

RNZE SAPPERS NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 201 November 2018



Invictus Games 2018 Australia

On the cusp of her third Invictus Games, New Zealand Team co-captain Sergeant Kelly Whittle is excited for her teammates and colleagues from other nations to experience the benefits of participating at Invictus Games Sydney 2018. Whittle, who is co-captain with Gareth Pratt, said she had little understanding of the Invictus Games concept before she competed at the inaugural event, in London in 2014. However, the army medic – who has post-traumatic stress disorder and physical injuries following deployment to Afghanistan – left feeling uplifted by having taken part and from feeling the support of the service personnel community and general public. “I wasn’t sure what to expect, nor did I have much insight into what the Invictus Games was, but I walked away with the greatest admiration for what HRH Prince Harry had put together,” said Whittle. “The camaraderie that many of us have with members of the other participating nations – many of us have already made lifelong friends with those of who have similar injuries, which also helps with our own recovery. “It’s also about meeting new team members from new nations and showing them what the Invictus Games is all about, the spirit that is found, that there is no judgement, and that we’re all there to help one another through some of the toughest times of our lives by experiencing one of the best times together.” New Zealand’s team of 24 competitors will join participants from 17 other nations at the fourth edition of the Invictus Games, in Sydney from 20-27 October. More than 500 current and former service personnel will take part. The New Zealand team will compete in archery, athletics, indoor rowing, hand cycling, powerlifting, road cycling, sailing, swimming, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair rugby and wheelchair tennis. Whittle said she was looking forward to putting her athletic determination to the test.

“I am a big fan of wheelchair rugby, what an awesome sport to participate in – and even better that people with many different disabilities are able to participate,” she said. “I also enjoy both shot put and discus, more so for the competitive streak in me and wanting to throw further each time I pick them up. Sport creates a place for me to zone out, forget all the issues that are bothering me and helps remarkably with my mental health.”

Invictus Games also helps from a wider perspective, Whittle said, offering participating nation communities the chance to recognise their military personnel and better understand the issues that can arise from service. “The support of the public, whether great or small, in the eyes of the participants, means the world. It’s great to see the support being shown all over the world, and also for us in New Zealand. It can and will help many suffering individuals more than they will ever know.”



Grant Philip New Zealand Army career ended nearly 30 years ago when devastating accident left him a tetraplegic but is now back in the military fold, thanks to the **Invictus Games**.

Grant Philip was just 18 and in the RNZE Army’s Territorial Force, with plans to join the Regular Force, when he fell awkwardly from a diving pontoon at the beach on a summer’s evening.



RNZE Corps Silverware

Here is a selection of Corps silverware in the ECMC. There are others out round New Zealand but we do not know where they are. When earlier units were disbanded some of these items were passed on to local bodies or went into private collections. We would like to find them and get them returned to the Corps

Abbott Challenge Shield

Presented to Auckland Engineer Volunteers and was first awarded in 1902. It was awarded from 1902 to 1913 and resumed again after the Great War but only for 1920 and 1922. Thirteen names are recorded on this shield. Sgt W.L. Robinson won it in 1903 and again when he was commissioned a year later. Four sappers have won the shield as have four sergeants and five Cpls/LCpls.



Kitchener Stag hound Tray

Presented to the New Zealand Army in 1958 by the Third Lord Kitchner and given by the Army Board to RNZE for safe keeping. This tray was presented to together with a Rose water dish and ewer to General Viscount Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, of the Vaal, and of Aspell in 1900. It is some 700mm long, 570 mm wide and when sitting flat on a table is 32mm high. It gains its name from the pierced foliate border which shows stags being hunted by hounds.



Rosewater Ewer and tray

Presented together with the Stag hound tray above. It is Spanish or Portuguese and was made about 1760. It is termed a Rococco Silver Gilt Rose water ewer (or jug 270mm high) and silver gilt dish (490 mm diameter)

The Kitchener Urn

A finely embossed Geo I style presentation silver gilt urn and cover. Decorated with lion masks within cartouches containing foliage; Engraved with the Arms of London and presented to Lord Kitchener. Inscribed London 1902. 20 inches high with wooden stand. Given to RNZE for safe keeping by the Army Board in August 1958.



The Silver Sapper

The original Silver Sapper inscribed, "Presented to the Officers of the Royal NZ Engineers by their Brother Officers of the Royal Australian Engineers as a token of abiding friendship and esteem 1960". It was misplaced - lost - stolen late 1990s early 2000s and was replaced. Current statuette 494mm (15.5 inches) high on wooden stand.



.The Webster Brothers Shooting Cup

Made by Mappin and Webb, Sheffield, 1904. Shooting trophy used from 1906 to 1922. Won by No 8 Coy Garrison Artillery Volunteers 1906; 1907; No 2 Coy Garrison Artillery Volunteers, 1908; 1909; 1910. Under new conditions won by Div Signal Coy, Auckland, 1915; No 2 Company Railway Engineers 1916; No 6 Coy NZ Garrison Artillery, 1917; No 3 Fd Coy NZ Engineers 1918; 1919; 1920; 1921; Northern Depot NZ Field Engineers 1922. Ends. This was given to the ECMC after being in a garden shed for many years lacking good care. It was black with tarnish and has now been restored. It has now been mounted on a wooden base and is competed for by RNZE Units. The unit name and date is inscribed on a new plate on the wooden base and after the presentation to the unit the trophy is returned to the ECMC for safekeeping.



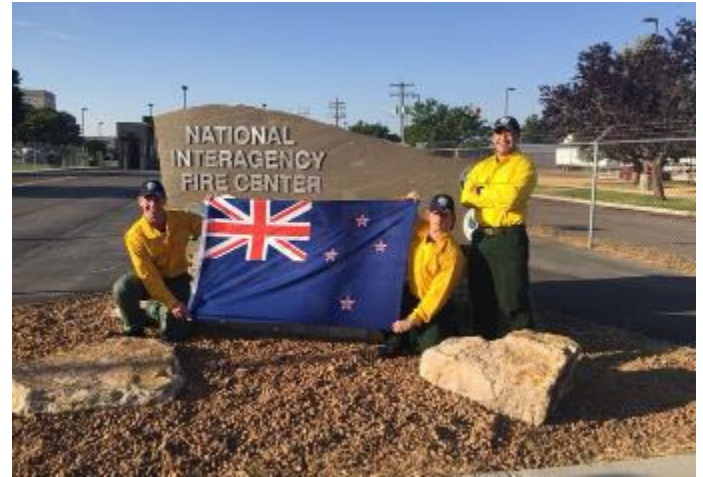
There are others in Sapper units but we only have partial records of what they hold.

These are some of the items held in the ECMC we look for financial assistance to help pay the annual insurance account on these items.



