A NEW CHIEF OF ARMY

TF AMALGAMATION PARADE

OUR WOUNDED WARRIORS COMPETE

ARMY MEN WIN SOFTBALL
The Army News is published for the Regular and Territorial Force and civilian staff of the New Zealand Army.

Editor: Judith Martin
Phone: 04-496-0227 or DTelN: 349-7227
Fax: 04-496-0290
email: armynews@nzdf.mil.nz
Website: www.army.mil.nz

Printing: Bluestar, Petone.
Design: Jennifer Watts, DCG, NZDF

Editorial contributions and letters are welcomed. They may be sent directly to the Army News and do not need to be forwarded through normal command channels. Submit them to The Editor, Army News, DCG, HQ NZDF, Private Bag 39997, Wellington, or by email.

Deadline instructions: Army News is published on the third Tuesday of each month, except January. Please have all contributions to the editor by the first of the month.

Nothing in the Army News should be taken as overriding any New Zealand Defence Force regulation. Readers should refer to the relevant service publication before acting on any information given in this newspaper.

ISSN 1170-4411
All material is copyright, and permission to reproduce must be sought from the editor.

NZ Army cyclists racing to support the NZ Fallen Heroes Trust

During the week 20 to 27 Apr 2013 five NZ Army cyclists will be competing in a race from Bluff to Picton with around 300 other national and international riders. At the same time another group of cyclists will be racing from Cape Reinga to Wellington. Both groups will meet up to compete in a Criterium Race around Parliament on Saturday 27 April.

Five Army riders will be racing 700kms and using the opportunity to raise money for the New Zealand Fallen Heroes Trust. Last year more than $78,000 was raised for a number of charities.

The team is Staff Sergeant Jess Jessop (2/1 RNZIR), Colonel Craig Stewart (Def Log Comd), Major Steve Challies (1 RNZIR), Captain Aaron Williamson (2 CSSB), Second Lieutenant Dominic Furkert (2 CSSB) and Manager/Driver Mrs Fay McGregor (HQ NZDF).

You can follow the team’s progress and make donations to the ‘NZ Fallen Heroes Trust’ on our Tour of NZ Facebook page at www.tourofnznewzealand.co.nz. Updates will also be posted on the NZ Army Facebook page so you can follow our progress during the race.

Warrant Officer Class Two Tama Andrew is the New Zealand Defence Force’s new Maori Cultural Advisor (MCA). He takes over the Wellington-based role after a powhiri in Defence House recently.

The MCA’s role is to advise the Chief of Defence Force on cultural matters, and encourage a united perspective on Tikanga Maori throughout the NZDF. Born in Auckland, and brought up in Kawerau and eastern Bay of Plenty, WO2 Andrew is affiliated with several iwi, but mainly Tuhoe through his grandmother’s side. Through his father is also of Cook island descent. He comes from a long line of military men; his grandfather James Ruawai was a member of 28 Maori Battalion, and his great grand uncle Te Whanoke Te Are served in the MMon Pioneer Battalion in Gallipoli.

He says he is looking forward to his new role. “The importance of ‘one mind, same goal’ is vital to the successful merger of cultures in order to form an NZDF culture. The NZDF has made great progress in accepting Tikanga Maori into a bi-cultural partnership, but we still have much work to do.”

WO2 Andrew is the second MCA in the NZDF; the first was WO1 Jerald Twomey, who has transferred to another role within Defence.

The new Chief of Army, Major General Dave Gwen. Photo: CPL Rachael Park.

Like us on Facebook OfficialNZArmy
By Major General Dave Gawn, Chief of Army

INVESTMENT IN LEADERS VITAL FOR A WINNING ARMY

From the time a soldier first pulls on his/her uniform they are being prepared for one purpose and one purpose only: to lead other New Zealanders on operations and win. It’s as simple as that. Whether a private who is thrown into a situation by circumstance that requires him/her to step forward and lead, or a senior officer educated and trained over a career spanning decades, the expectations of our society are essentially the same: if you are in uniform you are expected to be ready to lead. It is the uniform, not rank, that differentiates us from the rest of society, and the uniform creates this expectation. It is embodied in our ethos – “to serve New Zealand.”

Our leadership development model has at its heart three essential elements: education, training, and experience. Education teaches us ‘how to think’, providing us with the tools to deal with complexity and uncertainty; training is more closely linked to competency and teaches us ‘what to think’ and how to respond to familiar or anticipated situations; and experience provides us with reference points or touchstones that develop knowledge and depth of understanding. All three are pivotal components to developing our leaders. In today’s environment of ugly, complex, uncertain wars fought amongst the people investment in our leaders is critical to winning.

It can be argued that the physical demands of peacekeeping do not differ markedly from those of war fighting. A soldier must remain just as ready and alert in the North East of Bamiyan for example, as he or she was during the Iraq war.

However, the moral and intellectual rigour required to lead in these environments is far more demanding of the leader where deterrence, prevention and de-escalation are often more important to winning, than killing. Our leadership development model ensures that soldiers at all levels excel on today’s battlefield but it is something that we cannot become complacent about and our pursuit of excellence in leadership must be unrelenting. Society demands it, and the uniform we wear demands it.
Major General Dave Gawn became Chief of Army at a ceremony on the Army marae on 1 March.

He takes over from MAJGEN Tim Keating who is now the Vice Chief of the Defence Force.

A large contingent of MAJGEN Gawn’s family and friends were welcomed onto the marae where dozens of soldiers, officers, local kaumatua, and Defence leaders waited. He was challenged by an Army warrior and there were waiata and speeches before prayers conducted by Army chaplains.

Principal Army Chaplain Mike Subritsky blessed MAJGEN Gawn, before MAJGEN Keating handed over the Chief of Army’s korowai (cloak) for his successor to wear.

MAJGEN Gawn acknowledged the support of his family, wife Anna and children Hamish, McKenzie and Briar Rose.

He told those gathered that his predecessors, including MAJGEN Keating, had set strong foundations for him. “It’s not to say there won’t be challenges,” he said. “But we as an Army will meet them head on because the people who make up our Army are resourceful, resilient and responsible. I feel privileged to lead them.”

Before handing over the korowai to his successor, MAJGEN Keating said he acknowledged the spirit of Army leaders past, and the examples, values and strength they had shown. He said MAJGEN Gawn was the Army’s new Rangatira.

“One thing you hope for in command is that the person you hand over to is better than you. I look around here and it’s great to know better men are following in my shoes. I have every confidence that the Army values are something General Gawn lives. Army leadership is in good hands, and I know a better man has followed me.”

