

THE BUGLE

Issue 163 | January 2012



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“THE BUGLE”

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

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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:

Children of Global Point School, Kabul, accept gifts from Rangiora Borough and Burnham Schools distributed by Corporal Scott Haines and Major Brett Grieve

LAUNCH OF CENTENARY HISTORY PROJECT



Lieutenant General Rhys Jones explains his medal ribbons to Dylan Stanley Judson who is wearing a replica set of Reginald Stanley Judson VC's medals. Dylan was among the guests at the launch of the Centenary History of New Zealand and the First World War in Wellington on 15 December.

Korero—Christmas Issue

The New Zealand Defence Force is working with Massey University and the NZ Royal Returned and Services' Association on a comprehensive history of New Zealand's involvement in the First World War.

The joint project, called the “Centenary History of New Zealand and the First World War”, involves the production of nine volumes, each focused on a different aspect of the war. The first history is expected to be completed in time for Anzac Day 2015.

The project will be launched this week by the Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant General Rhys Jones, Massey University Vice-Chancellor, Steve Maharey and RNZRSA President, Lieutenant General (Rtd) Don McIver at Massey University's Wellington campus.

LTGEN Rhys Jones said, “We are delighted to be working with Massey University and the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services' Association on the Centenary project.

“Our links to our history are an integral part of the Defence Force of today and in the future. Those New Zealanders who served in the First World War demonstrated the traditions of service to the nation, and the core values of courage, commitment, comradeship and

integrity that continue to be the cornerstones of our modern Defence Force today.”

The Centenary History project will be led by Professor Glyn Harper from Massey, one of New Zealand's foremost authorities on New Zealand's involvement in the First World War.

“The First World War has been a pivotal point in world history, creating much of the hostilities and problems that have persisted until now. It changed all those countries that were involved and New Zealand was no exception. In terms of human suffering, the First World War is the most traumatic event that New Zealand has experienced,” said Professor Harper.

“It is nearly 100 years since the beginning of the war and yet, the full story has never been told. There is a risk that if we do not capture the stories now, they may never be heard.

“This will be the first history to fully cover the role of the Navy and the Air Force in the conflict. We believe it will become the reference text for the next decade plus, but it will also be accessible so that it has appeal to families whose forefathers fought in the war,” he said.

Massey University and the Defence Force will support the first two volumes by making available Professor Glyn Harper and the Defence Force Historian, John Crawford, respectively to write the first two volumes. Subsequent volumes will be funded by partnerships with a range of other government organisations, businesses, grants, and donations from individuals. Professor Harper will write the first volume on *The New Zealand Soldier at War 1914-1918*, and John Crawford the second, which focuses on *The New Zealand Expeditionary Force*.

John Crawford has written on many aspects of the history of the New Zealand Armed Forces and defence policy. His most recent book, *The Territorials*, a history of the territorial and volunteer forces of New Zealand is currently on sale in bookshops.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

NEWS AND VIEWS

Including:

- Santa Hats and Drinking Water
- GYRO 12 Oral Brief Competition
- Christmas in the Solomon Islands
- Christmas with a Difference
- Half Way
- The NSE Troy Challenge Coin

NEWS FROM GYRO 12 TIMOR-LESTE

SANTA HATS AND DRINKING WATER

**LAC Stacie Carline
GYRO 12**

Santa hats and drinking water wasn't quite what I had in mind for Christmas 2011, but being in East Timor we made it fun.

Christmas Day started off at 07:00 hours when six of us girls got up and opened our presents from our family and friends back home, drinking sparkling grape juice, and chatting about the days events. Soon afterwards we went back to our rooms and started getting ready for the 25 orphans who were coming to HPod.

Once they had arrived there was a split between the boys and girls.

The boys went off and had hours of fun on the homemade water slide made from the back of a truck and trailer. The fun wasn't only had by the small boys but also the big boys. After a quick observation the girls decided it would be safer indoors, so in we went to enjoy colouring in pictures of Santa and Christmas trees, followed by a girls bonding session of painting fingernails and sprucing up our pictures from earlier with sparkling glitter and fancy stickers.

Time flies when you are having fun and soon enough 12:30 rolls around, time for the BBQ lunch and Santa to arrive and to spoil them with the presents from all of us in the HPod. Sadly, it was time to say goodbye to the kids and hello to

Christmas dinner!

The night began with a Christmas feast with turkey, ham, prawns, salmon, chicken, veggie lasagne and loads of vegetables. With our stomachs full it was time to dish out the secret Santa presents and watch the individual sections Christmas videos and some games. We were split into seven teams made up of Kiwi and Aussies. The games were a mixture of team building exercises, races between the other teams and concentration, having to keep three balloons off the ground using only one team member, resting M&Ms on a pen tied to string and having to get the pen up to your mouth without them falling off.

The night finished on a high note and it was off to bed for business as usual the next day.



**LAC Stacie Carline (Left) and
SGT Victoria Fulton (Air)**



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

GYRO 12 ORAL BRIEF COMPETITION

Last month GYRO 12 conducted a series of oral briefs, which were designed to give everyone experience and practice in delivering presentations to an audience. It was also a chance for all of us to expand our knowledge as the subjects covered areas such as Timorese history and New Zealand military operations.

The presentations were scored and the winners and runners up were presented certificates by the Senior National Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Powell.

Judging was quite difficult as the presentations were of a high standard.

All the presenters did particularly well given some of them were speaking in front of senior officers and a large audience. The place getters and their subjects are listed as follows:



Ptes / Tprs / LACs Category

- 1st Pte M. Lennane – Personal Finances
 2nd Pte S.T.E Crocombe – Cook Island Culture
 3rd Pte R.F Jones – Botany of the HPOD

Lance Corporals Category

- 1st LCpl L.H.J Watene – RAMSI II
 2nd LCpl H.J Brain – NZ Involvement in Malaya

Corporals Category

- 1st Cpl T.B. Anderson -

Tracking on Contemporary Operations

- 2nd = Cpl W.D. Hunia – Previous Operational Tours
 Cpl D.J. Atkinson – Vella LeVella

Officers and SNCOs Category

- 1st SSgt L.R Colvin – 28 Maori Bn
 2nd = Sgt L.W Crawford – NZBATT1
 Sgt N.B. Madgwick – Quinn's Post Gallipoli Campaign



Winners and Runners-up receiving their certificates

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

NEWS FROM OP RATA, SOLOMON ISLANDS

CHRISTMAS IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

LWTR Jacqui Merriman
S1 Op RATA II(14A)

First off we had a Christmas party on 17th December 2011. Everyone dressed up in Santa outfits and made a really good effort. The band "ISTA Sin" played. This band is made up of Aus Police and Aus Army; the Padre is the drummer. We danced all night and had a really good time.

