

# THE BUGLE

Issue 190 | October 2013



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## “THE BUGLE”

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

### Deadline

Deadline for Edition 191 is  
6 November 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:

“Private” Kiri Kereru begins her adventures on Operation Bird (see page 14).

## GUEST EDITORIAL

**MAJOR TONI DUFFIELD**  
**Military Assistant to COMJFNZ**  
**Headquarters Joint Force**  
**New Zealand**

Well it is already October, and people all over the world are beginning to plan for Christmas. This time last year I was on OP SCORIA, serving on the Golan Heights as a United Nations Military Observer in UNTSO. Our task was to observe the Area of Separation between Israel and Syria, and report any activities that were or could lead to violations of their 1974 Agreement. The civil war in Syria was getting closer and closer to the border, and the situation has not improved. My thoughts are with the UNMOs still serving over there.

I was away for just over 12 months, and it is a long time to be away from family and friends. Telephone calls home were really important to keep in touch and those of us on the Israel side were lucky that we had access to the internet, well - most of the time.

Wednesday was the day that the mail was delivered from Jerusalem, and if we were not on duty on the Observation Posts, at some stage of the day we would manage to go to our HQ and check if there was something from home. Parcels and letters were really important, and I was lucky I had good friends who made sure there was often something in the mail for me. Whittaker's peanut slabs, onion soup, tins of cream, pineapple lumps, Christmas decorations and vegemite – bliss!!



*Major Toni Duffield*

And sending letters, photos and emails home was important for my family. Mum and Dad really enjoyed getting their copy of “The Bugle”, almost as much as seeing photos of their daughter in strange and exciting places, in the snow on Mt Hermon, exploring Petra, shopping in Nazareth, or swimming in the Mediterranean.

So, Christmas is on its way, and hopefully soon there will be some letters and parcels on the way to your loved ones, both those holding things together at home and those who are deployed on operations.

And as a last point, many thanks must go to the staff in Deployed Personnel Support Centre who organise the mail and forward newspapers and videos to those of us who are away. Good communications are the key to a happy deployment.

## DEPLOYED PERSONNEL WILL BE DIPPING INTO A KIWI CHRISTMAS



New Zealand Defence Force personnel who will be deployed overseas on Christmas Day can expect a bit of Kiwi cheer thanks to RSA Christmas parcels being packed today.

Volunteers from local RSAs and children from Mount Cook and St Mark's Church Schools in Wellington joined with NZ Defence Force personnel to help pack the parcels, containing kiwi classics such as Marmite, reduced cream and onion soup mix, Anzac biscuits and Raro juice packets as well as messages and cards from the local primary school children.

More than 300 parcels were packed, and will be sent to personnel on operations in 15 countries, including Afghanistan, South Korea, South Sudan, Egypt, the Middle East and Antarctica.

Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant General (LTGEN) Rhys Jones, who helped pack the boxes for our people overseas, says, "While it can be difficult to be away from family and loved ones at such a special time of the year, these packages go a long way to bringing a little bit of home to them."

"There's nothing like receiving a message or gift from New Zealand when you are a long way from home. The RSA do a great job of organising this special activity each year and we are grateful for their support of our people who are away from their loved ones at Christmas."

RSA Christmas parcels have been sent to troops overseas since the First World War. Generous financial contributions from local RSAs, the Navy, Army and Air Force, and



Welfare Funds enable the parcels to be sent each year.

RSA President, LTGEN (Rtd) Don McIver says the RSA are proud to continue to support our troops around the world.

"We in the RSA movement take special pleasure in the opportunity at Christmas to bring a small reminder of home to our Defence personnel on deployment overseas.

"They do a great job and these parcels are a small representation of our gratitude for their fine service," said LTGEN (Rtd) McIver.

There are currently 292 NZ Defence Force personnel deployed on 11 operations and UN missions across 15 countries.

## 20013/2014 ANTARCTIC SEASON BEGINNING

Specialist training is underway for eight personnel preparing to join the first NZ Defence Force flight to Antarctica this season. Personnel are now undergoing intensive training at Antarctica New Zealand in Christchurch, in preparation for the five month deployment to the ice.

The Kiwi Defence Force personnel will live and work from Scott Base where duties will include cargo

handling, plant operators and specialist communications roles.

Up to 200 NZ Defence Force personnel are involved with

Operation Antarctica, both directly and indirectly over the summer season. This includes land based personnel, air staff and crew.





# TEN YEAR DEPLOYMENT A SUCCESS IN SOLOMONS



Leaving behind a stable country with a bright future is how one senior military leader assessed New Zealand's contribution to restore peace and stability in the Solomon Islands.

The last of the equipment from the mission arrives in Wellington today on board HMNZS CANTERBURY following the end of the ten year deployment by New Zealand Defence Force personnel last month.

Working under the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) - the mission was a partnership between the people and Government of Solomon Islands and contributing Pacific nations.

RAMSI was initiated in 2003 following a call for help from then Solomon Islands Prime Minister, Sir Allen Kemakeza, whose Government had been undermined over many years by social unrest, intimidation and armed groups acting with no regard for the law.

Prior to 2003 tribal differences and basic criminal violence had escalated out of control with militias, gangs and the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIP) were fractured along ethnic lines, adding to the problems.

With few options left the Solomon Islands Prime Minister reached out to his Pacific neighbours for assistance to help stem the flow of violence in the hope of turning the

desperate situation around.

The call was answered by 15 countries around the Pacific region, among them New Zealand.

Group Captain (GPCAPT) Shaun Clarke was based in Joint Plans for JFNZ in 2003 when he was appointed Senior National Officer (SNO) for what was to be termed Operation Rata. Arriving in the capital, Honiara, GPCAPT Clarke was surprised to find the streets virtually deserted.

"We only saw one or two people on our first drive through - no businesses seemed to be operating," he said.

The original plan was to set up Headquarters at a motel site in the township, but on arrival the National Command Element found it had been badly damaged, abandoned and secured with makeshift padlocked gates.

"With some local knowledge from High Commission staff we relocated to a disused house on a ridgeline overlooking the town, a place where we subsequently lodged for the duration of the first contingent."

By the end of August 2003 a total of 225 NZDF personnel were deployed to the RAMSI mission where roles included helicopter support, infantry, engineers, Combat Service Support and National Support Element (NSE) staff.

From the outset the NZDF deployment comprised of four phases. The first to establish a presence in the region, the second to support police operations, the third to complete a security force draw-down and the final, to provide ongoing logistics support.

While the initial build-up of force was successful, GPCAPT Clarke described it as being protracted.

"Complications included extreme wet weather, aircraft servicing problems and issues getting coalition logistics support systems in place," he said.

Lieutenant Colonel (LTCOL) Peter Hall was assigned as Company Commander on the first rotation and while he described an initial "underlying tension", he said the situation in the Solomon Islands soon calmed down.

"We operated from the airfield in tents and deployed on patrols with the police to all parts of the Solomon Islands," he said.

Personnel would then set up camps using existing infrastructure where they supported police by providing security and reassurance to locals.

"We were also working with police to apprehend criminals, search for weapons, reconnaissance tasks and providing additional security at Rove Prison."

After early security gains by the military and quelling of civil unrest, the Police component of RAMSI took over the primary security issues of day to day criminal behaviour. The deterrence factor provided by visible military personnel was appreciated by the Solomon Islanders, and served to reinforce the police-led security gains.

