

THE BUGLE

Issue 169 | May 2012



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"THE BUGLE"

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

Deadline

The deadline for Edition 170 is
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Bugle contributions are welcome and should be sent to Carol Voyce.

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Disclaimer

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

Cover Photo:

Tatiana Grant saying goodbye to her father SSGT Clint Grant as he departs for six months in Afghanistan.

Photo: Courtesy of Keryn Paeka

GUEST EDITORIAL

Chérie Mansell
Community Services Officer
Burnham Camp

"Defence Families are a resilient lot - not to mention smart, educated, well resourced, and trained to adapt and overcome challenges that would bedevil others."

This statement from some recently reviewed Australian literature says it all! As New Zealand Defence Force families, you have to cope with an ever changing climate - deployments, postings, courses, exercises - sometimes at short notice and sometimes for much longer than anticipated. I have the privilege here at Burnham Military Camp of witnessing first-hand the qualities identified in the Australian literature. I get to work with many families facing the challenges our work environment thrusts upon us.

The New Zealand Defence Force is very much committed towards supporting families and we have a number of policies and services in place that allow this to happen. It doesn't matter if you belong to Army, Navy or Air; there are dedicated personnel in all locations who are always willing to extend a hand in friendship and support. While those who offer this support may have different job titles, they have one theme in common and that is to lighten the load, ease the burden this lifestyle brings and to make sure that you have access to quality supports and services when the needs arise. These services are available to all, whether you live on a Base/Camp or have housing in your nearby community.

Our commitment is to you. Our services and supports are offered to meet a need. We have actively canvassed our local communities and asked our residents about what they need, what they would like and what would make a difference to their lives. We have, in each location, established our unique thriving community hub to just lighten the



load a little. While we encourage individuals to actively seek and maintain their own support networks, some of the activities offered can in fact make that happen, while others may help in a time of a crisis. Here in Burnham we have essential services, like the 4Square, Service Station, School, BOOST, Kindergarten, Play group and Day-care, but on the fringes are a thriving second-hand shop called 'Twice is Nice', residents' coffee mornings, a well resourced Toy Library, the most gorgeous historic Chapel, and a Gymnasium, to mention a few and with the bonus of much fresh country air! No matter where you live, you will find so much to become involved with and even the opportunity to volunteer if you have the time.

The greatest barrier to using a support service or joining an activity is to have the courage to reach out. You will find that taking this step to not only live in your community but to love and enjoy it too, can be worth the effort and can make a real difference. Be sure to introduce yourself to your Community Services Officer, Deployment Services Officer, Welfare Facilitator, Family and Social Services Officer or Chaplain. Don't be confused or worried about their title! They are here to give you much peace of mind and help you along the journey your life takes you as an important contributor to Defence life.

NEWS UPDATE

Job Well Done SAS

The NZSAS mission to Afghanistan officially ended on Saturday 31 March 2012.

The NZSAS were deployed in September 2009 — the fourth deployment of the Task Group to Afghanistan.

The Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant General Rhys Jones, said he wanted to congratulate all the NZ Defence Force personnel who have served with the Task Group in Kabul over the past two and a half years.

“Much has been achieved in this time. We have gained international recognition from our Allies for the way the Task Group has conducted itself. Whilst deployed, operations have included partnering with the Afghan Ministry of Interior’s counter terrorism Crisis Response Unit; supporting CRU direct action tasks against insurgent networks; responding to attacks within Kabul; as well as providing operational support to New Zealand Defence Force elements in theatre.”

The New Zealand Government deployed NZDF personnel to Afghanistan to support the international effort to deny Al Qaeda safe havens in Afghanistan from which to plan further attacks. “

In this sense, the NZSAS deployments have directly helped protect New Zealanders from the risk of international terrorism,” said LTGEN Jones. “

I also acknowledge that the mission saw the tragic loss of two lives — Corporal Doug Grant and Lance Corporal Leon Smith, killed in 2011 in separate incidents. These soldiers died in the service of their country, and in doing so they made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of New Zealand. Our thoughts continue to be with their families and colleagues.

“While the loss of life is tragic, it does not diminish the work the NZSAS have achieved. The NZSAS have served New Zealand with distinction over the course of their deployments in Afghanistan. It’s been a job well done. My congratulations to them all.”

Source: NZDF Korero 20 Apr 12

First NZ-trained Bamyar Response Platoon Graduates

The NZ Defence Force has helped local security forces in Bamyar Province, Afghanistan, take another step in their capacity building with the graduation of their first National Police Provincial Quick Response Force (PQRF) platoon.

Training the Afghan National Police to take over the role currently performed by NZ Defence Force military patrols is an important part of the transition strategy.

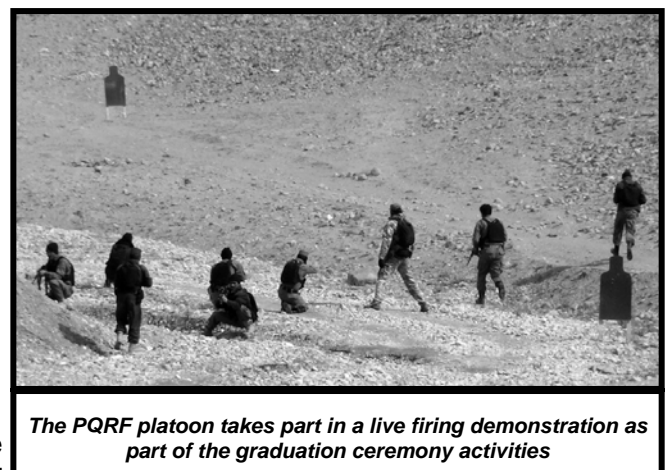
The graduating class of 28 recruits is the initial tranche of what is intended to be a company-strength of over 100 Afghans. Over the next 12 to 18 months this company will be developed by the NZ Provincial Reconstruction Team (NZ PRT) and NZ Police.

Sergeant Justin Carter, a member of the NZPRT team training the PQRF, said he was impressed by the platoon’s progress and their level of commitment and dedication. “The NZPRT training team recognised very early on the importance of winning the hearts and minds of the policemen we would be training. We formed a very close professional working relationship and bond with our students.”

The platoon trained for three months in a number of skill areas from the basics of first aid, navigation, radio communications and weapon handling, to comprehensive training in military tactics in order to defeat insurgent threats and respond to high risk contingencies.

Bamyar was the first Afghan province to hold a transition ceremony in July 2011, marking the transfer of provincial level security and responsibility back to Afghan control. The NZ Government and the NZ Defence Force are committed to support the transition process to ensure a smooth and measured handover of responsibility.

Source: NZDF Korero 20 Apr 12



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

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NEWS FROM CRIB 20, AFGHANISTAN

A HARD WORKING TEAM

LTCOL Peter Hall
Commanding Officer CRIB 20

With the arrival of Bombardier Anthony and his team on the 30th of April, all members of CRIB 20 are now in Afghanistan. Since our arrival, we have concentrated on getting to know our new jobs and surroundings as well as forming relationships with key individuals and locals within the Province. Kiwi Company, under the command of Major Craig, have been conducting a rigorous patrol programme in the North, the focus of which has been operating alongside the newly trained (thanks to the efforts of CRIB 19) Provincial Quick Reaction Force. Craig and his team are my main effort and they continue to carry on the good work of previous CRIBs in our most challenging part of the AO. I have included an ANZAC Day article and photos from Kiwi Company.

All members of the contingent, whether they are in Kiwi Base, Romero, or Do Abe, have worked hard over the previous few weeks to ensure that no time has been wasted in developing our situational awareness. We have taken every

opportunity to up-skill ourselves by conducting additional courses and training, utilising either our own resources or those provided by the Americans.

