

THE BUGLE

Issue 180 | January 2013



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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:

Fun activities on Christmas Day at the NZPRT, Afghanistan, included the chance for Officers to face the 'gunge' bucket. MAJ Mark Schmid, while enjoying a strictly 'NO BEER', succumbs to the challenge.

NEW YEAR HONOURS 2013

31 December 2012

Five New Zealand Defence Force personnel were among the New Zealanders named in this year's New Year Honours.

The recipients of the New Zealand Distinguished Service Decoration (DSD) are:



The NZ Distinguished Service Medal

Lance Corporal Anatoliy Valerievich Derepa
Royal New Zealand Dental Corps

Group Captain Athol James Forrest, MNZM
Royal New Zealand Air Force

Lieutenant Arthur Jordan Gale
Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

Major Shane Ruane
Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Brett Lockwood Wellington
Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

The New Zealand Distinguished Service Decoration (DSD) recognises distinguished military service by regular, territorial and reserve members of the New Zealand Defence Force, including command and leadership and service in an operational environment, or in support of operations.

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NEWS FROM TASK UNIT CRIB 21, AFGHANISTAN

Sholto Stephens
Lieutenant Colonel
CO Task Unit CRIB 21

All of the personnel deployed on CRIB 21 continue to work hard everyday that we are across here. We have still taken the opportunity to celebrate Christmas and New Year's Eve in a very Bamyian way. One excellent initiative sparked by Corporal Hayden was to release Chinese lanterns into the Bamyian

sky on the stroke of midnight: two for each of our personnel and mates who have given their lives whilst serving across here; it was a great way for us to remember them.



On New Year's Eve it was also an opportunity to gather all the Kiwis here to talk about what we have achieved over the past 100 days and what we need to focus our attention and efforts on for the remaining 120. Some of the key information that you (the family and friends of those deployed across here) need to be aware of are pretty important, so I'll pass it on here.

We ask that you no longer send through any letters, postcards, parcels or other mail from the 1st of March 2013 onwards. We also ask you to be patient as we approach our closing months as some of our other welfare facilities

(e.g. access to internet machines and welfare phones) may reduce. Carol, Janine and Marie will be in touch in due course as we determine and finalize our return flights to New Zealand so that you are aware of where you can meet us as we travel back to Aotearoa. Keep in mind we have to be very flexible with these dates, and in some instances, who is returning when; we will continue to plan this in detail.

Being the last CRIB rotation we often have the task of visiting many of the local Afghan people we have been working alongside for the past decade to advise them that we are departing.

It is very humbling to pass on this message and then receive the sincere thanks from a wide variety of people for the work that the previous 20 rotations have done across here. From Government officials, junior and senior police officers, Health Clinic workers, local elders and others, the message is always very similar; thank you for your time spent away from your family and from home to come to Afghanistan and help us.

If you know anyone from one of these previous rotations (no less than 2000 Kiwis have now served in Afghanistan) please take the time to thank them for their efforts and dedication to the people of Bamyian.

We will keep you advised through the various methods we have in place (including Carol, Janine, Marie and many of the Unit Points of Contact up and down New Zealand) of other key information you will need to be aware of as we approach our homecoming. Enjoy your remaining summer!

Over the page are some of the photos taken recently during our tour. Hope you enjoy them.



Durrer Lantern on New Years Eve

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



Band e Amir campsite huts



Kids at Band e Amir play with bow and arrow



Op Highland flag with personnel at PPHQ



Chuck and NZDF personnel on security at Bamyān



Kiwi troops enjoy the joke from Sir Peter Jackson, about having 'NO BEER'



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

NZPRT CATERING SECTION

Kia Ora, hello and seasons greetings to all "Bugle" readers from the catering Section of TU CRIB 21, Bamiyan, Afghanistan. We trust that the festive season has been an enjoyable one for you all and you enjoyed many happy times with your families and loved ones.

So, what is life like in Afghanistan for the chefs of CRIB 21? If I could use one word it would be 'different'. Different to what we are used to back at our home messes; different in regards to the type of ingredients that we use; different in that those ingredients all seem to be in German; different in that cooking in minus 20 degree temperatures takes some getting used to. I am sure that none of us will ever talk badly of field exercises in Waiouru or Tekapo in the middle of winter again.

After our handover from CRIB 20 (thanks Lisa for all the info you passed on, it was greatly appreciated), we have settled into our daily work routine. There are five chefs deployed over here,

myself SGT Adam (Lau Lau) Orlowski, CPL Simon (Cheese) Cheeseman, LCPL Sean (Dock) Dockrill, PTE David (Termi) Samuels and our navy brother ACH Zylén (Slumdog) Thomas. We also have five Locally Employed Civilians (LEC's) Sakina, Aziz, Taher, Mohammad and Ali, they take care of the kitchenhand and cleaning duties. They have also exposed us to a wide range of local culinary delights.