GPCAPT Clarke said a major focus was providing Police support during a successful weapons amnesty. More than 3700 firearms were collected, the majority of which were destroyed. Among them were 600 military-style weapons and 300,000 rounds of ammunition. By the end of the first three month

# TEN YEAR DEPLOYMENT A SUCCESS IN SOLOMONS CONT'D...

rotation GPCAPT Clarke said there were 340 arrests involving 600 charges.

The progress under RAMSI brought a sense of confidence and optimism to the streets of Honiara with many returning to move freely about the capital, according to GPCAPT Clarke who also noted a shift in economic confidence with many new businesses opening their doors.

Lieutenant Colonel (LTCOL) Vern Bennett served as Deputy Commander of the Combined Task Force (CTF) during the first deployment and said the local response to military personnel arriving under the RAMSI operation was very positive.

"They certainly gained a lot of confidence having us living and working in the area," he said.

The opportunity to work with South Pacific counterparts represented a strong aspect of the military deployment as NZDF personnel developed and maintained strong links with military and police forces within the Combined Task Force and Participating Police Forces.

"The work in the Solomon Islands built upon our great experience of working within the South Pacific and the recent operational experience that we had gained in East Timor over the previous three years," LTCOL Bennett said.

"An overriding characteristic of the mission was the tremendous willingness of everyone to get stuck in and make things work."

More importantly for the NZDF, the mission occurred at a time when service wide integration was called for - providing an ideal platform to prove how effective that model could be.

It also highlighted the close relationship between New Zealand and Australia in providing amphibious capability, air and sea transport and logistical support, with the missions often led by an Australian force commander.

In December last year, RAMSI Special Coordinator Nicholas Coppel told an international business conference in Sydney that while many aspects of the Solomon Islands had changed for the better, including the elimination of weapons, it was now up to the people and government of the Solomon Islands to build on the foundations laid under RAMSI's direction.

"In the face of RAMSI's transition and drawdown which was signalled, negotiated and agreed by the Solomon Islands government, the key question is not whether all the underlying causes have been addressed, but whether there are incentives to maintain peace and oppose the resumption of violence," he said.

Mr Coppel said alcohol remained the number one underlying cause of problems for families and communities in the Solomon Islands.

"That is why it has been decided to keep RAMSI's Participating Police Force in the Solomon Islands for four more years until 2017," he said.

Major Patrick Beath served as the final SNO in the Solomon Islands and said he experienced mixed reactions from locals as the Kiwi contingent prepared to leave.

"Nearly all of them told us how much they enjoyed interacting with the Kiwi troops - that we were compassionate but friendly and

professional," he said.

Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant General (LTGEN) Rhys Jones, commended all personnel deployed under the RAMSI mission, for their dedication and commitment over the past ten years.

"There is no doubt this deployment exceeded expectations in duration, scale and overall success, but it also provided an excellent opportunity for us to work towards our goal of joint force integration," he said.

"The ability to train and deploy alongside our allies, including Australia, has only strengthened our position as a key contributor within the Pacific region, and I'd like to thank all personnel who contributed to the RAMSI mission."

NZDF Land Component Commander, Brigadier (BRIG) Mark Wheeler, said more than 1500 NZDF personnel had contributed to the mission which had seen significant progress made - including a far more capable Royal Solomon Islands Police Force which is now able to better manage the security situation.

"Our personnel can be proud of the role they have played helping Solomon Islands to develop their own stability, governance and prosperity," he said.

"We have left behind a stable country with a very bright future."

\* NZDF sent a total of 17 rotations to RAMSI. The last NZDF platoon returned to New Zealand in November 2012. Eight NZDF personnel remained in the Solomons working with the Combined Task Force, but have since returned to New Zealand.

# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

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### NEWS FROM OP FARAD, SINAI

#### THE SINAI SAPPERS

##### Major Sam Walkley Op FARAD

The scorching sun slowly rises above the horizon on the Sinai Peninsula. At North Camp, WO2 Ed Haerewa is marshalling his MFO convoy. The trucks look heavy with their long flat deck trailers laden with buildings. He

knew he would be busy over here, but he didn't think he would be relocating buildings and supervising convoys of oversize loads through the desert. He glances at his vehicle. The big American utility is overflowing with construction tools, bags and the obligatory boxed-lunch. Behind it loiters a Uruguayan driver finishing off a cigarette; the driver of the transporter loaded with

the giant Terex crane. The last of the vehicles pulls up to the back of the convoy and Ed brings everyone in for a quick set of road movement orders.

SCC-2 sits high up on a hill dominating the landscape. A silver Hyundai pulls up to the front gate, and a large, tall Egyptian man steps out of the driver's door. His hand comes up to his face and adjusts the gold-rimmed glasses balanced on his nose. The sun reflects off the shiny metal in every direction. A Fijian soldier at the remote site gate reaches into his pouch and fumbles for the key to the lock. Eventually the gate swings open and Big Mo walks in. His workers have seen him coming and are scurrying around the site trying to look busy. The concrete mixer is rumbling away, and workers are shovelling cement and sand into the drum. On the other side of the compound a JCB backhoe pumps flumes of dirty smoke into the air as its bucket rips into the old sandbag and render walls. More workers carry heavy loads of rubble in their wheelbarrows to a pile on the corner of the site. Big Mo stands back and surveys his construction site. Finally some work is getting done.

Ed slows his vehicle down to a crawling pace and then pulls over on the side of the road. Behind him the transporter slows to a stop and the drivers step out. More low hanging power wires block the path of the cranes' tall boom. Ed steps out of his air-conditioned cab, onto the road and into the heat. Weighed down by his heavy body armour, he uses broken Spanish, hand gestures, and arm waving for a minute to try to encourage the driver to move forward.

The Uruguayan Engineer Troop Commander, Lieutenant Oscar Duarte, comes forward from the



*A new building section loaded on MFO transport ready for transport to SCC*



## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



*Airfield Matting at CP2-B laid by the Force Engineers to improve the helicopter landing site*

rear escort vehicle to translate. Eventually the truck driver slips back into his seat and manoeuvres the load under a high point in the wire. Behind him the tall buildings just manage to squeeze through the gap also and then the convoy is on the move again. Suddenly a rock smashes against the side of the vehicle startling Ed and the workers inside. Others fly past his windscreen, and the wee-sized culprits jeer and laugh as they run away from the roadside.

Big Mo looks out over the desert to the North, watching the convoy of MFO vehicles slowly snake up the hill to the site. The big trucks creep in through the gate. Soon the crane is unloaded and is lifting the oversize sections of the new building onto the new site. An hour later all four trucks are empty; the new building has finally made it to its new home. Ed looks at his watch. Time is ticking by and he needs to get back to CP 1-C before 1630 to catch the convoy back to North Camp. He has about 20 minutes before he needs to be

back on the road. He quickly races around the site with Mo and checks his work – it's not too bad, but Ed knows it should be better. He gives Mo some pointers and direction on what needs to be improved, then he's back in his Chevy and the convoy is back on the road. 30 minutes later Ed is at CP 1-C, and shortly after he makes it back to North Camp – just in time for a well-earned beer.

SCC-2 is the latest MFO Remote Site to undergo an upgrade. Unfortunately construction has been very slow due to the troubles in the region, but work has now recommenced and the Force Engineer Office is working with contractors to complete the works. The site has been re-scheduled to be complete towards the end of October this year.



