getting a Memorial built, and with awareness high right now will be calling a meeting very soon to officially establish the committee and progress from there.

On behalf of all NZ Veterans in AU, well done Alistair and may your memorial planning be fruitful. Please keep us informed. Please click on the picture for more information about the service and pictures.

ANZAC Day New South Wales

ANZAC Day in Kempsey

For the **first** time, a NZ Veteran was officially invited to the Kemspey ANZAC service. On behalf of NZ Veterans in AU, Jim Dove accepted the invitation and can I just say that he was treated like royalty.



Jim describes the service to Brian Meyer as follows:

Dear Brian,

A very successful day indeed. We (Mary my wife) and I arrived in Kempsey lunchtime Saturday. Whilst eating I read a copy of the local paper. there looking at me was me (picture above). We were booked into a motel arranged and paid for by the President of the Kempsey RSL Terry Hunt. That evening we were taken out to dinner. We attended the dawn service ,I made a brief speech, that is about five minutes dedicated to the Kiwis at Gallipoli. After the dawn service we were taken to a local restaurant for breakfast. Assembled at 10.10am for the march of about one Km. I was made guest of honour, positioned as right



New Zealand Veterans in Australia

NewZletter



marker and led the parade. On arrival at the cenotaph I joined the official party. Terry Hunt read the Epilogue, after the hymns I was asked to make the Commemoration address. I made my speech, it was well received. I dedicated this speech to the NZ part of ANZAC. The wreath laying ceremony was carried out after the speech. After the ANZAC service the Diggers marched (with band) back over the bridge to the RSL where we were dismissed and taken to lunch. At lunch we were the guests of honour and sat next to the president at the official table. We received "Honoured Guests" treatment for the whole of our stay. Terry Hunt and even the general public were dead keen to hear about the NZ part of ANZAC, I am surprised at the number of people who did not know about the Kiwi part of ANZAC. It must have gone well because I have been asked for copies of both speeches. Many thanks again for asking me to do the honours, for it was an honour indeed.

Kindest regards

Jim Dove

Footnote: Jim's speech will be placed on the website www.nzvia.com.au

ANZAC Day Church Service at St Stephens in Willoughby

On Sunday 18 April 2010 the NZVIA NSW attended the ANZAC church service at St Stephens's church in Willoughby (l-r: Brian O'Donohue, David Williams, and Greg Makutu). This is a service they attend every year with seats always reserved for the few that attend although this year they managed to fill a full row of seats which was nice. And every year it is slowly becoming more NZ inclusive with this year's programme including the NZ National Anthem and our Veteran group listed in the programme. Furthermore the officiating minister always acknowledges the NZ Veterans. David Williams representing indigenous veterans was the guest speaker. David was also a guest of honour at the NZVIA NSW ANZAC Church service at the Sydney Maori Anglican Church of Te Wairua Tapu (l-r: Janet Barclay, Laurette O'Donohue, Brian O'Donohue, Ken Frank, Brian Meyer, John Rayner, Bruce Harris, Maree Rayner).



ANZAC Day Service and March at the ANZAC Memorial Club North Sydney



On Sunday 18 April 2010 the NZVIA NSW attended the North Sydney ANZAC Memorial Club service and Wreath Laying (l-r: (front row) Brian Meyer, Laurette and Brian O'Donohue, (second row) John and Maree Rayner, Neville Berridge). What is significant

with this year's service, and we have attended this service for many years, is that it is the last service that will be held as the ANZAC Memorial Club will close soon. The NZ Veterans have enjoyed this service every year because our own Navy Veteran Alex Wilson has ensured we are always welcome and always have a place with the other dignitaries keeping the NZ active in ANZAC. Nevertheless, the NZVIA NSW was well represented at this the last service and wreath laying. We are not sure what is going to happen in the future but it is expected that the cenotaph will remain which is great as it has a NZDF Plaque donated many years ago (l-r: Brian Meyer, Hini Komene, Neville Berridge, Laurette O'Donohue, Brian O'Donohue, Maree Rayner, John Rayner, Barrie Leslie, Greg Makutu).



