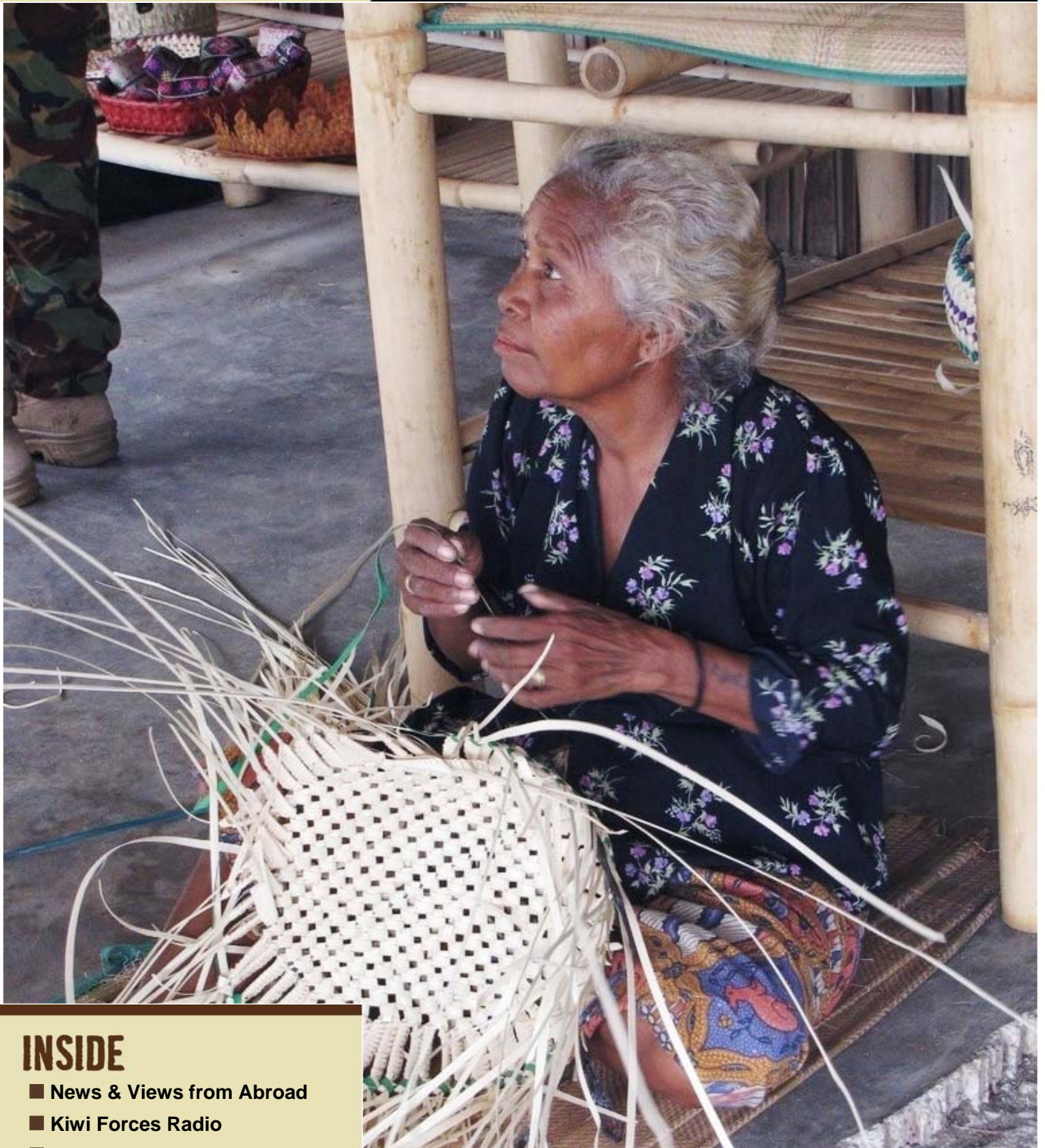


THE BUGLE

Issue 144 | October 2010



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"THE BUGLE"

The Deployment Newsletter is produced for families and service personnel associated with current overseas deployments.

Deadline

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Bugle contributions are welcome and should be sent to the Editor.

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Disclaimer

Articles and opinions expressed in "The Bugle" are not necessarily those of the New Zealand Defence Force.

Cover Photo:

A lady in Dili-Timor-Leste continues the art of basket weaving

GUEST EDITORIAL

Rear Admiral Jack Steer Vice Chief of Defence Force

This month I again addressed the Annual General Meeting of the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services Association in Wellington, as one of the senior leadership of the NZDF does every year. This year, one of the themes of my speech was the new veteran; you and your mates, people like us.

Every day since the first deployment to Bosnia of Kiwi Company more and more of us have become veterans. While many of us deployed operationally before Bosnia, through the deployments to the Gulf, Northern Africa, East Timor, the Pacific and Afghanistan, more and more Sailors, Soldiers and Air people have become veterans. Around 5000 men and women currently serving in the Defence Force are veterans. This means that currently serving personnel are estimated to be the second largest veteran group after those who served in World War Two.

Recent changes in Veterans Affairs, bringing it into the NZDF as an operational unit, have a real impact on us all, as we are the veterans that this new arrangement will support. The changes proposed to Veterans legislation too will affect us all into the future.

I mention all this to give context to the question some of you might have been asking, why with all the other change that the NZDF is moving through is so much effort being put into Veterans issues? The answer is simple as it affects about half of us now and more into the future.

That brings me on to the changes that are underway in the NZDF and the reason why change is essential. Gen Shinseki, the then Chief of Staff of the US Army, responded to a group of officers who were



VCDF with MCC on board the new OPV HMNZS Wellington on her first visit to her homeport Wellington

complaining about change saying, 'if you don't like change you will like irrelevance even less'. Change is essential to keep the NZDF relevant to the challenges of the future, simpler and better are what we have to be to avoid change being imposed from outside. We know our business better than others, we can drive change ourselves to make our Defence Force better and focussed on the challenges of the future that we face.

The major changes in the way we support ourselves across the NZDF; logistically, with the Defence Logistic Command, in personnel with the Defence Personnel Executive, and with the impending changes in training and education and health care are all occurring while we deliver operational outputs every day. There can't be a pause while we regroup; we have to accomplish our transformation while continuing to serve at sea, in the air and on land around the world. That means that those of us serving here in New Zealand have to take special care to ensure that we continue to deliver to the people deployed our best efforts to support them. I know that those of us who serve in HQ NZDF, and in the Camps and Bases around NZ, are meeting that challenge.

NEWS UPDATE



NEW NZ DEFENCE SERVICE MEDAL

korero@nzdf.mil.nz

The Prime Minister John Key announced on Monday that the Government has established the New Zealand Defence Service Medal, subject to the Queen's approval. The medal will be for those who have served in the military for more than three years since World War Two, and those who did compulsory military training or national military service.

It is estimated that there are over 160,000 people eligible for the medal.

"The initial call for applications will be restricted to those aged 50 years and over, but after six to 12 months we will open it up to all others. In cases where an ex-serviceman or woman is deceased, their family can apply for the medal," Mr Key said in his speech at the RNZRSA National Council.

The Defence Force will not be accepting applications for the medal until at least late February.

Due to the large number of people eligible for the new medal, priority will be given to processing applications from the oldest ex-Service personnel.

The issue of the NZ Defence Service Medal to currently serving Defence Force personnel will be organised via the Services in late 2011, after the oldest ex-Service personnel have received their medals. Current serving personnel will NOT be required to apply for the medal.

Current serving personnel are instructed NOT to directly contact the Medals Office or single Service HQs concerning this medal, as this will simply delay the issue of the medal to the oldest ex-Service persons.

For the first time for the NZ Defence Force, it is planned that applications by ex-Service personnel can be initiated online after applications open in about late February 2011.

The first medals are likely to be issued in March 2011. Medals for ex-Service personnel will be

couriered by the Defence Force to the home address of the applicant. All ex-Service personnel will then have the opportunity for a local presentation to be made at their nearest RSA Club accompanied by their family, peers and friends. More details will be advised shortly by the RNZRSA on this opportunity for local recognition.

An inaugural medal presentation may be held at Parliament Buildings in March 2011. The Government will liaise with the RNZRSA and other ex-Service persons associations on selecting individuals to be invited to such a ceremony.

