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The Month That Was

NZ Veterans in AU is now on Facebook.

After unsuccessfully attempting to generate NZ Veteran discussion using an online forum from within the NZVIA website (www.nzvia.com.au) it was decided that Facebook may be better forum as it is used by many other Veteran organisations including the RNZRSA not to mention that Facebook is immensely popular. Therefore, whilst most information including pictures will be on the website, please use NZVIA Facebook as a possible form of discussing issues regarding NZ Veterans [NZVIA Facebook](#)

NZ Veterans Support Christchurch Earthquake Appeal Concert

Dear Veterans, please be advised that on Saturday 16 April 2011 there will be a community sponsored Christchurch Earthquake Appeal Concert held at Parramatta Park starting at 2pm to 9pm. A request has been received from the organising committee for NZ Veterans to participate in the festival by being part of the opening ceremony whereby we will march into the festival carrying Candles that represent those that have died and placing them at the stage for the duration of the event whereby they will then be extinguished. This is a community event sponsored by the Councils of Parramatta, Holroyd, and Campbelltown, and the Casula Powerhouse Museum, Australia Museum. I know a lot of us have donated in some way or another as I read the many emails on the Vet Net. However, it would be great if we could collectively show our support as a formed group in what is expected to be a big event. We are also looking for a band to close the evening's activities and a bugler.

ANZAC Day March and Church Service in NSW



Dear Veterans, I attended the NSW RSL ANZAC Day March Participants Meeting and announced that our March Commander this year was Sir Ian Turbott. Sir Ian led our March last year and did very well for his age although he was tired at the end.

Unfortunately Sir Ian has just come out of hospital since going in before Christmas and advised that he has cancer and is not able to attend the March and Church Service this year. We wish Sir Ian all the very best and will keep him in our prayers.

Furthermore, our other WWII/Korea Veteran Neville Berridge is also unable to lead the March or attend the Church service this year due to cancer.

Therefore, Ron Haira has accepted the invitation this year to lead the march.

The ANZAC Church Service is held at the Sydney Maori Anglican Fellowship Church of Te Wairua Tapu, 587 Elizabeth Street, Redfern, on Sunday 1 May 2011 (always the first Sunday after ANZAC Day) and starts at 10:30am. At this time three dignitaries have accepted the invitation to the Church service: the Deputy Lord Mayor of Sydney c/r Marcelle Hoff; NZ Consul General Martin Welsh; Air Commodore John Samulski and Indigenous Veterans Representative sub-Mariner David Williams. C/r Hoff is well known in Redfern and as a result there will be a large aboriginal attendance as well as the 100+ Veterans that attended last year.



Go to the www.nzvia.com.au for more information and news of NZ Veterans.

Go to www.tewairuatapu.com.au for more information and news from the Church.

Greg Makutu 0404 005 341 or nzvia@nzvia.com.au

ANZAC Day Services in the Central Coast

Dear Veterans, a request has been received from Vietnam Veteran Clarence Ormsby JP seeking NZ Veterans to represent us at two ANZAC Day services in the Central Coast as follows:



New Zealand Veterans in Australia

NewZletter



Kia Ora,

I have been invited to conduct an ANZAC service in the bush out west at Hartwood country music festival.

Grahame Crossing from the Central Coast is seeking a New Zealand veteran or persons who can represent New Zealand at two ANZAC Services...one at Palmdale Memorial Park @ 9am and the other at Greenway Memorial Gardens @ 11am.

We do have Private Ashley James Down, the only member of the 28th Maori Battalion at rest at Palmdale Memorial Park, Ourimbah.

You may contact Grahame Crossing @ (02) 4355 4070 mobile: 0400 926 169 or email: grae_c@bigpond.com

The Maori Battalion supporters at Te Wairua Tapu may wish to do the ANZAC speech and sing Po Ata Rau in closing.

I hope someone can support Grahame.

Kia kaha,
Clarence Ormsby JP NSW

Reunion Notices

1 Battalion RNZIR Reunion Singapore 22-29 April 2011



Dear Veterans, just a reminder for those Veterans that served in 1RNZIR in Singapore. There are also very nice Polo Shirts available for purchase in memory of

the Reunion. My discussions with many Veterans in NSW have indicated strong support for this Reunion but sadly you will be missed at the ANZAC Day March in many parts of AU. However, for NZ Veterans in NSW you are welcome to attend the ANZAC Day Church Service on Sunday 1 May 2011.