Emergency Responders participated in OP VULCAN and OP MAPLE VULCAN, both the United States and Canada

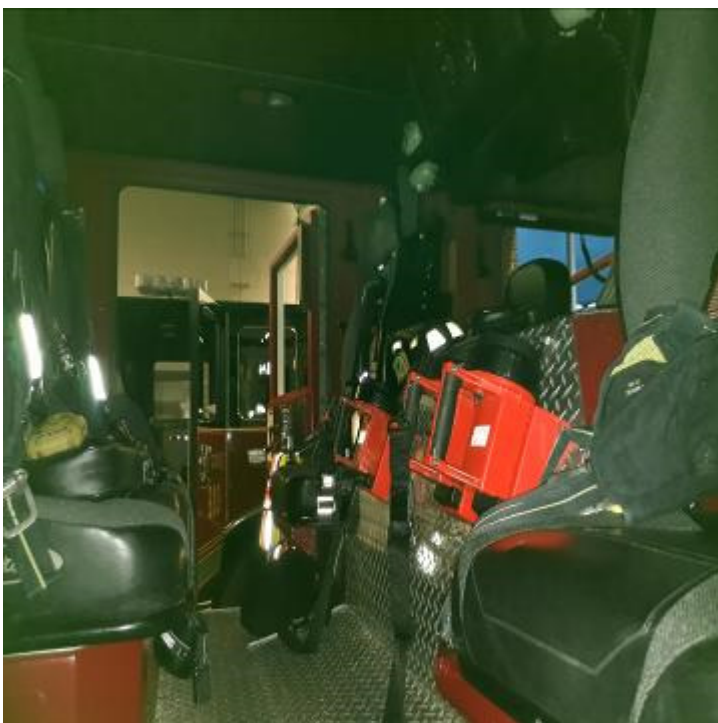
Respectively providing a rural response as part of a wider Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) deployment. We have continued to provide instructor support to pre deployment training and we continue to deliver leading edge military engineering solutions for NZDF.



They work up to 15 hours each day, in temperatures as high as 43 degrees Celsius, but the chance to help fire-ravaged communities halfway around the globe makes it all worth it.

Nine NZDF firefighters were part of New Zealand contingents sent to help battle the massive fires in the US and Canada.





Photos of my visit to Leesburg Station Virginia USA



**The 3rd RNZE BRANCH
SAPPERS ASSOCIATION (Inc.) NZ**

OFFICE HOLDERS ARE:

Chairman Bernie Rose 03 3131569

Vice-chairman: Eric Elley 03 3107385

Secretary: Colin Walsh 03 3423272

3 Branch Get togethers

These are informal gatherings which are being well supported; we hope to see new faces turning up each time. These are held at the South Island Sappers HQs, the Papanui RSA. Any time after 1700hrs, on the second Friday of the even months of the year, See the dates below, Food is available, as are Drinks. Come along and see who turns up.

Events coming up during the next twelve months:

2018

8 June Friday Night Get together

10 August Friday Night Get together

15 October Sappers Day Papanui RSA/Burnham MC (awaiting confirmation on venue)

14 December Friday Night Get together

2019

8 February Friday Night Get together

12 April Friday Night Get together

25 April Anzac Day Parade at Papanui RSA

14 June Friday night Get together

9 August Friday Night Get together

Sappers Wives / Partners Luncheon:

2 monthly luncheons have been such a great success although numbers are small those of us that meet for a drink, chat and lunch have a great time together.. We welcome anyone who would like to join in. Come along to our next luncheon on the Tuesday 8th May at the Papanui RSA at 1200hrs. If you have any enquires please ring me, Janice Rose on 03 3131569.

The Cu Chi Tunnels Vietnam.

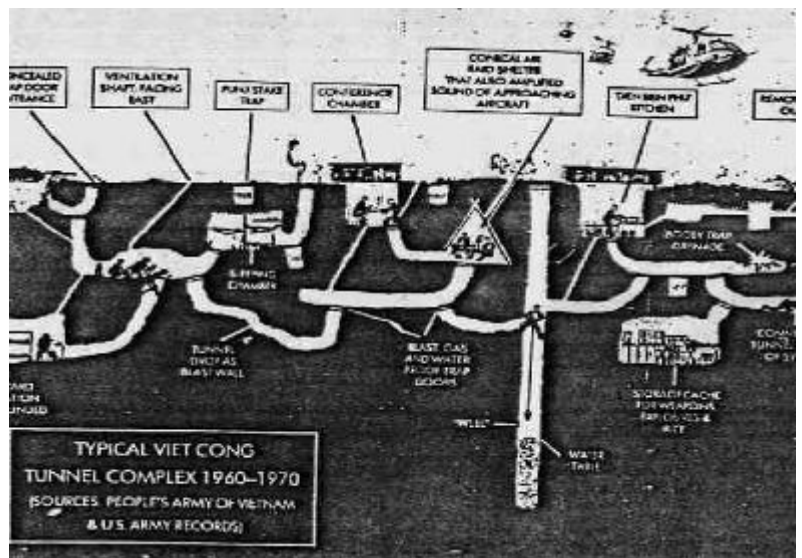
During the war in Vietnam, thousands of people in the Vietnamese province of Cu Chi lived in an elaborate network of underground tunnels. The tunnels were used by Viet Cong guerrillas as hiding spots during combat, as well as serving as communication and supply routes, hospitals, food and weapon caches and living quarters for numerous guerrilla fighters. The tunnel systems were of great importance to the Viet Cong in their resistance to American forces, and played a major role in North Vietnam winning the war.

The Cu Chi tunnels were built over a period of 25 years that began sometime in the late 1940s during the war against the French. The excavations were used mostly for communication between villages and to evade French army sweeps of the area. When the National Liberation Front (NLF) insurgency began around 1960, the old tunnels were repaired and new extensions were excavated. Within a few years the tunnel system assumed enormous strategic importance, and most of Cu Chi district and the nearby area came under firm Viet Cong control.

The secret tunnels, which joined village to village and often passes beneath American bases, were not only fortifications for Viet Cong guerillas, but were also the center of community life. Hidden beneath the destroyed villages were underground schools and public spaces where couples were married and private places where lovers met. There were even theaters inside the tunnels where performers entertained with song and dance and traditional stories.

But life in the tunnels was difficult. Air, food and water were scarce and the tunnels were infested with ants, poisonous centipedes, scorpions, spiders and vermin. Most of the time, guerrillas would spend the day in the tunnels working or resting and come out only at night to scavenge for supplies, tend their crops or engage the enemy in battle. Sometimes, during periods of heavy bombing or American troop movement, they would be forced to remain underground for many days at a time. Sickness was rampant among the people living in the tunnels, especially malaria, which was the second largest cause of death next to battle wounds. Almost everyone had intestinal parasites of significance. Only about 6,000 of the 16,000 cadres who fought in the tunnels survived the war.

Throughout the course of the war, the tunnels in Ch Chi proved to be a source of frustration for the U.S. military in Saigon. The US and Australian tried a variety of methods to detect and infiltrate the tunnels but all were met with failure. Large scale ground operations involving tens of thousands of troops were launched. They ravaged rice paddies, bulldozed huge swathes of jungle, and villages were evacuated and razed. The Americans also sprayed chemical defoliants on the area aerially and a few months later ignited the tinder-dry vegetation with gasoline and napalm. By a strange twist of fate, the intense heat of the napalm interacted with the wet tropical air only to create cloudbursts that extinguished the fires. The Viet Cong guerrillas remained safe and sound inside their tunnels.



