

THE BUGLE

Issue 171 | June 2012



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“THE BUGLE”

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

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Bugle contributions are welcome and should be sent to 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:

Sunrise in Timor-Leste. Photo taken by WO2 Holden from the Jesus Statue. What an amazing shot!

NZ DEFENCE FORCE PERSONNEL NAMED IN HONOURS LIST

Six New Zealand Defence Force personnel have been named in the 2012 Queen’s Birthday and Diamond Jubilee Honours list.

The recipients are as follows:

To be a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to forensic science:

Colonel Hugh Gourlay TRENGROVE
Colonels’ List, New Zealand Army
Based in Auckland

To receive the New Zealand Distinguished Service Decoration (DSD):

Major David Bruce ACKROYD
Royal New Zealand Army Logistic Regiment
(The Duke of York’s Own)
Based in Waiouru

Lieutenant Layamon John BAKEWELL
Royal New Zealand Navy
Based in Devonport

Squadron Leader Aaron Douglas BENTON
Royal New Zealand Air Force
Based at Whenuapai

Lieutenant Colonel Hugh Richard McASLAN
Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment
Based in Burnham

Warrant Officer Class One Christopher James WILSON
Royal New Zealand Army Logistic Regiment
(The Duke of York’s Own)
Based in Trentham

NZDF PERSONNEL NAMED IN QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST— 4 JUNE 2012



Lieutenant General Rhys Jones Chief of Defence Force

I am pleased to announce that six NZ Defence Force personnel have been named in this year's Queen's Birthday and Diamond Jubilee Honours list.

It's a huge honour for our personnel to be acknowledged for their service to New Zealand and I congratulate those who have been recognised in this way.

COL Hugh Trengrove has become a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to forensic science. Following the Christchurch earthquake on 22 February 2011, COL Trengrove co-ordinated efforts to identify victims of the disaster, personally leading efforts to recover human remains for identification as effectively and promptly as possible. His efforts in Christchurch, especially at the site of the CTV building, together with his work following the 2004 Thailand tsunami have contributed to this honour.

Five Defence personnel are to receive the New Zealand Distinguished Service Decoration (DSD):

MAJ David Ackroyd,

LT Layamon Bakewell,

SQNLDR Aaron Benton,

LT COL Hugh McAslan, and

WO1 Chris Wilson.

MAJ Ackroyd's work training, providing advice, and mentoring officers in Timor-Leste in the tactical and operational aspects of military logistics has considerably improved the capacity and skill

levels in logistics management within the Força de Defesa de Timor-Leste. His skills and diplomacy have contributed to the esteem with which New Zealand is now held in Timor-Leste.

When the MV Rena became grounded in October 2011 and deteriorating weather conditions overnight led the Salvage Master onboard Rena to request an evacuation of personnel, Commanding Officer of HMNZS ROTOTI, LT Layamon Bakewell, was quick to respond.

Operating in bad weather conditions, and under the direction of LT Bakewell, all personnel were evacuated from the Rena by helicopter and RHIB. Although LT Bakewell was up against considerable restraints, all personnel were evacuated in a timely manner.

An experienced P-3K Orion instructor pilot, SQNLDR Benton travelled to Antarctica in September 2012 to evacuate an American working at McMurdo Station, who was in need of specialist medical care.

With crew safety to consider, an outside temperature of minus 47 degrees Celsius, SQNLDR Benton carefully planned and executed the loading of the patient, refuelling, starting, taxiing and take-off as well as contingencies for aircraft technical issues and emergencies. His planning and attention to detail ensured that the aircraft and crew remained safe at all times.

LT COL Hugh McAslan served in Afghanistan as the Senior Military Advisor with the NZ PRT during the

period when the responsibility for governance and security of Bamyán province was formally handed over to Afghan authorities. The tactics and plans that LT COL McAslan put in place to provide a greater presence and level of security, and provide the Provincial government with the means and resources to maintain security in Bamyán when New Zealand forces leave the province, have become the blueprint for how New Zealand will meet the challenges associated with the transition process.

WO1 Chris Wilson has been recognised for his work in Afghanistan in 2010. When the local communities were devastated by flooding, much needed relief was provided to locals through the careful management of scarce resources by WO1 Wilson.

After the ambush that killed Patrol Commander LT Tim O'Donnell, WO1 Wilson took immediate command of that patrol and provided the leadership and guidance necessary for young soldiers to come to terms with the event, without losing operational integrity, and at a time when security was becoming of increasing concern.

All six of these men have been recognised for their actions in demanding and challenging environments. They have remained calm under pressure, and successfully carried out the tasks at hand with confidence. They can be extremely proud of their achievements and receive their honours with pride. I congratulate them all.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

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NEWS FROM CRIB 20, AFGHANISTAN

AN INCREASE IN TEMPO

LTCOL Peter Hall
Commanding Officer CRIB 20

Hello CRIB 20 families and friends!

The weather over here is well and truly warming up with daily temperatures in the high 20s and first light at 03:40 in the morning. Our tempo has also increased with the warmer weather and longer days, the logisticians are working especially hard as we face issues with getting fuel and food to each of the bases as a result of insurgent activities outside of our area. We are getting plenty of assistance though from Task Force Bulldog

who have provided Caribou aircraft to conduct low altitude low cost parachute drops and Chinook aircraft with under-slung fuel drums. Major Dave (my liaison officer) is certainly earning his pay coordinating this support with the Americans.

You may have heard by now that there have been issues in the township of Do Abe (where we have a patrol base) due to the Ministry of Mines closing down a number of mines overnight and leaving 6000 workers without jobs. Understandably this has created a tense atmosphere, one in which Lieutenants Ryan and Dan have acquitted themselves like the

professionals they are, remaining vigilant, calm and neutral, whilst providing an opportunity for the locals to air their frustrations and at the same time providing a safe haven for those that need it.

As a result of our increased tempo, Staff Sergeant Steve and Lance Corporals Tara and Isaac, have been continually on the go in the Q Store ensuring the patrols get the appropriate support and us camp dwellers are looked after. Corporal Carl has had his hands full trying to ration our fuel whilst still providing a service for those operationally important activities. At the same time, Staff Sergeant Sam and his team; Lance Corporals Brett, Sam and Ken and Corporals Mata and Mal, have been working long and hard to ensure our vehicles and equipment remain operational.

Lieutenant Caleb and his team have moved into Kiwi Base and Sergeant Rob and his lads have deployed North to Romero, it was great working alongside Rob and his team but it is equally good having KT2 here. I'm not sure about their selection of pre-patrol music though: "Its Raining Men" is not what I thought I'd be hearing from a patrol of guys – it must be a QAMR thing, ha ha ha.

The team has been working on the mid tour video to send back for your viewing and whilst it is a long way off a Hollywood production and we have had some technical issues, I hope you take the opportunity to head along and view it – it's worth it just to see Ryan planking on a donkey.

I hope you are all keeping warm and are looking after yourselves and each other. Thanks again on behalf of the CRIB 20 Team for your emails, parcels, patience and support, and to my wife Happy Anniversary!

Kindest regards.



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

LETTERS FROM DO ABE

Lieutenant Edge
KT1 Commander

Do Abe has been described in many ways. For the soldiers of Kiwi Team 1 (KT1) it has been home and the base of our operations for the last 9 weeks. Do Abe is the economic and cultural hub for the restive Tajik North Eastern district of Khamard, it is the focal point for the local coal mining industry and a cross roads of the Old Silk Road linking Pakistan, China, Iran and the rest of Afghanistan.

Do Abe is a real ethnic melting pot. On a good day in the Bazaar you will run into Uzbeks, Tartars, Turkmen, Tajiks, Pashtuns, Hazaras, Kochi, Pakistanis and lately Chinese mine workers. And as the local Afghan National Police Sergeant is fond of quoting, "every wanted criminal on the run in Afghanistan" can be found hiding amongst the itinerant mine worker population.

Do Abe itself is a motley collection of illegal shops and buildings

thrown together from scraps, mud and anything else at hand, mixed together with some old buildings that still bear the scars of battles past. Thanks to the hard work put in by CRIB 19, the locals are pretty friendly, with the soldiers from KT1 patrolling through the Bazaar most days keeping an eye on the locals and stocking up on watermelons and a variety of fresh produce.

We share the local security with a number of Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF), including the local police (ANP), intelligence/security (NDS), mine police (Chinese ANP) and the NZPRT trained Provincial Quick Reaction Force (PQRF). KT1, as part of the NZ PRT mentoring programme, have conducted numerous joint patrols, both mounted and dismounted, with the PQRF throughout the district. The PQRF are a top bunch of lads; brave, keen to learn, well trained and always ready to help out no matter what the situation. A real success story for Bamian and a credit to the CRIB 19 training team.

Life in Do Abe is changing rapidly

for the local people. China has recently acquired the mining rights for the coal in Khamard district and plan to build a large power station in the area. The effects of this have been evident in the last few weeks as the old mines start to be closed down and the work force laid off. Suffice to say KT1 and KT3 have been busy keeping a lid on rising tensions as well as denying insurgents the ability to operate within our area.

Do Abe is dusty, fly ridden, stinking hot and pretty unsanitary. But, its home. It changes everyday, we get to live amongst the local population, there is never a dull moment and there's no place we would rather be. I continue to be impressed by the way our soldiers interact with the local population, make the best of all situations, and get up and over what can only be described as some fairly serious mountain ranges.

Cheers from Kiwi Team 1 to all our friends and whanau. We will be home soon.



The Bazaar – where it all happens...



The best view in town



Us and the PQRF working together

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

"JUST TAKE IT!"

**Corporal Matt
Command Post NCO**

"The routine is set and we go about our daily business, just waiting for the opportunity to yell our motto at some unfortunate person who has got their hands full".

This operations cell first came together during our pre-deployment training and we hit it off straight away. During this phase, we had a couple of radios to work with, along with some laptops. We worked well during the 5 week training and I thought, "Sweet, we got this in the bag."

Warrant Officer Class One, Awesome, and bar Dumps, and I, set off on our great crusade with the advance party, arriving in the latter half of March. After our

informative intro into Kiwi Base our next stop was the Command Post.

What I saw next knocked me off my feet (which is no mean feat given I am one lanky individual). To put it mildly my eyes sunk to the back of my head and my tongue rolled onto the floor. Here I was thinking we would have some radios, laptops and a phone here or there. WRONG. We had radios everywhere, more laptops and monitors than you could shake a stick at, and phones going off left, right and centre. My predecessors just sat there looking at me with the hugest grins on their faces. What I took for outright chaos, was in actual fact, an organised and quiet day in the Command Post.

After receiving my mind-numbing handover, I set to work establishing the routine I would use for the remainder of my tour, while awaiting for Captain Dan and Lance Corporal Dizz to arrive.

When they arrived in country we explained how things were progressing and what our ups and downs had been so far in the way

of communications and operations. It was at this point that our cell motto was introduced when I had finished my intro (one of pure flapping) and Captain Dan calmly said to me (with the faintest hint of a smile) "Just Take It." From then on, if something unexpected happened, if the Command Post went into overdrive you would always hear someone from the Ops Cell "JUST TAKE IT."

Three months down, three to go and the CP is working like a team that has been together for years (in full battle against the zombie apocalypse).

The routine is set and we go about our daily business, just waiting for the opportunity to yell our motto at some unfortunate person who has got their hands full.