For more information about the New Zealand Defence Service Medal, visit:

<http://medals.nzdf.dixs.mil.nz/>

FOOD BANKS BENEFIT FROM DEFENCE 'CAN'PAIGN

www.nzdf.mil.nz

Food banks from Auckland to Dunedin have benefited this week from the generosity of New Zealand Defence Force personnel in a campaign called Mission Kiwi Can.

The campaign, which ran for the last two weeks, saw personnel from the Navy, Army and Air Force, as well as Navy Reserve, Territorial Force units and Defence Force civilians throughout the country, collecting canned food for local food banks.

Vice Chief of Defence Force, Rear Admiral Jack Steer said: "Our people have donated over 8,200

cans to food banks around the country. It is great to see Defence Force personnel showing such generosity to those in the wider New Zealand community in need of assistance."

Even Navy personnel on the HMNZS ENDEAVOUR, with a crew of 50 people, collected donations which were converted into 268 cans and given to the food bank of their home port, New Plymouth.

In Wellington 2,394 cans were donated to the Wellington City Mission. Wellington City Missioner Father Des Britten said, "This is an awesome contribution which will go a long way towards stocking up our depot as we head towards Christmas, a time when we always

get increased demand."

"We are very grateful for the support the Defence Force has shown us."



Pictured: Father Des Britten hands cans to Private Karl Jager while Corporal Anna Calvert loads cans onto the Army Unimog for delivery to Wellington City Mission

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

NEWS AND VIEWS

Including: A Touch of History in the Solomon Islands
Tribute to Lieutenant Tim O'Donnell, DSD
Combat Service Support Team Suai Patrol
Working Hard and Getting out and Meeting People

A TOUCH OF HISTORY IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

CPL B.M. Grimshaw

On Sunday, 10th of October 2010, the New Zealand National Support Element (NSE) and members of the New Zealand Police visited "The Galloping Horse", one of the many battlefield tours in Guadalcanal.

The battlefield tour took us near where the battles of Mount Austen, The Galloping Horse, and The Seahorse took place more than 67 years ago – and inspired the Hollywood film *"The Thin Red Line"*. The Galloping Horse, like The Seahorse, named after the creatures they resemble in aerial

photographs of the landscape.

Upon arriving at a local village just outside of Honiara, we were greeted by smiling faces and welcoming waves. Our tour guide Mike came out from the crowd and introduced himself. He was very professional with his hand-made name tag proudly pinned to his t-shirt.

It came naturally from our military training and experience to hike with plenty of water, good communications and first aid supplies. We also came prepared with sunscreen, insect repellent, tyre tubes and food.

We were amazed as we set off on our tour in the 37 degree heat

behind Mike and his barefoot team of guides carrying nothing but the clothes on their backs. This was their backyard!

The Galloping Horse battlefield tour covered the sites where the Japanese and Americans fought between 10-23 January 1943. It was a huge eye-opener as the walk was littered with gun pits, shell scrapes and disposed of ammunition shells.

Mike amazed us with his knowledge of the area and history. We were followed by local children who listened to his stories, and it was clear that the history will continue to survive and be passed down through the generations.

Throughout our walk Mike explained how the landscape was used by the Japanese, and how the Americans had staged their attacks. From the top of Hill 54, we clearly saw the whole of Iron Bottom Sound - now home to 47 ship wrecks and numerous plane wrecks.

The ground was unforgiving. There was no cover and the ground was open. It was easy to imagine how brutal the assaults were which claimed more than 3000 Japanese and 250 American lives.



Tour Guide Mike on the left with members of the NZ Police and NSE before setting off to the Galloping Horse and Matanikau Falls



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

From the steep ridges, we left the beautiful landscape and entered down through the rainforest to the Matanikau Falls, with its massive caves. These caves were used as hideouts, with one particular cave fitting an entire battalion during the assaults.

The journey back was not as demanding as the steep hills in the open sun. We utilised our tyre tubes to float downstream to our endpoint - the village where we departed. Through the thick jungle views we got waves, thumbs up, and an occasional "kia ora". It would seem our predecessors have left a positive impression!

COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT TEAM SUAI PATROL (AKA THE "GUN SHOW") —

Loosely based on a true story

CPL Mata Oltaches (AKA Bone Crusher)

Early last month six very good looking, hunky and cut soldiers from the Combat Service Support Team (CSST), based at the HPOD, hit the road for Suai. The purpose of the trip was to conduct some much needed maintenance on a Kiwi statue in Suai and on the other NZ memorials in the Cova Lima area. In addition, it was rumoured that there was a body-building competition occurring in Suai that coincided with our trip. We were all very excited about entering in our first contest as we had all been training hard for several months. Though it was blatantly clear that some of us had made better gains than others, we were confident that we would scoop all trophies. However, maintenance was the Main Effort and we were also looking forward to interacting with the locals, especially the children. And so, as it became known, the "Gun Show" set off on the long journey across some of the best

tar-sealed roads in Timor (I feel this could be one for the Tui Board).

The crew consisted of: CAPT Ange Sutton (Pimp Squeak), SGT Rob Clark (Papa Rob), CPL Skinny Galvin (Skin Dog), PTE Joe Kapua (Ronnie Coleman), PTE Willy Lister (Seedy Willy) and li'l ole me (Bone Crusher). I was not only going to compete in the contest but I had been asked by the IBBA to assist with judging the competition - I know a good bod when I see one. Oh, and I must not forget our interpreter, Cisco, who was accompanying us. He soon realized that it was not only his linguist prowess we were after, he had been cajoled into applying the fake tan to the boys.

Once we arrived in Suai we were straight into the maintenance of the Kiwi statue in town. As you can see from the photo (over the page), it is an impressive structure built by those members of NZBATT6 prior to the NZDF's withdrawal in 2002, as a reminder to the Timorese people of our contribution and a thank you for their support. Well it wasn't long before I became frustrated with certain individuals in the crew. Pimp Squeak was too busy worrying about how she could make her guns look big for all the photos that were being taken. As soon as a camera appeared she downed tools and was posing, usually with a double bicep shot. Most of the time the camera had to be set to macro (and beauty mode) so it could pick out any muscle (if that's what you call it). Poor old Seedy Willy spent most of his time trying to explain to Pimp Squeak how the simple job that was to be done should be done. No sooner had she mastered a basic task than she broke a nail and had to take the rest of the day off. And then there was Papa Rob. He would've been better off staying in HPOD. He was so tired after a few hours of work he was described as a waste

of "Russians" (this translates as "rations" for Papa Rob cannot speak correctly. He is a Brit import, a real Cockney Wide Boy and either talks in rhyming slang or double-Dutch). After 30 minutes with a paint brush he was dripping with sweat, dehydrated and as grey as a corpse. He would have made a great extra on Michael Jackson's Thriller video. Then there was PTE Ronnie Coleman. Somehow he had convinced himself that he was going to scoop the major prize at the body-building competition. He was so confident and cocky that he was going to win that he was in a world of his own. He was oblivious to all external stimuli and became very narcissistic.

On one occasion, whilst painting the Kiwi, he covered most of his body and uniform in paint. Unfortunately CAPT Sutton had to inform him that his uniform is ruined and he will have to pay \$500 for a new one. So off he went in a sulk, as the prize-money he was sure he was going to win, had already been ear-marked. Skin Dog was his usual self throughout the trip. He could be seen regularly, and I mean every ten minutes, bursting into flames. Now cigarettes are very cheap in Timor and Skin Dog, being the financial whiz kid he is, has been heard to say that he cannot afford to give up as the smokes are so cheap. Remind me on return to NZ, **NOT** to buy some of the shares he has invested in.

With smoke in hand he would sit under the shade of the biggest tree he could find and put his feet up with a brew. He would watch us non-smokers from his resting place and bark orders such as, "you have missed a bit there" or "don't forget three parts sand to one part cement." We were obviously very grateful for these snippets of information and all took them in the manner they were intended. As you can imagine it did not take me long

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

to realize I needed to either crack the whip with this lazy bunch or do all the work myself. As it was not going to be the latter, I braced myself and gave them all a little talking too. After a few softly spoken words the crew decided to pull together and knuckle down to some mahi.

