



New Zealand Sub-Branch

NewZletter



President: David Winkelmann
Honorary Secretary: Greg Makutu

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Meetings held at Chatswood RSL

The Month That Was

NZ Sub-Branch Annual General Meeting



Dear Veterans, the AGM was held on Sunday 8 March 2009 at the Chatswood RSL Club and I am happy to announce our Executive Committee for

the 2009 financial year as follows:

President: Sqn Ldr (Retd) David Winkelmann AFC MID
Vice Presidents: Lt (Retd) Ron Haira, Taawhi Kerehona
Honorary Treasurer/Secretary: Greg Makutu

Incidentally, I have volunteered my services to continue the NewZletter and I thank you all for your support and contribution to acknowledging the importance of our identity as NZ Veterans in Australia. And as I have and will continue to reiterate, I mean veterans in a more general sense which includes anyone that has served in the NZDF.

Picture below: Taawhi, Lindsay (Outgoing President), David, Ron



HMNZS Canterbury (Multi-Role Vessel)



Thanks to Lt Cdr Glen Stokes, the Operations Officer for the Navys new multi-role vessel the HMNZS Canterbury, we were able to secure a special visit for a small number of Naval veterans on Saturday 14th March whilst it was berthed at Garden Island during the period 13-15 March 2009. The naval veterans (except me) that visited are from left to right Greg Bell, Neville Berridge, Greg Makutu, Alex Wilson, Bill Tahu and Alister Macaskill.



HMNZS Canterbury



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I can tell you that this is a big vessel and seeing it from the Ferry that day made the four Frigates fore and aft look really small. Nevertheless, as with all veterans it didn't take long for the boys to start the stories and what amazing stories they were telling. This vessel has a 'lift' which was a comforting thought for our 80 year old Neville Berridge who served on the HMNZS Achilles in WW2. But also for the other veterans as they tried to revisit their youth when going up and down the ladders. Incidentally, they still had it whilst I was the only one having difficulty with the small steps on the ladders (such a big vessel and small steps!). It also had comfortable bunk bed cabins, recreation room complete with comfortable seating and wide screen HDTV, gymnasium, wide companion ways. Our host was Midshipman Kendra Titheridge (picture below of Kendra getting the lift ready for the boys) who had only been in the Navy for two years but was very knowledgeable in explaining the vessels capabilities and



operations. But she did admit that even she learn't a lot from those that attended which was nice. The veterans came from

a wide range of experience including the Rotoiti, Achilles, Otago, Monowai, Kaiama, Inverell, Blackpool, Manwanui. The engine room according to the veterans was state of the art when compared with what they were used to during their service and the bridge had Joystick controls on either side of the vessel for berthing. But they all said that they like to feel the engines rather than use a

Game Controller (Joystick). Only naval veterans would understand that I suspect. I am sure Kendra as a



Generation Y would prefer the Joystick. Nevertheless, it was a thoroughly enjoyable visit and I hope to arrange similar visits as NZ vessels arrive. (picture above Bill and Greg reluctantly leaving).

Ceremony of Remembrance for the ANZAC Fallen Announcement - Sunday 19 April 2009 at 1100 Hours



Veterans, we are still awaiting confirmation from the Premier and NZDF for the ANZAC Service who will also join Sarah Craig (NZ Consul General in Sydney), John Haines (NSW RSL State Vice President), Chris Perrin (NSW RSL State

Secretary) and Maj Gen Morrison (Land Commander Australian Defence Force). And whilst this is great news, thanks to the Sydney Ports Authority we have managed to secure parking for all. The Sydney Ports Authority have allowed us the use of their Compound which is located right next to the Walkway under the bridge so for those older veterans, the walk to the ceremony is now 20secs-30secs as opposed to potentially 5-10 minutes. A Map is attached at the end of this NewZletter.

All NZ veterans are welcome to attend so please come along and join us in our very own Ceremony of Remembrance for our ANZAC Fallen. Details are as follows:

Date: Sunday 19 April 2009

Time: 1100 hours

Location: Under ANZAC Bridge

Dress: Medals

Important Notice: When wreaths are laid at the Statue please be mindful of the limited space available and make room available for our distinguished guests. Furthermore, the RTA has reiterated that time at the Statue for Wreath-Laying is to be kept to an absolute minimum to ensure minimum distraction to motorists. Please do not leave valuables in your vehicle as the compound is not secure.

Brisbane ANZAC Day March 2009

I have had enquiries regarding the ANZAC Day March in Brisbane so for those that are attending, please contact Larry Southern, Parade Commander (07)3207 9603 or Lt Col(Retd) Norm Fry (07)3348 6273 for further details.

