New Zealand Army Band
Powles Road
Burnham Military Camp
Burnham 7600
Ph: (03) 363 0200
Fax: (03) 363 0193
Email: army.band@nzdf.mil.nz
Hello everyone!

With this issue of the Esprit de Corps we say goodbye to our lovely editor Private Lisa Crawley. Lisa has been editing the newsletter for the past few years, injecting her own unique bit of humour into it for everyone to enjoy. She is on her way to work on her electrician’s apprenticeship after 7 loyal years with the NZAB! We also bid farewell to Private Shelley Spencer who will be returning to sunny Australia. Shelley has just finished an impressive course in brass band composition and we couldn’t be more proud. Goodbye ladies, you will be missed by all!

Something new for this edition is a past members page organized by WO1 Graeme Bremner. This is a great addition to EDC and something I’m sure past and present members will enjoy.

We welcome back to the fold Lance Corporal Chris Foster and Lance Corporal Ross Yorkstone. Chris has been away with the birth of his first child, Thomas Foster, and we congratulate Chris and his beautiful wife Mel on this exciting occasion. Ross is also soon to return after the successful completion of his All Arms Junior NCO Course. Even a broken ankle didn’t hold him back! Well done, Ross.

The NZAB has a busy time ahead leading up to Christmas break, with Cup Day, the North Island Concert Tour (details in this issue), OCS in Waiouru and preparation for our trip to Germany early in the New Year. A packed schedule is nothing new to the NZAB though and they are looking forward to finishing the year with a bang!

PS: It has been brought to our attention that some of the dog tags from the Golden Jubilee weekend were incorrectly inscribed. If yours is, please email Vaea.Peterson@NZDF.mil.nz and he will arrange to get a replacement dog tag with all the correct details.

Editor.

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STOP PRESS

Congratulations to our hard-working Band Manager Murray Johnston on his promotion to Staff Sergeant. Murray is a fountain of knowledge around the unit and his promotion is well deserved. Well done Staff!!
NZAB Solo Competition & Unit Formal Dinner

by Cpl Kevin Hickman

On the 3rd and 4th of July the New Zealand Army Band held their annual unit solo competition and formal dinner. The judges for the solo competition were Mr. Steven Miles for the brass section and Mr. Hanafi Machirus for the rhythm section. It was indeed a privilege to have two such well-qualified gentlemen to adjudicate for us.

This year’s competition proved to be very close and competitive in all sections. Over the two days of competition each member of the unit had to perform a piece in the style of an Aria (Slow) and Concerto (Fast), resulting in an overall winner for both brass and rhythm section. The competition proved to be very close, with placings being shared around over the two days.

The results were as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Open Brass Aria Competition</th>
<th>Open Brass Concerto Competition</th>
<th>Rhythm Technical Competition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st – SSGT Nick Johnston</td>
<td>1st – PTE Joel Williams</td>
<td>1st - CPL Jason Shortland</td>
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<td>2nd – PTE Jack Harré</td>
<td>2nd – PTE Jack Harré</td>
<td>2nd - SGT Riwai Hina</td>
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<td>3rd – PTE Andrew Yorkstone</td>
<td>3rd – CAPT Graham Hickman</td>
<td>3rd - PTE Cameron Lee</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Premier Brass Aria Competition</th>
<th>Premier Brass Concerto Competition</th>
<th>Rhythm Open Competition</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st – LCPL Marc Ellis</td>
<td>1st – SSGT Phillip Johnston</td>
<td>1st – PTE Cameron Lee</td>
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<td>2nd – CPL Kevin Hickman</td>
<td>2nd – CPL Kevin Hickman</td>
<td>2nd – CPL Vaea Peterson</td>
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<td>3rd – PTE Joel Williams</td>
<td>3rd – SGT Callum Hewson</td>
<td>3rd – CPL Jason Shortland</td>
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After checking the aggregate score from the judges the overall winners for each section were announced. CPL Kevin Hickman ended up taking the brass section and CPL Jason Shortland won the rhythm section. Well done boys!

