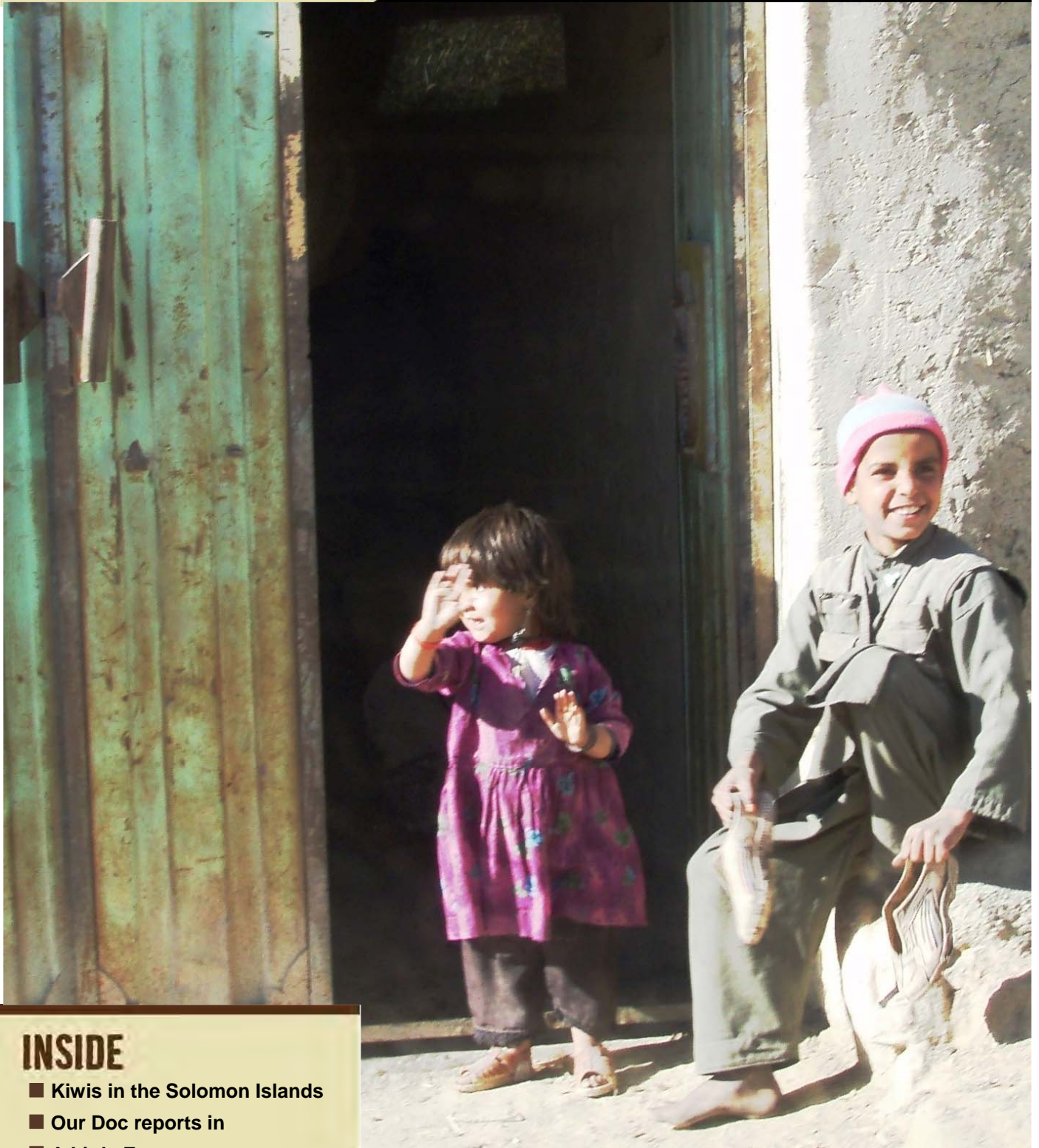


THE BUGLE

Issue 165 | February 2012



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COURAGE | COMMITMENT | COMRADESHIP | INTEGRITY

"THE BUGLE"

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

Deadline

The deadline for Edition 166 is
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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:

Young children in the Bamiyan Province, Afghanistan

(Photo courtesy of
Major Kirstine Collins)

GUEST EDITORIAL

Chaplain Lance Lukin Principal Chaplain NZDF

Outside our house, right on our front lawn is an incredibly large ornamental cherry tree. In many ways it is completely annoying, because it bears no fruit, and in winter it drops all of its leaves on the lawn – and provides my son and I with constant work raking them up.

But we love that old tree – because it is a constant reminder of the changes of seasons. In summer, it is full of bird life – attracting Tuis and Parrakeets and signifying new growth, new life.... a new year. In spring, it is a mass of blossom and colour. In winter, it sheds its leaves exposing a beautiful array of branches. In autumn, it turns into a myriad of colours.

For our family, it charts the changing face of nature. For some reading this, you have just faced the changes of leaving loved ones to head away on deployment. For many reading this, you are about to face an incredible change, as you say goodbye to the mission that has been home for these past four months and start the journey home. Regardless of where you are at, you face incredible change. And, change always provides two contrasting realities – the worry of what will be along with the excitement of what could be.

For those who have recently departed for deployment, there will be excitement of what is to come, and maybe some sadness at what you have left behind.

For those coming home – there may be sadness for leaving an incredible focussed way of functioning as a cohesive deployed unit, while at the same time, the joy and anxiety about coming home.

How will things have changed? What



Chaplain Lance Lukin

if it is too different? How will I cope? What is the NZDF that I come back to, as compared to the NZDF I left? What about my loved ones?

Can I encourage you to take a lesson from my old cherry tree – Life does carry on, and changes do occur... and if we are patient, and take time to watch, to listen, to readjust – then changes aren't as overwhelming.

Take time to arrive home. You may get there physically in a few days – but give yourself (and others) time to arrive psychologically and spiritually.

In the bible, it says, "there is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven". *ECL 3:1*.

Time is an essential element in re-integration. Take time to arrive home (emotionally). Take time to reconnect with your loved ones. Take time to get back into things. Have patience – and above all, know that changes will have occurred while you are away – because life doesn't stand still. Try not to fight the changes – try to understand them, celebrate them, embrace them and move on into the next season of your lives together.

NEWS UPDATE

NEW ZEALANDERS COMMEMORATE THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF SINGAPORE

**Media Statement on behalf of
Hon Nathan Guy - Minister of
Veterans' Affairs**

Source: www.nzdf.mil.nz



*Minister of Veterans' Affairs Hon Nathan
Guy with veterans Clem Randall
and Hugh Nelson*

Veterans' Affairs Minister Nathan Guy has commemorated the 70th anniversary of the fall of Singapore

at a wreath laying ceremony in Wellington today.

"The fall of Singapore on 15 February 1942 was a major event in World War II. During the conflict 35 New Zealand airmen lost their lives, and hundreds of our servicemen and civilians became prisoners of the Japanese.

"Over 80,000 British, Indian and Australian troops became prisoners of war and endured harsh treatment. Four days later the first bombing raids on Darwin began, bringing the war very close to New Zealand."

Special ceremonies are being held in Wellington and Singapore to mark the 70th anniversary.

Two New Zealand veterans are attending the service in Singapore, supported by Veterans' Affairs New



Zealand staff. Both men served in the Royal New Zealand Air Force during the Second World War and whilst in Singapore will pay tribute to those who did not return home.

"We are pleased to be able to send two veterans to the ceremony, given there are very few survivors of this historic battle left alive.

"Today we honour all the New Zealanders who took part in this battle and recognise the sacrifice of those that died, were injured, or held in prisoner of war camps," says Mr Guy.