On Christmas Eve the Padre held a service at the Church which is a leaf hut on the water front. The

lights were turned off and candles were handed out to everyone. This set the mood for a good night. Everyone sung carols and readings were made from the Bible. The Tongans' sung like angels. There was also a midnight mass that the Tongans' and others attended.

After a nice little sleep in, everyone went back to the church at 10:30 for the Christmas Day service. Again the Tongans' sung and everyone listened. Christmas lunch was served. The menu was amazing, we had oysters, mussels, salmon, ham, turkey, roast vegetables, salads, cheese and

crackers and, of course, Christmas pudding, pavlova and ice cream.

The Australian officers handed out care package sent from Australians all over the country. You didn't know what you were going to get. I got a book, magazines and chocolate. It was much appreciated.

After lunch a few of us had a swim in the pool then there was a volleyball competition. Not really wanting to play we all stepped up and ended up coming second, beating the Australian teams and losing to one of the Tongan ones. After tea we played a couple of games of pool and had an early night.

Even though we missed our families and friends the day had some fond memories.

NEWS FROM CRIB 19 AFGHANISTAN

CHRISTMAS WITH A DIFFERENCE

LT Tim Easton, CRIB 19

It is quite strange to be so far removed from a 'normal' Christmas back home in New Zealand. It's only in hindsight that you can see all the differences between the two. There is a major positive to it, you miss out on all the annoying Christmas carols bombarding you in every shop you enter. It's never been so apparent just how commercialised Christmas is back home. Another positive is that you are not subjected to the TV advertisements yelling at you to buy stuff every ad break, the amazing deals they have that are just too good to be true and that you don't have to pay for 36

months! That's right folks, three years! Also, as there was only one day of reduced workload there is less of the Christmas rush in trying to get all your loose ends tied up prior to everyone going on holiday; everyone in the PRT just kept on working through. With the high tempo, Christmas just seemed to blink past.

Of course there are downsides too. Missing out on the family all coming together, often from overseas, means it will be just that much longer until you see them all again. Similarly, heading back home and catching up with people you haven't seen in years is always a pleasure. You miss out on opening (the diminishing number of) presents on Christmas Day, made even more

fun if there's kids around, and the excessive amount of eating that occurs over the period. However, in my opinion, the biggest drawback of a Christmas in Afghanistan is looking at Facebook. Seeing the spectacular summer days, people on the beach and evening barbeques is made all that much worse when you're in the middle of an Afghanistan winter.

Despite this, Christmas in Afghanistan brought together, as best you can in a war zone, the positives of Christmas. Loved ones from home sent over presents with strict instructions not to open until the 25th, a huge Christmas lunch (complete with Christmas crackers and non-alcoholic beer/wine) was served, a competitive round of bingo was enjoyed and importantly, a slight reprieve from the busy workload all those in the PRT have. It was a short sharp Christmas with a different family, but Christmas none the less.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

HALF WAY

KT 3, CRIB 19

Halfway through the tour now and time has flown by; we are over the hump of the tour now with Christmas and New Years just gone by. Christmas, although hard being away from our family and loved ones, was a good day for the lads (even though MAZ's beats by Dre did not arrive)! The patrol took our big guns for a walk up PT Hill and as hard as it was, the exercise, the view and the escape from the camp all made it worthwhile.

New Years Eve brought little excitement for the patrol and was really just another day of duty and sharing a laugh at our friends back home having their day ruined by bad weather. The tour to date has been a good one for the lads in the patrol; everyone is getting on well and morale is high. Here's hoping that the last three months pass as fast as the first and with as little drama.

Our thoughts and our prayers are with our loved ones at home and we wish you all compliments of the season and cannot wait to be back in the arms of those we love.

K3 Massive!!

THE NSE TROY CHALLENGE COIN

WO2 L.A. Baker

Over here in the US Base of Bagram Afghanistan, we the members of National Support Unit (NSE) have encountered the US Armed Forces phenomenon known as the unit challenge coin. While there are units within the NZ Army that have their unit or trade coin, it is not a widespread custom, however, here in Bagram every unit has a coin. Either their home unit

coin or a coin specifically for the deployment, as most units here are an amalgamation of several US based units put together for the mission.

But first a small history lesson about the origin of the challenge coin within the US military.

Members of the US military have a long-standing tradition of carrying a special coin symbolizing unit identity and esprit de corps. With bonds forged in battle thousands of miles from home, these custom coins minted for military units – each bearing their own revered symbols and mottos – capture in metal the essence of their affiliation and their fierce pride. Known to generations of American military personnel as challenge coins, they are a vital part of military life today and are revered by troops in every branch of service.

Today, challenge coins are carried by soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines, as well as lawmen and fire-fighters. These coins identify the bearer as a member of a particular unit with a well-defined history and mission. And, wherever warriors gather, they challenge each other by "coining." The group's unique coin is slammed on a bar to challenge all in the group to display their own coins; he who is last must pay a penalty.

Like many aspects of military tradition, the origins of the challenge coin are a matter of much debate with little supporting evidence. While many organizations and services claim to have been the originators of the challenge coin, the most commonly held view is that the tradition began in the Army Air Corps (a precursor of the current United States Air Force).

Air warfare was a new phenomenon during World War I. When the Army created flying squadrons they were manned with

volunteer pilots from every walk of civilian life. While some of the early pilots came from working class or rural backgrounds, many were wealthy college students who withdrew from classes in the middle of the year, drawn by the adventure and romance of the new form of warfare.

As the legend goes, one such student, a wealthy Lieutenant ordered small, solid-bronze medallions (or coins) struck, which he then presented to the other pilots in his squadron as mementos of their service together. The coin was gold-plated, bore the squadron's insignia, and was quite valuable. One of the pilots in the squadron, who had never owned anything like the coin, placed it in a leather pouch he wore around his neck for safekeeping. A short while later, this pilot's aircraft was heavily damaged by ground fire (other sources claim it was an aerial dogfight), forcing him to land behind enemy lines, resulting in his capture by the Germans. The Germans confiscated the personal belongings from his pockets, but they didn't catch the leather pouch around his neck. On his way to a permanent prisoner of war facility, he was held overnight in a small German-held French village near the front. During the night, the town was bombarded by the British, creating enough confusion to allow the pilot to escape.

