

# THE BUGLE

Issue 233 | May 2017



## INSIDE

- Anzac Inspiration
- An Anzac Garden
- Whittakers Chocolate Kiwi
- Join Us for Dinner

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 234 is  
**7 June 2017**

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:

TG Taji have now trained over 7,000 Iraqi Security Force personnel.

## GUEST EDITORIAL

### Lieutenant Colonel Rob Loftus Commanding Officer 3rd Combat Service Support Battalion



I am delighted to have been asked to introduce this edition of The Bugle. Like many other units, 3rd Combat Service Support Battalion has personnel either preparing to deploy, deployed or have just returned from deployments overseas. This is the natural state of affairs for our military servicemen and women and The Bugle newsletter is an enduring link to all that is going on overseas and on the home front whilst our folk are deployed.

This thought and particularly the recent return of 3 CSS Bn individuals from operations leads me to ponder on the vast array of things that can occur within a six month period which our families left at home have to deal with. For example, we have had the Kaikoura earthquake and the impact that this has had on Defence personnel in the Canterbury and Wellington regions. Equally the Port Hills fires in Christchurch was a significant local event as were Cyclones Debbie and Cook in the North Island and the floods and damage that resulted from them. Special events such as birthdays and anniversaries may have passed or celebrations have had to be postponed; another Anzac Day has been and gone and of course the NZDF, as an organisation, continues along its chosen path with new events, capabilities, platforms, equipment and policies rolling off the production line, all of which have the potential to directly or indirectly impact on our lives.

The importance of communicating all of the above as it pertains to both our deployed personnel and their families cannot be underestimated. Whether it is via personal letters, emails, phone calls if you can, 'drop ins' and or briefs at various community centres and of course news letters such as The Bugle; these are the lifelines that keep everyone connected and informed. For those 'battling' on the home front, through the DSO you can connect into the formal and informal support networks and facilities that can help you whilst your family member is deployed but equally through the CSOs on their return. Post deployment support is frequently just as important as our families re-adjust to the new 'normal'. If you are concerned about something or just need to get a better understanding of a new NZDF policy, such as the new Accommodation policy, that might affect you or you just need some additional information or advice on something please do not hesitate to ask; our DSOs and CSOs are there to help. Strong families that feel supported throughout the deployment process is of great value to me as a unit commander, and is a key enabler to mission success. We can all be proud of the endeavours of our deployed service people and all families and partners should feel confident of receiving appropriate support as and when required.





## ***NZDF Engineers Hard at Work in Hot and Cold***

**18 April 2017**

From the extreme cold of Antarctica to the heat of Sinai Peninsula, New Zealand Defence Force engineers are proving their ability to excel in any conditions.

Seventeen NZDF engineers returned recently from six weeks in McMurdo Station in Antarctica, where they helped in construction projects for the United States Antarctic Programme, and now 34 members of the New Zealand Army's 2 Engineer Regiment are halfway through a six-month deployment in the Sinai Peninsular.

The engineers, from the New Zealand Army's 2 Engineer Regiment, based at Linton Military Camp, are building a 3.3-kilometre security fence around the Multinational Force and Observers' (MFO) South Camp.

The MFO is an international organisation with peacekeeping responsibilities in the Sinai Peninsula. After operating at North Camp for more than 30 years, the mission's headquarters and a number of troops from 11 other contributing nations that make up the MFO's force moved to South Camp in mid-2016 because of the deteriorating security situation in North Sinai.

To accommodate the influx into South Camp, the MFO is building new facilities and requested assistance from New Zealand and other countries with some of the infrastructure projects.

The NZDF engineers have taken the hot and dry weather and the diverse cultural environment within the MFO in their stride.

Sapper Benjamin Kerr, a plant operator, said temperatures in the Sinai Peninsular were still manageable but for someone coming from Waikato it was very challenging working in such heat.

"Nevertheless, I was very keen to get stuck into the work that was waiting for us upon arrival. It is great to be doing the job overseas that we spend so much time training for at home," Sapper Benjamin Kerr said.

Lieutenant Tom Gilbert, the Troop Commander of the engineering team, said the sappers had a reputation in South Camp of being extremely hard workers.





*Thirty-four New Zealand Defence Force engineers were sent to the Sinai Peninsula in January to build a 3.3 kilometre security fence around the Multinational Force and Observers' South Camp*

"I have had comments from numerous people about how hard they've been working," Lieutenant Gilbert said.

The New Zealanders' friendly nature was also a big plus, he said.

"The Kiwis are naturally good at getting along with people from other nations and this has been proven once again in this deployment."

The engineering team includes combat engineers, carpenters, electricians, plant operators, welders and a supply technician.

Lieutenant Colonel Terry McDonald, Commanding Officer of 2 Engineer Regiment, said NZDF sappers were trusted professionals in their trades and their skills were actively sought within the NZDF and by external partners.

"They approach every task as an opportunity and continue to serve across the globe, representing themselves, the NZDF and New Zealand to the best of their ability."

There are currently 39 Army engineers serving in missions overseas.

**Source:** [www.nzdf.mil.nz](http://www.nzdf.mil.nz)

## FIND MORE NZDF APRIL NEWS ...

Remembering Those Who Fell on the Western Front (19 April)

Meeting Family on the Western Front (20 April)

Christchurch Man Leads NZDF Mission to Fiji (21 April)

Waikato Sailor Walking in the Shadow of Giants (23 April)

NZDF to Help Patrol Fiji's Waters (23 April)

Whanau on the Western Front (23 April)

Anzac Honour for Young Air Woman (23 April)

Ruatoria Soldier Paying Respects to the Fallen (24 April)

Remembrance for Navy Chaplain on Western Front (24 April)

Fijian Sailor Heading Home on NZ Navy Ship (24 April)

Dargaville Local Joins NZDF Mission to Fiji (24 April)

A Logical Decision to Serve for Soldier on Western Front (27 April)

Sailor Stands Firm on the Western Front (27 April)

Fiji Deployment Brings Navy Sailor Back to her Roots (28 April)

Find these stories on the NZDF website: [www.nzdf.mil.nz/news/media\\_releases](http://www.nzdf.mil.nz/news/media_releases)





## ***'Always Take the Weather With You' - an Anzac Garden in Iraq***

*Story and Photo courtesy of the Australian Defence Force*

**21 April 2017**

In the heart of Iraq, surrounded by concrete and dust, one New Zealand Army soldier is protecting his Anzac counterparts and nurturing a garden he has made.

The New Zealander is deployed to Iraq with Task Group Taji Rotation Four, a combined force of New Zealand and Australian Defence Force personnel who are training Iraqi Security Forces to fight against ISIS.

For six months he will be based at the Taji Military Complex just north of Baghdad, providing force protection for the men and women of the task group.

"Basically, we're here to protect both the New Zealand and Australian soldiers we're working with, as well as other coalition forces including the British, Americans and the Iraqis who we're training," he said.