WWI SOLDIER ALONGSIDE HIS COUNTRYMEN AT LAST

Source: www.nzdf.mil.nz



*Alongside his countrymen at last.
Lieutenant Colonel Nick Gillard opens
the reburial service for the unknown
soldier of the New Zealand Rifle Brigade
at the Messines Ridge British
Cemetery last week*

A solemn ceremony to rebury the remains of a New Zealand soldier was held at Messines Ridge British Cemetery in near Leper, Belgium on Friday 3 February.

The ceremony was attended by the

Minister of Defence, Dr Jonathan Coleman, the Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant General Rhys Jones, the Secretary of Defence, John McKinnon, the New Zealand Ambassador (Belgium), Vangelis Vitalis, and the Head of Defence Staff, New Zealand High Commission Brigadier Antony (Lofty) Hayward.

The Mayor of Mesen, Sandy Evrard, and representatives from Belgian military, Flemish Foreign Affairs, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and Royal British Legion also attended the ceremony.

Brigadier Hayward said, "The service was a poignant time to reflect on service and sacrifice. After lying in a foreign field for 95 years he is now with his mates buried with the honour and dignity befitting a soldier that fought for our country."

The remains of the soldier were discovered in July last year alongside a NZ Rifle Brigade hat badge, associated personal material and the remains of a uniform. After forensic analysis they were officially accepted as the remains of a New Zealand soldier.

Messines was the scene of very intense fighting by New Zealand Division (including the New Zealand Rifle Brigade) over the period 7-14 June 1917. During this battle around 700 New Zealand soldiers were killed in action.

Within the cemetery stands the Messines Ridge New Zealand Memorial which commemorates over 800 soldiers of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force who died in or near Messines in 1917 and 1918 and who have no known grave. The majority of these soldiers are listed as New Zealand Rifle Brigade personnel.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

NEWS AND VIEWS

- Including:**
- Kiwis in the Solomon Islands
 - Happy New Year and all the Very Best for 2012
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 - Our "Family" CRIB 19 Q Store
 - Our Doc reports in
 - From the Quiet side..... of public disorder
 - Happy Birthday Private Hugh Summers
 - Chaplain's Pen from Abroad

NEWS FROM OP RATA, SOLOMON ISLANDS

KIWIS IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

Major Michael Chivers
SNO OP RATA II
DepComd CTF 635

I had hoped to be able to report on the exploits of the team here at OP RATA II for the Waitangi Day Anniversary. We had planned a day out from the RAMSI Base to Nughu Beach with the typical BBQ and swimming and invited the NZ Police contingent to join us. This spectacular beach is about a three hour drive west of Honiara on the island of Guadalcanal – in fact it is two beaches on either side of a very narrow (20m) isthmus and is also known as the Black & White Beaches, as the sand on one side is black, the other side is white. That said, we did not actually get there as after a week of consistent rain the rivers and streams were all flooding; a Tongan road patrol that went out that way a week earlier took five days to return. Plan B was a semi-quiet night at the Mess facilities here at the GBR, after a 'traditional' New Zealand meal which included roast lamb, the usual roast vegetables, with Pavlova, lamingtons and hokey-

pokey ice-cream included in the dessert.

The current rotation, despite being only eight pers, does include all three services and has been here (less SNO) for four and a half months now and is starting to look forward to rotating out in a few weeks. As a group, they have seized every opportunity to make this deployment a rewarding

and worthwhile experience. They have participated in cross-island (five-day) patrols, assisted with communication and mapping activities both on Guadalcanal and on some of the outer island groups. They have worked alongside the NZ High Commission and the crew of the *HMNZS Resolution* when it was up here, to renovate a couple of memorials in the far north of the Island group. This has all been achieved while completing their primary jobs as either part of the CTF HQ, maintaining the vehicle and stores or just keeping RATA 'ticking over' pending the next Kiwi Rotation.

The guys and girls have also taken every advantage of the other opportunities offered with a number completing their dive tickets while they have been here, diving and snorkeling over the many coral reefs and the many sunken wrecks and downed aircraft from WW2. In addition, there are a number of beaches west of Honiara where you can enjoy a quiet Saturday or Sunday afternoon. I should note that swimming and diving is



OP RATA Recce Party at 'Black and White' Beach

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



currently off limits as after all the recent heavy rains a number of crocodiles, up to four metres long, have been lurking in the waters off the more popular beaches.

A number of very important WW2 battles, land air and at sea, were fought in and around Honiara. As such, there are a number of battlefield tours that can be

undertaken and which have proved very interesting from both a military and personal perspective.

In addition, there are the very impressive American and Japanese memorials to visit. August 2012 is the 70th anniversary of the invasions by the US Marines on both Guadalcanal and some of the outer islands of the Florida Group.

As such there will be considerable activity over this period – something for the incoming rotations to look forward to, along with the Pacific Arts Festival in June.

All said the team here have had an interesting and enjoyable tour but cannot wait for their return to NZ.

NEWS FROM CRIB 19, AFGHANISTAN

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND ALL THE VERY BEST FOR 2012!



LTCOL Brett Wellington
Commanding Officer CRIB 19

Prior to CRIB 19's departure from NZ, it was recommended by Janine (Burton) that I write a "Bugle" article each month. That recommendation might have been made on the assumption that;

- a) folks back home are remotely interested in hearing from me that frequently, and
- b) I maintain a regular writing habit (my parents would take exception to such a claim).

Apologies therefore, that this is only the second article I've written in five months. Nonetheless, I am sure you have enjoyed contributions from a broad cross section of the contingent. Certainly you are constantly in our thoughts.

Your loved ones are maintaining good health and morale, and are performing excellently. We departed New Zealand with self imposed high expectations. The culture we demanded targeted themes of professionalism, one team, and constant improvement. It is rewarding to note these themes have readily been embraced and demonstrated in abundance. The culture of the contingent has been a solid foundation for executing successful operations and sustaining high morale. It is a genuine honour and privilege to command such a fine group of soldiers, officers and New Zealanders.

A somewhat over exposed quote is 'that time flies'. But it is undeniably apt with respect to this deployment. That's obviously a good thing. It speaks to a sustained tempo that has enabled to date, the achievement of our operational plan. Indirectly it identifies time

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

apart from our loved ones will pass quickly. Christmas and New Year were potentially mental hurdles that when elapsed, saw the contingent commencing a downhill run to returning home. Our contingent culture mitigated any 'mid tour blues' that may have been expected to, but didn't, eventuate. Now contingent members can clearly see the finish line rapidly approaching, after all 'time flies'. Whilst we all keenly look forward to returning home, our focus must clearly remain on the here and now. That unrelenting mission focus is critical to continuing to build on the foundation of success to date, but also to mitigate the risk of complacency and mistakes occurring. I reassure you that a key focus is acknowledging the risks we constantly face, and proactively and steadfastly managing them. Time will continue to fly because we remain focused on professionally executing our jobs here and now.

Our Brigade Commander, a US Colonel, visited today. One very brief topic, amongst a multitude of others, was a future visit during which he would present the ISAF medal to the contingent. It is a pleasure to award medals to our soldiers and it is recognition richly deserved. Nonetheless, often I wonder how that recognition is conferred on those that remain at home. After all, in the majority of cases, it is a partnership that has realised the successful completion of an operational deployment overseas. Our partners and family who remain at home probably have the hardest road to hoe. We ask so much of them in our absence. My wife, and numerous other partners will be the same, is working full time, looking after our children, selling a house in my absence, amongst a multitude of other challenges. In theatre we have the luxury of an almost singular focus –

achievement of the mission. Your achievements at home are amazing. You enable us to complete our roles but your efforts receive no formal recognition. As such I'd prefer to see my medals awarded to my wife. Maybe the recipients at a medals presentation should be both partners. Thanks for all you do.