The pilot avoided German patrols by donning civilian attire, but all of his identification had been confiscated so he had no way to prove his identity. With great difficulty, he crept across no-man's land and made contact with a French patrol. Unfortunately for him, the French had been on the lookout for German saboteurs dressed as civilians. The French mistook the American pilot for a German saboteur and immediately

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

prepared to execute him.

Desperate to prove his allegiance and without any identification, the pilot pulled out the coin from his leather pouch and showed it to his French captors. One of the Frenchmen recognized the unit insignia on the coin and delayed the execution long enough to confirm the pilot's identity.

Once the pilot safely returned to his squadron, it became a tradition for all members to carry their coin at all times. To ensure compliance, the pilots would challenge each other to produce the coin. If the challenged couldn't produce the coin, he was required to buy a drink of choice for the challenger; if the challenged could produce the coin, the challenger would purchase the drink.

Another aspect of the tradition dates back to when US military personnel were assigned to occupy post-World War II Germany. With the exchange rate, the West German one **Pfennig** coin was worth only a fraction of a US cent, and they were thus generally considered not having enough value to be worth keeping – unless one was completely broke. At any place where servicemen would gather for a beer, if a soldier called out "Pfennig Check" everyone had to empty their pockets to show if they were saving any Pfennig's. If a soldier could produce a Pfennig, it meant that he was nearly broke. Likewise, if a soldier could not produce a Pfennig (meaning he had enough money to not bother saving them), he had to buy the next round.

Another part of the coin tradition dates back to the Vietnam War: Our teeth arm brothers will enjoy this;

The tradition of the coin giving dates back to Vietnam actually when soldiers would tote along a

piece of "lucky" ordnance that had helped them or narrowly missed them. At first it was small arms ammunition, but this practice grew to much bigger and more dangerous ordnance as time wound on. It then became actually a dangerous practice because of the size and power of the ordnance being carried, not the best practice while having a few drinks, so commanders banned it, and instead gave away metal coins emblazoned with the unit crest or something similar. The main purpose of the ordnance had been when going into a bar, you had to have your lucky piece or you had to buy drinks for all who did have it. The coins worked far better in this regard as they were smaller and not as lethal! So, if you go to a military bar, whip out a challenge coin and slam it down on the bar, those who lack one buys drinks! Obviously you have to be careful about this tradition. However, Commanders and units give out coins for this and as mementos for services rendered or special occasions.

As you can see the coin, like most aspects of the military tradition, has a colourful yet murky history, no-one is quite sure where it originated from but now that it is here, it has become part of the US Military culture to stay, to such an extent there are now regulations in the design, etc, of these coins.

Just as your motorcycle is not merely transportation, a challenge coin is not merely a token. Challenge coins today are a tangible source of pride for America's service personnel at every level in the chain of command. Commanders use them as on-the-spot awards; senior military leaders often dole out their coins as gifts to foreign dignitaries or civilian VIPs. As this is my second tour here in Bagram I was

aware of the significance of the coin to the US Military and having been the recipient of numerous coins as gifts from Command Sergeant Majors, and seeing my OC being presented coins, I have been extremely embarrassed to not have a suitable gift in exchange. Initially, I was using my AD association coins as gift exchanges; however, I put forth the idea of an NSE coin to the contingent as both a gift idea and an article to swap.

US military over here love anything that has a distinctive "kiwi" flavour. As we are a small unit, any NZ military memorabilia is highly sought after, as it will be a rarity back in the States. Our Kiwi patches and NZ flag patches are very popular and we are forever being asked to swap such items. The gifting and swapping of these items has given the NSE far more value for money than just the mere cost of the patch. The swapping of patches has opened doors that normally are closed, given us contacts who remember the exchange of patches and has allowed us to network with the units within camp for the benefit of the NZDF as a whole. Relationships within existing networks are strengthened to the point where NZDF interests are being given help far beyond what is the norm. It has allowed us to be put "first in the queue" for additional support, as units think of us first simply by the exchanging of patches. This swapping of patches however has one major flaw. As an item of uniform it is extremely hard to get in any numbers beyond initial issue, and even harder to replace, consequently it is rare to do so.

The challenge coin, however, is outside the normal supply chain and by simply purchasing them they are easily replaced. As many of the NSE personnel had already

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

been given coins, they too thought it would be a good idea. So I submitted a basic design to numerous coin manufacturers (and there are quite a few) and the winning artwork was chosen as the National Support Unit Coin for the exchanging of gifts for the OC and NSE members.

The cost of a coin varies, however the NSE coin cost an initial outlay of \$671.40 USD for 110, this includes a one-off moulding fee of \$150.00. Ten of the coins have already been presented to NSE members as a memento of their tour.

The coin has been designed for future NSE's to use, as the coin is not NSE 19 specific, however, it does have space for engraving to make it specific if required. Future orders will be less the moulding fee and will subsequently be cheaper. The Coin is shown (top right).

Current NZDF policy on the use of public monies for "gifting" is extremely limited and regulated. For the small outlay of approx \$1000.00 NZD (all of which is paid out of the pockets of NSE personnel) the coin will now allow us to recognise the help from units and individuals within Bagram and beyond and with the further goodwill generated will allow us here to assist all the other missions in and around Afghanistan. It will spare the Officer Commanding and other members of NSE the embarrassment of being unable to return any such tokens. It also allows NSE personnel the ability to swap with US personnel, allowing them to take home small reminders of their time here which will last a lifetime.

The second photo (right) is a sample of the coins I have been presented/swapped during my stay here.