"We make sure everyone goes out safe, and everyone comes back safe."

As part of his role, he takes every opportunity to build relationships with the Iraqi soldiers.

"We've learnt some Arabic and some of the Iraqis speak a bit of English," he said. "When we're not engaged in training we have conversations with the Iraqis, as you would with anyone."

"We show each other photos of family and friends, and sometimes they'll tell you, 'This is my brother', or 'This is my cousin'."

"Sometimes they show you photos of their brothers or cousins who have been killed in action. Many of the Iraqis have had a rough time, but they're often the soldiers who work hardest. They want to make a change."

As Task Group Taji Four prepares to commemorate Anzac Day, the New Zealander feels he has a personal connection to the Iraqis.



*A New Zealand Army soldier has made a unique garden next to his accommodation at Camp Taji, providing a welcome retreat for his neighbours deployed with his combined Anzac Task Group.*

His family has a history of military service in the Middle East dating back to the First World War.

"My great-grandfathers fought with the Anzacs at Gallipoli, and my grandfathers and grandmother served in World War II," he said.

"I'm aware of that lineage. There's a bigger picture beyond me and it gives significance to what I'm doing."

"I'm quite proud of it. I want to do a good job, I want to do the best I can, and I want to then be able to pass on that legacy to future generations."

During his down-time, he has worked hard to create a unique and tranquil retreat for



himself and his neighbours in the Taji compound, building a garden in the dust next to his accommodation.

“New Zealand is pretty green and here it’s just dust, dust, dust,” he said.

“Early on I thought I needed to make the place more liveable, like those song lyrics ‘always take the weather with you’.”

The garden had been a fun hobby to do outside work hours, he said.

“Everything from trimming the lawn, to picking off the dead-heads, to making sure everything is watered.

“Getting the flowers was an experience. I asked one of the shop owners on base whose English is pretty good for plants and he offered me roses.

“I still don’t have any roses, but I have a huge array of other flowers.”

The garden has made a difference to life at Taji for the soldier, as well as his neighbours.

While he is looking forward to going home, he is in no hurry.

“I’m missing people, missing family, missing friends but the lifestyle here isn’t too bad,” he said.

“We are actually enjoying ourselves. I’m sitting here in this really nice garden, and we’ve been eating some delicious food.”

The soldier and his colleagues from the New Zealand and Australian defence forces will return home in mid-2017.

**Source: [www.nzdf.mil.nz](http://www.nzdf.mil.nz)**

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## ***NZDF Helps Train More Iraqi Troops for Offensive Against Daesh***

***28 April 2017***

A combined New Zealand and Australian task group will be training about 2000 Iraqi Security Forces in the next fortnight as the Iraqi military continue the campaign to expel Daesh from their country.

“A steady flow of capable personnel is crucial in sustaining the counter-offensive against the terrorist group,” Major General Tim Gall, the Commander Joint Forces New Zealand, said.

Major General Gall said many of the forces trained by Task Group Taji have joined the assault to reclaim the western part of Mosul. Some form part of stabilisation forces who are working to ensure the gains made against Daesh in other parts of Iraq are sustained.

“We’ve helped build a fighting force that’s contributing to the current offensive against Daesh. But apart from force generation, we are also training the next generation of Iraqi military leaders who will be responsible for protecting their country in the future,” he said.

Task Group Taji, which is comprised of about 100 New Zealand Defence Force troops and some 300 Australian Defence Force personnel, has trained more than 21,000 Iraqi government forces since its training mission began in May 2015.

“They are better prepared, more likely to succeed and have a greater chance of surviving on the frontline because of





*Task Group Taji, which is comprised of about 100 New Zealand Defence Force troops and some 300 Australian Defence Force personnel, will be training about 2000 Iraqi Security Forces in the next fortnight as the Iraqi military step up the campaign to expel Daesh from their country.*

the training we have provided them,” the NZDF’s Senior National Officer in Taji said.

Although many of them have combat experience, even the Iraqi trainees find the training provided by the Anzac training force valuable.

“I’m very grateful to the New Zealanders and Australians who trained us. They’ve given us the skills we need to help us survive and return to our families, I will train our men for the fight, using the skills I learnt from Task Group Taji,” said

Staff Sergeant Mohammed Faleh, who was deployed in early April to join the assault to capture the western part of Mosul from Daesh.

Staff Sergeant Faleh, who was one of the 280 Iraqi Army members who completed the first Officers and Junior Leaders Course in March.

Originally set for two years, the NZDF contribution to the international Building Partner Capacity mission in Iraq was extended recently by the government to November 2018.

Since last October, the NZDF has sent small groups of training and force protection teams to other secure training locations in Iraq. New Zealand soldiers have also been training stabilisation forces such as the Iraqi Border Guards in addition to the Iraqi Army.

The fifth rotation of 106 NZDF troops is currently in Australia to undertake mission-specific training with their Australian counterparts before departing for Iraq in late May.

**Source: [www.nzdf.mil.nz](http://www.nzdf.mil.nz)**

## ***Fifth Rotation of NZDF Troops Ready for Iraq Mission***

*30 April 2017*

The fifth rotation of 106 New Zealand Defence Force troops has just completed training with their Australian counterparts as they prepare to head to Iraq in late May.

The NZDF soldiers will form part of Task Group Taji, a combined New Zealand and Australian task group that has trained more than 21,000 Iraqi Security Forces personnel since its training mission began in May 2015.

Brigadier Mike Shapland, the NZDF’s Land Component Commander, went to Townsville in north-east Australia last week to certify NZDF troops ready for deployment..

**Source: [www.nzdf.mil.nz](http://www.nzdf.mil.nz)**

## NEWS FROM CAMP TAJI

### We Have Made A Difference

#### LTCOL B

Senior National Officer

Op Manawa IV is now in its final few weeks of deployment to Iraq. We have been offshore for over six months and everyone is thinking of home.

I have been immensely proud of how the team have performed. The RSM and I brought our diverse contingent together in September 2016 from a range of trades and units. We challenged the group to live up to three tenets – Unity, Excellence, and being Fit to Fight. We urged them to bring their ‘A game’ every day – as their trainees, their mates, their families, and the NZ Government were

relying on them to do just that. We challenged them to be part of a high performance team that respected and looked out for one another. The 106 Kiwis have delivered on all these demands and more.

My only anxiety leading up to this deployment was of potential friction between functional areas, but there has been none to speak of. What I have seen is a group of motivated men and women come together and work extremely hard to deliver on a promise made by NZ to Iraq. As part of Task Group Taji, by the end of our tour, we will have trained over 7000 Iraqi Security Force personnel in the areas of leadership, weapons handling, combat first aid, urban operations, vehicle check points, combined

arms operations and instructing personnel so they can train others. These soldiers and police are now better prepared, more likely to succeed, and have a greater chance of surviving because of the training we have provided them.