*WO2 Ed Haerewa steadies a section of the new remote site building for SCC*

# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

The two RNZE representatives, WO2 Ed Haerewa and MAJ Sam Walkley, are responsible for delivering the Remote Site upgrade programme during their tenures. The programme was started in 2010 and is scheduled to run until at least 2017. On completion all MFO Remote Sites will have significantly enhanced living conditions coupled with reinforced concrete walls and bunkers for improved force protection, including an armoured observation tower.

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## THE TERRY FOX RUN

**Captain Dan Swale**  
**Op FARAD**

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September, five Kiwis took part in the Terry Fox Run in the Sinai, the ninth time this

event has taken place within the Multinational Force and Observers. The Terry Fox Run is an annual event held throughout Canada, as well as worldwide, to raise funds for cancer research and pay respect to one of Canada's national heroes. As a teenager Terry Fox lost his leg to bone cancer, yet undaunted by his loss, he began the 'Marathon of Hope', an attempt to run across Canada to raise awareness and funds for cancer research. He ran an average of 42 kilometres a day, for 143 days straight and completed over 5300 kilometres. Unfortunately, the return of his cancer meant that he did not finish the run, dying several months later at the age of just 22. Canada and the international community continue to commemorate his dream through annual runs around the world and have raised more than \$360 million worldwide for

cancer research.

Luckily for us, the Sinai's own Terry Fox Run did not rival the distance of the original, however, even in the early morning the heat posed a challenge of its own. The Kiwi participants, LT COL Bob Moody, myself, SGT 'Eddy' Edwardson, SGT Bryon Berry, CPL Erika Koderich and PTE Kennedy Howard, completed a range of distances ranging from 5 to 15 kilometres, either on foot or bicycle. Our two irrepressible Sergeants raised a few eyebrows (along with their own body temperatures) by completing the run in gas masks, an impressive feat.

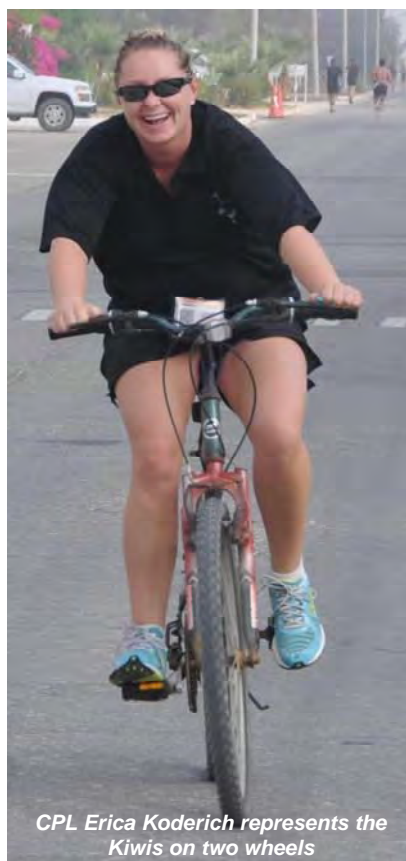
Combined with a series of other fund raising activities by the Canadian contingent, the event raised an impressive NZ\$5,400 – a worthwhile contribution to a cause that has touched us all.



*At the start line*



# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...





# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

## SERVICE IN THE SINAI

### Sergeant Josh Tohiariki Op FARAD

Firstly I would like to say “Hi” to all the friends and whanau back in NZ. It's been over six months for some of us now in the Sinai and we can't wait to touch down on NZ soil, especially with summer around the corner and having a few BBQs and seafood.

At the end of 1 (NZ) Brigade Skill at Arms competition, I was informed that my nomination for Op FARAD had been accepted and confirmed; shortly after I was up in Linton to conduct a minor mission PDT which consisted of nearly every mission from the NZDF. One of the lessons that stood out from the rest of the training was getting CS gassed, after a short run and seeing the sadistic expression

of delight from the Engineer instructors, especially when someone did not perform the purge right and they ended up half choking, half crying then looking at the instructors for help. I know you shouldn't laugh at someone else's misfortune but it was funny.

My position within the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) is the Force Commander's Driver and Close Personal Protection Officer. The position consists of planning and co-ord of Close Protection tasks. The primary function of the position is to provide safe and knowledgeable driving for the Force Commander for all ground transportation requirements. When I am not driving, I perform staff duties as required within the Force HQ or help with NZCON duties.

I arrived in North Camp in mid Feb knowing not much about the MFO,

apart from that it is predominately a Truckee trip. It was hard to adjust to a garrison like camp on operations and took a while to adjust to the lifestyle. We had a few days of intheatre briefs and got to meet the people that my role deals with regularly.

Shortly after, I was on my way to Cairo; the drive was an eye opener, only being in country a few days and already on the road. There is rubbish everywhere, it definitely makes you appreciate what you have back home. The drive took about seven hours; we checked into our hotel and started driving the Routes and visiting venues that I would be driving and navigating over my tour. For those that don't know much about Cairo it is the capital of Egypt and the largest city in the Arab world, the population is about 10 Million. And I am positive



*Cruising the Gulf of Aqaba off Sharm El Sheikh—Kiwis and US EOD operators*

# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

that every time we drive, the residents of Cairo are doing the same. You are bumper to bumper, three lane roads turn into six, with centimetres between your side mirrors and the vehicles beside you. Every person is in a rush and are constantly on their horns.

After a couple of days of familiarisation we were off back to North Camp. My predecessor then took me eastbound and two hours later we were at the border crossing into Israel. I can honestly say that it is the opposite to Egypt for example the roads are sealed and maintained, most people follow the road rules, there are no flies and it's not that often you hear a horn. The navigation around Tel Aviv is so much easier to grasp than Cairo and with a few days getting to know the place and

indulging in the local cuisine and swimming in the Mediterranean, then we were off back to North Camp.

One of my highlights in country so far was when we travelled to South Camp to conduct the Muslim Iftars which is the breaking of the fast during Ramadan. The drive took about 11 hours from Tel Aviv to Sharm El Sheik. The Iftar consisted of representatives from different contingents, delegates from all over the Area of Operations and Egyptian Army. This was our first of three.

We had a day off in Sharm, so we decided to go for a dive and snorkel in the Red Sea. We were uplifted and taken to the dive shop and then straight out into the water. We stopped at three different reefs, two of which were drift ones, so the

boat would drop you off and then move to the uplift point and then you had to follow the current to get back to the boat. The fish ranged from small to big, from stingrays to white tip sharks, I pretty much saw the whole casting crew from that movie where a man's wife is brutally murdered by a serial killer and his son left physically disabled then in a twisted turn of events, his son is kidnapped and he has to chase the kidnapper thousands of miles with the help of a mentally disabled woman (Finding Nemo). The dive instructor spotted a white tip shark and instead of swimming away from it and jumping on the boat we swam toward it like typical tourists. To end the day off we were treated to lunch the Egyptian way, which is in epic proportion, which was an awesome way to finish off the day.