Captain Dan, Operations Officer – CRIB 20

Nice summary of the first half of the tour there Corporal Matt, I do remember, with some pride, establishing our "Just take it" motto. As the tour continues, we will build on this and ensure that while professionalism takes priority that this is balanced with a continuum of morale and the normal soldier coping mechanism in the form of "piss taking" as we, (on behalf of the Commanding Officer and RSM) run this world.

To the families back home, the operations shop or better known as the Command Post, is a slick well oiled machine when the Padre or the Doc aren't messing with our chi. And even then its still some sort of freaky elite whirling vortex of awesomeness.

To our loved ones at home, see you in a short three months with our allowances to burn and places to travel – to my significantly better half, you know where – book those tickets!



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

A GRAMMAR LESSON

The CRIB 20 Medical Team, Bamyan, Afghanistan

The CRIB medical team is patrol medics Jacinda, Emma and Kelly, senior medic Gareth, nurse Dave and myself.

We care for PRT staff if they are injured or sick, and we help them not get sick by monitoring hygiene, water quality and pests like rats and mosquitoes. We teach first aid. We liaise with local Afghan health workers and also the large American hospital in Bagram.

We have also all learnt secondary duties. Patrol medics drive trucks; I am learning how to talk to aircraft, our nursing officer seems to have become a storeman. We take our turn at radio watch.

Being in Bamyan is an education about war. Mud brick rubble from the time of Alexander lies beside rusting Russian armour. In the dry climate ancient cities destroyed thousands of years ago look little different to the Bamian bazaar the Taliban destroyed just before Kiwis arrived.

Like the landscape, the people are scarred by war. Thirty years of conflict left injuries all but unknown in New Zealand - some of their war wounds are obvious, psychological wounds less so. Then there are diseases that follow wars, rarely seen at home, like tuberculosis.

One of the awkward things for any medical professional is NOT treating people. We are here to help the locals create a sustainable health system – so the people of Bamyan will still receive medical care once the PRT leaves. If we run our own clinics in competition with local health hospitals, we undermine them. So treatment for Afghans has to be by Afghans.

In the past CRIB medics faced the

huge task of helping rebuild local health care; and you can see where they have made a difference in areas like midwifery training. Now a 30 strong Malaysian medical team has joined the PRT, and they have taken the lead training and equipping the local health profession, and coordinating the medical charities that work here. We help the Malaysians when we can.

Both Kiwi and Malaysian medical teams have learnt we do more good by helping the Afghans build their own health system than by treating one or two people in need.

When New Zealanders arrived in Bamyan, a quarter of all children died under 5, life expectancy was barely 40, and Afghan mothers were more likely to die in childbirth than mothers in any other nation in the world.

This was because of a lack of health care, and a lack of knowledge. The Taliban believed that women should not be examined by men medically and they believed that women should not be educated so they could not treat each other. The Taliban imposed their beliefs by force. So a woman in childbirth stayed out of sight behind the colourful gate and mud brick walls of the family compound, and out of sight, mother and child lived or died there.

Now the Taliban have lost power. The Governor of Bamyan is a woman and a doctor. There is a midwifery training school. One of my predecessors helped set that up. In Bamyan provincial hospital there is a ward – really a two storey complex of wards - where doctors treat women and children. That was built by New Zealand and Singapore. Women are less likely to die in childbirth; babies are more likely to grow up. This has happened because the Taliban have been chased out of Bamyan

and insurgents kept at bay – because of security.

Security depends on more than Kiwi soldiers. It depends on the Afghan people wanting security, and the things government can give with security; like education, health, justice. The PRT helps the Afghan government build these.

Our training team is building up the Afghan security forces in Bamyan – not only in military tasks, but ethics and law – and soon our medical team will be teaching them how to teach first aid. Our legal officer helps train court staff; police in the PRT mentor local police. Education can help people learn enough about the world so they do not uncritically accept insurgent propaganda; past CRIBS' built schools, and in our spare time we help teach English.

One of my English classes is made up of university students - a generation who spent their childhood under Taliban rule. Under the Sunni Taliban, the predominately Shia people of Bamyan were viewed with suspicion - especially educated Shia. The Taliban destroyed two of the three Bamyan university buildings; the third they took over as a command post and officer's barracks. It was bombed to rubble as the Northern Alliance drove the them out of Bamyan.

Now there are new and better university buildings, and new students who want to learn about the rest of the world – students who come to learn English from English speakers in the PRT.

In one of our assignments I asked about their childhood.

Some students spoke of playing in the river, or with donkeys.

A short kid in his late teens and a colourful waist coat told me as a child he was jealous of his friends

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

shoes. His friend standing beside him laughed, and I looked at their feet. His friends shoes were still better. He wanted new shoes as a child, but couldn't afford them, because he was the oldest man in his family. He was the oldest man in his family, because one day the Taliban wanted to find his father. He was a toddler. His older brother was primary school age. When the Taliban came into his house, they asked his older brother where his father was. His brother wouldn't tell them, so Taliban shot him. Later the Taliban found his father.

Another young man stands out for his bright white clothes and for being 6 feet tall. That is unusual here. He told me he had been born nearby but grew up elsewhere. I asked him why he shifted. He said when the Taliban killed his parents,

he went to live with his father's brothers in a Yakawalang village. One day when he was out playing in the hills, the Taliban arrived and killed 300 people in that village. Including all four of his uncles. He walked over mountains to Waras and found a foster family. That was ten years ago. He says it matter of factly. A year ago he walked back to where he was born. He had come back to study. He says 'I learn to be teacher'. He pauses. 'But if the Taliban want return', he says, 'I may have to be soldier'.

Just like in health care, the people of Afghanistan can't rely on the PRT for ever, they have to learn how to protect themselves. Afghans, just like that student teacher, are taking responsibility for their own security, the responsibility of stopping insurgency bringing back anything like the Taliban.



We are here to help train them, so I correct his grammar. "I am learning to be a teacher..."



A member of the CRIB 20 Medical Team, with local children

NEWS FROM OP FARAD, SINAI

OUR ROTATION

"Now we are working in our respective trades, the days pass a little faster, and it's good to be doing what we came here for."

By the time this article is printed, we (Rotation 2/12) would have been in the Sinai for a month or thereabouts.

The road to getting here hasn't been short or easy. Op FARAD draws personnel from not just the Regular Force, but also the Territorial Force, Army, Air Force, and Navy. Through the various vetting criteria you wait and hope you have been accepted for evaluation. This is a week-long course that tests your ability as a driver and leaves you little room for errors, so you must bring your best game to play. This in turn, leads to yet another nail-biting episode as you wait to find out if you have been accepted to go, or placed on the reserve list.

For me, I was informed that I had been accepted late February; PDT would be in mid-April and we would deploy early May. This left a six week window to ensure that I'd have my kit sorted (SOE). Not only that, but also my home life too. My wife and daughter had to be prep'd for my departure and the fact I would be away for six months. Not so easy this time round. My home town, Christchurch, the shakie city! PDT was conducted in Trentham. It

would last a week, and was the first chance to meet the contingent, and the driving team with whom I will spend the next six months.

One last week at home, for all going, to sort out those last minute items, say your goodbyes to family and friends and off. This time no C130 for the flight (sorry Air Force), lady luck smiled down on us, Singapore Airlines from Christchurch and Auckland to Singapore. A 24-hour stopover allowed the whole contingent to meet up as one, and also allowed a last chance to get those items deemed "a must" for the tour. One more flight and we were in Cairo, Egypt.

Egypt! A few of the contingent members had been deployed before (Timor, Sinai, Afghanistan) and others had travelled in their own time overseas, but seeing the Egyptian style and attitude to driving left many a jaw to drop in amazement – of course accompanied by cheers from all watching the events unfold! The trip from Cairo to North Camp would take five hours with one rest stop just over the Peace Bridge (Suez Canal), and a short stop at check point 1 Bravo to collect our escorts, then North Camp for tea.

Time now to meet those already here, get set up in our rooms, and an introduction to the night life on offer in the camp. Accommodation is good. As my role is in the driving team our home is the Woolshed, a long building block sleeping 10 personnel. Basic layout – lounge, kitchen (basic) and toilet/shower/laundry room and 10 single person rooms with own power, internet access; Skype, calls home, YES!! The Patio is a similar style and

houses the training and Senior Sergeant, Staff Sergeant. The Warrant Officers and Officers have their own accommodation. Camp also has its own shop, the FX, a library, gym, movie theatre, swimming pool and sports fields. As mentioned earlier, there's a "night life". With about 10 contingents – NZ, Aust, USA, Fiji, Uruguayans and there's more – each one has its own bar, so somewhere to unwind after the week and meet different nationalities. A family round the world!

For us new-bees, work started the day after arrival. A week and a half of training for all the different branches in the contingent, drivers, admin, engineers and trainers, to be brought up to speed by those who have almost completed their rotation and were now looking forward to coming back to NZ.

Now we are working in our respective trades, the days pass a little faster, and it's good to be doing what we came here for. Speaking for the Drivers (sorry to the others) the days can be long and are hot. Add to that the body armour. In Egypt and Israel, we operate Mac semi's with 40ft trailers or Mac ridged water or fuel trucks. On the Egyptian side, the roads are poor, towns are congested. Road rules, well what are they?? Two in the cab, two sets of eyes!

But once in Israel, it's like being home. Good motorways and a good road network. They too have their wee quirks but still drive more like we're used to at home.

Dreams while here?? Like most we're looking forward to and hoping to take up the opportunities that are offered to us to sightsee in Egypt and Israel, Luxor, Cairo and Jerusalem – to name just a few, but while in this part of the world, can't let the chance go by.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

NEWS FROM OP RATA II (15) , SOLOMON ISLANDS

LUKIM IU MOA FROM OP RATA II 15

Lieutenant Joey Amos

Operation Rata II (15) in the Solomon Islands continues to tick along like clockwork with the Platoon from 2/1st Battalion and the National Support Element (NSE) combining to great effect in their respective roles within Combined Task Force 635 (CTF635). So, I will tell you a little about what the platoon and the NSE have been up to.

The Platoon has spent the majority of the last month conducting individual professional and personal development whilst on QRF. This has provided some great training opportunities to refresh basic soldier skills, such as weapon strip and assembly whilst blind folded. In addition, there has been valuable jungle training conducted under the guidance of Warrant Officer Class Two Pani Hoia. This skill set is vital if we are to perform creditably in the Pacific

region, and the Solomon Islands is ideal for this, because of its dense jungle and humid climate. This deployment has also provided a great training ground for our young Platoon Commander, Second Lieutenant Dan Aldridge. His positive can-do attitude has assisted greatly in the development of the Platoon on both a personal and professional level.

Personal PT has also been high on the agenda, with "mass gains" being made across the Platoon. The soldiers compliment their daily PT sessions with their own training in the evenings in the well equipped gym we have here. The recent All Blacks vs Ireland matches, as well as the State of Origin tussles, have given the lads a good opportunity to gather in the mess for some coke, chips and good times. The Chief of the Defence Force, Lieutenant General Rhys Jones visited us recently and he was welcomed with a rousing Haka by the contingent. The Platoon also provided a demonstration of their field training

and public order management (POM) skills. In addition to this, 2LT Dan Aldridge provided an insightful presentation on the Battle of Henderson Airfield to the CDFs entourage, recounting one of the largest battles in the Guadalcanal Campaign during World War II.