At the start of the Build Partner Capacity mission to Iraq in May 2015, 40% of the country was held by ISIS. In the 24 month duration of the NZDF mission the Iraqi Security Forces have reduced this occupation to 9%. NZ, and most specifically your loved ones, have made a considerable contribution to enabling this action to occur. As far away as Iraq feels, ISIS and organisations like it are a threat to our country and the people around the world we care about. We understand how hard it has been to be without your serving member for the past many months; however we want you to know the real difference they have made in Iraq.

We have also been extremely impressed at how well our people





# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS



has been critical to keeping our people in the right headspace in order for them to get up every day, day after day, for six months and undertake their role in a safe and professional manner. The NZ Government only sends us to places we need to be. The Iraqi people needed us here and your sacrifice and that of your loved ones is of great significance.

In a few weeks the RSM and I will deliver on our promise and bring your people home – safe, lean, fit, a little tired, and just possibly having grown as individuals.

P.S. I encourage you to put them on dishes duty; they will find it hard to argue after such a long time eating off disposable plates...

*The views and opinions expressed are those of the author and don't necessarily represent the official position of the NZDF or the Government of New Zealand.*

accepted the theme of enhanced integration with the Australian Defence Force. The Kiwis have led by example, swallowed a little bit of pride on occasion, and ensured that we've remained a strong and united Task Group, all the better for the unique elements that each

nation brings to our combined culture.

Most of all we want to thank the families for the unconditional love you have provided our people as we prepared and deployed on this operation. Your support from afar

## ANZAC DAY—CAMP TAJI



Members of Task Group Taji IV marked Anzac Day 2017 at the Taji Military Complex in Iraq. There are 100 New Zealanders and 300 Australians in the combined Anzac Task Group. Members gathered for a dawn service, together with coalition partners from the United States and the United Kingdom.



# ANZAC DAY—CAMP TAJI



*During the two minutes' silence, after the sounding of Last Post, two Apache helicopters conducted a flyover.*



*As the dawn broke, and after wreaths were laid by members of the Task Group command group including the Senior NZDF National Officer, the New Zealand and Australian national Flags were held high by the wind.*



*New Zealand Army soldiers joined with their Australian cousins for a hot brew before the dawn service began.*



# ANZAC INSPIRATION



Soldiers deployed in the TGT-IV Q-Store will leave their own legacy at Taji in the form of a giant painting that fills one end of their workplace.

WO1 Troy Stacey, the Australian Regimental Quartermaster, said he set his soldiers the challenge of designing and creating the painting as a renovation project in time for Anzac Day.

"Task Group Taji is a combined Anzac force. We're one team and everyone at the Q-Store was willing to contribute," said WO1 Stacey.

"They all picked up a paintbrush and put in a few strokes. The project was managed by one of the NZDF members and she did a great job. The end result works on so many levels."

Painted across two huge doors at the entrance to the Q-Store, the painting creates the effect of an Australian and New Zealand soldier, together with their national flags, coming together as one when the doors close.

"It took eight weeks to complete the painting and we're proud of what the soldiers achieved," said WO1 Stacey. "It will be their legacy, here at Taji. They can leave their own stamp."

## NEWS FROM SINAI

### Goodbye to Sinai

Op FARAD 02/16 have now reached the most anticipated period of the deployment – preparation for hand over and going home. Whilst the mind is still on the operational task the heart is being pulled every more strongly by home. Of the deployment period, this is the toughest time for those deployed in the Sinai. We can only guess at the anticipation and excitement on the home front but it is building at this end too. There have been long periods of absence and lives have moved on in New Zealand, so the challenge to reintegrate into family, work and New Zealand is on all our minds. This is a reminder to us all of the importance each of you hold for us as well as the strong bonds we have made with each other here.

But we have been kept busy as the operational tasks have not slowed down and with a new Force Commander (FC) illuminating the path for continued MFO success, days are long. Added to this is the preparation for welcoming, integrating and being ready to hand over the reins to the OP FARAD 01/17 crew. This work occupies the limited spare time. In the background the Engineer Troop who still have a period to go before they get to head home, remain hard at work on the new perimeter fence and the entry/exit check point. For the Engineers the Egyptian sun is only

getting hotter but they are loving the work they do, even if it is 'hot, damn hot' as they say.

The New Zealand Contingent all got to participate in ANZAC Day 2017 in the Middle East. The Dawn Services saw the New Zealanders join with Australians in Jerusalem, FOB (N) and South Camp. The weather was kind with the wind and dust absent for the morning in South Camp. Dawn was cool, peaceful and finished with a bright sun rise over Tiran Island in the Red Sea.

The turnout at the Service in South Camp was very good with members of the MFO multinational family coming together to support the MFO 'ANZAC Contingent' as well as remember their own fallen. The Australian and New Zealand Contingent Commanders read the Call to Remembrance. The Ode was read in Arabic, Maori and English and the FC, who is from

Australia, addressed the gathered crowd. The last post was sounded and the National anthems sung. It was a very dignified and for all a memorable Service.

So, the final words for the Op FARAD 02/16; The contingent memories are full of all we have done because of your sacrifice at home;

All the contingent members say to all the families and friends who have helped throughout this deployment to the Sinai, once thank you.

For all the mail, calls, presents and best wishes for the significant events; birthdays, Christmas, New Year and Easter, twice thank you.

For your long distance understanding and patience, whilst holding the home front that allowed us to do our jobs and achieve our career goals, three times we thank you.

See you all soon.  
NZCON MFO Sinai



Jerusalem Memorial Chapel entry plaque



# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

## South Camp Parade





# ANZAC DAY—SINAI

The Anzac Dawn Service held at South Camp. It was well supported and received by other nations. We had the privilege of the Fijian Choir to sing the hymns during the service and a US Army Piper in support of us. After the Dawn Service finished a 'Gun Fire Breakfast' was served.





# ANZAC DAY—SINAI

## Dawn Service at Forward Operating Base—North Camp (FOB-N)



We also sent five personnel, in conjunction with the Australians, to conduct an Anzac service at the Jerusalem Commonwealth Graves Cemetery in Israel.





# A TASTE OF HOME

As is the case on deployment, you get a few months in and talk turns to what you are missing from home. A chance conversation in the back of a van on a local purchase run full of loggies turned to chocolate, and whether we could support our teams in AMAB and the greater MER with Easter eggs.

A polite but cheeky request was sent through to Whittakers asking if they could help us out to which they said they could if we could look after distribution. HQJFNZ J4 and Movements cells confirmed that the NZDF could look after the logistics of getting chocolate to the Middle East and beyond sealed the deal. Whittakers confirmed they would donate just over 500 kiwis- which meant every operationally deployed NZDF member could have a little treat. We were chuffed!