I am testament to the fact that Staff Sergeant Lisa and her team of cooks are doing an outstanding job of feeding the contingent (I think I may have put weight on since my arrival). Warrant Officer Class Two Angela has done a sterling job of looking after all personnel issues, Major Roger and his team continue to provide me with the timely advice required to make informed decisions; I should make particular mention here of Private Colin and Lieutenant George who have stayed on from CRIB 19 to provide continuity of support. Captain Dan and his crew have worked hard to ensure that the operations room is run smoothly and effectively. Warrant Officer Class Two Dave and his team are ensuring that all the support necessary is provided to Kiwi Base, and more importantly to the soldiers operating in the North. Staff Sergeant Sam and his team have worked tirelessly to maintain our large vehicle fleet, vast array of weapon systems and associated equipment necessary to

run the bases. Captain Ricko and the rest of the Engineers have been busy, not only with ongoing maintenance but with future planning. Captain Ben and his team of signals experts are continually improving our communications infrastructure; we have experienced some frustrations with welfare comms but are working on options. Warrant Officer Class One Percy and the training team have been kept busy over the previous weeks organising and conducting weapons training for CRIB 20 and preparing for the next PQRF course. Flight Lieutenant Kit and his medical professionals are keeping us operationally capable by looking after our health requirements. Padre James is keeping God onside, Jack the finance adviser is unravelling the complexities of 10 years worth of expenditure, the Chief of Staff, Major Kirstine, is coordinating the efforts of all the abovementioned staff and the RSM, Warrant Officer Class One Ray, is looking after everything else. Of course everyone else in the contingent is working to ensure that we remain a cohesive unit, one in which everyone has ownership and regardless of rank and experience, the right to share their opinions and offer advice. I will update you on other individuals in future articles.

As I indicated in my first article, the honourable Dr Jonathan Coleman, Minister of Defence, and the Vice Chief of Defence Force, Rear Admiral Jack Steer visited the PRT spending two days and nights. I can confidently report that they not only enjoyed their visit but went away well informed on the issues, successes and ongoing efforts of the NZPRT.

The Malaysian contingent has also recently conducted a Relief in Place and the fourth Malaysian rotation is now operating as part of the PRT. They bring a vast depth of

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

knowledge in Medical and Dentistry skills which will have a positive impact on the local community.

One of the highlights of our time here thus far was the observance of ANZAC Day, a day that began with a Dawn Service at 0445hrs, it was truly a multinational affair and an especially poignant day as we remembered not only the New Zealanders and Australians who had laid down their lives but all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their country, and in particular all those who have fallen in Afghanistan. We remembered that as New Zealanders we enjoy a life paid for by the sacrifice of our forefathers.

We reflected on the ANZAC spirit, one of tenacity, courage, mate-ship and helping each other out in times of adversity. We also remembered all those families that have lost loved ones and of course we were

thinking of you our families back in New Zealand, who we miss dearly and wish we could be with, but that is a small price to pay when you have been given the honour of making peoples lives that little bit more tolerable and that little bit more safer, so that one day they to can enjoy all the things that we as New Zealanders take for granted, things like running water, electricity and fresh food.

The weather here is now turning to spring and is starting to warm up; we have had, rain, hail and snow since our arrival. As we start to enjoy warmer weather I hope you are all staying warm as winter takes hold. Thank you for your ongoing support, parcels and emails. Rest assured you are never far from our thoughts.

Kindest Regards.

Peter.



Photo above and below:

ANZAC Day for CRIB 20



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

ANZAC DAY IN THE KAHMARD DISTRICT

Major Craig Wilson
OC K Company, Op CRIB 20
Madr Valley, Afghanistan

Soldiers from Kiwi Company, Op CRIB 20 marked ANZAC Day with dawn parades at Combat Outpost (COP) ROMERO and Forward Patrol Base (FPB) DO ABE. As it was for many soldiers on operations around the world, ANZAC Day was an opportunity to reflect on the past and contemplate the significance of our current operational service.



The service at COP ROMERO was enhanced by the presence of Chaplain James Molony who offered a prayer and a blessing to the assembled troops. Present at the parade were Kiwi Team 2 made up of QAMR and 2/1 RNZIR personnel as well as an RNZAF medic. Also present were members of Kiwi Company Headquarters who represented a range of Army units.

Following the service, a fine cooked breakfast was prepared by Lance Corporal Kate Johnston of 3 CSSB (formerly 3 Log Bn), and no alcohol of any kind was consumed.

As indicated in the photo above, the weather decided to remind us of home with cool temperatures and drizzle. We are determined to enjoy such weather at the moment as in a few short weeks we will be dealing with uncomfortable heat on a constant basis.

After breakfast it was back to work for all personnel with vehicle maintenance and patrol rehearsals stretching on into the night.

Meanwhile at FPB DO ABE, a more spartan but no less meaningful parade was conducted. Then like personnel at COP ROMERO it was back to work keeping a close eye on the local area which is the hub of activity in Northern Bamyān province.

Kiwi Company has recently settled in to its work as part of Op CRIB 20, and is focusing on assisting the Afghan National Police's Provincial Quick Response Force to be successful as we head toward full

transition of security responsibility.

With ongoing security there is hope that the Government of Afghanistan will be able to continue to build the country's capacity for a brighter future.

"As it was for many soldiers on operations around the world, ANZAC Day was an opportunity to reflect on the past and contemplate the significance of our current operational service."

CRIB 20 personnel are grateful for the excellent work that has gone before us and it is evident that good security, governance and development achievements in Kahmard have created a foundation for the people of Afghanistan to move forward positively as a community.

Personnel from previous CRIB deployments should feel proud that their efforts have made a real difference, and be rest assured that we will try and maintain that success.

NEWS FROM GYRO 12 TIMOR-LESTE

TREV'S TOUR

LAC Trevor Mills GYRO 12

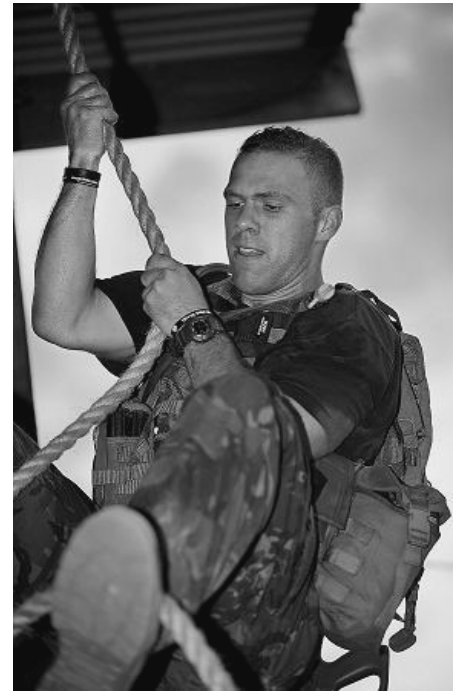
My tour to Timor has taught me to understand so many new things, meet many new people and importantly experience my role as a firefighter in an operational environment. Coming from Air Force, I had to learn very quickly how to walk the Army life.

Taking part in the Longest Day was a great way to challenge myself. The Longest Day is not to be taken lightly; it is something you need the right mind set for. It consisted of a 2.4km run completed in under 10 minutes, followed by a push up and pull up test with no rest! Then straight into a 100m fireman's carry and a 40m fireman's drag, both I'm very familiar with so I wasn't too

worried about them. The next stage was something I don't do very often – an 8km weighted forced pack march with webbing and rifle. Then it was onto fox and hounds at the same distance but just with webbing and rifle if you were selected, but not me.

With the sweat dripping down my face and PTI, SSgt Colvin, shouting at us, we get on to the final test, through the shower, up the ladder and into the pool for the 3 minute treading water test. Very refreshing after the previous activities.

Some swollen shoulders, sore feet and blisters, we were all done. Handshakes all round, blisters being compared, the BBQ was ready and padres container of lollies – “DIG IN!” Although this was not the full longest day selection



LAC Trev Mills

process, it was very intense and had the ability to test one's core values. I'm glad I was given the opportunity to test myself. Definitely a day I will remember. Who dares wins.