## LIFE ON HMNZS TE MANA

### AMED Tash O'Leary

Our deployment began when we left Devonport Naval Base in Auckland on the 12 August, with seven months at sea ahead of us. My career with the Navy has involved a degree of movement around New Zealand, but this is my first posting that involves overseas travel. After passing out of Basic Common Training in December 2009, I spent three years at Burnham Military Camp in Christchurch as part of 'Walker Class'; the first lot of defence medics to complete a graduate diploma in health science through the Defence Health School. On return to Devonport Naval Base, I was posted to the Naval Health Unit where I became an independent

**HMNZS TE MANA has just completed her directed level of capability (DLOC) work-up for normal peace time activity, off the coast of New South Wales, Australia. Successful completion of DLOC is the first step of her deployment for OP TIKI VI. AMED Tash O'Leary shares her experiences onboard HMZNS TE MANA for work-up.**

medic and most recently I was posted to HMNZS TE MANA.

Posting to HMNZS TE MANA was a career highlight for me. While I feel that my Defence Health School time was invaluable and the knowledge and skills I learned really positive, after four years it feels so great to feel part of the Navy family and be at sea – which is what motivated me to choose the Navy in the beginning.

When I found out that HMNZS TE MANA was deploying for OP TIKI VI, I initially had mixed feelings. I was extremely excited that I had finally been posted to a ship. But this excitement was balanced with nervousness when it set in that I was leaving behind my family,

friends, fiancé, and dog for the next seven months. Looking forward, I'm so excited for the travel, getting to go ashore and visit all new places and meet new people.

As part of work-up, the Ship is put through her paces across all the different aspects of warfare, both by being able to successfully defend and fight the Ship, and also to be able to recover from any battle damage or incidents that may occur during the assessment period. Medics are an integral part of this recovery and incident response. Work-up, tests our responses in treating casualties that arise from the various exercises on board that are run by the Maritime Operational



# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

Evaluation Team. This is particularly exciting during action stations when we tend to have up to twenty five casualties. As the senior Able Medic, I also have the role of taking over the Petty Officer Medic's position if she is taken out for any reason; this includes roving around all casualties and the Ship's Medical Emergency Team (SMET) members; keeping casualty state boards up to date and attending command meetings where I brief the Commanding Officer on the status of our casualties and any plans for evacuation.

A highlight of work-up for me has been dealing with new types of casualties. Not having been posted to a ship before, I never have dealt with casualties caused by floods, fires, man over boards, and toxic gas, so it has all been an exciting learning curve. For me, the best part about being a medic is the fact there is always something new to be learnt. I love learning and developing my skills, and I've done so much of this already just from this work-up. I learn something every single day.

Living onboard a ship with 176 other people sounds difficult, but it's a pretty cool experience. When I was first posted onto HMNZS TE MANA I didn't know many people, but I have made great friends already. I have fabulous ladies in my mess, and work with two other amazing medics which is the perfect combination really. I have made a whole heap of new friends from this posting already.

The opportunity to travel on HMNZS TE MANA is great. Sydney was our first port and we have spent a couple of weekends there. I think Sydney is amazing! I have spent every weekend as the ultimate tourist; relaxing on Bondi beach, shopping in Bondi Junction, taking in the views of the Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge, visiting the Zoo, the Aquarium, the Wild Life Park, and getting photos with my favourite celebrities at Madam Tussards. It's exciting to think of the other places we will visit as part of our deployment.

The experience of this trip so far has been epic; both professionally, and personally. I look forward to the rest of the deployment – bring it on!

I would love to say a huge hello to all my friends and family back home. You have all been so supportive; thanks to my sister for all the funny photos you send to keep me sane.

To my fiancé Dave, can't wait to be your wife, miss you heaps.

To my Labrador Cole, please be good at Granddads and don't get too fat without your daily runs.

To all the medics at the Naval Health Unit, miss you lovely ladies and lads very much and thanks for the packages!



*AMED Tash O'Leary on HMNZS TE MANA*

# FOR YOUR INFO

## Operation Christmas Card

We look forward to your assistance with this project. Check page 20 for more details and the deadline. Your contributions will make a difference to those abroad this Festive season.

## Welcome to New "Bugle" Readers

With this edition we are sending out a huge welcome to new "Bugle" readers. Wherever your loved ones are deploying to, this publication is for you. I hope that in the months to come you will find some support

and comfort amongst its pages. We aim to keep you informed about what is happening with our personnel around the world and also provide you with an opportunity to send and receive messages, to and from home. We look forward to keeping in touch with you in the months ahead.

Our "Bugles" are also available to our service personnel, so we hope that you will also enjoy reading our publications and encourage you to consider what you are able to contribute to enhance the reading experience for all. Messages and articles always welcome.

## SENDING MAIL/PARCELS TO THE SHIPS

The address for Navy personnel, in both shore establishments and sea going vessels is:

**RANK, NAME**  
**HMNZS (Ships name)**  
**Devonport Naval Base**  
**Private Bag 32901**  
**Devonport**  
**North Shore City 0744**

Always remember to affix a standard NZ stamp on the letters, whether personnel are in NZ waters or overseas. Parcels should have a green customs form attached (from your Post Shop). Parcels are not to be larger than a shoe box in size and weigh no more than 2kg.

**THE DEADLINE FOR MAIL TO TE MANA PERSONNEL FOR CHRISTMAS SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE NAVAL BASE BY 28 NOVEMBER.**

## "The Bugle" Supplement

## Deployment Activity Book for Children



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

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





# OPERATION BIRD

## A Deployment Support Services Initiative

Follow the travels, trials, triumphs and tribulations of  
Kiri, Tilly, Kenny and Percy — At home and Abroad

### Introducing:

#### Private Kiri Kereru. (Right)

The Kereru or New Zealand Pigeon, is a bird endemic to New Zealand. Maori call it kereru in most areas of the country, but it is also referred to as the kukupa or kuku in parts of the North Island. The head, throat and wings of the kereru are generally a shiny green-purple colour, but with a bronze tinge to the feathers. The breast is typically white and the bill red with an orange'ish tip. The feet are red. They make the occasional soft coo sound and their wings make a distinctive “whoosing ” sound as they fly.



#### Corporal Tilly Tui. (Left)

The Tui is an endemic bird of New Zealand, found in much of the country. Its name is derived from the maori language *tui* and is the species formal common name. At first glance the bird appears completely black except for a small tuft of white feathers at its neck and and a small white wing patch. In fact the Tui has brown feathers on the back and flanks, a multicoloured iridescent sheen that varies with the angle from which the light strikes them and a dusting of small white shafted feathers on the back and sides of the neck that produce a lacy collar. Tuis are found throughout New Zealand, and said to be an aggressive bird with a loud powered flight.



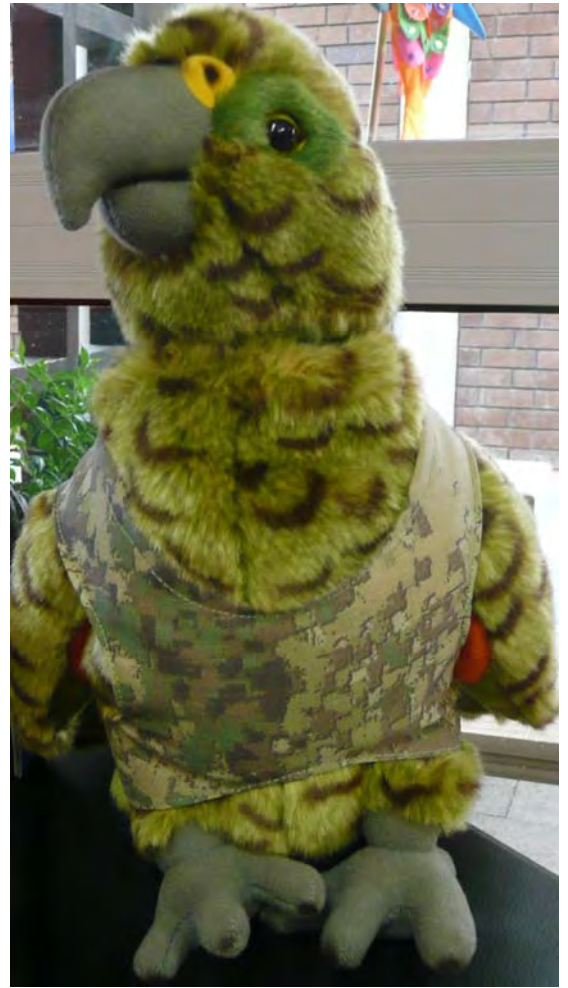


# OPERATION BIRD CONT'D...

Follow the travels, trials, triumphs  
and tribulations of Kiri, Tilly,  
Kenny and Percy —  
At home and Abroad