After a few days work in the baking sun the task was completed – the results were very impressive, however, if it hadn't been for my intervention as foreman of the project we would still be there. The "Guns" did us proud and the Kiwi statue now stands bright and tall once again. It was only then that we realized PTE Ronnie Coleman had incorrectly read an article in his body-building magazine, *"Get Massive in One Day Forever Without Doing any Weights"*. The competition was not to be in Suai as he had assured us but in Kazakhstan. He was all apologetic and tried to pass the buck, but we understood, an easy mistake to make! Never let it be said that guys with big muscle do not have brains as well.



PTE Rakabu's Memorial

Once the job had been accomplished in Suai it was off to Bobonaro to refurbish the Fijian memorial in the area. Once again the scenery was dramatic and the roads were the same. I cannot understand why the Timorese chose to build paddling pools in the middle of tar-sealed roads. They are great fun to drive through but

make journeys ever so long. The memorial commemorates the life of PTE Rakabu who served with the Fijian Company attached to NZBATT4. He died in a road accident in 2001 when the vehicle he was in plunged off a cliff. We knew that the memorial was a simple white cross so our very own PTE Lister designed and made a plaque for it. The design was based on the Fijian unit cap badge and looked splendid once painted and varnished. Unusually his work was of a very high standard and I would like to acknowledge Willy's time and effort. We also touched up some of the concrete that had eroded away and then gave it a lick of paint. With Willy's plaque fixed to it, it looked like new, no, dare I say it, better than new. Good job team.

Well we were on a roll so we pushed on to Lolotoe District. Here two of our own memorials are situated, in memory of SSGT William Edward White and PTE Boyd Reagan Henerae Atkins. They lost their lives whilst serving in Timor during the BATT days. It was very pleasing to see that their memorials had been kept in good



The Suai Kiwi

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

order by the locals in the area. As such they only needed a quick spruce up – thanks to them for looking after the memory of our brothers in arms.

***Below: SSGT White's memorial
(6 May 1962—25 April 2000)***



Personally, I did not know SSGT White and PTE Boyd, however, being able to carry out this service in their name was an honour. To the families of our fallen brothers, you should always know that your loved ones will never be forgotten.

After completing the maintenance programme the "Gun Show" was challenged to a game of soccer, or association football as Papa Rob likes to call it, by the locals in Tilomar. After all the work we had put in renovating the memorials we were obviously exhausted and got a sound thrashing. Despite the hiding (or as Papa Rob would say in his best English accent "trouncing") I can put my hand on my heart and say that every member of the "Gun Show" gave it 100%. Even Papa Rob transformed into "Young Rob". He was by far the most experienced of us all (most of us had not seen a round ball before that you kick). He ran

rings around the opposition and hogged the ball all match long. A big well done to Pimp Squeak and Seedy Willy for playing the full game – having two left feet may hinder your dribbling skills but it does not have any effect on endurance. It's a pity that you can't use your "guns" in this game for we had the advantage in this area – you should have seen the distance we got with our throw-ins.

Congratulations to PTE Ronnie Coleman for scoring our only goal. He doesn't know how he scored it as he almost knocked himself out when he head butted the ball into the goal. The bruising caused his head to grow even bigger and the weight of his massive melon meant he was quickly fatigued. He then spent the rest of the game on the sideline either bent over in exhaustion or, when someone was in close proximity, explaining how he had scored. It seemed as if his

explanation was great cure for insomnia as several locals could be seen looking decidedly sleepy after hearing what he had to say. You say you can't teach an old dog new tricks and Skin Dog was no exception. After a full five minutes on the pitch he pulled up with an old injury and assumed the role of coach. In a pose reminiscent of the one he struck in Suai, he spent the game in a near horizontal state, working his way steadily through a packet of Benson and Hedges. He propped his feet up on a tree stump and could occasionally be heard shouting useful words of encouragement such as "ruck the ball" or "drive on." At least when Skin Dog leaves the Army, we can be assured he will not be going into the financial advice sector or football refereeing. Despite getting the bash by the Tilomar team we all got stuck in, gave it our best, played to the end and never gave up.

Once the soccer game was finally over (it could not come soon enough as I recall the score was something like 37-1) the day found us once again, and unfortunately for the last time, hanging out with the local children around the Kiwi statue. They got stuck in with helping us to make the finishing touches to the statue. Games were played, little girls' hair was braided, lollies were shared and there was laughter and smiles all round. Lots of photos were taken (and yes Pimp Squeak again did her best to get in them – she has had more press coverage this trip than Paris Hilton and Susan Boyle put together). It was a fantastic afternoon, the kids were amazing and despite the fact they have very little, were so happy and fun. To top it all off we were then hosted by a local family and treated to a traditional Timorese feed.

After another long and windy road-trip we arrived back in the HPOD,

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



home sweet home. Whilst unpacking my eagle-eyes spotted some "illegal supplements" on board one of the vehicles. All I can say is that it was a good job the body-building contest was being held in Turkmenistan, or wherever it was, as we would have been disqualified. Did you know that Giant Jaffas give athletes an unfair advantage? Being extremely disappointed at this discovery I immediately placed the whole "Gun Show" on a strict detox diet of cod liver oil, silverbeet juice and spinach enemas. This was the only way that they would cleanse their systems, in two weeks, before the competition at the HPOD.

Before we returned to our own beds that night we reflected on what an honour it had been to go on the trip. To return to the part of Timor where the NZBATTs had operated and renovate the memorials in the area was a humbling experience. The people of Timor remain very welcoming of Kiwis, they are so friendly and full of joy and hope.

Be assured that the memory of those that have gone before us, and in particular those who lost

their lives whilst serving here, continues.

WORKING HARD AND GETTING OUT AND MEETING PEOPLE

LT COL Andrew Fox
CRIB 17, Afghanistan

Hi All,

No doubt it's been just as busy for you as it has been for us in the first few weeks. The CRIB 16 team completed a very successful six months with a great handover before they departed back to NZ for their third successive summer!

Meanwhile back on the ground the guys and girls have been working hard getting out and about meeting the people they will be working with over the tour and forging those relationships that make Kiwi contingents unique over here.

As you know a few have been here on previous tours so it has been heartening to hear how impressed they have been with the progress that has been made not only around Bamian Town but also the wider region. You'll also be pleased to know that for those that remain

in Kiwi Base quite a few have been up PT hill and the recorded times are starting to become competitive. That might change a bit once the snow comes in! Those out in the Forward Operating Bases have made themselves at home and are enjoying the facilities (and independence) out there.

The weather is still very pleasant with long sunny days and temperatures of around 25 degrees (which is alot better than Wellington I hear) but the temperature is forecast to drop fairly quickly from here. The sweepstake is on for the first snowfall in Kiwi Base and already there is a bit of white on some of the higher peaks around the valley.

From my perspective I have been very happy with the way everyone has got on with the job at hand. The teams have been working well together and looking after each other. There is an air of quiet professionalism about the place as they settle into their roles and everyone is looking to contribute as much as possible while they are here.

I hope things are going as well at home. As I said to many of you during the presentations, at times it will be harder for you than it is for us going about our jobs over here. Please don't hesitate to make contact with Carol or Janine if you need advice or assistance. For those of you who have met our Deployment Services Officers, will know they are the right people for the job, and have a wealth of knowledge based on their experience with other deployments. Additionally, there are a wide range of contacts to help out in your deployment guides. Our family support services have come a long way since my first deployment; please take advantage of them when you need them.

Until next time, kia kaha, kia toa.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT TIM O'DONNELL, DSD

CPL C. MacGibbon, NSE 17

On the 12th October 2010 the contingents of CRIB NSE 16 and TROY NSE 17 were witness to a prestigious tribute to our fallen comrade, Lieutenant Tim O'Donnell, DSD.

It was on this day, at Camp Warrior (one of the newest camps of Bagram Air Field), that the Kiwi soldiers currently deployed to BAF gathered around one of the new barrack buildings that had recently been built.

Once in place the soldiers of both NSE contingents as well as several key American personnel, were greeted by COL Thomas E. DREW, Deputy Commander of TG WOLVERINE, of the 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. He proceeded to say a few words about some of the protocols that the American forces sometimes tribute to fallen soldiers. From here the outgoing NZ Liaison Officer, MAJ Jonathan Fiu, said some words on behalf of the NZ elements deployed to Afghanistan.

On completion of the speeches, the Base Operations Major for BAF who orchestrated the parade unveiled a coloured print of the plaque that was going to be attached to the new barracks and thus naming the block O'Donnell



MAJ Fiu, outgoing NZ LO along with the American Bde LO

Hall. The plaque itself was in the process of being made, however the decision was made to do the unveiling while both NSE contingents were still present in BAF.