NEWS FROM OP TROY BAGRAM, AFGHANISTAN

FIRST IMPRESSIONS:

Hi, I am Corporal Sam Collis and I am the Sup Tech at Bagram Air Force Base (BAF). I am a Logistics specialist in the RNZAF. I've have deployed to many different locations but this is my first land centric deployment.

My first impression of BAF was quite awe inspiring after getting off the C-130 Hercules. This place seemed huge and that was just the flight line on our arrival, with so many aircraft of various sizes! Our hosts NSE19 then whisked us

away to our accommodation through what seemed a maze of roads that never ended.

Once we were settled in, we got the 'Bagram tour', a quick trip around the base with our hosts pointing out various places (DFACs (the mess), O'Donnell Hall and of course the PX!!). Many of the other places we were shown went straight over my head.

After the tour it was dinner time and the NSE19 personnel organised some pizzas from Pizza Hut.... Yes, they even have a Pizza Hut in

Bagram! And we then did more of a formal 'meet and greet'.

The next day I went for my first visit to the Dragon DFAC (Dragon is the area that we are accommodated in) and wow, what a surprise... they have a very good selection of both fatty and healthier types of foods - I can't seem to turn down the hash browns though. Also, the cereal selection could do with a little less sugar. Apart from that, there is no excuse to eat unhealthily... as they have a lot of different salad selections.

The driving is good here and people are polite (unlike some Auckland drivers) even though Sergeant Burton tried, and succeeded, in freaking me out a couple of times... silly buses.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

There are some good social activities here as well, like karaoke nights, country karaoke nights (Americans love their country music), Salsa, sporting tournaments and even a movie cinema to keep us entertained at night.

Unfortunately the downside of all the entertainment is that we are trapped inside the wire; no going outside BAF. All around the bases

perimeter there are 20ft blast walls which have motion sensors and seismic sensors.

The final welcome to Bagram and completion of our handover came with an IDF attack at 1am which sent us newbies scurrying to the bunker which happens to be 5m away from my accommodation - it was an interesting experience and the explosion was pretty loud.

WELCOME TO BAGRAM!



CHAPLAIN'S PEN — FROM ABROAD

Padre James Molony
CRIB 20

***"Injustice anywhere
is a threat to justice
everywhere'."***

Martin Luther

You know we are usually so far away from the rest of the world, the awful news we hear on TV in NZ is thousands of miles away. Maybe that contributed to the trauma of watching one of our own cities in chaos last year? I have to admit it's a little unsettling listening to the world's troubles which are now on the same continent as me. Kabul, itself so often in the news, is just a few hours away – don't worry it's still quite a distance. I was at FOB Romero for ANZAC Day, it was a simple yet significant service, 'lest we forget'. It is very easy to question world events from NZ, such as why are we in Afghanistan? I like Cpl Dougie Grant's answer to that question, he said 'because Afghan kids deserve a chance too'.

So many of our young men fought and died in what was essentially a failed campaign in Gallipoli, but it was also part of something larger and far more significant, Martin Luther said that '*injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere*' (it's a slogan I had on a T-shirt once). It is why there are kiwis working all over the world, such as in Thailand helping refugees fleeing from Burma's regime, and also in India helping women get off the streets of Calcutta's red-light district.

The greatest commandment Jesus said, is to firstly love God with everything you've got, and the second is like it, love your neighbour as much as you love yourself (because God cares about all people). A man asked Jesus 'well then so who is my neighbour?' Jesus's response gives us the story of the Good Samaritan, the guy who went out of his way to help a stranger in trouble. We may not be in Afghanistan for too much longer, but while we are here it is an opportunity to continue to make a difference. Both on a personal level, in the way we kiwis interact and engage with locals and learn off each other, and also

professionally in the wider work of the PRT. Especially significant is the training provided to local nationals who are keen to make a difference in their country once we've gone. When you think of it like this, six months is such a short period of time to work to, the time is going to fly and we are all working hard to achieve our goals before its our turn to RTNZ and hand the baton to the next team.

God Bless, help someone out this week.

**The strength of a
family, like the
strength of an
army, is in
its loyalty
to each other.**

MARIO PUZO

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

Padre Chris Haines.....for all of the team on OP RATA 15

Wherever we are in the world, the average Kiwi's ability to fix almost anything...to get out of trouble as fast as we get into it...to work really hard when we have to, and play harder...to *not* take ourselves too seriously...to turn difficult or dangerous situations we are facing into an excuse for a laugh...and to want to stick up for the 'underdog'...makes us a great bunch of people to be around.

These sometimes slightly quirky national traits have been a big part of us getting on so well together and also our ability to mix with the locals. During a 3 day patrol on a volcanic island the platoon won the villagers over by playing soccer and touch rugby with the kids, (in 40 degrees plus), talking about home and family, doing the Haka and even some *really* dumb magic tricks which never the less got heaps of laughs and applause!!

Soon after arriving back on base from the 'volcano', the guys packed up their kit and headed east on

Guadalcanal for 5 days of Jungle Training. Working as sections they practiced various aspects of soldiering, but the biggest challenge was learning to be comfortable in the oppressive heat and humidity of the tropics. In this environment, everything is much more physically draining than it is in NZ and any carelessness or laziness with equipment, or personal hygiene can get you hurt or really sick in a hurry! The guys are fast learners and everyone arrived back at base in one piece and healthy.

When the boys are not training... they are in the gym, making muscles and working off all that protein powder, watching a movie, phoning home, eating the great food they serve on base and...did I mention going to the gym!!

Also this month:

- * A two hour hike up into the hills behind Honiara to a beautiful jungle waterfall. Then two hours down river to vehicles and base.
- * ANZAC day commemorations and a chance to play soccer

with the Aussies and Papua New Guinea...always exciting rivalry...plus 2 (only) cold beers on an otherwise totally 'dry' base.

- * And a Big Birthday Bash and BBQ for April babies...Tame, Manu, Ricky, Cory and Chris. Two champions emerged from the night ...Nate for 'Combat Balloons' and Cory the Hacky Sack champ.

During the last two weeks the platoon has been confined to base as the 'Quick Reaction Force'. (QRF). During this duty they stand ready at a moments notice, day or night, to respond in support of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force and the Participating Police Force. This can be a tedious, (boring and frustrating) time. But as part of this duty the soldiers are constantly tested on their readiness and ability to 'turn out' fast!...and our guys have set the standard. They work well under pressure and consistently turn on very impressive times for those watching the clock...Awesome...well done guys!

Well family, by the time you read this, most of us will be half way through our deployment here on Guadalcanal. We are doing well as a contingent and generally enjoy each others company very much. We are definitely starting to acclimatize to the tropics, (although we will freeze when we come home), and no one has been seriously injured or badly sick, so you don't have to worry.

We love phoning home and really appreciate so much all the packages and cards we have received from you all. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we do for you...and before you know it we will be preparing to come home.

So till the next 'Bugle'. Lots of Love from everyone here and a Big Hug for each of you!



Top Left:
WO2 Pani Houia



Top Right:
LCpl Elvin Gasmin



Bottom Left:
Sgt Pete Pivac

Bottom Right:
LCpl Nate Waititi

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

ANZAC Day Remembrance Reflection

**Padre Chris Purdie
GYRO 12**

In the dawn darkness the faces of young men and woman of Australia and New Zealand come on the screen, all those who have died on operations since the intervention here in East Timor since 2001. As the faces clicked by it became starkly apparent that ANZAC Day was no longer just about old vets from yester-year in wars that began before we were born.

ANZAC Day was now very personal to those who serve because those faces and their families are known to us, and their grief for their loss is also our own. So to be here at the end of our tour and commemorate ANZAC Day felt, to me, to be an important milestone for us on the 12th GYRO.