At the completion of the solo competition the band was hosted at the Burnham Camp WO and Sgt’s Mess for their annual formal dinner. Distinguished guests in attendance this year included DCA Brigadier Phil McKee, NZAB’s Formation Commander Col Martin Dransfield, and CO of the NZAB Maj Peter Bowyer.

During the evening presentations were given for recipients of ‘The Band Master’s Bugle’ which is awarded to the musician of the year and the ‘Triple M Cup’ awarded to the Private soldier who not only displays the core values of the New Zealand Army, but displays the attributes of ‘Triple M’ (Music, Military and Man/Woman). This year’s award winners were CPL Kevin Hickman for ‘The Band Master’s Bugle’ and PTE Andrew Yorkstone for the ‘Triple M Cup’. LCPL Steve Smith was also presented with a certificate for 20 years service to the unit.

Following the presentations all in attendance were entertained by guest speaker Joe Bennett. The evening was a resounding success and special thanks must be given to CPL Holloway and his team from 3 CSS Bn who provided a superb meal and atmosphere that was greatly appreciated by all.
Contest from the perspective of a non-brass bandy

On the 5th of July, four of us packed and loaded the van,
we were headed to the battle of the (brass) bands and we had a plan.
Invercargill was our destination and we had to make it on time.
(Please bear with me as I try and make this ‘poem’ rhyme!)

Our job was to man the trade stand and tell people about the army band,
we weren’t involved with any of the other groups because they didn’t really need our hand.
The opportunities to talk to potential recruits and other bandies were not so good,
so PTE McKellar and I grabbed our instruments and jammed as quietly as we could.

We promptly got yelled at by a strange looking lady who didn’t like jazz,
we could only assume that she was perfectly sane but was just a bit of a spaz.
Between making beautiful duets and looking after the stand,
we could make twice daily visits to the cafe down the road which had the best coffee in the land.

Having played jazz my whole life and never hearing brass band music much at all,
I was blown away with the amazing music that could be heard emerging from the main hall.
With song after song after song sounding the same to me,
I was rapidly informed that these were called test pieces and that was the way it was meant to be.

Many days of listening to cornets being blown and drums being hit,
it started to sound to us like a large sack of … angelic sounds.
Special mention must be made to a bunch of our guys,
with many entering solo competitions and taking out first or second prize.

PTE Kyle Lawson – 2nd in the cornet championship (not quite good enough mate!)
And PTE Joel Williams – 2nd in open Eb bass, which is just great.
PTE Andrew Yorkstone – 2nd in the open trombone class,
Cpl Peterson and PTE Baker who played in the band who were 1st in the A grade championship – Wellington Brass.

PTE Joe Thomas – 1st in bass trombone, how happy is he!
And SSGT Phil Johnston for winning 1st in the double B.
Oh and Congratulations to LCPL Brian Eckersley for being the second best Drum Major. Well done Briiiian, Magnificent arm swing.
If you have read through this far you need to find something better to do,
maybe go for a for a run or sing a duet with Sgt Fiu.

PTEs McKellar and Harré entertaining at BBANZ contest trade stand
East Cape Recruiting Tour

by Cpl Kevin Hickman

On Sunday the 3rd of August the NZAB departed on a recruiting tour of the East Cape from Napier to Whakatane. The band was excited to be back on tour for the first time since April after having months of Burnham based activities.

The recruiting tour consisted of forty-five minute concerts at secondary and local area schools. On the first day of the tour they performed at Napier Boys High and Tamatea High School in the Hawkes Bay. From there they had a long road trip to Gisborne, made even longer by a two hour delay caused by an accident that closed state highway 2.

Over the next few days the band performed concerts at Gisborne Boys and Girls High School, Ngata Memorial College in Ruatoria, Murupara Area School, Trident College and Whakatane High School. The drive around the East Cape was certainly a memorable one for both its beauty and length.

Highlights of the tour included an amazing Haka performed for the band by 1200 boys at Gisborne Boys High school and at Trident High School in Whakatane when the band was joined on stage by a number of young musicians from the school for a couple of our numbers. This gave the band a huge thrill that was also shared with the students. It is no coincidence that the head of music at Trident High is renowned youth trainer and conductor Alan Spence. For a secondary school to have such a large number of students capable of joining the band on stage is testament to his fine work in the Whakatane region. It was also great to catch up with past member and local body politician/dairy farmer Patrick McCarthy in Murupara.