The National Support Unit Coin



Sample of coins WO2 Baker has been presented/swapped during his deployment

NEW YEAR HONOURS 2012

*Her Majesty the Queen has approved the following awards to
New Zealand Defence Force personnel in the
New Year Honours 2012:*

Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM):

Rear Admiral A.J. Parr, MVO

New Zealand Distinguished Service Decoration (DSD):

Squadron Leader K.M. Bartlett, RNZAF

Colonel J.R. Boswell

Lieutenant Commander S.C. Griffiths, RNZN

Squadron Leader R.M. Kennedy, RNZAF

CHAPLAIN'S PEN — FROM ABROAD

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT TILOMAR

Chaplain Chris Purdie, Padre, GYRO 12



At the Walser Memorial



Close up of the Manning Memorial



L to R. OC Maj Steve Challies, Col Martin Dransfield, SNO Lt Col Chris Powell, NZ Ambassador Tony Fautua, and Police Superintendent John Spence (NZ POL)

On the 28th of Dec 2011 some 25 representatives from GYRO 12 gathered on the hill top of Tilomar, in the Cova Lima district at the south western end of Timor-Leste. We gathered to pay our respects to all of the fallen NZDF personnel in Timor-Leste over the past 12 years. We were joined by the New Zealand Ambassador to Timor-Leste, Tony Fautua, and representatives of the UN, Colonel

Martin Dransfield (NZDF) and Police Superintendent John Spence (NZ POL).

Our service of remembrance was held at Tilomar, the sight of the old New Zealand FOB which is the home of the memorial to Private Leonard Manning (2/1 RNZIR). It was particularly poignant for us to have with us Colonel Dransfield, who was the Commanding Officer here at the time of Leonard's death.

It was good for the soldiers, young and old alike, to hear first-hand from Colonel Dransfield about Leonard and the kind of young man he was, and also the events of the day he died in the ambush.

Following the service we drove down the hill to pay our respects at the memorial of WO2 Tony Walser (1 RNZIR) as well.

Going up country and seeing and being in the place where so many New Zealanders have served has been important for us in GYRO 12; to go walk in the shoes of others and to get a sense of what they went through. For those who have been here before on the BATTs and earlier GYRO missions, it has been good for them to engage with the memories, tell the old stories again, and of course to spend time with those who have passed on.

As I came away from Tilomar I have a sense of peace, and a tinge of sadness, and also a sense of deep privilege and honour, to be able to gather our people in and to say prayers for ourselves, and those who have served here and gone before. It has been a highlight of my tour here.

Blessings.

CHAPLAIN'S PEN — FROM ABROAD CONT'D...

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Padre Darren
Chaplain CRIB 19

A Happy New Year to all our families and friends back home. Nga mihi o te tau hou ki a koutou katoa.

I can say those last few weeks of 2011 have flown past for us here in Bamyan. We are over half way through the tour now as we continue to build on the work done already and face new challenges as we go through a Bamyan winter.

We didn't quite have a full white Christmas as we thought we were going to get here at Kiwi base, but there was enough snow around the surrounding hillsides and the drop in temperatures to remind us we are definitely into the winter months. Winter lasts for approximately three months here. The paddocks are bare of any vegetation and where there was a running stream it has now turned to ice. The lowest temperature to date was between minus 16-19 (Brrr tino maaariri).

It was a special Christmas day with a church service in the morning, while some donned packs and patrolled up PT Hill and others were still on duty, but I think we all began by opening a Christmas present or two. A special acknowledgement to the Returned Service Association and helpers for the welfare packs with all the favourite goodies that we only get from home. They were well received.

Our Christmas dinner was held at lunch time. The mess had been decorated with Christmas decorations to give it that Christmas feel. The catering team certainly did us proud with the mess set up and menu which included turkey, ham and pork, an array of vegetables and salads and a yummy raw fish salad. For



deserts there was pavlova, cakes, and biscuits, cheesecake and fresh fruits, and chocolate and more chocolate. It was a Christmas dinner to remember; we were very spoilt. In the evening we had a good fun night of Bingo.

New Years Eve we had a funs' Casino night with some electing to see the New Year in. New Years

morning for those keen ones, a patrol up PT Hill to see the sunrise in Bamian to start the New Year.

We wish you all a safe holiday period and to all the children, mokopuna, on school holidays, enjoy. To mums and dads looking after them, peace be with you. Best wishes for the start of the year, from us your loved ones and

RECOMMENDED READING



The Kite Runner

Author: Khaled Hosseini

"The Kite Runner" is the first novel by Afghan-American author Khaled Hosseini. Published in 2003, it is the first novel published in English by an author from Afghanistan.

"The Kite Runner" tells the story of Amir, a well-to-do Pashtun boy from the Wazir Akbar Khan district of Kabul, who is haunted by the guilt of betraying his childhood friend Hassan, the son of his father's Hazara servant. The story is set against a backdrop of tumultuous events, from the fall of the monarchy in Afghanistan through the Soviet invasion, the mass exodus of refugees to Pakistan and the United States and the Taliban regime.

DSO'S CORNER



Carol Voyce

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New Years greetings to you all at home and abroad! I hope that you had a peaceful Christmas and that the New Year is full of many good things! I look forward to catching up with many of you again soon and to read the Foreign Correspondence to hear of news from deployment locations.

Many thanks to those who sent Christmas greetings my way and for the wonderful feedback on "The Bugle". To know that our little in-house publication is loved and longed for so much, is always reassuring! The success of our deployment newsletter depends very much on the input from those abroad and those at home and of course your great personal messages. This edition of "The Bugle" is smaller than usual and was planned just to keep in touch and to remind you that Janine and I are here if you need us. The next issue will be back to normal and we look forward to hearing from you to meet the deadline of 26 January.

I have enjoyed a restful festive season in Hawaii - spoilt a little by thoughts of my family, friends and "deployment families" in

Canterbury, with the pre-Christmas earthquakes and the helplessness ones feels from a distance. While we came home to some significant damage to what is left of our house and to our current rental property, there were plenty more quakes in store for us. We all feel somewhat fragile now, so please reach out if you need any support. You will not be alone in coming forward!

Hawaii was all I imagined and more - their winter seems perfect - continuous days of 27 degrees, a little wind, but what I call bliss! We had no trouble in filling in two weeks. While I am not usually a water addict, there was no stopping me and everyday we were down at the beach or in the resort's infinity pool - floating on giant bean bags and soaking up the complimentary drinks and fruit platters that came by on a regular basis. We took in a football game and joined the crowds in the customary beer and huge hotdogs, spent time snorkelling at gorgeous Haumana Bay and even went swimming with the dolphins!



There was time for a quick look in the shops - but much less than I would usually do, as the water was so addictive, and continuously

lured us back! - Something I am sure my bank account was grateful for!