ANZAC Day rounded off the tour and gave me the opportunity to remember and reflect on our time here, as well as those who had passed on. We have been here for six months and in addition to our normal day to day activities we need to remember and be proud of our other achievements.

We have engaged in plenty of PT including runs to the Jesus statue and also having a number of people push themselves to compete in the Dili half marathon. We were able to squeeze in a couple of trips out into the countryside and complete 2 x100km bike rides

One of the areas of work I am most proud of is our support to our local orphanage here, where we were able to provide them with a water tank and a water pump. This then made the possibility of having a shower a realistic option for them, and towards the end of our tour we have made donations towards the materials for a shower block there.

Donations from Christmas in our FOB has made it possible to buy enough cement to concrete the floor in three pre-school classrooms up country in Viqueque.

We were able to support and take part in a great Christmas day, and Easter day functions of fun for the kids of the three orphanages the ISF support here in Dili. We were able to bring together people from across the ISF and the children for games, and craft activities water slides, plunge pool and bouncy castle finishing up with a big feed. Great days out and experiences for over 100 children who have very little and wonderful fun for the big

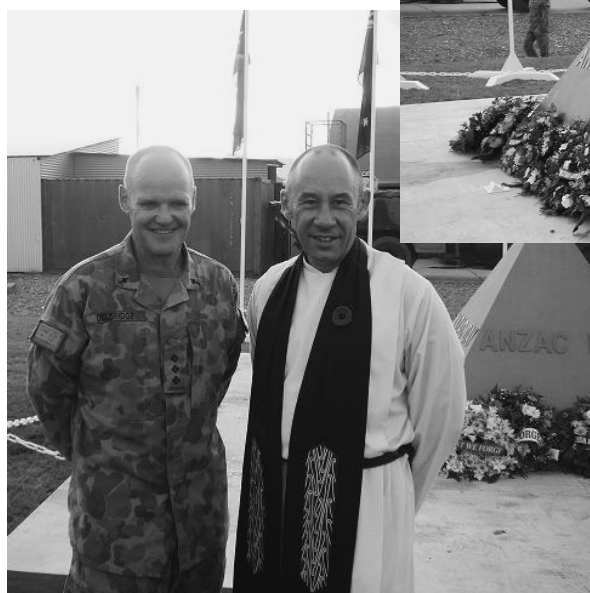
kids of the GYRO contingent and the Aussies of the ISF.

Finally, in our time here we have been able to support the Manning Trust with over \$3000 US raised, and with donations, \$1000 of which we raised through the GYRO 12 fight night last weekend. This money goes to the Manning Trust which provides year-long scholarships for young Timorese people at an educational facility in Suai, the home of the Kiwis in previous BATT deployments. All in all a pretty reasonable effort – well done GYRO 12.

Blessings and signing off.



ANZAC Day



**Left: Padre Chris Purdie
and Aussie Padre Capt
Andrew Delbridge**

2012

WHAT'S ON

TUESDAYS

COFFEE MORNINGS — LINTON

Every Tuesday

At the Linton Community Centre **every Tuesday** morning from 9.00am until

Come along and meet others from your community and have a delicious coffee or hot chocolate from the coffee cart.

25 MAY

CHILDRENS' DISCO — LINTON

Friday 25 May

Linton Community Centre, Puttick Road

For details please ring Hoppy (aka Karen Prendergast) on 06 351 9619.

12 JUNE

MEET THE BURNHAM CAMP SUPPORT TEAM

Family Information Evening,

Sports Bar, Burnham Military Camp, Burnham

Tuesday 12th June, 6pm - 8pm

An open invitation is extended to all those associated with all current deployments, to join us for a light meal and to have the opportunity to meet with our local Units and support team who are here to assist you along the deployment journey. Children are welcome. Childcare and children's activities are available after the meal, for those who would like to use them. This is your chance to informally meet with those tasked with welfare support and will include representatives from all Units, Padres, Psychologist, Community Services Officer, and Deployment Services Officer, to name a few. Information will be available on Burnham Camp facilities, groups and local activities. There will be an update from Deployment locations and a chance to meet with like people in a like situation. There will also be an opportunity for you to contribute towards a "social" plan for the months ahead, so be sure to think of what activities you and your family are keen to see happen so we can see if they can come to fruition.

No need to RSVP, but for any enquiries, please contact Carol Voyce, Deployment Services Officer, Burnham Military Camp 3630 421 or 0800 33 75 69. Be sure to mark this date on your calendar now.

Please note that you will require ID to enter Burnham Camp on that night. To obtain a visitors pass from the Duty Hutt at the front gate, be sure to allow time to have this processed. To find the Sports Bar, turn right at the first turnoff past the Front gate and the Bar is next to the Gymnasium and Swimming Pool.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

2-13 JULY

LINTON SCHOOL HOLIDAYS PROGRAMME

2-13 July

For details and to book in your children, please ring Hoppy on 06 351 9619.

28 JULY

LINTON LADIES DAY

28 July

Note your calendars ladies, more information will be coming your way.

ON DEPLOYMENT WITH THE UNITED NATIONS—KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

Royal New Zealand Navy Commander Simon Rooke has recently returned from a six month deployment to Afghanistan with the United Nations.

CDR Rooke deployed as a Military Advisor for the United Nations Assistance Mission Afghanistan (UNAMA) based in Kabul. "My role involved providing military advice to the UNAMA leadership on strategic and operational level activities of ISAF, and what the implications of these plans and operations could mean for UNAMA." The role also required a reciprocating function from UNAMA to HQ ISAF. "I regularly discussed UN activities and exchanged information with ISAF to ensure that the military planners were aware of UN perspectives."

For CDR Rooke, the main highlight of his deployment was gaining a deeper appreciation of the situation in Afghanistan. "I was able to experience first-hand through working within the UN environment as well as gaining valuable experience from working within a military headquarters that controls a force of over 100,000 combat troops from dozens of nations. Exposure to operations on that scale is something I had never experienced before."



There were a number of challenges throughout Commander Rooke's deployment. "Apart from being an unarmed Military Advisor in a city with a constant insurgent threat, the biggest challenge was the driving – Kabul traffic is chaotic, where drivers have little concern for road rules. Intersections are all uncontrolled and approached with a survival of the fittest who dares wins mentality. It's not uncommon to see four lanes of traffic on your side of a two lane road - and not all of those are going the same way. The severe winter conditions doesn't dampen the aggression on the roads either, it just made things more 'interesting' when avoiding drivers seemingly un-phased by a foot of snow or 3-4 inches of ice."

One of the benefits of working for the UN, says CDR Rooke, was the opportunity to interact on a daily

basis with the locals employed within the accommodation and work compounds. "Being able to listen to their views and learn as much of their language as possible, to communicate in a friendly manner, certainly provided me with a greater appreciation of the lives, culture and faith of the Afghan people."

CDR Rooke has undertaken a wide range of deployments with the Royal New Zealand Navy over the past 21 years, visiting a wide range of countries from Turkey, Scotland, Russia, India, Kuwait to the US, as well as most of New Zealand's neighbouring Pacific Islands and Asian nations on the Pacific Rim. He has also deployed to the Arabian Gulf, Bougainville, and Timor-Leste. CDR Rooke has previously commanded HMNZS KAHU and HMNZS OTAGO, the Navy's first OPV.

ON DEPLOYMENT WITH THE UNITED NATIONS— SOUTH KOREA

Lieutenant Martin Wilson Royal New Zealand Navy has just completed a six month deployment to the UN Command Military Armistice Commission (UNCMAC) in South Korea.

After a long business career in the IT industry and service in the Royal New Zealand Naval Volunteer Reserve, LT Wilson made the plunge in August 2009 and transferred to the Regular Force. After two years working in the Engineering Change Group at Devonport Naval base he was selected for a deployment to South Korea.