Can someone please send me some pics and a story so I can include it in the April NewZletter.



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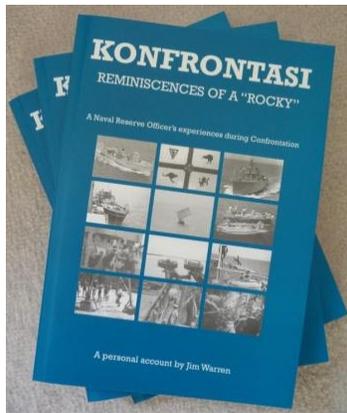


Other Notices

Dear Veterans, I apologise for not sprucing up the NewZletter by displaying the Logo's of the relevant organisations. So as with a lot of the information in this NewZletter I have taken the liberty of obtaining the Logo's from the relevant websites in order to promote your causes. Please let me know if there is any issue with this as I certainly do not want to cause offence or conflict in any way but I am working on the premise that you are more than comfortable allowing all our veterans to see this information.

KONFRONTASI - REMINISCENCES OF A "ROCKY" is a diarised account of a young naval reservist who served in HMNZS Hickleton during Confrontation.

Veterans I am so pleased to announce that an RNZN Veteran, Jim Warren has produced a book of his personal experiences during Confrontation. For those RNZN Veterans out there, I do not need to explain firstly what 'Confrontation' means and secondly what 'Rocky' means. And for other veterans who are interested please log into Jim's website address to find out.



Illustrated with nearly 200 photographs the book describes, in considerable detail, what life at sea was like during a very tense period of South East Asia's history.

Those who were there will relate to the many stories Jim has recorded and others will obtain a very clear insight into life at sea during those difficult, but exciting, times and what life in the Far East was like in the 1960's.

The book is available on line at:

www.cybermarket.com.au/welcome/page88.php

NZ Veterans Visiting and Marching in Sydney on ANZAC Day

There are a small number of NZ Veterans visiting Sydney and marching with us on ANZAC Day this year. They served in Malaya, Borneo and Vietnam so for those veterans that served in these conflicts please make them feel welcome and join us for the

ANZAC Day march. The key contact person is Bob (Bukit) Hill. Not quite sure of their schedule but if you want to catch up with them let me know and I will pass your details to Bukit.

RNZN Communicators Association Reunion Matai Club Nelson RSA



On behalf of all NZ Veterans in Australia, I hope the RNZN Communicators had a memorable and enjoyable reunion. We can only assume you did because it was in Nelson and that City has changed so much over the years into such an impressive place. For all you RNZN Communicators in AU keep in touch with your fellow veterans through their web

address RNZN Communicators Association

RNZN Reunion Sydney (9-13 April 2009)

Reminder for all Naval veterans there is to be a RNZN Reunion in April 2009 in Sydney. I included the full information on this in last year's March NewZletter. However, the reunion contacts are:



Bill Tahu - btahu@aapt.net.au
Ken Johnston - ken.johnston7@bigpond.com
Alistar MacAskil - alister9@tpg.com.au

Happy to email you the application form if requested.

2nd Canterbury Nelson Marlborough and West Coast Battalion Group (2 Cant NMWC Bn Gp) 150th Anniversary (26-28 June 2009)



Members of the 2nd Canterbury Nelson Marlborough and West Coast Battalion Group (2 Cant NMWC Bn Gp), in conjunction with the Regimental Association of the Unit, are planning the 150th Anniversary of the Unit, which will be celebrated in Christchurch over the period 26-28 June 2009.

One of our major tasks is publicising the event to ex members of the unit and those who have association with the unit, then creating a contact list to allow us to pass more detailed information about the event to them.

To assist me with this task, could you please:



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- Display the attached/enclosed information about the event in your RSA. (I have attached a basic "poster" which may also be suitable in WORD and PDF format)
- Include information about the 150th Anniversary in any newsletters/communications you have with your members.
- Forward/distribute this information to any other organisation, business, group or individual who could assist with the wider dissemination of information about the 150th Anniversary.
- Encourage people to respond to the Unit, so we can capture their contact details, to either, echoes150@yahoo.co.nz, or write to:

2nd Canterbury, Nelson, Marlborough and West Coast Battalion Group
 (Attention: 150th Anniversary Registration Clerk)
 Burnham Camp
 BURNHAM 7600

Many thanks.