ANZAC Day Service at Mortdale

On Sunday 18 April 2010 the President of the NZVIA NSW Ron Haira (picture right) attended the ANZAC service hosted by the Mortdale RSL Sub-Branch. Whilst Ron has attended this service for many years as that was his parent club, he has now extended his involvement to promote NZ Veterans and as such was the official NZ Veteran representative along with the other dignitaries that attended and laid a wreath. In cooperation with the NZ Veterans in NSW, Mortdale RSL Sub-Branch are also co-funding and co-managing the NZ and AU soldier statues on ANZAC bridge service this year which will continue to be a main activity every year.





New Zealand Veterans in Australia

NewZletter



ANZAC Day Badge Selling at Martin Place Station



On Thursday 22 and Friday 23 April 2010 the NZVIA NSW sell badges at the very busy Martin Place Station every year (l-r: Luke Taylor, Brian Meyer and Linda Novotny). However as we know the years are passing us by and as such we always appreciate the

support we receive from families and friends that share our memories and support our contribution to the ANZAC legend. And as always the citizenry of AU and NZ are very generous as they walk past us on their way to work (l-r: Neville Berridge, Allan Watt, Luke Taylor, Matt Miller, Linda Novotny, Barrie Leslie, John Rayner, Lindsay Taylor, Brian O'Donohue, Brian Meyer, Kathleen Cavey-Kerehona and Taawhi Kerehona.



ANZAC Dinner at Chatswood RSL



On Friday 23 April 2010 the Chatswood RSL held their annual ANZAC dinner and have always invited the New Zealand Veterans as their special guests which of course we gladly accept.

However, what is great about the Chatswood RSL ANZAC Dinner is that they always let us give the ANZAC speech and this year our President Ron Haira had the honour. This is a very nice dinner with great food, refreshments and entertainment of music and dance (l-r: Barrie Leslie, Ron Haira, Willoughby Mayor Pat Reilly and David Winkelmann AFC MID).

ANZAC and 28 Maori Battalion Service at Maroubra

On Saturday 24 April 2010 the NZVIA NSW attended the ANZAC and 28 Maori Battalion Service at Maroubra RSL organised by Ngati Toa. This is the first time this service has been held and what a very moving service. The service included waiata (song) and whaikorero (speeches) from both decedents of 28 Maori Battalion, Australian veteran representatives and Greg Makutu was the NZ Veteran speaker. As well as a wreath laying ceremony, portraits of those that had passed were also on display which even for hardened veterans caused more emotions to appear. But what provided the most emotional outburst was the playing of the last post by our own RNZAF Veteran Peter Carrington. There really is something about a Veteran that plays the last post versus the playing of the cd or dvd that ensures we

will always remember. Thanks peter and thanks to those veterans that attended (l-r: Lil (Ngati Toa), Dick Wharerau, Greg Makutu, Myra Wineera (widow of the late Edison Winnera 28 Maori Bn), Brian Meyer and Taawhi Kerehona).



ANZAC Day March in Sydney

Sydney enjoys huge crowds at it's ANZAC commemorations starting with the dawn service which attracts so many people that Martin Place from George street to Macquarie street are packed whilst big screens show live footage of the cenotaph activities. And even the rain does not keep them away. But



the march down George street is absolutely memorable. It attracts 20,000+ crowds and the NZ Veterans always get a very loud and supportive cheer all the way. And along the way a very crowd



inspiring Haka was performed by a New Zealander in respect for those Veterans marching and of course those that are no longer with us. And we also thank Sir Ian Turbott Kt AO CMG CVO Hon(Litt)UWS) World War II Veteran for being our parade commander this year. At the end of the march the NZ youth group were proud to give the NZ Veterans a short performance at Hyde Park.