## **Lieutenant Kenny Kea. (Right)**

The Kea is a large species of parrot found in the forested and alpine regions of the South Island. It is mostly olive green with a brilliant orange under its wings and has a curved, grey-brown upper beak. Kea are known for their intelligence and curiosity – vital for their survival. The common name is from Maori, probably representing the screech of the bird.



## **Captain Percy Pukeko. (Left)**

Pukeko is the common name, derived from Maori language for the Purple Swamp hen found throughout New Zealand and elsewhere in Australasia. The Pukeko are known for their bold scheming and determination. Known to raid home gardens, they are often seen foraging for food on roadsides and collecting grit.

*(For further information on The Kereru, Tui, Kea or Pukeko visit <http://en.wikipedia.org>)*

# OPERATION BIRD CONT'D...

## Where are we going?

Percy, Tilly, Kiri and Kenny are looking forward to their time abroad. Currently there are 73 New Zealand Defence Force service personnel deployed on 11 operations and UN Missions across 8 countries. There are 219 Defence Force personnel on other overseas deployments and exercises abroad. (As of 30 September 2013).

OPERATION BIRD is going to take you into some of these locations worldwide and get you the latest in news and views from various Operations, Missions and Exercises.

Watch this space as feathers are ruffled, to bring you closer to loved ones deployed and to provide regular and interesting updates from across all corners of the world.

While Kiri has already left our shores, Percy, Tilly and Kenny are organising their passports and are ready for new and exciting adventures. I.D. cards are being processed and journals organised. Thanks to Janine, their uniform attire looks really smart and they are eager to begin their travels.

We look forward to bringing you news of their departures soon. It is hoped that family members, particularly children, may like to take their respective bird to school and share the adventures with their class mates. We are just working out the logistics of making this happen so be sure to check out OPERATION BIRD in the next issue of "The Bugle" to register your interest.



*Percy, Tilly, Kiri and Kenny eagerly waiting for their adventures to begin*

*There are currently 292 NZ Defence Force personnel deployed on 11 operations and UN missions across 15 countries*



# OPERATION BIRD CONT'D...

## Safe travels Private Kereru

Today Private Kiri Kereru is making her way out to Air Movements in Christchurch to assemble with the rest of the small contingent deploying to Antarctica. Other New Zealand Defence Force service personnel are to follow in coming months. Like her “mates” she is off to spend the summer in the deep south and to experience life on deployment. Kiri hasn't deployed before but she is about to have a wonderful opportunity.

Thanks to her new friends, we will be able to follow Kiri's adventures on OPERATION ANTARCTICA and enjoy seeing photos of her in this magnificent location. Kiri's “minders” are committed to sharing her journey with us and we look forward to reading of her life on the ice! Kiri has her own journal to record activities, information and hot tips and thankfully, access to computers there, will mean that her tales and accompanying photos will make their way back to us quickly to appear in each issue of The Bugle.

Safe travels Kiri. We will miss you but look forward to keeping in touch.

In anticipation – thanks to fellow contingent service personnel who now have Kiri in their safe keeping! - And “No”, she is not to participate in the Polar Plunge. Watching only, permitted!



## Where are they going next?



Watch this space!



# DSO'S CORNER



**Carol Voyce**

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

I went to the dentist again yesterday for more running repairs! The second trip in as many weeks and another \$200 to keep the Dentistry Practice afloat. I am absolutely positive that I am their best and most regular customer!! And sure too, that I have paid for the Audi that sits in the Dentist's car park!!

I have a working budget and try so hard to stick to it. Yes, I am tempted with some other purchases not itemised, but wisely, I do include every month an allocation for my friendly dentist! Just as well, I have been thinking lately!

You might have noticed in your Family Deployment Guide a Budget Planner – just a starting point for service personnel and families to look at prior to deployment and a guide to keep you on track when you are managing a household alone. Managing finances can be at times challenging, so if you can actually record your incomings and outgoings and include a few sundries, it will help you balance the books. Deployments attract a number of allowances. These are generally based on the geographical location of deployed personnel and environmental or security threats so can vary across

all missions we are involved with. Allowances offer a way to assist in covering expenses for those at home and a chance to save a little as well, if managed wisely. They are a bonus!

Over the years these allowances have been used in many different ways. For those parenting alone, they provide a lifeline for funding additional services and support and ultimately your sanity. Before and after school care has sometimes been necessary for Mums or Dads parenting alone, additional babysitters to fit around work commitments or just for time out, or simply for a family treat. A household cleaner, a gardener and lawn mowing service also help ease the burden, allowing time to enjoy other things and lighten the load. For those deployed, allowances help with the purchase of personal items, mail and postage costs and location dependant, out of theatre leave. I have also seen many service personnel take the opportunity to clear some debt and start anew. A positive use of the little extra money that may come your way!

Some allowances are non taxable (N T), (Check the Payslip) and do not affect WINZ assistance or Child Support. If you are concerned, please feel free to talk with your Deployment Services Officer for further information. We can provide you with the legal references from the Income Tax Act and the Social Security Act Regulations. From experience, we know that some families have worried about this issue.

I guess the most important piece of advice I can give you about allowances, is not to commit to any major purchases or investments based on the intended allowances, until you actually have the money. Sadly we have seen over the years, families anticipating this

extra income and making significant predeployment hire purchase commitments for expensive household items or vehicles, only to find that during the tour of duty, they have had to return home early due to illness, injury or for family reasons, and have not been able to service the debt on their return. Wisely – plan on allowances being a bonus and be aware that things can and do change!

Good luck with your budgeting – I just hope that your allowances are not headed to the Dentist – to update the latest model of Audi!

Kind regards to you all.



**Janine Burton**

Deployment Services Officer  
1 (NZ) Brigade

In my column last month I mentioned the wonderful spring weather we had been experiencing. Not that I usually consider myself a jinx, but since then we have had horrible weather! The last two weekends have been very wet here in the Manawatu, so no gardening time possible! However, time is moving on and we are now in the last quarter of 2013 and into daylight saving already; just where does the time go?

Today I am contemplating positive versus negative thinking and how

# DSO'S CORNER CONT'D...

this impacts on us in our day to day lives. For many of us, there are times in our lives when we feel overwhelmed by events. This could be caused by the number of things we try to cram into our day (especially if children are involved and need to attend various activities), or a situation which is taking time to resolve, or having a loved one on deployment overseas and having to take over additional roles until they return. Whatever the situation you find yourself in when inundated by life, maintaining a positive attitude will help you through. You can do this, you have done it before, no doubt you will do it again. Our inner strengths are there when we call on them.