Sergeant Major of the Army WO1 Danny Broughton paid tribute to General Keating’s Command as Chief of Army. “His ability to communicate and empower people and let leaders get on with what they were supposed to do was awesome. We as an Army have had challenges but we are moving through them. So from everyone past and present—thank you.”
The New Zealand Defence Force may have had the smallest team but the Kiwis certainly made an impact at the US Marine Corps Wounded Warriors Paralympics in California recently. The NZ team consisted of Staff Sergeant Nick Marfell, Sergeant Mark Soper, and Corporal Jason Sturley, with PTI WO2 John Irving acting as team manager, masseur and strapper and NZDF Liaison between the various treatment facilities. A total of 82 international athletes competed in the event, all of them wounded, injured or ill during operational service or training. SSGT Marfell’s wheelchair basketball team won silver, after losing to their opponents only in the last four minutes of the game. CPL Sturley positioned well in the swimming and shooting, and SGT Soper came fourth in the 1500m event even though he had a thigh/adductor injury.

For WO2 Irving the trials were much more than just keeping his eye on the athletes. “The initial four days of the trials were dedicated to providing training and coaching to all sports disciplines from national, international and Olympic coaches. The remaining time involved the Wounded Warrior games themselves.”

Disabilities covered poly trauma victims (those who have suffered injury to more than one body system), spinal cord injured personnel, amputees involving one, two or three limbs, burns victims, neurologically injured personnel, post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), vision loss and blindness and hearing loss.

The games were initially set up to select talented wounded, ill or injured personnel to train in the hope to represent the US Paralympic teams. Over the years they have been opened up to Allied nations to compete. The games are considered an important part of a wounded soldier’s recovery process in that they show a once fit, active soldier that despite their current disability they can lead an active life and pursue and compete in activities at national and international level.

“The aim is not to give up and give in, but to strive and succeed even through one’s life path has taken a sudden and often traumatic turn. The help on hand to these athletes and soldiers both on base and back home in their own countries from medical, psychological, educational, sports therapy/ rehabilitation, sports coaching, occupational therapy, family care and support groups was really encouraging. Something that we in the NZDF can maybe look to in the future,” said WO2 Irving.

SGT Soper, who entered in cycling, archery and track events, says he got a lot out of the games, especially the shared experiences. “It was great just seeing the strength of human spirit.”

The games, he discovered, were not just about people who had physical injuries sustained in combat. “There were people there recovering from cancer, strokes, and Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome, as well as many who had suffered severe injuries in combat. It was good to meet a selection of them.” Many of those who took part had been training intensively for months, he said.
The new battalions are as follows:

2nd Battalion (Canterbury and Nelson-Marlborough and West Coast Regiment) is combining with 4th Battalion (Otago and Southland Regiment) to form:

2nd/4th Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (2/4 RNZIR).

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel Grant McMillan
Regimental Sergeant Major: Warrant Officer Class One Jason Rapana

5th Battalion (Wellington West Coast and Taranaki Regiment) and 7th Battalion (Wellington [City of Wellington’s Own], Hawkes Bay Regiment) are combining to form:

5th/7th Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (5/7 RNZIR).

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel Ian MacDonald
Regimental Sergeant Major: Warrant Officer Class One Wayne McAsey

3rd Battalion (Auckland [Countess of Ranfurly’s Own] and Northland Regiment) are combining with 6th Battalion (Haunani Regiment) to form:

3rd/6th Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (3/6 RNZIR).

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel Julian Sewell
Regimental Sergeant Major: Warrant Officer Class One Michael Shaw
The NZ Army has streamlined its six Territorial Force (TF) battalions into three. His Excellency the Governor-General, Lieutenant General the Right Honourable Sir Jerry Mateparae presided over a parade which saw 100 soldiers and officers from across the entire Territorial Force mark the occasion at Government House in Wellington on 17 March.

These changes to the TF are part of the Total Defence Workforce which is designed to modernise and focus on the skills required to do the job. The Defence Force is committed to maintaining the important historical and community links of all the battalions.

Addressing the soldiers after the parade, Sir Jerry said the six battalions had been a fundamental part of the New Zealand Army’s Order of Battle since the last major reorganisation in 1964.

“Every military unit has its own character and proud history, and New Zealand infantry battalions can rightly boast a heritage that stretches back to the beginnings of our military history.

“In more recent times as New Zealand has increased its commitment to peacekeeping, the Territorial Force has complemented the Regular Force as the Army’s Reserve. Six hundred TF soldiers served in Timor Leste, and a large number has also served with the Regional Assistance Mission in Solomon Islands. Our TF personnel have also served in Korea, Pakistan, Bougainville, Bosnia, the Sinai, Lebanon, Afghanistan and elsewhere.

“After the Christchurch earthquake our TF soldiers performed a variety of tasks. The story of our reservists is one of ordinary New Zealanders who have stepped forward to do their duty. Their service gives real meaning to the values the Defence Force holds so dear—Courage, Commitment, Comradeship and Integrity. Our TF has served its nation at its time of greatest need.”

Chief of Army, Major General Dave Gawn said the Territorial Force is vital in helping the New Zealand Defence Force achieve its aims.

“The reorganisation of our TF personnel will deliver a more operationally focused and sustainable reserve capability for the Army and TF personnel will be integrated much more closely with Regular Force personnel. This means TF personnel will train and work closely with their RF counterparts, which will boost reservist skills levels, and raise the profile, utility and range of civilian skills within the wider NZDF.

“Territorial Force personnel can now be easily and quickly integrated into an RF unit if that unit needs extra skills for an exercise or deployment, and just as easily be returned to the Army reserve. I am delighted we will now have a much closer relationship with our TF colleagues as they bring with them a wealth of talent and knowledge that can only enhance the way we as an Army do business.”
The distinctive sounds of a helicopter hovering around Burnham Military Camp could be heard recently as soldiers added key skills to their repertoire.

Soldiers from 2/1 Battalion in Burnham undertook their Helicopter Co-operation Rappelling and Dispatch course – leaping from helicopters the equivalent to the height of a 10 storey building, attached only by a single rope.

Staff Sergeant Pani Houia, in charge of the training, said over two days groups of four rappelled from the Iroquois a total of 120 times, 60 times each day.

“The helicopter rappelling and fast roping skills taught on courses like these, provide soldiers with the capability to access many different environments, from building roof tops and ships, to forest and jungle settings,” said Staff Sergeant Houia.

“Soldiers can deploy at speed in order to do a range of tasks such as providing assistance to civil defence emergencies, medical support, or conventional war fighting. “They can deploy at speed in order to do a range of tasks such as providing assistance to civil defence emergencies, medical support, or conventional war fighting.

“The training has been exhilarating and adrenalin pumping – it’s generally unnatural to throw oneself out of a perfectly good aircraft at 30 metres in the air only suspended by rope to slow your descent to the ground.