Along with daily meals we have tried to keep up the morale of the troops by doing theme nights, some of these include The Great Kiwi Roast, Fat Boy Fridays, Pizza and Pasta, Peasants Night, The Great Fry Up and All Day Breakfast. All these activities have been well received and appreciated. We are also involved as judges of the 'My Section Rules' culinary competition. This involves the different functional groups within Kiwi Base planning, preparing and producing dinner for all of Kiwi Base. Some of the themes have been Malaysian Night, Bamiyan Sevens, Italian Night and a Restaurant Night. The results and standard of these meals

has thus far been outstanding. The challenge has even been put out to us chefs to see if we can beat it. Challenge accepted, watch this space.

Here are some statistics; so far in the three months we have been here we have managed to plough through the following:

720 kgs of potatoes
600 kgs of rice
400 kgs of flour
17,000 eggs

Well that is about all from the chefs, from myself, Cheese, Dock, Termi and Slumdog we hope you all enjoy what is left of the festive season, don't dread going back to work and we will see you on our return.

AFGHANISTAN — NOT JANDAL WEATHER

LCPL Williams

My name is Freddy and I'm currently deployed in Afghanistan on CRIB 21

"It was a blistering day when we touched down in Dubai, the temperature outside was a sultry 40 degrees and yet the heat was not as horrid as that of Darwin. I remember thinking to myself 'hot damn, this is not kosher.'

Little did I know how things were going to change, as we shipped out that morning at O'dark hundred for a tactical flight into Afghanistan where there is no air threat. This fact seems to confuse me somewhat, however, I cannot argue much with the logic of the Air Force.

The first thing that hit me when we exited the flight as lovely as it was is the smell, the mixture of dust, poo and mountain air. It's a blend that takes a while to get accustomed to and I doubt that even Links could be able to market it.



LCPL Williams preparing the Geep on the spit for the CSST 'My Kitchen Rules' Competition

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

Though it seems the locals wear the unique smell with a badge of pride, it has even rubbed off on some of the others soldiers at Kiwi base who are taking up their own personal blend of the local cologne attempting to bring it into fashion, though I doubt it'll stick for too long when they return.

We've now acclimatized to living at the altitude, however, Afghanistan has not finished throwing her best at us.

For the first two months the weather was somewhat rather pleasant, dropping down to roughly 2-4 degrees at night and rising to a pleasing 24-27 degrees in the afternoon, yet on the turn of December the winter begun to close in.

Currently as I write this, we've got snow cover over the ground and are dropping to -16 to -25 degrees at night, the delightful thing is, it's still not winter yet! The guys are expecting the weather to drop as low as -30 later in January (the coldest month). This presents its own unique living condition

challenges as you are required to walk to the toilets and showers should you not want to wear the local cologne, and depending on where you live this could be a good trek through the snow.

*"Take my word
for it, not quite jandal
weather"*

though I still try, much to the complaint of my toes.

No doubt it's going to get worse before it gets better, however, it does make it an interesting working/living environment. More so with the focus shifting towards the fun which is the actual process of closing everything down and getting home to NZ.

Regardless, we're here attempting to enjoy ourselves even at 0300 when you're looking out into the still night, cold as, thinking of that semi warm bed you left behind.

Enjoy the start of the year I know I'm looking forward to the end of mine.

OUR WHITE CHRISTMAS

CPL Justine Hayden
KT1 Medic, CRIB 21

CRIB 21 arrived to Afghanistan to warm weather, with temperatures in the 30's, which have now plummeted into the negatives. We had a few snow falls in December only lasting a day then melting the next day, but everyone was waiting with anticipation for the big snow dump.

While our families and friends geared up to go on summer holidays, we started to organise our white Christmas. Village white was the theme, a ski ramp was built, teams were sorted and preparations for building the best sled had begun; all of us were waiting for snow which never came! So plans had to change to fill in the day.

We woke to a sunny day with a lot of people getting up early to jump on the phones or the computers to Skype their families while it was still Christmas Day at home. Presents from home were opened if people had managed to save them from the mail run, myself and LCPL Ginny Douglas had so many lollies to eat, we knew we would feel sick by the end of the day!

Activities started at 1200 which included volleyball, long ball, and gator races which only lasted the first round before it was damaged. It was then replaced by one touch instead. But the most favoured game was what the chippies had built. It was a device that you threw a ball at a target and if hit, a bucket of gunge would fall on the victim sitting underneath. \$1 for three throws and some of the officers had volunteered to be gunged. Approx \$600 was raised and is to be donated to the Fallen Hero's Trust.