It was a moving parade for all those present and one that will be remembered for a long time to come.



The new barrack complex now named O'Donnell Hall



NSE 16, NSE 17 and American representative personnel

DSO'S CORNER



Janine Burton
Deployment Services Officer
2nd Land Force Group

I can't believe how quickly "The Bugle" deadlines come around – the year is certainly whizzing by at a great rate of knots! I was thinking the other day on my drive home, as you do, about this time of year. For those who aren't familiar with the Linton area, between Camp and Palmerston North is farmland and there were all these little lambs bouncing (literally) about, enjoying the sun and the grass and doing just what little lambs do best, and I was thinking that I really enjoy this particular time of year although it passes by all too quickly. The blossoms have all but finished, as have the daffodils, the weather isn't consistent and we have certainly had more than our share of rain, but early spring has to be my most favourite time of year. Good thoughts, but enough of the philosophising, on with the writing!

I would like to pass on my personal 'welcome home' to all the CRIB 16 contingent who have now returned and will be spending valuable

family time with their loved ones. We hope that your reunions are going really well and that reintegrating back into life at home isn't too stressful. Communication is the key; just keep talking and all will be well. Remember, that just because the deployment is now over, that our support of you in relation to the deployment will continue, so get in contact if we can assist at all. Remember too, that our Chaplains and Field Psychologists are another really good group of people to approach if you are requiring someone to talk things over with.

Things aren't slowing down at all for us though. We are getting ready for changeover in the Timor deployment which will occur next month and we will soon be out and about meeting our 'new' families. Also the Solomon Islands deployment family briefs are scheduled for the first weekend in November. Then before we know it, it will be Christmas.

Our 'special project' for the CRIB 17 families has started, but to-date haven't received many contributions. I don't want to be too specific (cause this is supposed to be a surprise) so for any of our CRIB families who don't know what I am talking about, please give me a call. Otherwise, we are working to a 1 November deadline for contributions, so please get them to me as soon as you can so I can start putting it all together. See below for my new email address:

You will see also that Carol is now back at work – good to have you back.



Carol Voyce
Deployment Services Officer
3rd Land Force Group

Greetings to you all!

I have just returned to work from almost four months extended leave and look forward to catching up with you all, meeting new faces and renewing acquaintances with others. Firstly, sincere thanks to my many work colleagues across the three services who carried my workload during my absence, filled gaps, supported and encouraged me and went that extra mile above and beyond their already heavy commitments. Extra special gratitude to Janine Burton, Deployment Services Officer, Linton who worked tirelessly to look after the many comings and goings of many deployments during my absence.

Deployment Support Services are not just about your DSO. This is no more evident than at the beginning and end of any deployment journey – and many of you are now experiencing either of these scenarios.

It would seem too easy to overlook the myriad of support that goes on behind the scenes, both in preparation for a deployment or in the safe return of loved ones.

There is a huge team involved with the planning and delivery of pre-

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Unfortunately there has been an issue with my current email address (it was "turned off"!) so I now have an updated address for email. You can now contact me on dso.linton@gmail.com (previously xtra.co.nz). Emails weren't accepted on the xtra address from the afternoon of 15 October. Hopefully I haven't missed any messages for this issue of the Bugle, my sincerest apologies if I have. Janine.

DSO'S CORNER CONT'D...

deployment training (PDT), not only do our deploying service personnel have to meet strict training guidelines in order to safely deploy, they must also be medically fit and cleared. Our Medical Treatment Centre is kept busy with the necessary 'stabs and jabs' (as our soldiers refer to them) and ensuring the general health and wellbeing of those deploying, not to mention the work of the dental team. Our PDT team bring years of experience and expertise to ensure the first class standards of our service personnel, that are evident and admired worldwide.

Behind every deployment is the need to ensure the paperwork 'war' is covered and we know who you are and where to find you. Sounds simple, but I can assure you it is no mean feat to make sure your contact details are correct and

many other personal and pay details are well covered and form part of our working database.

We must also pay tribute to the Tri-Service Movements Team, who up and down the country is tasked with the safe departure and safe return of your loved ones. As you can imagine, freight is a major issue and the logistics of that defies imagination. And of course our Deployment Support Team would not be complete without the input from our amazing group of Chaplains and Psychologists countrywide.

The success of every deployment however, not only depends on operational matters. How could success be achieved if the wellbeing of those at home was ignored? How could service personnel concentrate on their job

in a distant land if they were worried about those left behind? If there was no back up? No timely information? No news? Well, this is the part that deployment support services are all about.

Every deploying soldier has had behind them the love, pride and support of you at home and every soldier deploying in the future can be assured of the same. I am constantly amazed at your dedication, sacrifices and commitments. – You are the ones that surely deserve the medals!

Best wishes to those about to begin the deployment journey and welcome home to those who have just completed it. You all have every reason to be proud. I look forward to meeting up with many of you at the pre-deployment briefings for Timor-Leste and the Solomon Islands.

Send a message to your loved one overseas, with...



Kate Lukins, a former DJ and studio engineer with the Radio Network (Newstalk ZB, ZM/FM, Classic Hits, Coast FM etc) and who now works with Defence in a civilian role, has secured access to the network's studio, music library and phones.

She will be recording a three hour Christmas radio show for our deployed personnel, complete with music requests and messages of support from families.

The programme will be copied onto CDs and sent into theatre through the mail system, in time for Christmas. For people in New Zealand, it may also be available for download from the NZDF website. Download details will be advised in December.

To send a song request and record a message for your loved one, email: kate.lukins@nzdf.mil.nz with your name, phone number (cellphone is okay) and say what time during the 13 – 14 November is best for her to call you from the studio.

Final day to email your details through is Friday 12 November, all calls

CANTERBURY ART EXHIBITION

Within the Ranks: One Army, Many Faces

Gain an insight into the people, culture and significant events of the New Zealand Army through the eyes of the Army Artist, Honorary Captain Matt Gauldie. Over 70 works are featured, many for the first time.

A warm invitation is extended to all families and friends of the NZDF to visit the exhibition at Canterbury Museum.

This is the largest collection of Army art assembled in one location for many years, and the first time all of Matt Gauldie's works have been displayed in one location.

Of particular interest to families of deployed personnel will be the opportunity to see through Matt's eyes the environments and situations our forces face on operations and at home. As such, you may recognise soldiers in the paintings, such as Warrant Officer Class One James Moohan, Major Kendall Peacock, and the young mortar man who just deployed to Afghanistan. Many of the subjects portrayed are soldiers, however members and families of the Navy and Air Force will recognise scenes from their time overseas.

All seven paintings in the Unknown Warrior series are displayed.

Declared 'Paintings of National Significance' the works follow the journey of the Unknown Warrior from a battlefield in France to his final resting place at the National War Memorial, Wellington. Matt captured the strong tri-Service aspect of the event as New Zealand brought home one of their fallen.

With no entry fee (donations to the museum kindly received) we hope you will enjoy the exhibition, and return more than once.



Christchurch Earthquake Patrol

Oil and mixed media on board

Presented by the Chief of Army, Major-General Rhys Jones to Mayor Bob Parker of Christchurch at the opening of the Army art exhibition, this mixed-media work incorporates actual barrier tape, and ground-up brick and mortar from a destroyed chimney. The building featured was condemned the day before the painting was presented.



Patrol Medic

Bronze



Deployment in the Solomon Islands
Oil on canvas

**Canterbury Museum,
Special Exhibition Hall,
Rolleston Avenue, Christchurch
8 October 2010 – 1 May 2011**



Within the Ranks: One Army, Many Faces



Winter Patrol (Crib 11)

Oil on canvas

Those who have served with a winter rotation in Afghanistan will recognise this scene..



Mortar in Action

Oil on tent canvas

Wait until you see how this unique work is hung!

The Army Artist



The Army Artist, Honorary Captain Matt Gauldie, stands next to **Chopper over Tilomar** during the installation of the exhibition at Canterbury Museum. (When you see the painting up close, you will see him reflected in the sunglasses of the soldier in the foreground).

Honorary Captain Matt Gauldie's involvement with the Army began when he was commissioned to paint the Unknown Warrior's return to New Zealand in 2004. Since then he has trained, worked and lived with the soldiers, at home and abroad.