“The training has assisted in overriding people’s natural instincts of self preservation, in order to carry out the correct techniques, procedures and principles of helicopter rappelling. This coupled with a lot of perspiration and perseverance.”
Before joining D Sqn, 1 NZSAS Regt, I was in the dark as to what the Commandos did on a daily basis. Now that I am a Commando, I understand that much of the work we do is closely guarded for operational security reasons. This article provides a snapshot of what the Commandos regularly do.

During the latter half of 2012 D Sqn conducted a number of activities both within New Zealand and abroad. Commandos specialise in direct action with a focus on domestic counter terrorism, therefore we travel around the country as we train to operate in New Zealand’s key cities.

Some of the last six months has been dedicated to maritime counter terrorism - one of D Sqn’s key areas of responsibility. This involved training on real time ships in various locations to ensure we can board, fight through and secure a vessel of interest. Surface approaches, fast roping onto ships and helo casting were some of the key skills honed during this period.

In addition to maritime counter terrorism, D Sqn has undertaken urban training within a number of New Zealand cities. On a recent activity we conducted drawn out siege operations in Napier, Rotorua and Auckland. Tasks associated with these operations included direct action tasks on buildings and aircraft, vehicle interdictions and helo sniping.

The nature of D Sqn means that we are constantly on call therefore our training is as close to real time as you can get. Unlike most training within the NZDF, using explosive charges and live rounds is the default rather than the exception. When we are in camp we look to conduct skills-based training like any other NZDF unit. An average week may see Commandos spending a couple of days shooting and conducting room combat, followed up with a team assault on one of the regiment’s training facilities, or at a live venue in Auckland. We might then spend a day or two conducting roping or rappelling training (on the interior or exterior of buildings), with or without explosives depending on what we are trying to achieve. D Sqn works very closely with the RNZAF, which results in Commandos quickly building up numerous air hours. Of course, there is always equipment and vehicles to maintain, but that is all part and parcel of having to remain at a high level of readiness.

Pretty much every week is different and the training is relevant and realistic. D Sqn has close ties with a number of other Special Operations Forces around the globe, so between training and overseas exchanges, the next six months look to be pretty busy too.

If you are interested in challenging yourself both professionally and physically, are highly motivated and have a desire to work with 1 NZSAS Regt as a commando, register your interest now by completing an AFNZ 3. More information can be found at - http://org/nzsof/LP/NZSOF-Recruiting.aspx, or by e-mailing: SASRec@nzdf.mil.nz.

PRE-SELECTION: 17 – 19 May 2013
SELECTION: 20 – 28 May 2013
OFFICER TESTING: 29 – 31 May 2013

Act now if you have an interest in joining the NZ Defence Force’s premier combat unit. If you haven’t already, you need to:

» Submit your AFNZ 3 (locate at - http://org/nzsof/LP/NZSOF-Recruiting.aspx)
» Commence the Selection Course Training Program
» Pass the NZ Army RFL (within 3 months of course start date)
» Complete a MED Board (within 3 months of course start date)
» Send your UPF to the 1NZSAS Recruiting Cell NLT 01 May 13
» Be mentally focused and have the desire to win

Any queries contact the 1NZSAS Recruiting Cell: SASRec@nzdf.mil.nz or 021 743096
WHO DARES WINS

The NZSAS selection course was held recently, with much of it taking place in remote North Island farmland and sand hills. Congratulations to those who passed and who will now begin their training cycle.

Photos: Corporal Judith Watts
Surviving in the Solomon Islands—Jungle Training Gets Underway

Solomon Islands is an ideal environment for jungle training, writes OC, NZ NSE, Captain Ioane Washburn.

The survival training concept was started by the last Kiwi platoon in Solomon Islands and we adopted it. With the assistance from the Papua New Guinea SNO and platoon, we provided this training for the Australian platoons. The training was designed to teach individuals how to survive in a jungle environment by instructing them how to build shelters, collect water, make fire using natural resources, build traps, snares and hunting tools, and recognise, prepare and cook edible plants and fauna, as well as recognise local herbs.

The training did have a survivor feel to it. The only equipment individuals were allowed with them was a knife (Swiss or Gerber), cups, canteen, KFS and a sand bag to carry them in. The platoons were broken up into their section groups and were allocated a harbour area in the jungle. They were only given one ration pack per section, for the four days they were out there.

Just like the Survivor series, there were challenges that were set and every day just before lunch and dinner all sections would be called in to compete in various activities such as fire making, archery with improvised bows and arrows, and Kim’s Games (otherwise known as Memory). The competition was fierce and all involved were thankful for the opportunity to learn a new set of skills and to have a break from the usual tactical training.

The PNG platoon were the instructors and directing staff (DS) for this training, and were very impressed with the skill level of the Australian platoons. They also enjoyed the camaraderie and the opportunity to showcase their wealth of knowledge and experience in the jungle environment.

A significant recent event that occurred during our deployment here was the 8.0 magnitude earthquake that hit Santa Cruz, a group of islands off the SE coast of Solomon Islands. This resulted in a tsunami warning throughout Guadalcanal and our evacuation of GBR. Fortunately for us though, the one metre swell that was predicted ended up being an 80cm ripple. It did unfortunately mean what started out as a relaxing Waitangi day for us Kiwis ended prematurely, but such is life.
Practising company personnel in Forward Repair Group (FRG) procedures, Forward Repair Team (FRT) and recovery operations was the focus of Exercise Bluebell, 2 Workshop Company’s first major exercise of the calendar year.

The scenario was based on a contemporary environment which required the workshop to operate out of a Forward Operating Base. The situation was static, so the workshop containers were ground dumped between the Manawatu River and Whitmore Rd. This also gave personnel experience in what will likely become the future of workshop deployments with the reduction in vehicle fleets as we move towards the future.

Once established, the FRG conducted daily FRT and recovery tasks in the Palmerston North area. The tasks and enemy actions were basic to start with, however these increased in tempo as the scenario developed and the enemy capability became more complex and deliberate.

All JNCOs and a number of senior Privates were given the opportunity to practise FRT and recovery command in a tactical environment, learning to work in teams under pressure in a variety of different situations. This training opportunity helped develop individual leadership qualities and styles, which will provide the unit with better skilled and more versatile MS operators.

Amongst the various FRT tasks, sentry and building sangars, the FRG also continued to repair 1(NZ) Bde equipment, practising and testing the ability to conduct production in a field environment. This was also an opportunity to ensure container pack-up lists were complete, and sections had the correct tooling and parts to complete the various repairs required.

Whether it was dealing with “disgruntled local farmers”, captured Musorians, Rebels or arguably the hottest period of weather the Manawatu has had for some time, 2 Wksp Coy personnel showed their determination and flexibility while continuing to provide effective Maintenance Support to 1(NZ) Bde units.
The NZ Army’s Regular Force Platoon Commanders course conducted urban warfare training in Rotorua earlier this month.