PRIVATE KARIFI MILA MEMORIAL SERVICE

On 15 February 2012, a memorial service was carried out to commemorate the one year anniversary of the passing of PTE Karifi Mila. PTE Mila was a rifleman and member of 2/1st Battalion, RNZIR, who was tragically killed as the result of a vehicle accident during his deployment with TU CRIB 17. The service was officiated by Padre O'Callaghan via the base intercom system (or 'PIPE'), and as his words reverberated throughout Kiwi Base, a small gathering paid tribute to a fallen comrade at the base memorial. At the conclusion of



the Ode, a wreath was laid, some smaller flower arrangements, and a number of poppies by those who had gathered at the memorial site.

It should be noted that on 03 August 2011, TU CRIB 18 carried out a memorial service to commemorate the then one year anniversary of LT Tim O'Donnell's tragic loss, during which memorial plaques for both LT O'Donnell and PTE Mila were unveiled. As such, there was no formal unveiling



Members from CRIB 19 posted to Burnham who knew Pte Mila, in front of his memorial

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

required, but a small service to take time out to remember and reflect.

At this time, we also remember the tragic loss our country endured as a result of the Canterbury Earthquake on 22 February 2011.

In closing, we acknowledge the dedicated support from our families and loved ones back home.

OUR "FAMILY" CRIB 19 Q STORE

SSGT Lukitau

Like my father once said to me, "A family is made up of all sorts of people. Big people, small people, happy people, grumpy people". Those weren't his exact words, but you get the picture.

There are four of us assigned to the Q Store. We all have jobs and specialist areas that we use to varying degrees, so that we can support the rest of the contingent. Not me though. This is our "family":

Phil is the youngest. He makes sure the LAV guys have the wheels they need to drive around on. He's also here to conduct mortuary affairs work. Phil helped return one of the boys home, a hard job and one no-one wants to do...well done mate, you did good..

Phil also has the record for doing the most extra duties out of everyone else, ha ha ha ha, Phil's a slow learner. One of the big benefits of having Phil work with us is that he makes heaps of friends with the Americans and they send him food and other bits and pieces, which the rest of us hoe into!

Geoff is an Air Force Refueller and the oldest of us. He pumps gas. That's it. That's what he said to write. Geoff enjoys mocking Macca and online shopping. Geoff's part of our family coz no-one else wanted him, ha, ha ha, just jokes.



CRIB Twin Peaks

Macca runs the Q Store and helps Geoff pump gas. He also deals with all the local vendors we buy stuff from, and pretty much everything else that needs doing around here. As well as all that, Macca keeps the percolated coffee stocks up for the rest of us and cracks us up with his random comments, like the time we were going for a walk up this steep as hill and blowing hardout, Macca decides now would be a good time to say, "Oh hey Phil...can I have some of your dip when we get back?" ha ha ha ha ha WTH?, was what we were thinking, crack up! Or "Yeah, its because I'm a natural athlete, that's why I can lift heavier weights than Phil"... he cracked me up when he said it. Probably you have to be there!

Me, I give Phil extras, use Geoff's gas, and drink Macca's coffee.

One important member of the family is J. J was locally employed, has worked for us almost from the beginning. He is cheeky as, and has the same sense of humour as we do. He consistently produced excellent work for us and often went above and beyond our expectations and his contract. J

has been through the wars with us, previously with our patrols...more recently helping us. J has finished with us now. He has served with us and beside us. If you somehow get to read this J, God bless you and keep you mate. Thank you for helping us...

We also have what might be called orphans or whangai? Not sure how to describe the other members of our "family" but they go something like this:

A Locally Employed Civilian, or LEC, helps do jobs for us. We have a couple of family members who do LEC type jobs. Our A/S4 is our RTNZ container LEC, and KBWO is the Transport LEC, or that's what Macca calls them when they can't hear him, lol.

Our "family" has other members here with us. There are the randoms who come over asking for stuff even when we're "closed," ha ha ha — our "Q Store hours" sign is a waste of time to these people. Included in the randoms and is now more of a regular is our S1. She is never far away when we're having a brew and manages to show up whenever we need a hand. There

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

are our “cuzzies” (Noema’s word) in BAF and CM who work tirelessly supporting, not only us, but all the other Kiwis in Afghanistan. There are the “seldom seen” cousins (this word is more correct) who show up and help us unload or load stuff onto or off of, whatever it is that needs that, doing or done to it....does that make sense? These same people usually just come in to drink Maccas coffee. All good though.

There’s Pete who uses our vehicles, breaks them, and then fixes them again, as well as his mates from “Smash Palace” who fix things everyone else breaks and, who helped Geoff pump gas when no-one else would. Our Engineer brothers, who haven’t quite finished our “other” building, but did build us a roof. Pretty good! Speaking of pretty good, our chefs Spanner, John, Chats, Junior, Foggy and their LEC’s do an awesome job of feeding us, day in, day out. People make up reasons to come here just to sit down to one of their meals! I have to mention our Training Team relatives. Mostly coz one of them gets his partner to send me peanut slabs (thank you) and they’re the high maintenance ones in the family. Always gotta be one.

That’s the family we have here. Apologies for the mixed up and at times confusing and made up writing style. Dad was right what he said about family being made up of all sorts of people. We don’t always get along or like each other, but that’s alright, so long as no bones or laws are broken. Everyone puts in and helps out one way or another, just like families do and I reckon we do pretty good.

To our families back home, thank you so much for supporting us while we have been away from you. We miss you all very much and are looking forward to the cuddles and kisses and playing with our kids

and dogs (cats don’t let you play with them). We have especially missed having you nag us to “take out the rubbish!” or moan “Do we have to watch sport?” ha ha ha ha ha ha! Maybe not those bits so much. Just be good to be home with you all again.

Oh, and regarding the Twin Peaks challenge, Nike wanted to sponsor our team coz we didn’t train, we didn’t volunteer, and we didn’t even go very fast. They liked us coz of our “Just do it!” attitude. But we said, Nah.

OUR DOC REPORTS IN

LTCOL Dave McBride

I had better introduce myself, I am Lieutenant Colonel Dave McBride, more commonly known as “the Doc”, because that’s what I am. I have taken over (after a long delay) from John Molloy, who was the first CRIB 19 Doc, therefore Doc1, so I am Doc2. The “Docs” do three month tours, but generally two of them. The last time I was here was CRIB 5, when I also wrote a sort of diary for “The Bugle”. My dear wife (who must remain nameless other than MDW, but she knows who she is) says that she has been reading “The Bugle”, and the Padre, Darren O’Callaghan, who is another Irishman like me has asked for contributions, so here goes. Note that, apart from me and the Padre, all characters must remain anonymous. What do they say in the movie credits “any similarity to real life is purely coincidental”?

Thursday 12th January - Monday 15th January

My diary says “left home”. MDW and I weren’t too happy. Passed through Bangkok for the second time in a week, as we had been on holiday in Vietnam over Christmas (I would recommend that). Arrived

safely in the Middle East. If I had to get up and meet people off aircraft at God knows what time, I would crack up (even more).

Tuesday 17th - Thursday 26th

Arrived at BAF after a flight in a Boeing 737, just like Air New Zealand except you get a sandwich and a cup of tea. I am going to write to Air NZ with some hints about customer service. BAF is where the National Support Element live, looking after the admin of getting things in and out of Theatre. The NSE WO1 (name rhymes with Teach) was my escort off the airfield, everybody else had to queue. Wayne and Mike were kind enough to host us in their spacious penthouse suite, complete with 24hr movies. If you get a chance to visit, Wayne is a film critic and can point you toward all the best stuff.