Matt completed a recruit course in Waiouru, and has deployed to Afghanistan and the Solomon Islands. This year he visited Timor-Leste, and worked furiously to complete works from that theatre for the exhibition.

Matt has been to numerous parades and exercises, capturing historical moments and action scenes.

Matt has incorporated medium other than paint in some of his works, such as using Hessian and coloured tin in *Cold Light of Dawn*, aluminium, screws and rivets in *Chopper over Tilomar*, and a tin plate (complete with real bullet holes) in *Switch!*

CHAPLAIN'S PEN — FROM ABROAD & HOME

Padre Hamish Kirk GYRO 9 – Timor-Leste

In everybody's life, hopefully there are a large handful of precious moments so special, that if you could, you would share them with everyone. For many Dads, I guess that one of these occasions is holding your first child in the palm of your hand. (OK you 2nd and 3rd and 4th...children out there, you are special too). Oh, and by the way, I am not silly enough to attempt to speak on behalf of Mums - (you can call me old but not stupid -yet!). As you cradle the head and half of their torso in the palm of your hand, with its wee legs and bottom resting on your forearm, and you look down at the wriggling wee ball of latent personality, some thoughts creep into your mind through the tired haze of both joy at their arrival and worry for your wife or partner. Thoughts like, the wee dear actually looks like a skinned rabbit - I wonder what she will grow into, hang on - I am responsible for feeding and housing this creature for the next eighteen years! When she grows up will she dent my car? What sort of pimple-faced monosyllabic low riding boy is she going to bring home for her first, but very temporary boyfriend? Such are the complexities of pan-chronological multi-tasking thought processes that are typical of the modern male. Now back to our precious moments.

During GYRO 9's deployment I had the experience of meeting the vivacious Mana Lu Lourdes de Cruz or Mana Lu (Sister Lu) as she is known. What a precious experience. From a young age Lu Lourdes de Cruz has heard God call her to work with the poor and suffering. To this day she only focuses on the poor and suffering and never ever turns anyone away. She has a way of being whereby she constantly asks, "What is next Lord?" The outworking of this

approach is that rather than undertake ministry through established church structures, Lu birthed, developed, and established ministries only to entrust them to others to run while she moved onto the next new thing. It was the church structures that had to catch up with her. By the time I met her in 2010, she "runs" 15 ministries - retreat homes, including a hospital. This hospital has some of the most extensive knowledge of traditional medicine in the nation. She never accepts funding from any government, nor does she accept monies from the church. It is the poor themselves who provide most of the resources for her ministries. One of her favourite cryptic sayings is, "It is not the money that makes the poor but the poor that make the money!" Given a chance, the poor themselves will shape their own future.

She also started her own order of "sisters". She trains them for around six years, then asks them to find a place in Timor so remote that even the priests don't get there, then asks them to go and live among the poor and suffering. When people see what you do and who you are, the poor and suffering themselves will provide what you need. Currently she has "only" 27

novices (apprentice nuns).

Now most of us have heard of Jesus' teaching found in the Beatitudes in Matthew chapter 5 – "Love your enemies". When Jesus spoke this, the Jews were living in their own land under foreign occupation, heavy taxation, and a good dollop of persecution and oppression thrown in for good measure. This small nun with an incredibly huge heart, who is world famous in Timor-Leste, did literally love her enemies. And what a result!

To be fair, most of us have no idea of what it is like to love our enemies in that we don't have any! Notwithstanding having to occasionally put up with people who fly off the handle, don't listen and interrupt when you are attempting to explain things, or someone who interferes in other peoples business, or – the list could go on but you get the idea. Life's hassles, but our enemies? Over 100,000 people died during the 24 year occupation of Timor-Leste by the Indonesians. Tens of thousands of women and girls were raped, severe beatings were common, and people sometimes just disappeared.

Mana Lu had settled on some land



Padre Kirk, Mana Lu, Padre Collis

CHAPLAIN'S PEN FROM ABROAD & HOME

on the side of a hill at Daré above and overlooking Dili. This land had been gifted to her by her Dad who had long worked out that Mana Lu would never marry. Mana Lu had started clearing a flat area by digging into the side of the hill, developing gardens for food, and a place for people to find shelter. The beaten and abused, the raped and tortured were finding their way to Mana Lu's for healing and comfort. When Mana Lu was sharing with me how the girls and many of the younger boys were hidden by their families out in the mountains of rural Timor, their education and health suffering, but beyond the reach of Indonesian hands, tears flowed freely down her saintly cheeks. What did Mana Lu do to stop weeping? She sang a hymn in her own tongue, and you could see a peace, God's *shalom* return. The cost of ministry when God gifts you a huge heart is that you do feel God's pain! It is due, in no small part to the integrity and discipline of ANZAC soldiers, just like the ones you are about to welcome home, who for a decade have provided an environment that has resulted in young Timor girls no longer having to run when they see a soldier in camouflaged uniform. Together we have accomplished more than what we know.

The Indonesians grew suspicious of Mana Lu's activities. They stationed a platoon of troops pretty much in the section next door to Mana Lu's small clearing. Mana Lu had already made a decision to love her enemies. She literally loved them into submission. They were hugged, talked to, cared for, had cakes baked when the young soldiers had birthdays, and they were loved. The end result was that it was the Indonesian soldiers themselves who dug out the acre size flat that holds the current buildings and gardens. Her enemies had become her friends.



Mana Lu's Chapel

Mana Lu faced much criticism for this, but she was adamant in staying focused on, "Lord, what is next?" and loving anyone God brought her way. She stayed focused on the poor and suffering even while she loved her enemies.

Mana Lu is not some CEO of an ecclesiastical empire. Despite "running" 15 ministries, you won't find her in a corporate office. You are far more likely to find her tending her gardens growing food, raising pigs and chooks, or with her sleeves rolled up in the kitchen.

I hope I am not adding to an urban legend here - but I have been told by more than a couple of sources that when Horta and Belo's names were put forward for the Nobel Peace Prize, Mana Lu's name was on the list. Mana Lu insisted that her name did not go forward because that was not what she was about.

As befitting the simple lifestyle of this Timor Mother Teresa, Mana Lu has as her Chapel a small clearing in the bush on the ridge above her house. The dirt under the pews is well worn with use. Presidents,

Prime Ministers, Ambassadors, other "VIP's", F-FDTL Officers on their Character Formation Course that she runs, Bishops, Padres and Priests, students, and local villagers have all sat before this outdoor chapel encouraged to contemplate what God has asked them to do and be.

What is Mana Lu's latest new thing? She remembers that before the Indonesians came, the Timorese were good at growing their own food. With the destruction of infrastructure and mass movements of people, and the younging population (i.e opposite to aging population - the sociologists probably have a flash word for this) with 70% of the population younger than 25, the corporate knowledge of growing food and village life is being lost. And the food aid, although necessary, has compounded the problem. She wants to set up a basic community that grows its own food, raises its own animals for meat, sells its own produce and crafts as a model to teach others. I am thinking it will be a very brave official to stand in her way!

CHAPLAIN'S PEN FROM ABROAD & HOME

Maromak tulun ita, Maromak hela ho ita The Lord bless you, God be with you.

Thank you to Trish who is the first (and at time of writing only – hint, hint) one to send Jet Plane sweets for our trip home.

Ate logo.

A Good News Story

Don Parker
Principal Defence Chaplain

Everyone loves a 'good news' story. To see the Chilean miners lifted one-by-one out of a very deep and dark hole is as uplifting as a story can be. With thanks to the miracle of modern communication the whole world was able to watch

and share in their euphoria – and witness the overwhelming gratitude and elation of their family, friends and country folk.

***"Thanks be to God
that they are all
alive and well".***

It has to be a resurrection story of a sort: when people are sprung from what could easily have been a six hundred meter deep grave, they are going to experience a profound change in the way they view their lives. They are literally going to have 'new lives'. And given the CNN-factor – and corporate sponsorship – these new lives will be very different to their old lives.

The life of Jesus – someone else who was buried but rose again – is likewise a 'good news story'. There were no cameras and modern communication technologies to capture the moment. But there are written accounts that survive to this day – and these accounts still create euphoria and gratitude in the hearts of those who read them. These are 'The Gospels' (a word – when translated from the original – that literally means "Good News!")