LT Wilson deployed as an Assistant Corridor Control Officer, ensuring that the operation of the Transportation Corridor between North and South Korea conformed to the Armistice Agreement. "North and South Korea only agreed to a

ceasefire in 1953 and are technically still at war."

New Zealand is one of 16 countries committed to upholding the Armistice Agreement. New Zealand has participated in UNCMAC since 1998 and has a long history of military involvement in Korea, from the outbreak of war in 1950 through to its current ongoing contribution. New Zealand's support to UNCMAC is important on both the regional and international level, as Korea continues to be one of the pivotal potential conflict areas in the world today.

LT Wilson encountered a number of challenges during his deployment. "The challenges of the job included learning to work within the combined systems and processes of large organisations such as UNCMAC, US Forces and the Republic of Korea Army; and add the language and cultural differences into the mix." He also experienced a pretty severe winter in South Korea. "The coldest day was -27, with most days between -5 and -10."

LT Wilson adds, like any job there were a number of highlights interspersed with routine. "I had the opportunity to visit and inspect border guard posts and attend a memorial service in Busan commemorating the Commonwealth contribution to the Korean War. There were also opportunities to see a bit of the country, most notably a ski trip to Pyeongchang, venue of the 2018 Winter Olympics."

Summing up his deployment, LT Wilson says he certainly enjoyed his time in South Korea. "It extended me out of my comfort zone; it was a far cry from running IT projects in the civilian world. The opportunity to live and work in a different country and experience the culture has been a privilege, as has been meeting and working with people from a host of different nations. The contribution from New Zealand servicemen in the 1950 – 1953 conflict was significant and I feel I have honoured that contribution by serving here."



DSO'S CORNER



Carol Voyce

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

Greetings!

I have just arrived back from two weeks leave in Western Australia, catching up with precious family and friends, who I see so little of. It's hard to describe my time there as a relaxing holiday as there was so much to do, so many people to see, so many places to go and many a celebration to be had - but worth every cent!!

I was also fortunate during my travels to attend the Dawn Service on ANZAC Day at Kings Park in Perth. While I stood there looking at the gorgeous sunrise, my thoughts wandered back to you all at home and abroad, and to how you too, might be taking your place at a similar service.

My brother had us all up at 0430 to make the journey into Perth and battle the traffic to join with some 50,000 plus people who wanted to remember. Our family, in younger days, had always attended the Dawn service in our local community and so it had been many a year since I had stood next to my brother on ANZAC Day - and how fitting it was that he should wear our late father's medals from



On ANZAC Day with my brother, Geoff, as dawn breaks over the Swan River, Perth.

the Middle East Campaign, of World War II.

The tenacity and courage of the original ANZAC's, and the thousands who have followed in their footsteps, in the 97 years since the Gallipoli landing, were honoured in a very moving service. Brigadier Steve Coggin, Commanding Officer 13 Brigade, told the crowd gathered that the day was about honouring the strength and resilience of service people and acknowledging that the ANZAC's set a standard for all service men and women in the decades to follow.

"ANZAC Day is a time to remember the original ANZAC's, who on 25 April 1915, by their sacrifice, commitment, endurance, courage and mateship set standards that would provide inspiration to their countrymen for generations to come," he said. "It's a time when we remember those who came after them - men and women who have served their nation inspired by that spirit of the original ANZAC's - some paying the ultimate price." He

also paid tribute to those providing peacekeeping, border assistance, disaster relief assistance and humanitarian aid in countries such as Afghanistan, Iraq and East Timor.

Brigadier Coggin concluded his address with a quote from John Hepworth's, *The Long Green Shore*:

"They pinned no medals on him, they made no speeches - we need no medals or speeches, we know him and remember. He was just a good ordinary bloke that's the point - that's an important thing - he was an ordinary bloke like you and me."

I hope you too found time to remember.

In keeping with my Australian theme, it seemed fitting that I should read, not long after my return, a book review, by Clarke Isaacs, in the *Otago Daily Times*, "The Diggers Menagerie" - *Mates, Mascots and Marvels* - True stories of Animals who went to war, by Barry Stone. This Australian book acknowledges the achievements of

DSO'S CORNER CONT'D...

animals forced into service to aid the efforts of Australian soldiers and their allies in conflicts beginning with the Second Boer War and moving through to World War II. I can recall my father telling me stories of the contribution animals made to the war effort, but this review gave some amazing statistics which may surprise you too.

✱ In the Second Boer War, 350,000 out of 500,000 British horses died. The life expectancy of a British horse from the moment it disembarked onto South African soil was a minuscule six weeks.

✱ By 1917 in World War 1, the British Army was having to find 15,000 horses a month to replace those it was losing.

✱ It is estimated that 40,000 dogs and 20,000 pigeons were killed in World War 1. More than 7.6 million animals (horses, donkeys, mules and camels) were killed on all sides in that war.

✱ Only 5 of the 20,000 New Zealand horses sent to serve in World War 1 came home.

On a happier note, there are stories of brave dogs which animal lovers should relish and to keep things on a positive note, it also acknowledges the US war dogs

commitment to thousands of missions which included uncovering booby traps, and from preventing patrols from stumbling into ambushes. In fact, it was estimated that dogs in Vietnam saved upwards of 10,000 American lives! A great read I am sure!

This review certainly made me think that my domestic moggie's stay in "Cat prison" (the cattery) while I was in Australia, and her safe return home surely doesn't deserve the payback she dishes out - if only she understood how lucky she is!!

Kind regards to you all - look forward to catching up in the times ahead.



Janine Burton

Deployment Services Officer
1 (NZ) Brigade

Since the last 'Bugle' we have welcomed home CRIB 19 and we were supposed to have seen GYRO 12 home as well before this edition was out with families. But a malfunctioning aircraft delayed the departure of GYRO 13 and therefore flowed on to affect the return of 12. I know that when you set your heart on a date and make all sorts of plans, when it all has to be delayed, even

by a few days, it is really hard. No matter how hard we try to stress to you all that you need to be prepared in case an unexpected delay does occur, it is so deflating, frustrating (and I bet you all have a few more words too) when it happens! Will be wonderful to have them all home though, then you can move on with all those delayed plans.

With the return of the GYRO 12 contingent, of course it means that this is your final 'Bugle'. I know that many of you have used the arrival of the publication in your letterbox as part of your "time passing measure". We certainly find that publication dates come around very quickly, so hope that it also helps note the passing of time until loved ones return from deployment.

We can't welcome home GYRO 12 without saying a huge thank you to the team for their contributions to your favourite deployment newsletter however. Thank you doesn't seem quite enough for the efforts of Padre Chris Purdie, who

never missed an issue. Chris, so very grateful for your efforts, I know that it probably wasn't your most favourite thing to do, but our families and the 'Bugle' team are very, very grateful - thank you. And starring on the cover of an edition of the Army News was outstanding - great photo! Thank you also to all those GYRO contingent members who contributed throughout the deployment; Maj Steve Challies, LAC Stacie Carline, Lt Matt Singleton, Pte Todd Waugh, LAC Trevor Mills. We also appreciate some great photos which we have been able to use on the cover of some of our editions. Awesome!

As in all cases, just because the deployment is complete, does not mean that our support of you has ended. If over the coming weeks you want to call to discuss any aspects of the deployment (or return) which are causing you concern, please don't hesitate to call. The contact numbers haven't changed.

Happy, happy reunions.

FOR YOUR INFO...

Moving the Bugle Deadline – a little!

The deadline for the next edition of 'The Bugle' has been moved forward slightly to accommodate Queens Birthday weekend and our attendance at an Operational Welfare Forum in Wellington. We would be grateful if you could send in all those great messages, articles and contributions by Tuesday 29 May - back to normal the following issue after that.

Delays Happen

Sincere apologies to the many families who gathered or counted down to the departure of those deploying to Timor-Leste, for the delays and many time changes that occurred! I know this makes saying goodbye even harder! Please be assured that everything possible is done to avoid or minimise changes like this, but sometimes things are totally out of our control. At the time of writing this 'Bugle' we are still waiting to wave everyone off, but by the time you read this, they will all be safely there!