On a sobering note, we took a tour to Pearl Harbor which was an emotional journey and filled in



USS Arizona Memorial, Pearl Harbor, Honolulu

some gaps in my memory, of the history of this tragic event, the many losses, the impact it caused and what was to follow. "At dawn on Sunday December 7 1941 more than half of the US Pacific fleet (approx 150 vessels and service craft) lay at anchor alongside piers in Pearl Harbor. By 10am the

tranquil calm was shattered. 21 vessels lay sunk or damaged. The fleet in Pearl Harbor, the focus of the attack by Japanese Air and Naval Forces, suffered the greatest

DSO'S CORNER CONT'D...

loss - almost half of the casualties occurred when the USS Arizona blew up. The exhibit lists persons, military and civilians who died as a result of the attack or who were killed later that day in the performance of their duties." It was indeed an enormous tragedy, aptly remembered by this monument and other exhibitions on site.

And now it back to reality, to work and to new challenges and many new deployments to fill 2012. We are planning many get-togethers,

mid tour briefs and updates and pre-deployment training for many missions. This will be a year when I get to meet up again with many of you associated with past deployments and to meet others just embarking on the deployment journey! If you know of someone about to deploy be sure to offer your support. It seems that those who have been there, done that, can offer the very best in advice and hot tips, for successfully managing the separation. Be sure to attend the updates in locations

near you - they are great informal events and another step towards homecomings and reunions for many of you.

Enjoy the rest of you holiday break - before you know it - it will be time to get the school uniforms out, sort out the lunchboxes and wrestle with Dura sealing the many exercise books again! (I was never good at that!) I am just a phone call away and look forward to hearing from you all over the months ahead.

Kind regards.



Janine Burton
Deployment Services Officer
1 (NZ) Bde

Typically, at the end of any year, we reflect on the year that was and look forward to the year that is to come. I hope that your memories of 2011 (apart from saying goodbye to your loved one as they left for their deployment, of course) aren't too bad, and that you are looking forward to a great 2012. It is certainly shaping up to be a busy one for the DSOs! I hope that 2012 meets all your expectations and brings you everything you wish for. No doubt, top of the list will be the safe return of loved ones from any one of the various missions we currently have operating around the world.

As this edition goes to print I am still on leave – hence I am writing this well in advance (it is still pre-Christmas 2011). I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year celebration with family and friends, and that at some point you were in contact with your deployed loved one.

Planning has already begun for the CRIB 19 and GYRO 12 tour update briefings – February and March respectively. With this mailout there is an invitation to the CRIB tour updates – 10, 11 and 12 February in Burnham, Auckland and Linton; I had hoped to have the GYRO briefings booked in as well, but still waiting on confirmation of availability of our presenter, so hopefully details will be available in the next "Bugle".

A mailing reminder: We regularly remind our families, that when sending liquid items to loved ones overseas, that it is really important to ensure that they are sufficiently wrapped. In the past we have heard of incidences with shampoo (the Apple variety was a favourite) and tomato sauce destroying whole bags of mail because of inadequate wrapping. It appears that shower gel is now the liquid of choice for mail destruction. Please, can we

ask that when you are sending liquids of any sort to loved ones overseas, that you wrap, wrap and wrap again. If in doubt, add another layer.

Take care all, "see" you in the next "Bugle".

A decorative box containing an illustration of two stylized birds, one above the other, both facing right. They are holding a large heart between them. An arrow points from the heart towards the bottom right. The entire illustration is enclosed in a decorative, floral-patterned border.

**Don't forget —
Deadline for your
Valentine's Day
messages is
26 January**

XMAS CARDS SENT TO PERSONNEL DEPLOYED IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS



OP RATA II (14) were amongst lucky NZDF recipients worldwide to receive Christmas Cards from many young Kiwis, as part of our Operation Christmas Card Project.

Here, some cards were proudly displayed by Major Michael Chivers and shared with the team in the Solomon Islands.

Sincere thanks to all for their contributions.

2012

WHAT'S ON

CRIB 19 TOUR UPDATE

CRIB 19 Tour Update

As discussed at the pre-deployment brief, an update family brief for those associated with the current CRIB deployment to Afghanistan is planned. This is an opportunity for family members to gain a further insight into the day-to-day lives of deployed loved ones and to receive valuable tips on reunions and readjusting to family life post-deployment. We also hope to have a DVD from the contingent to share with you.

These information briefings are open to Primary next of Kin (PNOK), extended family members and friends. Children are most welcome.

Light refreshments will be served at the commencement of the Burnham briefing and afternoon tea in Auckland and Linton.

BURNHAM

Burnham conference Centre, Friday 10 February, 6.00pm

AUCKLAND

204 Great North Road, Grey Lynn, Saturday 11 February, 1.00pm

LINTON

Linton Conference Centre, Sunday 12 February, 1.00pm

Invitations have been included with the mailout of this edition of "The Bugle" or attached to the email, depending on how you receive your Bugle. For more information, and to confirm your attendance, please contact Janine (DSO Linton), ph 0800 683 77 327.

PERSONAL MESSAGES



The deadline for contributions and personal messages for the next edition of "The Bugle" is **Thursday 26 January at 4.00pm**. Please note: All "Bugle" messages are to be sent to Carol Voyce, DSO Burnham (email: dso.burnham@xtra.co.nz)

Missed Messages From In-Theatre

From Janine

Sadly, due to an oversight on my part, some Christmas messages from GYRO were missed in the last "Bugle". I can't apologise enough for missing these messages at such an important time. They are printed below – again, really sorry to have missed these.

To Tinmama

Miss you heaps and wish you a Very Happy Christmas. Love Rimoni.

Yeah Bro

Mum, Dad, Shaun + Amber Lee, Diarna + Joe, Isaiah, Zoe, Mia, Samra, Nunu, Koro Mac, Nana and Granddad...Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Take care. Miss you heaps (Ladies in a caring way, Fallaz in a Staunch Manly way). Savanah... Chur Bro, stay safe, gurl. I'll be home in no time. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! XOXOX BOY. P.S. Grunt Life!

To Phoenix

Merry Christmas! I miss you heaps. Hope you have a good holiday. Tell Dragon to behave too. Love Daddy.

To Mum and Dad, Deepak, Tracey, Riya, Ariyan, Anil

Have a good Christmas and a Happy New Year. Love Ya's heaps. C U in 2012. Love Vijay Lal.