Then came the question of how you move 576 chocolate kiwis from New Zealand to many different locations and how they arrive intact. In stepped Ms Lynne Smith and her skill and experience co-ordinating the RSA Christmas boxes. Ms Smith met with Hannah Gray from Whittakers in Porirua for pick up and then made it happen! A combination of insulated boxes, placarding, expedited movement of freight on reception of aircraft and refrigerated container storage ensured every little kiwi turned up safe and sound.

Needless to say the reception of the kiwis on Easter Sunday was highly anticipated and enjoyed by all. Cheers to Whittakers and Ms Lynne Smith for bringing a little bit of home to us all.



# CHOCOLATE EASTER KIWIS FLY OVERSEAS

Easter is often one of those times of the year that family and friends tend to get together. For Defence Force people who are away on operational service overseas it can be even harder to be away from home at such times.

Our deployed people always enjoy the regular letters and packages from home and it is the iconic Kiwi items and heartfelt gifts from family and friends that are great for morale, especially when they are unexpected. Thanks to an amazing donation of kiwi shaped Easter “eggs” from Whittakers in Porirua all of our operationally deployed people were able to experience a little bit of a kiwi Easter this year.

As one of our deployed officers said, “Receiving mail from home always boosts morale. Receiving mail from home...with a surprise Whittaker’s Chocolate Easter Egg though takes it to another titanic level.”

While chocolate is one of those things that is really hard to send overseas to the locations such as Egypt, Lebanon, Iraq, Afghanistan and Sudan that can get very hot, a bit of insulated packaging saw them arrive safely at their many destinations.



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

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

The NZ Defence Force supports a number of major operations around the world. Currently there are personnel deployed on 14 operations and UN missions across ten countries, including Afghanistan, Antarctica, Iraq, Middle East, Sinai, South Korea, South Sudan and United Arab Emirates.

At any time there are many other Defence Force personnel on other overseas activities and exercises.



# DSO'S CORNER



## Carol Voyce

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

One could be forgiven for thinking that I am always on holiday! I had 2 major breaks planned for this year and it just so happens that they are close together. The exciting thing about them both, is that are family focussed!

In March, our daughter was married on Waiheke Island. It was a gorgeous small wedding with family and friends joining in the celebration. The groom is from Australia and although they met in Spain, it was only fitting that they chose a destination wedding at the gorgeous Casita Miro Estate with its amazing Spanish décor, food and service. Of course the mother of the bride needed 2 weeks leave. One week to prepare and the other to recover!

Such happy occasions are enhanced by the coming together of family and special friends who travel from all corners of the world to be there and to share that unique bond that only families have. The wedding date did clash with the "Adele" concerts so it was a challenge to get everyone safely in and out of the "City of Sails". The celebrations spread over 5 days were truly amazing. It was the

family time that I valued, that truly made it perfect. With families scattered, these are special irreplaceable moments that we treasure no matter the occasion. That we can be together, pick up where we last left off, disregard the odd grey hair or wrinkle, of times since we last partied, to enjoying the moment and company are surely priceless.

My next family gathering happens in a couple of weeks! I am heading to Western Australia to see my brother, nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews. There are some new additions to the family since my last visit and much to catch up on. I'm excited to be seeing them all and I know there will be more celebrating to be had and family bonds further cemented. While the miles may separate us the relationships never change.

The value of families can never be underestimated. I am sure many of you enjoy the benefits of being surrounded by family and extended family, especially during a deployment. These unbreakable bonds are irreplaceable. They contribute much to our traditions, culture, beliefs, ideals and even attitudes. They are the "glue" that holds us together. I like to think that separations actually enhance relationships. Hard to agree with sometimes when you are parenting alone and juggling children, home and work life, but over the years that I have worked here I have seen many families relationships enriched by deployments. One of the main reasons is that when we are apart, we work so much harder on communication. We use every avenue available – be it phone, Skype, the old fashioned letter, email, messaging and some other forms of social media.

When my late Dad deployed to the Middle East in WW2, he kept a list in the back of his diary of whom he sent letters to and who sent ones to him. They were few. There were none of the communication tools

*The value of families can never be underestimated.*

that we have today to keep in touch. His family received a telegram to inform them of his homecoming! The parcels he received were from organisations like the Red Cross or knitted woollen socks from a hometown community group! Oh how different it was. He returned to New Zealand to almost catch up on 4 years of family life and happenings!

Modern technology bridges gaps when we can't be together. I don't see my brother as often as I wish I could, but he is never further away than a phone call or Skype session. Meeting up with him soon will still be extra special though – that special hug - oh so important.

For some of you that special hug is only weeks away, for others there is some time to wait. There are also some goodbyes just happening and some changes looming to your family life and routines. The key to the success of that family relationship is communication. Yes it does take some effort but the rewards are all yours. Make that connection today.

For those of you about to farewell loved ones, best wishes for the months ahead. I am sorry I won't be at the Burnham farewell for those associated with the Iraq deployment. There will still be a great team looking out for you and I look forward to being in touch in the future. Maybe we will see you at the dinner!

# DSO'S CORNER



**Janine Burton**

Deployment Services Officer  
1 (NZ) Brigade

I'm sure that I'm not alone in thinking that life just gets busier all the time. The DSO role is certainly full-on as there is always something happening in the deployment or overseas exercise realm to keep us occupied. Added to that, family life is also busy; although my children are adults and living their own lives, we are a close family and there is always something going on there too. We are very fortunate in that we all live in Palmerston North.

Yesterday (as I write) was Anzac Day and as a family we attended the dawn service in Palmerston North, then took my young granddaughter back for the civic service. Four very impressive sets of medals were worn proudly as we, along with thousands of others, remembered those who had gone before us. My husband and son had their own medals earned from overseas

service, then we also had service medals belonging to my late father-in-law who served in Malaya, Borneo and Vietnam, and his father who was a veteran of WW2.

The weather was amazing here in PNth a perfect, clear morning, couldn't have been better. As dawn broke, the skies were clear and not a breath of wind.

With having a busy life, I do need to periodically take a conscious step back, take a deep breath and take stock of things. There are many things I would like to do for myself which tend to get pushed to the side in favour of other things; like, for the past couple of weeks I have seen evidence that I need to visit my hairdresser but trying to find the best time that works for everyone—not just me—has seen me putting it off repeatedly. What am I doing? and Why am I being so unkind to myself? On that thought ....

*have stopped at this point and made an appointment!*

Do you believe in Life Happens?! I certainly do. To me, those Life Happens moments are things out of your control which you just then have to manage, and they tend to drop on us at the most inconvenient times—for example, husband/partner is away on deployment and the car breaks down or the lawn mower doesn't want to go. They are manageable events but extremely frustrating and often time-consuming to rectify. When Life Happens we have the option of taking the positive step of ringing the garage in the case of the car, dropping the lawn mower off to have

it fixed/serviced, or if you are very lucky, contacting that one person in your life who is a dab-hand at fixing things, and life moves on.