Enjoy the photos over the page of the CO and the KT1 Comd being gunged.



Happy New Year from the CSST at the top of PT HILL ("What a dumb idea to go up in R-BAV")

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



The CO, LT COL Stephens getting gunged



KT1 Comd, LT Purcell is gunged

NEWS FROM OP RATA II SOLOMON ISLANDS

RAMSI'S MILITARY TASK FORCE IN TRANSITION

Major Patrick Beath

I'm a recent arrival to OP RATA II, stepping off the plane only a couple of weeks ago. Major Syd Dewes handed over the reins on 19 December and although he was sad to be leaving the Solomon Islands and the team here at Combined Task Force 635 (CTF 635), I'm sure he is now enjoying a well-earned beer somewhere in Auckland!

We are based in Honiara on the island of Guadalcanal, which saw fierce fighting during WWII between the Japanese and the Allies. Remnants of war can still be found if you know where to look. Aside from the obvious shipwrecks, artillery pieces and tanks, there are

also munitions left behind from that war. Safely disposing of these remnants is an ongoing task by the local authorities and specialists



Major Pat Beath receives the SNO's Alafole in front of the Task Force from outgoing SNO Major Syd Dewes

from New Zealand, Australia and the United States.

What is Guadalcanal like? For those of you who have experienced the Pacific Islands or East Timor before, you would probably feel very much at home here. The terrain, weather patterns, plant and animal life are very familiar. The local Solomon Islanders are very welcoming and they acknowledge us with smiles and a wave wherever we go. The weather is of course tropical and we have just had our first proper wet season rain for the year, lasting about four days straight – our Papua New Guinean friends even had to break out their hoodies to stay warm. For me, the tropical deluge was a welcome relief from the heat and humidity!

You are probably wondering who is still left here, since hearing of the recent return of the last New Zealand Platoon to serve in 'the Sollies'; a deployment which had been ongoing since 2003. We have a small team of eight New Zealanders who augment the headquarters of CTF 635, which in total numbers 160 military personnel from Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Tonga. Captain Loane Washburn is the Officer Commanding of the New Zealanders and fulfils a number of roles within the CTF HQ, including S33 (staff officer current operations), S35 (future operations) and S7 (training). He's one busy fella! Our S1 (personnel officer) is Sergeant Sonia Muir, who is instrumental in ensuring our deployed team are getting paid, getting leave and the mail is getting through, to mention only a few key tasks. Lieutenant Ken Nicholson and Private Mara Van der Merwe beaver away in the HQ never seeing the light of day except for meals and physical training it would seem! Corporal Chopper Thomas is our combat service support man and never fails to produce the

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

goods with a smile. Corporal Rick Ahomiro keeps the vehicles on the road, in between hardcore PT. Last (but not least), Lance Corporal Matt Harnett keeps our IT ticking over so we can keep in touch with the wider world.

The CTF nowadays is focused on internal training and maintaining our edge in the very unlikely event of being asked to support RAMSI's Participating Police Force (PPF) which mentors and guides the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF). This is unlikely, as the significant capacity-building work of RAMSI over the years is paying off and the RSIPF have demonstrated over the last 18 months the ability to deal with crowd incidents, shootings and the like. Despite all of this, we constantly remind ourselves that we are 'on ops', and must always

be ready to help our Solomon Island friends. In fact, the recent Cyclone Freda was a good reminder that other tasks may arise unexpectedly!

Contingencies and training activities aside, we have enjoyed Christmas and New Year's celebrations together with OP RATA being our surrogate family and the CTF and RAMSI our friends and community here. Team Kiwi have led the way in terms of dressing up and making a big entrance on both occasions, being the first on the dance floor and the karaoke machine and proving that you don't need booze to have fun! And of course Christmas was a little bit brighter thanks to the RSA and HQJFNZ for the care packages received and very much appreciated.

What does the future hold for the NZDF here? We are likely to have just one more rotation of staff before we cease military operations as part of RAMSI and ship our military equipment back to Australia and New Zealand, with a planned departure midyear. It is a pleasure to be part of a successful mission and all those who have participated in RAMSI in the past can be justifiably proud of their contribution. We wouldn't be where we are now without your hard work! Speaking of which, my last words go out to our families and friends who continue to give us much love and support. We haven't forgotten the effort and sacrifice required to carry on while your loved one is deployed. Thank you from all of us here on OP RATA II, and all the very best for 2013.



