

THE BUGLE

Issue 183 | March 2013



INSIDE

- New Zealand's Antarctic Mission
- News from Abroad
- Keeping the Home Fires Burning
- Kids Activity Pages

COURAGE | COMMITMENT | COMRADESHIP | INTEGRITY

“THE BUGLE”

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

Deadline

The deadline for Edition 184 is 10 April 2013 at 4.00pm

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:

WO1 Tyrone Howard,
SSGT Richie Bron and
LT Mike Clulow overwatch an Afghan
Security Forces exercise in Bamian

GUEST EDITORIAL

Group Captain Shaun Clarke
Chief of Staff
Headquarters Joint Forces NZ

I recall putting a phone call in to home a few years ago. I was serving in the extreme west of Kosovo at the time – in a fairly isolated environment where tensions were high after Milosevic and the Serb regime had forced Albanian Kosovar families out of their homes and out of the region.

I got Louise, my wife, on the phone. ‘How are things going?’, I asked. It was really good to touch base, and she reassured me that everything was going OK at home, and that there was nothing to worry about.

Then she put my, then, nine year old daughter on the phone and we chatted about school and things. I said, ‘How’s Mum getting on?’. ‘Good’, said Jess, ‘but we’ve had a really big flood and Mum’s been quite busy fixing everything’. She then went on to describe how heavy rain a few nights ago had caused water to come down the hill, go in through the back door of the house and out the front door. She described how Mum had been up the hill at 3am in her nightie and gumboots shovelling out an overflowing storm-water drain in order to stop the water coming down the slope!

That experience etched indelibly on my mind an impression of the ‘war’ that’s very often being fought at home while loved ones are abroad serving New Zealand. The challenges at home come in all sorts of flavours – sometimes family troubles, sometimes financial worries, sometimes just being a



*Group Captain Shaun Clarke
Chief of Staff, Headquarters
Joint Forces NZ*

temporary solo parent with all the extra loads, sometimes even disasters – and I have huge respect for the extra weight that partners, families, loved ones, and mates, carry while you’re away.

On this week’s count the NZDF has 593 people serving on 26 missions in 17 countries. These missions range from prolonged ‘boots on the ground’ operations, to deployed ships and aircraft, to military aid programmes and foreign staff officer positions. In most every case, families are at home carrying extra loads.

I want you to know that Command is very aware of, and extremely grateful for, the service and support that families give to their loved ones abroad, and indeed to New Zealand. Circumstances can be challenging at home, and we recognise the pressures that families endure. We only hope that, along with the challenges, families might also share in the pride that their deployed members generate for the NZDF and for this country. We share the challenges, but also the honour, as partners.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

News from Afghanistan — Commanding Officer CRIB 21

Page 3-5

News from the Solomon Islands

Page 6-7

Chaplain's Pen from Abroad

Page 8

NEWS FROM AFGHANISTAN

LT COL Sholto Stephens
Commanding Officer, CRIB 21

"This generation now has some exceptional experiences and knowledge to pass onto the next generation of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Civilians in the NZDF. We are also the last chapter of a long and very proud commitment to Bamian Province".

March is now almost over and the snow is starting to thaw. By the time you read this edition of the Bugle, many of you will already have been reunited with your Husband, Father, Sister, Uncle, Son, Daughter; your loved one who you farewelled just seven months ago.

To those who have already returned home, their contribution to the mission whilst deployed across here has been immense. I say this not only as individuals but as groups. It may be a 'Patrol', it may be a vehicle crew, it may be one of our many and important support groups of Cooks, Mechanics, Engineers, Signallers or others.

Recently when we gathered together many of the remaining personnel across here in Bamian, I emphasized to them that everyone contributes to the mission across here. Often we don't realise this, especially if we are performing a task that simply seems to occur by itself. Our Aircraft Refueller, Corporal Scotty Cameron RNZAF is a classic example of this. Day-in,

Day-out, and often through the night, Scotty refuels helicopters, Light Armoured vehicles, Toyota pick-ups and Generators without fuss, despite this being a particularly tricky job when operating at -15° temperatures. Without his effort much of what we do here quite literally would come to a grinding halt. This is such a crucial appointment and role across here, and like all the other tasks that each of your loved ones complete, it all contributes to us staying safe and achieving our mission.

This is something that I ask you keep in mind when you meet up with your loved one when they return to New Zealand. Most of the CRIB 21 personnel will say, "I didn't do anything that special", however, I can guarantee they have all performed a critical role whilst deployed across here. For this, you can be very proud of them and what they have accomplished during their time away from you.

Finally, it dawned on me yesterday as one of our Soldiers was telling me what motivated him to deploy to



CPL Scotty Cameron, RNZAF refuels another helicopter at Kiwi Base

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

Afghanistan; "I was afraid I would not get the chance to say that I had been part of the CRIB deployments" he said. This rotation is the last of the 'big' Afghan rotations, and as such I consider that we are the final chapter of the 'Afghan Generation' that now comprises over 2000 members of the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) who have deployed here over the past decade. This generation now has some exceptional experiences and knowledge to pass onto the next generation of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Civilians in the NZDF. We are also the last chapter of a long and very proud commitment to Bamian Province.