Unable to win the battle with chemicals, the US army began sending men called 'tunnel rats' down into the tunnels. Armed only with a gun, a knife, a flashlight and a piece of string these tunnel rats would enter a tunnel by themselves and travel inch-by-inch cautiously looking ahead for booby traps. The job of a tunnel rat was fraught with immense dangers. The entrance holes in the ground were barely wide enough for the shoulders. After a couple of meters of slipping and wriggling straight down, the narrow tunnel took a U-turn back towards the surface, then twisted again before heading off horizontally further. The light from the battery powered lamp wasn't enough to pierce the darkness inside the tunnels, and there was no room to turn around and retreat. The tunnel rats, who were often involved in underground fire fights, sustained appallingly high casualty rates.

The Americans then began using German shepherd dogs trained to use their keen sense of smell to locate trapdoors and guerillas. The tunnel people responded by washing themselves with American soap which gave off a scent the canines identified as friendly. Captured US uniforms were put out to confuse the dogs further. Most importantly, the dogs were not able to spot booby traps. So many dogs were killed or maimed that their horrified handlers then refused to send them into the tunnels.



Finally, by the late 1960s, the American began carpet bombing Cu Chi destroying several portions of the tunnels along with everything else around. The gesture was militarily useless by then because the USA was already on its way out of the war. The tunnels had served their purpose.

The 120-km long complex of tunnels at Cu Chi has since been preserved and turned into a war memorial park. The tunnels are a popular tourist attraction, and visitors are invited to crawl around in the safer parts of the tunnel system. Some tunnels have been made larger to accommodate the larger size of Western tourists, while low-power lights have been installed in several of them to make traveling through them easier and booby traps have been clearly marked. Underground conference rooms where campaigns such as the Tet Offensive were planned in 1968 have been restored, and visitors may enjoy a simple meal of food that Viet Cong fighters would have eaten.



RNZE Sapper In Washington DC

Arlington National Cemetery

What an amazing place. So beautiful yet so somber.

Words can not begin to describe how I felt when I visited Arlington today. To see all those men and women who fought for USA and theirs and our freedom. It makes you so proud to have served as a soldier there was a lot to see and a lot of walking. I spent hours walking around the grounds and only saw a brief glimpse of the cemetery. For me personally the Changing of the Guards at the tomb of the unknown soldier and the laying of the NZ Sappers Association wreath at the Tomb was the most incredible experience I have witnessed and participated in such a display of honor and pride for all involved. I was mesmerized by the ritual and felt a welt of tears as to the honor that is bestowed on the unknown soldiers (*just may have been a Sapper*) who are known but only to God.

It's a must visit if you get to Washington DC because it will forever be etched in your memory as it is in mine.







3 Field Squadron held a Formal Dinner at the Wos & Sgts Mess on the 20th July 2018 this was attended by Maj Kevin Fee OC 3 Fd Sqn and members of the Squadron as well as past Sappers of 3 Field Squadron.

The formal dinner this was to allow our younger sappers to experience a Formal Dinner and its protocol's.



Maj Fee addressing the Squadron before the evening Toasts



Past and Serving Sappers enjoying the evening and discussing old times and friends

Association Treasurer's Report

BNZ Investments

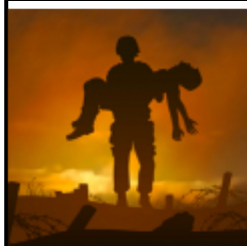
Account	Account #	Maturity Date	Int	Balance
Fixed term	57617561-03005	08-12-18	3.40%	11251.48
Term Deposit	57617561-03007	08-06-19	4.43%	8431.57
Term Deposit	57617561-03008	08-06-19	3.40%	7882.85
Term Deposit	57617561-03009	08-06-20	3.45%	8017.5
Nth Branch	57617561-03011	10-08-19	3.50%	7000

Investment Total **\$42583.40**

Totals

ExE Acc 2582.77
 Investments 42583.4
 Branches 6835.09

Totals \$52001.26



IF YOU NEED TO TALK OR HELP



If you need to talk to someone here is free helplines operating 24/7: NZDF 24/7 HELPLINE: 0800 NZDF 4U (0800 693 348 or 0800 189 910)

Veterans Affairs NZ: 0800 483 8372 (0800 4 VETERAN)

VITAE (NZDF Civilians): 0508 664 981

NODUFF (Volunteer Veterans NGO): 022 307 1557 (noduff.ngo@gmail.com)

RSA: 027 217 2608

DEPRESSION HELPLINE: 0800 111 757

LIFELINE: 0800 543 354



Defence Force graduates five new Explosive Detector Dog teams

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) has graduated its latest group of four-legged recruits. The five Labrador dogs are the first to graduate from a new all-of-government counter explosive hazards (CEH) and explosive detector dog programme, where they will be an additional capability for the NZDF's Explosive Ordnance Detection Squadron.

The dogs and their handlers are from 1 New Zealand Brigade, 2 Engineering Regiment, at Linton in Manawatu.

The dogs and their handlers have spent the past 10 weeks undergoing extensive training at the New Zealand Police Dog Training Centre in Wellington. The dogs have been trained to identify a number of target odours and search patterns.

Military Working Dog manager Alan Inkpen said the explosive detection dog teams provided a valuable skillset that could be deployed domestically and globally, to reduce the risk to NZDF personnel and the civilian population from improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

"The dogs are trained to assist with route, vehicle and venue searches as part of the layered approach used by the New Zealand Army to defeat the use of IEDs," Inkpen said.

"Our dogs can identify any suspicious objects faster than traditional ways of searching. This force protection measure reduces the risk to human life.

"The Defence Force has deployed dog and handler teams before, including to Afghanistan to identify IEDs, during recent Royal visits, and to conduct venue searches during the 2018 Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast."

This is the first time the NZDF has procured dogs from the New Zealand Police Detector Dog breeding programme. All four Labradors are from the "I" litter and were fostered by families before starting their detector dog training with the NZDF.

The contribution the foster families have made to the success of the dogs' training was recognised at the graduation.

"The dogs are still young, only 11 months old so we undertook a significant amount of environmental training in order to simulate any number of situations the dogs may encounter, including aircraft and emergency vehicle noise, shopping malls, going up escalators or in an elevator," Mr Inkpen said.

When working the dogs wear the Sabre Tactical Harness manufactured in New Zealand and developed by the New Zealand Army and the New Zealand Police. The harness can be fitted with additional protective panels to protect the dog's organs.

"It is crucial that we can provide the dogs with the same protective gear that we would afford to our soldiers, so in addition to the harness the dogs are also trained to wear protective boots when working in hazardous environments, as well as ear protection and goggles when needed," Mr Inkpen said.

Complementing the training programme, all handlers have completed an animal welfare and veterinary package, including emergency animal care, taught by Massey University. This training enables the handlers to provide emergency treatment to their dogs if they are injured while deployed.

The teams will soon relocate to their new base at Linton Military Camp, where a new facility to house the dogs is being built.

Although based in Manawatu, the teams will be available for deployment throughout New Zealand and overseas as duties demand.

The handlers and dogs graduating are:

Sapper Elms and Ivan
Sapper Cunningham and Iris
Sapper O'Keefe and Inky
Sapper Dinsdale and Iggy
Sapper O'Shannessy and India





Graduating Dog Handlers stand at ease with their Explosive Detector Dogs.