So – for reasons of personal faith – I'll always be a sucker for a good news story! Like many I feel the media is too quick to report the negative and too slow to celebrate the positive. But on the story of the Chilean miners we are all in agreement: Thanks be to God that they are all alive and well.

BOUQUETS



A huge thank you to Padre Kevin Brophy and all the CRIB 16 contingent for their contributions to "The Bugle" over the time of their deployment. It is a big ask for those who have to write for every issue, especially when there are so many other tasks to be undertaken, but every edition we had something from LT COL John Boswell and Padre Kev. And what's more, always on time. Thank you doesn't seem quite enough, so please accept this bouquet as well.
Janine.

A bouquet to the FARAD team. We have had more contributions to "The Bugle" over the past twelve months than we have ever had. We have all enjoyed your articles and I'm sure that families have enjoyed receiving your messages.

To James Field, thank you for co-ordinating the contributions over the past six months, we look forward to future articles from the team.
Janine.

Bouquet

Abbey and I would like to extend our sincere thanks to you all for your expressions of sympathy in our sad loss of a much loved husband and Dad.

Words cannot express how grateful we are, for all the kindness shown to us at this difficult time. The many messages of support, the special thoughts, prayers, visits and acts of kindness will never be forgotten.

Oz touched so many lives and through the memories he gave us all, he will live forever in our hearts.

Carol Voyce
Deployment Services Officer
Burnham

FOR YOUR INFO....

No More Mail Please

TG GYRO 9

With the imminent return of TG GYRO 9, we ask that families don't send any mail after 12 November. While it may seem a long way off until the return of your loved ones, it is a huge unnecessary task to return any mail that has been unable to be distributed. Be sure to include in your last packages, cards and letters reflecting your thoughts on homecomings and plans for the future. Get children to include drawings that reflect their excitement at this much anticipated event and maybe include something to relieve the boredom for the long trip home – perhaps a book, magazines, sudoku puzzles.

While the mail will no longer be an option, remember you can still communicate via email and those precious phone calls.

RTNZ GYRO 9

As advised to families at the tour update briefings, planning is underway for the return to New Zealand of service personnel currently deployed to Timor-Leste. A tentative date for the return is:

At the time of Bugle printing flight timings were unavailable. Contact Janine or Carol or watch out for details in the next Bugle.

Arrangements for onward travel to other locations will be made in due course.

Family members are reminded that for security purposes, please not to discuss these details in phone calls, emails or over the social networking websites as these methods of communication are not secure.

Please be aware that all flight details are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. If you are planning flights to meet

loved ones, we recommend that you take insurance out on all bookings, should changes occur.

Please keep in touch. We too share the excitement of much anticipated reunions and are happy to talk to you as often as you need an update.

CRIB 17 Christmas Project

Contributions for the Christmas project for CRIB 17 (details sent out with the last mail-out) are due in to Janine no later than Monday 1 November. The success of this project will depend on the contributions from families. If you have any queries or questions, please contact Janine: (0800 683 77 327), or email: dso.linton@gmail.com

Information for Partners – GYRO Deployment

For the partners of personnel associated with the current GYRO deployment, this mail-out contains a copy of the booklet "RTNZ Information – A Guide for Partners of NZDF Personnel on Return from Operational Deployments".

This booklet is packed with valuable information about reunions and is a must read. The information is not intended to tell you how you should be feeling or reacting at this stage of the deployment or to take the fun and excitement out of planning reunions. It is, however, a collection of thoughts, ideas and general information based on previous experiences of service personnel, their partners and families. The booklet is designed to get you thinking and to be prepared for the changes you are all about to face. Everyone is different; their reactions to homecomings will be too. If you are feeling anxious, be sure to talk to us.

If for any reason a booklet is not included in your mail-out or if you

require an extra copy, please request one using the contact details on the inside cover. Deployed service personnel will receive the same information prior to their return to New Zealand.

Welcome to New "Bugle" Readers

A huge welcome to new "Bugle" readers! Whether your loved ones are deployed or deploying on one of the minor missions around the world, or a member of the latest contingent to Afghanistan, this publication is for you. I hope that in the months to come you will find some support and comfort amongst its pages. We aim to keep you informed about what is happening with our personnel around the world and also provide you with an opportunity to send and receive messages, to and from home. We look forward to keeping in touch with you in the months ahead.

2010 Deployment Calendar

For the 6th year, and with a huge thank you for the generosity of Weft Knitting Co, the 2011 Deployment Calendar has been produced. This calendar offers a glimpse into the lives of many locals our service personnel have met with as part of their deployment experience. Images for the calendar have been selected from those submitted by deployed service personnel and their families.

All service personnel who have deployed and returned to New Zealand in 2010 will receive a complimentary calendar. A few additional calendars are available for purchase and information about these will be included in the next "Bugle" edition. The proceeds from the sale of these calendars goes to an identified project in a deployment location. Those deployed will be asked to submit ideas and a worthy cause will be chosen.

PUSHING THE LIMITS



**Judy Byers, Welfare Facilitator,
Air Staff, Wellington**

When family life turns upside down, some children start getting into trouble. You may find their behaviour changes at home or at school. It may be that they are asking for more attention and reassurance than they are getting.

You may experience some of these behaviours throughout deployment, where mum/dad is away for a long period and the routine of family life has changed. When separation first happens the family "rules" are likely to change as new arrangements take shape. Kids often take on new responsibilities and feel entitled to greater freedom. Some will need to test out the limits in their new situation to find out just what the rules are.

Some kids feel angry with the changes that have been imposed on them and may deliberately push the limits. Getting into trouble, not doing as they are told, answering back, disruptive in class, it is a bit like a personal protest.

When the inappropriate behaviour attracts the attention outside the family home is likely to embarrass mum/dad. Pushing the limits can escalate if kids don't feel their message isn't getting across.

When kids are pushing the limits they might:

- * Get into trouble at school, e.g. wag classes, do poorly at their work, fight, vandalise things or drop out of sporting or cultural activities.
- * Deliberately flout family agreements such as doing their chores or homework, not letting mum/dad know where they are, or coming home at the agreed time.

- * Attract public attention in a way that may upset or embarrass mum/dad.

How to deal with kids pushing the limits:

- * Make a particular effort to pay attention to them when they are not in trouble, as when something goes wrong.
- * Listen to their anger and accusations without trying to defend yourself. This is more about listening to them and taking them into account, than about you being wrong.
- * Keep inviting their ideas about how they would like the family to be. Be as flexible as you can within the limits you need to set safety and practicality.
- * Be firm and clear about unacceptable behaviour and its consequences.
- * Respond to the hurt and lack of trust that lie beneath the behaviour.

Every parent-child relationship is different, as is every family, and each of you will find your own strategies in preparing your child/children before heading away on deployment. The key thing is to be open and honest as possible, encourage them to talk about their feelings/concerns.

Throughout the deployment continuously remind your children that you love them, and that the separation is temporary. Discuss as a family, ways to set up communications at home while you are away for easy contact, such as Skype, email or regular phone calls. Get the little ones to cross off each day on the calendar to give them a better understanding when mum/dad is returning home.

Deployment Support Services

- ◆ Need information?
- ◆ Need support?
- ◆ Need a listening ear?
- ◆ Need to send an urgent message to a deployment location?

Deployment Support Services are here for you

The larger missions to Afghanistan, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste appoint a lead Deployment Support Services Officer (DSO). All other missions offer support from either the DSO, Unit Point of Contact and local Welfare Support Services. The nominated Primary Next of Kin (PNOK) of families of deployed NZDF personnel should, in the first instance, contact their DSO who has a responsibility for transparency into welfare issues. Added to this there are other very valuable support networks available in your local region. For additional support and services:

Army:

Deployment Services Officers:

Linton—Janine Burton

Ph: 0800 683 77 327

Burnham—Carol Voyce

Ph: 0800 337 569

Community Services Officers:

Waiouru—Carolyn Hyland

Ph 06 387 5531

Trentham—Marie Lotz

Ph 04 527 5029

Linton—Lesley Clutterbuck

Ph: 06 351 9970

Burnham—Cherie Mansell

Ph 03 363 0322

Air Force:

Welfare Facilitators

Air Staff Wellington:

Mrs Judy Byers,

Ph: 04 498 6773

Base Auckland,

Mrs Deana Lye,

Ph: 09 417 7035

Base Woodbourne:

Mrs Claudia Baker,

Ph: 03 577 1177

Base Ohakea:

Mrs Toni Nicholson,

Ph: 06 351 5640

Naval Community Organization

Ph: 09 445 5534,

0800 NAVYHELP

nib@nzdf.mil.nz

Local Chaplaincy Services

Unit Point of Contact

THE NAVY COMMUNITY ORGANISATION

Hi from the NCO

The 2010 Navy Children's Camp for 9-14 year olds was a huge success and fun was had by all. 53 Navy Children and 21 staff attended this event.