Enjoy being re-united with your loved one when they get home, ask them to tell you about what they have experienced across here. They have been part of an incredibly important chapter for our Military and for that you and I can be very proud of them.

He tini mano ringa ka oti ai.



Kiwi Soldier, with an Afghan Security Force Toyota Hilux in the background, jointly conduct security near Bamian Town

Below:

Malaysian Contingent about to depart Bamian. The Malaysians have been committed to Bamian for two and a half years conducting medical and dental treatment and then training health practitioners here in the Province



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



Left:

LT Poriwira Kahura RNZA, chats with a senior Afghan Policeman as they both watch the Afghan Police on exercise



LT COL Richard Weston, CO of the Theatre Extraction Team for the Kiwi's in Bamian, congratulates one of Padre Stu Hight RNZAF's English language students at their graduation. See also the Chaplains article in this edition

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

NEWS FROM OP RATA II (16) , SOLOMON ISLANDS

CPL Rick Ahomiro

I arrived in Honiara in August 2012, my second deployment to the Pacific. I am a member of the NZ National Support Element based here at Guadalcanal Beach Resort, affectionately known as GBR.

I was fortunate to arrive here one month into the last NZ platoon rotation and will also see out the current company rotation comprised of two ADF platoons and a platoon from PNG. Arriving early saw me working alongside the old NSE under Major Syd Dewes until the rest of the team arrived in country. As the NSE has a six month tour we see a lot of personnel, both military and civilian come and go. Friendships are forged then farewells are made. Then the process repeats itself with the newcomers.

The tempo has slowed for us somewhat since the departure of the NZ Platoon in late November; however, we have endeavored to keep ourselves occupied with whatever is going on at the time.

One such activity was Australia Day. It fell to us Kiwis, in particular CAPT Ioane, to co-ordinate an afternoon of sport, or in SGT Robyn's words "compulsory fun", for the ADF to enjoy. The NSE team was employed as referees and officials or if you didn't know the rules, time keepers. The three codes were cricket, netball and ultimate Frisbee. Upon hearing that he was to referee netball, CPL Chopper was heard to mutter, "not this call sign" and proceeded to make up his own rules. So it was a bit of a shock to the players and spectators when upon the first infringement a 10 man scrum was

seen packing down in the middle of the netball court.

The ADF seemed to appreciate CPL Chopper's take on the game of netball and proceeded to crack on. It was an enjoyable day for everyone.

I better not forget to mention that we have had a real job to do and as the Company got into their training programme, it saw NZ personnel acting as the enemy party and providing support when required through the various cells. Survival training was the highlight of this rotation deployment and there was a HQ section participating. This is where LCPL Matt excelled. Something about him muttering that he was 'Tarzan King of the Jungle'.

There is an array of extracurricular activities on offer over here including regular sporting events, social activities, diving, battlefield tours and day trips out to the Islands. Some have a small cost, but by and large are well worth the time out from the confines of GBR for a change in scenery.



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

The wet season is now upon us, with a fairly regular deluge about mid afternoon each day. If it's not the heat of the day forcing me to change t-shirts two, sometimes three times a day, then it's because of being caught in the rain. We keep the laundry ladies pretty busy. I dare say we have all sweated out a few kilos.

A few of us participated in what was named World Vision Day, an activity which got CTF personnel out and about in local villages conducting community tasks. CPL Chopper assured us he could lead the fence building and drain laying teams. I had hoped to win hearts and minds on the sports paddock playing touch or attempting to play soccer. The kids loved watching us on the pitch and in most cases jumped in to join the fun.

The NSE also showed their support to fighting cancer by participating in the 24hr Relay for Life. There were 10 teams in total and a 1.4 km track (called the Hamster Track).

The NSE teamed up with some of the Kiwi cops to be called...Team Kiwi...very original. The day was enjoyed by all and some came out more worse for wear than others. Team Kiwi managed second place to a much younger Aussie S4 cell, which 'cheated' to win. SGT Sonia needs a special mention as she completed a total of 15 laps in two hours, as for me my humble effort was 8 laps in 60 minutes...beat that Chop!!

Working with other nations and experiencing other cultures broadens the mind and makes you appreciate the small things at home that maybe you once took for granted. I'm sure we will return content in the knowledge that we contributed in some small way to the success of Regional Assistance Mission Solomon Islands, or RAMSI.



CHAPLAIN'S PEN — FROM ABROAD

Padre Stu Hight
CRIB 21

Our tour is drawing to its conclusion. The 'Advance Party' will by now have reached New Zealand shores. We are now experiencing the 'last of things' - graduation parades, the drawing down of services, all gearing up to leaving Kiwi Base after 10 years in Bamyan Province.