The NSE is made up of people, some of whom have a sole NZ contingent role, and there are others who have a dual role requiring them to attend NZ contingent support duties as well as perform duties for the Combined Task Force. For example, Captain Rod Masters is not only the OC of the NSE coordinating all NZ support of the NZ contingent but he is also the S35 for the CTF where he is responsible for coordinating the CTFs use of air and maritime support to ensure the CTF as a whole can undertake its training programme. On the other hand, Sergeant Robyn Stewart looks after the New Zealand contingents communications requirements and Sergeant Rose Lind attends to the NZ contingents personnel admin.

There is never a dull moment with Signaller Colin Mundell, who in addition to maintaining communication and information systems, also ensures the Kiwi



Private Darryl Hallinan admires the array of ordnance that is left over from World War II and disposed of at Hells Point in Honiara



The Kiwi Platoon put their skills and equipment to the test in a challenging environment during jungle training in Guadalcanal

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



Second Lieutenant Dan Aldridge provides an on the ground analysis of the Battle of Henderson Airfield to the CDF, Lieutenant General Rhys Jones



The New Zealand Platoon go off-road during jungle training in Guadalcanal. Bridge access in the Solomon Islands is often limited, requiring some Kiwi ingenuity to make it home for dinner



Sergeant Robyn Stewart and Private Darryl Hallinan take the opportunity to visit an artillery emplacement position near Tulaghi in the Florida Islands

NAAFI is stocked up with tasty treats for movie-nights.

In the stores area, we have Warrant Officer Class Two Grahame Bland, who has recently arrived to takeover as the logistics coordinator, and has slotted in with ease. Although of British ancestry, he has adapted well to life in the Kiwi contingent. He is aptly assisted by Lance Corporal Shan Haronga, a hard worker who does a great job to ensure the New Zealand contingent get the stores they require.

Padre Chris Haines has been doing sterling work – he is not only the padre for the Kiwis, he is also the padre for the whole contingent – Aussies, Tongans, and Papua New Guineans. And, there is Major Syd Dewes who was recently welcomed in as the our New Zealand

contingent Commander, Senior National Officer and also the Deputy Commander of the CTF 635.

June has also been a busy month for the people of the Solomon Islands.

The Oceania Football Confederations Nations Cup Competition was hosted here in Honiara, and although the favoured All Whites didn't bring home the gold, the tournament was still a great success. The Kiwi contingent provided indirect support, watching as many games as they could on the local television station.

In July the Solomon Islands will host the 11th annual Festival of the Pacific Arts over the period 01 – 14 July. This is the largest event to be held in the Solomon Islands, and

promises to be a very festive celebration of the diversity of cultures in the Pacific. There is a delegation coming from NZ and we look forward to meeting up with them. The big event however will be the change over of the NZ platoons – those going home are looking forward to that and the NSE staff who will remain for a further two months are envious.

“Lukim iu moa”

Pigin for

See you later!

NEWS FROM OP TROY, BAGRAM, AFGHANISTAN

GETTING THE JOB DONE

Captain Denis Petre
OP TROY, Afghanistan

Three months into a short six month tour and it is flying fast and work is steady in BAF for the NZ NSE. Six months isn't a long time by comparison to what the US Army is doing in Afghanistan. 12 or nine months for them, doing the hard yards, taking the lead for

offensive operations in the most dangerous parts of Afghanistan and keeping the insurgents from the Taliban, Haqqani Network and Al Qaeda at bay. It seems they are putting fallen soldiers on planes back home every other day.

The US Forces have 28000 Soldiers, Airmen and Seamen posted here on BAF, and they are well equipped with all the latest technology and toys to get their respective jobs done. While the

NSE drives round and completes our daily tasks in a mismatch of various civilian vehicles and the occasional Hummer, we have to keep a look out for the true kings of the roads here, the various MRAP (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicles that the US security forces drive around. The largest being the \$475,000 17.2 ton Force Protection Inc Cougar. Imagine a Hummer but bigger with more grunt and better technology. The best thing about them is the remote gun station, where a soldier remotely controls a weapon station from inside the vehicle, negating the requirement to have a gunner exposed to IED or gunfire out of a top hatch.

NEWS FROM GYRO 13, TIMOR-LESTE

THE FLYING AIR HERCULES

Hercules C130 flights are a real military privilege - this is due to the fact that they are more often grounded than not, and to be fair, the Air Force do a brilliant job keeping such antiquity in the air.

A Herc tap always enhances the experience of deployment, so for those of you who haven't had the chance yet, and for family reading back home, I'll try to explain the joys of flying in a C130.

Maneuvering your way in the belly of the Herc after climbing aboard from the blazing Darwin tarmac is always entering the unknown, as the Herc Loadies like to surprise you with different seating and luggage configurations. You stumble into your seat as your eyes adjust, then check who you have sat next to, hoping it's not the WO whose good graces you have recently fallen out of.

The seatbelt. This obstacle separates the frequent flyers from the Herc first timers, who are still bewildered that the flimsy looking red webbing is actually the seat. The seatbelt contraption (there's no better way to explain it) is a tell tale giveaway exposing the Herc virgins. After a snicker or two from those seated opposite, someone will take pity, giving a familiarisation course on seatbelt operation.

The next experience is the noise. Usually this indicates imminent take off, but this is a Herc and assumptions like that are purely assumptions.

The funny thing with the Herc is that take-off is not a sudden lunge into the air, with the feel of G-force created by pure power against gravity (a la the Air Force's gutsy little boeings). Instead the whole runway process involves stopping yourself slipping sideways in your

webbing seat and trying to figure out if you're actually in the air yet.

I'm no expert, but it's fun to think that the transition from ground to air is so smooth because the Herc is that fat, slow and happy, that it goes no faster in the air than it does on the tarmac.

If fortunate enough to have a view through the few bread-plate sized windows, you'll find yourself looking down at the same piece of land wondering, "How slow are we going?!?". All the while trying to stay upright in the webbing which has been worn smooth by many previous pairs of DPM trousers.

Then the pilot banks right towards his designated flight route. This is not a graceful turn with wingtips outstretched, reaching towards land and sky as a smooth right arc is drawn in the air...No, this is more like the listing of an unbalanced cargo ship. Whoops! Another right list and we're on target.

The slipping has subsided and the flight crew move confidently around the plane/ship doing their flight checks. I wonder if they find it off-

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

putting as the eyes of every first timer and nervous flyer are trained on them, waiting for the slightest sign of panic or confusion on the crew's faces.

The Herc crew have small flashlights which they use to peruse the many looms of wiring throughout the cargo/passenger hold, the wiring looking more arcane than electrical. What are they looking for? The crew seem happy so the nervous types can relax a little and get in to the important business of being bored.

The boredom. The boredom is not alleviated by chatting with your mates, it's too noisy for that. Ear protection is a must when flying Air Hercules, the noise will drive you mad - which would be great news for the Psych officers on the flight.

The boredom is lessened by the long awaited announcement that, "It is now safe to use electronic equipment". At least that's what we think he said, and out come the iPads, MP3 players and laptops. Make sure they are all fully charged for the flight, because there is no little light to turn on if you want to read a book.

Strolling down the aisle isn't really an option either, as passenger legs

overlook to look like weaving and the cargo rollers down the length of the isle make negotiating the wobbling ship best left to the sure-footed cargo crew. If your power does run out on your lap top, just be grateful you're only flying to Dilli and not headed for Afghanistan.

There are many rumours circulating about our Hercs. I heard two other countries wanted to do a swap just to put our Hercs on display in museums, one of those was even willing to swap with a C-17. True or not, the Hercules Lifetime Extensions will ensure this wonderful experience is part of deployments and exercises for another decade or so.

Well done to the Air Force mechanics and avionics techs who tape the Hercs together, and in doing so provide the other services an endless supply of defamatory Air Force jokes.

The "Four Fans of Freedom" is our ticket home, taking us back to our loved ones. It's what the family wait for in anticipation at the Air Base.

The quirky, nuggety C130 Hercules, always reliably broken, always the worst flight you'll have... and the best.



GYRO 13 *"Lucky for Some"*

Major Tim Tuatini
OC GYRO 13

Time is definitely moving forward for our team here in Timor-Leste. As a group, we are still getting on with each other very well and the routine of work here is now habit. Our weekday starts at 0630 with PT usually a physical but rewarding activity (when its over), and then our crew disperses to their work areas post breakfast to complete their daily tasks.

The HQ or National Command Element (NCE) is usually moving back and forth across Dili to attend various meetings or generally work with the specialist areas within the Australian HQ based at Camp Phoenix some 20 minutes away (usually travelled at 15kph). A number of our team are living and working there so they help us navigate the bureaucracy that is always prevalent in a higher HQ. This is where the approvals for our activities later in the tour are gained, always a bit of lobbying with our Aussie counterparts required. We also need to maintain our comms, which usually means our sigs guys need to fix, as well look after, the various computers and specialist items in the NZ area of our camp or HPOD. The NCE is also where our medic, PTI, S1 (a very popular individual because he is the paymaster and leave guru) and firemen/rescue work from.

The Security Platoon (Infantry)



The 'quirky, nuggety' C130 Hercules

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

work for the ANZAC Coy and rotate through a number of tasks as laid down by their ops room. They are currently based at the other end of HPOD in an area called Tiger Lines as the Quick Reaction Force (QRF). The nature of this task means that they have to fairly much remain in the HPOD on call so there isn't a lot of flexibility there. That said they have made the best of the situation with some very good training, participating in the sports competitions and being a part of our NZ activities. They will be shortly moving to another camp near the airport as they rotate through their tasks.

The Protected Mobility Vehicles (PMV) or our drivers from 3 CSSB are based permanently in Tiger Lines. They are responsible for the armoured vehicles that would be used in an adverse situation and are also on call. This can be a frustrating role as the team are limited to where they can go by an operationally imposed time limit, however, they are making the most of the situation and conducting vehicle training within the HPOD as well as using the sports, PT and other opportunities to vary their day as well as get outside the wire.

The Combat Service Support Team (CSST) or the 'loggies', are always busy as they tend to have to fix (electronics, vehicles, weapons), supply and sort as well. They have a good working relationship with their equivalent Aussie CSST which helps us get or loan everything from buses to ammo. This group is also responsible for manning the security positions in the HPOD if we have to lock the camp down.

We are currently planning our patrol to SUAI in the COVA LIMA District. This is a patrol that is undertaken by all GYROs to revisit the area where we were first based during 1999 – 2004. There are a number of memorials erected in the



A Group of Kiwis, Aussies and Timorese Military personnel working together to recover a vehicle



The PMV all kitted out with their LOVs ready to roll out

District, in remembrance of both NZ and other Nations soldiers that served under the NZ Battalions, that lost their lives in TL during that period. One group will travel down to SUAI by road to set up and the remainder will travel by helicopter. We will use this time to conduct some maintenance on these

memorials as well as perform services in their memory. We are conscious that we may be the last group that will visit them for some time, so we need to preserve their sites for the future. This is an activity that will involve most if not all of our group and is keenly looked forward to.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

We also have a number of training opportunities coming up, the positive being that because of our relative small size we are able to offer some of this training to all of the team. Often these opportunities would not be possible in NZ because the areas that many work in would not have access to specialist instructors, weapons or equipment.