The RF Platoon Commanders’ course is the entry-to-trade course for all RNZIR and RNZAC junior officers, and a major developmental course for all RNZIR senior non-commissioned officers (NCOs).

Its aim is to train selected combat corps officers and NCOs in the command of a Rifle Platoon. Officer students have recently graduated from either ACS or RMC, with their inexperience complemented by NCO students who have already climbed the ranks within the combat units. This year’s course included a MAP student from Brunei and an assistant instructor from the Canadian Infantry School.

The course was run by the Dismounted Operations Wing of Combat School, Land Operations Training Centre. Most of the course was conducted in the field and focused on mid-intensity combat. It was eight weeks long and encompassed operations in open, close, and urban terrain, including a brief platoon level training package. All components of the course focused on the planning and command of platoon level tasks.

This particular exercise, conducted at the purpose-built NZ Fire Service National Training Centre in Rotorua, was designed to develop student’s knowledge and application of platoon level combat tactics in an urban environment.

Additionally, students trained with the new Light Support Weapon recently introduced to the NZ Defence Force.

URBAN WARFARE SKILLS HONED
Eight New Zealand soldiers including a full gun detachment from 161 and 163 Batteries, 16 Field Regiment, recently worked with the Canadian School of Artillery (W battery) in Canadian Forces Base Gagetown.

The exchange lasted for seven weeks from mid October until early December.

The purpose of the exchange was to further the understanding and co-operation between the New Zealand Defence Force and the Canadian Forces, and in particular for the Kiwis to study the introduction of the Digital Gun Management System that is in use with the Canadian 155mm M777 medium guns.

A similar system might eventually be introduced on the 105mm L119 Light Gun used by the New Zealand Army. The Digital Gun Management system, or G-NAPS as it will be known in New Zealand, is a digital fixation and orientation device that will be fitted to each gun, doing away with the need to provide time consuming orientation to each gun as it enters on to a gun position.

The BAE M777 is a new lightweight medium gun recently introduced to service with the US, Canadian and Australian Armies. It is of 155mm calibre and can fire a 48kg projectile out to a range of 24km using standard ammunition natures. It is also capable of firing the Excalibur Precision guided munitions which has a far greater range and due to its GPS guidance can hit within 10m of its target. The M777’s great advantage is its titanium construction which gives the gun great strength with considerable savings in weight. Both the M777 and Excalibur round have provided sterling service to their respective nations in Afghanistan.

During the exchange the Kiwis were exposed to the weapons, equipment and vehicles used by the Canadian Artillery and the Canadian Army and they were impressed with some of the larger equipment not usually used in New Zealand. The high standards and excellent practical and technical skills shown by the Canadians during their time in the field was also impressive.

During their off time the Kiwis were shown a good deal by their hosts, from tours to breweries through to watching a Sea Dog hockey game, as well as some sight seeing around Canada including getting to experience the flavour of the French Canadian culture of Montreal. It was also a special experience to attend Remembrance Day activities in Omoroco and have a few beers with some veterans from past and current wars.

New Zealanders and Canadians last fought side by side in the Korean War, notably the battle of Kapyong in which 16 Field Regiment played a key part, with both the Canadians and 16 Field being awarded Korean and US presidential unit citations for their bravery.

The highlight of the trip was without a doubt the chance to fire the M777 in danger close missions in support of the Canadian Forward Observer Officers Course.
The forgotten story of New Zealand’s war horses is told in an exhibition at the National Army Museum in Waiouru.

Over 20,000 New Zealand horses left the peaceful green pastures of home to be shipped across the world to foreign soils for two wars. Some did not survive the long sea journey while the rest took the troops into battle.

They survived on meagre rations and endured the heat and flies on the veldt or in the desert, through to the snow and mud on the Western Front. Some succumbed to disease and others to their battle wounds. When the guns were silenced only five would return home.

“Harnessed: New Zealand’s War Horses” tells their story. Museum Curator, Windsor Jones said “For many of us the story of the horse in war is often overlooked, in fact in World War I, a staggering 8 million horses were killed, from all countries. This exhibition tells of our own war horses and how they took troops into battle in the Anglo-Boer War and World War One, of how they were looked after and loved by the men, and at war’s end, sadly, how they were left behind.”

The exhibition includes uniforms, weaponry, saddles and equipment of each era as well as dioramas depicting a Western Front scene together with a farrier at work in a stable workshop.

The exhibition is on display in the Freyberg Gallery throughout 2013.
When joining the Army, like most people I guess I had a perception that wearing the uniform meant... pack on, rifle in hand and tabbing through the bush. As a young gunner at the mighty 163 battery, I did spend a fair amount of time in the Waiouru training area firing 105s, doing gun sentry and sleeping in a hole under a hootchi.

It was not until I had been in the Army for a while that I noticed the array and diversity of jobs carried out by uniformed personnel. One trade in particular caught my eye. As a teenager I had asked a mate what he wanted to do for a job. He told me he wanted to be a fire fighter like his dad and I thought to myself, what an awesome idea. But like most things in a teenager’s head it was moved to the back of my mind and it was not until I saw a fire truck rolling through camp one day that the idea was rekindled.

I enjoyed three years with 16th Field Regiment working with a great group of soldiers with mean esprit de corp. I had no desire to leave the Service, but had a growing aspiration to test my hand as a fire fighter and thought a change could be good. After approaching my Troop Sgt and talking about the idea of Corps changing, he suggested going down to the fire station and having a chat with the fireys to find out what it was all about. After a visit to the station and a quick chat with a positive bunch of people, I filled in and submitted my Corps change papers. I had to re-sit the R tests to qualify for the change, which went well. Not long after I started a tour of duty (TOD).

A TOD is a trial period and a chance to see what the trade is like. You can see if it suits you and if you suit the trade. As a fire fighter there are a couple of situations you may come across that you may not normally, such as working from heights on ladders or working in confined spaces with a breathing apparatus set on.

On my TOD I was thrashed in the basics of being a fire fighter, rolling out hose, providing water to the truck etc, as well as learning daily equipment checks and equipment maintenance. Once again I found my perception of the job blown out of the water. I learnt about the diversity of the tasks that the Emergency Response Squadron carries out; urban and rural fire response, first response medical treatment, vehicle extraction on the roads and in the field, hazardous substances situations, and education of fire prevention. I thoroughly enjoyed my TOD and was happy to sign an offer of service to become a Sapper in the Royal New Zealand Engineers.

Once I had completed my basic fire trade course and was riding the truck as an emergency responder, one of the things I found hard to get used to was that you cannot get too far away from the fire appliance or the crew. We have to be ready to respond to a call-out quickly at all times, so there was no more walking down to Hotshots for a quick pie and coke for smoko. Not unless the crew goes too. If someone has an appointment or meeting, the crew rolls too. Another thing to get used to was being tipped out to calls at any time, for instance in the middle of the night, medal parades, dinner, showers or any other bathroom related necessities you can think of. The list goes on.