NZ NSE dressed to impress



MAJ Beath taking the lead in Solomon Island's got talent

CHAPLAIN'S PEN — FROM ABROAD

THE FESTIVE SEASON

**Padre Stu Hight
CRIB 21**

Well we are in 2013 now. Temperatures have certainly dropped and seeing the weather back home makes us a little envious.

Christmas was different. We didn't get a white Christmas the snow came a couple of days later. However, we celebrated Christmas in 'Kiwi Base' style. We made the most of things. It was good to receive:

Cards from the Presbyterian Social Support Totara club at Nelson. These cards were hand made.

We received cards from several primary schools and from people all over the country:

RSA parcels full of goodies.

Coconut Ice from Piccolos café in Feilding.

Christmas Crackers from Sanson Guides.

Gingerbread men too.

We even received packages from Cape Cod in the USA.

Christmas Day started with RSA parcels on Christmas Eve. This was followed by a Christmas Eve Service starting at 23:30 and seeing Christmas Day in. Christmas Day service was held at mid morning Christmas Day. We all had a late breakfast. The day was quite warm so the activities were enjoyed by all. \$675 was raised for 'Fallen Heroes Trust'. Secret Santa \$10 gifts were given out in the

afternoon together with All Black gear donated by the current team. Playing during the lunch were messages from you all back home. That was very special. Our chefs prepared an amazing meal which was served by Senior NCO's and the Officers. All in all we had a great day but of course we missed you all back home.

We saw the New Year in at the Flag Station where lanterns were launched representing the fallen soldiers who had died here in Afghanistan and particularly those who were killed in action during 2012. At dawn New Year's Day some of us went up PT Hill and at the top I prayed this prayer. It's just as applicable for you as us.

New Year's Day Prayer

May God make our new year a happy one;

not by shielding us from all sorrows and pain, but by

strengthening us to bear it, as it comes;

not by making our path easy, but by making us sturdy to travel any path;

not by taking hardships from us, but by taking fear from our hearts;

not by granting us unbroken sunshine, but by keeping our

faces bright, even in the shadows;

not by making our lives always pleasant, but by showing us when people

and their causes need us most, and by making us willing and

ready to be there to help.

Amen

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



Padre and Malcon give gifts to local children



CPL Cameron, Santa the refueller



Christmas Tree outside the Mess

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



Secret Santa



Receiving an All Black Jersey



Locally employed civilians Christmas luncheon



\$675 raised in activities on Christmas Day



Christmas Day Service



One of the day's activities

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

Padre Stu Hight
CRIB 21

Merry Christmas



I guess for all of us no matter where we are Christmas is Christmas, the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. This year for me hopefully it will be a white Christmas. Being in this part of the world is a bit like being in the area of the Holy Land. The surroundings, the cold and the mud brick housing all combines to make that first Christmas a bit more real.

Some of our guys who came here in August are heading home for Christmas but as one of these soldiers said to me – 'I'd rather have Christmas with my friends here because it's special.' We are planning a special day – for my part we will have a Christmas Eve Service and one on Christmas morning.

I have included a couple of photos of a Christmas tree that we have just installed outside the entry of the mess. Because there aren't many trees here in Afghanistan, one of the civilian guys (Cowboy) made a tree. Everyone wants to have a bit of our Christmas tradition here. Of course we will miss family, but we intend to make the best of the situation.

For all of you back home - from us all in Kiwi Base A Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

(Article submitted after the December deadline, but printed for your interest—Ed).



Covered in a dusting of snow



The creators of the tree

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

NEWS FROM OP FARAD, SINAI

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS IN THE SINAI

SGT Steve Allen, OP FARAD

When we think of the Christmas holidays we think of a well-earned break from work, over indulging in food and alcohol, receiving presents from family and loved ones, catching up on that DIY project that never seems to get completed, that long list of chores around the house, the inevitable RFL or CFT that will be conducted upon arrival back to work. However, most of us would agree that when we talk about Christmas we think of the time that we are going to spend with our family.

Serving overseas during that festive season is always hard no matter what operation you are conducting, even though we are missing our families back home, we are brought together and looked after by our 'brothers' and 'sisters' of our Contingent who are going through the same ordeal. So it gives me great pleasure in describing how we came together as a Contingent and as a family over the Christmas period.

For the New Zealand Contingent in the Sinai, Christmas starts with an early morning breakfast before coming together at the NZ Patio, the Contingent meeting area and SNCO Barracks. The traditional Secret Santa presents were handed out by Santa, AKA LT COL Boustridge. As there is an FX on Camp there was no shortage of gift ideas ranging from dancing toy camels to books, food and traditional Egyptian clothing.