Its not all 'nose to the grindstone' with the whole group regularly getting together to watch State of Origin, the All Blacks, or attend an activity run by our 'awesome' social committee. Where we can, we try to get out of the wire on PT or R&R with a few of the team already managing to walk up Mount Ramalau, (TL highest feature) visit one of the outlying islands and fly around Timor by helicopter.

In closing, GYRO 13 remains settled and happy in our area here in Timor. Individuals are working on achieving their own goals, be they in the gym, with the guitar, the



PE at the Jesus Statue

range shooting or trying to win at cards. The upcoming Election period has meant some necessary changes in our routine and slight reassessment of what we want to achieve, but all is manageable. News from home, mail and

communication, be it computer or phone is always welcome and a highlight. To all at home, you remain in our thoughts and be assured that GYRO 13 is safe and well.

Regards.

Overseas Deployments

New Zealand has a history of contributing to international efforts to resolve conflict. The NZ Defence Force is a valued international coalition partner committed to peace and security, and regularly works alongside international partners on operations and exercises throughout the world.

It is in New Zealand's interests to play a leadership role in the South Pacific, acting in concert with our neighbours, helping to maintain stability, enhance regional security capabilities, and promote good governance and economic and social development .

The NZ Defence Force supports a number of major operations around the world including:

- Sustainment of personnel in support of operations in Afghanistan.
- Continuing operations in Timor-Leste in support of the International Stabilisation Force (ISF).
- Continuing operations in the Solomon Islands in support of the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI).
- Sustainment of personnel in support of United Nations missions around the world.

There are currently **328** New Zealand Defence Force personnel deployed on **14** operations and UN missions across **12** countries.

POSTCARDS FROM ABROAD

Defence Communications Group

Postcard from Dili, Timor-Leste

By Commander Andrew Nuttall,
Senior National Officer NZ

As I sit here at my desk, I ponder how a naval logistics officer like myself has become second in command of what is effectively an Army mission (and an Anzac one at that) in Timor-Leste. I subsequently realise that in the military, we often move around and work with different teams in different environments, hence the need to be flexible.

I arrived in Dili, Timor-Leste's capital, in early January 2012 for a six-month deployment. I was previously posted here in 2003 for about eight months. At that time, the United Nations had over 2000 uniformed personnel from 15 countries who were assigned peacekeeping duties throughout the country. This time around, the military force is limited to about 460 Kiwis and Aussies (the Anzacs) and together, we constitute the International Stabilisation Force. We have been here with about

900 UN police officers since 2007 on the invitation of the Timor-Leste government.

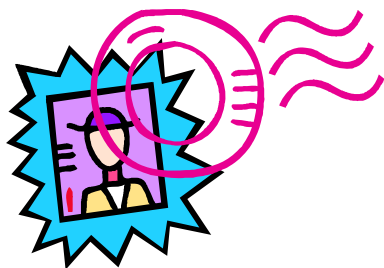
Since coming back, I have noticed a considerable change in Dili, especially amongst its people. Timor-Leste regained its independence only 10 years ago, and the people have played a pivotal role in their nation's young history. The Timorese people may be small in stature (at 176cm, I tower over many Timorese) but never underestimate their hardiness and their perseverance. Whilst my day-to-day duties do not allow me to engage with the locals to any great degree, their determination to move on from the past and create a bright future for their country is self-evident.

I am a member of the "Phoenix Fliers", a social (in Army-speak, that means non-compulsory) running group from Camp Phoenix that pounds through the streets of Dili just after sunrise three days a week. The challenges we encounter during these runs are similar to those I faced way back in 2003. We have to dodge potholes, dogs, taxis (all taxis here are painted yellow like New York's iconic cabs) and stray pigs and chickens.



I find the Timorese people just as friendly and welcoming as before. Everywhere we go, we are greeted "Bom Dia" (Portuguese for "good morning"). "Malai, malai" (which roughly means foreigner), the kids cry out as we weave through the streets of Dili, huffing and puffing.

Walking around Dili, people greet me "Giddy Aussie" or "Kia Ora, bro," proof that New Zealand and Australia have made a positive and, more importantly, lasting impression here. I have enjoyed my second tour and am pleased at the progress that this small and enthusiastic island nation of 1.2 million people has made. Hopefully, I will be able to return someday.



Postcard from Dili, Timor-Leste

By Contingent Medic Olivia Sheeran

Whilst it is important to start the race, what ultimately counts is that we finish it. These pearls of wisdom came to mind when we ran a 19-kilometre course during our recent physical training session.

On 5 April, we rose at first light in Kiwi lines. I am not sure whether I was more excited than anxious but I spent 45 minutes to psyche myself up for what lay ahead. The run had been in the pipeline

since the start of our tour last November and we had gradually prepared for it.

At 05:45, we set off from the Helicopter Point of Departure base towards the Cristo Rei of Dili, the 27-metre tall statue of Jesus which can be reached by climbing some 500 steps. Winning was out of the question as CPL Daniel Atkinson was way ahead of the pack from the start. I was in the middle in the first half of the race and posed for some photos while taking a brief but welcome respite at the top of the Cristo Rei steps.

In the second half of the race, I was initially ahead of CDR Andrew Nuttall, Senior National Officer of the New Zealand military contingent in Timor-Leste. But he eventually outran me to finish sixth overall, clocking 2hrs 4mins 3secs. I finished eighth overall and was the first female participant across the finish line with a time of 2hrs 5mins 48secs.

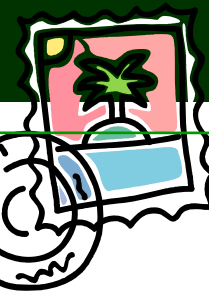
I felt a sense of achievement completing



that 19-kilometre run. It also helped me prepare for the third "Dili—City of Peace" half marathon on 12 May 2012, the final challenge I set for myself before returning to New Zealand.

There is a saying which goes like this: Many have a good beginning but few have a good ending. My hope is that I finish well.

POSTCARDS FROM ABROAD



Postcard from Sinai, Egypt

By Leading Writer Monique Jellick

Kia ora Navy whanau. I'm nearing the end of my time here in Sinai and I thought I'd write home to let you know what I've been up to in the last six months. My tour of duty has introduced me to different cultures and different ways of working, and has enabled me to realise a long-cherished dream to visit Jerusalem.

They look after the troops here and organise weekend tours around Egypt and Israel. I've been so lucky to see the Pyramids of Giza, the Great Sphinx, the Valley of the Kings (a valley in Egypt where tombs were constructed for the pharaohs and powerful nobles from the 16th to the 11th century B.C.) and Sharm el-Sheikh (a city on the southern tip of the Sinai peninsula where a large number of international peace conferences have been held).

Our celebrations to mark Waitangi Day greatly impressed our multinational guests, who included members of the Multinational Force and Observers from

Canada, Australia, Norway and the United States. The new rotation of Kiwis had just arrived then and had to quickly learn our haka and waiata. For dinner, the men prepared hangi while the women made fried bread.

The highlight of my tour was the day I spent on board ITS SENTINELLA, the Italian Navy's Offshore Patrol Vessel, when it was berthed in Sharm el-Sheikh. Being a Navy personnel, I was given a private tour.

Another highlight was the visit to Jerusalem. It was a long-cherished dream of mine to visit the old city. We saw the star inside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre which marks the traditional spot where the cross of Jesus was planted. We blessed our rosaries on the Stone of Anointing, which is believed to be the spot where Jesus' body was prepared for burial. We also saw his tomb. We chomped on a shawarma sandwich as we wandered round the quarters and shops of the old city. At the Western Wall (or the Wailing Wall), I placed a note into a crevice in the wall ("hope springs eternal," as you may well know). We took care to observe local customs when we visited the

Western Wall. The men wore kippas to cover their

heads and we walked backwards away from the wall when we departed. On the way home, we stopped at McDonald's for lunch and learnt a lesson on Jewish food culture – meat and dairy products are not mixed in meals. If you want a cheeseburger, you have to order cheese separately.

Working with the Army required some initial adjustments but I adapted quickly. We have compulsory Anzac Physical Training (PT) three times a week with Australian PT Instructors. One of the most challenging is what we call the "Battle PT", which involves doing a leopard crawl (or crawling on your chest) through the sand, swimming and tyre running while wearing our DPMs or camouflage field uniform. All in all, I've had an amazing tour, seen so many wonderful places and met loads of awesome people from different countries. I'm excited to come home but I will be very sad to leave this place and all my Sinai friends.

Postcard from Sinai, Egypt

By Petty Officer Kirstin Watt

"As-Salamu Alaykum" (an Arabic greeting which literally means "Peace be upon you"). I arrived here in early February and I can't believe the first part of my deployment is already gone. It seemed only last weekend when we joined the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) and were welcomed warmly by the New Zealand contingent. How time flies!

Having been briefed during our pre-deployment training about the instability in Egypt in recent months, I braced myself to expect the unexpected. In my first three months, protesters often gathered at the gates of the MFO compound, burning tyres and putting up roadblocks. Finding alternate routes to accomplish our tasks could be frustrating. But during those times, the famous Kiwi "can-do" attitude rose to the occasion without fail.

I enjoy working with the Green Machine

(aka. the Army). We often engage in a friendly inter-service banter and I kindly remind them which is the senior service. Of course, there are things I learnt in the Navy which have totally different meanings in other services. For example, an IPC stands for Initial Planning Conference, not an Inshore Patrol Craft as we know in the Navy.

The MFO is comprised of uniformed personnel from 12 nations. New Zealand, for its part, has a 28-strong contingent, which is relatively small compared to the Columbians or the Fijians. The Kiwis though are pretty well-known around the camp; the Egyptian workers call us "kiwi kiwi" when they see us in the Mess or at the Foreign Exchange. And there is always some activity to foster camaraderie, like salsa dancing with the Columbians or pizza nights on Tuesdays. In March, I visited the Egyptian town of Taba for the weekend. Taba is the location of Egypt's busiest border crossing with Israel and is a favourite weekend getaway for Egyptians and tourists. From Taba, I drove across to Israel's southernmost

city of Eliat for some shopping and could not help but notice the sharp contrast between the two countries. Egypt, which is only 10 minutes away (excluding the 40 minutes it takes to walk 200 meters from the border), has many unfinished buildings. In contrast, Israel has very modern infrastructure.

It was an honour to take part in the Anzac day ceremony in Jerusalem. The war memorial cemetery is impressive and I felt a whiff of Anzac pride as I stood alongside our Australian MFO colleagues. We recently welcomed Rotation 2-12 and said goodbye to Rotation 4-11. I have made some fantastic friends over the past three months and I feel sad to bid them goodbye. On the other hand, I am looking forward to making more friends and seeing the Pyramids of Giza and the historical city of Petra in Jordan, which the BBC had described as one of the 40 places you have to see before you die. I would recommend this deployment to anyone considering it. Many Army drivers have been deployed here more than once and I can fully understand why.

CHAPLAIN'S PEN — FROM ABROAD

ALMOST HALF WAY!

James Molony
Padre CRIB 20

Half way through at last, it sure is good to have more days stacking up behind us than in front! Temperatures are slowly creeping up; soon we will be into the full heat of summer. It's quite amazing how the landscape has changed since we have been here, when we first arrived there was no green... anywhere, the trees were just sticks, and the land bare dirt! Within a few weeks there was some colour starting to show; now the valleys look lush, the fields of potatoes and wheat are thriving, and the trees are covered in a thick layer of green leaves.