The programme put together by Bandmaster SSGT Phil Johnston was extremely well received by all of the schools and encouraged many of the pupils into considering careers within the New Zealand Defence Force.

Overall it was a very successful tour and a great way to kick start what was a busy second half of 2014.
After a successful concert in Auckland, the 2014 National Band of New Zealand embarked on a tour of China and Korea. This was to be an extremely memorable experience for the seven NZAB musicians selected for the tour.

They were:
- Captain Graham Hickman
- Corporal Leigh Martin
- Private Kyle Lawson
- Private Raynor Martin
- Private Joel Williams
- Private Andrew Yorkstone
- Private Joe Thomas

Directed by Nigel Weeks, the 2014 National Band was of a very high calibre and the music selection showcased all the strengths the band had to offer, with even the baritones being featured!

Apart from the amazing concert venues, the tour was packed with memorable experiences. The food received mixed reviews, but that didn’t stop everyone from trying new and interesting things. For the record, don’t eat Korean fish dishes.

The facilities in most cities in China provided for games of “who is game enough to use that?!” and also some soul destroying times when avoiding them wasn’t an option. We also experienced travelling 300+ Km/h on the bullet train which was surprisingly smooth. A bit disappointing for the thrill seekers!

For myself, my personal highlight was visiting the Demilitarised Zone between North and South Korea. It was incredible looking across to the north and seeing armed North Korean guards trekking into an illegal tunnel created by North Korea. After studying the events during high school it was unreal to experience the atmosphere.

For those interested, a blog of the whole tour is available for your reading pleasure from the following link: http://www.travelpod.com/members/14nationalband
Cancer Society Christchurch & Dunedin Balls

by Cpl Kevin Hickman

As always the New Zealand Army Band is in high demand for worthy civilian engagements and when our schedule allows, it is a part of the job that we all enjoy.

Over the last couple of months the band has been lucky enough to be able to support a charity that has touched many band members in some way. Each year the Cancer Society stages fundraising balls up and down the country and the NZAB entertained this year at both the Christchurch and Dunedin balls.

The band played in grand style to hundreds of guest dressed in their finery and proved to be as popular as ever with both crowds screaming for more when the evenings came to a close. On his way out one patron expressed a sentiment we often hear: “I didn’t know what to expect from the New Zealand Army Band, but you guys were amazing!!”

Once again the guys and girls of the unit proved there is much more to the New Zealand Army Band than just marching and parades. Well done team!!!
This year the Queen Alexandra's Mounted Rifles celebrated their 150th Anniversary. The NZAB travelled up to Wanganui and Palmerston North to provide assistance for their week-long celebrations.

The band arrived at the Wanganui War Memorial for the retreat parade with Sgt Johnston’s van making a grand entrance when he drove across the parade square and managed to stall twice along the way! Following rehearsals, the NZAB entertained by playing a couple of marches before launching seamlessly into the march on. It was an early retreat ceremony and the band joined the troops and ex-service personnel afterwards for dinner at the Wanganui RSA.

The next day the NZAB travelled to Linton and performed a concert at Linton School to a very enthusiastic audience of dancing and cheering children. The Dance Band then travelled to Waiouru to perform at the graduation function for the Warrant Officer’s Promotional Course. The Saturday morning of the QAMR parade dawned and the weather was decidedly ominous. The parade itself was an impressive affair with eight light armoured vehicles, thirteen cavalry, the guard and the band. The inspecting officer was the Governor-General, Lt Gen The Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae. He thoroughly secured his place as crowd favourite by cutting his speech short when the rain took a turn for the worse, and even stepped off the dais to join the troops in the rain to take his final salute.

The final engagement of the tour was the QAMR 150th Anniversary Ball at the Awapuni Racecourse. It was well-attended and the crowd enjoyed charts from the NZAB who in turn were entertained by the creativity of some of their dance moves! A great way to finish off another successful tour.