Once the unwrapping of gifts was completed, time was spent together

before the Contingent Cricket match between us and the Australians at 1100. Even though the match was meant to be friendly, both sides were playing the game as it was an International. Towards the end, like so many other tests between our two great nations, the Kiwis were praying for rain to force a draw but it was not to happen, the Kiwis being beaten by the smallest of margins.

From 1400 onwards time was spent having a late Christmas lunch and a mid-afternoon nap for the ones who needed it. From 1900 time was spent together at the CO's accommodation with some guitar sing-alongs.

New Year's Eve was celebrated by

an Ancient times theme that started at the Kiwi Patio. There was no shortage of Vikings, Toga wearing Romans, and WW1 Soldiers, just to name a few. From the Patio it was off to the ANZAC Cove (a joint recreational area utilized between the Australians and Kiwis) to welcome in the New Year with other MFO Contingent members. As the night came to a close, it looked like the ANZAC Cove was the place to be; with movement outside camp restricted it looked like the Cove must have been at its capacity.

Regardless, where ever we spent Christmas or New Year, our family back home was not too far from our thoughts. Due to the comradeship that gets formed on deployments, the time spent away from loved ones is a little more bearable.

I would like to thank the OP FARAD Contingent for the great time spent together during this period.



Santa greets some of the Contingent on Christmas morning

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

Hi, I'm LCPL Fraser, and I'm currently posted to the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in Sinai, Egypt, as a driver. I'm writing this article on behalf of the New Zealand Contingent. The MFO is the peacekeeping force between Egypt and Israel. It was set up in 1981 to observe, report and verify any violations by Egypt or Israel, according to the peace treaty which was signed by both countries in 1979. The MFO is made up of twelve nations; Australia, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, Republic of the Fiji Islands, France, Hungary, Italy, Norway, the United States, Uruguay, and New Zealand.

The New Zealand Contingent has a variety of roles within the MFO. The majority of us make up the NZ Driving team. Other roles include Administrative Clerks, Plans Officer, Driver training positions, Aide de Camp to the Force Commander, Liaison Officer, Engineering WO, and New Zealand

Contingent Commanding Officer, 2IC and Regimental Sergeant Major.

As a driver my day starts at 0430 every morning. We get up to push bike across camp to the transport yard where we first parade and pick up our vehicles. The Vehicles could be anything from an armoured Ford F350 to a Mac Truck Tractor Unit with a 40 foot long trailer. Once we have our vehicles, it's a quick stop at the mess for breakfast, and then to the armoury to pick up our rifles and body armour. We then head out to conduct the days mission which could be delivering stores to all the observation posts throughout the Sinai desert, or driving across the border to Tel Aviv in Israel to pick up/drop off people or stores. The conditions in the desert make for some very interesting driving. There is almost no maintenance on the roads and the wind moves the sand dunes across the roads. During a sand storm visibility can

be as little as ten metres, which makes driving a real challenge. Our rotation has been here for two months and most of the drivers have already clocked up about 8000kms of driving on their missions.

Working for the MFO provides a great opportunity to meet and work with people from all over the world, and to learn about their cultures. There is also a good rivalry between the different contingents, especially in sports. Our NZ Contingent came out on top when we won the softball tournament this year, beating the United States by one point! Upcoming is the Force Skills competition which is the annual Skill at Arms Competition, which should be very competitive; we have just started training to win it. Well that's all I've got time for at the moment. A big shout out to all our loved ones and colleagues back in NZ, we shall see you again in May.



Winners of the 2012 Inter-Contingent Softball Competition

DSO'S CORNER



Carol Voyce

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

New Year Greetings to you all. I hope you managed to take a well earned break and enjoy the festive season. For most of us the weather was great, and importantly, Christchurch was pretty well shake free!

The last "Bugle" for the year was full of some wonderful contributions both from home and abroad. We have had some great feedback on that issue which was packed with lots of reading contributed from near and far. Maybe not so much for this edition, but to leave "The Bugle" for another week or two seems too long since you will have heard from us all. We are just starting to gather in what has been sent from abroad but I am guessing that this issue will be well short of the 44 pages in our last effort!