One of the tasks I have had was taking English Classes for the local young people, as previous padres have done. I ended up with two classes. The first was young boys with an average age of about 12, and an older group with an average age of around 17. Last year I just had two classes a week, each lesson was for an hour but this year increased it to four. I couldn't handle much more than that. Recently we had a test and the presentation of certificates. With 45 in each class, the marking and printing off of the certificates took quite some time. I now have a better appreciation of what teachers have to do. Some of the certificates I had to print again because I got some of the names wrong, but to be fair their writing was a little hard to decipher.



On the day we had the presentation of the certificates, I had said to the first class we would have a class photo outside the classroom. When I went to walk outside half the class came with me, the others remained inside taking everything that could be taken - stationery, books, puzzles, in fact anything and everything that could be carried away. The only benefit was that I had less to clean up, but it did challenge my Christian grace. These children are street wise and have to fend for themselves. We have a sign up by the helicopter landing zone that says, 'Don't feed the locals.' This is because they would 'swamp' an aircraft calling out 'buckshish' meaning anything

free and the American aircrew would give out lollies, and pens.

My classes were geared to learning conversational English, the theory they learnt at school. But I had a great time with these young people, especially the older group. Their English was at such a level that we were able to have good conversations, even though I had to get them to repeat some of their sentences so I could get my head around their pronunciations! Each Thursday I would have topics they would prepare a short speech on. These were a highlight. They talked about their dreams, hopes and aspirations for the future. They passionately talked about their vocations they wanted to pursue. Some wanted to be teachers which was the most popular, some engineers, businessmen, even a couple of politicians (and they could talk). Several of this class, including my two assistants, were teaching English in their local villages - that is impressive.

Even though this was quite an effort on my part, I look back with satisfaction of what we were able to do together and knowing that these young people believe in a future in Afghanistan. With their passion and enthusiasm, this generation not only holds the key to the future of the nation but can see it come to fruition.



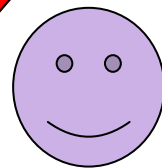
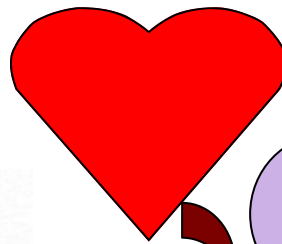
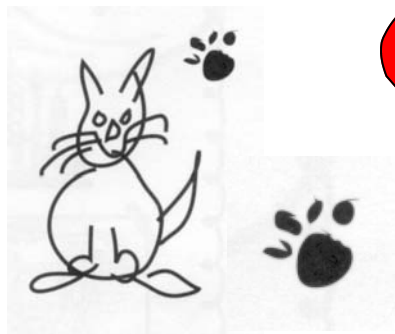
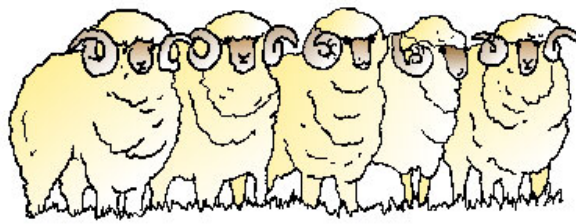
Sometimes we make big pictures for our parents. When Dad is away, Mum covers the table with big paper bags. We get to draw all over the paper. It's a lot of fun. We use crayons, big markers, stickers and stamps. Sometimes we put Sam's paw print in the picture. Mum writes a letter to Dad on the back of our pictures. Mum sends the picture letter to Dad. We tell Mum to say

Big Pictures

that we love him and miss him. He likes to get these letter pictures. We do the same for Mum when she's away.



Hello Dad



Miss you xxx

Make a large colourful picture to send overseas.
Write a letter on the back.

FEELINGS

When one of my parents goes away I have all kinds of feelings. I have sad feelings, confused feelings, and happy feelings. Everyone has feelings about separations, even grownups.

When we know we will be separated, my parents and I talk about our feelings. This feels good.

Here are some feelings kids have when one of their parents is going to go away.