BS ("Skin") FRANCES
 Captain
 HQ Coy
 2 Cant NMWC Bn Gp

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:



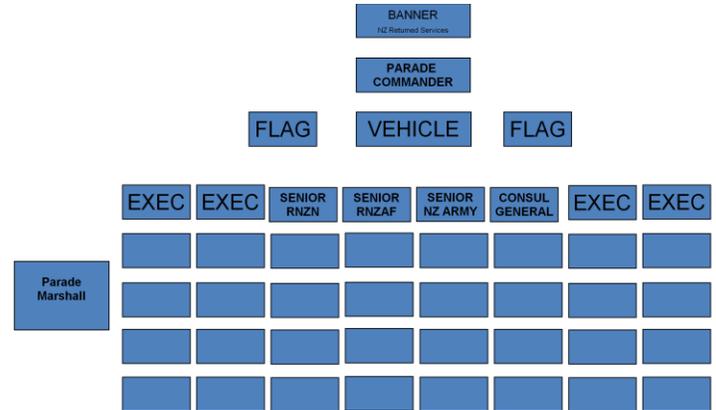
Ben Hadfield benzza@iprimus.com.au.
 Roy Jones royvjones@dreamtilt.com.au.

ANZAC Day 2009



ANZAC Day in 2009 will more than likely be the same format as this and previous years with descendents marching with us. 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 as follows:



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

NZ Veterans Association of Australia NZVAA

There is still talk about how we as a collective group of NZ veterans in AU can best be served by the RNZRSA, NZDF and AU/NZ governments or maybe we are best served from within our many collective organisations such as EVSA, RNZA Association and the many others. Some discussion around this could be to create a New Zealand Veterans Association of Australia (NZVAA). With technology the way it is management of NZVAA could be relatively easy but of course personally time consuming. Furthermore, it was thought that in the beginning at least, veterans would stay within their own organisations membership and by default also be a member of NZVAA from a whole-of-Australia perspective which has the potential to have more sway in future negotiation on veteran matters. To provide a more fairer and unbiased approach to its management, the President of the NZVAA could be shared on a rotational basis between each of the States regardless of the population base.



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There will be a lot of work to do to become established such as developing a constitution, policies and also building relationships. Anyway, if you have any views on this please let me know.

Suggestions and Pictures of NZ Veteran Identity

Thanks veterans for your suggestions and comments regarding how we might be able to identify ourselves through some form of common clothing item. The great thing is that responses have favoured an all of Australia approach as opposed to an individual State identity. This would work very well from an economy of scale perspective. Anyway, some suggestions are:



NZ Kiwi Tie: These are readily available and in various colours. The costs I am sure can be brought down because they do not need to be made using expensive material as the main purpose is to identify us as NZ Veterans or at the least Kiwi's whenever we gather at services, activities and commemorations.

Round Black and White Kiwi Badge: These could be easily obtainable I suspect and most veterans from the more recent conflicts wear these as part of their uniform. And it is worn by all services of NZDF which is great. My preference is this one but that's only my personal preference and from a whole-of-Australia perspective I am happy to go with the majority.

Committee Meeting Matters

The next Committee meeting is on the Sunday 31 May 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 Sub-Branch operates.

NZOSM Medal

Thanks to the RNZA Association for reminding us all that the NZOSM has been around since 2002 and it still appears that veterans out there do not know about it. It is free including the miniature so please when you see them at this year's ANZAC Day march have a look at their medals and let them know about it. I have included the medal and criteria also.



The New Zealand Operational Service Medal (NZOSM) was instituted in 2002 for award to New Zealanders who have served on operations since 3 September 1945. The start date is the day after the surrender ceremony in Tokyo Bay, and is also the day after qualifying service towards medals for Second World War service (including the New Zealand War Service Medal) ended.

The NZOSM provides specific New Zealand recognition for operational service, and is awarded in addition to any New Zealand, Commonwealth or foreign campaign medal. It is awarded once only to an individual, regardless of how many times he or she has deployed on operations.

Personnel and veterans who have been awarded a campaign medal for operational service since 3 September 1945 qualify for the award of the NZOSM, provided that the particular campaign medal has been approved for acceptance and wear by New Zealanders. In addition, personnel who, under certain circumstances, have not completed the qualifying period for an approved campaign medal, but who have completed a specific period of service in an operational area towards such a medal (generally seven days on the posted strength of a qualifying unit), are eligible for the NZOSM. Full details on eligibility criteria and qualifying service are contained in the Royal Warrant and Regulations for the award.

To date, the NZOSM has been issued to over 19,000 veterans

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 Sub-Branch membership renewal is due. As stated in my email, the NZ Sub-Branch would welcome your contribution to the operations of the Sub-Branch 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 (picture below 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





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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 Sub-Branch.