Thursday 26th January

NSE tried hard to get us on our way. Joined by Mark, who had a plan to go by taxi, but we couldn’t find Burkhass to fit. Today we finally left conventionally, by Chinook, after a record breaking 10 day stay.

Friday 27th January - Friday 3rd February

Need to shoot through the first few days to get up to date.

Doc Molloy finally gets away today (Friday 31st, my camera tells me). He has missed several marathons and a few K’s of bike rides, although he has nearly worn out one of the fitness machines in the gym here. I’m sure he will be saying hello to Burnham MTC again soon.

The first week is always acclimatisation. This starts with the dreaded “Dark O’clock” pee routine, typically 10pm, midnight, 3am, etc. At this time of the year its cold too. The Portaloo at BAF

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

wasn't too far away, and the toilet at Kiwi Base is pretty close to my hut, so apart from the fact that it is bloody cold, that's OK. The diuresis (medical for excessive pee) is due to the fact that we are high up: according to my GPS 2,568 metres which is classified as "high altitude". There is not as much oxygen, so you breathe faster and "blow off" carbon dioxide from the blood. This makes the blood alkaline, so the kidneys counteract that by peeing out the excess. Then (and this is good) when you blow off too much carbon dioxide, the brain thinks that you are breathing too fast (which you are) and slows your breathing down. Then you don't get enough oxygen and you wake up feeling as if you are being strangled. Or at least some people do. It can even get to the extent of being hypoxic which slows down your thinking ability (isn't that a great excuse?): Sorry boss, I'm hypoxic. Exercise which you could normally do with no bother at all becomes a struggle. Including PT Hill, which more of next!

Saturday 4th February

PT hill and the "East Ridge" are traps for the unwary. "Come for a walk up the hill, Doc?" Not flaming likely, I needed a week of acclimatization at least. Apparently, I'm the oldest person at Kiwi Base by a year or so, senior citizen, gold card material.

The map below (it's crap, but will give you an idea) shows the two routes, PT hill at the top (the circular one), and East Ridge (the longer one, same way up and back). And even less oxygen at the top - nearly (2850m) into the "very high altitude" region.

It is really good to go by aircraft if you want to go to high altitude but you can also walk, and I did today. Bits of both climbs are steep. The



Forming a protective cordon around Doc Molloy's Bazaar shopping

profile diagram, once again off my GPS, looks impressive - a climb of just over 300m. My GPS shows the "profile" below. This looks really impressive, like the north face of the Eiger.

The reality is a bit different (see the picture) - I'll leave you to work out why.

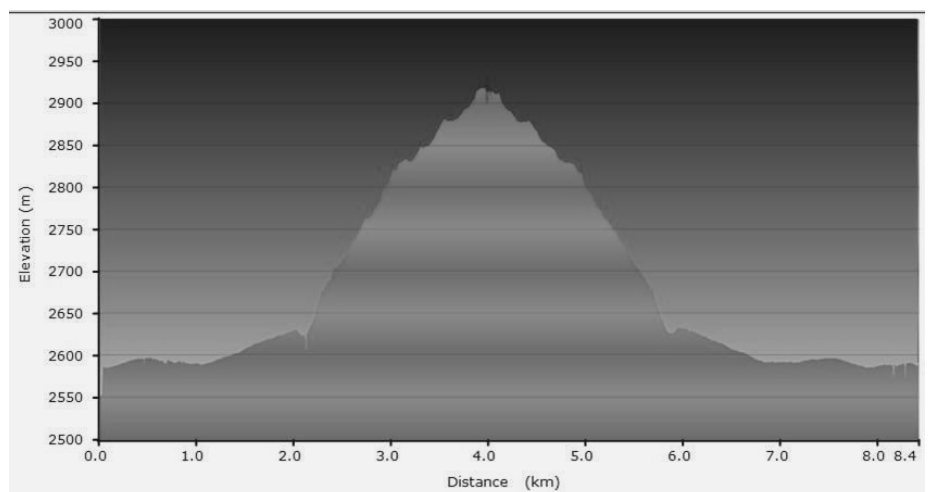


PT Hill and East Ridge

Sunday 5th February

Speaking of working out, there is a lot of energy being expended in the Gym. If it was hooked up to the Grid, we ought to be able to export energy to Bamian. I am no exception, I'm in there too, the reason being my seafood diet (seafood and eat it, an oldie but a goodie). I don't normally have hash browns for breakfast, but the Cooks go to the trouble of getting up before dawn to get it ready, it's very rude not to take advantage.

Being a Doc, I have been in the odd Maternity Unit or two. The noise in the gym is a bit like that, except the noises are an octave lower or so. I'll be in trouble now,



East Ridge profile

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



What it really looks like

they are all bigger than me. The guys are building up their "Guns". I am not sure who is in the lead in this respect, I heard it may be the Engineers, led (in an engineering, but also guns, sense) by Lee, although I have been told that one of the team (our plumber) may just be in the lead guns wise. Body building supplements are also big business, I should have made up some formula myself before I left

NZ: "Dr Daves Multiple Launch Blockbuster Formula (for the really impressive guns)" maybe? There is still time left....

Church parade on Sunday, Padre O'Callaghan looks after our spiritual welfare, Padre and Doc are a good team, body and soul you know.

13th—15th February

Including Valentine's Day. I got three cards from MDW, and a badge to wear. ("loved to bits"). Haven't had a badge since I was 50.

On a much sadder note, we held a memorial service for Private Kirifi Mila today, he died a year ago. The article on stuff:

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/world/4669282/Private-Kirifi-Mila-heading-home>

explains things pretty well.

Monday 6th March - Sunday 12th March

It's really busy around here, all earning our keep, so I forgot to mention that one of our hard working Cooks (who must remain nameless, but I thought I heard the KBWO calling for TwentyDudes) is a Dad for the first time. A little girl. Hopefully you will read more of this elsewhere.

Khuda Hafez from all on Ariki, Doc2.



NEWS FROM GYRO 12 TIMOR-LESTE

FROM THE QUIET SIDE..... OF PUBLIC DISORDER

LT Matt SINGLETON
Rife PI Comd
TG GYRO 12

The infantry platoon of GYRO 12 recently held public order management training in theatre to maintain our current skills. The Australian Platoon who are about to rotate out of Timor-Leste, acted as the protestors.

We ran a number of Battle Handling Exercises (BHE's) to simulate the types of scenarios we may encounter during a public disturbance.

Starting off with group of mild protestors, we tried to alleviate the situation with diplomatic solutions. Luckily for us this worked and prevented the situation from escalating further.

By the end of the BHEs, however, we were not so lucky. A group of protestors had strewn the area with rubbish, barricades, abandoned vehicles and pelted the platoon with projectiles.

From the outset of this scenario we knew it was going to get messy and the Australians went out with a bang. As we approached the first barricade the platoon started to receive a hail of stones, water



Riot training

bottles and just about anything the Aussies could get their hands on. We began to breach the rubbish only to be hit with larger objects like mattresses and at one stage an

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

empty 5000L water tank was rolled at us! But our training and discipline got us through the chaos. With the key players and overly aggressive people detained and handed to the police role players, the crowd began to dissipate.

Five minutes later they had all departed and we had achieved our mission of dispersing the crowd.



Happy 21st Birthday Private (Pte) Hugh Summers

It isn't every day that you are part of a welcome for a President. Not only was Pte Summers a part of the MCG welcome to Dr Jose Ramos Horta to the New Zealand Embassy on Waitangi Day, he did all that on his 21st Birthday as well. After his public appearances Pte Summers was camera shy for the rest of that day so there are no photos of his cake or silver cup and other presents that the boys got him, so here's a pic of him in full cry during the Haka at the Embassy.