S	T	R	E	S	S	E	D
H	K	L	M	M	A	H	O
A	O	G	L	A	D	C	W
P	R	O	U	D	F	G	N
P	Q	S	C	A	R	E	D
Y	R	T	L	O	K	P	D

DOWN

GLAD

HAPPY

MAD

PROUD

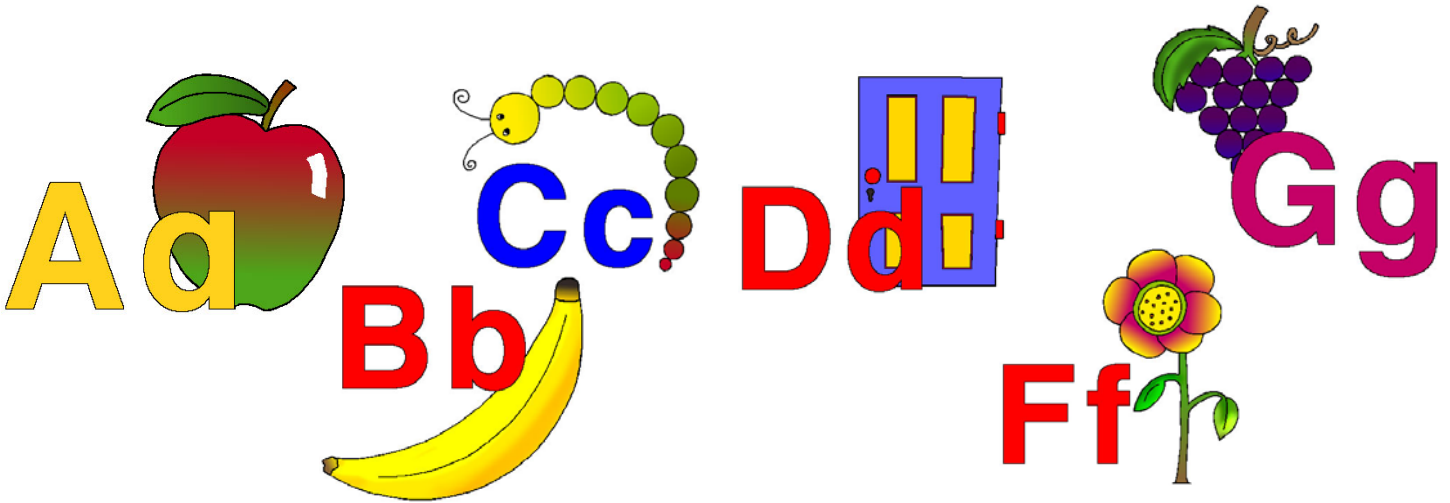
SAD

SCARED

STRESSED

Look down and across to find and circle these feeling words. Colour in those circled feelings you have and then talk about them with your parents or someone else you trust.

Secret Word Scramble



n i g o g Where are you 10 8 ?

g l n o How ₆ ₉ will you be away?

s i m s Will you me?

me ho When will you be 1 2 3 4 ?

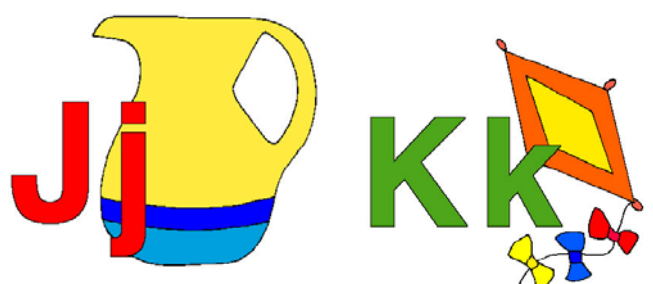
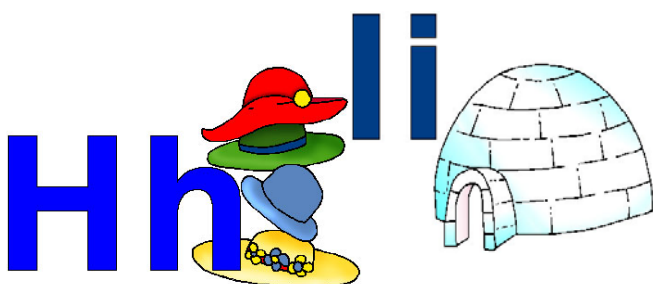
e t k a Who will me to school?

h o l s o c Who will help me with my work?

e e m b e r m r Will you _____ my birthday?

SECRET WORD

A horizontal bar divided into 10 equal segments, labeled 1 through 10 below.



HOMEcoming

Getting Ready for Homecoming

The best time is when we get ready for our parents to come home. We were sad when they left. We will be glad to see them when they come home. And they will be happy to see us because they love us.



**WELCOME
HOME**

What could you do to Welcome your Mum or Dad Home?

- * Make a special welcome home card
- * Make a welcome home banner
- * Have a party
- * Cook Mum or Dad's favourite meal
- * Plan a special treat for your parent





Massive Defence Contribution to NZ's Antarctic Mission



An RNZAF Boeing 757 sits on a runway of ice readying for the last flight of the summer season in Antarctica

15 March 2013

The New Zealand Defence Force's summer-season support to our country's commitment to the pristine Antarctic region has drawn to a close with the final Royal New Zealand Air Force Boeing 757 ice flight.

Around 200 Defence Force personnel directly supported the mission at various stages of the October to March season, with the mission peaking in February during the annual supply ship offload where Defence personnel worked round the clock in freezing conditions.

The Royal New Zealand Air Force was responsible for shifting more than 5,500 people and approximately 2.5 million pounds in cargo utilising six RNZAF C-130 Hercules and four RNZAF Boeing 757 and US ice flights. This was the largest number of flights made by RNZAF B757 aircraft to Antarctica in a season.

Commander Joint Forces New Zealand, Air Vice-Marshal Kevin Short, says the Defence Force's support to Antarctica is a longstanding commitment and will become our largest annual mission once our personnel withdraw from Bamyar Province, Afghanistan next month.

"The Defence Force has supported Antarctica NZ and the US Antarctic Programme for over 50 years. During the summer season in Antarctica our personnel from Navy, Army and Air Force operate in some of the harshest conditions in the world.