V3 1 Battalion RNZIR Reunion 3-6 June 2011

Following the very successful V3 Company reunion held in Te Araroa last year it has been decided to hold a further reunion in Greymouth over Queen's Birthday Weekend 2011. All members of the V3 family are most welcome to attend. Full details can be found on the reunion website <http://www.premierstrategies.com/victor3/victor3.html>

RNZN Reunion in Gold Coast 2011

RNZN Veterans please be advised that the next reunion will be held in the Gold Coast in 2011. The reunions are blessed with a large attendance of Navy veterans and I am sure the 2011 reunion will also be the same.

For more information please go to www.nzvia.com.au

RF Cadet 50th Anniversary Reunion 2013 (Bennett Class)

Reminder for any RF Cadet Bennett Class veterans to please contact Roy Jones or Ben Hadfield as follows:



Ben Hadfield benzza@iprimus.com.au,
Roy Jones royvjones@dreamtilt.com.au.

Ex-Malaya Veterans



Please be advised that the NZ Malaya Veterans Association Inc has a new website <http://www.malayavets.co.nz/>

Ex-Vietnam Services Association Inc

Reminder for all NZ Vietnam Veterans to keep in touch with your fellow comrades and keep up to date with the latest information through your association.



The website address as follows:

www.evsa.org.nz

NZVIA NSW Veteran Membership 2010



NSW Veterans are reminded that the 2011 RSL and NZ Sub-Branch (NSW) membership renewal is due.



As stated in my email, the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW) would welcome your contribution to the operations of the association regardless of whether you retain your voting and speaking rights with your parent Sub-Branch and remain as an associate member of the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW) (picture above new Members Peter and Jan Dicken receiving their membership badge from Lindsay Taylor 2009). So for \$5 please send in your



New Zealand Veterans in Australia

NewZletter



application form for Associate Membership. For current full service members please send \$29(of which \$24 goes to the NSW RSL). For new members wanting associate or full service membership let me know and I will send you an application form. Application forms are also on the NZVIA NSW page of the www.nzvia.com.au website. Just scroll down to the end of the Membership column or email nsw@nzvia.com.au

Now that the NewZletter goes to Veterans in other States, I have been asked how they can become involved in the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW).

Please note the following:

1. Interstate veterans can join the NSW Branch of the RSL via the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW) as Service members, if you are not currently Service Members interstate;
2. If you are currently Service Members interstate you can:-
 - a. transfer to the NZ Sub-Branch (NSW); or
 - b. become "Associate" members of the NZ Sub-Branch for \$5 BUT you can only speak, vote & hold office at one RSL sub-Branch in Australia.

Whilst we would gladly accept your membership I would request you contact me so we can discuss your expectations against what is achievable.

Just a reminder, the NZ Sub-Branch is the legal entity for the NZ Veterans in Australia NSW so membership must remain with the NZ Sub-Branch in regards to its association with the NSW RSL.

NZVIA VIC Veteran Membership 2010

VIC Veterans are reminded that the **2011** RSL and NZ Sub-Branch (Vic) membership renewal is due. As stated in my email,



the NZ Sub-Branch (Vic) would welcome your contribution to the operations of the association



regardless of whether you retain your voting and speaking rights with your parent Sub-Branch and remain as a member of the NZ Sub-Branch (Vic). So for \$35 please send in your application form. Forms are available from the NZVIA Victoria page of the www.nzvia.com.au website. Just scroll down to the end of the Membership column.

Just a reminder, the NZ Sub-Branch is the legal entity for the NZ Veterans in Australia VIC so membership must remain with the NZ Sub-Branch in regards to its association with the VIC RSL.

Acknowledgements / Personal Notices

Happy Birthday to: **John Osborne, Norma Osborne, Greg Bell, David Dow, Bill Brooke, Alex Wilson, Sid Porter, Wally Butt, Gary Keenan, Gil Brogden, Paul Kitney, Lee-Ann Taylor, Tony Bullock and Dave Hyland.**

The Last Post

Last Post Reminders in NZ

Dear Veterans, there are notices sent for our Veterans that pass away in NZ. I do not repeat them in this NewZletter but if you want to keep in touch with notices regarding Veterans in NZ please let me know and I will send you the link(s). I think most Veterans here get the notices anyway.