Sapper O'Keefe and Inky graduated today from the new all-of-government counter explosive hazards and explosive detector dog programme. .

Performance knows no gender!

Congratulations to Explosive Detector Dog Iris and her handler LCPL Tawhara who took out first place in the Explosive Detection category at the National Police and Detector Dog Championships held in Upper Hutt this week. Also representing NZDF and taking out fourth place was SPR Broderick with dog Bok.

Competing against handler teams from NZ Police and Aviation Security the NZDF teams had to complete a range of different tasks over an intense three day period of competition.

Iris is a recent addition to the NZDF, she just graduated from ten weeks of explosive detector training on 29 August, and has only been working with LCPL Tawhara for about three weeks—quite the achievement—while Bok has been with NZDF for 18 months. Both dog and handler team showed the high calibre of skill they possess in order to successfully compete at the highest level in New Zealand.

“Iris is a strong dog, so even though she is young and only newly-trained I was hoping she would do well but I didn’t expect us to win. She worked so well under a lot of pressure,” said LCPL Tawhara.

“The hardest thing about the competition is it is timed, so you have a large area to search but only limited time. This is where the dog and handler partnership is so important. It is my job as the handler to take a systematic approach with the dog to the search and it is her job to take me to where the explosive is located. It was a tough competition and there wasn’t much between the teams in points.”



NZDF Explosive Detector Dogs are an NZ Army capability based within 2nd Engineer Regiment at Linton Military Camp but available for deployment throughout New Zealand and overseas. The dogs are trained to find explosives and or Improvised Explosive Devices and a dog and handler team is one of the fastest ways to search a large area. The dogs are extremely accurate at locating any explosives, which is proved by Iris and her win at this competition.

Iris is from the first litter of Labradors bred by NZ Police Breeding Programme for the NZDF. It is

hoped Iris will be the mother to the first litter of puppies in a combined NZDF and NZ Police breeding programme starting soon.



Explosive Detector Dog Bok at the prizegiving for the National Police and Detector Dog Championships.

Sappers Day 2018



Brisbane based Sappers Sappers Days at Beaudesert RSL



Lloyd Searly. Russell Young Andy Jay Jordan. George Perth WA.



Sapper's Service St Davids, Khyber Pass, Auckland



Kevin and Les Sappers Day after thirty eight years Perth WA



Happy Sappers Day. in Palmy



Sappers Day from TG TAJI, IRAQ



3Fd Sqn & 3 Branch Papanui RSA



Linton M.C. 2 Regt RNZE Sappers Day Parade



Lt Col Terry McDonald CO of 2nd Engineer Regiment

Greetings Sappers of the RNZE,

I trust this email finds you well wherever you are in the world! This is the third quarterly update for 2018 to let you know what has happened during this previous quarter and about what is going to happen across the Corps in the next. After a busy second quarter, the Corps has continued to maintain a relatively high exercise, exchange, course and deployment tempo. We have continued to have our members deployed to MANAWA (Iraq), MOHUA (Iraq), SUDDEN (South Sudan), TROY (Dubai) and FARAD (Sinai) as well as rotations preparing to go. Our Emergency Responders participated in OP VULCAN and OP MAPLE VULCAN, both the United States and Canada respectively providing a rural response as part of a wider Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) deployment. We have continued to provide instructor support to pre deployment training and we continue to deliver leading edge military engineering solutions for NZDF.

In New Zealand, training has transitioned from largely individually focused soldier and sappers skills to collective. To facilitate this switch of focus, the quarter has seen all sub units of the Regiment and wider Corps participating in Corps week and Corps sports, including our Regimental 25th birthday. A spirited competition across multiple codes that enabled a shift of focus prior to gearing up for the collective training period. Through this period was also the Sappers Ball in Palmerston North, a great event that was well organised by the committee with great music (provided by a Sapper band) and thoroughly enjoyed by those that attended. The Regiment was also Duty Unit for the Brigade which saw members being sent across the country to perform a number of ceremonial duties.

SME is successfully delivering or delivered the RNZE Section Commanders Course, the Intermediate Fire Course, RNZE Demolitions RCO and is currently delivering the RNZE Carpentry Intermediate. RNZE also completed the Explosive Detection Dog course, integrating new handlers and dogs into the emerging Counter Explosive Hazards capability. 3 Fd Sqn have capitalised on their small boat work becoming an accredited RYA service provider, they have participated in EX PACIFIC KUKURI (Tekapo / Gurkha Unit), EX SARI BAIR 18 (Waiouru) and completed an Annual Weapons Qualification. 2 Fd Sqn has reconstituted post EX ARRAS 18 to prepare and hone their collective engineer skills before stepping into the combined arms training of SARI BARI 18 / EX UBIQUE 18. They have just redeployed from Waiouru supporting 1 (NZ) Brigade, forming the basis of Task Unit HOLDFAST (TU HOLDFAST) providing engineer support to live firing combat teams and completing assessed engineer specific tasks on the EX UBIQUE component. EX UBIQUE assessed three primary areas, obstacle emplacement, MGB construction and combined arms live fire breaching. The team achieved their missions and while the AAR is yet to occur, there was learning at all levels which was great to see. TU HOLDFAST remains engaged with EX SARI BARI for another week, while its main body reconstitutes. Of interest, EX UBIQUE 18 deployed the first NEA digitised classified SHQ, which provided a classified digital rear link to RHQ main (Linton based). It was really pleasing to see our connectivity and C2 systems being exercised, there will be more to come on that in the future. 2 Fd Sqn have also welcomed into the unit the first EOD team from Special Operations that will be a key enabler to the Counter Explosives Hazards capability. 25 ESS has completed trade compliance, Annual Weapons Qualifications and is now stepping into the Military Construction (MILCON) period until years end. There are 15 projects planned to be conducted during the construction season that achieve a tangible benefit for the supported organisations (such as NZDF) but also achieve training outcomes within a tactical environment (such as on EX UBIQUE 18).

Looking forward, SME have a full course loading towards the end of the year with RNZE Basic Plant Operators, RNZE Combat Engineer Senior and RNZE Explosive Method of Entry Courses. 3 Fd Sqn are gearing up to participate in EX PHANTOM MAJOR (Combat School support in Waiouru) and continuing to hone their Live Field Firing skills. 2 Fd Sqn will be supporting the introduction into service of the new Multi-Purpose Decontamination Station (MPDS) as well as the new small inflatable boats. 25 ESS will complete MILCON and undertake preparations for HADR Task Unit lead for any Plan Pacific Relief activation during the 18/19 cyclone season.

Other things that you need to be aware of, in no particular order:

Sappers Day 2018 – Sappers Day 2018 falls on a Monday this year. The Regiment is planning a parade to mark the event for promotions and the awarding of medals. There will be more details through both the chain of command and via our facebook page as an event.

Family Day 2018 – The delayed family day is likely to occur in late November 2018. There will be more details coming as we get closer to the time.

2018 NZ Army Innovation Award – 2 Engineer Regiment was recently presented the award for the most innovative unit in the 2018 NZ Army Innovation Challenge. The judging criteria was based on idea generation through fostering innovation, innovation culture both command led and soldier focussed, as well as implementation. The award identifies that at all levels within the Regiment, Sappers have successfully focussed on an improvement- driven innovation cultures. The award was physically presented to the RSM by the Deputy Chief of Army.