Jazz master Pte Jack (Samuel) Harré
It was to be a long flight, but the roughly 36 hour journey the NZAB embarked on in September was a small price to pay for the spoils that lay ahead. The World Band Festival in Lucerne, Switzerland was our destination and the world famous KKL Luzern concert hall was our office in the ‘Tattoo on Stage’ section of the festival. We were joined by groups from Russia, Switzerland, the Netherlands and China to name a few.

On our arrival in Lucerne we were amazed at the beauty of the city with the combination of stunning traditional architecture and snow-capped Swiss Alps over Lake Lucerne. This was all topped off by the contemporary design of the KKL Luzern (Culture and Convention Centre Luzern) situated on the waterfront and the grandeur of the concert hall once we stepped inside.

Our next stop was the Hotel Schweizerhof Luzern, a 5 star luxury hotel dating back to 1845 that also conveniently overlooked the lake. We were incredibly lucky to stay at such a fantastic hotel and enjoyed a daily magnificent buffet breakfast. This is where LCpl Chris Foster first caught the admiring eye of a waiter who thereafter provided a much higher level of service to Chris than to the rest of the band!

After only a few rehearsals on stage we were ready for the opening night. We were joined by other acts including the Swiss Army Drum Corps, Shanghai Jiangzhou Drum Company, Rojahn Academy of Irish Dance, as well as marching bands from the Netherlands, Russia and Switzerland. The show went down a treat and finished with a standing ovation from the audience. The biggest challenge for most was learning Scherzo by Shostakovich from memory. Although, SSgt Phil Johnston and Cpl Kevin Hickman seemed to struggle with the new NZ Army Haka and were overheard at times counting “1 potato 2 potato…”

A small group of us experienced quite the surprise while walking home one night when we heard a Ka Mate Haka behind us. We turned to find members of the Dutch marching band performing the Haka they had learned not from the All Blacks, but from videos of the NZAB! Not exactly what you would expect to hear in the streets of Lucerne.

I feel very humbled and privileged to have such a great first overseas touring experience with the NZAB. Here’s to many more!
OCS Charter Parade & Public Concert

by Pte Cam Lee

Coming home after an overseas tour usually means a sigh of relief and some relaxation time for the hardworking NZAB, but not this time! After arriving back in Christchurch from Switzerland at roughly 1900, the band dispersed with family and friends to make their way home. The only catch being that they would be meeting each other back at the airport at 0730 the next morning. My personal goal in those twelve hours was to get two loads of rather ripe smelling clothing washed and dried in time for our early departure.

At 0800 all of our heavily jet-lagged members were back on a plane and en route to Taupo for the annual OCS Charter Parade. On arrival at our accommodation we were given the all clear on an afternoon off due to the Cadets having had sufficient prep prior to our arrival. This saw the majority of the NZAB trying to rest up, with a few adventurous souls venturing to some natural hot springs. The next morning brought some rather unnerving news: ‘Severe weather warning: Desert Road closed due to heavy snowfall.’ After loading the bus we were on our way to the Great Lake Centre to set-up and sound check for the afternoon concert. Unfortunately, when we arrived at the venue the sky decided to open up and release a fairly solid downpour. So, the call was made to hold the concert indoors. Once set-up and sound check were complete, it was time to ‘suit up’ and accompany the Cadets on their charter parade.

1100 rolled around and our dapper contingent was stood to attention whilst the OCS colours were marched on. Shortly after, the parade stepped off to drum patterns and marched up the road where they were inspected by the Mayor of Taupo. Once the Mayor had reviewed the parade we stepped off to Glorious Victory and marched the Cadets proudly through Taupo with ‘Bayonets fixed, swords drawn, flags flying and drums beating’.

At that point we had finished the parade, but we had not finished our duties in Taupo. We now had twenty minutes to grab a bite to eat before we were to perform to an unknown amount of (mostly) Taupo locals. As it turned out that unknown amount eventuated into a crowd some twenty-five strong, including PTE Thomas’s parents Jeannette and Graeme. Even though it was a relatively small turnout the NZAB performed to their usual high standard and wowed the audience. After the concert we managed to power on over the Desert Road to our accommodation for the night, Waiouru.