Sometimes though, negative forces make the putting right just that little bit harder and more of a mountain to climb. If you find yourself in this position, that the last little thing that went wrong was just the final straw—please reach out. There will be friends and family who are ready to support you and give you a helping hand I'm sure. Remember that you have two DSOs you can call on just to vent your frustrations to, get some advice, or in some cases a possible solution to what is happening. You will also have your Unit Point of Contact who may be able to help you out as well.

Hopefully you will have to hand a copy of the Preparing for Deployment resource which has a whole heap of good material to refer to. If you didn't get one or have misplaced your copy, I have a good supply and happy to pop another copy in the post.

Time is moving on – we are well into Autumn and the weather is still relatively warm although the evenings are cooling down, the first set of school holidays for the year are over and children are back at school and our missions are still rotating in and out of deployment locations. Wherever you are on the deployment timeline – beginning, middle or at the end – I hope that my positives vs negatives might help a little along the way.

Remember Mother's Day on Sunday 14 May.

**Need advice, support or information to manage the deployment journey?**  
**Contact Carol Voyce, DSO Burnham 0800 337 569**  
**or Janine Burton, DSO Linton 0800 683 77 327**

**We are here for you!**



# REUNIONS

*Military families look forward to being together after a long deployment with many mixed emotions. Each family member will have different expectations. Every family situation is different. However it is important to remember the needs and feelings of the returning family member, the adult at home and the children.*



## Understanding the Returning Family Member

- ❖ Military deployments, especially in a combat zone, can significantly change an individual's life.
- ❖ The deployment involved the loss of many comforts that people back home take for granted: contact with family, comfortable living conditions, a variety of good food, time to relax, etc.
- ❖ The deployment involved hard work and enormous responsibility.
- ❖ What sustains military personnel on a difficult deployment is devotion to duty, a close connection with fellow soldiers and the desire to return to the comforts of home, family and community.
- ❖ The returning family member may seem preoccupied with the experience of their deployment. They may be unable to talk about it or may excessively talk about it.
- ❖ The returning family member may have suffered physical or emotional injury or disability.
- ❖ The returning family member may expect extra attention and support for some time after their return.
- ❖ The returning family member may have serious concerns about their financial or employment future.

## Understanding the Adult that Stayed at Home

- ❖ Life has gone on and the adult at home has had to keep the family moving forward during the deployment. They may have had to take over many functions normally performed by the deployed family member.
- ❖ Often the adult at home has handled many small and not so small crises. These problems are old news at home but may be big surprises for the returning family member.
- ❖ The adult at home may expect extra attention and credit regarding the performance during the deployment. They also may expect the returning family members to automatically accept the family as it now exists and begin to perform a role with which they are uncomfortable or unfamiliar.

## Understanding the Children

- ❖ Children generally are excited about a reunion with their returning parent. However, the excitement of the reunion is stressful for children. Children may also be anxious and uncertain about the reunion.

# REUNIONS

- ❖ Children's responses are influenced by their developmental level. Toddlers may not remember the parent well and act shy or strange around them. School age children may not understand the returning parent's need to take care of themselves and to spend time with their spouse. Teenagers may seem distant as they continue their activities with friends.
- ❖ Children may need a period of time to warm up and readjust to the returning parent. This should not be misinterpreted or taken personally.

## Understanding the Family

- ❖ Couples may find the deployment has strained their relationship. Time and negotiation will help the couple work toward a new loving relationship.
- ❖ Family problems that existed before the deployment frequently reappear after the deployment.
- ❖ Extended family members such as grandparents, aunts and uncles may have provided support and service to the family during the deployment. They may have difficulty redefining their role with the family.

## Give Everyone Time

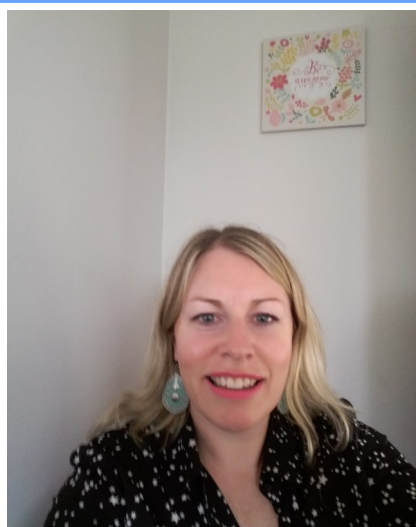
- ❖ All family members will need time to adjust to the changes that accompany the return of the deployed family member.
- ❖ Open discussions of expectations prior to the return home are helpful if they are possible.
- ❖ Families should utilize the help offered by the military and other organizations to readjust to the reunion.
- ❖ Most families will change. Children have been born or have grown. An adult at home may have become more independent. The returning family member had a life changing experience. The goal is to form a healthy, new life together.

Reunion of a military family after a long deployment is a cause for celebration. Some patience and understanding will go a long way to help the whole family successfully reunite with a minimum of problems. While most families cope successfully with the stress of the deployment and following reunion, problems can develop. If significant problems develop, the family should seek help from within their organisation. For many, relationships are enriched by the experience.



For more information visit:  
[www.AACAP's Military Families Resource Centre](http://www.AACAP's Military Families Resource Centre)





**Kylie Smedley**  
Defence Community Co-ordinator  
RNZAF Base Auckland

Kylie studied advertising and worked in that industry prior to joining the RNZAF as a Logistics Officer in 2008. She has worked in various areas including Air Movements, Government House, HQJFNZ, No 209 and 5 SQNs and the Youth Development Unit. The decision to move into the community space allows Kylie to integrate her current studies (sociology and psychology) into her working life, while utilising the knowledge she has developed from her experience with many NZDF units over the years.

We welcome Kylie to the welfare support team.

Contact: 09 417 7000 Ext 7035 or 027 450 2001

## NCO FAMILY WINTER CAMP



### RNZN ALPINE AND SKI CLUB LODGE

**DATE:** Sun 9 Jul—Fri 14 Jul  
**COST:** \$100 per Adult and \$50 per Child (5-14). Under 5 free  
**WHERE:** RNZ Alpine and Ski Club Lodge  
54 Thames Street, Ohakune

To register for the ballot, contact the NCO on [nco@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:nco@nzdf.mil.nz) or 0800 NAVYHELP.

Include your Name, Address, Service No., Phone no., how many attending, children's ages and prior attendance YES / NO  
Priority given to families who have not attended before.

#### Dates to remember:

Fri 2 Jun: Registrations close and ballot drawn  
Fri 9 Jun: Deposit of \$50 to be paid by this date  
Fri 23 Jun: Balance of costs to be paid.  
All payments are to be made via internet banking—account details provided once ballot is drawn.



# DAYS TO MAKE YOU THINK ...

## 15 MAY:

The **International Day of Families** is observed on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May every year. The Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 1993 and reflects the importance the international community attaches to families. The International Day provides an opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase knowledge of the social, economic and demographic processes affecting families.