The Defence Force takes pride in our ability to utilise our unique skills to complete the job safely and efficiently in a difficult environment, working alongside Antarctica NZ, United States military personnel and US National Science Foundation staff and scientists."

"There is always great camaraderie between our people and Antarctica NZ and US personnel."

This season the 17 person NZ Army Light Engineering Team performed a number of critical engineering tasks in support of McMurdo Station operations to ensure facilities and major infrastructures can withstand the harsh winters, including welding repairs to the 20km main fuel line between Pegasus Airfield and McMurdo Station.

The 26 person NZ Army Ship Offload Team unloaded and loaded the main supply container ship, crucial to support teams through the winter season. At the same time the 22 person NZ Army Driver Support Team worked in the 24 hour daylight to move cargo from the container ship to McMurdo Station.

Eight Defence Force personnel from the three Services completed a full six month season at Scott Base working in communications, air cargo handling, plant operations and operations management roles.

A small number of personnel supported the US Air National Guard with maintenance tasks. A 12 person RNZAF team conducted survival skills training for air crews on the ice, and the Air Force also provided emergency recovery and search and rescue standby for US aircraft operations.

18 personnel based at Harewood Terminal in Christchurch operated continuously throughout the season processing and loading and unloading both RNZAF and US ice flights.

The Defence Force's Senior National Officer for Antarctica, Lieutenant Commander Barry Holmes, says the season went really well.

"It's been an extremely busy few months with long hours and a lot of moving parts. Each day was different with its own unique operational challenges, yet every day down there you would think it is amazing to be working in a place like Antarctica."

"All our Defence Force personnel proved themselves to be crucial to the efficient running of operations in Antarctica supporting Antarctica NZ and the US Antarctic Programme. There is always great camaraderie between our people and Antarctica NZ and US personnel."

NEWS UPDATE CONT'D...



*Air Commodore Kevin Short,
Commander Joint Forces New Zealand*

New Commander takes charge of Deployed Forces

28 February 2013

Air Vice-Marshal Kevin Short took command of Joint Forces New Zealand in a Change of Command ceremony in Trentham earlier today. The parade differed to those normally seen within the Defence

Force with a mix of all ranks in all services on show.

Outgoing Joint Forces Commander, Major General David Gawn, was officially farewelled at the ceremony and said he was departing with an element of regret.

"On occasions we get opportunities and experiences that define who we are, and give substance to our careers. My role as Commander Joint Forces NZ has been that for me. While there have been a number of very difficult events to deal with during my time in command, it has been a privilege to work with such professional and dedicated people. We are the three edges of the blade of a single patu," said Major General Gawn.

On taking up his new appointment as Commander Joint Forces New Zealand, Air Vice-Marshal Short said he was honoured to assume command of all deployed forces, operational missions and joint exercises.

"My appointment is a great privilege and a great opportunity. This Headquarters has responded to all that has been asked of it and I'm impressed with the achievements so far. I'm determined to ensure that we continue to deliver and maintain our national and international commitments as we work towards the vision of an integrated Defence Force."

Air Vice-Marshal Short has held many senior appointments in the Air project, strategic commitments, plans and capability development related areas. He has also filled a number of command and representational appointments including NZDF Senior National Officer at USCENTCOM as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, Senior National Officer and Commander of the NZPRT (CRIB 9), and Officer Commanding No 485 Wing.

Sailor Shows Support through Sport

21 March 2013

A large-scale auction of sporting memorabilia is Navy sailor Warrant Officer (WO) Mick O'Carroll's way of raising money on behalf of the NZ Fallen Heroes Trust.

Warrant Officer Mick O'Carroll has masterminded a vast collection of sporting memorabilia, appealing to a wide audience of sports fans.

The sporting goods will be auctioned online through Trade Me over the period 21-28 March. All proceeds will go to the NZ Fallen Heroes Trust.

"Items have both national and international appeal and significance" says WO O'Carroll. "The collection of bats, balls,

photographs, and clothing includes regional, national and international sporting organisations – many of whom have signed their items."

"Sports fans can bid on a 2013-2014 Maori All Blacks jersey or a life-sized poster of Nick Willis from the Beijing Olympics. A framed Real Madrid pennant sits alongside several ARL jerseys. Or perhaps a Glasgow Celtic football jersey takes your fancy? What about the home strip of the NZ Warriors, or paraphernalia from Team NZ Yachting?"

WO O'Carroll is the epitome of commitment to service, after 40 years serving in the Royal New Zealand Navy and the Royal Navy.

"I wanted our Navy to help support the Fallen Heroes Trust because it is a great cause and helps support

our people. The auction has just grown from there."

"Our people are our most important asset," says WO O'Carroll, "alongside our Army and Air Force colleagues, sailors perform roles where we may put ourselves at risk.

"This Trust acknowledges the support of our family and friends, who make up a significant part of our Defence community and enable us to do our job well."