Te Auraki – Sappers supported the NZDF Operation Te Auraki, the repatriation of servicemen who were interred overseas. RNZE has a single member brought home, SPR Waitawhiti Toni who was reinterred at Torere Marae, approx 25km east of Opotiki in the Bay of Plenty. The community really welcomed the team and it was a privilege for serving Sappers to be a part of.

SME(AS) Attachment - Recently the Regiment deployed two SNCO to the School of Military Engineering (Australia) to support the ROBC summative exercise, EX KOKODA. They were seconded to the course in the role of Reconnaissance Sergeants to provide a testing environment for them and start developing a SNCO cohort with RAE. They represented the Corps well with positive feedback from SME(AS) staff as well as our SNCO enjoying the experience. This is something that I am keen to continue, leaning in to exploit training opportunities where we can. It also confirmed for senior leadership within the Corps that our Section Commanders course is not producing the same training outcomes as the old Intermediate Combat Engineer course, something that we are now looking to address. We continue to seek other course opportunities that we are working on with route clearance commanders, section commanders and RAE Reserve ROBC. There will be more to follow in due course.

Inter-Corps Sports – The RNZE team competed in the Skudder Cup competition as part of the wider NZ Army Corps Rugby. Two great games were played, however ultimately RNZE lost to the RNZIR Corps Team 21-17. I would like to acknowledge and thank the team that worked hard to represent us on the field, you played well and lived the Sapper ethos! We are looking forward to next year! At the same time as the rugby was being played, the RNZE Football team were also competing against an RNZIR team – we did triumph in this code winning 5-2! Great work to all involved in the sappers sports codes.

Quarry Responsibility Handover - RNZE has now transitioned the responsibility of Waiouru / NZDF Quarries away from the Regiment and into Defence Estate and Infrastructure. DEI continue to explore the contracting out road maintenance in Waiouru. It is still unclear how this will impact RNZE, however I am confident we will retain the Waiouru Plant Detachment and continue to work on the roading assets in Waiouru. This is not the first time this has been explored as an option, and again, more to follow as this progresses.

EOD Trade – the Chief of Army's directive to formalise the transition of the EOD trade away from RNZIR to RNZE is in draft and with Army General Staff. The proposed date for this to occur is 15 October 2018, to coincide with Sappers Day. In short, the trade will be RNZE and new arrivals into the EOD Trade will complete BCE, however the trade will be managed (day to day and Career) through Regimental Colonel Special Operations. We welcome EOD back to the Sapper fold and look forward to greater engagement, particularly as an Expeditionary Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EEOD) Team has arrived into the Unit.

Corps History Book - You will be aware that the Corps History is nearing its final approach, after a considerable period of time, to completion. The final edit has been completed and it is due to go to print in October 2018. There remains a limited window, discounted offer, for the books that can be paid for online through bank transfer of \$50 per book for serving, \$60 for non-RNZE serving or retired personnel and an normal recommended retail price of \$69.99 (plus postage and handling). This is due to end on 28 September (this Friday). There are posters and online advertising for this, I would encourage you to get a copy. All currently serving Sappers have their names in the book, with a Corps nominal roll capturing you! We thank all involved with this project, from people providing input, oral histories, photos, book reviews, the author to deliver on behalf of Sappers all.

Private Public Partnerships - The Corps continues with its private public partnership with DownerNZ and is continuing to get placements in the Manawatu region to make it more local, enabling more opportunities to be taken without the travel / cost overhead. This continues to be championed by OC 25 ESS and the RSM.

New Capability – in the next few months the forward edge of the capability glacier is starting to land both within the School and Regiment. The vanguard of this delivery will be the MPDS, followed in quick succession by small boats and reverse osmosis. This presents a challenge in terms of training time, however expect a shift as the new equipment comes on board. There is also considerable work occurring to land pre-emptive (in some cases) infrastructure for these projects. The intention is to ensure that we have fit for purpose infrastructure in place and generate capital works for 25 ESS / SME to leverage. The most pressing capability issue currently is that of Fire, specifically the domestic response and rural fire appliances. This is being addressed as a matter of urgency by both NZDF and MOD in conjunction with Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ). More to follow on this in due course.

2 Engr Regt structure changes – there has been an adjustment to a number of posts within the Regiment, particularly related to RHQ, ERS and 3 Fd Sqn. DCA recently approved the establishment of the SSM position at 3 Fd Sqn which will enable the formation of the sub unit HQ complete. This was created with a change around in two other posts, ERS SSM and TWO. In line with the REM17 review, there is a strong desire for all trades to generate breadth with each equally being given the opportunity to be sub unit SSM. While there is general alignment with sub units and trades (25 ESS – indentured, 2 Fd Sqn – Combat Engineer) this does not always occur and a diversity of trades within sub units further reinforces that we are the sum of our parts. As such, the SSM 3 Fd Sqn will be generally aligned with the Emergency Response trade, the TWO post (all trades) has been upgraded to WO1. I have also created a Fire Troop Commander position (3 Fd Sqn aligned however Linton based) that will work with Fire Masters as we seek to support the staff work with new fire appliances.

All of the events are open to non-serving sappers and personnel outside of the immediate Unit / School environment. If you would like to be involved or participate in any way, please let us know.

There are a few more key things that I believe we should celebrate, in no particular order. This list is not exhaustive and there are plenty more on our Corps social media sites, however the things worthy of individual mention are:

1. LCPL Tawhara, 2 Engr Regt who along with EDD Iris won the Explosive Detection Dog national competition recently. SPR Broderick and EDD Bok came fourth in the same competition. Well done!
2. OP VULCAN and OP MAPLE VULCAN teams – at little or no notice nine emergency responders deployed to both the United States and Canada for four weeks. The original deployment for our JNCO was as crew leaders, running teams of 10-15 fire fighters, they were promoted (based on skill and qualification) to Task Force Leader's running 5-6 teams of 10-15. This is no small achievement! Well done to all who deployed and your families, you did extremely well in trying conditions!
3. LCPL Andrew Good (3 FD SQN GS Sect Comd, Carp) raced in the Canterbury regional champs in the 10km race in mid August, and won gold in a strong field. He was selected to represent the Canterbury region at the national champs in Hamilton where he also performed well.
4. LT Katherine Lambert, RE who is attached to 2 Engineer Regiment until Nov 18 as part of Exercise Long Look. Welcome aboard!
5. CPL Hippolite – Congratulations for being top student on the RNZE Section Commanders course, well done!
6. LCPL Phillip Paynter-Muller (3 FD SQN) who was awarded the 1(NZ) Bde H&S Award for the month of August.

As we look towards the end of the year and into next, we are hoping for a quiet cyclone season for the South Pacific, however events unfolding in the last few weeks in both the Philippines and the United States may demonstrate what we have to look forward to. We are preparing for a long fire season and the impact that will have on our Emergency Responders as well as training in general. Course tempo will remain high, however our adjusted training model should start to provide some relief.