The Emergency Response squadron is one of the few units in the NZDF that is ready to deploy in their primary role at a moment’s notice. The response troops are manned by a crew 24/7 365 days a year which means long hours and although after normal working hours there is a low tempo work rate (excluding call outs) it is still time spent on camp away from family and partners which can at time be hard. There can be call outs straight after each other or with days in between, so being ready is paramount to the station and we do our best to be prepared for whatever the next call may be. Unfortunately, for us to be called out and do the best part of our job means that somebody else has to be having a bad day. It may range from something minor like needing a fallen tree removed from a driveway to something major like a bad vehicle incident resulting in injury or death. What we do is respond to help others in our military and civilian communities and to do the best job we can do to the best of our ability. That gives me an enormous amount of job satisfaction. I thoroughly enjoy my job as an Emergency Responder and would recommend it to anyone who thinks they might need a change to look within the army to find their next career.
Armychanging TRADES 19
Issue 440 | March 2013

WHEN SMOKE FILLS THE SKY

3 Emergency Response Troop Burnharn

By SGT Greg Fagg and LCPL Nathan Hey

The transition between 2012 and 2013 had its fair share of fire and brimstone.

The year picked up its tempo at 1345hrs on 8 January 2013. That’s when a local contractor mowing the West Melton Rifle Range in preparation for the 2nd/1st Depot Company range week, hit a rock with the mower blades. A combination of very long grass and hot dry weather caused a fire fed by the hot nor west winds. The fire was eventually contained and extinguished by four appliances from Burnham, and NZ Fire Service appliances from Kirwee and West Melton. The blaze covered 18 hectares or 16% of the range and took 90 minutes to bring under control.

After the fire was contained the appliances from Kirwee and West Melton were released. Further crews from Burnham arrived at the scene and, to reduce the impact of further fires Emergency Response Fire Master Staff Sergeant Paul Grover conducted a back burn (controlled fire to reduce the vegetation). The boundaries were sealed off right up to the gravel tracks and fire breaks. Once the five metre strip lines were relit the fire burnt (in these strips) with the same intense heat and large flame heights fuelled by the tinder dry grass. At one point the fire was burning back into the wind with the same severity of a running fire proving that the conditions were bordering on extreme within the back burning strip lines. The whole operation finished at 2100hrs, but still required fire crews to conduct shifts through the night watching for flare-ups and hot spotting.

Through the night there were a few flare ups underneath a tree line needing urgent attention, but once morning arrived a final crew was sent out to extinguish the remaining hotspots. This wasn’t an easy task with gusty Nor Western winds, extreme heat from the sun and trapped land heat from the fire. But finally it was done. Everybody breathed a sigh of relief as the crews re-organised and reconstituted, but it was only to be short lived with six calls the next morning ranging from private fire alarms to other scrub fires around the Selwyn District.

Became a NZDF Volunteer Fire Fighter

Enhance your skills and experience
Help your community
Save lives

Prerequisites:
» Volunteer application needs to be cleared by individual’s chain of command (COC), COC should decline if any disciplinary issues exist.
» Physically fit,
» Complete the NZFS/NZDF entry level test,
» Medically fit,
» Demonstrate the ability to retain information taught,
» No criminal convictions, and
» Must live within 5 mins of the Fire Station.

The volunteer has always played an important part in the New Zealand Army Emergency Response family. Some qualities of a volunteer are dedication, motivation, courage and loyalty, and volunteers must want to contribute to their community.

Volunteers can fulfil many roles from being on the front line at an incident to providing support. Personnel wanting to be a volunteer must be willing to dedicate one day a week to attending training and when qualified, time away from their workplaces attending emergency incidents.

For more information contact details are:
2ERT Linton: (06) 3159192 or 022 230 9537
4ERT Waioru: (06) 3875540 or 021 491 685
3ERT Burnham: (03) 3630069 or 027 671 2789
AUSTRALIAN AWARD FOR NZ OFFICER

Lieutenant Colonel Bill Keelan has been presented with the Australian Defence Force’s Commendation for Distinguished Service at the Australian High Commission in Wellington. He received the honour as part of the Queen’s Birthday honours awarded in 2012 for his distinguished performance of duty in Afghanistan from September 2010 to May 2011. This is the first time a member of the NZ Defence Force has been awarded the honour.

The Australian High Commissioner His Excellency Mr Michael Potts presented the award to LTCOL Keelan on behalf of Australia’s Governor-General Her Excellency Quentin Bryce. LTCOL Keelan is currently the Commanding Officer of 1st Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment based in Linton.

NEW DIRECTOR FOR NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM WAIOURU

The National Army Museum at Waiouru has a new Director. Jeanette Richardson ONZM is the first civilian to hold the role since the museum opened in 1978.

Ms Richardson comes to the museum role with a background of both cultural and business experience. She says that she has inhabited a “cultural-commercial crossover” world and in the modern situation the need for this hybrid experience is much stronger than in the past.

“It is an especially interesting time to be picking up the reins of the Army Museum. With the 100 year commemorations of World War One just around the corner this must be one of the most special spots in the country. Waiouru is the spiritual home of the New Zealand Army and many of the campaigns that soldiers were involved with in the First World War will be especially remembered here.

“There will be many opportunities for the public to be involved. New Zealanders and visitors from other countries will be able to see exhibitions and attend events that will be part of the centenary. We look forward to welcoming them to this iconic place”

Ms Richardson was born in Kawakawa in the Bay of Islands. She is a qualified librarian and her academic background relates to history, education and management studies. She holds a Bachelor’s degree from Auckland University in which she specialised in the history of New Zealand and the Pacific. Her post-graduate studies were management related and her speciality was organisational communications.

She worked in the University of Auckland Library and in public libraries and she then founded her own consultancy organisation providing management services. Richardson Management Consultants Ltd has worked for small business, large enterprises and public authorities.

In 2010 Ms Richardson won the inaugural award for the most innovative New Zealander working in the tourism industry at the Tourism Awards. She was also a 2010 finalist in the ACP Media Woman of the Year Award.

On 15 March the former •

A FITTING FAREWELL – BRIGADIER (RTD) HARRY HONNOR, CBE, MVO

On the 7 February 2013 members of 16 Field Regiment began the journey north to Paihia to prepare for the military funeral in which a distinguished New Zealand Gunner would be farewelled – Brigadier (Rtd) Harry Honnor.

Brigadier Honnor was given a full military funeral due to his achievements and the length of his service, which amounted to 46 years in the Regular Force.

His service was notable in that he was one of only three New Zealanders to have fought in both the Battle of Kapyong in the Korean War and the Battle of Long Tan in the Vietnam War. In Kapyong he was a Captain, serving as an airborne observer. He spent about five hours a day in a small aircraft flying over the battlefield, observing and engaging Chinese attacks on the Australian infantry with the 25 pounders manned by 16 Fd Regt. These rounds ordered by then Captain Honnor were the first rounds the Regiment fired at enemy forces in Korea.