The harvest season will start in just a few weeks. It really is a place of extremes, and although at times the people may appear backward, they sure know how to survive here and have done so for a thousand or more years.

To keep us all sharp, alert and operationally focused, both bases have started sports on a Friday afternoon, this is normally followed by a BBQ, which reminds us a little bit of home...and summer, (without the beer and wine). Last Friday the

were some big hits coming from the CRIB lads.



For us the deployment is almost half way through and we all have to keep the momentum going to achieve our goals and contribute to the CRIB mission. We are all well and truly accustomed to things now and it's becoming quite apparent what a short space of time six months really is.

Soon you will have the chance to attend the mid tour briefs. The various units have been having a lot fun putting together - 'THE BEST MID TOUR VIDEO EVER!' -

OC Kiwi Company. It will be a good insight into life on this deployment and well worth the effort to get along and watch.

Don't forget the welfare networks that are available if things are not going so well, this is the stage of the tour where cracks can start to appear and with three months still to go it can feel like an eternity. There is a lot of truth to the saying, 'A problem shared is a problem halved', and we have these networks in place solely for your benefit.

Till next time, God Bless.



sport was Dodge Ball, the game is simple — you smash the opposing team with volley balls, and try to avoid them smashing you (see the movie). There were some epic battles, with our Malaysian comrades pulling off some ninja type moves to impress the crowds and avoid getting hit, and there



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

THE 'BOSS' COMES TO TOWN

Padre Chris Haines
GBR Guadalcanal

Well 'Home Team'...it's not everyday the 'Boss' comes to town. At least not when you're New Zealand Defence Force personnel and deployed in the Solomon Islands! However, early this June the Kiwi Contingent here on Guadalcanal, had the pleasure of welcoming, and hosting for a few days, the Chief of New Zealand Defence Force, Lieutenant General Rhys Jones.

The General was welcomed onto the Base by our Senior National Officer, Major Syd Dewes and the Combined Task force Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Campbell Smith, (ADF), along with all three military contingents on base and members of the various police forces as well. Of course the main event of our welcome was a spectacular Haka created especially for the occasion and

performed by the Kiwi platoon and support element.

During the next few days, our boss familiarized himself with 'on the ground' details of our mission here in the Solomon's; spent time painting the big NZDF picture for the whole Kiwi contingent, including giving us some 'snap shots' of possible future military developments that would allow us to continue to be the best small nation Defence Force in the world; he also took extra time to engage with both Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers in a relaxed setting, both articulating his vision and making further opportunity for our questions.

The General was taken on an hour long 'chopper' flight, gaining an appreciation of the countryside here on Guadalcanal as well as being given a bird's eye view of our Jungle and grassland training areas. He and his team were then landed on the live firing range to inspect 2 Section of the Kiwi platoon, shooting and then

performing a 'Public Order Management' training exercise. When given the opportunity to fire a few rounds through the sections combat shotgun...the 'boss' proved himself to be a really good shot!!!



*Chief of Defence Force prepares to fire the NZDF combat shotgun
Left to Right: Warrant Officer of the Defence Force., Chief of Defence Force, and Corporal John Pokai*

LT GEN Rhys Jones visited us here on Guadalcanal as a last stop on an already extensive, (and I'm sure exhausting) schedule, before returning to NZ. We found him to be genuinely interested in our thoughts and opinions...regardless of rank, articulate and very patient when questioned, forthright and trusting in his answers...composed and able to relax amongst his troops. We hope he was able to enjoy his visit with us as much as we valued the time that he and his team made available to us...thanks 'boss'.

Here on GBR, our mission continues. Most of us are well and truly acclimatized now and will absolutely freeze when we get home! Coming home...wow! That time is racing up the weeks to meet us! Most of us will only be about a month away from returning to New Zealand when you get to read this copy of "The 'Bugle'". Hope you have the fire lit...Brrrrr. We have all seen pictures of the snow!



Lieutenant General Rhys Jones is welcomed onto Guadalcanal by the New Zealand Contingent with a Haka led by Corporal Nate Waititi (Centre)

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

Over the last few weeks the Kiwi platoon has been back on 'Quick Reaction Force' duty and once again they have raised the bar by their super fast response times during 'test' emergency call outs! These guys are 'Awesome'...you can all be proud of the way they do their job!

Please keep us in your hearts, thoughts and prayers as we move into this final phase of our time here in the Solomon's. Like all military deployments, there are the enemies of frustration, boredom and missing home to deal with... even when no one is shooting at you! We all want to come home knowing that we weren't defeated by any of them...so please continue with the amazing support you have given us all so far...it's more important than you might think.

Always remember you are very missed and thought of every day... so until the next "Bugle"...and last one from me...Heaps of Love and a Big Hug for each one of you...from the Kiwi Team here on Guadalcanal.

On behalf of the Team – Padre Chris Haines

'WALK IT OUT'

Padre Jonathon Holland
TG GYRO 13

Anthony Platt is a DJ that is commonly known as Unk. DJ Unk is famous for his smash-hit, 'Walk It Out'. Every time I begin my walk to visit the contingent of GYRO 13 here in the H-POD the lyrics to Unks' song start chiming in my head, "Now walk it out, now walk it out, now walk it out, now walk it out". It just means that when I start walking, I can't resist swaying my head and moving my shoulders to the tempo as my swagger beats the metal pavement as to resemble a somewhat amateurish dougie. I don't think anyone has had the misfortune of witnessing this but if they did I'm sure their vocal chords burst into a hysterical mode of laughter. Hey, that's what part of my job is, isn't it, to boost morale?

As I venture each day with different intentions, sometimes to have a jam on the gat with the infantry brothers, maybe to take a few photos for our "Bugle" contributions, to watch the Origin or the All Blacks, for a visit, or a gym session, I am reminded of what the Prophet Isaiah announced, "How beautiful upon the mountains are

the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things..." That is what we do as Chaplains.

We walk, and then we talk, well that's how the Prophet put it. The Chaplains willingness to go where the soldiers are is what makes us effective.

It has been over a month already and I have clocked up several kilometres by simply taking Unks advice to "Walk it out". It is always a Chaplains joy to work amongst it all, to feel a part of the team and yet, still be available to provide that outside assistance when required. All of which may not ever happen if those two appendages called legs that are connected to my waist did not function in a positive fashion. If they stayed constantly as they are now, stuck under a desk, a career change to I.T. may be a strong consideration. As it is though, I have a guitar lesson in about 10 mins and it's time to get my walk on. I can hear Unk already, my shoulders are getting ready to move and my feet are ready to engage the metal pathway. It's time to 'Walk it out'. Blessings from TG GYRO 13 "Lucky for some".

A SOLDIERS' PRAYER

*Dear Lord, please bless our soldiers, protectors of our land.
Servants called to battle when our country takes a stand.*

*Please give them strength and courage and hearts that will forgive.
With peace and understanding in a world for all to live.*

*Our country's prayers are with them no matter where they roam.
Please listen when they're lonely and return them safely home.*

(John Kleimin, 1984)

CHAPLAIN'S PEN — FROM HOME

COPING WITH GRIEF AND THE GRIEF CYCLE

Padre Rewai Te Kahu

"I have been thinking ..." about grief and the grief cycle —

What would have happened if the All Blacks had lost on Saturday night? Grief would be rampant amongst some of the male population of New Zealand. But you know grief is universal and grieving is the normal response to loss.

Grief can be brought about by many things; the loss for your favourite sports team, a change in work or life circumstance, a change in your health, a separation in the family unit due to relationship break ups or due to training and/or operational requirements, like deployments, and then there is also the impact of death. At some point in our lives we all have to face loss and then work through the grief cycle.

So what's the grief cycle I hear you ask? According to Kubler-Ross' model there are five stage to the cycle; denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. Let me explain further:

Denial — this is normally the first response to the news of loss or a crisis. People may respond by saying "this can't be happening to me" or "I feel fine"

Anger — often an overwhelming emotion response like "why me", "how can this be happening", or "who is to blame"

Bargaining — here one may try and find a way out of the crisis or situation. You may hear statements like "I give away my savings if..." or "I'll be a better person if..."

Depression — here reality has set in, comments like "I'm so sad, why bother with anything", "the team will never win so...", indicates that people are in the depressed stage.

One key point to remember in this stage is that it is natural to feel a range of emotions like sadness, regret, fear and uncertainty.

Acceptance — here the person has found a way through and can move forward. Comments like "it's going to be okay"

Kubler-Ross stages are not complete or chronological and not everyone will experience every stage but it does give us an insight as to some of the things some people are working through in their grief.

So what do we do in those times where we do not know what to say or do when someone is going through the grief cycle? Well, people are very resilient and work their way through their grief to discover healing or a way forward.

May I offer a few options for us as a means to help people we know or in the times when we ourselves are in the grip of grief?

1. Understand that grief is a normal emotion response to loss.
2. Grief is a cycle, people may be at different stages.
3. People can move back and forward through the stages of the grief cycle.
4. Help can come from different places. This can be in the form of building faith, social relationships to more professional support i.e. God (Psalm 91:1, 4), friends and family, work mates, MO, Chaplains and field psych.

Here is some '**Actions On**' when dealing with grief:

- * Take time to listen or talk through what is going on (grief and grieving is normal).
- * Practical support; give and receive practical help (this

can let people know that they are not alone).

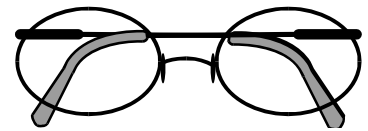
- * Seek out support (get some professional support if you are finding that you are having difficulties in one or more of the stages).

Can I close with the following from Ps 91 "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most high will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield"

Well that's what "I have been thinking" about

God Bless and keep well.

Can you
raed this?



I cdnuolt blveiee that I cluod
aulaclty uesdnatnrd what I
was rdanieg. The phaonmneal
pweor of the human mind,
aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at
Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it
dseno't mtaetr in what oerdr
the ltteres in a wrod are, the
olny iproamtnt tihng is taht the
frsit and lsat ltteer be in the
rght pclae. The rset can be a
taotl mses and you can still
raed it whotuit a pboerlm. This
is bcuseae the huamn mnid
deos not raed ervey lteter by
stleef, but the wrod as a wlohe.
Azanmig huh? Yaeh and I
awlyas tghuhot slpeling was
ipmorantt!

DSO'S CORNER



Carol Voyce

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

You might remember the booklet given to you at the pre-deployment briefings called "Building Resilience". It's a great wee resource, not only for helping managing deployments but also for use in everyday life. I must say that I have used it a number of times and often revisit it to remind myself of the great strategies on offer and the many fine words of wisdom. In fact, I dug my "dog eared" copy out again last week.

I am currently facing a fairly big challenge and sure need a bucket load of resilience to cope with and manage it. This relates to the ongoing saga of the Christchurch earthquake and the anxious wait for some answers to the fate of my house and land. We are expecting an announcement on June 30th. I have been living in a little rental for this past year or so and feel a great need to re-establish my roots again and move on to some normality. I am not alone – some 1500 homes are still in the white zone and we all need the chance to make some decisions for our future. We tell you "never listen to rumours", but they are always circulating! Rumours on the fate or otherwise of our land are rife! (My house sits under a cliff face with many a falling rock or

boulder!). I am not counting down the days until Mr Brownlee delivers his decision but rather splitting the waiting time into manageable chunks! And the same could be said for deployments. It is so easy to latch onto the negative, instead of waiting for or finding out the fact, and then taking the chance to turn those negative responses into something very positive.