The following afternoon saw us on our way to Palmerston North airport after a short, but very well-received concert by the Dance Band at the National Army Museum. By 1800 that night the NZAB was on the ground at Christchurch airport and on a very well-deserved leave period for two weeks.
West Melton 150th Celebrations

by Cpl Kevin Hickman

On Labour Weekend, the NZAB joined the community of West Melton to celebrate their 150th anniversary.

The NZ Army has close ties to the community of West Melton. All past and present members of the NZAB would of course know this having spent many days and sometimes nights at the West Melton Range.

It was a typical sunny Canterbury day and the NZAB lead a parade through the streets of West Melton before playing a big band concert to a large and appreciative crowd.
A short historical story for Esprit de Corps

As Related by Terry Garmonsway

Terendak’s Ordinary Ranks Mess in Wellington Lines, home of 1RNZIR in Malaysia, was a pair of roofed but otherwise open air buildings with wide eaves to keep tropical rains out. The kitchen area was, more or less, fully enclosed.

When our Band rotation arrived in November 1967 food served didn’t seem too bad although not of the good standard we had enjoyed in Burnham’s Camp Cookhouse which was situated behind the band rooms and just a stone’s throw from single men’s barracks. We were pleasantly surprised to find one of our cooks was Cpl Warren Milne, an Army Service Corp chef who had been one of our chefs back at Burnham so we felt we’d be reasonably well looked after. Our band got on well with him. On one occasion when we were fed late meals following an engagement Warren had cooked up steaks, inviting us into the kitchen to cook our own eggs. Naturally his gesture reduced his own workload whilst providing us with a good sense of social engagement.

Nevertheless over a relatively short period of time food quality and presentation began to deteriorate to the point where the most palatable course was soup. Meal menus, scribbled onto a blackboard, were substantially ignored by battalion members as there seemed little point in reading them. Everyone ate soup at lunch and dinner. A regular verbal exchange piling derision on food quality was, “Did you have the soup?” to which the standard reply was, “Yes I had the soup, a meal on its own!” Frankly, it usually was as everything else was close to inedible!

In defence of Warren Milne and other cooks I hastily point out deteriorating food standards were not of their making. The fact was that food quality and diversity deteriorated at points of supply, wherever those might have been. No doubt ever decreasing defence spending - or at least making meagre dollars go further - played a significant part in this malaise.

One of our number, Gary Griffiths, was a meat inspector before joining the Army Band. He had occasion to be in the ordinary ranks mess kitchen one day and saw a side of meat he first assumed to be mutton. Then Gary noticed its grading stripes which all meat carried and, presumably, still carry following processing today. Gary said this “mutton” was Australian. Presuming Australia’s grade identification system was the same as New Zealand’s, which is what he was conversant with, he came away with just one kernel (pardon the play on words) of thought. The meat was goat meat AND ONLY MARGINALLY BETTER THAN PET FOOD. We had no idea, at the time, our ANZAC governments wanted to punish us so badly for doing, what was after all, their bidding. But they did and for a long time following.

Daily visits to our mess usually came in three guises. First, those who ate there rolled up three times a day for their gruel. Second, official visits by both orderly officers and orderly sergeants of the day. Third, immediately following and between meals came birds. If memory serves me correctly they were Mynah birds, a native bird of India now widely seen in New Zealand too but usually only north of latitude 40 degrees south. Waipukurau has a lot to answer for!

In themselves these birds were fairly harmless. Their calling cards, however, liberally spread on selected dining tables were quite another matter. When Wellington Lines had its complete 1RNZIR Battalion encamped there, as it did for our TOD’s first year, then a scramble to get a clean table was a simple matter of “he who is first and dares wins!”

On one occasion three factions of the visitors to our OR’s Mess came – more or less – head to head. One baggy musician, who shall remain anonymous but his name was Richard (Dick) Howe, having been luckless enough to score a table covered with Mynah calling cards, decided to complain. His complaint was duly noted by this day’s duty orderly officer and, wonder of wonders, actually reported. No doubt processed in triplicate, whilst wasting a couple of sheets of carbon paper between pages on an old Remington typewriter, a copy found its way to Headquarters Company’s Officer Commanding, Major Armstrong. Baggy Howe was summonsed.

continued overleaf...
The perfect Christmas stocking filler for all music lovers!
The New Zealand Army Band’s brand new CD recording ...