## 29 MAY:

The **International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers** is observed on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May each year. The day was designated in 2002 to pay tribute to all the men and women who have served and continue to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication and courage, and to honour the memory of those who have lost their lives in the cause of peace. The date was chosen because on that day in 1948 the first UN peacekeeping mission, the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO) began operations with a group of unarmed military observers in Palestine.



As this Day is being observed around the world, peacekeepers are fulfilling roles as military observers, trainers and disarmament experts, civilian police, civil administrators, judges and prosecutors, economists, human rights and humanitarian workers. Others perform the more traditional peacekeeping functions of monitoring ceasefires and buffer zones, -in 14 missions on three continents.

UN peacekeepers have a distinctive bright blue coloured helmets or berets and are often referred to as the 'blue helmets'.

## 1 JUNE:

The **Global Day of Parents** is observed on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June every year. The Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 2012 and honours parents throughout the world. The global Day provides an opportunity to appreciate all parents in all parts of the world for their selfless commitment to children and their lifelong sacrifice towards nurturing this relationship. In its resolution, the General Assembly also noted that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children and that children, for the full and harmonious development to their personality, should grow up in a family environment in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding.



## 8 JUNE:

The UN designated 8 June as **World Oceans Day** in December 2008.

The concept of a World Oceans Day was first proposed as a way to celebrate our world's shared ocean and our personal connection to the sea, as well as to raise awareness about the crucial role the ocean plays in our lives and the important ways people can help protect it.

The ocean is the heart of our planet. Like your heart pumping blood to every part of your body, the ocean connects people across the Earth, no matter where we live. The ocean regulates the climate, feeds millions of people every year, produces oxygen, is the home to an incredible array of wildlife, provides us with important medicines, and so much more! In order to ensure the health and safety of our communities and future generations, it's imperative that we take the responsibility to care for the ocean as it cares for us.





# KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING



*Hello All,*

*I am so excited that this is my last editorial to you all. It means to me, Amelia and Jonty that homecomings are just next month now. When I first started writing for The Bugle, I thought it was going to be a huge task and when I reluctantly agreed I thought maybe I had taken on too much. While excited to be near the end, it has been somewhat therapeutic and certainly has shown me how quickly time goes by when each deadline comes along. I know that Jason is on the countdown in some small way but he tells me their job isn't finished yet and there is still a lot to do and achieve so I know he can't afford to let his thoughts wander too far. I am sure I can do all the thinking for both of us.*

*We have just enjoyed the school holidays. The break started with Easter and Pa and Nanny came to stay for awhile. I really enjoyed the adult company - I am sure that those of you parenting alone really welcome that level of conversation. There was lots of preparation for Easter. Amelia and Nanny had lots of Easter baking plans which included the yummiest hot cross buns and the most amazing Easter cheesecake. Jonty was able to join in with some Easter egg painting and we made cards and messages for Jason which we sent online.*

*He already had his Easter eggs which I gather were well eaten before the due date! We had our traditional Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday and Pa did a great job of thinking "outside the square" with some clever little clues and twists to the fun. I hate to admit it but there is rather a lot of chocolate on the pantry shelves to be rationed out over the coming weeks. We also had some outings to the park and the movies. The movies were chosen on one of the pretty wet days we had. I hope that none of you were impacted by the floods and if you were that you asked for help in the clean up! Must be a terrible thing to experience.*

*After the excitement of Easter, we had some quiet days about home. I had made myself a list of chores I wanted to complete and have been busy making sure they are crossed off the list. Pa painted the fence for us with a little help from Jonty so I put some new shrubs in around the perimeter and so far they look as though they are surviving. No green fingers for me. Amelia and Jonty have both had friends to play and sleep overs which always causes great excitement, lots of noise and grumpy children the next day from lack of sleep. Never mind! We coped.*

*I see that we will manage one more of the deployment dinners before Jason gets*

*home. I know I have mentioned them a number of times but have really enjoyed the chance to have that promised night off cooking and to meet people from Jason's unit and other families. It helps us feel valued and certainly not alone. My neighbour Jill, is coming with us. Her husband will have just left and will be exchanging "hello's and goodbyes" with Jason somewhere on the other side of the world. I know how she feels despite the excitement I have. I might get to convince her to take my place with the column writing. I can but ask!*

*I am sure for many of you, you are relieved that there is finally an end in closer sight! It's been some journey for us all but we have managed far better than I could have ever imagined. I really didn't think I could do this and so am thrilled that I have done so well and even learned new things about myself and also some "handyman" skills along the way.*

*Thanks to you all for "keeping the home fires burning" and for your friendship and support if our paths did cross.*

*Happy reunions to you all,*

*Leanne*

# KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING CONT'D

*Greetings to you all.*

*Tony and I have just endured a rather wet Easter weekend where the best made plans didn't quite come to fruition. That torrential rain up and down the country saw us cancel our travel plans and stay put at home. I couldn't help but think of those affected by the flooding and especially when I saw homes inundated with water. Something I could never cope with but could only admire the stoic families I saw on TV and the many volunteers who came forward to lend a hand. Our planned Easter holiday paled into insignificance.*

*I can't believe that May is here already and feel a certain amount of excitement brewing as we think about Sarah's homecoming. I have been working out rough timings to get my last parcels away and have tried to think of things that might make the long homeward journey a little easier. I just bought her the latest novel by her favourite author and something to chew on. Food, especially much loved kiwi treats, never seems to go unwanted! I also tucked in a somewhat complex "scratchie" ticket. Carol told me about a conversation she had with a Mum near the end of one of the previous rotations who was struggling with ideas of what to include in her last parcel. She took up the suggestion of a book, the lollies and some scratchies. There was apparently huge excitement on the plane home, when the lucky recipient won a huge sum of money! That luck probably*

*won't come our way but I love that story and thought at least try!*

*We have tried not to make too many plans for Sarah's arrival. Of course we are eager to get that first glimpse of her on arrival but know she will be tired, not only from the travel but the hard work she has done over many months. I am sure we are like many other families and incredibly proud of her contributions and dedication. No different from your feelings but certainly not in her thinking. She has done a job and almost completed this part of it. Well we are happy!*

*I am sure the lady at the Post Shop is going to notice my less frequent visits and the supermarket checkout operator will be thinking I have given up on sugar by no longer buying all those treats! Funny thoughts I guess.*

*I hope this finds you all well, counting down, making plans and anticipating the safe return of those we love. It's been a real pleasure sharing my few thoughts with you a long the way. I know the separations are different for Mums and Dads than for families, but yes we all worry, even if we say we don't.*

*Take extra special care and I wish you much joy when you are all reunited.*

*Kindest regards,  
Brenda and Tony*

## 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

All personnel on deployment and their families have the support of the Deployment Services Officers (DSOs). In addition there is support from Unit Points of Contact (UPOC) 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

##### Papakura

Rachel O'Neill—Ph: 09 296 5744

##### Burnham

Lynne Price—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:

#### Defence Community Coordinators

##### Air Staff Wellington:

Lynley Williams—Ph: 04 4960555

##### Base Auckland:

Kylie Smedley—Ph: 09 417 7000

Ext'n 7035

##### Base Woodbourne:

Claudia Ayling—Ph: 03 577 1177

##### Base Ohakea:

Bridget Williams—Ph: 06 351 5640

### Naval Community Organization:

Ph: 09 445 5534, 0800 NAVYHELP

nib@nzdf.mil.nz

### Local Chaplaincy Services

#### Unit Point of Contact



# LATEST NEWS FROM LINTON

We have some share-worthy stories for you to enjoy:

## A Mural to treasure

If you live in the Linton Community or are passing by, be sure to check out the amazing mural lining the walls of the Linton Community Hub. The mural was painted by Ali Richardson and mounted by Spotless for all to enjoy. Sincere thanks Ali for an everlasting memorial.