CHAPLAIN'S PEN FROM ABROAD

Question: What gets wet, makes lots of noise, has 10 bouncy balls, 56 legs, and a Nun's habit, and NO it is not an episode of Wipeout!

Its seven soldiers and a nun taking 20 Timorese orphans on a Sunday outing to the beach. I know what you are thinking – 20 kids who we don't know, ranging in age, to a beach 8kms from where they live, is a recipe for disaster or at the very least a lot of aggravation and administrative stress.

But no, actually it was great fun! The kids were well behaved and also having been under the watchful eye of the Dominican sisters, they respond well to words of command. Before long everyone is having fun, there are games of scrag with 6-10 children trying to dunk one beefy soldier under the water, games of mini water soccer being played at the waters edge with some of the smaller children, and the teenage girls just enjoyed hanging out in the water with our women and chatting. There is so much noise and carry on that local kids want to come and join in on

this free entertainment offered by the big crazy foreigners.

It is all good fun, and also with moments that are profound. On the way home in the bus these kids start singing. First of all Sound of Music, doe, ray, me, far, so, etc and then Kum-ba-ya, these kids singing in what will be for many is their 4th or 5th language, in the back of the bus on a bright sunny Sunday afternoon. Quite moving! For us, we come away with a sense of fulfillment and a feeling that no matter what the week had held for us - one afternoon with these

orphan children was a blessing, and they helped us realise again that being here, a long way from home and our families, was all worth it.

Blessings,

Padre Chris Purdie, GYRO 12

Note: The ISF directly supports three orphanages in Dili, with Kiwis and Aussies from the HPod FOB supporting the Dominican Sisters Orphanage which looks after some 53 young people from 3-18 years of age. We visit them approximately once a fortnight and help out where we can.



A LITTLE ENCOURAGEMENT GOES A LONG WAY



Claudia Baker
RNZAF Welfare Facilitator
Woodbourne

I guess we all can think of a moment when someone gave us a word of encouragement? But: Have you ever really looked on the face of someone you helped and encouraged. At the same time, have you ever paid attention to yourself, how it makes you feel, when you have encouraged someone? As I write this article, millions of dollars are spent around the world on a gift because it's Valentine's Day, but there is one very special gift we can give daily. It costs nothing, it uplifts a person probably more than anything you can ever buy, and it has a lasting effect. Yes, I believe that gift is a word of encouragement. Some of us thrive on it so much, we almost ask for it directly, others find it hard to accept, because they feel they don't deserve it. But let's face it, we all need encouragement from time to time to keep going.

Someone called Sindney Madwed wrote, *"The finest gift you can give anyone is encouragement"*.

Yet, almost no one gets the encouragement they need to grow to their full potential. If everyone received the encouragement they need to grow, the genius in almost everyone would blossom and the world would produce abundance beyond the wildest dreams. We would have more than one Einstein, Edison, Schweitzer, Mother Theresa and other great minds in a century."

We live in a world full of challenges, and it begins right from birth. I myself had to learn to receive

encouragement, but I certainly get a buzz out of encouraging others. There is nothing that makes my day more than someone leaving my office with new found hope, or feeling better about themselves. I see it as a calling to encourage others, it's second nature, but I realize that it doesn't come that easy to everyone. However, we can all do it, and since deployment time is a time where a bit of encouragement can help to pull each other through the challenges. I would like to share some techniques of encouraging others:

❖ **Show Genuine Interest**

This is one of the most effective ways, as it tells a person that he/she matters, shows you care. Ask questions, listen, let them talk - that way you may help them find their own ways of dealing with difficulties.

❖ **Acknowledge what's important to them**

When you do this, you affirm and validate who the other person is and what he/she is doing - deep down we all crave for this, and it builds our self-esteem and confidence.

❖ **Say "Well done"**

Worthwhile things always take time and effort. Nothing worth doing is ever easy. One good way of providing encouragement is simply by saying, "Well done" or "Congratulations". Said sincerely and at the right time, these words can make the difference between "keep going" and "give up".

❖ **Say "Thank you"**

These words tell others that what they have done for you is worthwhile and meaningful to you. Thank your spouse/partner for that phone call or card, or your son/daughter for the picture he/she has drawn, thank a friend for coming to see how you're doing. Saying thank you could become a natural thing, it's common courtesy, good manners, and is really encouraging to keep doing the good stuff.

❖ **Reciprocate the favour**

If someone does something nice for you, why not show your gratitude and give something back. Of course, you can start the pendulum, too. You do something nice for others, no doubt, someone will reciprocate a favour – and likely when you most need it!

❖ **Respond with something unexpected**

Have you ever done something for someone out of the blue, totally unexpected? It's likely you'll blow them out of their socks, and may give them fresh energy to keep going, because you did it just at the right time.

❖ **Ask for advice or confide in them**

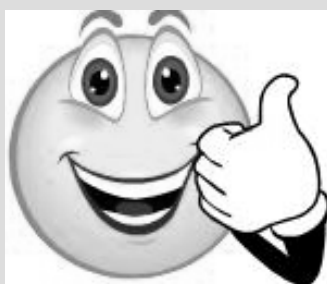
This may seem odd, but doing this is flattering. "Gosh, I must mean something to him/her if he/she is asking me or confides in me." We all like to have a purpose, and being asked to help in a situation may be just the right encouragement for someone.

❖ **Offer to lend a hand**

Why wait until someone you know is asking for help. Be proactive and offer a lending hand, especially if you see someone struggling. Your willingness to commit yourself and your time may be just what they need to see something through and less likely give up.

Whether you are in theatre or the one back home, you will know that a bit of encouragement can help you through the time of deployment. So why not be the first to get this wheel rolling. I'm a firm believer in the good old "bless and you shall be blessed". Feel the effects, encourage others and be encouraged!

If you feel a need for encouragement, but there is nobody around giving out, why not contact a Welfare Facilitator, Deployment Services Officer, Community Services Officer or Family & Social Services Officer on your Base or Camp. Winston Churchill once said, "*We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.*" Just as it is my passion, we're all here to help and encourage you to keep going through the deployment, so why not contact one of us. You will find our contacts in this issue.



Quote:

"If someone listens, or stretches out a hand or whispers a word of encouragement, or attempts to understand a lonely person, extraordinary things can happen."

L. Fizaris, 1920

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

Linton—Lesley Clutterbuck

Ph: 06 351 9970

Burnham—Cherie Mansell

Ph 03 363 0322

Family & Social Services Officer:

Trentham—Marie Lotz

Ph 04 527 5029

Air Force:

Welfare Facilitators

Air Staff Wellington:

Trevor Stone

Ph: 04 498 6773

Base Auckland,

Mrs Deana Lye,

Ph: 09 417 7035

Base Woodbourne:

Mrs Claudia Baker,

Ph: 03 577 1177

Base Ohakea:

Ph: 06 351 5640

Naval Community Organization

Ph: 09 445 5534,

0800 NAVYHELP

nib@nzdf.mil.nz

Local Chaplaincy Services

Unit Point of Contact

POSTCARDS FROM ABROAD



Left:
**ANZACS after the New Zealand
Australia thrashing**



TF MED visit for a show and tell with the NZ NSE



**Lt Cdr Burton and SSgt Taru enjoy
the first winter snow**



Right:
**Sgt Smith and Capt Mist preparing
Christmas Day brunch**

POSTCARDS FROM ABROAD



The Lines at night after the second lot of snow



Cpl Davies and friend at the Halloween BBQ



*LCpl Redfern and friends
on Christmas Day*



LCpl Wilson and Cpl Davies with the French on Halloween

DSO'S CORNER



Carol Voyce

Deployment Services Officer
Southern Regional Support Centre
Editor "The Bugle"

Greetings to you all! I hope these past weeks have gone well and that you are settled back into school and work routines. The months seem to have flown by and it hardly seems like a new year! It was great to join with Janine and meet with some of you on the mid tour updates for CRIB 19. You will be encouraged by the fact that there is truly an end in sight for this rotation. I have spent the last few days in Linton, meeting with the contingent to follow, and it was good to meet with an eager, enthusiastic bunch keen to get on with the pre deployment training and to prepare for six months in a new land. If you know of someone in your location who is associated with this next deployment, please lend your support and survival tips!