To those anticipating the return of loved ones; these delays have affected both the timing and dates of return flights and onward travel. Be sure to keep in touch with us for the latest information. Frequent calls are welcome - we too share your disappointment that homecomings have been delayed, but wish you all happy reunions.

Kiwi Bird Stamps

Looking for something a little different to put in your parcel to loved ones? Why not consider a self-inking Kiwi Bird Stamp?

Our deployed personnel are held in high regard in all the various locations around the world. A simple gesture of stamping the back of a child's hand with a kiwi bird to match the emblem on the cap or sleeve of someone who has

taken the time to interact with them, brings huge rewards.

These stamps are small and lightweight and easily fit into a pocket. They survive all weather conditions and can be carried on patrol by service personnel. "Paper Plus", "Whitcoulls" and other leading bookshops carry stocks of the DIXON Kiwi, Blue or Black stamp, 068. Depending on where you shop, prices vary from approx \$10-14 per stamp. Each stamp can last for up to 1,000 uses.

Help bring a smile to a little one so far away.

Mission Libraries

If you are sending paper-backed books into deployment locations and not hoping for their return home, can we suggest that you cover them with Duraseal, so they can be donated to the contingents library. Each mission area has a collection of books, previously sent and eventually made available for many more to enjoy.

International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers



The "International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers", May 29, is "a day to pay tribute to all the men and women who have served and continue to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication, and courage and to honour the memory of those who have lost their lives in the cause of peace".

It was so designated by United Nations General Assembly Resolution 57/129, on December 11, 2002 and first celebrated in 2003. The date, May 29, marks the anniversary of the creation of the

United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO), in 1948 to monitor the ceasefire after the 1948 Arab-Israeli War.

The day is marked at the UN Building in New York City with the presentation of the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal, statements by the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary General, a press release regarding the state of UN Peacekeeping missions and the continued necessity of their work.

There are also observances around the world. Often countries will honour their own peacekeepers abroad, but the UN also organizes festivals, discussion forums, and memorials in cooperation with local and national groups.

As we honour such moving displays of courage and dedication, we also pay tribute to the more than 122,000 military, police and civilian personnel who serve with distinction in our operations across the world.

Their efforts directly help millions of people...

- ❖ By providing security and promoting reconciliation...
- ❖ By clearing land-mines and demobilizing combatants...
- ❖ By strengthening institutions and the rule of law...
- ❖ By delivering aid and repatriating refugees and displaced persons...
- ❖ By supporting democratic elections, reforming the security sector... and so much more.

Peacekeeping is an indispensable part of the UN's work for a better world.

Let us give it the support it needs to succeed.

OPERATIONAL ALLOWANCES

When NZDF personnel travel overseas, on business or deploy on an operational mission, they are paid additional allowances over and above what they would get paid in NZ. They may get overseas incidental allowances, environmental or security threat allowances relevant to their mission (amounts vary by location).

Many people choose to save as much of this extra money as they can during the deployment to pay off the mortgage or clear some debt, while others use the extra money for such things as lawn mowing, baby-sitting expenses, paying for a holiday when they get home or purchasing luxury personal items, such as a new car.

While there are pros and cons to both approaches, most people have reported that getting the balance right between the two methods is the best idea by spending enough to make life easier at home but clearing some debt and saving for the future as well.

Some families worry about allowances affecting WINZ assistance or child support but allowances annotated NT (not taxable) on the payslip will not affect any financial assistance provided by WINZ.

The reference for this is the Income Tax Act 2007, Part C, CW 23. The Income Tax Act 2007, the Social Security Act 1964 and the Social Security (Income and Cash Assets Exemptions) Regulations 2011 all link into the exemptions provided under the Income Tax Act, Part C CW 23.

If anyone has any concerns about allowances the Deployment Services Officers are more than happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Ms Lynne Smith
J18—Personnel Welfare

Last Mail Out for Some

This is the last mail out for those whose loved ones are returning from Timor-Leste. We hope you will all enjoy family reunions, holidays and happy days! It has been wonderful for us to have been able to support you during the period of separation and hope that you have enjoyed receiving 'The Bugle'.

Please remember, our team is still here for you if you need any assistance along the way. With best wishes to you all – we look forward to meeting with you again at some point in the future.

BOUQUETS



Janine

Thank you so much for taking care of "my patch" while I took leave. I really appreciated the offer and favour and look forward to payback soon! *Carol*.

TG GYRO 12 Contributions

Thank you everyone on GYRO 12 for contributions to 'The Bugle' while you were on deployment since you departed NZ on the last day of October 2011. While we are sure that you will have much more to share with your families when you return home, it was wonderful to be able to share a snapshot of some of your time in Timor-Leste, including those traditional family times like Christmas and Easter as well as some of those special projects like the installation of the new water tank and water pump for the Dominican Sisters Orphanage. Your deployment journey is now done, welcome home. *Carol and Janine*.

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 & Timor-Leste appoint a lead Deployment 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

Burnham—Cherie Mansell

Ph 03 363 0322

Community Services Facilitator:

Linton—Lesley Clutterbuck

Ph 06 351 9970

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:

Deana Lye

Ph: 09 417 7035

Base Woodbourne:

Claudia Baker

Ph: 03 577 1177

Base Ohakea:

Kim Palmer

Ph: 06 351 5640

Naval Community Organization:

Ph: 09 445 5534,

0800 NAVYHELP

nib@nzdf.mil.nz

Local Chaplaincy Services

Unit Point of Contact

HI FROM THE NCO

We have a bit of a financial theme this issue:



If you need any budgetary help, we have a Budget Advisor available for appointments at the NCO on alternate Thursday afternoons. Christine is able to provide budgeting advice, debt clearing assistance and a financial consultation.

For 1st home buyers, we are holding a full day Home Owners Education Seminar on **Tuesday 29 May**. This will cover the buying and borrowing process, as well as information on building your own home. Please register your interest by **24 May**.



The National Bank will be coming on **Thursday 31 May**, and holding a “drop-in” workshop to go through their Defence Force Banking Package. So if you have any queries about what they can provide for your family, please call in to the Seminar Centre at HMNZS PHILOMEL between 1200-1500. Note that a Family ID Card is required to access the base.

Family Events coming up:

Reminder and change of dates - For all the budding sailors out there, NCO & NATC are holding a Teenage Sailing Weekend over **Saturday 09 to Sunday 10 June**. This is for College-aged young persons only. If you are keen, please register your interest by **25 May**.

The Winter Camp will be held over **Sunday 01 to Friday 06 July** at the Navy Alpine & Ski Club in Ohakune. Costs are \$100 per adult, \$50 per child 5 – 14 years. If you are interested, please register for the ballot by 17 May.

As always, if you need to contact the Naval Community Organisation:

For those calling from the Auckland area: 09 445 5915
Outside Auckland area: 0800 NAVY HELP
Email address: nib@nzdf.mil.nz

Until next time, your friendly NCO team.

PERSONAL MESSAGES



The deadline for contributions and personal messages for the next edition of "The Bugle" is **29 May at 4.00pm**. Please note: All "Bugle" messages are to be sent to Carol Voyce, DSO Burnham (email: dso.burnham@xtra.co.nz)

From In-Theatre

To Nana Lynn

I am loving my time over here. I hope Poppa can see me and be proud. Keep safe and well. XXX. Love from Shan.

Hi Fartybums

Hope you guys are well. Love Dad.

Hi my Darling

Well here we are again, apart again and one more stint overseas and away from the family. Miss you's all and love you's lots! Don't worry about me, I'm safe as. Not tanning too much, just gyming it to try and get a sexy body like Doc...LOL. My lil chunky is getting so big, you have to give him a big hug from me. As for my other darling give her a hug too. Well that's me for now... stay safe. Love you's heaps... XOXO.