The last quarter has had some relief in terms of tempo in some areas, that we achieved EX UBIQUE 18 is thanks to the hard work of all involved, particularly within the RHQ and TU HQ, but across every level - the Corps continues to deliver and address some of our latent skills. As we head towards the final push for 2018, I still very much encourage you all to make the most of the time you have to take leave during block leave periods and when you can, get your leave balances down. We are also fast closing in on posting season which will see a considerable amount of movement within the Corps – as we prepare for handovers / takeovers lets make sure our personnel reporting is sorted and we are handing over reporting in a good state. I mentioned it in the last update, but it is worthy of reinforcement, I would ask you all to check on your mates, a five minute conversation or coffee to ask 'how are you doing?' is worth the effort to make sure our team stays intact. We each have pressures, whether that be at work or home, let's make sure that we look after each other!

Keep up the good work and don't forget to follow us on social media to stay updated!

I Nga Wahi Katoa

LTCOL Terry McDonald

Commanding Officer - 2ER, 2ND ENGINEER REGIMENT, RNZE
New Zealand Army



A Rome Plow operator in Vietnam, clearing land with a dozer and executing one of the most dangerous and deadly missions then carried out by Army Engineers



Swampy's first grader 3 Fd Plant Troop Burnham

RNZE Plantie Centre Fold

For that old Plantie
that wishes if only we
had one of those in my
day



**This is what I call “esprit de corps”
What a pity as a Corps or an Association
we didn’t invest in a vineyard we would
have had a lot of happy old sappers now.**

Retired French Soldiers Make Wine

“*Tu n’abandonnes jamais les tiens, ni au combat, ni dans la vie.*” These words grace the back label of *Esprit de Corps Grand Cuvée*, a Vermentino from Côtes de Provence Sainte-Victoire. It means, “You never abandon your own, not in combat, nor in life.”

The phrase references Article VII of the French Foreign Legion’s Code of Honor, which is a hint at the bottle’s unlikely provenance: a retirement home for former legionnaires. Nestled in postcard-perfect vineyards in Provence, the Domaine du Capitaine Danjou winery is the antithesis of abandonment. It provides lodging, purpose, and, most importantly, brotherhood. Leave it to the land of *grands crus* to properly care for its veterans through wine—sales of *Esprit de Corps Grand Cuvée* and other bottles help pay for the institution.



Set off the main road from the medieval village of Puyloubier, the Domaine has 100 acres of vines spread on gentle slopes around the estate. Along the Champs Elysees, the cheekily named path that extends between the vineyards, the Syrah vines are tidily trellised, stretching uniformly in straight rows. Further out, the Grenache grapes hang from gnarled, solitary bush vines. Armed with secateurs, men work with military precision, clipping off dead branches. The work is methodical, physical, and particularly challenging on days when the ferocious mistral wind whips through. But the men are undaunted; they belong, after all, to an elite military force. “All their life they’ve been ordered around ... go here, do that,” explains vineyard manager Adjutant-Chef Alan Lonjarret.

The French Foreign Legion has been a unique institution since King Louis-Philippe created it in 1831. Its initial composition of criminals and foreigners on the run—soldiers get a new identity and French citizenship in exchange for three years of service—fed its reputation as a rowdy band of mercenaries. Hardened by training and punishments, which included being tied to a wagon and dragged for falling behind on 40-kilometer marches, the soldiers were even brute in play: In the drinking game Buffalo, two men down a bottle of vermouth, then charge each other head on, resulting in severe concussions or death. The modern version of this notorious multi-national military cadre (soldiers hail from 150 countries, and 12% are French-born) is less savage, yet still embodies the fierce *fraternité* born from men leaving their homelands to pledge allegiance to the Legion.

How did the Legion go from battling enemies to bottling wine? In 1954, the First Indochina War left hundreds of young legionnaires injured. These soldiers, who were mostly German, Czech, and Hungarian, were too injured to return home, but in unfamiliar territory in France. In response, the Legion opened IILE, *Institution des Invalides de la Légion Étrangère*, to care for their brothers in need. They purchased a 17th-century chateau set beneath Sainte-Victoire, the stunning limestone mountain ridge made famous in Cézanne’s paintings. When they discovered the vineyards surrounding the sprawling estate were prime *terroir*, they stopped growing wheat and started making wine. The name, Domaine du Capitaine Danjou, comes from the revered officer who shared a bottle of wine with his soldiers before dying in the famed Battle of Camarón—a seminal event in the Legion’s history that is commemorated each year.

To live in wine country, a veteran must have completed his service with a good behavior certificate, be single, respect the rules of communal living, and participate in the center’s activities, which include book-binding, ceramics, a uniform museum, and winemaking. These projects keep the soldiers’ brains and bodies busy while helping to fund the center—Lonjarret describes the life and work as occupational therapy.

Many countries' veterans struggle to integrate back into civilian life and find purpose outside the military, but the problem is especially acute for legionnaires. Having shed their nationalities and left friends and family behind, foreign-born soldiers often base their identities on the Legion itself. Retirement means losing home, community, and employment all at once. In his article "The Hard Truth About the Foreign Legion," Max Hastings writes about how legionnaires "find the rigors of service life less onerous than coping with the daily choices and decisions demanded of a civilian." So while the IILE houses wounded veterans, the fields that fill with camo-wearing men picking grapes each harvest address the emotional and financial hardships that former legionnaires face.

Working in the vines is "a psychological wake up call," says Alan Lonjarret, who is the veterans' unofficial advisor and counsellor. Toiling together in the vineyards is a salve for soldiers who suffer from loneliness or depression.

Corporal Alex—the retired legionnaires still address each other by rank—has worked the vines since his arrival 22 years ago. "When I was a kid in Bordeaux, I also got to harvest," he says. Though his wild, white beard, weathered skin, and soft voice make him appear a decade older than his 68 years, he spends most mornings pruning, weeding, or harvesting grapes.

Clément, a fellow sexagenarian, is in his seventh year. (Official policy allows for the pensionnaires to only be identified by first name.) The hardworking Italian discovered the IILE 40 years ago—active-duty regiments arrive throughout the year to help the retirees with physically demanding tasks. Non-resident ex-soldiers also work at the winery, including 36-year veteran Jean Jacques Lalande, the *chef du cave* (cellar manager). Like the others, the slim 62-year-old had no wine experience. "Before I managed ammunition; now I oversee bottles and labels," he says with a wink. Lalande enjoys his new post. "With work," he says, "you leave behind loneliness."

Though the Domaine has produced wine since the Legion's arrival—the area's wine history dates back to 600 B.C.—their oenological forays weren't always successful. In 1962, only 25 of the 568 acres around the Domaine were planted with vines. The legionnaires sold the 32,000 bottles of wine to nearby regiments, but not to the public—it was as rough as *pinard*, the rustic red wine rationed to French soldiers in World War I. Realizing they didn't have the know-how or the *francs* to make wine properly, the Legion began bringing their grapes to be vinified at the local cooperative, Vignerons de Mont Sainte-Victoire, in the 1980s.



In 2006, two volunteer oenologists from Bordeaux, Bertrand Leon and Philippe Baly, began consulting. Since their arrival, they have replaced low-yielding vines with more productive ones and moved the harvest date earlier to avoid overripe, overly alcoholic wines. With wine quality and production improving, the Legion was ready to give the public a taste. The winery commercialized in 2008.