Each of us have the choice of taking the positive or the negative road. Obviously the positive side is the preferable one; it makes our lives so much happier. Have you been around people who maintain a positive attitude, even though you know that they are struggling with something that is happening in their lives? How do they do that?

Perhaps it is by only concentrating on what is important to them; perhaps it is by putting their energies into things they have influence over and not worrying about the things they don't. Whatever the secret to positive thinking and a positive attitude, we all want some!

I think that this may be the way to go:

## Focus

Consciously be aware of your thoughts; negative words and actions are usually the result of negative thinking. So surely it follows that if we think positively, that the rest will follow in the same vein? Makes sense to me. If a negative thought 'appears', chase it away and replace it with a positive one.

## Outside influences

Often we are influenced in our thinking by those around us; the positive ones are great, the negative ones are not so good; especially when we are working

really hard on improving our own outlook.

## Identify

Identify and acknowledge those areas of negativity you would like to change.

## Affirmations

Researching or creating positive affirmations which fit who we are and what we are trying to achieve, will help and support a positive outlook. Recite these affirmations out loud every day - my thinking time is in the car.

*"All you can change is yourself,  
but sometimes that  
changes everything."  
(Gary W Goldstein)*

School holidays started this week (as I write) and as part of our school holiday activities at the Linton Library, I will be teaching six young ladies how to knit. Happy holidays to our students and I hope you are adding to your parents' positive thinking!

## THE NEW ZEALAND ARMY, PEACE SUPPORT OPERATIONS 1950-2013



The Defence Communications Group has produced a booklet entitled *"The New Zealand Army, Peace Support Operations 1950-2013."*

The 90-page publication features deployments ranging from Afghanistan, Timor-Leste and Solomon Islands, to Angola, Rhodesia, and Namibia, and everything in between. It is fully illustrated with an array of photographs from almost every mission.

If you are interested in purchasing a copy of this book for \$20, with all profits going to the New Zealand Fallen Heroes Trust, please contact [armynews@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:armynews@nzdf.mil.nz) by October 14 2013.

# OPERATION CHRISTMAS CARD



**This is one of my favourite projects  
– spreading some Christmas Cheer  
across the miles!**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CARD began some 12 years ago and has a proud history of sending a little of our kiwi festive spirit abroad. Last year we had the pleasure of a huge response to this project, receiving hundreds of cards, letters, drawings, posters and handmade decorations. It was with pure joy that I got to enjoy the efforts of so many, big and small, who wanted to remember our New Zealand Defence Force personnel on Operations abroad. Sorting the contributions brought many a smile, many a laugh and even a little sadness. Some children simply coloured the enclosed card (which is inserted into this edition), others designed their own, copious amounts of glue, glitter, cotton wool and felt pen, adored many a gorgeous creation and many a letter acknowledged the sacrifices of those separated from those they love, over the festive time. Some children wrote from the heart, shared a little about themselves, their holidays, their families and their pets and often included their own wise words of wisdom and a question or two! Some highly amusing and sure to bring a smile! In the past, we have had some outstanding cards from schools closely associated with our military camps, i.e. Burnham and Linton, and also from schools with no military connection at all.

So, how can you help make OPERATION CHRISTMAS CARD a continued success? Take the enclosed card, copy it, or take the concept and guidelines to your preschool, school, community group, your work place, church group, senior citizens club or beyond. Everyone can make a difference! Get everyone onboard! Contributions must be received no later than **15 November** – postal details below. Once we receive the contributions, these are checked, packaged and mailed to all deployed service personnel on all missions abroad. Last year many of those who contributed, and included their contact details, were sent letters, photos and sometimes even a small gift from grateful service personnel, acknowledging the difference their festive greetings had made to their morale.

Your support is appreciated more than you can ever imagine. Carol.

Post Christmas Card contributions to:

Carol Voyce  
Deployment Services Officer,  
Southern Regional Support Centre  
Burnham Military Camp  
Powles Road  
Burnham 7600





# JUST RAMBLING — AN OPINION, AN OBSERVATION?

**Contributions for this column are welcome and should be sent to Carol Voyce, Editor, "The Bugle". Contact details inside front cover.**

**W**ell the Tour de France may be over but that hasn't stopped me from just buying a bike!

I now live adjacent to a wonderful safe (and very flat) cycle way. I have watched individuals and families enjoying pedalling by and thought maybe I should try that too. Not having been on a bike since school days, I thought it might be a good challenge and a way to get out and about on the weekends.

So on Saturday I went out and bought the bike!! A few dollars to be spent here – not just the bike itself, but all the much needed accessories – the pump, the puncture kit (hope I don't have to use that!!), the gel seat cover (most important) and the helmet. No it's not a fashion parade, but the helmet had to match the bike.

Yesterday – it was onto the bike

and off! The weather was gorgeous and so I pedalled away furiously, experimenting with the gears, taking in the sights and surprised myself at how well I did. I could describe it as fun. Yes, some seasoned bikers whizzed past me but on I slowly pedalled until the knees ached and a timely rest was in order. I had gone far further than I ever thought possible on my first outing but then came the sudden realisation that I had to do it all again to get home! The return journey was somewhat of a challenge and at a considerably reduced tempo, but as I arrived back, I was delighted that I had done it and unscathed too!

There are a few aches today but I can't wait until I get home tonight and will just give it another go to keep in practice – maybe not so far though.

As I left for work this morning came a call from down the hallway – "Why don't you bike to work today? There is a tail wind and you might make good time!" "Too much to carry" was my excuse – not to mention it just might be a bit far and the thoughts of wobbling along the open road would not only be a danger to me, but to the motorists too!

I have friends in Australia who make every Sunday a biking outing. They pack their brunch and have a cook up at a park along the way. I am way off such an adventure but I hope that I can keep up the enthusiasm and enjoy a ride in the country!

Happy cycling to you all.

Carol Voyce  
DSO Burnham

## Surviving Deployment

**Set a goal.** Start that little project that you've been putting off. Start a course. Do something that will make you feel good.

**Take a break.** Take time away from your normal routine. Go to dinner with friends and arrange a babysitter. Plan an outing – ring friends to join you.

**Pamper yourself.** Treat yourself to a special occasion. Take a long bath, have a massage or read a book.

**Don't feel guilty.** Separation can be a stressful time, so "time out" from your daily routine is important.

**Treat yourself to some retail therapy,** but don't break the bank!!

**Exercise and keep fit.** Find fun activities and allow yourself to have a good time. Make a list of things that you like to do and then plan time to do them. Say "No" when you have to and be kind to yourself.



# KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING



*"Daddy is the only one that can make it better!"*

No matter how hard I tried to console child Number 2 who was sporting a grazed knee, I just couldn't get it right! I got the Disney plasters out, did a little gentle bathing and cleaning of the "wound", patted it dry and adorned the injury with a crisscross of the latest in plaster design. I thought I had done a great job. Then the wailing became deep sobbing, walking was impossible and not even some jellybeans would alleviate the trauma Number 2 was feeling.

"I just need Daddy", the wee fellow cried. "He knows what to do and you don't!" Well that was a boost for my confidence. I had had a week where it felt like the wheels had come off. There were a few unexpected problems come my way and I had been doubting my ability to carry on and see this deployment to the end. I was gradually gathering speed again and yet here was another speed wobble when I was feeling slightly vulnerable!