Finding the fact for deployment related issues is easy – your Deployment Services Officer is only a phone call away and if we don't know the answer we know where to find it and quickly. Don't waste precious time on worry – we are here to give you as much peace of mind as we can. Finding the answers for the falling boulders is not so straightforward! But we can have some faith in those who are making the decisions for us and our safety.

So can I change the anxiety and stress I feel over the pending land/house decisions? Yes – totally! And that's where the booklet helps keep me on the straight and narrow!! There are lots of great strategies and the reminder of how important it is to share and meet with like people in a like situation. Our "red stickered" cul de sac are in constant contact. This is exactly what we encourage for all those on the deployment journey – and it does work!!!

You can't do this all on your own, no matter how hard you try, but you can set up your own support networks and make a commitment to yourself to reach out if the going gets tough. You might be surprised at the difference others can make, but only if they know!

Last week, we had a great informal get-together in Burnham for those on the deployment trail. This gathering was supported by the Units and many a friendship was forged across the dinner table. It

was great to see firsthand what a difference a little bit of support can do!

Just remember that priceless resource, and if you have mislaid your copy, be sure to request another one from us. Resilience is all about learning, or relearning, and adopting coping mechanisms that make you feel better and allow you to see things in a more positive light. The odd "speed wobble" is part of the process but it is when the "wheels come off" that we get ourselves into trouble. Prevention is the best approach and be sure to ask us for help to help you along the way, if need be.

I will update you in my next editorial on the outcome of my land/house decision and in the meantime will continue to flick through the latest copy of "House and Garden" (just in case), to provide a little diversion!!

Keep warm.

Special Quotes

"Missing someone gets easier everyday. Because, even though it is one day further from the last time you saw each other, it is one day closer to the next time you will."
(Unknown)

"Plant a seed of friendship; reap a bouquet of happiness."
(Lois L. Kauffman)

"People need to be listened to often as much as they need food. And if you'll take time to feed them, you'll create some fabulous friendships."
(Sean Covey)

DSO'S CORNER CONT'D..



Janine Burton

Deployment Services Officer
1 (NZ) Brigade

Hi everyone! Weather has been a little challenging recently hasn't it? I hope wherever you are located that it hasn't been too taxing.

What is on my mind at this time is sharing information with loved ones who are away. When something happens at home, an event that you would normally work through as a couple or as a family, but you have someone away on deployment, what do you do? This is a dilemma which is faced all too often by our families. Depending on what the issue is, the first decision is of course, **do** we tell our deployed person? **How much** do we tell our deployed person? **When** do we tell our deployed person?

One of the roles we play as your Deployment Services Officer is to guide you through a number of these dilemmas. While the final decision will be left with you, as a generalisation, invariably our advice is to be open and honest, and to share information sooner rather than later. If you are upfront and honest about what is happening at home, in subsequent communications with your loved ones you do not have to watch what you are saying in case you "let the cat out of the bag". Also, with the communication systems available you can almost guarantee that someone will post information on Facebook so at the end of the day,

you don't really have any choice. There is a window of opportunity at the beginning for families to have control over how, when and what information they share.

While everyone is different and will react to news from home in their own individual way, what we can tell you from experience, is that there is excellent support on deployment – from the teams the guys and girls are working in, from their leaders and from their command chain. In some circumstances, sadly it is the families at home who don't have such a robust support system in place because life carries on pretty much as "normal", because they have someone away; work goes on, children go to school, we do the housework, do the shopping, etc, etc. While we DSOs would love to be able to interact with our families face to face, geographical locations often make that impossible, but we are always just a phone call away if we can help at all, any time.

"Every day down is a day closer to them coming home." I have found myself saying this a lot recently, and it's true. One thing we do try to discourage at the beginning or even in the middle stages of deployment, is looking out to the end point of the deployment. Most of us find that days and weeks are passing quite quickly – how fast does the weekend go, for example, and how quickly does Monday come around? But if you are focussing on the end point at the early stages of your deployment journey, you are not looking at days or weeks, but months. Much easier to do the 'one day at a time' and then the weeks and months take care of themselves.

How are your letters and parcels going? I know that some families are very diligent in sending away regular post – I'm not one of them. But since our last "Bugle", I have sent two parcels! so I am feeling very pleased with myself.

Take care everyone and will "see" you next "Bugle".

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

FOR YOUR INFO

Welcome to New “Bugle” Readers

This is the first edition of “The Bugle” to find its way to those associated with the next deployment to the Solomon Islands. “The Bugle” is our main way of keeping in touch with you all and we hope you will find some support and comfort amongst the pages. You will notice that “The Bugle” is written for those in different stages of the deployment journey, but there is always something of interest for everyone. Take a special look at the section for “Personal Messages”. This is another way that you can keep in touch with loved ones and we look forward to receiving your messages. “The Bugle” is emailed to deployment locations and enjoyed by all there too.

Goodwill Banner — Solomon Islands Deployment

During the pre-deployment briefing for families associated with the next deployment to the Solomon Islands, we had with us colourful farewell banners to enable loved ones to record messages of goodwill, love and support. The banner will travel to the deployment location and will be displayed in common areas to remind loved ones that they are always in your thoughts. If you were unable to attend the briefing or have not had a chance to record your personal message on the banner and will not be at the airport farewell, please phone Carol (DSO Burnham) 363 0421 or 0800 33 7569 and we will happily record your message for you.

Deployment Guide

This mail out contains a copy of the “OP RATA Deployment Guide” for those who were unable to attend the briefing for the deployment to the Solomon Islands. It contains a

lot of useful information related to the deployment, so please take the time to read through it and be sure to call us if you have any questions. The Mailing address is included and there is information on keeping in contact with support personnel here and if in the event of an emergency, how to get an urgent message into the deployment location. You will find the guide a handy tool for managing the deployment, so keep it in a safe place.

Return to New Zealand - Solomon Islands Deployment

We have not yet received details on the return of the contingent from the Solomon Islands. My best advice is that you stay in contact with me (Carol, DSO Burnham 0800 33 75 69) for the information as it comes to hand. Feel free to ring as many times as you like - we too share your excitement about homecomings. There will be another “Bugle” just prior to their return, but as the dates will be close, please rely on the phone to access information on flight timings and onward travel. Flight timings do change at short notice, so please keep in touch. The last date for posting mail to the current contingent in the Solomon Islands is Monday 2 July. We cannot guarantee delivery after that date and it does cause a lot of unnecessary work to return mail to the original sender. You might like to include in your last package, books/magazines for reading en-route home and something to nibble on - if it lasts until departure time!

Information for Partners - RATA Deployment

For the partners of personnel associated with the current RATA deployment, this mail-out contains a copy of the booklet “RTNZ

Information – A Guide for Partners of NZDF Personnel on Return from Operational Deployments”.

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

If for any reason a booklet is not included in your mail-out or if you require an extra copy, please request one using the contact details on the inside cover. Deployed service personnel will receive the same information prior to their return to New Zealand.

Army Leave Centres

Ballot applications for Labour Weekend are now being accepted and close on Friday 24 August.

For further information or to register your interest, please contact the Leave Centre on 04 527 5823 or army.leavecentre@nzdf.mil.nz

“The Community Connection”

Naval Community Organisation (NCO) Publication — As of 1 July 2012, the NCO will no longer be sending out a paper copy of the above publication. If you wish to receive this publication by email, and in full colour, please supply the Naval Community Organisation with your current email address (nib@nzdf.mil.nz) and they will add you to the distribution list.

PERSONAL MESSAGES

The deadline for contributions and personal messages for the next edition of "The Bugle" is **12 July 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

Dear Houdini and Blue

Please keep Kat warm, and don't eat any more books. There are apple cores in it for you. ½ Kitkat.

Hey CC Buns!

Over half way now and on the downward slope on my return! I am looking forward to a busy year next year together. Love D.

Happy Birthday Bradley

Congratulations on making the Ellesmere U48kg rugby. Good luck with the league too. Lots of Love Dad.

Hi My Darling

Well half way there, LOL. Won't be long until I'm home again, eating all the food, making a mess and laughing at you when you tell me to clean it up. LOL. I really miss those times! Well I'm good, everything is ticking along well here but miss you heaps, love you more...see you soon. XOXO. P.S: Thanks for my mail. I'm like a 5 year old when I get your mail...thanks my darling.

JJ

Good luck with the Boxing, hope school is all good, be nice to your mother and help out around the house. Lots of Love Dad. Miss you boys!

Hi My Darling

OK so you already got a message in this one, LOL. This is another one to make up for the last one that I missed. And it's to say "Hi" to my little chunky that's walking now...so cute...and my other darlings! Love you's heaps and miss you's more. XOXO.

Hi My Cuz Robyn / Rou

Well not long and I'll be home and

instead of you having to send me goodies, I'll just come to your house and eat yours. LOL. Rou, I'll show you how to use that new dive gear you got sitting in your shed, LOL. Love you's...chat you's later.

Liam

I hope you're being nice to your brothers and mum and always tell the truth. Lots of Love Dad.

To C, L, K and Mama

All well here. Love you to the chainsaw and back. Daddy.

Hey CMW

Hope everything is going well. Love seeing our wee man on Skype. Hope you're keeping your bump safe. Enjoy your time up North. Love Carrot Stix.

Hi CB

Missing you like crazy! Hope you're coping with the kids. Skype's great but keep those letters and packages coming. Weather is really heating up now; we do most of our work early in the day. Keep looking at the stars and maybe I'll be looking at the same ones. Love you!

FLOWER POWER

Roses are red
Violets are blue
Three months down
Then the same amount
Followed by a reunion with you
The time has flown
And its pleasing to know
That not long after I'm home
We will see a white Christmas
With snow

From SOAP.

Back again Babelicious

Well half way there now hun. Busy as buggery over here, sounds like you're the same at home. Am enjoying summer here but you

know me, hating the heat at night which doesn't help the beauty sleep side of the house and you know how much I need that??? Looking forward to opening the present when I get home my hun. XX on the nose dodgeproof, I Love you my babe, all the way around the world and..... Your Husband.

Hello my Babies (yes that includes you my big boy)

By the time you all read this we will be half way there. I hope you guys are all looking after your mother for me especially you my big boy. Keep working hard at the sports my sons, I hope your grading went well my Jordy boy. I'm loving the pictures and letters from you my baby and my little men so keep them coming, I've got the first lot of pictures up on my wall. I Love you guys all the way round the world.

Hi All

Good to hear that we might have another addition to the clan soon, that'll keep nanny and granddad extra busy for a while. Pass my best wishes to Pen and Big D. Pass my love to all my nieces and nephews up there in the Bay and Paraparam, I'm looking forward to catching up with you all again soon. Sounds like you had fun at home dad, although you almost cost us the game aye??? LOL. Tell the bro's I'll be looking for hunting and diving opportunities when I get back, keen to get out with them if I can. Love to all. Even Bigger C.

Hey my Hunni

Love you my darling, can't wait to see you. Miss you heaps and heaps up to the sky. Love you most. Your babe mmwaaaaahhhhh.

Hey Bub

Hope you and the boys are O.K.