That year also marked Lonjarret's arrival. Having been born and raised in Bourgogne, the revered wine region, the appointment allowed him to resume a way of life interrupted by 30 years of military service. He continues his education on the job, managing the retirees and a staff of three tractor-machinists, two of whom are former legionnaires. He's improved irrigation and upped the use of organic treatments, including manure sourced from the local cavalry unit. Like all winemakers, Lonjarret grumbles about paperwork, but enjoys his time amidst the vines and men. He likens the constant, physical work to military service. "If one doesn't maintain a vine, it dies. With a soldier, it is the same."

In 2017, 100 acres produced 220,000 bottles of wine, launching the legionnaires into the top five Sainte-Victoire producers. The soldiers preferred wine is red, and theirs is made from the classic Southern Rhone trio—Syrah, Grenache, and Mourvedre. The crisp whites come from 100 percent *Rolle*, also known as Vermentino. The rosé is a refreshing blend of Cinsault, Grenache, and Rolle—perfect for *apéro* hour. The area benefits from clay limestone soil that holds in the sun's heat to keep the grapes warm at night, and the famous mistral wind dries the grapes, preventing disease naturally. According to specialists who test the soil annually, the Domaine has some of the region's best *terroir*.

The cuvées labels capitalize on the mystique embedded in the Legion. On the Vin Classique, soldiers sport *kepi blancs*, the white toque worn during desert campaigns. A 1950s style pin-up girl flirts from the front of Miss Kepi Blanc rosé—she's a caricature of the Legion's annual pageant winner. The General Reserve, the first vintage to be aged in oak barrels, has an embossed bottle like those in nearby Châteauneuf-du-Pape; instead of the keys of St. Peter, there's the Legion's flaming grenade logo.

Wines run from 4.50 to 10 euros, save for the hefty 25-euro General. The bottles are shipped worldwide to former and active legionnaires, and are sold at bases, the IILE boutique, and online. "I just sent a shipment of vitamins to Lebanon," Lalande jokes. The stockrooms empty out each year, which Lieutenant-Colonel Normand chalks up to the improved wine quality and the appeal of the Legion's brand.

These best-selling bottles help clean up the negative connotations between the Legion and booze. The popular credo "legionnaires drink to forget, but they seldom forget to drink," stems from binge-drinking bouts on foreign deployments and the strains of service that drive soldiers to self-medicate with alcohol. Normand says that in the current Legion, wine represents conviviality more than debauchery. It is the beverage of celebration and tradition, like the *pour la poussière* ceremony in which soldiers toast in unison before a meal, remembering troops serving in Africa who had to rinse desert dust (*poussière*) out of their glasses with wine when water was scarce.

At Domaine Capitaine Danjou, wine is the fuel that keeps the place and the veterans running. How fitting that foreigners who fought for France can spend their retirement engaging in the most French of traditions.



Trip Down Memory Lane

Operation Heritage — Building a National Army Museum.

Monday 15th October 2018, will mark 40 years since the opening of the QEII Army Memorial Museum. With an eye on the past, and one firmly on the future, it was recognized there was a need to house New Zealand's military heritage under one roof.

On the day the foundation stone was laid (15th Oct. 1977), A army General took a bet with one of his regional commanders that the Museum would be operating within a year. The Army raised the money Spearheaded by a well-publicized run across New Zealand by Major Albert Kiwi and his dog Freefall, fund-raising got underway.

While the engineers of 2nd & 3rd Field Squadrons, Royal New Zealand Engineers (RNZE), carried out most of the building. The Army Engineers braved a very tough winter to complete the Sir Miles Warren designed fortress-like structure in just 276 days.

The Governor General opened the 1300-square metre Queen Elizabeth II Army Memorial Museum on 15 October 1978. (sappers day)





Photos of early stage of the Army Museum build thanks to the Museum archives,

DID YOU KNOW

We don't know the exact origin of the salute, it is generally accepted that it originated in medieval times, when people who approached a knight would raise their empty weapon hand to show they were unarmed. Knights would use their sword hand to lift their visors on their helmet armor to show another knight that they were friendly.

Members of the Armed Forces salute the Sovereign and anything that represents the sovereign. There are a number of stories about why, including one dating back to Feudal times, where knights had to raise their faceplates when addressing the King to confirm their identity or risk being killed by the King's guard, but that is now largely obsolete anyway. We salute the Queen, most of the Royal Family, ships bearing the Queen's name (HMS, or Her Majesty's Ship), the Union Flag and various other official flags and ensigns, the National Anthem, and of course our Officers, who hold a Commission from the Queen. We do not salute Officers when they're off-duty, however, as at that time they are not acting on the authority of the Queen.

The Naval salute differs in that the palm of the hand faces down towards the shoulder. This dates back to the days of sailing ships, when tar and pitch were used to seal the timber from seawater. A common story is that Queen Victoria having been saluted by a naval individual with a dirty palm, decreed the sailors of the fleet would salute palm down, palm rotated 90 degrees of a typical salute with the palm now pointing towards the member's shoulder.

A civilian should stand and hold the right hand and hat over the heart out of respect and attention for a national flag as it is carried past, or for a body of troops passing by.

The expression 'to take the King's shilling', meant to sign up to join the Army. Rather like with the 'prest' money for the 'impressed' man, a bonus payment of a shilling was offered to tempt lowly-paid workers to leave their trade. An average daily wage during the Napoleonic period was 2p, so at 12p to a shilling, this represented six days wages in one go. And once the shilling had been accepted, it was almost impossible to leave the Army.

Many ruses were used to entice men into the regular Army, which was a non-conscripted force (although there was a county quota system for the militia). Publicans, tricksters and recruiting parties would scour the country to lure men into regiments, often slipping a shilling into the drink of an unsuspecting patron at the local pub. Taking the King's shilling was like the handshake before an official contract

Since the Army was not seen as an attractive career, recruiting sergeants often had to use less than honest methods to secure their 'prey', such as getting the prospective recruit drunk, placing the shilling into his pocket and then hauling him before the magistrate the following morning (still hungover) to get him to accept the fact that he was now in the Army.

The bounty for joining the Army for life was £23.17s.6d (about £2,900 in today's money!), and it turned into quite a lucrative business for recruits. One man was hanged in 1787 for enlisting, taking the bounty, escaping and re-enlisting no less than 47 times



RNZE Sappers Q Store Is Operating Again

The Corps shop operating again, we have also bought in a few new trial items as well. If you are Linton based, have a look at the Regt HQ, otherwise orders can be placed by emailing