To my Megatastic Whanau

Thanks for the parcels, letters, and messages. Miss you all, especially my hunni bee, my mega sons, Hari Huri Tau Auntie Nunu and Happy Mother's Day to All. P.J.

Hi CB

Missing you like crazy! Hope you're coping with the kids. Skype's great but keep those letters and packages coming. Love you. Talk soon and remember although we aren't together right now, we will be soon enough. Keep looking at the stars and maybe I'll be looking at the same ones.

To Launty

Don't forget your gardening gloves. Love you, D.

Hello Bo

Loving the gummy snakes and the home baking! Keeping away from

the yellow food and have had no RMs. Love hearing your voice when we talk. Enjoying the challenges here, but looking forward to being home with you so we can carry on our WIP. Keep safe and warm. FG XXXX LYAMY LYWMTC.

To Connor

Very proud of your try - keep it up. Love you, D.

To my Baby

I hope you are doing well at school + try hard at sports. I miss you terribly + think of you always. I'm so proud of you. Don't forget to study hard + do your homework so you can be whatever you want when you are older!!! Love you always. Miss you heaps. Love Sissy. Xxx.

To Liam

Keep riding your bike clever boy. Love you, D.

To Mummy

Try and take a rest, read your trashy mags. Miss you lots, D.

Happy Birthday Liam.

Hey Mrs McGee

You might not be my mother but you are a great mother to our children. Happy Mother's Day! Love you past the stars, sun and moon. Rob.

T.I.A.B.

Hi Reags

Thinking of you heaps! Hope school is going ok, and you are having fun! Love you buddy! Almost 1/3 through already. Dad xxx.

Hi Em

Can't wait to read your stories again, what is your favourite book?

Miss you heaps and love you for ever sweetheart. Dad xxx.

JJ — Good luck with the Boxing and Rugby. Bradley — Good luck with the League. Liam — Looking forward to you reading me a story on Skype and I hope you're being nice to your brothers. Hope you boys are being good at home and school. Lots of Love Dad.

Hi Babe

Think about you all the time, so glad I'm with you! Loads of Love, J

To my Dearest Alice

1 month down all ready! Hope all is well with the little ones, and my love is with you everyday! Big loves, Munshkin.

Hi Babelicious

Love and miss you, first month gone; won't take long for the rest to pass. Keep the letters coming and don't let the kids drive you too far up the wall. Bye hun. Your Husband.

Happy Birthday Bradley

Hope you have a great day. Lots of Love Dad.

Hi my Ratbags

Keep working hard at the boxing and rugby my sons and to my baby I hope that you can get back into your dancing soon honey. Love and miss you all. Be good for mum. Dad.

To Angel Toes

If heaven was a person
And that person was a miss
You would be the only one
I would consider to be this
You are beyond all imagination
Any dream as such
You are the one for me
My angel toed love
From Soap.

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

From Home

To the Bestest Daddy

We love you and miss you so much, we have been very good for mummy and Rach while you have been gone. I started back at swimming lessons today and I did really well. (Taylor). Mummy bought me a new fire truck which I play with all the time. (Lucas). Can't wait to hear from you again! Lots of love Taylor and Lucas xxxx.

To my Poohbear

I miss you so much! I hope things are going well for you and you are getting as much as you can out of this trip. The kids have been so good and it definitely doesn't feel like it has been a month since our wedding anniversary xxx. I think of you all the time and can't wait to hear from you again. Love you for ever and ever without a doubt. Your princess xxxxx.

Hi HoneyB

Happy Birthday baby! I hope things are still going well and you're having lots of new experiences. Uni is pretty full on right now but is still good. I'm thinking of you everyday and I am so proud of you. Stay safe. I love you. Forever and always. Brains xx.

FABD4D

A month down and routine is setting in – thank goodness! We have a first rugby try by C and a black eye for L – things are pretty normal here. So love Skype, it makes the world of difference for all of us. Miss you heaps and heaps. Love you to the man-truck and back. C & L (and mummy) xxxx.

Bradcoles

Welcome to the world of teens. The Big 13! Nearly time to move out.☺ J Lots of love Rob (Dad), Mum, JJ, Liam, Baxter and Quakie Cat.

FABD4D

I love you Daddy! Connor.

Happy Anniversary

10 years ago we married and tied the knot. Our anniversary means a lot. It is not any day but our day. I honour our life together and treasure you in every way. Although our time is not always together, our relationship is connected by our amazing devotion to each other. To this day, when I see you for the first time my heart still flatters a beat. These 10 years are just a beginning; our marriage is the most magnificent thing in my life. I cannot wait to have many more to cherish. I loved you yesterday, love you still. Always have, always will.

♥HAPPY ANNIVERSARY ♥

FABD4D

I love you to the man truck and trailer and back! Liam.

Dear Human

We are still being neglected and still not getting enough apples. Please come home soon. Wuffles Blue and Houdini.

Hi ya Kit

Hope you're not working too hard and trying to enjoy yourself. I'm still trying to be brave for you. TIAB. Love your Kat.

Dear Liam

Happy 6th Birthday! Now you have been at school one whole year. Big Boy now! Lots of love Mum, Dad, JJ, Bradley, Baxter & Quakie Cat.

FABD4D

Huge full moon at the moment so you are very much in our thoughts, as always dear boy! All good at this end. LYTTMAB! Xxxx Mama.

A message for Dad from the Turkies!!!

It has been good to talk to you on Skype, time has gone fast and it

has already been 1 month. We are going to Owlcatraz to celebrate 1 month. Hope I see or talk to you soon.. I Love You Dad. Love Z.☺. Hi Dad, can't wait till you come back, I miss you heaps, come home as soon as you can, can't wait till you do, hopefully we celebrate your one month. Bye daddy. Love P.☺. Hi Daddy, I miss the fights and tickling while you are away. I have been a good boy at school. I practice Cross Country at school; we have to run around the turf 3 times. SS Love K. Hello my wonderful darling, hope you are staying safe? We all miss you so much and are happy the first month has gone so fast. See you again shortly on Skype. Love you so much my darling! Lots of hugs and kisses from Mum, Z, P, and K. xxoxxxx.

Hi Molly

Been thinking of you and hope all is well. My recent trips away have added to the magazine stash! Latest in gossip and celebrity news on its way! Happy reading! Carol.

Kirstine

Hope all is going well for you. We miss your smiley face around the place. Highlight was seeing my daughter in the UK, Prague and Hoi An. Can't wait to show you the photos of my trip to Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, UK, Prague. Christine.

Hi FG

Pleased you are keeping up your fitness – after all you do have a reputation as an FOB to live up to. You might be up to 75 by the time you get home. Don't need a repeat of England – in more ways than one J Communication is great but still missing you. LYL.

Hey Chopper

Happy Birthday babe, missing you already! Couple of weeks down, a small dent in the big scheme of

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...



things but a dent's a dent. (Car is dent free still I'm pleased to report.) Boys are great; we talk about ya heaps and love you lots. Love hearing from ya. Shell and the lads xx.

Hi Daddy

I miss you Daddy. I want to go to the gondolas with you and go on the motorbikes with Jack and Ethan when you get back. Love Victor.

Daddy

I want to say kallabunga in the big red tunnel with you Daddy. Love Jonny.

Dear Con

Hope all is well. We miss you heaps and Mason tells me quite frequently that you are in 'Anistan.' He even knows where it is on the map, with a little help from a friend. Shell and I marched at the New Lynn ANZAC Parade and we thought of you. Love, Mum.

Hey Billy/Daddy

Been thinking about you lots! We are doing great; the days seem to be flying by! Our son-son is still growing lots, he was 11 pound 6 oz (5.6kg) at his Plunket weigh in today. That's a 520 gram gain in the last 10 days, what a sausage roll! I love catching up on Skype and seeing you, my handsome 'shoulder'. It's so good that Jimmy Jams can hear your voice too. I'm sure he's listening even though he's usually preoccupied with the 'milk-tanker'. Love love love you, Anny & Jimmy Jams xox.