Last Post Reminder

Veterans, I can honestly say (albeit with great sadness) that after attending many funerals in NSW, the families have been overwhelmingly grateful, appreciative and welcomed our ability to coordinate the military aspects of the funeral for our fallen comrade. It is incredibly moving to see the pride in the families not only when they hear and sometimes first learn of our fallen comrade's military service, but also when they see the Casket covered with the NZ Flag, respective service hat (Army, Airforce or Navy) and Korowai. Furthermore, all the families I have coordinated funeral details with have also been very comfortable with photos being taken knowing the reason for such photos e.g. veteran only distribution. You would have seen such photos in previous NewZletters.

Therefore, please let us know as veterans pass away in Australia so I can advise all the veterans in Australia. For NSW veterans, we try to attend wherever possible funerals of our comrades so please keep us informed.



New Zealand Veterans in Australia

NewZletter



Lest we forget

Other News



February was a very sad month for New Zealand as we came to grips with the devastation that crippled Christchurch after the February 22 Earthquake. A check of the Defence forces websites show that this was the main focus of their activity and will continue to remain so for some time.

- [CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE - NZ DEFENCE FORCE - UPDATE 11](#)
- [CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE - NZ DEFENCE FORCE - UPDATE 10](#)
- [Territorial Force swaps trenching tools for shovels](#)
- [CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE - NZ DEFENCE FORCE - UPDATE 9](#)
- [CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE - NZ DEFENCE FORCE - UPDATE 8](#)
- [CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE - NZ DEFENCE FORCE - UPDATE 7](#)
- [CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE - NZ DEFENCE FORCE - UPDATE 6](#)
- [CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE - NZ DEFENCE FORCE - UPDATE 5](#)
- [ACCIDENT IN AFGHANISTAN - 9th NZDF STATEMENT](#)

- [CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE - NZ DEFENCE FORCE - UPDATE 4](#)
- [ACCIDENT IN AFGHANISTAN - 7th NZDF STATEMENT](#)
- [ACCIDENT IN AFGHANISTAN - 8th NZDF STATEMENT](#)
- [CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE - NZ DEFENCE FORCE - UPDATE 3](#)
- [CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE - NZ DEFENCE FORCE - UPDATE 2](#)
- [CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE - NZ DEFENCE FORCE - UPDATE 1](#)
- [ACCIDENT IN AFGHANISTAN - 6th NZDF STATEMENT](#)
- [War pensions to increase](#)
- [The following is a statement from the family of Private Mila: Naval combat force depart for exercises with the Royal Australian Navy](#)
- [ACCIDENT IN AFGHANISTAN - 5th NZDF statement](#)
- [HMNZS CANTERBURY open to the public in Napier](#)
- [Auckland Regiment soldier laid to rest](#)
- [ACCIDENT IN AFGHANISTAN - 4TH NZDF STATEMENT](#)
- [ACCIDENT IN AFGHANISTAN - 3rd NZDF statement](#)
- [ACCIDENT IN AFGHANISTAN - 2nd NZDF statement](#)
- [Tactical flying for Hercules exercise](#)
- [Accident in Afghanistan - 1st NZDF statement](#)
- [Major-General Keating takes command of Army](#)
- [New armoured combat excavators for Army](#)
- [Defence Force welcome for Prime Minister Gillard](#)
- [NZ soldiers assist in explosives incident in Afghanistan](#)
- [HMNZS TAUPO visits Nelson](#)
- [A change at the top for Naval support command](#)
- [Auckland Regiment soldier to be reburied at Longueval, France](#)
- [Whenuapai airfield upgrade](#)
- [Call for Anzac of the Year nominations](#)



HMNZS CANTERBURY open to the public in Napier



Image: MC 09-0106-025
HMNZS CANTERBURY at sea.
Thursday, 17 February 2010



New Zealand Veterans in Australia

NewZletter



The Commanding Officer of HMNZS CANTERBURY, Commander Jim Gilmour, invites the people of Napier to view the Navy's Sealift and Amphibious Support Vessel while they are in port.

Last year CANTERBURY took part in an exercise designed to develop amphibious capability and interoperability with the Australian Defence Force and other allies. During the exercise CANTERBURY operated with Royal Australian Navy Landing Craft, helicopters and ships and loaded 20 vehicles and 170 Australian troops.