What followed was the squealing in the bath, as the water was "stinging" and then exhaustion from such a prolonged episode of dramas! Not sure who was exhausted the most! As luck would have it, Daddy just

happened to Skype in as bedtime stories were being read and Number 2 was able to very proudly show off his plasters and to tell his Dad that he was the bravest kid in New Zealand. Heaps of praise from Dad and smiles all around. Little did Dad know what had unfolded several hours earlier and which he did not need to know about now, given that all was over. I didn't want Dad to feel guilty that he wasn't here to offer a caring cuddle or to "make it better!"

Maybe sometimes we underestimate the separation a deployment has on little ones. We can meet all their physical needs but like this incident it makes one question a young child's ability to understand why Dad is away and does it seem like forever? We include Dad in our day to day conversations at home, we work together to send him photos and artwork and we talk on Skype as often as we can. We work really hard at our communication and to keep the connection. I guess that sometimes it just isn't enough - for all of us and we want it to be over.

It is amazing though at how quickly these negative thoughts or troubling moments pass. This week we have all gathered momentum again and are back into the swing of life

once more. The sun is shining, Spring is here and before we know that homecoming will be on the horizon.

I feel lucky to have the support about me, both from NZDF and my family and friends. Those who have done this before, know exactly what it is like to parent alone and sharing experiences and understanding puts things into perspective! It has helped me too to write this column and I always hope that someone else might contribute. You might think you can't write, but you can and Carol will fix the grammar and spelling. It's your thoughts though that is more important to us all. I bet those of you with children have at some stage not been able to do things as well as Daddy can - it's not to make us feel inadequate but to show us that they miss Dad too!

Keeping the Home Fires Burning isn't always easy. It's both challenging and rewarding and if I can help someone else along the way as well, then my work is well and truly done!

Catch you all next month, Sarah.



# KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING CONT'D.



*I really love "Bugle" day and thank you to all those who have contributed to its content. There are articles of interest covering so much and always something to enjoy and often laugh at!*

*My children are grown and are now living independent lives abroad. It's been this way for some time now so I am used to that, but now that I am home alone I do find it quiet, especially in the evenings and often ponder on the list of waiting chores with only one pair of hands to get them done!*

*My husband is deployed. I am happy for him that he has this opportunity and time is passing more quickly than I imagined. I have a great circle of friends, a great job with great work colleagues and many interests outside the home to keep me occupied. It's just that the house feels empty.*

*Never did I think that I wished I was picking up shoes dropped in the doorway,*

*clearing dishes from the bench, or tracking the sock thief - but I do miss these silly tangible things that remind me he is about!!*

*We have managed to keep in touch along the way. Phoning isn't always easy from his location and the mail is slow, but we knew this before he deployed and knew the challenges and planned around them. I am using my time wisely to plan how we will spend his income on his return! We have some exciting travels to look forward to and some changes about the house and garden.*

*There will be rewards for these months home alone and I will wait patiently for them to happen. Meanwhile it's a positive attitude that makes each day easier and the social contact from family and friends who understand (well almost) that a helping hand and listening ear can make a huge difference.*

*If this sounds like you too, keep up the good work - there will be an end in sight for us all and we will feel proud of not only what has been achieved overseas but what we have achieved at home too.*

*Audrey.*

## 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

**Papakura**—John Furey

Ph 09 296 5744

#### Community Services Facilitator:

**Linton**—Lesley Clutterbuck

Ph 06 351 9970

#### Family & Community 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

2013

## WHAT'S ON IN AUCKLAND

3 NOVEMBER

### NAVY FAMILY PICNIC DAY

Sunday 3 November 2013, 11am—2pm, Narrow Neck Gym

Activities for all ages to enjoy. Pack a picnic and come along for a fun day out.

8 DECEMBER

### NAVY CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday 8 December 2013

For more information, contact the Naval Community Organisation on 0800 Navy Help.

2013

## WHAT'S ON IN BURNHAM

31 OCTOBER

### HALLOWEEN

Friday 31 October 2013

Trick or Treat Trail.

Wild, weird and whacky displays and lots of fun. Lots of family prizes.

For more information contact Cherie Mansell, Community Services Officer 3630 322

4 DECEMBER

### BURNHAM TWILIGHT CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Wednesday 4 December 2013, 4-7pm

Community Hall, Housing Area

Fun rides, stalls, music and entertainment.

For more information contact Cherie Mansell, Community Services Officer 3630 322

2013

## WHAT'S ON IN LINTON

31 OCTOBER

### HALLOWEEN

Friday 31 October 2013

Wild Wedde Wander – for children up to 7 years of age. Mini Disco, Sausage Sizzle and Zombie Tabloid Sports for children over 8.

Fancy Dress encouraged. For further information and timings, contact Lesley Clutterbuck, Community Services Officer, Phone: (06) 351 9970.



2013

## WHAT'S ON IN LINTON CONT'D.

7 DECEMBER

### LINTON FAMILY DAY, (OUTSIDE THE GYM)

Saturday 7 December

For timings and more information, contact Lesley Clutterbuck, Community Services Officer,  
Phone (06) 351 9970.

2013

## WHAT'S ON IN WELLINGTON

1 DECEMBER

### WELLINGTON DEFENCE AREA CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday 1 December, 11am — 3pm on Davis Field

All NZDF personnel and families from the Wellington region welcome. POC for Christmas present delivery in each unit and work location or send to Trentham Camp Registry with Child names, NZDF service/civilian name in brackets and work unit or location, e.g. "Bart Simpson" (WO2 Homer Simpson) HQJFNZ.

Tickets for free goodies and appointment with Santa/Fr X are presented on drop off of your child/ren's gifts or available on the day.

Any questions, or further information, please contact [marie.lotz@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:marie.lotz@nzdf.mil.nz)

2013

## WHAT'S ON IN TRENTHAM

TUESDAYS

### TRENTHAM CAMP MUMS AND BUBS FITNESS

Every Tuesday morning, 9.30am to 10.30 in the Rehab Gym

\$5 per session. Followed by Coffee in the Clock Tower. If you are post baby and just returned to work, this session would be the perfect PT workout for you also, tailored to your capability.

TUESDAYS

### REGULAR COFFEE GROUP

As usual 9.30am every Tuesday morning in the ClockTower

(All NZDF at home parents/caregivers welcome).

Community Centre/Coffee Group Xmas Morning Tea and last coffee group session for the year is 17 December, 9.30am at the ClockTower Community Lounge, Trentham.

# PERSONAL MESSAGES

The deadline for contributions and personal messages for "The Bugle" is the first Wednesday of each month (**the next edition deadline is 6 November 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

### Hello Cherry Pie

I had a fantastic holiday. Love to all the whanau. R.T.B.

### To Hamish

Well done on the tournament, I see Ronaldo drives a Yarris. Messi.

### Hi Lexi

The Ipod is on the way! Dad.

### To my darling wife

Not too long to go now – can't wait to be home with you and starting a new adventure. Your man, forever and always.

### To my Gorgeous STG

Thank you for your beautiful letter, everything you said made perfect sense. It's funny how time apart brings people closer and it makes you appreciate the things you already have.

### To my wonderful daughters, Zahria and Zikyah

Thank you for being good girls for mummy, you's are growing up so fast, can't wait to get home and spend some quality time with you's. I absolutely loved the pictures you's drew, they are fine pieces of art, you must have picked that up from your Aunty Ashell. Love and miss you's xoxoxo.