One of our new tools to support families is the arrival of an iPad. This shiny sleek technological aid has come my way through the generosity of 'Off Limits'. It looks somewhat challenging and daunting to me, but thanks to Major Derrick McMillan, I just might be getting the basics mastered! My 26 year old daughter has her own iPad (and a multitude of other

gadgets!) and is never too far away to lend a helping hand when needed – but it happens all too quickly – a quick roll of her eyes which quietly indicate my brain isn't quite up to speed and a flick here and there, and I am supposed to have got it! Some of you I am sure will identify with this scenario when help is sort from the younger generation! I recently chatted with a group of colleagues about my new "asset", and we laughed about our first cell phones, now referred to as "the brick" and the size and of the first microwave ovens! - and our concerns about their safety! We have come along way!

The iPad will eventually allow us to communicate with you all in different ways. While we won't ever over look the value of briefings, "The Bugle", the phone, email and letters, we will be able to offer you a choice in how we keep in touch. For those who wish to Skype, the option will be there and we will be able to send Twitter reminders to families, for things like Bugle messages due or briefings pending. I am sure that there is much more that we will find to do with the iPad, but let's start in a small way first while we all come to grips with the advantages this new tool will bring. We acknowledge and send our thanks to 'Off Limits' for their generosity and in recognising that we can make a difference for those at home and abroad.

I believe that deployments allow those at home an excellent opportunity to develop new skills, and the chance to learn something new that will forever help them in times ahead. I have heard of those who have learned a new craft, new language, new sport, joined a club or group and amazed themselves at how these things have changed their lives. I am hoping that the iPad will do just this for me!

Over the past year I have crammed in some study, which at first seemed overwhelming, and for a brief moment made me question the merits for adding some stress to my already busy life – but now I am so pleased I have made the effort!

I have successfully completed a course in NZ Sign Language and undertook Maori studies. Both these opportunities took me right out of my comfort zone but have given me new skills. Thanks to my very patient tutors, I am now able to enhance the way I do my job. Hearing impaired people will benefit from my ability to sign, hence ensuring I communicate with them in a better and more effective way. I can also say that I have learned the most amazing Maori language skills both for written and oral communication (thanks Bill – I know you are reading this!!) and have a greater understanding of Maori customs and protocols. I even managed to complete a 2000 word assignment on the Treaty of Waitangi and implications for the New Zealand Defence Force – yet to be seen by the powers that be! I have learned so much by taking a risk and a chance.

So I guess my message to you all is; that while being left behind can be daunting, we can take the opportunity to do something for ourselves – to be challenged too and reap the rewards. It is hard work but there are some great people out there willing to help and encourage you along the way. There is much to be grateful for, and yes – every cloud does have a silver lining!

Better get back to the iPad! I hope that I can report in the near future, that I have totally come to grips with my very own new gadget!

Kind regards.

DSO'S CORNER CONT'D...



Janine Burton
Deployment Services Officer
1 (NZ) Bde

It has been a busy period since the last Bugle so I don't have any trouble finding things to write about for this edition, that's for sure.

We have been out and about with CRIB 19 families in Burnham, Auckland and here in Linton. Fantastic turnout at all locations and lots of interaction. I would like to say a huge thank you to Major Sheree Holmes who gave up a precious weekend (although she did manage to participate in the Women's Triathlon here in the Manawatu on Sunday morning) to travel with me. As she was a member of the CRIB 18 team, she was able to speak first-hand about the deployment and what the team is doing.

Overall, our families are doing really well, although definitely focussed on the homecoming. If you have read the article from the Commanding Officer CRIB earlier in this issue, you will know that the team away are also starting to think of home. I do have homecoming dates which I was able to share with families at the briefings, but for security reasons we are not able to publish, so if you want to give me a call I can provide these provisional dates to you. Coming up, we have planned for another deployment dinner – Tuesday 13 March at the

Junior Ranks Mess in Linton. Yahoo - a night off cooking the dinner and doing the dishes! Our dinner last November was brilliant, the largest attendance we have ever had. If you are free that evening, we would love to have you join us. No new information or presentations, just dinner. Check the "What's On" section for a few more details.

Also coming up is the GYRO 12 tour update in Burnham, Linton and Auckland. Invitations are included with this mailout and details are also in the "What's On" section. I look forward to catching up with many of our GYRO families, both at the dinner and at the briefings.

Through the generous donation of funding from 'Off Limits', Carol and I have been very fortunate to acquire iPads with a Skype function. I know that being able to Skype has been a very useful way to keep in communication with loved ones away on deployment and now, if you wish to, you are able to Skype with us – but only in the evening as we are unable to use this function within the Camp boundaries. We would also like to thank Major Derrick McMillan who not only facilitated this wonderful gift, but has given us some basic "lessons" on how to use them!

"The Bugle" continues to be an excellent vehicle for us to share information with you and I was bemused to find that while some families read their "Bugle" front to back, some read it back to front, obviously starting with those all-important messages first. For those on the CRIB rotation, you don't have many issues left before your loved one is home, so if you haven't sent/received a message, why not consider it for the next issue? We also have some new readers to "The Bugle", I hope that you will enjoy receiving it every three weeks throughout your deployment journey. Take care all.

No More Mail Please

The absolute last date for sending mail to those currently deployed to Afghanistan is in the mail bag scheduled to leave Auckland on Thursday 15 March. So you only have another couple of weeks if you want to send mail/parcels.

Please do not send any mail after this date. 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 is no longer an option, remember you can still communicate via email and those precious phone calls.

RTNZ CRIB 19

Tentative return dates and times for the RTNZ of CRIB 19 are available, but not for publication. Please contact Janine for updated return information 0800 683 77 327. This information is for your personal use only and not for discussion with loved ones on deployment via the phone, email or Skype Communications, in order to ensure the safety and security of the mission.

FOR YOUR INFO...

New Resources

We are attempting to establish a "Deployment Library" full of references for those at home to utilize. I have just received an order of the most amazing books from The Book Depository and am enjoying familiarising myself with some first class publications. In the near future I will be looking to have them dura-sealed (not my forte) and made available to you. Over the next few issues of "The Bugle" we will try to review each book – as quickly as I can find time to read them all and set up a loan system for you. Obviously these books are going to be in great demand so it will sadly be necessary to establish a waiting list, but the loan period will be restricted to two weeks in fairness to all. If you have sourced something yourself that others might enjoy, please let us know so we can look at adding it to our library. The library will be managed from the Deployment Services

Office in Burnham so all requests will need to be made to Carol Voyce.

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 Sinai, 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.

Children and Deployments

The New Zealand Defence Force has produced a great family resource package, "Children and Deployments". We acknowledge that deployments are hard and separations caused by deployments are hard – for adults, for children and for families. With this in mind, this resource has been made available for you. While we have learned much from overseas experiences, this resource has a Kiwi perspective and is of value to many of our families.

The 30 minute DVD provides information to parents on the effects of deployment on children and gives strategies for managing various stages of a deployment. If you would like a copy of this resource, please contact Carol or Janine (Deployment Services Officers), contact details are on the inside cover).

Skype

SKYPE is a great piece of software that allows users to make video calls over the internet and is especially valuable for those in deployment locations. Unfortunately all missions do not have this resource available, but for those who do, it provides an extra and valuable connection with home.