What: Large scale auction of sporting memorabilia

When: 21-28 March, with auction timings staggered

Where: Online, via:
<http://trade.me/fallenheroesnz>

Why: Raising money on behalf of the NZ Fallen Heroes Trust

DSO'S CORNER



Carol Voyce

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

It's chocolate season – don't you just love it! – I have to admit I have done my fair bit of taste testing and sadly it seems quite addictive! I am trying to justify every bite. Don't you just hang on the word that chocolate contains beneficial antioxidants! Apparently in times gone by, chocolate was often attributed with medicinal purposes. It was used to help emaciated patients gain weight and was said to stimulate the nervous system and improve digestion. It's now widely known that antioxidants are found in a variety of "good" foods so justifying that chocolate urge is not quite so easy!

Not sure if you have ever studied the history behind the giving and receiving of Easter eggs. It makes for some interesting reading and of course there are many traditions and conflicting legends which are peculiar to given countries. Some fascinating facts and theories to be found!

If you check out the "Cadbury" website you will find that the earliest Easter eggs were hen or duck eggs, decorated at home in bright colours with vegetable dye and charcoal. The 17th and 18th centuries saw the manufacture of

egg – shaped toys and later saw the emergence of the gorgeous Faberge eggs. It wasn't until 1875 that the first chocolate eggs emerged. Imagine this – dark chocolate with a smooth surface, decorated with chocolate piping and marzipan flowers and stuffed with sugared almonds! By 1905 the famous Cadbury's Dairy Milk chocolate made a tremendous contribution to the Easter Egg market and still does. It seems now you can buy every flavour you dared dream about and more.

I am sure that there are many Easter Eggs making their way to deployment locations worldwide and will be well received by many lucky recipients. It's a tradition well embedded and enjoyed by all. I hope there have not been mailbags left on hot tarmacs making their way across the globe and resulting in a nice gooey mess arriving somewhere!

Parcelling up the eggs may have been a welcomed treat – not only for the recipient but in helping you think of something new for those ever valued welfare packages you send! I know we tell you this many times, but your small parcels, sent frequently have the most amazing impact on morale. I have written in past editorials about being in Timor-Leste on mail day and the excitement and disappointment that I witnessed was something I will never forget! And remember too – it doesn't always have to be a parcel – the good old fashioned letter can be enjoyed, read, re read, tucked into one's pocket and carried and re read again!! Believe me – I have seen this too.

I am sure chocolate is the last thing on the minds of those eagerly awaiting homecomings from Afghanistan and the Solomon Islands. Be sure to keep in touch for the latest in flight information. As Janine is on leave, please ring

me directly on 0800 33 75 69. If you lose this number, hers' will forward to my line but takes a few rings and what seems like a long period of silence to happen! I look forward to hearing from you.

For those still on the deployment journey, help or a listening ear is just at the end of a phone line so please do not hesitate to call if we can ease a burden, solve a problem or help you navigate the system.

Easter Greetings to you all - Amongst the Easter eggs, chocolate bunnies, Hot Cross Buns and holiday weekend – let's not forget the true meaning of Easter!

Kind regards.

Easter Quotes



"There's nothing better than a good friend, except a good friend with CHOCOLATE."

Linda Grayson,
("The Pickwick Papers")

"The spirit of Easter is all about hope, love and joyful living."

(Anonymous)

DSO'S CORNER



Janine Burton
Deployment Services Officer
1 (NZ) Brigade

We are rapidly approaching the end of the final CRIB (NZ PRT) rotation into Afghanistan and I know that families are eagerly awaiting the return of loved ones from whom they have been (mostly) parted for

six-plus months. I remember very clearly how I felt just six months ago when we were waiting for the return of my son from his deployment, and how excited and emotional I became. It was wonderful to be at the arrival, to see the plane land, to see the team disembark from the aircraft and to be searching for that familiar face among the crowd and to know that he was once again on home soil, safe and sound. Absolutely marvellous! So as this deployment journey comes to its conclusion, we are thinking of you all and hope that reunions go well. Family dynamics being what they are, those reunions and reconnections will differ among you and there may be a few little bumps along the way for some, but family are a gift and I'm sure that all will be well.

I will be away on leave again for the weeks before and after Easter for a very special family occasion – my

son's wedding. All very exciting; we have family coming in from all over which is wonderful. My phone will divert through to Carol so your calls will be answered.

Have a lovely Easter break and I look forward to seeing many families at the homecomings (Ohakea).



Daylight Saving Ends

Sunday 7 April

**3.00am — turn your
clock back by one hour**

Skype

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

SKYPE is a great piece of software that allows users to make video calls over the internet and is especially valuable for those in deployment locations. Unfortunately all missions do not have this resource available, but for those who do, it provides an extra and valuable connection with home. Obviously you need to set up your SKYPE account before deployment, as it can be difficult to establish once abroad. The SKYPE call needs to come to you from the service person abroad and not the other way around.