New Zealand Veterans in Australia

NewZletter



ANZAC Day Sunset Service at the Martin Place Cenotaph

After the march the NZ Veterans go to the Chatswood RSL club for lunch and refreshments. However, they do not stay long as some end up back at the Martin Place Cenotaph for the Sunset Service (l-r: Greg Makutu, Chris Perrin, Barbara Onegin-Ward, Neville Berridge, John Hallett, Brian O'Donohue, Laurette O'Donohue, Allan Watt). Again this is a service we have attended every year and again the NSW RSL State Secretary Chris Perrin always makes us take pride of place during this service.



Niuean Returned Soldiers League ANZAC Day Service



On Monday 26 April 2010, the Niue Returned Soldiers League, which has only been formed this year, invited us to their first ANZAC service. As it was close to the President Ron Haira's home, he attended as the NZ official guest for the service and also was invited to give the ANZAC speech.

Republic of Korea Veterans ANZAC Dinner

On Tuesday 27 April 2010 Korean Veteran Neville Berridge attended the Korea ANZAC Dinner held in the Bankstown Sports Club. It was fitting that Neville attend as Korea are hosting a 60th anniversary visit this year and allowing a specific number of Korean veterans to attend. Seizing on the opportunity Neville managed to discuss the visit with the Korean Deputy Consul General Han Hoon Lee. I know we wish Neville all the best for selection although if he goes it will be a very special but emotional trip.



ANZAC Day Service at the Sydney Maori Anglican Church of Te Wairua Tapu



Veterans, it was an absolutely memorable ANZAC service at the Sydney Maori Anglican Fellowship, Church of Te Wairua Tapu (Church of the Holy Spirit) in Redfern. As always

the NZVIA NSW veterans conduct their service the Sunday after ANZAC so that they can get maximum participation due to the many other services and activities conducted the week prior. Sir Ian Turbott AO CMG CVO Hon.D.Litt



(picture above with Archdeacon Malcolm Karipa) who also led the ANZAC Day march was also our guest speaker at the Church. (picture left l-r: Charlie Karena and Hamiora Wihongi). However, we had many other dignitaries attend including Rear Admiral Steve Gilmore (picture below) Australian Defence Force, Superintendent Luke Freudentein NSW Police,

Major Robert McCullough NZ Defence Force, other veteran organisations and our ANZAC Youth Representative Luke Taylor. It was a very large attendance to our service and something we will look forward to every year.





ANZAC Day Service at the NZ Soldier Statue



Following on from the Church service a Wreath-Laying service was held on the same day at 1400 hours at the NZ Soldier Statue on ANZAC Bridge (RNZN Veteran Alex Wilson). This year and future years the NZ Veterans are sharing this

service with the Mortdale RSL Sub-Branch so that there will be a shared cost to the service. The intent is for the NZ Veterans to host in 2010 with Mortdale hosting 2011 and so on. The other benefit is that Archdeacon Malcolm Karipa will also officiate at this service when the NZ Veterans are hosting it. The service was held under the bridge to ensure less distraction to vehicle traffic, with the Wreath-Laying service conducted at the Statues. There is limited room at the Statues and every effort is to be made not to hinder the general public



who also have a right to visit the Statues. Nevertheless, the actual Wreath-Laying part of the service was very short (President Ron Haira laying the Wreath at

the NZ Soldier Statue). As with the service in previous years Sydney Ports Authority approved our use of their compound for parking. The service always provides a great opportunity to see the Statue albeit whilst attending the service (RNZN Veteran Bill Tahu, Archdeacon Malcolm Karipa and family at the NZ Soldier Statue).



ANZAC Day Western Australia

ANZAC Day at Kings Park



On ANZAC Day at Kings Park Ian Fraser attended the ANZAC service on behalf of all NZ Veterans. The service is significant this year because it closes two years of negotiations between Ian and the local council to fly the NZ flag.

On behalf of NZ Veterans in AU, thank you Ian for your efforts. It's certainly a memorable day in the history of ANZAC.