Day one had the children meeting at Ngataranga Sports Complex, to meet their "parents" for the week and board the bus for the camp. We loaded the bus and headed off to our home for the week at Tamaki Leadership Centre which is located in Whangaparaoa.

The week started with a safety brief from POCH Brad Martin the TLC Assistant Manager followed by a tramp around the Whangaparaoa Peninsula, making team's banners, a spooky visit through the tunnels followed by a movie night, supper and bed.

Day two was our introduction to parade training and all events. Orienteering, rock climbing, kayaking, sailing, was followed by skits practice, a movie, supper and bed.

Day three was a continuation of all our events, starting with parade training and by the end of Wednesday all four groups had participated in kayaking, sailing,

rock climbing and orienteering. That night it was an early dinner and then off to Waiwera Hot Pools. We had supper there before getting on the bus to head back to TLC and bed.

Day four, more parade training followed by all four groups having a turn on the flying fox and a practice run through of the confidence course. CO PHL CAPT Fred Keating came up to join the children for lunch and then it was the parade for the CO. Each group flew their banner with pride. All children received certificates for completing the camp. It was then time for the confidence course where all groups gave it their best attempt. That night, the OIC for the camp, LT CDR Phil Rowe presented the best dormitory (Double Troubles) with their prize then it was up to Monowai Hall for the groups' skits, followed by a surprise supper and bed.

Friday was the big clean up, another movie and then on the bus back home to Devonport. We stopped beside the Damage Control building so the groups could proudly march down the road towards their parents flying their banners.

The teams were given points for the various activities with HAWEA winning the 2010 Camp Challenge. ROTOITI won the confidence course; PUKAKI best at parade; TAUPO won the best skits; ROTOITI triumphed in Rock Climbing; PUKAKI triumphed in Sailing; HAWEA triumphed in Orienteering; TAUPO triumphed in Kayaking.

A big thank you to the NCO team for organising this event, and to all the staff who attended the camp, without their participation it would not have been as enjoyable and exciting for our Navy Children.

Until next time,
your friendly NCO team



UPCOMING EVENTS

30 OCTOBER

PRE-SCHOOLERS & FAMILY HALLOWEEN FUN

Saturday, 30 October from 4.00 to 5.30 pm at the Burnham Community Centre Fields

Cost \$3 per child. Halloween games, costume parade with prizes, lollie bags and much more.

30 OCTOBER

KIDS HALLOWEEN DISCO PARTY

Saturday, 30 October 6.00 to 8.00 pm at the Burnham Community Centre

Cost \$5. Live DJ, Halloween games, costume parade, prizes, haunted passageway, event will end with 'trick or treating'.



2 NOVEMBER

PNOK INFORMATION EVENING

Tuesday, 2 November, 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Burnham Sports Bar Complex: An open invitation is extended to all those associated with current deployments to join us for a social time and opportunity to meet with 'like people in a like situation'; Light refreshments will be served and childcare is available. No need to RSVP, but for enquiries, please phone Carol on (03) 363 0421.

11 DECEMBER

LINTON FAMILY DAY

Saturday, 11 December

Mark this date in your calendar now!



Operation Christmas Card — We will have a large number of NZDF service personnel deployed to various overseas locations during Christmas this year. For a number of years now we have been involved in Operation Christmas Card and encourage family, friends, schools and pre-schools nationwide to assist in this very special project.

While Christmas may seem like a long way off, it will be here before we know it. Contributions in past years have easily topped 1,000 cards and letters for us to send overseas, and the feedback and photos we have received from the lucky recipients, have made this a worthwhile project we want to continue with this year.

With this edition of "The Bugle" we have included a card which children might like to use. Feel free to use it, photocopy it or get children to design their own individualised cards and decorations. This is just to get you all started.

Talk to your local school, kindergarten, group or club and get everyone on board. Operation Christmas Card closes on Friday 19 November to ensure we have enough time for all works of art to arrive safely in deployment locations in time for Christmas.

All contributions should be sent to Carol Voyce, Deployment Services Officer, Burnham Military Camp, Powles Road, Burnham 7600, Christchurch.

PERSONAL MESSAGES

The deadline for contributions and personal messages for the next edition of "The Bugle" is **Thursday 11 November**. Please note: All "Bugle" messages are to be sent to Janine Burton, DSO Linton or Carol Voyce, DSO Burnham.



From In-Theatre

Joshua

Welcome to the world little man. I'm so looking forward to meeting you in person next month. Your mummy and nana are very proud of you but don't spoil them too much by doing new stunts too early in your life – wait till I get home. You just need to concentrate on learning to sleep all night by the time Poppa gets home because I like my sleep. We can learn and play during the day, sleep at nights. Is that a deal?? See you soon, love Poppa.

Kayla

Well done baby, you kept us waiting but the wait was worth it. Josh is such a good looking baby, got his Poppas genes eh? Love dad.

Face

Good luck with the end of year Exams. 2 years down and one to go until you'll be a graduated nurse. Hope you are feeling much better now and can concentrate on the exams. See you next month – love Dad.

LW

Welcome to the 50's club and grandparenthood. It has been a big year full of highs and lows – next year will be "normal". YLH.

Hi babe

Well we are nearing the end as you know, and once the weekend arrives there will be less than 3 weeks remaining. I am looking forward to seeing you and the girls and spending some quality time together on holiday. Thank you for your love and support over the last 7 months, I know that at times it

hasn't been always easy for you, but you have done an excellent job with everything while I have been away. As I mentioned in one of my earlier messages, it's the wives and partners that are left behind that should get the credit, after all you are the ones who keep things ticking at home so that we can go away to do our jobs. I hope you and the girls have a safe flight up North and a good time at Nan's birthday. See you real soon babe... love always...Me x.

Hello my Tia

Less than 27 sleeps to go and Daddy will be home. I am looking forward to seeing you and spending time together at the beach. Be a good girl for Mumma and look after Max. Big hugs and kisses...Daddy.

Hi Reaggie

See you real soon babe. I can't wait to see you at the airport. Big hugs and kisses, Dad.

Happy 80th Birthday Nan!

I will be thinking of you on your special day. Big love from me. Love always...Maurice.

To Mum's big boy Paddy

Hey my darling boy. Mama is missing you and thinks of you all the time. Hope you have settled back into Manuka with all your friends, Shar and Louie. I'm happy you are back there, it's Mum's favourite day-care. Nanny tells me you have been sleeping in a bit longer in the mornings, good boy. Tony will be liking that. I hope you are enjoying your train set. No doubt you're a busy boy working hard and making new things. Love and miss you lots and lots. Awhi and kihi from Mama, mmmmwah! Xxx.

Hey Boo, Teina and Kori

Think of you all often and wonder how Paddy is coping without having all you guys around. He will definitely be missing and looking for you. He will think he's popular chatting to you on the phone though when you ring Nanny. Hope your holiday in Nelson was good. Love to you all and send Auntie some photos please. Love always, Auntie B xxx.

Freya and Finlay

Hope you guys have got your pressies and I really loved your card. Will call you again this week and love you heaps and heaps! Dad x x.

My Darling PM

Loving the parcels and can't wait for the next one even if it is just trousers!! Hope you got the wee one from me. Love you baby.

Rod and Matt

Glad you are home safe and sound. Enjoy the beers and the Corps dinner, hope you have a great time if you go travelling and remember that you can always stay with my folks again. Word Rob.

From Home

Hi BDP

Air Five Wahoo, I can now say "you'll be home next month"! You will be pleased to know that I am letting the garden grow so you will have something to do when you get home - it is coming along quite nicely!!! Sun is shining over here so you might be able to keep up your timor tan - I'll continue to go pink and then white again! Much love, T xx.