The public will have the chance to meet the crew of CANTERBURY and have a look through the Navy's largest ship.

What: HMNZS CANTERBURY open to the public.
When: Sunday, 20 February 2010 from 11am to 3pm.
Where: Geddis Wharf, 3 East, Port of Napier.

HMNZS CANTERBURY is in Napier proudly supporting Art Deco Weekend.
ENDS

[Naval combat force depart for exercises with the Royal Australian Navy](#)
[HMNZS CANTERBURY open to the public in Napier](#)
[HMNZS TAUPO visits Nelson](#)
[A change at the top for Naval support command](#)
www.navy.mil.nz

"We have to continue to grow and develop as an Army to meet the intent of our Government and to continue to add a high level of value to our nation. We must become an Army that has an almost singular focus on improving our operational capability, particularly the capability that we are going to deploy overseas.

"We must be always capable of deploying, and build on our ability to be ready for the next operation - the one that we don't yet know about. We must be armed, equipped, trained and led by the best that New Zealand has to offer. Everything we do and our entire focus must be on winning - we have to want to win with a passion in our training so that it extends into our operational deployments."

Leadership is about service to those who are being led rather than a focus on leaders themselves, he said. "The leadership within our Army is obvious when I see the vast array of operational service here in front of me," said MAJGEN Keating as he surveyed his Guard of Honour. "It is exemplified by those who have deployed and know the sort of leadership skills required there."

LTGEN Jones, now Chief of Defence Force, promoted his successor to the rank of Major-General immediately before the handover parade. He presented him with the Chief of Army's ceremonial sword, and the Chief of Army's korowai.

"Tim Keating is the first officer cadet whose initial training occurred in New Zealand to reach the rank of Major General," said LTGEN Jones. "That is a symbol of us as a nation reaching maturity with its Army. MAJGEN Keating is confident, competent and will be a great leader of the Army at a time of great pressure and immense change, and at a time when we have to squeeze the most out of every man, woman, and dollar that we have, and every activity we undertake."

[Major-General Keating takes command of Army](#)
[New armoured combat excavators for Army](#)
[NZ soldiers assist in explosives incident in Afghanistan](#)

www.army.mil.nz

Major-General Keating takes command of Army

MAJGEN Keating at the Chief of Army changeover ceremony at Trentham camp 15 February 2011 (AW-11-0216-1).
15 February 2011



The Army's newly appointed Chief, Major General Tim Keating stressed the importance of leading from the front when he took over from his predecessor Lieutenant General Rhys Jones at a ceremony at Trentham Camp on Tuesday 15 February.





New Zealand Veterans in Australia

NewZletter



Tactical flying for Hercules exercise

Caption for image AK 10-0170-051.jpg: A RNZAF C-130 Hercules.

15 February 2011



Royal New Zealand Air Force C-130 Hercules aircrew from No. 40 Squadron will be conducting their combat qualification exercise

(TACEX) around the South Island from 14 – 25 February.

The exercise trains aircrew in C-130 tactical operations and will include mountain flying, live airdrop operations involving heavy equipment and container delivery systems and combat off-load procedures.

Based out of the Air Force's Air Movements terminal in Christchurch, flights will take place around the Southern Alps, Canterbury Plains, Wanaka and along the West Coast.

C-130 Hercules Flight Commander Squadron Leader Andy Scott said the type of flying done during TACEX is to ensure aircrews are familiar with the type of operations that are often used in operations, including overseas deployments.

"Flying at 250ft above ground level means there are a number of challenges the aircrew face when tactical flying. With the training on exercises such as TACEX, it means crews are able to perform with confidence when it comes to flying in combat situations or disaster relief."

ENDS

For further information please contact Squadron Leader Kavae Tamariki, Defence Communications Group, on 04 496 0294 or 021 420 899.

Background Notes

- *Number 40 Squadron is located at RNZAF Base Whenuapai*
- *The Squadron operates five C-130H Hercules and two Boeing 757-200s*
- *The Squadron forms the Fixed Wing Transport Force of the New Zealand Defence Force Elements and provides: Strategic air transport*

Tactical air transport

Support to the government

Support to the NZ Antarctic programme

Disaster relief and humanitarian operations

Aero-medical evacuation

Civil Defence support in NZ and the South Pacific and VIP air transport