Lest We Forget



New Zealand Veterans in Australia

NewZletter



Acknowledgements / Personal Notices

Happy Birthday to **Brian Meyer, Roger Bush, Roger Carter, Jim Smith, Michael Shale, Buck Healy, Charlie Karena, Pera Hauraki, Jim Mitchell, Trevor King, Dave Foreman, Ben Furby, John Westbrook and Dennis Costello.**

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.

Lest we forget

Other News



*Kiwi ship open to the public on Anzac day
21 April 2010*



Inshore Patrol Vessel, HMNZS ROTOITI, under the Command of Lieutenant Andrew Hogg, will berth in Auckland City on Anzac Day 25 April 2010 as part of the

Queens Wharf Opening Festival.

HMNZS ROTOITI will be open to the public from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm on ANZAC Day. Lieutenant Andrew Hogg warmly invites the public of Auckland City to visit the ship and meet members of the crew.

What: Port visit by Inshore Patrol Vessel HMNZS ROTOITI during the Queens Wharf Opening Festival.

When: Sunday 25 April 2010 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Where: Eastern side, Queens Wharf, Auckland City.

Particulars of HMNZS ROTOITI

*Pennant Number: P3569
Displacement: 340 tonnes
Length overall: 55 metres
Beam: 9 metres
Speed: 25 knots
Range: 3,000 nautical miles
Complement: Core ship's company: 20
Government agencies: 4
Additional personnel: 12
Total: 36*

For further information please contact Lieutenant Sarah Campbell, Senior Media Adviser-Navy 021 244 0638.

Background

The Inshore Patrol Vessels are specifically designed to undertake a range of tasks for several Government agencies including Customs, Ministry of Fisheries, DoC, Police, MFAT, NZDF and Maritime New Zealand. Their introduction will enhance Navy's recruitment and retention as these ships frequent ports around the NZ coast.

- [Naval history book launch](#)
- [Navy museum closes to prepare for relocation to Torpedo Bay](#)
- [ANZAC Day remembered in NZ and around the world](#)
- [ANZAC commemorations for Wellington](#)
- [Kiwi ship open to the public on ANZAC day](#)
- [Kiwi patrol vessel visits home port Westport](#)
- [Navy Marae 10 years young](#)
- [TF Employer Support Council awards](#)
- [Employer support recognised at awards ceremony](#)
- [Interviews with troops deployed overseas on ANZAC Day](#)
- [New Offshore patrol vessel boosts capability](#)
- [HMNZS Otago to arrive in Auckland](#)
- [Naval trainees set to graduate](#)



New Zealand Veterans in Australia

NewZletter



[Kiwis in Afghanistan meet Prince of Wales](#)
[Navy ship OTAGO on way to Auckland](#)
[Navy ships depart on four month deployment](#)
[Air Force helicopters on HMNZS CANTERBURY in Wellington](#)

www.navy.mil.nz



Descendant of Maori Battalion Commander to attend Gallipoli commemorations

*Brigadier George Dittmer, Commander of the 28th Maori Battalion.
16 April 2010*

Air Force Corporal Philip Dittmer will be able to trace the footsteps of his famous Great Uncle George Dittmer when he travels to Turkey for this year's Anzac Day commemorations.



CPL Dittmer grew up in Woodville, attended Tararua College and lives in Hobsonville, Auckland. He will be part of a tri-Service New Zealand Defence Force guard which will parade at the Anzac Day services on 25 April in Turkey.

Philip's Great Uncle, Brigadier George Dittmer, was the first Commanding Officer of the 28th Maori Battalion, which established a proud record during the Second World War, particularly for their actions in Crete. It was his leadership in Greece and Crete that earned Brigadier George Dittmer the Distinguished Service Order.

"My Great Uncle was an excellent military leader who served in both World Wars, starting with the Auckland Battalion at Gallipoli as a Private before getting commissioned. Then he fought on the Western Front. He was awarded a Military Cross at Messines, and was wounded at Passchendaele," CPL Dittmer says.