In Vietnam he was the Commander of 161 Battery. When the 6th Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR) made contact with a regiment of Vietnamese soldiers, Major Honnor was with 6RAR battalion HQ, coordinating the indirect fires called for by Captain Morrie Stanley, MBE, one of the battery Forward Observers attached to D Coy, who wore the brunt of the battle. After the battle hundreds of Vietnamese casualties were credited to the accurate and sustained indirect fires of 161 Battery.

The funeral service was conducted in Brigadier Honnor’s home town of Paihia at the local church. From the church the coffin was carried through the military guard and placed on a ceremonial 25 pounder towed by an ex-service Landrover.
Defence Health School Academic Graduation

The New Zealand Defence Health School (DHS) hosted an Auckland University of Technology graduation ceremony in Burnham Camp recently. The graduation was held to award the completed Diploma in Paramedic Science which is taught during the first year of the two and a half year long period of initial medic training. This year a total of 30 students from both the Brigadier PA Ardagh and the NZ Hospital Ship Maheno classes were presented with their hard-earned diplomas in front of friends and family, senior Defence Force officers and NCOs, DHS staff, and AUT staff members.

The Diploma in Paramedic Science papers is conducted in Burnham Camp at DHS, which acts as a satellite campus for Defence Force personnel studying at AUT. Students from the Navy, Army and Air Force study over two and a half years to complete both the Diploma in Paramedic Science and the Graduate Diploma in Health Science. The diploma combines a mixture of academic study, practical based scenarios, and clinical placements to ambulance and military medical centres. This diploma ultimately gives students the knowledge and experience they need to be effective medics in the New Zealand Defence Force.

With this qualification gained, students from Ardagh and Maheno classes can look forward to the next part of their training, and can eagerly anticipate being qualified medics in the NZDF in the future.

Award Winners

Award winners from the ceremony from each class:
The top academic award recognises the student who has achieved the highest average academic results over the Diploma in Paramedicine. The award went to PTE David Oliver from Ardagh class, and PTE Takerei Searancke of Maheno class.
The Peers Choice award is awarded to the student who displays the core values of Courage, Commitment, Comradeship and Integrity as voted by their fellow classmates. The award went to AC Gina O’Sheily of Ardagh class, and PTE Takerei Searancke of Maheno class.
The Col J.W. Ardagh Trophy is awarded to the most outstanding student that demonstrated with consistency academic and practical excellence along with an exemplary attitude and professional conduct. This award went to AC Gina O’Sheily of Ardagh class and PTE Takerei Searancke of Maheno class.

By Robert O’Shea

As with any military organisation, it is our learning that shapes the way we operate. In fact, our entire way of operating is based upon our own and others’ doctrine.

Doctrine provides the fundamental principles that guide the New Zealand Defence Force’s actions in support of its objectives.

While doctrine is not policy, it is closely related to it. Policy directs tasks, prescribes desired capabilities, and provides guidance for ensuring the Defence Force is prepared to perform its assigned roles. Policy therefore, describes ‘what’ is to be done. Doctrine is how we do things – it helps ensure we make the right decisions based on ours and others’ experiences.

Lead by Simon Eaton, Deputy Director Doctrine with Robert O’Shea, Doctrine Editor, the Doctrine Cell within Capability Branch in the Defence Force has responsibility for managing the process of adopting, adapting or deriving doctrine for use by the Defence Force.

“New Zealand’s military doctrine is based on the Defence Force’s experiences for developing strategy and conducting military operations,” says Simon. “This means that the Defence Force’s doctrine is developed from New Zealand’s, and our friends and allies, history of battles, campaigns and wars.”

It’s the lessons learned from these defeats and victories that are used to inform future operations. “To enable mission success, our Doctrine is always evolving – we do, learn, apply, and refine,” says Simon.

The Vice Chief of the Defence Force, Major General Tim Keating stresses the value of doctrine. “Doctrine is an expression of how military forces contribute to campaigns, major operations, battles and engagements,” he says.

Doctrine provides a common frame of reference across the Defence Force. It helps standardise operations by establishing common ways of accomplishing military tasks. Simon stresses the importance of understanding doctrine as not mere dogma or a checklist of procedures.

“Doctrine is not the ultimate ‘how to’ authority for the Defence Force,” he says. “Military doctrine, while authoritative in nature, requires judgement in application and its knowledge is to be used according to the situation.”

“It’s important to consider doctrine as a dependable guide that describes ‘how the NZDF thinks about fighting’ rather than providing the essential rules and ‘mechanics of how to fight’. This makes our doctrine versatile and able to accommodate a wide variety of situations.”

One of the reasons military doctrine is important is because it standardises terminology, training, relationships, responsibilities and processes amongst all of the NZDF.

The purpose of military doctrine is manifold. Doctrine provides the basis for inter-organisational coordination during joint operations; it acts as the foundation for building a joint culture and a basis for joint training; in an educational sense, it provides instructional material for professional military schooling while also informing the New Zealand Government, agencies and the private sector about the organisation, capabilities and philosophies of the Defence Force’s military forces.

Major General Keating further states that military doctrine can be a driver of change within the Defence Force. “New developments in doctrine can lead to change in how the Defence Force plans and conducts its military activities,” he says. “This change will result from the revised doctrine flowing through into policy, training, and operational planning procedures.”

“Doctrine underpins all NZDF operations and force development. It is the firm base from which operational activity and force development are launched,” says Simon. “We need all of our military personnel to know how to access the doctrine that guides us,” he says. “Their understanding of it will ensure we can apply changes based on individual learning. It is the contributions of the individual that adds strength to the whole.”

Defence Force personnel can find out more about Defence Force doctrine on the NZDF intranet link: http://doctrine/queries about doctrine can be sent to Simon Eaton at simon.eaton@nzdf.mil.nz
Headquarters Joint Forces New Zealand (HQ JFNZ) is not always seen as a posting of choice, and it can be difficult to get an understanding of what goes on within its walls if you haven’t worked in there.

Major Terry McDonald was posted to HQ JFNZ as the Liaison Officer to the Land Component Commander as well as in the J7 Branch through 2005 – 2007. He found the posting invaluable for developing a tri-service overview of the strategic context in which the Defence Force operates.

“The posting allowed me to learn about the other services and exposed me to facets of NZDF that I was oblivious to. I was also able to leverage my experience in the Army to educate the other services about our role and gain a greater understanding of the other Services. It was really rewarding. I felt that my input was valued and that I made tangible difference.”

The working knowledge of a tri-service operational headquarters became crucial for Major McDonald’s later postings and deployments.