## Poppy Brooches



Sincere thanks to Naliyha and Charlotte De Negri and family for the exquisite fabric poppy brooches made and sold for Anzac Day. Proceeds of the poppy sales were given to the Palmerston North RSA. Poppy petals were also made at the Linton Holiday programme and sewn into a beautiful wreath which was laid at the Linton Camp Anzac Day Dawn Service. Naliyha's great great Uncle died in battle at Chunuck Bair and ANZAC day is of special significance to the De Negri Family.



## Mothers Day High Tea

We invite all Manawatu Mothers to come to the Fernleaf Café for High Tea on Sunday to celebrate Mothers Day.

So much happening here – be sure to be in touch.

Kindest regards

Lesley Clutterbuck 06 3519970 or Manda Brokenshaw – 06 3519619

# MUMISMS

**Mumism:** Common sentences and quotations used by mothers worldwide. Mumisms are genetically built into all mothers and are passed down from generation to generation. They are sometimes found in other peoples' speech and repeated use of clichés make ones voice sound exactly like their mothers.

See if you recognize any of these ...

- ◆ You don't have to like it ... you just have to eat it.
- ◆ Ask your father (closely followed by "Ask your mother").
- ◆ Who'll end up walking, bathing and feeding it ...?
- ◆ And THAT'S FINAL!
- ◆ I'm going to give you until I count to three ...
- ◆ Just eat it, or you'll go without.
- ◆ Get that thing out of your mouth! (or nose).
- ◆ If you have to ask the answer is NO.
- ◆ Were you born in a tent ...?
- ◆ If you cut your legs off in that lawnmower, don't come running to me!
- ◆ I love you ... (lots).
- ◆ Don't drink out of the milk bottle!
- ◆ Is having a good time all you think about?
- ◆ No, you did not wash your hands. Never mind how I know — just do it again and use soap this time.
- ◆ You can look but DON'T TOUCH!
- ◆ Let me kiss it and make it better ...
- ◆ I slave for hours over a hot stove and this is the thanks I get!?!
- ◆ Just you wait until you have kids of your own — then you'll understand.
- ◆ I'll treat you like an adult when you start acting like one!
- ◆ The wind will change one day and your face will stay like that!
- ◆ How many times do I have to tell you, don't throw things in the house!
- ◆ Don't EVER let me catch you doing that again!



## Mother's Day Quote:

"A mother is the truest friend we have, when trials, heavy and sudden, fall upon us, when adversity takes the place of prosperity; when friends who rejoice with us in our sunshine desert us when troubles thicken around us, still will she cling to us, and endeavour by her kind precepts and counsels to dissipate the clouds of darkness, and cause peace to return to our hearts." - *Washington Irving (1783-1859)*.



# FOR YOUR INFO

## Welcome to New Bugle Readers

A huge welcome to new Bugle readers. This publication is for everyone who has someone away or about to depart NZ for deployment in a number of locations around the world. We hope that in the months to come you will find some support and comfort amongst these 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, whether you are family and friends at home or you are deployed.

We look forward to keeping in touch with you in the months ahead.

## Final Bugle

This will be the final mail out for those of you whose loved ones are about to return to New Zealand, having completed their deployment. We wish you happy reunions. It has been wonderful for us to have been able to support you during the period of separation and hope that you have enjoyed receiving the Bugle.

Please remember that our team is still here for you if you need any assistance along the way.

With best wishes to you all—we look forward to possibly meeting you again at some point in the future.

## When to Stop Sending Mail

We are often asked when is the best time to stop sending mail to overseas locations.

Rule of thumb—one month prior to the expected return to New Zealand.

## Deployment Guides

Deployment Guides are prepared for family members for each of the missions we support. While Guides are provided at Welfare Support Days in Trentham and when we conduct Roadshows in various locations around NZ—some family members miss out.

If you do not have a copy of the guide for the deployment your family member is on please contact Janine or Carol to have a copy popped in the mail to you.

## Post Deployment

Just a reminder to those who anticipating reunions - we are sure that you have looked at all the information which has been given to you about homecomings and the reunion process. If you haven't - it is timely that you read the booklets which have been posted out to you. We are excited for you all that this separation is about to end. Reunions are a process and if you have any problems or concerns about reintegration, either now or later, please be sure to be in contact with Janine or Carol (contact details inside front cover). We are happy to help you all along the way and there are some more great resources and people to offer guidance and support. The hardest thing is to ask, but we understand and want to ease any burdens if there are any!

## Deployment Dinners

Fancy a night off Cooking or a Sunday Roast?

Our Deployment support team would love to see all those associated with current deployments at our planned gatherings for May.

### Sunday 28 May

Trentham Military Camp – Sunday Roast 12 Middyay

### Monday 29 May

Burnham Military Camp and Linton Military Camp – Dinner 5:45 pm

(Refer page 27 for further details – note change of venue for Burnham)

No dishes, no cooking but hearty fare and great company. It's not all about the food – but that helps! It's about meeting people in like situations, meeting with representatives from home Units and putting your feet up! These informal gatherings are another chance for us all to keep in touch.

To help with catering, refer to contact details on page 27 and be sure to RSVP. We need names of all those who plan to come so we meet Security requirements for when you enter Camp.

See you there!

(Remember to bring along your messages for the next Bugle.)

## Return to New Zealand—Iraq Contingent

Return information is available from your DSO. At the time of printing we have the **return date**, and waiting on confirmation of timings which we hope to have by the time you contact us.

Please contact either Janine or Carol for this information:

**Janine :** 0800 683 77 327 (0800 OVERSEAS)  
janine.burton@nzdf.mil.nz

**Carol:** 0800 337 569 (0800 DEPLOY)  
carol.voyce@nzdf.mil.nz

# HOW SMART IS BUYING A NEW CAR?

## Five things car dealers never tell you ...

Milestone  
Direct

LIFE IS A  
JOURNEY.  
GET GOOD  
DIRECTIONS

Planning to buy an expensive new car using your deployment allowances?

Is there a way you can have a set of wheels but still make smart financial decisions?