Hi Daddy

I miss you Dad and I want you to come home soon so we can go on bike rides together. I wish I could play with you in the Burnham pools. Remember to watch out for the evil laugh. Love Edmund.

Hi Darling

Am missing you lots and glad time is ticking by until you come home. We've been so busy which is great as I can't believe we're a month down already. We love you and it's great hearing from you so often. All my love BOB.

Hi Skidgy!

Wanted to put a little message in here for you and I hope you read this!! It's been just over a month now and we are missing u heaps! Hope everything is all good over there. Counting down the days and weeks until we see you again! Just have to be a bit patient, ha ha! Stay safe for us. Love you lots, big hugs from Bitz and Gummy Bear xoxoxoxo.

Hey FG

Glad you are getting out and about a bit - there are after all some aspects of life where variety is a good thing. Missing having you around - things are so quiet and tidy! Cesca says hello too. LYL, L.

Hi Poo Poo Dadda

I miss you heaps and love you. I'm waiting for you to come and have kicks with me at the park and I will win! Buy me a toy when you are there please. Mum is letting me sleep on your side of the bed too. I will get a try for you in Rugby soon and I'm going to be 7 in one month. Love your boy, Maaka.

Hi Dadda

I am missing my cuddles in bed with you. I am rolling lots now and can sit up by myself like a big boy. I love you and miss you lots. Your boyboy, Kaikais.

Liam

Happy Birthday Liam. Hope you have a great day. Love Dad.

Dear Doris

We thought we'd treat you to a wee message from the three fine ladies

you left at home. We hope your trip is as 'rewarding' as you intended it to be. We vote that we change our holiday destination to Holland next year...what do you think? Do you see cheese, windmills and clogs in your future? We miss you lots and trust you're having a great time, stay safe – Love Bill, Ben and Pet.

Hey Baby

I am so missing empty coke bottles, dishes in the sink, cotton all over the floor and your collection of medals!! Nothing is the same without you here. (Your boys are keeping me busy and giving me lots of cuddles when I need them). I wish you were here but am so proud of you and what you are doing for us and our country. Looking forward to walking up that aisle! I love you with all my heart Baby, Arohanui x Your Girl.

Hey my Husband

Hope all is well with you. Your lovely children are still causing havoc and keeping me busy 24/7. Your daughter has been crook for the last couple of days but has since bounced back. The boys are looking forward to their rugby game on Sat and your big one has a boxing tournament. Looking forward to our conversations on Skype and to see your smiley face. XX on the nose dodgeproof, I love you all around the world and. Babelicious.

Hi Dada

I was sick and mum had to hold my hair out of my face. I miss you and I like that I get to sleep with Mama. We miss and love you Dad..... I love you all the way around the world andLala, Jordy and Miss T xx.

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

Hi Zane

My love and thoughts are with you. Had a good day for Mum's birthday and Hail's graduation. Getting a little cooler here now! Cars iced up a bit. Blues are still losing. Hope all is going well. Wow - what an experience you are having. Love Nana.

Hey Chap

Happy Birthday to you! Hope you are settling in and all is going well. Thinking of you heaps. Mum, Dad, S&L, S&T. (Apologies message omitted from last Bugle).

Hey Hun

We sure are missing having you around here, got a mouse

terrorizing me in the kitchen for starters but life keeps us busy and the days are going so fast - more night than there is day and the weeks are rolling round quick. Always love getting your emails and the Skype chats make a huge difference to feeling connected. I wish the snail mail from your end was quicker than it is, hopefully the kids will get the parcel from you soon. Nearly 2 months done and dusted! Keep safe, look after yourself, and before we know it, we will be counting down the weeks till your home and summer will be round the corner. Love you all the time xxxxxxxx.

Dear Dad

I am fine at school and been having fun. I love you lots and can't wait to see you in 4 and a half months. I can't wait to do a treasure hunt with you. Hope you are having a good time in Afghanistan. I hope you have been doing a good job. Love from (your son), Reagan.

Hi Dad

I had a great time at school today, I was going to show my class the pictures you sent me but it got forgotten so I am going to show them tomorrow to my class. I know that when you get home we will have lots of fun and I will be happy. Bye Dad, love you, from Emma x.

Send us your Tips and Tricks

Being a Defence Force Family can sometimes seem like a challenge, with loved ones often away or with regular postings and/or absences for courses.

"But Defence Families are a resilient lot – not to mention smart, educated, well resourced and trained to adapt and overcome challenges that would bedevil others."

So if you have a tip about encountering and meeting a challenge that is unique to Defence life, then let us know about it. Your ideas may ultimately make life easier for someone else. You too may have found a resource that helped you cope with this Defence lifestyle that you could share with us all. It could be a website, book, film, TV series, community event, outside organisation or even a person!

We welcome your feedback: Responses can be emailed to carol.voyce@nzdf.mil.nz or by phone to Carol – toll free 0800 337 569 or to Janine janine.burton@nzdf.mil.nz – toll free 0800 683 77 327. We look forward to hearing from you!



WWW.HOMEBASE.MIL.NZ

AN INTERNET WEBSITE FOR DEPLOYED PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES

They say information is power and, if so, many of our Defence Force families and friends have, at times, felt left out and isolated. This is especially true when loved ones are deployed and family members do not have direct access to the information they need, or do not know how to navigate the system to find it.

To help improve access and empower families and friends while our people are deployed, Headquarters Joint Forces has created an **internet** website called **Homebase** to act as a gateway to useful information.

Homebase is organised into several sections which includes both new material that has been created

specifically for the site and existing information that has been linked to **Homebase** from other NZ Defence Force websites. Each section targets what we think will be the main areas of interest for **Homebase** users.

“Working together we can offer our deployment community the best support, which in turn, will allow our people to give their best efforts while overseas.”

Major General Dave Gawn
Commander Joint Forces
New Zealand

The **Contacts** section is a new section that includes information pages from all our camps and bases as well as personal contact pages for our deployment, community and welfare support people.

From the **Resources** section we have linked into information and sites from around the world to give users access to the most relevant information in one place. There are vast amounts of information available so it is hoped that users will drive the content of this section through requests and suggestions about information that are wanted to be seen.

The **Overseas Operations** section on **Homebase** gives information about all our deployments so if you don't already know much about the place that you, or your loved one is going, this is a good place to look.

In the **News** section the Defence Communications Group (DCG) publishes all its magazines and articles so for the latest stories and **Navy Today**, **The Army** or **Air Force News** have a look here. This deployment newsletter, **The Bugle** is also available here to read and or print and messages are able to be sent to the editor for inclusion via **Homebase**.

This website allows our deployment community to communicate and share information in a way that enables Defence to support you, and empower you to help yourselves.

www.homebase.mil.nz

NCO FAMILY WINTER CAMP 2012

Date: Sun 1st July - Fri 6th July

Venue: Navy Alpine & Ski Club Ohakune

Close Off: Thur 17th May
Ballot Draw: Fri 18th May

Fee Structure:
Adult: \$100, Child: \$50 *5-14 yrs
Non refundable deposit due: Friday 1st June 2012
Payment in full due: Wednesday 15th June 2012
Fee only covers accommodation and food costs.
*under 5 yrs free.

Contact the
NCO to register
before the cut off date.
Call 0800 NAVYHELP or email:
nib@nzdf.mil.nz.



Please Note: Priority is given to families that have not yet attended. Some families may have to share rooms depending on group sizes.

Contact the Naval Community Organisation on ph: 0800 Navy Help or by email: nib@nzdf.mil.nz with the name of the RNZN personnel member and their service number; also please supply your address, phone number, age of dependants (who must be listed on ATLAS) and whether or not you have attended before.