Obviously you need to set up your SKYPE account before deployment, as it can be difficult to establish once abroad. The SKYPE call needs to come to you from the service person abroad and not the other way around.

Telecommunications and even good uninterrupted power supplies are not always reliable in some of the countries where service personnel are based. Regular SKYPE users, who talk with other family and friend abroad, will know that the quality of the call varies from time to time and often calls "drop". Patience is truly needed here!

Please remember that SKYPE is not a secure means of communication and operational and security matters CANNOT be discussed when using it. This is what we call OPSEC (Operational Security). It means that even though some information may not be secret, it can be what we call "critical information". We need to protect our operations – planned, in progress, and those completed. Please refer to your Deployment Guide or/and OPSEC Brochure to make sure that you are familiar with the rules. It is best to always be alert and careful and not to ask questions about activities, comings and goings and dates. Just enjoy the chance to see each other and for children to talk with their Mum or Dad.

(Please remember that OPSEC guidelines pertain to all communication – phone, emails, Facebook, Twitter, etc).

Deployment Family Dinner

Date: Tuesday 13 March
Time: 6.00pm
Location: Junior Ranks Mess,
 42nd Street, Linton Camp

A night off cooking and doing the dishes – what greater reward can there be?

Our dinner in November 2011 was a great success, so we are going to do it again next month. If you are available and want to come along, we do need to confirm numbers to the Mess, so ask that you RSVP to Janine 0800 683 77 327 by Monday 5 March.

GYRO 12 Tour Update

As discussed at the pre-deployment brief, an update family brief for those associated with the current GYRO deployment to Timor-Leste 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 23 March, 6.00pm

LINTON

Rastrick Hall, Inglis Way, Linton Camp
 Saturday 24 March, 12.30pm

AUCKLAND

204 Great North Road, Grey Lynn
 Monday 26 March, 6.30pm

Invitations were 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.

AIR SHOW — OHAKEA



A Royal Australian Air Force F-18 which will be taking part in the Ohakea Air Show

Source: Korero

AIR SHOW HIGH POINT IN ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR

It's less than six weeks to the big event on the Air Force 75th Anniversary calendar – our own Air Show — on Saturday 31 March 2012.

The RNZAF, international forces and civilian aircraft owners and operators will come together at Base Ohakea to celebrate 75 years of air service to New Zealand and

showcase aircraft and its technology through the ages.

This event celebrates RNZAF's proud history, how we got to where we are today, and what the future looks like for us. The Air Show is aptly themed "Yesterday, today and tomorrow".

It's an event for everyone — Defence Force personnel, ex-servicemen and women, plane spotters, the aviation industry, aviation enthusiasts, international visitors and New Zealand families.

The RNZAF will be showcasing its newest capability including its new helicopters, the NH90 and the A109 and simulator, and its historic flight aircraft. Australia, Singapore, France, United Kingdom and the United States will bring their aircraft and capabilities to New Zealand to share in the celebrations.

International Highlights

Australia's F-18 Fighter Jet flying displays, rarely seen here, will stimulate the crowd and there will be a C-130J Hercules and a Wedgetail airborne early warning and control aircraft display.

The United States Air Force will bring a C-17 Globemaster. The Republic of Singapore Air Force will display one of their C-130s and the French Armed Forces of New Caledonia will showcase their CASA 235 twin-engine transport aircraft. The US Marine Corps will have on display a KC-130 Hercules air-to-air refuelling aircraft. The Royal Air Force is coming too but hasn't confirmed the aircraft type that will take part.

You can buy tickets online through www.eventfinder.co.nz (There will be limited gate sales).

LOOKING BACK — 1944



A shell blast near Cassino, 1944

1944 NZ FORCES CAPTURE CASTLE HILL AT CASSINO

On 15 March 1944 the 6th New Zealand Brigade attacked the Italian town of Cassino as part of the Allies' advance on Rome. This was one of four Allied assaults on the German defences at Cassino between January and May 1944.

The New Zealand Division played a significant part in this campaign and by the time it was withdrawn in early April, 343 New Zealanders had lost their lives.

The success of the 15 March attack on the tactically important Castle Hill depended on the effectiveness of a planned bombing campaign.

Troops had been waiting three weeks in freezing rain for suitable weather for an aerial assault. Bombarded from the air and land, Cassino was reduced to a pile of rubble. But the German defenders rallied quickly and put up staunch resistance.

In conditions reminiscent of the First World War, Allied armour and

infantry were held up by bomb craters that flooded as heavy rain set in, turning the rubble into a morass. Communications were difficult and progress was slower than expected. One New Zealand battalion did manage to seize Castle Hill, but by dusk the attack had lost its impetus.

Over the next eight days more New Zealand troops entered Cassino, but they were unable to make any headway. On 23 March all attacks were called to a halt and the New Zealanders went on the defensive. Cassino did not fall until 18 May 1944, when it was occupied by Polish troops with the assistance of New Zealand artillery.

Know where you're going in life... you may already be there!

Life in the present world is indeed a rat race. Even many who have qualifications from reputed universities too do not know where they are going in life.

Reproduced below is an old story that is still a classic example.

A boat docked in a tiny Mexican village. An American tourist complimented the Mexican fisherman on the quality of his fish and asked how long it took him to catch them.

"Not very long," answered the Mexican.

"But then, why didn't you stay out longer and catch more?" asked the American.

The Mexican explained that his small catch was sufficient to meet his needs and those of his family.

The American asked, "But what do you do with the rest of your time?"

"I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children, and take a siesta with my wife. In the evenings, I go into the village to see my friends, play the guitar, and sing a few songs... I have a full life."

The American interrupted, "I have an MBA from Harvard, and I can help you! You should start by fishing longer every day. You can then sell the extra fish you catch. With the extra revenue, you can buy a bigger boat."

"And after that?" asked the Mexican.

"With the extra money the larger boat will bring, you can buy a second one and a third one and so on until you have an entire fleet of trawlers.

Instead of selling your fish to a middle man, you can then negotiate directly with the processing plants and maybe even open your own plant. You can then leave this little village and move to Mexico City , Los Angeles , or even New York City! From there you can direct your huge new enterprise.."

"How long would that take?" asked the Mexican.

"Twenty, perhaps twenty-five years," replied the American.

"And after that?"

"Afterwards? Well my Friend, That's when it gets really interesting," answered the American, laughing.

"When your business gets really big, you can start selling stocks and make millions!"

"Millions? Really? And after that?" said the Mexican.

"After that you'll be able to retire, live in a tiny village near the coast, sleep late, play with your children, catch a few fish, take a siesta with your wife and spend your evenings doing what you like and enjoying your friends."

"With all due respect sir, but that's exactly what I am doing now. So what's the point wasting twenty-five years?" asked the Mexican.

And the moral is: Know where you're going in life... you may already be there.

~Author Unknown~

BOUQUETS



Major Sheree Holmes

Sincere thanks for joining with our many families countrywide for the mid tour update on the current CRIB rotation. We all so much appreciated your expertise and wisdom and for helping us understand the day to day lives of our loved ones so far from us all. It was great to have the chance to meet with you. *Janine and PNOK and Families CRIB 19.*

'Off Limits'

Sincere thanks to you for the sponsorship and supply of iPads for us. We really appreciate your generosity and know that they will be a great tool to use in enabling us to keep in touch with deployment families worldwide. Communication is the key to successfully managing a deployment, both at home and abroad, and we know that the iPad will offer our service personnel and their families a choice of how we keep in touch. We look forward to embracing this new technology.

Janine Burton and Carol Voyce, Deployment Services Officers, Linton and Burnham.