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

Miss you fullas heaps. Give my love to the rest of the family. Safe travels back home. Love, S.D.S.R.H.

To my Sexymumma

Missing you crazy bad. Loving you more. See you when I'm looking at you. Love Bub.

To KATIER A.K.A TUPETS

Oh Fo Sho! What up yo? Hope you're sweet, G. Nice to talk to you the other day – cool to hear you having a great night at your 25th (old much?). Love you Jess.

To Joy and Merrin

Thanks heaps for the CANDY! The other treats were also much appreciated. Great to read your letters and hear what is going on. Have a fun holiday in the warm, aussie glow. Letters from me in the post. Much love, Jess xx.

My Sweetness

I miss you more.
It's you I adore.
The challenge is true,
Time and space without you.
Take care over there,
While I sweat it out over here.
I Miss you the most,
Then the girls, the car, and our
Beautiful NZ coast!

To my Turkies!!

Z, mum told me your production went well, very proud of you and can't wait to see the video of your singing. Behave for your mum and stop annoying your brother and sister. P, I hope your netball is going well and you are really enjoying it. Mum said you have your swearing-in ceremony soon at Brownies. Hope that goes well for you. Behave for your mum and stop annoying your brother and sister. K, keep watching the rugby with mum son, and remember that mum has to make you a milo while your watching, and you have to put your All Black jersey on. Behave for your mum, stop annoying your sisters

and stay out of dads bed!! D, Love you buddy and missing you. Keep all the pictures and videos of the kids coming as I enjoy watching them at night, although my walls are filling up with pictures and stories from the kids!! Looking forward to our holiday when I get home, and make sure you get out and have a break from the kids every now and then. Finally you kids behave and stop annoying each other! Sending my love to D, Z, P, K. Love from the Boss.

To my beautiful Princess

I love you so much with all my heart. I miss you like crazy. I cannot wait till we are together. Xoxoxoxoxo. Lots of LOVE your poobear.

To my little princess Taylor

I love you and I hope you are being a good girl and are enjoying your swimming lessons. You will have to let me know what you want for your birthday LOVE Dad.

To Lucas

I love you. I hope you feel better soon and I get to take more pic's of big truck and helicopters for you. Love Dad.

To GNINGA

Thinking of you, miss your roros and thinking of Napier often. Less than two months. Love you. YHMH.

From Home

FABD4D

Miss your rough and tumble daddy! Love you to the man truck and trailer and back. Lots of love, Liam.

Hi K

Nan sends her love, says she is still enjoying her beautiful view and

counted 165 black swans floating past the other day. More frosts now but not too cold. Auntie B sends her love (see email). Mark is enjoying "The Bugle" and Katherine is learning to play the mandolin. Love and best wishes from us all, Mum.

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 you're home and summer will be round the corner. Love you all the time xxxxxxx.

FABD4D

I love you to the moon and back. I miss you helping me make Lego. Mummy is doing a good job though. Lots of love Connor.

Craig

Happy birthday hun, thinking of you and wish you were here so we could share it with you. Some parcels are on the way so hope you enjoy them, even if the boys have hinted what's inside! Hopefully next year might be better for you to share all the birthdays. Love you and miss you. All my love, Lynda xxxx.

Hey Poohbear

Love u so much and not a minute goes by that I don't think about you, I see you when I look at our beautiful children and I'm reminded of you when I have a shower and see your razor sitting there on the

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...



shelf. Can't wait to have your arms wrapped around me again, it is definitely one of the things I miss the most. Love you forever and ever without a doubt, Your Princess xxxx.

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.

To my Dearest Stabby Dwarf...

And there can be only one! hahah...love you. Sorry your things are taking so long to get there but you know what I'm like!!! Please keep checking. We are positive you are going to get more than everyone else!! Lol, and you have to share; what we send won't do your 'new' waistline any good! Hahahaha. Mr is very good indeed, pretty happy with his Principals award...kinda helpful sometimes too.....but also very cuddly. How's the socks and undies stash going? tehehehe (had to ask!) But seriously, thanks for all your contact; it's made things so much better for all of us we reckon! Love you darling. Mr will be at some point in the probably distant future putting something in the Bugle too..he's leepy right now...Your wif. Xoxoxo & Mr.

RCK

Happy half century, seems no time since we had mine, it was a good

party and the boys loved pigging out on cheesecake for breakfast the next morning. So let's plan your party on your return and make a day, a belated 15th July, before or after your camping trip? Mum. XXXXX.

E taku Papa

Mokori ano kia rere aku mihi ki a koe xx. I have been doing well at Gymnastics and Swimming. My swimming teacher said he was very proud of me because I've been practicing! It's getting coldies now, but I've got scarves, hats and warmies jerseys! I have been trying very hard with my reading and writing. Mama will send some more paintings for you soon. We miss and love you Pap. Stay safe and God Bless xx Taku aroha, Taika.

Hey Skuxxatron!

I love you heaps my Hone-bear. Miss you hard out, thank goodness for Skype! Lolz. Miss your eaty ways, haha. You will always be the mantis my hun. Can't wait to see you, mmmwah. Lord bless you my stunner xOx. Your Gurl xOx.

FABD4D

Missing u heaps today bum, nearly to the halfway mark! The days are ticking by. Love u more than u know. Me xxxx.

Hey Pumbaa

Another year older, another birthday spent apart. Hehe! Hope you had a great birthday on July 16 and enjoyed all the treats we sent you (and shared them with the others as well!). Plans are now underway to create our new home for your return and I can't wait to kick back and enjoy it together. Love and miss you heaps! (Is that mo gone yet? Seriously!). Bebe xo.

Daddy

Happy birthday to you,
Happy birthday to you,
Happy birthday dear daddy,

Happy Birthday to you!

We love you
and miss you, Edmund, Victor and Jonny.

To P.K.

Hay Dad, Happy Birthday to you for the 29th!! I hope you have a great birthday. Love you and miss you. Shayde and Taitai.

Dearest Honey Badger

Well over two thirds of the way now, especially by the time you read this! So proud of you, and can't wait to start new adventures together when you get back. We miss you terribly, every day, but can see the finish line now and it's getting me through. All my love, forever. Me & the blue monster xoy.

Chicken

Missing you loads baby. Freezing my bum off with all this snow, brrrrr. Can't wait to get you home. Love Lamb Chop. X.

Simba

Missing you lots, almost half way, yay!! Can't wait to see you again, always look forward to your calls and skype! Love you heaps and heaps, Panda. xoxo.

Hi Babe

Miss you loads. Freezing without you! Jealous that you're there in glorious sunshine while we get snowed on! Love you loads and look forward to speaking on Skype. T. xxx.

Hi Dad

Love you. Hope the year goes fast so you can come home for Christmas dinner. Love you, Michael. xxxx.

Hi Dad

Miss you loads. Can't wait for you to come home and for you to make us tea instead of me! Love Kris.

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

Daddy

Happy 40th Daddy! I hope you're having a fantastic day. I am missing you so much and love your bedtime stories! Love you, love always, William. xxx.

Hey Dad

Don't get too burnt and remember your sunscreen even if you think you don't need it and don't have too much fun, from Dan.

To the BRAVOYZ in the Solomon Islands

Dear BRAVOYZ, Thank you for your message - I miss you too, especially at Bn PT and when we are searching for lost kit. Everyone tells me that all the lost kit was last seen in the possession of B Coy. Hope you are all well, smashing the PT and getting the most out of your deployment - you will be back to the Canterbury winter soon enough. SJM, CO 2/1.

Hi Miss Muffett

Hope all is well with you there. Buddy's doing fine. Very lazy and sleeps all day. Dad started your bike the other day. Back tyre is flat but he will fix that for you. The barn is coming along well. You will have a room to sleep in when you come home. Hope you are getting your parcels ok. Have fun, do your job and watch your back. Love you, Mum and Dad. P.S: Have you found the goodwill banner yet?

To my Poo Poo Dadda

We went to the All Blacks yesterday. The score was 21-19, we won! It was very cold so I wore my All Blacks jersey that you bought me over the top of my puffa jacket!! It was a bit funny because there was a streaker - haha!! And at the end, some Irish people ran onto the field and they got tackled by the Security Guards. I wish you could have watched it with us. I am working hard at my tackles and kicks; can you help me when you

get home? I miss you everyday Dadda, but have coloured in lots of my Calendar Snake. Love you xxxooo, Your Boy.

Hi Dadda

You are right; I can commando crawl now just like you do in the Army! I am talking lots and getting into lots of mischief, now that I am mobile. I like playing with the cords on the TV and stereo and the blinds. Tonight I got stuck under the couch and coffee table and mum put me in the laundry basket!! Maaka and I laughed. I love you heaps and can't wait to give you one of my slobbery kisses xxx ooo Kaikais.

To my Biggest Boy

Can't believe we are halfway already! We are all doing well back here and looking forward to going home and spending time with our family and friends. Your boys are keeping me very busy but we are having lots of fun together. I am another year older now which makes you officially my toyboy!! Ha ha. Wedding preparations are going well, still lots for you to do though when you get home! Love you with all my heart Baby and miss that face so much. LYLT, Your Girl xxx ooo.

Dear Con

Time is passing quickly now and already 2 months have gone. We got the parcel - many thanks. I will share them with Nana, Auntie, Marilee, Candice and myself. They are lovely. I think about you every day and make sure Mason remembers Uncle Conan. Stay safe and well - Mum and Dad. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX. Jack and Rose XXX.

Hi Uncle Ray Ray

Hope all is well with you & you're not missing us too much.... We are all good, not much happening just the norm, sports, school and

chores...Mum & Dad are ok and say Hi too. Anyhow we just wanted to say hi and hope you are ok. Luff ewe lots.. Sharda, Rocharn, Tyra-Shay & DeAndre.

Hello my No. 1 Son

Thinking of you on your birthday; love ya lots. Mum, Dad, Josh.

Hi ya Smarty Pants!

Thinking of you on your birthday and always...love you heaps, I hope you like your present! Love Giggles xx.

Hey Big Brother

Happy 50th Birthday, Love from your favourite Sister.

Hey my Beautiful Tamahine

Your little brother spotted you first holding the flag in Bugle, great shot. Thanks for inspiration to rekick Massey Papers. Hope you got Programme info. Keep focused, world is at your feet, a degree would open up the universe. Thinking of you i nga wa katoa, ko te Mangai raua Piri Wiri Tua tautoko Ae! Arohanui Mama.

Hey Sissy

I finish fruit bowl at school, it's waiting at home for you. Mum wants it and can't have it. She won't let me send it because mail too rough. Got into Whanganui Reps under 11's. Love you! Arama xoxoxo.

Kiaori

Anga mai to koutou whatumanawa ki to koutou Temepara kei ko nei te whakaoranga. Cast your heart and minds to your Temple for sustenance. Nga manaakitanga kia koe, aroha Andre.

Hey pretty

Hope you're having fun and got the drawing. Me and the big ball of fluff are missing you heaps and lots. We love you to bits gorgeous, xxx - Fluffy.

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

Hi Roger

Congratulations on reaching your middle age pass! According to Oscar Wilde, life has 3 stages - the young know everything the middle age suspect everything and the old believe everything. So on the 15th July you will grow in to the last stage - Enjoy the day whatever it brings. Jura awaits your return. Cheers. Ramon.

Dr Kit

It would appear I have heart ache. I think I need a doctor to fix it for me. Guh TIAWBT.