New car dealers never seem to tell you:

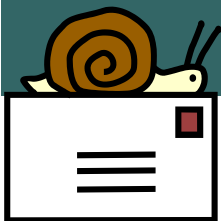
- **A car costs heaps once you have bought it:**  
Statistics NZ reports 14% of household income is spent on cars. Car maintenance, fuel, rego, WOF, tyres, and parking all cost money. Flash modifications (such as adding a subwoofer or mags) look and feel cool yet rarely add value. Modified cars often cost more to insure but are worth no more when sold.
- **New cars plummet in value:**  
A new car's value can go down by up to 40% after just one year. This means a \$30,000 Subaru could lose \$12,000 in value in the first year.
- **Finance charges can be a rip off:**  
If you don't buy the \$30,000 car outright, but rather take out finance, in 5 years you could end up spending more than \$10,000 in interest. Additionally, the car dealer gets a commission for signing you up to a finance deal. Paying off the finance early often comes with costs and penalties. When you factor in the decrease in value of the car, you've ended up paying more than \$40,000 for an asset that's worth less than \$20,000.
- **Lost opportunity cost:**  
This is like a hidden double whammy. Not only have you paid far more than your car is now worth, but that money could have been earning you interest and capital gain in a NZDF FlexiSaver fund. As an example, if your FlexiSaver fund earned 7% after tax and fees, then that is \$2,100 of gain. If you leave the money to grow in the fund, then you earn interest on interest and it keeps growing exponentially over time.
- **Cool cars cost more and take longer to fix:**  
The flashier the car, the faster we tend to drive and the greater the chance of having an accident. Cool cars often have expensive body work that costs a lot to repair and often takes longer to get sorted.

However, if you still want a car then what's the answer?

Cheaper is better when it comes to a car, so long as you don't buy a dunger that costs heaps to keep on the road. Be realistic with what you spend. Don't get sucked into vehicle finance. An inexpensive car can still make you look and feel good and get you to all the places you want to go. An added bonus is that you will have money left over to put into your New Zealand Defence Force FlexiSaver fund to grow so you can buy something that increases in value - like a house!

Want to get ahead financially in this life? Give the team at Milestone Direct a call. We can show you how to make your hard earned money work wonders for you over the medium to long term. Contact Milestone Direct on 0508 645 378, go to [nzdf.milestonedirect.co.nz](http://nzdf.milestonedirect.co.nz) or check us out on the Force Financial Hub.





# PERSONAL MESSAGES

The deadline for contributions and personal messages for The Bugle is the first Wednesday of each month (**the next edition deadline is 7 June at 4.00pm**). Please note: All Bugle messages are to be sent to Carol Voyce, DSO Burnham (email: [dso.burnham@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dso.burnham@xtra.co.nz))

## From In-Theatre

Hi My Loves

(Pete, Tahu, Sophia, William, Nala & Kitty)

Miss you soooo big. I love receiving treats and art work from you and seeing all the mischief you're all getting up to. Makes me smile.

Daddy's been telling me you have grown so much. Momma is going to be the shorty in the house. Anyway, just a quick message.

Love you all sooooo big.

Momma xxox

**Kia ora Emma H**

I hope you are enjoying your time back at school Emma. Not long now Em, I am looking forward to spending lots of time with you playing Hulk Smash lol. Love from Dad H

**Hey big buddy Alex H**

How is Basketball going? I bet you are enjoying being back at school, and hanging out with your mates. Home soon mate, keep up the good work buddy. I love you son. Dad H

**Nathan H**

How is Kindy going son? Mum told me that you are growing your rats tail! Cool, it will be getting long by the time I get home. See you in a short time, not long to go now. Love you lots. Dad H

**Mrs H**

Home soon babe, then I can finally help around the house J. Happy mother's day for the 14<sup>th</sup>, I hope the kids make you some cool cards. I love you. Shane

**Hi there fabulous family**

Heading home soon. Can't wait to see you all and go on our great holiday. Lots of good times to come. Thanks for all the parcels and support. You are the best. Mike xxx

**Happy Mothers Day Mrs G**

You deserve to have a great day Mum. Will be thinking of you. Thanks for all you do for us and will do in the years to come. Love you. Your number one son!

Happy Mothers day to Mums at home and Mums abroad and to Mums whose memory lives on in our hearts.



## From Home

**To our Sunshine**

May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind always be at your back.

May the sun warm your face and  
sun shine all day long.

Everything go right and  
possibly nothing go wrong.

May those you love bring love back  
to you.

May all the wishes you wish come  
true.

You are all always in our thoughts.

Take care and keep smiling.

Lots of love from your family xxx

**Dear Mum**

We are extremely proud of what you have achieved over the last six months, you continue to amaze and encourage us both. We love you very much. Hope you have a lovely mothers day.

Lots of love from Jessie and Logie  
xxx

**Dear Dad**

Me and Nan are on count down until your home. Nan moved Easter weekend and I was super helpful making sure I kept an eye on all her stuff. I've lost my tree I pee on in the morning and still looking for a replacement. There are so many stray cats that walk across Nan place but not for long Dad I've chased most of them away, so I'm protecting Nan cats from getting into trouble. I'm looking forward to when you get home. Don't forget to take it easy with me on our runs at first Dad I'm not as fit as I was when you left. See you soon.

Love Tango

P.S. Nan said she is looking forward to hugging you 😊

**Hey Dad**

We will be seeing you soon! Had a massive clean up in the man cave and ready to beat you on the pool table again. Hope you are ready. Vance (Jnr)

Wow Mum you will be home soon – how great that will be. We have missed you soooooo much. Counting down the days – Love you.

The MW Clan

**Hello Dad**

Mum says I have been really good. I got a reading prize at school and a certificate for helping in the library. Gaz came over last weekend and we went bike riding in the forest. Did some great skids in the mud. So much fun. Hope you are liking it over there. Love from Will

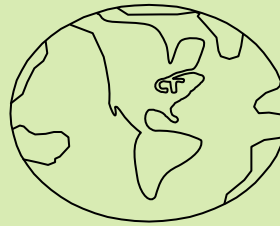
**Hey there Babe**

Hope the travels went ok and you are starting to settle in to your new temporary home. All's ok here. Keeping busy and planning the months ahead. Can't wait for our first Skype. Love you. Jen xxx





**Need advice, support or  
information to manage  
the deployment journey?**



**The New Zealand Defence Force Community offers  
a broad range of services and supports to help Defence  
families manage this unique way of life.**

**The best way to access these support services  
during a deployment is to contact your  
Deployment Services Officer.**



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

Ph: (03) 363 0421  
Cell phone: 0274 497 565  
Toll free line: 0800 DEPLOY or  
0800 337 569  
Fax: (03) 363 0024,  
E-mail: [dso.burnham@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dso.burnham@xtra.co.nz)



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0800 683 77 327  
Fax: (06) 351 9009  
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