"It is a great honour to be able to participate in the NZDF parade at Anzac Cove. I've taken part in many Anzac Day parades in remembrance of New Zealand's war veterans but the parade at Gallipoli will be particularly special.

"It will be an amazing experience to be able to go to the place where he first fought for New Zealand."

CPL Dittmer joined the Air Force in 2001 and currently works as the administration corporal for 40 Squadron. He has spent time on exchange with the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) in Darwin, and been has on tours of duty to Avondale, Canberra, Rarotonga (with a Hercules delivering medical supplies), Solomon Islands and New Caledonia. In June this year he will be posted to the RAAF East Sale just out of Melbourne for two years.

The official New Zealand contingent travelling to Gallipoli includes the Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant General Jerry Mateparae, New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) personnel, veterans, students, and representatives from the Returned and Services Association, Ministry of Culture and Heritage and Veterans Affairs New Zealand.

The Defence Force group will include a ceremonial Guard of Honour, a Maori Cultural Group and a tri-Service band.

The Anzac Day ceremonies in Gallipoli begin on Saturday 24 April with the Turkish International Service and conclude with the New Zealand Service at Chunuk Bair on 25 April. The services will be attended by the Prime Minister John Key, Lieutenant General Mateparae, as well as dignitaries from Australia and Turkey.

[Horowhenua drummer to play at Gallipoli commemorations](#)

www.army.mil.nz



Funeral service for three airmen at Ohakea

*A casket is carried from Iroquois helicopters into the No. 1 hangar before the service. (OH10-0311-017.jpg)
29 April 2010*



New Zealand Veterans in Australia

NewZletter



A full military funeral service for Flight Lieutenant Hayden Madsen, Flying Officer Daniel Gregory and Corporal Benjamin Carson was held at 1.30pm today at Royal New Zealand Air Force Base Ohakea.



FLTLT Madsen, FGOFF Gregory and CPL Carson were tragically killed when their Iroquois helicopter crashed near Pukerua Bay, Wellington on ANZAC Day.

Before the service, the men's caskets were flown to the Base by three Air Force Iroquois helicopters from No. 3 Squadron where they were taken to No.1 Hangar.

Over 2000 Air Force and Defence Force personnel, together with VIPs, joined the families to farewell the young airmen in a service led by Air Force Chaplain Wing Commander Ross Falconer.

The Prime Minister, representatives of the families and fellow aircrew spoke about the three young men and Commanding Officer of No. 3 Squadron Wing Commander Russell Mardon also paid tribute.

Later this afternoon, the caskets will be taken from No. 1 Hangar to No. 3 Hangar where they will be met by the families for private services.

Air Force personnel will line the route as the caskets pass, together with a 100-person guard of honour and firing party, the Air Force haka will also be performed as the Air Force say farewell to three of their own.

An investigation into the cause of the accident is underway.

[Funeral service for three airmen at Ohakea](#)

[Iroquois incident - family statement by Uncle of SGT Stevin Creeggan](#)

[Gallipoli contingent reflects on Air Force loss](#)

[Iroquois incident - statement from Steve Gregory, father of FGOFF Daniel Gregory](#)

[Message from Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief](#)

[Iroquois crash 'brutal blow', says Ministers](#)

[RNZAF Iroquois incident - media release 4](#)

[RNZAF Iroquois incident - media release 3](#)

[RNZAF incident - media release 2](#)

[RNZAF Iroquois incident - Media Release 1](#)

[RNZAF Anzac Day flypasts - Nelson and Marlborough region](#)

[RNZAF Anzac Day flypasts - Auckland and Hamilton regions](#)

[RNZAF Anzac Day flypast - Northland region](#)

[RNZAF Anzac Day flypasts - Manawatu region](#)

[RNZAF Anzac Day flypasts - Wellington region](#)

[Air Force bugler to play at Gallipoli](#)

[Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea to visit](#)

[RNZAF ready to wow at Wanaka air show](#)

www.airforce.mil.nz