The year ahead is going to be full of change. Firstly, we will be anticipating the safe return of all those currently deployed to Afghanistan. I was fortunate to farewell those who deployed on CRIB 1 and it is certainly hard to believe that I will now see the Afghanistan commitment come to an end with the return of CRIB 21. Of course interspersed with this

deployment has been the many missions to other locations, some which have also finished or nearly have and others which are ongoing but with smaller numbers of service personnel! I recently met a lady whose son had deployed on CRIB 1 and while she was somewhat surprised that I didn't remember her name, I quietly got thinking about how much had happened and how many people I have had the privilege to meet in those intervening years – even if, I now couldn't recall all their names. What hasn't changed, is the commitment our service personnel show in wanting to deploy, in wanting to make a difference in a distant land and to know when they receive that medal that that is recognition that they have achieved something great and something to be truly proud of! Your commitment hasn't changed either! You have a direct impact on what is achieved abroad through your separation, by the support you offer, sacrifices you make and your many contributions to the well being of your loved one. There's part of that medal that is yours too!

Secondly this year, I see a change to the services we offer – in not only how we currently manage things but in the direction our service may take. While we have dabbled at the edges of some larger Exercises abroad – I am hoping that we can now explore offering a support to those deploying on these and to their families, and develop some new resources to meet these changes.

I am sure there are many changes imminent yet to be identified. It doesn't seem that long ago that we were all scared of change – but now we see it as progress, as exciting and with new challenges and achievements on the horizon – I am looking forward to it!

It's always good to have something to look forward to! Anticipated

happenings can provide a welcome break to routines and to managing a deployment. Last year our 27 year old daughter turned me into a concert go-er! - And 2013 looks no different. Last year she had me at Taylor Swift, (I am sure I was the oldest person there!) Lady Gaga, (an eye opener for an old girl like me) and Mumford and Son's (which a visiting friend thought was a new department store in Christchurch!) And so for 2013 – we have tickets to see Keith Urban in Melbourne while we are there for the Australian Tennis Open (a new experience) and then later in March to Bruce Springsteen at Hanging Rock. Bruce does belong to my era and I feel so lucky to think I get to see him again after previously enjoying his concert in Washington DC in 2010. In keeping with the trend already set, said daughter presented me for Christmas, with concert tickets to see Ed Sheeran in Auckland in March - and included airline tickets.

I think I better stay home after all this and get the DVD's out!!

Janine and I are looking forward to meeting with many of you for the tour updates on the Afghanistan deployment in early February. Be sure to check "What's On" for the dates when we will be coming to a place near you! The contingent has been busy making a DVD of themselves at work and "play" and we are pleased to have the chance to share this with you. Extended families and children most welcome! There will also be some information on homecomings, reunions and reintegrating into family life! Make sure you RSVP for catering purposes and mark the dates on your calendar.

Until next time, enjoy the summer sun in New Zealand, keep warm in cooler places abroad and we look forward to keeping in touch! Kind regards.

DSO'S CORNER CONT'D..



Janine Burton
Deployment Services Officer
1 (NZ) Brigade

Happy New Year to one and all! I hope that your Christmas and New Year celebrations went well and that you were surrounded by family and friends to support you at a time when separation from loved ones is perhaps more keenly felt. For those who were deployed in any one of the locations around the world, I am sure that Christmas spent with your colleagues was also a special one. I know that family members here were diligently sending off their Christmas parcels to arrive in time, and that for the majority you were able to hold off opening your special gifts until the appropriate time – although we did hear of a few deployed people for whom the anticipation was just too great and that Christmas gifts had been opened well in advance!

For some, Christmas and New Year was definitely a milestone to indicate that their deployment journey had reached (and has now passed) that half-way point. For some the deployment journey is almost at an end, and for some the journey has just started. With the speed with which 2012 disappeared, so too will the deployment journey pass and at

some point in the not too distant future, you will be reuniting. By the time this "Bugle" reaches you we will already be half way through January – the majority of us will be back at work and children will be anticipating the start of their new school year!

CRIB Tour Update planning is in place and we look forward to catching up with many of you next month – see the "What's On" section for dates and venues. If you are planning on coming along to any one of the venues, we would appreciate a call, text or email to assist with our seating and catering arrangements.

We wish you all well for 2013. With this first "Bugle" for the year, you are one more edition closer to homecoming.



The next edition will be the one before Valentine's Day so if you are thinking of putting in an extra special message for your Valentine, make sure you don't miss the deadline (30 January).

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:

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

CHRISTMAS DVD, NZPRT

Included in the pre-Christmas mail out of "The Bugle" was a DVD of Christmas messages from the New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team in Afghanistan. Great timing, as it arrived the day of posting! We hope you all enjoyed the personal messages and thank the contingent sincerely for their efforts. It is not easy for one to stand in front of the camera (think if the roles were reserved) but you all did a great job and brought much joy across the miles. The DVD was only included in the mailout for the nominated Primary Next of Kin (PNOK) of deployed service personnel. It is the role of the PNOK to share all information and resources received with their wider family group and friends. Sadly several people have expressed their concern to us that they were not able to access the DVD from the PNOK. If you have yet to see it, we could burn a few extra copies so please contact

either Carol or Janine if you need this done. Our mailout to the PNOK and others associated with the NZPRT is well over 500 and the copying of the DVD's was a huge exercise and costly task, hence we hoped the PNOK would share. We are sorry if you were disappointed and did not get access to a copy.