Please note the following:

1. Interstate veterans can join the NSW Branch of the RSL via the NZ Sub-Branch 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 in 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 **Paul Payens, Wayne Taylor, Graham Armstrong, Pat Woolley, Dennis NcCrorie, Dave Peters, Brain Forsman and Trent Direen.**

The Last Post

43328 Danny Paul LEPPER

43328 Danny Paul LEPPER ex 1RNZIR W2 SVN passed away in Sydney on 20 February 2009.

Sadly I am not sure whether veterans here knew and/or attended his funeral service but please let us or someone know if veterans pass away here so we can try and do something or at least I can get the word out to everyone. If you did attend then thank you for giving our own the send off they deserve and only us veterans can give.

303236 David SIMEON

303236 David SIMEON ex 2NZ Regiment 1959-61 Malaya, W3 SVN, passed away at Taipa, Doubtless Bay, on Monday 16 March 2009.

His funeral was held at Taipa, yesterday 19 March 2009. There was a good attendance by Malaya and Vietnam Veterans. Toto Thompson ex 1NZ Regiment 1957-59 and 2NZ Regiment 1959-61 Malaya, and 1RNZIR 1963-65 Malaysia, delivered the eulogy.

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



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Other News



Kiwi Contingent for Solomon Islands

16 March 2009

Another 44 mainly Territorial Force (TF) personnel will head to the Solomon Islands on Wednesday for a four month tour of duty.

The contingent, drawn largely from the 3rd Auckland Northland and 6th Hauraki Battalions, will be the ninth rotation to support the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI).

Operations such as RAMSI offer Reserve members of the Army the opportunity to take on the challenges that you would experience full-time in the Army and the civilian skills members bring are often invaluable when working with the local population.

Led by Major Richard Palmer, a self-employed TF officer from the 2nd Canterbury Nelson Marlborough West Coast Battalion, the Kiwis will carry out patrols, liaise with locals, provide assistance to police and help with external observation at Rove Prison.

The contingent will be farewelled by Commanding Officer of 3rd Auckland and Northland Regiment Lieutenant Colonel Chris Powell, and media are invited to attend.

When: 7.45am, Wednesday 18 March 2009

Where: Air Movements Terminal, Whenuapai Air Force Base

What: Departure of 44 personnel for a four month tour of duty in the Solomon Islands.

Boss Lift return for NZDF Reserve Employers

Steve Austin and his employee Adam Friend clean a weapon (MC09-0081-194tn)

20 March 2009

The arrival of the ninth rotation of New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) personnel to the Solomon Islands this week signalled the

return to New Zealand for 'Exercise Boss Lift', an initiative by the NZDF for Reserve Force employers to see their staff in action.

Exercise 'Boss Lift' saw employers from Rotorua through to Timaru link up for a unique experience in the Solomon Islands where they saw how their employees ate, slept, trained and worked on operation.

Their respective Territorial Force (TF) soldiers come from a variety of professions that range from painting and bartending to law and viticulture.



During the experience the employers tried on riot gear and went through crowd control drills, saw their part-time soldiers on patrol, visited local villages, interacted with local communities and explored the Honiara area of operations and its surrounds.

"The 'Boss Lift' was very interesting and informative especially when we visited a local village named Mbarana and saw how the locals really lived," said Jeremy Spencer of Spencer Painters and Decorators out of Christchurch.

The Kiwi patrol helped build a well, provided a medical clinic and gave educational packs as gifts to the local children during the exercise.

"It was an eye-opener, seeing military life up close. Seeing the improvement in my employees attitude and life-skills was a highlight," says Jamie Hughes of Copa and Toast Bars in Dunedin.

Director-General of New Zealand Defence Force Reserves Brigadier General Tim Brewer says the intent of Boss Lift was to help develop an understanding and appreciation of the work of Reserve Force soldiers on overseas operations.

"We appreciate the huge commitment for employers to release valued staff for training and importantly for operational deployment."

"Hopefully the Bosses' will see the leadership, confidence, teamwork and communication skills their employees developed in the Solomon Islands and the benefit that this will bring their organisations," says Brigadier Brewer.



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"By the same token, we thank and acknowledge the employers for the significant support they give their staff which is essential to ensuring Territorial Force soldiers can serve their country."

The 43 mostly Territorial Force soldiers in the Solomon Islands serve on a four-month deployment.