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

Hi Ned

Well you have been away for 6 sleeps and I am so thrilled for you to have this experience, I am expecting a detailed account of the Flora [plants] and fauna [animals] of your part of the world. I have been going through all my photos of you and have framed many, my house looks like a shrine, have also been through all your school things, rugby stuff, childhood paintings, washing, unmatched socks, and misc stuff all bringing me to a mushy state of emotion! I am so proud of both my boys, we made it despite the tough times. Hope you are well and happy, Things are fine here, and by the way a huge thanks for Avah who is a gem, a little treasure who is growing every day and showing signs of being as stropky and independent as her dad. Have sent first parcel and plan to do so each week so given a few weeks you should get regular mail. Oodles of love to you and the boys, say hi to Conner too, Mum xxxxxxx.

Bebe

We hope you're having a wonderful time over there. We all miss you dearly and are all proud and excited for you. Happy Birthday for the 12th. All of my heart, Dee and the fam bam... hehe. Xxoo.

Jason

All is well back here at home. Hope you're getting the care packages I sent. It was great to hear from you and that you and the rest of the guys arrived safely. Keep safe and love always. From you know who?

Hey Poobear

Hope things are going well and you're keeping safe. Me and son son are good and keeping ourselves busy, Nikora is growing so fast and learning new things each day. Not long until Xmas, I must get onto sending some prezzies over. I hope time will go

fast for you as we have many up and coming events to keep us occupied here. Keep safe my babe, miss you heaps love mummah bear and babi bear. xx.

Hi Big Monkey Leon

Me and mum are missing you more and more every day. Mum has to play peggles with me now; she is not good like you, the champion. Can't wait until you come home so we can have lots of cuddles and play all the time, mum can have cuddles all night. We love you to the end of the universe and back a million times, from your little monkey and wifey to be xxxxxxx.

Hey Babe

Just wanted to write a little message to let you know we are thinking of you and missing you like crazy. Decided it is too depressing to start the countdown yet! Love you heaps. Mel and Bryson xoxoxox.

To H&H

Not long to go now Babe. Can't wait till you are home. Keep looking after yourself. Lots of love, W&W.

Hey J

Great to hear from you-thinking of you constantly and all you are experiencing - Have a great day on the 24th — getting old my boy!! Enjoying the comedies and missing your sense of humour - Love from all of us Mike, Mel, Alex and Eli-we love you!

Hi Lawrence

On the countdown! Look forward to seeing your smiling face and having a huge catch up. Travel safely on the flying carpet and see you soon. Lots of love, Florence xxx.

Hi Kath

Hope you are settling in well to your new abode. Sorry I didn't get to

catch up before you left. Let me know if you need anything!! Carol x .

Hi Leon

Well the time has come for your tour of Afghanistan, which you have been waiting for and I hope you and others remain safe throughout. The experience, knowledge and insight with this tour of duty will be 'second to none'. Knowing you, you will grasp every single piece of experience going, and equally you will give 110% and more. Back home here in a cold morning in Burghfield Berkshire and every morning we will be thinking of you and look forward immensely to any contact from you. As parents we are *so very proud* of what you are doing and look forward to next year when you visit when we will have a big party. Leon, to you and all the team - BE SAFE. We (all the family) love you loads, so take care and hopefully we will speak soon, love Mum, Dad and Archie xxxx.

Dear Dad

School is going great and we are off to Okiwi Bay for Labour Weekend to go fishing. Glad you seem to be enjoying the Solomons. Hope you get some fishing time too lol. Thanks for your cool postcards! Miss you heaps and heaps and love you to the moon and back. Lot's of Love Freya and Finlay xoxoxo.



The steeper the
mountain the
harder the climb the
better the view from
the finishing line.
(Anonymous)



Afghanistan 'Matters'

This regular column features articles of interest obtained from many different sources. If you find any items, which may interest others, be sure to let us know. (Contact details on the inside cover).



Afghan People's unbreakable spirit

Welland Tribune
By Mercedes Stephenson

15 October 2010

Afghanistan is a transformative place, it is nearly impossible to go there and come back unchanged in some way. It is a country of unparalleled beauty and unimaginable poverty.

When I travelled to Kabul and Kandahar earlier this year, I fully expected to have my perceptions and assumptions about the war, and Afghanistan, challenged as they collided with reality in the omnipresent Afghan dust.

What I did not anticipate is how three little Afghan girls would reach far beyond all the politics and the policy to touch my heart with their innocence, bravery and ardent hope for a better future in the face of almost insurmountable odds.

Saying goodbye the girls told me they would never forget me, but it is me who will never forget them.

On a cold February afternoon with snowflakes falling lightly over Kabul, I adjusted my body armour and grabbed my notepad and helmet as our SUV approached a major NATO base in Kabul. Jetlagged and cold, I was intent on covering the ground between our vehicle and the protective walls of the base as quickly as possible.

Entry gates at bases are popular targets of suicide bombers because they're sure to kill at least a few people; one had struck a nearby

base just a week earlier.

Sadly these are the same gates young Afghan children gather around to beg for food, water, money or even garbage to burn at night to keep from freezing to death. Many of the children are orphans left to fend for themselves. Perhaps they feel safer staying near NATO soldiers even though it exposes their tiny, unprotected bodies to the vicious threat of terrorist bombs.

My focus shifted from the gate when a Canadian Army officer pointed out three beautiful little girls waving and smiling shyly from the side of the road.

He offered me the opportunity to say hello to the girls. They greeted me warmly in broken English. The girls were curious.

I was an anomaly with long, uncovered hair, and wearing body armour but not a soldier.

They were fascinated when their probing revealed I was a journalist, travelling unaccompanied by a father or husband with a group of male colleagues. The prospect of such freedom clearly delighted them and shy smiles turned to grins.

Then those three little girls did something daring considering there were Afghan men around: They pulled their hijabs back just a bit to show me their beautiful hair. It was their small but defiant gesture.

The oldest girl, who was probably only 10 or 11, said slowly but very emphatically in her broken English "I be like you ... when I grow up" motioning first to my notebook, then

my ceramic chest plate and finally my uncovered hair.

Educated, literate, free to choose a future and how to dress. Equal to men. Able to write or broadcast without threat of death for daring to have an opinion, let alone the wrong one.

These were things I took for granted every day.

Sure on some theoretical level I knew I was fortunate, but suddenly I was faced with cold hard reality - that Canada is very much the exception rather than the rule, and I am blessed only by accident of birth and not for having earned anything.

Here were children smart enough to learn English off of soldiers, but denied the right to education by poverty and gender. Their fierce bravery and unbreakable little spirits alone should be enough to guarantee their future, but Afghanistan doesn't work like that.

I don't know if those little girls survived the winter in their thin clothing without coats, or the bombs and bullets that steal young lives in Afghanistan every day. Saying goodbye the girls told me they would never forget me, but it is me who will never forget them.

They gave me an incredible gift - profound gratitude for the opportunities Canada offers.

This past Thanksgiving I was thinking of those little girls and hoping that one day I will turn on the TV and recognize one of them as CNN's Afghanistan correspondent.

Armistice Day

Source: nzdf.mil.nz

11 November

Armistice Day (also sometimes also referred to as "Remembrance Day") marks the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended the First World War and commemorates the sacrifice of those who died serving New Zealand in this and all wars and armed conflict.

The Great War of 1914 to 1918 was one of the most disastrous events in human history. New Zealand, with a population of 1.1 million in 1914, sent 100,000 men and women abroad. 16,700 died and over 40,000 were wounded – a higher per capita casualty rate than any other country involved.

The coming of peace on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918 brought blessed relief for all involved. On Armistice Day 1918, New Zealand had 58,129 troops in the field, while an additional 10,000 were under training in New Zealand. In total, the troops provided for foreign-service by New Zealand during the War represented 10% of its 1914 population between the ages of 20-45.

The signing of the Armistice is observed annually in New Zealand at 11.00 am on 11 November (the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month). Two minutes silence is observed in memory of those New Zealanders who died while serving their country. Wreath laying ceremonies will take place across New Zealand.



Remembrance Sunday

In addition to observing Armistice Day, Remembrance Sunday has become a universal time of commemoration when all men and women who have died in the service of their country are commemorated in church services throughout New Zealand.

In New Zealand, Remembrance Sunday is observed on the second Sunday in November. We also take this opportunity to remember our comrades in other parts of the world, especially our personnel currently serving in the various operational missions.

***They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.***

(Fourth stanza of Laurence Binyon's 'For the Fallen')