Not only does this recording feature sentimental favourites such as Nightfall in Camp, Abide With Me, St Clement and Sunset, but it also offers up a pageant of polish with items such as The Duchess of Kent, Handel’s Scipio, Mozart’s Figaro and John Ritchie’s Flourish for an Occasion.

The grandeur continues with The President, Scotland the Brave, Charles Upham March, Sons of The Brave, Great Little Army, Glorious Victory, New Colonial, Wellington, Invercargill, Appreciation and our very own National Anthem!

$20 plus $5P&P

Copies are available from: Sgt. Murray Johnston
1 Powles Road, Burnham Military Camp,
Burnham 7600
email: army.band@nzdf.mil.nz

Also available at: www.cdbaby.com

Bdsm Richard (Dick) Howe attacking a tin of “Silvo” in 1RNZIR’s Band Room store at Terendak Garrison early in 1969.
The Mo Zealand Army Band Are Taking Men’s Health Seriously!!

This November will see a number of NZDF-pers throwing away their dignity for a month as they raise money for men’s health issues by growing their best Moustaches.

To follow our progress and donate go to http://moteam.co/the-mo-zealand-army-band

Day 1!! A few of the boys clean shaved and serious about Mo-vement

NZAB Golden Jubilee Concert Tour

by Cpl Kevin Hickman

In late November the band is undertaking a concert tour of the upper North Island.

We will be performing in Matamata, Tauranga, Whakatane and Whangarei. Please see below for details and we look forward to catching up with as many of you as possible.

Matamata
Sunday 23rd of November 3:00pm, Matamata Memorial Hall.
Tickets available from The Storyteller, 58-60 Arawa St, Matamata.

Tauranga
Monday 24th of November 7:30pm, Baycourt Theatre.
Tickets available from Ticketek.

Whakatane
Tuesday 25th of November 7:30pm, Whakatane Little Theatre.
Tickets available from Health 2000, 45D Kakahoroa Drive, Whakatane.

Whangarei
Thursday 27th of November 7:30pm, Capitaine Bougainville Theatre.
Tickets available from Ticketek.

4 April 2014
Lisa (Flossy) Crawley’s Farewell

by Cpl Kevin Hickman

On October the 30th, a function was held to farewell S1018939 PTE Lisa Crawley from the unit. After 7 years loyal service Lisa has decided to take up an opportunity to train as an electrical fitter.

Lisa first joined the services in April 2005 as a territorial musician in the Ohakea Air Force Band. In May 2007 she transferred to the NZAB originally as a baritone player. As soon as was possible Lisa moved onto tenor horn where she has been a valued member of that section for a number of years. DOM CAPT Graham Hickman spoke very highly of Lisa’s service to the unit, and Lisa then gave a great and at times emotional farewell speech.

Most of you will know Lisa for the work that she has done as Editor of EDC for the last 5 years. Lisa has also kept herself busy in many other roles during her time in the army including NZAB Quintet IC and Secretary of the Baggies Bar. Lisa has also been heavily involved with the New Zealand Brass Band Association Secondary Schools band, including being the Manager of this year’s course. Lisa, you will be missed, especially by the Comms Cell Team. We all wish you the best of Luck for your future endeavours.

Pte Kyle Lawson Does It Again

by Cpl Kevin Hickman

Last Month PTE Kyle Lawson won the New Zealand Brass Foundation’s inaugural Young Brass Musician of the year competition held in Wellington.

Kyle was selected to participate after auditioning for the competition, along with 4 other brass musicians from around the country including NZAB member PTE Andrew Yorkstone on trombone.

Each competitor played a 15 minute programme accompanied by the New Zealand Champion Brass Band Wellington Brass. The standard was extremely high, and it is a great achievement that Kyle managed to come out on top.

Congratulations to both Kyle and Andrew!!!
A Day in the Life...

LCpl Brian Eckersley looking good as always

Nice smile Cpl Peterson

Nice watch Nutzy, we miss you

A picture tells a 1000 words!!

Padre James Maloney blesses NZAB Tewhatewha

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