TOUR UPDATES NZPRT/CRIB 21

Please check "What's On" for the dates and venues of the upcoming tour brief for all those associated with the current deployment to Afghanistan. Attendance at this brief is not funded by NZ Defence Force, but is just another way that we like to be able to keep in touch with you all and to keep you updated. We have requested a DVD from the contingent, to offer a little more insight into their days away from us all, and will also be offering some information and

thoughts on reunions and the homecoming process. These briefs are open to all extended family members and children are most welcome. Light refreshments will be served so if you could RSVP by 8 February this would help us with our planning. Carol and Janine look forward to meeting up with you all.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CARD

I know we have mentioned this project a number of times in recent months, but the feedback from recipients worldwide has been simply amazing. Your efforts were well and truly appreciated. I have now been the lucky recipient of many thank you letters from abroad and have been busy forwarding them as they come to hand. Thanks to those who had the time to send their thanks back to us. I know many children have been delighted to get a response.

ARMY LEAVE CENTRES (ALC)

The Army Leave Centres provide holiday units at popular holiday destinations throughout New Zealand. ALC have 31 units located throughout New Zealand. The Leave Centre Units are the most widely used Welfare facility, providing members and other eligible users access to quality holiday accommodation at a moderate cost. Units are available for use by service personnel and their families as well as Civilian employees and Members of Associated Service Organisations such as the RNZAF, RNZN, Fire Service, NZ Police and RSA members.

All 2013 ballots are now open for entry.

The following closure dates apply for the Army Leave Centre 2013 ballot periods.

Easter (28 Mar - 1 Apr): closes 5pm Thurs 14 Feb, drawn 15 Feb.

Queens Birthday (31 May - 3 Jun): closes 5pm Thurs 4 Apr, drawn 5 Apr.

Labour Weekend (25 - 28 Oct): closes 5pm Thurs 29 Aug, drawn 30 Aug.

Christmas 2013 (20 Dec - 17 Jan 14): closes 5pm Thurs 26 Sep, drawn 27 Sep.

Contact: Phone: (04) 527 5823, 0800 111 823 or email army.leavecentre@nzdf.milnz

CRIB 21 Tour Update

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

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

Light refreshments will be served.

AUCKLAND, Friday 22 February, 6.30pm — 8.30pm.

Arch Hill, 204 Great North Road, Grey Lynn.

LINTON, Saturday 23 February, 10.00am — 12 mid day

Linton Conference Centre, Linton Military Camp.

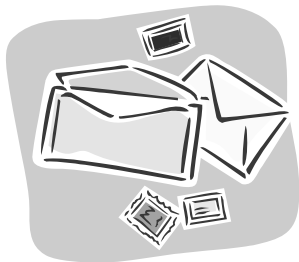
TRENTHAM, Saturday 23 February, 4.00pm — 6.00 pm

Messines Conference Centre, Some Road, Trentham.

BURNHAM

Camp Conference Centre, Burnham Military Camp, Sunday 24 February, 10.00am — 12 mid day

To assist with seating and catering requirements, please RSVP to Janine on 0800 683 77 327, email dso.linton@xtra.co.nz or Carol on 0800 337 569, email dso.burnham@xtra.co.nz no later than 8 February 2013..



CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

If your address or contact details have changed, or are changing, could you please complete this form and return it to your DSO, in Burnham or Linton.

Service Person's Name:

Deployment Location:

Name:

Old Address:

New Address:

.....

.....Postcode:

Email address:

PERSONAL MESSAGES



The deadline for contributions and personal messages for the next edition of "The Bugle" is **30 January 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

Hi Kendal

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Thinking of you always and I really wish I was there to celebrate the holidays with you. Love u lots xxxxx, Jack Reacher.

Dear Dayne Hunt – Irvine

Get some and get on a real trip, with love, Paniora – Hepi.

Mummy and all the Popata Family

Hope everyone is healthy and happy. Mummy don't worry about me I'm fine! The food here is great but not as good as yours! Miss you all! Love Baby Girl.

Scrumptious Crumpet

Hey babe got your message, cannot wait to see your abs too!! Miss you Hun. Love you always! Xxx. Sugar for all my boys!