### Hi Zoe

Hope you have a fabulous 10th birthday. Enjoy all your presents. I will be thinking of you. Lots of love, Mum.

### Hi Willow

Hope you are enjoying school and BOOST. Don't be the kid that causes the bus driver grief! Big

cuddles from Mum.

### Hi Maggie and LJ

You guys need to hurry up and get out of nappies so Dad doesn't have to keep changing them! Apparently you guys have become poo machines since I left. I wonder if that has anything to do with what your father is feeding you? Anyway, try and be good for him. I miss you guys and your cuddles. Mum.

## From Home

### Love you Walrus

We miss you heaps back here in NZ and are counting down the days until you get to come home, can't wait to see you. I love you so very much and I am proud of everything you do. Love you forever and always your jellyfish xoxoxo.

### Hi Sam

Jules and Oliver here, just saying hi! We are all good, Oliver is 18mths old now and a cheeky monkey. I am unfortunately not 18mths or even 18 years old but I am often cheeky and occasionally a monkey! Did Casey tell you that I am leaving?! Back to nursing next year - yipeee! Much more conducive to being a single mum I think. We hope things are going ok out there and that you are managing to see a few things outside of work and experience that area of the world and all it has to offer. Take care and we look forward to seeing you when you get home. Jules & Oliver.

### Hi Dan

Hope you had a fabulous birthday! We have decided to celebrate your

birthday by going to the Officers Mess cocktail party, where pretty shoes were worn. Your lovely wife and flatmate are keeping the house and gardens looking marvellous and keeping one another entertained! They are also keeping Oliver and Jules entertained!! Take care and see you soon. Nic, Jules, Oliver, Monty, Mazzie & Flynn.

### Hi Polly

It was a great 40<sup>th</sup> celebration. Everyone in Dinner suits and formal attire! In fact quite classy – well at the beginning anyway. We all had a great time and look forward to sharing the photos with you. Hope all is going well with you. Look forward to an update when you have time. Love always, Bridget x.

### Dear Mickey

Happy Birthday to you! Hope you have a great day and find some time to relax and enjoy the occasion. All the family are thinking of you and sending their love and birthday wishes your way. Take care. Look forward to your homecomings, Granny and Grandad xx.

### Hello Uncle Dougie

I am hoping you might send me a message. Did you see my last one? We have school holidays next week and I am going on a sports camp which will be fun. Rugby has finished for our team now and we had our prizegiving last Saturday. I got a Cup for the most improved player. I was feeling pretty proud of myself. You can see it when you come home. Hope you are good. Love from Henry.

### Father Bear

Baby Bears and Mother Bear are doing really well. We miss you and



# PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

are thinking of you always. Be extra careful and come home soon so we can all set off on that Bear Hunt!! Love you, The Bears xxxx.

## Hi Basil

The sun is shining and life is good, except that you are away from us all. We are doing well, crossing off the days (know we shouldn't yet) and keeping busy. The kids have lots of plans for the holidays starting next week and we are looking forward to our own adventures and fun. The K's are coming to visit mid week and the kids will enjoy a sleepover – not sure about me! Thanks for the postcards and letters. The kids are so excited to find something in the letterbox addressed to them. A real highlight. Look forward to talking with you soon when you can manage it. Don't worry about us – we are doing well. Always thinking of you and sending love across the miles. Missing you, Maudie and co xxxxx

## Giddy Harry

Good to catch up. Thanks for the call. Good to know that you are enjoying things over there. The clan miss your good company but look forward to all that is planned for the future once you get home. Boating, BBQ's, Camping and a cold ale all on the agenda. Catch up again in the next month or two. Des.

## Hi there T

Can't believe that it is school holidays again – already! But we are looking forward to the break in routines again and the lack of the morning rush!! Kids are really good. You would be so proud of them and the little jobs they are so keen on doing to help their Mum. I hope they continue them on your return as they do them without asking or for reward! We miss you heaps though and the calendar snake is looking pretty colourful. This must

mean something. Love you, J xxoo.

## Hi there again Baz

Been thinking of you and hope all is good there. Lots of Sport on, so hope you have managed to catch all the action. NZ is doing us proud worldwide. Even if we don't win everything – which we almost do anyway, there have been many hours in front of the box. I think Daylight saving happens soon so that's a sure sign that summer is really on its way. It will be a great catch-up on your return. Everyone asking when? Hear from you if you get the chance. Pete.

## My Guy

I miss your smile, your words of encouragement, your love and your presence. I so can't wait until you are home again and we start off on our new adventures. Thanks for the surprise parcels and the special thoughts. (And the anniversary flowers!) Love you. Your Gal xx.

## Yo Dude

Am pleased that you got enjoyment from Margaret's book. Hope the goodies lasted longer than two

days. I am counting the days till your return. All the nephews were too shy to send a message but they all miss you. All is good here will be down to see the boss labour WE. Bex due early next year so that will be another one to add to the list. Stay safe man and take care. Dad.

## Megan

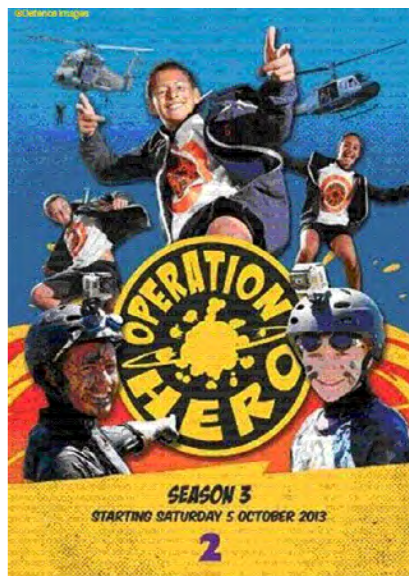
Hi from the tanned lady who has just returned from Vegas, and the Caribbean? Had a wonderful time! Came back to lots of work, but plodding on as usual. I think they all missed me at work and so they should. Please take care of yourself and an email would be good. I will send you one about my trip when things calm down.

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## BOUQUET

## Janine

Thank you so much for our new outfits! We are looking forward to our new adventures abroad! Percy, Kiri, Tilly and Kenny.



## NEW OPERATION HERO SERIES

The new Operation Hero series will launch this Saturday 5 October at 4pm on TV2.

Operation Hero is a children's TV series where six kiwi children participate in adventures inspired by New Zealand heroes.

Operation Hero features NZDF assets and our personnel at work.

# SEND A MESSAGE OVERSEAS

*Send a message  
to your loved one overseas, with...*



**K**ate Lukins, a former DJ and studio engineer with the Radio Network (Newstalk ZB, ZM/FM, Classic Hits, Coast FM etc) and who now works with Defence in a civilian role, has once again secured access to the network's studio, music library and phones.

She will be recording a Christmas radio show for our deployed personnel, complete with music requests and messages of support from families and friends.

The programme will be made available to our people in theatre, in time for Christmas. For people in New Zealand, it will also be available for download from the NZDF website. Download details will be advised in December.

To send a song request and record a message for your loved one, email: [kate.lukins@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:kate.lukins@nzdf.mil.nz) with your name, phone number (cell phone is okay) and say what time during the 16 – 17 November is best for her to call you from the studio.

**Final day to email your details through is  
Friday 15 November, all calls will be made on  
Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 November.**