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

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



FOR YOUR INFO

The Bugle Mailout - Afghanistan Deployment

"The Bugle" will continue to find its way to your letterbox until all service personnel deployed to Afghanistan return home. Once all these service personnel on CRIB 21 and under the command of LT COL Sholto Stephens are back in country, we will discontinue our mailout to you all. There will still be a number of personnel remaining in Afghanistan and we will continue to mail to you three-weekly until they too return to New Zealand.

Return to New Zealand Information, Afghanistan Deployment

All Primary Next of Kin (PNOK) have been notified by mail of the return to New Zealand details for their loved ones. If you require further information or an update, please call Carol Voyce (DSO Burnham - 0800 33 75 69). Please note that information can only be given to the PNOK who have a responsibility to share this with "significant" others. All flight timings are subject to change at short notice and for reasons beyond our control, so we ask you to keep in touch for the latest in information. A gentle reminder - in the interests of safety and security we ask that you keep flight details confidential and not discuss these on phone lines into Afghanistan, on email or on any social media sites - i.e., Facebook. If you are planning to meet a flight into Whenuapai we must have the names of all people who wish to enter the Base there at least 48 hours before the flight is scheduled to land. Please contact the DSO Burnham - Carol, on 0800 33 75 69 for your details to be added to the list for security purposes. You will need photo ID for all adults entering the Whenuapai Base. If your name

is not on the list 48 hours before the flight lands you will not be allowed onto the Base. To avoid disappointment, please have your names in as soon as possible.

Coverage of 24 Hour Phone Line over the Easter break

Janine (DSO Linton) is currently on leave and Carol is providing coverage for Janine, her phone line is currently diverted to Carol's phone. Over the Easter period, Friday 29 March - Wednesday 3 April, Carol will be out of the country. Her phone line will divert to Ms Lynne Smith, J18 Personnel

Welfare, Trentham. It will be necessary to leave a message on the line at times and Lynne will clear these at frequent intervals and attend to your need. Please don't hesitate to call as Lynne will be happy to help you along the way.

ANZAC Day

There will be a number of ANZAC Day Remembrance Services at home and abroad on 25 April. To check for a local service near you visit www.rsa.org.nz or check your local newspaper for details. More on ANZAC day next issue.

Poppy Day Friday 19 April



Poppy Day happens on the Friday before Anzac Day. RSA volunteers exchange distinctive red poppies for a donation to the RSA Poppy Day appeal in support of veterans as well as ex-service people and their families in need.

The poppy reminds us of sacrifices made – both past and present. Poppies were the first flowers that grew in the battlefields of Flanders in Belgium during World War One and are a symbol of remembrance and hope.

Poppy Day has been a part of the New Zealand calendar since 1922, making it one of the oldest nationwide appeals. It remains RSA's most important appeal of the year, so please donate.

KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING

I'm just cleaning out our wardrobe in preparation for homecomings! Taking the good advice from the past - I am not touching HIS things!! But how I would like to magically make "that jacket" disappear but better not! I can't believe that I have accumulated so much stuff! It's not even Spring but I have made this huge "to do" list before "HE" gets home and this is just one of the many things I want to do and cross off my list! It seems I have treated myself to a few new clothes over these past months and so out with the old and in with the new. Shoes - well that's my true failing - I have a few!!

Days have always gone faster when I have been busy so today has been no exception. I'm feeling both nervous and excited about homecomings and reunions. On the practical side I know I am going to be all sorted - lawns mowed, garden weed free, furniture polished and polished again, house looking great, but me, surprisingly nervous amongst all this planning. Because we still don't have any dates to work towards or timings I am in a dither here - will I have time to get my hair done, is it going to rain or be cold, and what will I wear? I have tried on so many outfits - I am sure "HE" won't even notice if it's new or old, but this is a dilemma I am facing. A nice one though! Seems so small in the bigger picture but I have



heard others tell me its nerve wracking!

We have been great at making plans for after the homecoming and I picked up some great tips which the DSO; Carol Voyce gave us, at a recent brief on how to manage reunions. I am trying too, to be realistic and I know after a few days we might start to annoy each other or "HE" may not like the way I have rearranged the Lounge room and move it all back to how it was! But I know things will take time. I feel we have taken advice and acted upon it. It's all about communication, about not bottling up little things and slowly getting our lives together, back together. Hmm - sounds easy?

I will probably wear the new blue number to the airport, try not be rushed and hope there isn't a TV camera in my face. I'll be looking forward to seeing you all at the welcome home! We are over this now and ready for life to take us in new directions.

Suzie H

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:

Waikato—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

PERSONAL MESSAGES



The deadline for contributions and personal messages for the next edition of "The Bugle" is **10 April 2013 at 4.00pm**. Please note: All "Bugle" messages are to be sent to Carol Voyce, DSO Burnham (email: dso.burnham@xtra.co.nz)

From Home

Hi Andrew L!

All the best from the boys on the shore, hope the books were a good read? Look forward to seeing you for a drink when you get back. From Glenn and the Kristin team.

Hey Boo Boo...

Happy Anniversary for April! I hope you organized something for me. I hope you get yours soon. I'm enjoying buying stuff for a new beginning when you get home. Don't worry Ollie is still a nutter! I miss and move you so much Boo! Love from Me and Ollie Dog xxx.