The TF, the army reserve, are involved in deployments around the world including 30 soldiers in Timor-Leste, five in Sinai, three in Korea, and personnel have also served in Afghanistan.

"The TF contribute to a number of NZDF missions and their commitment to training and service to New Zealand overseas is helping bring peace and stability around the world," Brigadier Brewer says.

www.army.mil.nz



Navy Amphibious sea support ship put through paces near Queensland



Australian Army Soldiers embark the SK50 Sea King (WN09-0063-05)

4 March 2009

The Navy's Amphibious

Sealift Ship, HMNZS CANTERBURY is currently off the coast of Queensland, near Townsville, participating in Exercise Sea Lion 2009.

CANTERBURY is working alongside HMAS KANIMBLA, landing craft of the Royal Australian Navy, Australian Navy divers and Royal Australian Navy Sea King and Australian Army Blackhawk Helicopters.

For CANTERBURY, Exercise Sea Lion is aimed at developing interoperability with Australian amphibious ships and landing craft as well as elements of the Australian Army. One of the ships main objectives for the exercise is to achieve successful ramp to ramp marriage with Australian landing craft which will

ultimately allow CANTERBURY to move personnel, vehicles, and heavy equipment without relying on port facilities.

Throughout Exercise Sea Lion, CANTERBURY will be transporting the Australian Army's '3 Brigade' soldiers and vehicles from a sea lift port to a tactical landing across the beach. CANTERBURY's Landing Craft will conduct beach landings alongside the Australian counterparts, with the highlight for the ship being the stern ramp marriages with heavy landing craft for the first time.

CANTERBURY will also be conducting 'Lift On, Lift Off' operations which involve using the ship's crane to lift vehicles and equipment from the cargo deck to waiting LCH through removable hatches in the flight deck.

Overall Exercise Sea Lion is providing valuable experience for the crew of CANTERBURY as well as giving the ship the chance to work closely with members of the Australian Defence Force and their equipment. It is proving to be a rewarding and successful exercise that will be a key step in developing CANTERBURY's amphibious sealift capability.

The Commanding Officer of HMNZS CANTERBURY, Commander Jim Gilmour says, "Exercise Sea Lion 2009 has to date been a complete success with CANTERBURY fully involved with Amphibious Sealift operations – that's where vehicles and personnel are transferred to shore without port services being available. A key objective of the exercise from the New Zealand Defence Force perspective has been the internal integration of Navy, Army and Air force personnel (a joint effort within CANTERBURY) but also external integration with Australian Defence Force organisations and units.

CANTERBURY has achieved both objectives completely to my satisfaction with all of our personnel working closely as a unit and CANTERBURY operating very effectively as an element (within this exercise) of the Australian Amphibious Task Group".

CANTERBURY is due back home to the Devonport Naval Base on 20 March 2009.

Two Navy ships visiting Wellington

HMNZS TE KAHA and HMNZS ENDEAVOUR conduct a Replenishment At Sea. (WAAN04-0042-001KH)

18 March 2009



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This weekend Wellington will host two Royal New Zealand Navy ships at the same time.



The Navy's purpose built Fleet Replenishment Tanker, HMNZS ENDEAVOUR will berth at the Overseas Passenger Terminal at 8.00pm on Thursday 19

March and the ANZAC class Frigate HMNZS TE KAHA will berth at 0800 on Friday 20 March at Queens Wharf.

The ships are conducting an operational visit to Wellington and the Commanding Officers will be conducting official calls while they are here.

HMNZS TE KAHA will be open to the public of Wellington from 10.00am - 2.00pm on Sunday 22 March.

Commander Mat Williams, Commanding Officer and his 172 ship's company warmly invite Wellingtonians to come on board and have a tour of the ANZAC class frigate at Queens Wharf.

TE KAHA has just returned from Fleet Concentration Period (East), which is an annual fleet training exercise conducted off the New South Wales Coast for the Royal Australian Navy, Royal New Zealand Navy, Royal Australian Air Force and the Royal New Zealand Air Force. The exercise focuses on developing core maritime warfare skills in a multi-threat environment. This is a key exercise for the RNZN and RNZAF to build skills and enhance interoperability with our closest ally Australia.