“After my posting I found that I knew processes and people, which helped my sub unit with their military construction periods. We were able to generate joint effects at a company/squadron level working with both RNZN and RNZAF to support remote construction tasks. It also enabled an understanding of how the HQ worked when I was deployed on Exercise Pacific Partnership and more recently on Operation Pacific Drought. I could talk to counterparts, understand how the headquarters works as well as the operational and strategic challenges, and provide better analysis to allow informed decisions to be made by command.”

Many personnel who have worked at HQ JFNZ have noted that one of the attractions of the posting is having responsibility that almost outweighs rank, and Major McDonald agrees.

“The work that is being undertaken often directly impacts force elements, either deployed or across the NZDF. There is the perception within Defence that HQ JFNZ is fully staffed and has more resources than the wider force. I quickly learned this was not the case, and it meant that relatively junior staff (which included me) had greater opportunities to make a difference than they might imagine. In many respects, I found that HQ JFNZ rewards capability and capacity. If you demonstrate these traits you will get plenty of opportunities.”

With the future of the NZDF outlined in CDF’s Future 35 vision, the ability to work effectively in a Joint environment is going to be crucial for every person within the Defence Force. The strategy focuses on integration, and HQ JFNZ is where this integration starts.

Major McDonald says that experience in HQ JFNZ will only benefit an Army career.

“HQ JFNZ is the posting where service personnel can make a tangible difference in the way operations are conducted. I would recommend that personnel seek to be posted into Joint sooner rather than later, because the exposure across the organisation allows you insights and dispels perceptions.”
Aside from the doctrinal definitions of logistics in the operational environment, the role of the J4 Branch is basically two-fold. If the role of HQ JFNZ as a whole is to plan, organise and support NZDF deployed operations and exercises, the J4 Branch is responsible for planning, organising and supporting the ‘stuff’ that these operations need in order to carry out their mission. What materiel is required, when, how much, how to get it there, how to sustain it, and eventually, how to bring it home.

There are four sections within J4 Branch, each with a distinct but overlapping role, and all requiring logisticians who are knowledgeable and experienced in their trade, and who are comfortable operating in a dynamic and at times, time-constrained environment.

J43 Current Logistics Operations (Log Ops) Section is responsible for sustaining current operations, operating in support of the J3 Operations Branch Desk Officers. They manage the supply lines for deployed elements. Their focus is not on specialist platform logistics support, which remains the responsibility of the subject matter experts within each service, rather they are responsible for the generic materiel – clothing, ammunition, fuel, contract support etc. With junior officers and SNCOs from all three services, the J43 Section is largely about reacting to and solving real-time logistics problems. As part of that they work closely with the NZDF Movements organisation, Overseas Purchasing Offices, single Service Fleet Managers, and prime supporting contractors. For those working within the section, the experience provides good insight into the conduct and support of joint operations.

J45 Logistics Plans Section is responsible for planning the logistics requirements associated with all J5 Plans Branch and most J7 Training & Exercise Branch-led planning - whether these involve longer-term activity planning, or are in response to an immediate crisis or unplanned contingency. Comprising Logistics Officers (at the MAJ(E) level) from all three services, it is the J43 Section who join the reconnaissance teams that deploy into theatre early in any planning process to scope out the situation, operating environment and requirements, develop options and work-up detailed logistics responses.

J44 Land Equipment Section is an Army staffed and focused section primarily supporting Land formations and activities, but also providing technical and logistics support for land systems deployed on joint operations. With a staff of seven (1xMAJ, 3xWO, 2xSSGT and 1xCivil), J44 Section works very closely with Logistics Command (Land) fleet managers and DLEM to plan and manage Land equipment requirements.

J48 Logistics Concept Section. Comprising a single MAJ(E) officer, J48 is responsible for developing future operational logistics concepts and SOP’s, working closely with DLC and Capability Branch.

There is an open invitation for all NZDF logisticians to contact and visit J4 Branch whenever they are in the Trentham region, to gain more awareness and understanding of what the Branch does in daily support of NZDF operations.
FUNDRAISER EXTRAORDINAIRE AT IT AGAIN FOR LEUKAEMIA AND BLOOD CANCER

Last year NZDF Business Analyst Dave Wills set a new individual fundraising record in the Firefighter Sky Tower Challenge — a fundraising event supporting Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand — and he’s out to break the record again this year on 11 May.

“It’s a huge challenge but not as big a challenge than that faced by those with leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma or other blood cancers and diseases,” says Dave.

It’s a mental and physical challenge, not for the faint hearted. It comprises climbing all 51 flights of Auckland’s Sky Tower (or 1,103 steps) in full structural firefighting uniform with breathing apparatus (breathing through the mask all the way). This equipment adds up to 25kg of extra weight. Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand is the national charity dedicated to supporting patients and their families living with leukaemia and blood cancers, it’s the sixth most common cancer amongst New Zealanders accounting for the highest rates of cancer among children.

For his 2012 efforts Dave set a new individual fundraising record of $15,262, met Prime Minister John Key to formally have his fund-raising achievement recognised, was nominated for the 2013 New Zealander of the Year Local Hero Award and was awarded a Local Hero medal — big achievements.

“This year my goal is to raise at least $20,000 and complete the climb in less than 15 minutes (40 seconds to knock off this year),” he says.

How you can help Dave to help others
Donate at: www.firefightersclimb.org.nz/view_event_profile/1485
Check out Dave’s 2012 climb: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATLG2_pzJq8
‘Like’ his page: www.facebook.com/FirefighterSkyTowerChallenge

WIN A BOOK
Anzac Day is approaching, and with it our thoughts turn to what makes the day so important to New Zealand and Australia.

A newly published book, Gallipoli: a ridge too far tells the story from 15 different perspectives. Beautifully illustrated with paintings, maps and photographs, Gallipoli describes the pivotal events that affected all the countries involved.

Army News has a copy of Gallipoli to give away. To be in the draw send an email to judith.martin@nzdf.mil.nz with “Gallipoli” in the subject line. Print the newspaper with your contract details on the back to “Army News, Private Bag 39997, Wellington 6211.

• The winner of the The Animals’ VC, For Gallantry or devotion was Rupert Bates of Taupo.

SAPPERS A HIT IN NORTHLAND COMMUNITY

Soldiers from 25 Engineer Support Squadron helped keep a large group of toddlers happy when the latter’s new Northland Community Pre-school Centre in Wellington was opened recently.

The 30-strong group of tradesmen were responsible for the refurbishment, and were invited to the official opening, along with Acting Chief of Army Brigadier Peter Kelly. The soldiers built a large deck, fencing ramps, walkways, a building extension, sand pits, play areas and a high sound-proof wall at what was formerly an old church. Centre staff said they were “bowled over” by what the Army had done for their community. The project provided the Army with the chance to increase the tradeskills of its younger personnel in a not-for-profit environment.
Army men and women were dominant from the outset at the Inter Services Softball tournament recently, comfortably accounting for both the Navy and Airforce with powerful batting displays and tight defence.