Major Derrick McMillan

Thank you so much for all the work you did behind the scenes to secure sponsorship for our iPads. - And then for the time you took to set them up and then to start us off with the learning process of how to manage them. We are really enjoying the new opportunities they bring and look forward to being able to more effectively communicate with "our families" in the future. Kind regards, *Janine and Carol.*



Michelle Blake
NCO Co-ordinator

Hello to all the Navy Families! My name is Michelle Blake, and I have recently taken over from Mel Wallace as the Navy Community Organisation (NCO) Co-ordinator. I am still learning a lot of what this role does, and am enjoying working with the friendly NCO team.

Prior to joining the Navy, I worked for Westpac Bank in Tauranga and Mount Maunganui. Then 13 years ago I went for a completely different career and

become an Electronics Technician in the RNZN.

During this time I have enjoyed a variety of work while serving on HMNZS Canterbury (Leander class), HMNZS Te Kaha and HMNZS Te Mana. My shore posts have included the Technical Schools, New Entry School (now known as the Recruit Training Squadron), Maritime Warfare Training Centre, Naval Personnel Resource Centre, Operational Support Group and Ship Repair Unit (now Ship Maintenance Support Department).

My husband James, is currently serving on HMNZS Canterbury (MRV), and we have two boys; Isaac 3 years, and Lucas 1 year.

I have only recently returned to work from Parental Leave and fully understand the challenges of looking after young ones when your partner is away.

I look forward to meeting you at upcoming NCO events, and



would like to encourage you to attend these activities as a lot of work goes into organising them for your enjoyment.

Upcoming Events are:

7 March:
Home Loan Seminar

23 March:
Kids Ten Pin Bowling at Takapuna Ten Pin

For more information on these events, including times and registration close dates, please contact the NCO on the below phone numbers or e-mail address.

Please also remember that we have the Social Workers and the Family Liaison Officer here to help you. If you would like to make an appointment to see the Social Workers or a booking with Cindy, our Family Liaison Officer, then please contact the NCO Reception on 09 445 5934.

MULTINATIONAL FORCE & OBSERVERS, SINAI

MFO's NZ contingent line the road at the Main Camp



Source: *Air Force News* February 2012

By LAC Joel Genefaas Driver, NZ Contingent

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas! I arrived in North Camp, El Gorah in the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt, several months ago now. My rotation (03/11) was greeted by the 01/11 and 02/11 teams with the NZDF Haka followed by a Powhiri, and we were welcomed into the MFO (Multinational Force and Observers) Kiwi Contingent Family. The next month or so was spent getting used to the way things operate in the MFO, learning our new jobs, and trying to adjust to the heat of the desert summer.

The MFO is staffed by personnel from 11 other nations and our mandated mission here is to 'Observe, Report and Verify' any violations of the 1979 Treaty of Peace signed by the Arab Republic of Egypt, and the State of Israel. The Treaty determines (amongst other things) the quantities and types of military equipment each country may have in each zone of the Sinai. So the MFO as a whole works in a Peace Observation role.

We have 31 Observation Posts set up in remote locations throughout our zone in the Sinai, and that is where the Kiwi Drivers Team comes into the picture.

I am currently operating within a team of eight Air Force Aviation Refuellers and Army Drivers. Our mission is to provide logistic transport for fuel, food, water and other materiel goods to the remote sites. We also operate within Israel on a regular basis, conveying personnel and cargo.

The roads in our Sinai Area of Operations are the most challenging I have seen in my life, due to their poor condition. The desert is forever trying to claim back the road and so there are areas where the road has simply fallen away, has become a sand dune, or has become so undulated that to hit it at normal highway speeds could be disastrous. Add to this the extreme changes in weather (from scorching heat, dust storms and then substantial downpours) and the impact that has on the roads, mean that the abilities of each operator are put to

the test on a daily basis.

To drive off-road would seem to be a smoother journey than using the paved roads; however driving off-road is hazardous to one's health, as Egypt is the single most land-mined country in the world (with an estimated 23 million unexploded mines still in the desert sands).

Driving in Israel presents its own challenges also. Not so much with road conditions or mines, but the mentality of the drivers is one of constant haste, which means that you really need to be on your toes. Our main workhorse is the Mack Pinnacle DayCab, powered by a 13 Litre MP8 engine with 500HP. This is a vast improvement on the equivalent equipment we use at home (the Mercedes 2228 tractor unit) with 280HP. This means that we can comfortably tow a fully laden 30 tonne semi-trailer and keep up with the rest of the highway traffic.

Our contingent also keeps busy when we are not on the road, with several projects going on to upgrade our accommodation—known as the Woolshed. We have just completed renovating the interior. North Camp itself is set up with excellent facilities (gym, pool, library, movie theatre) and with the volume of inter-contingent social and sporting activities you need to remember to take time out for yourself, too.

We were able to take leave whilst on deployment and in this region there is no shortage of options! I have visited the pyramids of Giza and many of the temples in Luxor (once known as Thebes). Karnak was of particular interest, having seen many documentaries on it. But you just can't appreciate the awesome nature of the place until you actually step foot into the temple complex.

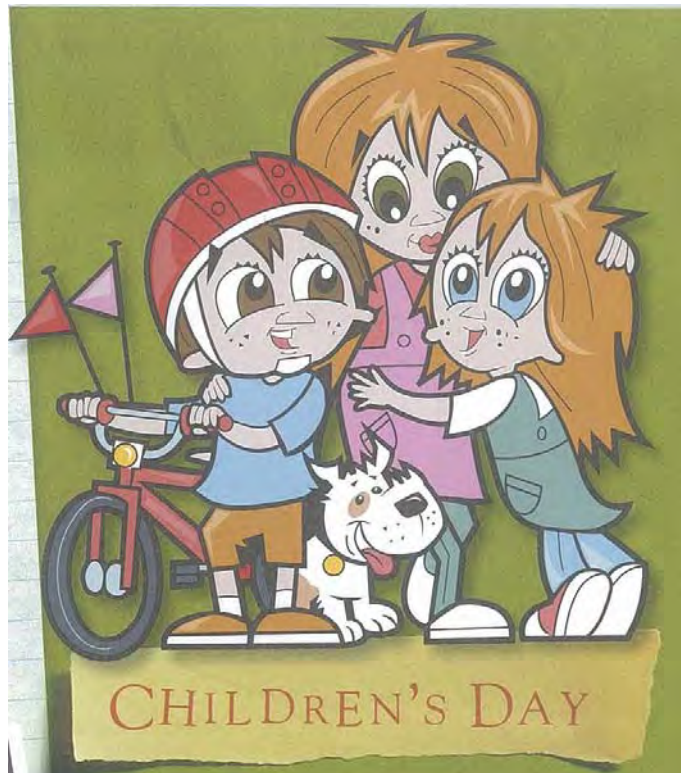
This deployment has given me opportunities to work in a truly multi-cultural environment; I return home this month and it is certainly a part of my life that I will never forget.

Bugle Supplement Deployment Activity Book for Children



We have tried to be a little creative, and with some begging and borrowing and a few bright ideas, we produced a brightly coloured activity book for young children. The book covers activities from pre-deployment until homecomings.

If you would like a copy/copies of this book, please contact your DSO. (Contact details inside front cover).



It's time to start thinking about getting involved in this year's Children's Day—

Sunday 4 March 2012

Run an event, support others with their event or just go along and join in the fun.

Last year there were more than 500 fun-filled events held all around the country — the biggest turn out ever!

An event can be big or small, from a special day out with friends and neighbours to a celebration involving your school or kindy. The main thing is to use this day to treasure our tamariki.

Visit the Children's Day website www.childrensday.org.nz for information on running an event or to find out what's going on where. You can also join Children's Day New Zealand facebook page for news and updates.