HMNZS ENDEAVOUR will deploy early next month in company with the Navy's other ANZAC class frigate HMNZS TE MANA to China and South East Asia. The aim of this deployment is to build on the emergent relationship with China and reinforce the NZDF commitment to the South East Asian region through participation in regional exercise activity under the Five Power Defence Arrangement and other regional bilateral and multi-lateral defence agreements

[Seaboat Incident during Joint Naval Exercise](#)
[Air Force Orion put to test by Combined Naval Force](#)

[Final Reunion for HMNZS Leander Association](#)
[Australian Navy ship to visit Auckland](#)
[Student Competition to ignite Anzac Spirit](#)
[Visit to Home Port for Navy Tanker](#)

www.navy.mil.nz



US Air Force flies into Auckland

19 March 2009

A US Air Force C-17 Globemaster III flew into Whenuapai last night to begin preparations for the Royal New Zealand Air Force Open Day to be held this Saturday, 21 March. The C-17 will be conducting a practice flying display over Whenuapai (West Auckland) 3:30 - 4:15 pm this afternoon.

Media interested in photo and/or filming opportunities are requested to contact Squadron Leader Kavae Tamariki on 021 420 899 to arrange access to Base.

ENDS

For further information please contact Squadron Leader Kavae Tamariki, Media Adviser Air Force (Navy) 021 420 899.

Notes

The C-17 Supports U.S. and N.Z scientific research operations in Antarctica: The U.S Air Force provides airlift support in an extremely adverse environment, sometimes landing the C-17 on a six-foot thick ice runway to deliver supplies to the U.S. Antarctic Program from August through February each season.

During the 2007 to 2008 season, U.S. Air Force C-17s flew 57 missions to McMurdo Station, Antarctica, from Christchurch, New Zealand, carrying more than 3.1 million pounds of cargo and more than 2,800 passengers.

On the return missions from McMurdo, C-17 aircrews flew more than 850,000 pounds of cargo and 2,700 passengers back to Christchurch. The C-17 Globemaster III is part of the 517th



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Airlift Squadron based in Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska, USA

The aircraft is operated by a crew of three (pilot, copilot and loadmaster), reducing manpower requirements, risk exposure and long-term operating costs. Cargo is loaded onto the C-17 through a large aft door that accommodates military vehicles and palletized cargo. The C-17 can carry virtually all of the Army's air-transportable equipment.

The C-17 has an un-refueled range of approximately 2,400 nautical miles. It has a global range with in-flight refueling. Its cruise speed is approximately 450 knots (.76 Mach). The C-17 is designed to airdrop 102 paratroopers and equipment.

The design of the aircraft allows it to operate through small, austere airfields. The C-17 can take off and land on runways as short as 3,500 feet (1,064 meters) and only 90 feet wide (27.4 meters). Even on such narrow runways, the C-17 can turn around using a three-point star turn and its backing capability.

Air Force locates stranded vessel

An RNZAF P3 Orion

20 March 2009

A Royal New Zealand Air Force Orion crew took just 52 minutes to locate a vessel overdue by two days with all personnel on board safe and well.



The No 5 Squadron P3 Orion launched from Whenuapai Air Force Base at 6:15am and took up the search off the Tongan coast at 9:30am. The stranded vessel, a 17 foot aluminium boat with four people on board including the Governor of Ha'apai and his staff, were found at 10:22am.

The Air Component Commander at NZDF Joint Headquarters, Air Commodore Gavin Howse has complimented the crew; "Once again Air Force Orions of 5 Sqn have reacted quickly to a call for assistance, finding the missing boat and its occupants within an hour of arriving in the Tongan area.

The Orion dropped radios and equipment to the stricken vessel and will land in Tonga before coordinating a rendezvous with a Tongan patrol craft sailing to the aid of the survivors."

"I'm sure the survivors would have been relieved to see the P3 Orion overhead having been missing for over 48 hours"

The vessel is currently located 200 kilometres north east of Nuku'alofa and approximately 200km east of where the volcano is erupting.

ENDS

For further information please contact Squadron Leader Kavae Tamariki, Media Adviser Air Force 04 496 7294 or 021 420 899.

Notes:

No.5 Squadron is located at RNZAF Base Auckland and is the RNZAF's only maritime patrol Squadron. The Squadron is responsible for surveillance of New Zealand's maritime area of interest which is approximately 1/12 of the world's ocean surface, ranging from the Antarctic to the equator.

No.5 Squadron consists of approximately 145 members and is allocated approximately 2,500 hours a year to meet NZDF Maritime Patrol Force requirements such as:

- * Maritime surveillance*
- * Maritime reconnaissance*
- * Exclusive Economic Zone patrols*
- * Search and rescue*

[RNZAF Air Show this Saturday](#)

[RNZAF Base Auckland gears up for Air Show](#)

[Air Force Orion put to test by Combined Naval Force](#)

[Central Band of the RNZAF - End of Tour Concert](#)

[RNZAF Parachutists supporting the Community](#)

[Student Competition to ignite Anzac Spirit](#)

[Whenuapai Air Show and Open Day](#)

www.airforce.mil.nz

IN REMEMBRANCE



RNZRSA Submission to the Law Commission



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Last December we forwarded to the Law Commission our submission on the War Pensions Act re-write, but only in interim form. The timing of the Law Commission's "roadshow" and the complexity of the issues meant we had no opportunity to obtain the internal constitutional approvals that would be necessary before we went public.