Hey Ryan (Gaz)

Now feeling close enough to count down the days! Looking forward to having you home. Stay safe. Love you heaps. Mum and Dad.

Hey Babe!!

I hear your voice away so far
The beauty of your words
Distance cannot mar.

Our bond it only strengthens
And as the nights go by
I feel your arms around me
As I gaze up to the sky.

The smile upon my lips
It will surely never die
As I'm waiting here for you
Until you're by my side

We're one step closer.....
I love you, Your girl forever, Trace xx.

Hey my hunk'a'spunk!

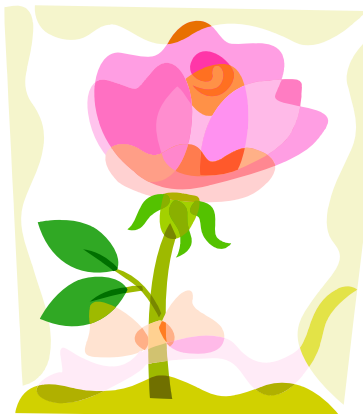
Kei te pehea koe? So I had a BBQ at our whare last Saturday, and I invited a few of your colleagues' partners and family members. It was such a cool day! I think everyone enjoyed themselves, and I tried not to burn the meat on the

BBQ [which I did ALL by myself - go me!!] It was great because we all understood what one another had been experiencing through this tour, and we're all equally as excited about your homecoming! By the time you are reading this message, you will be thinking of homecomings. I can't wait for you to wrap your arms around me! And to see your cheeky smile again in person! Geez I've missed that..... I've missed you so so much! Even your annoying habits, lol! All the best for the big pack down, and I hope you all have a safe and speedy journey home. Then the world will make sense again! I keep you all in my prayers. I love you so much my honey! See you soooooooooooooooooooooon!! P.S. Love will keep us alive! D. Arohanui, Your Princess xoxoxo.

BOUQUETS

LT COL Sholto Stephens, Padre Stuart Hight, Major Gareth Jones, CRIB 21

Sincere thanks to you both for the huge contributions you have made to the welfare and wellbeing of our families associated with this deployment. You have both excelled in your contributions to "The Bugle" and for keeping us all informed. We have enjoyed the 'sights and sounds' of Bamian and Bagram by your many writings and photos and great columns. Sincere thanks too for the help with family issues that have



happened from time to time. You have managed to give much peace of mind to those at home in times of need. We have valued your wisdom, expertise and guidance and thank you both for your dedication and support. We could not have managed without you. Safe travels and happy reunions to you all! *Carol and Janine.*

SSGT Sonia Muir OP RATA

Many thanks Sonia for the great job you have done from afar. It's been great having the support when needed and I have so much appreciated your help with issues as they came to hand. Thanks too for co-ordinating the many "Bugle" articles and for keeping us all up-to-date with happenings in your deployment location. Wishing you safe travels and happy reunions, *Carol.*



EASTER TRIVIA



- ★ The name Easter derived its name from the Anglo-Saxon goddess Eastre, which symbolizes hare and egg.
- ★ Easter always falls between March 22 and April 25.
- ★ Easter is however now celebrated (in the words of the Book of Common Prayer) on the first Sunday after the full moon, which happens on, or after March 21, the Spring Equinox.
- ★ Since time immemorial, egg has been considered as the symbol of rebirth.
- ★ The first Easter baskets were designed as such so as to give it an appearance of a bird's nests.
- ★ The custom of giving eggs at Easter time has been traced back from Egyptians, Gaul, Persians, Greeks and Romans, to whom the egg was a symbol of life.
- ★ During the medieval times, a festival of egg throwing was held in church, during which the priest would throw a hard-boiled egg to one of the choirboys. It would then be tossed from one choirboy to the next and whoever held the egg when the clock struck 12 was surely the winner and will retained the egg.
- ★ Americans however celebrated Easter with a large Easter egg hunt on the White House Lawn.
- ★ Pysanka is the term used for the practice of Easter egg painting.
- ★ The maiden chocolate egg recipes were made in Europe in the nineteenth century.
- ★ Each year nearly 90 million chocolate bunnies are made.
- ★ Besides Halloween, Easter holiday also paves way for confectionary business to prosper.
- ★ When it comes to eating of chocolate bunnies, the ears are preferred to be eaten first by as many as 76% of people.
- ★ Easter Bonnets are a throwback to the days when the people denied themselves the pleasure of wearing fine angels for the duration of Lent.
- ★ Kids' favourite Easter foodstuff comprises of the Red jellybeans.
- ★ Some Churches still keep up the old tradition of using evergreens - symbolic of eternal life - embroidered in red on white, or woven in straw, but most now prefer displays of flowers in the spring colours of green, yellow and white.
- ★ The date of Passover is variable as it is dependent on the phases of the moon, and thus Easter is a movable feast.



<http://www.theholidayspot.com/easter/trivia.htm#2e4OZv24yP9HFyxa.99>