To my Beautiful wife Bernadette, my very tall and bossy daughter (Grace) and my cheeky son (Josh) who has great dimples. I would like to wish my family a fantastic Xmas with the family that will congregate in the Manawatu; and I'll definitely be thinking of you guys from afar. For my wife who loves messages in "The Bugle", I hope this adds a smile to your face, even if it has some four letter expletives with it J. Missing you guys heaps and can't wait to catch up next year when I have leave. Lots of love, Nathan/Dad.

Baby Boo

Hope you and Bubba-Lubba have a good Christmas. Take pics of our baby tearing open her pressies and pigging out on lollies please. I hope you like what Santa brought you. Not long until our holiday Hunn, get prepared to be spoilt! I miss you with all my heart. Love to your family. Merry Christmas Baby Boo, love your G.F. XXOO.

From In-Theatre

Dear Ava

Daddy misses you so much and is sorry he is going to miss your first birthday but I am sure you will be spoilt and I promise to make up for it when I'm home. I love you so much little Avery and can't wait to get home to you. I love you as well Amber and Ethan and can't wait to get back to all of you. Take care and see you soon.

Happy New Years to my family. See you soon. Miss you all. Love Jacs xoxo.

To the Feraru Family

Especially to my little girl Alexis (booboo) - Happy New year to you all! Dad has been busy but still thinks about all of you everyday. Not long now until I come home we are at half way. Can not wait to see you all! Take care and see you soon. Love Dad xoxo.

Nana

I hope you had a good Christmas and the New Year has started well for you. It was good talking to you the other day. We are past the half way now, so I will be home again soon. Miss and love you lots. Love

Gumby xox.

Mum and Dad

A very big thank you for all the Christmas gifts, can't wait to get home and see them. We are past the half way mark now, so not much longer before I'm home again. Looking forward to Cairns!! Miss and love you lots. Love Gumby xox.

Toni and Ed

Well we are past the half way mark now so not long now until I'm home again. Thanks for all the Christmas messages. Loved the radio ones!

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

Thanks Ed! Take care. Love Gumby xox.

Dear K

Happy New Year! If 2011 was a time for farewells then 2012 will be a time for happy reunions. I look forward to seeing you soon and giving you your New Year's kiss. P.S: Have you picked another event yet? J .

Hari Tau Hou e te whanau nga manaakitanga a te Runga rawa ki a koutou. Kia pai nga hararei. Kia tupato a ta haere hoki. Hari Huri tau ki a koe taku tamahine Tiweka. Taku aroha nui ki a koe e te maatamua. Nga mihi Tai, Paruhi, Kenana. Arohanui ki koutou katoa whanau na Dad.

To my Gorgeous Wife Stacey

Hey babe, happy second wedding anniversary! I'm sorry I won't be there to celebrate with you. I hope you like the anniversary present I got you (if it got to you on time). I'll make up for not being there when I get home. I love you so much and miss you lots!! Frosty.

To Malakye

Hey Monkey, how are you? I hope you are having fun with your grandparents in Blenheim and are looking after mum, Aslan, Bella Boy the bunny and your 10 little bunnies!!! I hope you are behaving yourself as well. I miss you lots and lots. I love you more xxxxx. Dad.

To Chrissie & Andy

Hey guys thanks for looking after Stace and the Monkey while I have been away. I really appreciate what you both have done for us. Andy I'm still working on getting you a tank, but think it might end up costing too much to send home in freight, so have got you some Afghan hats instead. Look after yourselves and see you all soon Love Frosty.

To Dad, Mum, Britts and Sinead

Hey guys, I hope you all had a good time over in Australia. Sorry we weren't able to Skype each other on Christmas day, but thank you for the presents (I can't believe how much chocolate I got!!!). Dad, Happy Birthday for the 27th, your birthday present might be a bit late, but hopefully you will like it. Well guys, it's over half way now, so not long to go. Lots of love Frosty.

To Pom Pom Poo Poo Kitty Kitty Jelly Bean Frickle Butt

Hey babe, I hope you had a good and Happy Christmas/New Years. Sorry I wasn't there for the second time but you know me "I'll make it up to you" with a kiss on the cheek and a spank on the.....love you always. "FOREVER STUCK ON YOU". P.S: Don't dream about me too much, xo.

MEZ AND BERT

Hey mez hope you had a wonderful Xmas and a safe New Years. I also hope that the tribe isn't playing up too much. Well almost home; can't wait to see you's all and then leave 2 days later lol. Love always JJ.

From Home

Kia Ora Pirihi

Ngā mihi mo te tau hou e te tama. Missing you heaps! Kai time not the same without you. Hope to make up for that for your 21st Huritau. Kei te pai a Koro. Still mamae, but we there for him! Keep safe. Love you our boy. Kapene Whanau Manoeka.

To Babyboy

Happy New Year Daddy, it's gonna be the best year ever because you will be coming home yay!!! We miss you so so so much! Everything is sweet as over here, we hope you are all good. Hear from you soon,

your loving whanau Julia, Keisha, Blade, Nana and Babygirl oxoxox.

To my Gorgeous S.B.W.

We miss you like crazy our first Xmas without you. Baby O.B.W is getting bigger every day and is nearly the same weight as Irimena. Just know that we love you very much and although we can't be in your arms seeing you on skype helps. Your loving wife forever K.M.W, mwahhhh, xx.

Hi JJ

The whanau back home wish you a "Happy New Year". You're half way through your deployment. Not long now; and your 21st coming up "Happy Birthday" for Waitangi Day (and don't open your presents till then, I'm watching you). I thought I'll just skite about our holidays, camping by the beach getting a tan, having a few drinks and you're in the cold making snowmen.. not... I know how much you hate the snow, lol. Your niece and nephew are growing up fast. You won't recognise them. We all miss you heaps. Stay safe, love you heaps xxx Mum and Bert.

Hi JJ

Miss you heaps! I'm getting two new teeth and I have my own room now, I sent you some pictures for you to put on your wall, OK. I've been to splash planet that's my best pools now, and I can drive the jeeps all by myself cause I'm 5. My brother is trying to crawl and he touches. I can't wait to see you. Love you heaps, xxx, from "Your Hunny Bunny" Sakairi.

BOOOOBOO

Half way! Yaaay! Not too long now till I get some Snuggles from my SnugglePUFF! Hope u loved the Xmas pics, cute as aye! Can't wait to hear from you and... PLEASE SHAVE YOUR MO! xxx Love u.