But that has now been done. Since January our interim document has been under consideration by our Affiliates, by the large Steering Group we set up, and by the NEC. At its meeting on 23-24 February 2009, NEC approved it unanimously.

I am very pleased therefore to be able to publish the document. As it happens, there have been no major changes to the interim version, except that some points suggested by Messrs David Cox and Larry Boyle from the World War II contingent have been included; and a few other points of clarification have also been made.

This has been a challenging task. As the submission itself remarks, it has involved extensive consultations with welfare officers, Affiliates, the large Steering Group and others, over many months. The Law Commission's seminars at RSAs and within the Defence Force have also been vital. The issues are both wide and deep. Naturally, in the course of these consultations a very wide range of views has been expressed on a very wide range of topics. In not a few cases it was difficult to harmonize the results because, basically, the views of some clashed directly with the views of others. We thank those who sent us copies of individual submissions, but because they were submissions to the Law Commission not the RNZRSA, the snapshot we have of them is not necessarily complete.

An age-old risk appeared - try to please everybody but end up pleasing nobody. And so, decisions had to be taken knowing that they would not please everybody equally. Out of all this, therefore, what we have tried to do is express a representative view as accurately and constructively as possible. As the submission points out, it is particularly important that what we propose is achievable and is a good fit with the New Zealand support system, a major part of which is ACC. We also know that anything we might achieve rests wholly on public acceptance of our special position in society.

In that regard, on the one hand we had the Law Commission's view that those who have served do occupy a special place; and that those who have been damaged in harms' way should have the same entitlements as other citizens, plus something. On the other hand, if we stretched public sympathy too far, we would risk losing support altogether. This has been a difficult line to walk.

The RNZRSA submission attempts to present the best possible case. But it is not the end of the process. Indeed it is scarcely the beginning. Over coming months there will be ample opportunity to change, add to, or subtract from what is in our submission, and others, as the Law Commission works on turning what it has learned into new and better law. We look forward to the next stages alongside the Commission.

Robin Klitscher
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

NZ Sub-Branch Executive Appointments 2009

President	David Winkelmann AFC MID
Vice Presidents	Ron Haira 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.

April	Friday 17 th	1900 Chatswood RSL Dinner Invitation Only (Wear Medals)
	Saturday 18 th	1400 Kapyong Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Banner/Flag/Medals)
	Sunday 19 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)
	Thursday 23 rd	0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place Station (Wear Medals)
	Friday 24 th	0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place Station (Wear Medals)
	Saturday 25 th	ANZAC Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Banners/Flags/Medals)



New Zealand Sub-Branch



NewZletter

Sunday 26th

1030 ANZAC Church Service Te Wairua Tapu Maori Anglican Church Redfern (Korowai/LemonSqueezer/RNZAF Hat/RNZN Hat/Medals)

December Sunday 13th 1200-1500 Xmas Lunch Chatswood RSL Club (Wear Medals)

May Friday 29th 1100 Indigenous Veterans Service Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)

Sunday 31st **1030 Committee Meeting**

July Sunday 5th 1100 Reserve Forces Day Hyde Park (Standard/Flags/Medals)

Sunday 19th 1200 Mid-Year Lunch Chatswood RSL (Wear Medals)

Sunday 26th **1030 Committee Meeting**

August Friday 14th 1100 Victory in the Pacific Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)

Sunday 16th 1130 Vietnam Veterans Day Springwood (Banner/Flags/Medals)

Monday 17th 1100 Battle of Long Tan Day Martin Place Cenotaph (Banner/Flag/Medals)

September Thursday 3rd 1100 Battle of Australia Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)

Friday 4th 1100 Merchant Navy Day Service Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)

Friday 11th 1100 Battle of Britain Martin Place Cenotaph (Wear Medals)

Sunday 27th **1030 Committee Meeting**

November Tuesday 10th 0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place Station (Wear Medals)