Army men were presented the Luathala Bay trophy and the women, the Prendergast Cup as Defence Force Champions. Army was also awarded the Dale Tamahana Memorial trophy for the service that scored the most combined runs throughout the tournament, amassing an impressive 150 runs. Individuals to stand out were SGT Andrew Chambers who was named as the tournament Most Valuable Player (MVP) for men and PTE Awhia Hokianga as the MVP for women.

The tournament was hosted by RNZAF Base Whenuapai, and took on extra interest with the ADF Men’s and women’s teams along with NZ Police men and women competing to win the overall Inter-Service Tournament.

Army men and women both progressed to the overall tournament final with the women going down 6-5 to the ADF in a tight contest and the men just falling short of toppling the unbeaten NZ Police 8-7, in a tense final that went right down to the wire.

A number of Army players and support staff were named in the Defence Force team to play the ADF men and women in test matches at Rosedale Park (venue for the ISF Men’s World Softball Championships), as curtain raisers to the men’s semi-finals. The women battled throughout in a tight contest eventually going down 14-12. The NZDF men proved too strong for their ADF counterparts taking control of the game from the outset with an impressive display of power hitting, winning the game 10-2.

The results at the Defence tournament were testament to the hard work that had gone in from all players earlier on in the season. The efforts put in at the successful Inter-Regional Tournament hosted by Burnham and the planning of a vigorous training camp conducted at Ardmore by the Army coaches, culminated in another successful season for Army softball.
SSGT Macca McKenzie, and SGTs Di Kareko (left) and Eugene Hepi are Linton’s Sportspeople of the Year. Ultra distance runner Macca and Touch player Eugene jointly won the Sportsman of the Year award, and hockey player Di was judged Sportswoman of the year. Watch this space next month for the whole of Army sports awards winners.

Was it divine intervention? Army Chaplain hits hole in one, twice

By Al Falloon, Club Captain, Burnham Golf Club

As with most golf clubs in New Zealand the Burnham Golf Club has had a few hole-in-ones over the years. In the last three years the club had a dearth of them with only one being recorded between 2008-2012.

Our hardworking Chaplain Class 3 Kevin Brophy started the reversal of this trend in October 2012 at the start of the Twilight Golf competition. Kevin managed a beautiful straight shot on our Number 2 hole, 190m Par 3. This was Kevin’s first hole-in-one so he was one happy Chaplain that night in the club house.

Not content with his efforts, Kevin wanted to make a statement that wouldn’t be forgotten easily around the club. Four weeks later he got his 2nd hole in one on the 155m 5th Hole. Bragging rights belonged to Kevin after that shot.

It just goes to show that there is always the chance that you could be the next person to get that elusive shot to hole out. Keep playing (and in Kevin’s case praying) as you never know when the hole-in-one will turn up and you will have your name added to the Trophy Board in the club house.

The Inter-Regional Cycling championships have just finished in Linton and Ohakea recently. Have a look on the Army’s Facebook page for updates and more photographs.
The NZ Army Cricket team took part in the International Defence Cricket Challenge organised and run by the Australian Defence Force recently. This was the third time it has been run and was enjoyed by 200 players, officials, organisers and medical staff. It was hosted out of HMAS Harman in Canberra, Australia.

The eight competing teams consisted of the NZ Army, Royal New Zealand Air Force, Australian Army, Royal Australian Air Force, Royal Australian Navy, Royal Malaysian Air Force, Pakistan Combined Services, and an ANZAC Barbarians (made up of NZ and Australian Army players).

The NZ team had a week to acclimatise to high temperatures before bowling or hitting a ball. The first week was the opportunity to start team building and evaluate the abilities of the NZ side, which included six new caps making up a fairly young team.

NZ played the Australian Army in a warm up T-20. It didn’t go all that well with the Aussies beating NZ by 50 runs. It was a warm up and a chance for the lads to blow out the cobwebs.

The tournament officially started for NZ with a practice T-20 game against the Malaysians.

First competition game was a T-20 against the RAAF, which resulted in a close game with the RAAF coming out victors with only 9 balls left.

The next two games where in the 50 over format against the RAN and RNZAF, unfortunately both were losses. The RAN game came down to the last two overs, again, but the RNZAF game was a little more one-sided.

Despite the previous days ‘lessons’ at the hands of the RMAF and the PCS, NZ managed to bounce back and place a tick in the win column. The game was against the ANZAC Barbarians (which contained two of New Zealanders) and NZ managed to win this one in the 46th over with 7 wickets in hand.

The last game of pool play was against the old foe, the Australian Army. NZ was soundly beaten in the 23rd over by 9 wickets.

As result of pool play NZ ended up playing the ANZAC Barbarians in the 7th-8th play-off. This was a close game that was taken out by the Barbarians with NZ bowled out in the 46th over coming up 45 runs short of the target. Despite the loss there were a few good stats for the boys (CPL Rory Lorimer 75, SPR Ryan Walmsley 50, CPL Luke Woodroff 43, SGT Timothy Medland three wickets and PTE Caleb Bate also with three wickets).

Despite a number of close games, and a few blow-outs, the lads really enjoyed themselves and got to play some good cricket against fellow soldiers, sailors and airmen.

The tournament was won by the Pakistan Combined Services side, who played the Royal Malaysian Airforce in the final. While this was not NZ’s tournament, there were a number of players who performed particularly well throughout. The stand out for NZ Army was CPL Lorimer, 2/1 RNZIR, who was selected for the World Defence XI who played an Australian Masters Side made up of ex-test cricketers including Craig McDermott and Darren Lehmann. CPL Lorimer was identified as the 2nd best batter of the tournament, scoring over 350 runs.

Other notable performances were put in by Sgt Tim Medland, CPL Luke Woodroff, SPR Ryan Walmsley, LCpl Phil Lelievre and Pte Caleb Bate.

The team would like to thank SSGT Joel Grason and Capt Rose Fraser for all their guidance, management and repairing of broken bodies while in Aussie.

A huge thank you to two parties that made this trip possible—the Singapore Fund, whose financial contribution greatly assisted in our ability to attend this tournament, and Major Scott MacGibbon, who spent hours organising and supporting the tour.
1st New Zealand Military Police Company, Royal New Zealand Military Police practised Close Quarter Protection Skills at the Cricket Pavilion, in Queen Elizabeth Park in Masterton recently.

The training exercise was part of their close protection course which trains members of the unit to provide personal protection to VIPs. The newly introduced Explosive Detection Dog (EDD) team was also part of the exercise. Here, EDD Zia gets to work with his handler Sapper Liam Harris.

Photo: LAC Mandy McErlieh