Dear Phil

Happy Birthday and congratulations

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

at turning a quarter of a century!!! We love you sooo much and are soooo proud of you. Kiri's birthday went well and she looked lovely when we all went out to tea that night. Your baby is delightful as ever and oozing with charm and sweetness. It was neat being able to see you and talk to you on skype, we miss you. All our love Mum, Dad, Luke & Katherine.

Hi Dad

How are you? Mum showed me your photo in the Marlborough paper. Hope had a good Xmas and New Year. I was very spoilt! Thank you for my presents. Mum tells me we are half way now which I have no concept of but she tells me it's exciting. Love you.....love you more xox.

Hey Babe

Great 5 minutes of fame! Hope got back to your Kiwi to get presents. Xmas was fun, monkey really enjoyed it. We are back in Burnham now, probably still unpacking after 2 months away, Uni starts shortly again so another year will be over soon. Yippee half way now. Have a good week, talk later. Love ya xx.

Hey My Mainlander

THREE years down babe, they have been amazing because of you, and I love you more each day. You are the best thing ever and can't wait to hold you. Please stay safe and we will celebrate our anniversary when you get back. All my love always, your Waikato girl xxooxx.

Hey my Eskimo

I hope you had a good Christmas and enjoyed it. Thank you for your present, it's lovely/amazing, we'll have to find a special place for it to hang on the wall. By the time you read this, we both will have welcomed in the New Year. By now it's about the half-way mark now and hopefully the second half will go fast. I'm looking forward to when

we next talk. Take care of yourself. Lots of love, cuddles and kisses from your Blue Eyed Angel XOXOXOXO.

Happy New Year Gumby

Wishing a very Happy New Year! Let's hope 2012 brings us all that we are wishing and working for. Big year this one, lots of big birthdays, some of which you will miss. Promise to save you some cake from each one. Miss you heaps. Stay safe and take care. All our love Mum and Dad xoxoxox.

Dear Gumby

Thank you so much for that awesome Xmas pressie. Can't wait to use it! We are all well here, just sick of this rain over Xmas and the New Year. Not sure what happened to the met service forecast that we were going to have a great long hot summer, think they were reading from the wrong page somehow. A lot of upset people who will be going back to work having had a wet holiday! At least we still got ours to look forward to later in the year - yeah!!!! Hoping to head up to Piha for a few days next weekend, Dad will travel to and from work and I will stay for an extra couple of days once this project I am on finishes. They are well on target for an early finish so that is good. Just think of me by the pool being lazy and walking (yeah, I know keep it up). Miss you lots - Christmas and New Year next year - your place! Take care and stay safe. Lots of love, Mum and Dad xoxoxoxo.

Dearest Gumby

Happy New Year! We all sick of this wet weather lately, be nice to see some sun and fine weather for a change. Miss you lots. Take care. Lots of love Nana xxxxx.

Hi there C Bass

Thinking of you as always you are so close in our hearts! Wishing you all the best for 2012! Will look forward to your safe return home in

a few months time. Thanks so much for the lovely gifts from Afghan. The elephant will be a most treasured Talisman. Our Xmas was great with Lisa and Glyde although we missed you greatly. The paint job at Russell is almost finished. Wonder what the next one will be? Looking forward to our bike trip in Feb away for 2 weeks around the South Is, "I just wanta ride man". Keep up the great work. Keep warm and keep safe. Love you lots, Mum, Dad and Atom, xx Nana and Poppa, xx and all the family, xx. P.S. We all enjoyed your article in the last edition of "The Bugle." It gives us an idea of the conditions there.

Hi Honey

Happy New Year!! Only a few more months to go till you're back home, hooray. The kids are both looking forward to you getting home, not as much as me though. We think about you everyday and miss you heaps and heaps. We all love you so so much xoxoxoxo mwah mwah.

Hi son-in-law

Have missed you around this Christmas and New Year! We are taking care of your little family never fear. Looking forward to you coming home to them (and us of course) Love from your mother in-law. P.S: I am making a HUGE new Christmas cake that your darling wife and kids will gobble up!

Hey Gumby

Happy New Year! Hope 2012 is all that you hope it will be! We rang in the New Year with LOTR trilogy, and the local fireworks that we could see from the street! Such party animals these days! New Years Day we had Mum and Dad over for lunch and Edgar and Sab over for dinner! It has been a very relaxing 2012. So far we went to Dave and Ceci's for lunch yesterday and got home today (dinner time!). Ed has also got a

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

new toy, a RC Helicopter, which he is currently adding a hook to so that he can pick things up! Classic! Love you heaps. Take care. Lots of Love, Toe, Ed, Tago and Dukie xxxx,

Happy New Year C-Bass

We were thinking about you as the clock struck 12.00pm on New Years Eve, missing you more than ever and wishing you were with us. Can't say enough how incredibly proud we are of you mate, keep up the amazing work you and the rest of Crib 19 troops are doing. Love Always My Bro, your Sis & Heart Burn.

Hello Aaron

Another year, another birthday far away! We do so hope that you have an enjoyable day and look forward to a belated celebration on your return. Thanks for keeping in touch. It is always good to hear from you and to know that all is well and that you are enjoying the experience. Great photos! HAPPY BIRTHDAY! We will be thinking of you on the day. Keep going with the fitness programme. Love M & D – OO.

Hey Baby

Well it's my first day back at work after a fab Xmas break; it seems pretty busy which is good as it makes the days go faster. Hopefully it will be a busy year for people wanting to travel. It's been a shakey week or so here, and the way it's going we'll probably still be shaking when you get home. Lucky you don't mind them eh. Nice to know we're on the downward slide now, not quite ready to start counting days yet but at least we're past the halfway mark. Keep up the good work, miss you heaps. Love your Smoothcey xx.