Dear Kit

What are the apples like where you are? Can you send some? We've had to resort to eating books here due to lack thereof. Wuffles, Blue and Houdini.

Happy Birthday

Wish we could be together to share it - will just have an even bigger celebration when you are home. Here's to the next 50 years. LYAMYL.

To Dad

Hi Dad! How's it going over there? We have had 2 weeks now of no rugby due to weather. I'm having a soccer tournament today at school. Remember when you were the coach last for the B team, we lost all our games, but hope we win all our games this year. Wish me luck. XXX on the nose dodgeproof. Lala.

Hi Dada

I have a flower for you, I made it at school and water it for you. I have more books to read to you on skype and I'm in a new class room at school. I have drawn lots of pictures for you and will send them in the mail for you to read. I miss and love you heaps Dada and look forward to seeing you on Skype. Miss T.

Hey Dad

I had my Karate tournament and we just did the Kata and the fighting is next week. I did well and am looking forward to the contact side. I hope I get my green belt. We lost our rugby game again and I got a try. We are getting better. Love and miss you ...Jordy XXX.

Back again my Husband

Hey my darling time has definitely flown by now....Once again I have the man Flu and its kicking my a@rse. Was good to have Dad here for the couple of weeks he helped out heaps. The course I am on is absolutely draining and doesn't seem to be sticking in my head, lol. I think I may need to study a bit more. Hope you are well and these messages leave a smile on your dial.....xxx on the nose dodgeproof.....I love you all the way around the world and..... Babelicious.

HEY Uncle P.J.

Thank you soooo much for the necklace (I got the turtle). At school I'm doing pride challenges and if I do ten by the end of the year we get a surprise, I'm on number 3. One of the challenges is having a pen pal so I'm wondering if you could be my pen pal? I hope you're having fun and keeping safe. Lots of Love number 1 niece!

To my BFF

Yay this is probably the last bugle message!!! Soooo can't wait for you to be back and we can have some sweet sweet times together!!! Roll on Wanaka! Hope you enjoy the last few weeks of your deployment!! Love you much and always xoxoxo. Your delicious.

Hubby

Love is filled with lots of things that make it all worthwhile. But none is better than the love found in your great big smile! Love you, miss you, need you babe! Thinking of

golden sands, hot sun, cool blue water and lots of holiday fun with my soulmate! 4221 Wifey.

Turkies Again

Hi Dad (The frog) Z here! I know you are helping kids over where you are except I wish you were here to help us from fighting. I've got your last message and it has a lot of questions but I was able to answer them all in my next letter that comes to you. Time has gone fast for us or maybe just for me. Love you, miss you, hope to skype you soon. From Z. Dear the big turkey, hey dad you should know all the great things we've been doing, last night we had McDonalds, it was awesome. I hope you're having a nice time, can't wait till you come home. I miss you very much. You're the best dad ever, miss you, come home soon. Love P. Hi Dad, I missed the last All Blacks game, will try to catch the next one. I like the Milo's. Uncle T. tickled me and turned me upside down. It was so much fun. Love you Dad. From K.. Hello my wonderful darling, missing you terribly. Very proud of you over there. Nearly 3 months and then we can start the countdown. Love you so much. Stay safe and we'll see you on Skype soon. Love Mum. Xxooxxoo.

Hey Hun

Man we miss having you around here!!! We are doing fine though, days are short and winter has set in so we work hard at staying cosy and snug inside. Had some nice frosts but makes for lovely days with sunshine. Shortest day today though (21st June) and so they will start getting longer now - spring comes and you will be nearly home. Time is going semi-fast though huh! Things must be getting hot where you are - weird that you are going to get a whole year of all summer and no winter! We think of you all the time and so look forward

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

to having you home xxxx. All our love always and forever, Your 3 musketeers xxxxxxxxxxoooo.

To my First Husband

I love the fact that we have reached half way. I do not love the fact that we still have half to go. Nothing more to report on, apart from the fact that I still love you more than any words could describe. Miss you so much, but love you more. Your first wife (not your girlfriend) xooxox

Love you Dad

We are trying to be great boys for mum. Miss you from the 3 musketeers xoxo.

To my Twin from another Mother

Thank you for doing my husbands shopping, I really appreciate your time to hand pick them for me. Purple, Orange, Red, Bright Blue and anything with sparkles. Thank you so much. The better looking twin from another mother.

Hello Dad

I love you and I am doing good at school. Love from razzle dazzle.

Hi Dad!

I miss you. Thanks for the cool rain jacket with lots of pockets and a secret one on the back. I'm going to hide in the snow with it so you won't find me to throw snow balls at me. I ate all my dinner up. I love you, I'm going to kiss and cuddle you. From Alex Soper.

Hello Dad!

I love you and I love my mum. Cuddles, from Briar.

Hi Dad

We miss you at home today and everyday. We love you. I am going to a new class at Hokowhitu School. Now I have been making dinner at home. That's it. Love from Xavier Knight.

I love you Dad

I miss you for the weekend. And we just cooked dinner and today we are going to go have a sleep and a shower. And tomorrow we are going to kindly disco dance. Demi and Piper are coming too. And today we guna go to the disco again and again and again. And today we guna do some more disco party dance now today. Today we guna do some writing after bath and then we guna go to bed and then we guna do something cool and shake the bottle at playcentre. Love from Madix.

Hey Babe

Just to confirm, they are going to the kindly disco tomorrow. Think Madix might be excited. Can't believe we are over one third and on our way to half way. Seems like it's going pretty fast. But ask me tomorrow, it might be a different story. Love you lots, Shell.

Dear Aunty Emma

I got my haircut and it looks great. My birthday party is on Sunday and we are going to have the cupcake tower with cupcakes on. I have gone up a reading group and I am reading Junior Journals now. I love you, From Lizzie xxxx.

Dear Aunty Emma

Next week is speeches on Monday, and cross-country on Tuesday. My speech is all about Afghanistan. I worked hard in the garden helping Mum make the beds and I worked for 4 hours. We ordered some Kings Seeds. We have got some funny coloured veges, like orange cauliflower, and purple carrots. We bought a little cross-bow. No-one is strong enough to load it except Dad. Love lots from Isaac xxxx.

To Aunty EM!

Hey, how is it over there? Mum says when u come over u should buy a kaimanawa pony. We could

train it! Anyway that was just a suggestion...So, it's almost holidays and I can't wait 4 u 2 come back! I've got excellent or merit in most of my subjects apart from Maori. Are there any ponies over there? Gotta go, love Annie xoxo.

Happy 40th Aaron

On your special day, I want to tell you how much I appreciate everything you do for me. You make me the happiest woman in the world. Just when I thought it couldn't get any better, each day is filled with more happiness. Have a great birthday! May you have a wonderful day. May our love last forever. Love always xxxx.



Bouquet

I would like to thank WO1 Spinks, WO2 Winter (Wintz) Sgt Firman and the hard working soldiers for helping me by moving the play house for Liam's 6th birthday. You all did a great job, the boys were so organised, pleasant and hard working. Your hard work is appreciated by Liam very much. Thank you again so much, Michelle and Sgt McGee (Rob).

2012

WHAT'S ON IN BURNHAM

17 JULY

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US FOR DINNER?

A warm invitation is extended to you and your family to join us for dinner in the Burnham Military Camp B Block Mess on:

Tuesday 17 July, 6pm

This is your opportunity to have a night off cooking, a night off dishes and a chance to meet up with other New Zealand Defence Force families associated with current overseas deployments.

This informal dinner is low key, with no speeches, no presentations, no pressure, no mess and no fuss. It would be just great to see you. As we need to confirm numbers for catering purposes, please RSVP for adults and children attending, no later than Tuesday 10 July to Carol Voyce, Deployment Services Officer, Burnham on Toll free 0800 33 75 69, 03 3630 421 or dso.burnham @xtra.co.nz

Please note that you will require I.D. to enter Burnham Camp. You will need to obtain a visitors pass from the Duty Hutt at the front gate. Be sure to allow time to have this processed as the dinner will commence promptly at 6pm.

2-6 AUGUST

MID TOUR UPDATE - NZPRT 20 AFGHANISTAN

As promised, we are planning a tour brief and update for those associated with the current deployment to Afghanistan. This is your chance to gain a further insight into the day to day lives of your loved ones and to receive valuable tips and information on reunions and readjusting to family life. Lt Col Dave McBride, who recently returned from Afghanistan, will give a short presentation, and video footage from the contingent abroad will also be shown. You will be sure to spot familiar faces! These informal Briefings are open to Primary Next of Kin and extended family members. Children are most welcome. Light refreshments will be served. Mark these dates on your calendar now:

BURNHAM - Camp Conference Centre, Thursday 2 August 6 - 8pm

AUCKLAND - Arch Hill 204 Great North Road, Grey Lynn, Friday 3 August 6.30pm - 8.30pm

LINTON - Community Centre, Puttick Road, Linton, Saturday 4 August 1.30pm - 3.30pm

WELLINGTON - Messines Conference Centre, Somme Road, Trentham, Sunday 5 August 10am - 12 Midday

Please RSVP if possible with numbers attending to Carol Voyce, Deployment Services Officer, Burnham on Toll free 0800 33 75 69, 03 3630 421 or dso.burnham @xtra.co.nz

2012

WHAT'S ON IN LINTON

TUESDAYS

COFFEE MORNINGS — 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.

28 JULY

THEME MASQUERADE - Ladies in Linton

Saturday 28 July, 2pm, Linton Community Centre

Fashion, Wine Tasting, Massage, Music and much more. Enquiries to: Hoppy Prendergast, on 0212431707

2012

WHAT'S ON IN TRENTHAM

12 JULY

TRENTHAM LADIES NIGHT

Thursday 12 July, 7pm at the Clock Tower,
Trentham Military Camp

Tickets \$5 - Hair, Makeup, Massage, Skincare, Minx shoes and much more. Great spot prizes. For tickets and enquiries email marie.lotzs@nzdf.mil.nz

TUESDAYS

COFFEE GROUP — TRENTHAM

Clock Tower/ Featherston Room/Community Lounge

Tuesday mornings, 9.30am to 11.15am

All NZDF at home parents and pre-schoolers (or prospective parents) very welcome. Coffee Group is a great way for families to connect with the NZDF community. And especially good if your partner is deployed or away on training. If you are new its also a good opportunity to meet Marie Lotz, Family & Social Services Officer. Runs through the school holidays.

TUESDAYS

CRAFT GROUP — TRENTHAM

Clock Tower/Community Lounge

Every second Tuesday from 7pm to 9pm

Bring along whatever project you are working on. For more information, contact Marie Lotz, (04) 527 5029.

2012

WHAT'S ON IN DEVONPORT

01-05 OCTOBER

NCO KIDS CAMP 2012

Being held on Mototapu Island for dependants of Naval and civilian personnel aged 9-14 years old.

01—05 October 2012

Dates to remember:

10 August close off to register

10 August Ballot drawn

15 August \$80 deposit due

14 September payment in full

N.B. Fees \$180 per child

When registering, please provide: Parents name and service no., childs name and age, your address and phone no., prior attendance, yes/no. parent helper yes/no.

If you are Interested, simply phone: 0800 NAVY HELP or email nib@nzdf.mil.nz with all your details

Please note: Priority will be given to children who have not yet attended or to children whose parents volunteer to be a parent helper for the week.