Hi Annabelle, Charlie, and Kate

Xmas was lots of fun, but no snow. Dad played cards with Joe, Chris and Craig. Dad won because Chris was too busy looking for his baseball, Craig fell asleep and Joe can't count. Saw lots of pictures of your Xmas, looks like you were spoiled by your grandparents. That will stop when I get home. Been enjoying cigars at night, but don't tell mum. See you all in a short few months and we can all go hunting. Dad.

To Kerrin and Liam

Love you both so much and can't wait to see you on my return.

Dear Zaed and Indi

Hey my little darkies! Daddy misses you two so much but I'll be home before you know it, be nice to each

other and especially be nice to mummy, she's doing a great job looking after you two alone, I'll see use when I come home this year, xoxoxoxox, love daddy!

To my Hunni Ellie

Hey babe! We are almost half way already, not that long to go ok, and before you know it well be on our holiday relaxing on the beach with no kids, just you and me... I love you baby and I can't wait to see you again, xoxoxox, love the man of your dreams!

Dear Tana and Sticks

Ha ha, hey mum, hey dad! your baby boy (man) is doing ok, still missing you falahs like crazy but I'll be home in no time, I love yous both so much and P.S: Dad don't forget to let other people hold your grand daughter for once ok! Ha ha, I love yous from your son (the handsome son) xoxox.

From Home

Dear Ryan (Gaz)

Loving the phone calls and the occasional Skype! Big thanks to Alex for very entertaining Facebook entries. Just remember Alex I have your Mum's phone number!!! Half way now! Time going fast! Love you heaps, Mum and Dad.

Hunni

Happy Anniversary, second one in a row you've missed and you always say you'll make it up to me but eh...don't worry about it. You already bought me something REAL nice! Ha ha. Don't ever forget I love you with all my heart, you're the one at the end of the day, you are who you are and I love you that way. See you in a few

months Xxxxxx.

Hey Babe!

You've been gone for quite a while now
All I do is think about your wonderful smile
In my dreams I see you
Telling me that you're alright

I dream of your touch
and your sweet embrace
My mind is filled with visions of your face
Being deployed I know always comes first
Even though sometimes it hurts

I know your free time is very rare
And that you don't have too much time to spare.
Just know you're missed and deeply loved.
You are my world, my true beloved
Together in my thoughts and never a part
Maybe in distance but not in my heart.
Love you, Trace xxxx.

Happy Birthday Blake

From all of The Sutherlands here in Perth! We hope you have a great day. We will be thinking of you! Your first birthday with Snow! We will have a drink for you in the pool! Take care, Roger, Trudi, Kylie, Adam, Tehya, Shaye, Goliath xxxxxxxx.

Dave

Your temperatures r getting colder with snow well down now, while back in ChCh the days have been extremely hot, averaging about 20 degrees+, hard to sleep at nite, it's so warm. Hope this short message finds u well and in good spirits. All the best 4 the New Year and keep those phone calls coming. Love u heaps, Nan, Mum and Vader.

30 YEARS OF NZ COMMITMENT TO SINAI CAPTURED IN NEW BOOK

Source: nzdf.mil.nz

Picture:

RNZAF Iroquois helicopters fly over the Pyramids of Egypt. Rotary Wing Air Support was an early contribution by New Zealand to peace-monitoring in the Sinai.



One of New Zealand's longest, but little known, military commitments was recognised recently with the launch of a new book that captures the work NZ Defence Force has undertaken at the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in Sinai.

Made up of anecdotes, essays and colour photographs, *Sinai Journal: 30 years of Kiwis serving with the Multinational Force and Observers* (edited by Sarah Chandler and Charlie O'Hara-Smith), documents the adventures of around 80 NZ Defence Force personnel of the more than 1500 soldiers, sailors, and air men and women who have served at the MFO since its inception in 1982.

The MFO was established to uphold the conditions set down in the Treaty of Peace signed between Egypt and Israel in 1979. Uruguay, Fiji, Hungary, and Norway are among the 12 contributing nations that make up the MFO.

Two Kiwi Force Commanders, Lieutenant General (Retired) Don McIver, and Major General (MAJ GEN) Warren Whiting, contributed to the book, as well as current Vice Chief of Defence Force, MAJ GEN Tim Keating and Carterton Mayor Ron Mark.

Dr Peter Greener of the NZDF Command and Staff College has said of the book, "Sometimes humorous, sometimes irreverent, sometimes sad, the stories in the Sinai Journal capture something of the lives of ordinary New Zealanders doing an extraordinary job in difficult circumstances."

Currently 28 NZ Defence Force personnel are serving at the MFO, providing expertise in operations, driving and training.

The book can be purchased for \$29.95 at www.willsonscott.biz.