Taku hoa pumau

Aroha ana ki a koe no te mea, to tawhiti i tenei wa o te whakawhanaungatanga o nga

whanau katoa. Hei aha, kei te kaha ra matou katoa i tou ngarohanga. Nui nga korero mo te whanau i tenei wa. Kua haere a Tamati raua ko Tai ki te ngau poaka. Rika katoa raua tahi ki te haere. Engari kaore au e whakaae ki a Tamati kia haere inanahi kia mahia raano te ruma kaukau e ratou. Kaore ano kia tino mutu engari kei te pai te haere. Katahi ano a Kenana me ana paakeke ka hoki ki te kainga, kua waea ke te kenana ra ki te whanau. I haere pai ta matou Wananga. A te wa ka mau he pikitia ki runga i te roro hiko. Kei to manu a Kobe, no te mea he rahi rawa nga mahi i konei. Ka hoki noaiho mai a ia ki te moe i te taha o tana mama. Kei te ahua pena ano ahau ki a koe, kei te mokemoke. Engari kei te pai ahau kei konei katoa nga tamariki i taku taha. I mahia e a taua tama nga wahia. Haatakehi, i taka tetahi taha o a ratou wahia (i ki atu ahau kaore te tika te noho ka taka) ana i taka. Ka katainga e ahau. Me waiho i konei ne Dad. Aroha tino nui rawa ake. Ma.

Andrew

Hope it is not too chilly over there and that the socks got to you ok and keeping your feet warm. Looking forward to when you will be back home in New Zealand. Love Poppa.

Hi Larry

Hope you got to sit on Santa's knee and had a fun Christmas Day. We all missed you here and toasted you at breakfast. We look forward to your return later this year by which you will be Uncle Larry for the first time. Lots of love, Mrs Larry and Big Larry.

NGA MIHI O TE TAU HOU!

Kia Ora Dad. I'm off to compete in the North Island Colgate Games in Tauranga apopo. I'll be in the Long jump, 60, 100, 200 & Under 9's Relay Events. Heaps of whanau coming to tautoko. I'm having sprint

training today with uncle Mat, TK & Tam at Smallbone Park. Hope you are ok Dad. Love you & talk to you soon. – TAI.

Kia Ora PAPA DARREN

We are going to Maketu tonight and will go to watch Tai's Athletics this weekend. We gonna go fishing too and have a swim at the beach if it's sunny. It's been raining here. Miss you DAD. Arohanui KOBE.

HEY DAD!

Well holiday so far has been inactive coz the weather has been yuck but we've been painting the bathroom at Whittaker. FUN! Taking advantage today though with a round of golf and over the weekend will take the boys fishing & plan on hitting the lakes next week. Anyhow, hope all is well and you are making the most of your time over there. I got a wallet for Christmas so I don't need one now, hee hee. I need a watch though hint hint! 23RD JAN!!! LOVE YOU TOO – Nik.

Hey Phil

Happy Birthday for the 16th, me and Amelia hope you have/had an awesome day celebrating your arrival at a quarter century, hee hee. You're getting old now babe! We love you lots and are so very proud of you...We are around the half way mark now and it's so exciting that you are gonna be home soonish. I'm missing you lots hun. I love you more than all the words in the oxford dictionary!! Xoxoxoxox Kiri & Amelia.

Dear my Ratbird Daddy

Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday dear daddy, Happy Birthday to you!!! I hope you have a good birthday. I hope you get a chocolate birthday cake, send some home for me too please daddy. Hope you get some good presents. What did you get? We are missing you; we hope you are having a good time over

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

there. I loved being in Westport, looking at the stinky seals, on the beach, in the sand, and giving Nana and Auntie Jasmine hugs. Love from your best ratbird son, Nicolas xoxoxoxoxo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sorry it's late, but HAPPY ANNIVERSARY babe, thanks for the gorgeous roses, it made my day. Three years married has gone so fast. Babe it's your birthday, party like it's ya birthday. I hope you have an awesome day. Enjoy your presents when they arrive, I hope they get there safely. Your getting old now babe. P.S: Westport was fun, good relaxing spot, hope we can get back down there this year, after you get home. Half way through now, can't wait till you are home now. I know I gotta get my 'A' into 'G' and get baby's room sorted. Love you, forever and always, your wifey. Xxxxxxxx.

Wishing you a very Happy Birthday Aaron. Love Michelle.

Bouquet

Lorraine

How can I ever thank you for giving me a phone free holiday! Thank you so much for taking the cell phone and for being there to assist our many Deployment families when they needed it. It brings much peace of mind to "our families" to know there is a sympathetic listening ear at the end of the phone, (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) if they should need it and you excelled in your support to those who needed to call. Not sure how I can repay you for your kindness, willingness and dedication to assist, but simply - Thank you! Carol.



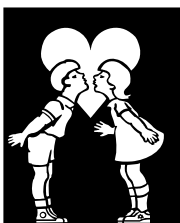
The following is a response from abroad following the arrival in various deployment locations of the Kiwi Forces Radio, Christmas programme. This programme was formatted by Kate Lukins who received a certificate of appreciation from the COMJ for her tremendous efforts.

Just wanted to give some feedback on the KFR. I have received the CD's and had a cheat preview. I initially thought I would scan through the requests until it came to my family, but instead found myself enthralled by the requests, the emotion in them and the excellent music provided, listening to the show from start to finish - of course with a few replays of my families request that tested the volume levels of my stereo!

When away from home (and away from an English speaking nation) one of the things I miss is the radio. While music on ipods etc is great, that Kiwi radio show sound with a random mix of songs, especially the many 'kiwi favourites', is something hard to replace.

My obvious highlight was the segment (start of CD 4) with my wife and daughters, but I enjoyed the entire show and it will be played from start to finish, probably more than once on Christmas Day over here.

Please pass on my sincere thanks to Kate, she has done an amazing job by providing an entertaining, enjoyable, professional and deeply touching show that as a serviceman overseas, makes me even more proud of belonging to the NZDF.



Don't forget to get your Valentine's Day messages into the next edition of "The Bugle: Deadline 26 January



KABUL SCHOOL VISIT

On 27 November 2011, Corporal Scott Haines (3 MP PI) and Major Brett Grieve (3 Wksp Coy) from Burnham Military Camp, who were based in Kabul, visited the Global Point School which is in the west of Kabul to distribute school supplies and warm clothes kindly donated by children from the Rangiora Borough School and Burnham School. The visit was coordinated by British Officers, LT CDR AJ Snell and MAJ Martin Melia and included ISAF personnel from USA, UK and NZ. The school has two classes, one for boys and one for girls and the children were very excited and appreciative of the goods and interaction.

The Global Point School is a not for profit organisation that provides education for children who have lost one or both parents. www.globalpointafghanistan.org contact brett.grieve@nzdf.mil.nz for more details.