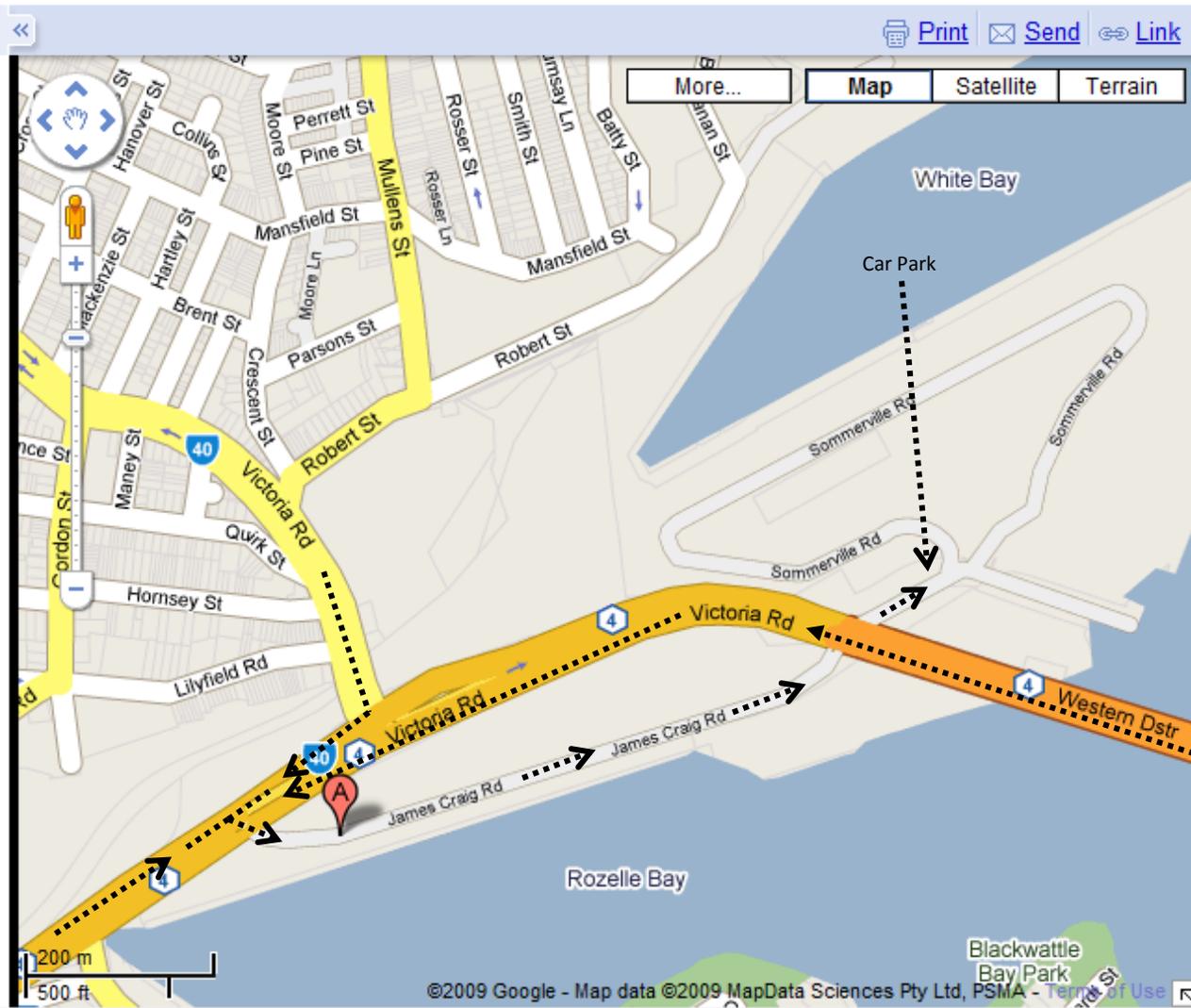
Wednesday 11th 0630 Poppy Selling Martin Place Station (Wear Medals)
1100 Remembrance Day Service Martin Place Cenotaph (Banner/Flags/Medals)

Sunday 29th **1030 Committee Meeting**



New Zealand Sub-Branch

NewZletter



If you come across ANZAC Bridge keep left and then turn left into James Craig Road. Continue to follow James Craig Road keeping to the left at all times which goes under the bridge then into Car Park area.

If you come from Balmain/Rozelle, turn right from Victoria Road (do not go over ANZAC Bridge) and then turn left into James Craig Road. Continue to follow James Craig Road keeping to the left at all times which goes under the bridge then into Car Park area.

ANZAC Bridge from Sydney

If you come from Glebe, turn right into James Craig Road. Continue to follow James Craig Road keeping to the left at all times which goes under the bridge then into Car Park area.