1.bde.2.engr.reg.t.s1@nzdf.mil.nz

Current UPF Stock as at 25 January 2018

2ER Lapel Pin  Price \$5.00 Each Stock Left 15	2ER Tie Clip  Price \$10.00 Each Stock Left 32	RNZE Lapel Pin  Price \$5.00 Each Stock Left 1	Cufflink Suite  Price \$25.00 Each Stock Left 32	Poker Chip  Sale Price \$3.00 Each Stock Left 260
RNZE Shaker  Price \$11.00 Each Stock Left 6	RNZE Stubby Holder  Price \$8.00 Each Stock Left 49	RNZE Bottle Buddy  Price \$6.00 Each Stock Left 10	RNZE Snack Cup  Price \$10.00 Each Stock Left 9	RNZE Bottle Opener  Price \$8.00 Each Stock Left 8
RNZE Luggage Tag  Price \$11.00 Each Stock Left 6	RNZE Tote Bag  Price \$5.00 Each Stock Left 10	2ER Cap (Blue)  Sale Price \$5.00 Each Stock Left 1	RNZE Tie  Price \$25.00 Each Stock Left 12	RNZE Sticker  Sale Price 50c Each Stock Left 364
Arabica Coffee Mug (Red)(Blue)  Sale Price \$7.00 Each Stock Left (6 Red)(5 Blue)	Café Thermal Mug (Red)(Blue)  Price \$10.00 Each Stock Left (1 Red)(1 Blue)	Chameleon Cup (Changes colour when hot)  Sale Price \$7.00 Each Stock Left 5		

Sappers Last Post

Our ranks grow thin but we
will remember them



9/08/18	Jock Orbell	Auckland
28/6/18	Hugh Shields	Auckland
16/9/18	George Butcher	Ohope



***They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.***

This is the fourth stanza from Laurence Binyon's poem For the Fallen. Referred to as the Ode of Remembrance, it was first published in The Times of London in September 1914 and has been incorporated into the ritual of remembrance in many countries.



The RSA was formed in New Zealand in 1916 by returning Anzacs during World War One to provide support and comfort for service men and women and their families. The Royal New Zealand Returned and Services' Association is made up of over 180 local RSAs around the country, each an entity in their own right, with over 100,000 members. Local RSAs are managed by their own executive committee while being united with the RNZRSA in our strategic pillars, vision, and values. We believe in a nation joined by a heartfelt connection to the Anzac spirit of courage, commitment, comradeship and compassion.

No Duff provides first response support to assist veterans in crisis.

Veterans' Affairs partners with No Duff, which has been operating since the start of the year, to support veterans in critical need. No Duff and its team of service and ex-service volunteers, work with other welfare organization's to support veterans.

[Visit the No Duff website for more information.](#)
[\(external link\)](#)

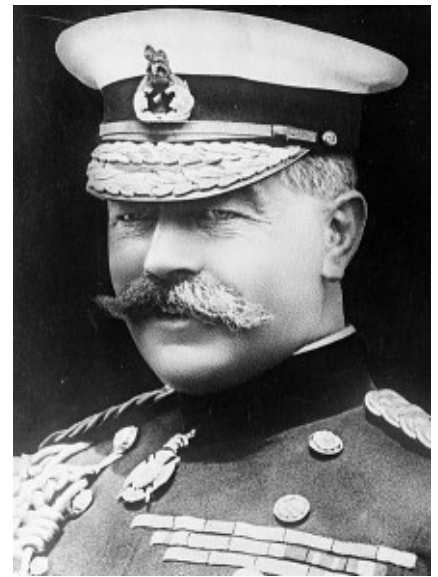


Horatio Herbert Kitchener, 1st Earl Kitchener,

KG, KP, GCB, OM, GCSI, GCMG, GCIE, PC

Lord Viscount Kitchener

Was the first RNZE Colonel-in-Chief and the only non-royal. He was Field Marshal from 1911 until his death on 6 June 1916, when the ship he was on, HMS Hampshire, was sunk. Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Second, is now the RNZE Colonel-in-Chief.



Born 24 June 1850 in County Kerry, Ireland, Horatio Kitchener first saw active service with the French army during the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71 and, a decade later, with the British Army during the occupation of Egypt. He was part of the force that tried, unsuccessfully, to relieve General Charles Gordon, besieged in Khartoum in 1885. The death of Gordon, at the hands of Mahdist forces, caused great anguish in Britain. Thirteen years later, as commander-in-chief of the Egyptian army, Kitchener led the campaign of reprisal into the Sudan, defeating the Mahdists at the Battle of Omdurman and reoccupying Khartoum in 1898. Kitchener had restored Britain's pride.

In June 1916, Lord Kitchener was sent on a diplomatic mission to Russia to try and better coordinate the Western and Eastern Fronts. On 5 June, the ship he was travelling on, the armoured cruiser, HMS *Hampshire*, hit a German mine off the Orkney Islands and sunk. Nearly all drowned. Kitchener's body was never found, leading to several conspiracy theories that he had become too much of an embarrassment and liability, and had been assassinated. That David Lloyd George, at the time the Minister for Munitions, was supposed to have been accompanying Kitchener but cancelled at the last minute, merely added to the speculation.

Lord Kitchener's death shocked the nation and he was deeply mourned. But today, almost a century on from his death, his poster remains one of the iconic images of the twentieth century.



Kitchener and the Court-martial of Breaker Morant

In the Breaker Morant case, five Australian officers and one English officer of an irregular unit, The Bushveldt Carbineers, were court-martialled for summarily executing twelve Boer prisoners, and also for the murder of a German missionary believed to be a Boer sympathiser, all under unwritten orders approved by Kitchener. The celebrated horseman and bush poet Lt. Harry "Breaker" Morant and Lt. Peter Handcock were found guilty, sentenced to death, and shot by firing squad at Pietersburg on 27 February 1902. Their death warrants were personally signed by Kitchener. He reprieved a third soldier, Lt. George Witton, who served 28 months before being released.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP NZ SAPPERS ASSOCIATION



Qualification: Persons who have served, or are still serving, in any sapper unit of His/Her Majesty's Forces in war, or in peace, for any period.

(Please print)

Regimental No. Rank *(current or on discharge)*:

Surname:

First Name(s):

Nickname: *(optional)*

Address:

.....

Phone: (Hm). (Wk). Fax:

E-mail:

Next of Kin: Relationship

Address (if different)

.....

Engineer Units served with:

.....

..... Year joined RE, RAE or RNZE

Honours and Awards *(optional)*:

.....

Signature: Date:

Please forward a Life Membership Fee of \$60.00 which includes Life Membership Card and Lapel Badge.

If paying by Direct Credit: BNZ bank 02 0727 0629870-000. Particulars 'Membership' & Code 'Reg No'.

You may add a donation towards the "Serving Sappers Bursary Awards" if you wish.

Joining & Membership Fee: \$60.00 Donation: \$ Amount enclosed: \$

The last word for this Newsletter is mine

I hope you enjoyed the last newsletter but I'm still on the lookout for more articles and photos for future issues of the Newsletter.

July-Nov-Feb-May.

Many thanks for those of you that contributed to this issue of the RNZE Sapper Newsletter

If you know of any sapper or someone that should be receiving this Newsletter please send me the information via this email address so I can enter them on the mailing list

rnzesapper@gmail.com

Don't forget you can follow us on Facebook @ Sappers of New Zealand

Also remember the Association Web site www.sappers.org.nz

Remember you will be able find a copy of the Newsletter on

Sappers of New Zealand

Sappers Mates

New Zealand Army Fire Service

Facebook pages.



**Ubique
Gummy Editor**

Being a soldier is not a job, it's a way of life. Their life starts when they sign up, and ends when they've taken their last breath. They strap on armour, clean their weapons, live in tents, mount up in armoured vehicles to make sure that their countrymen are safe and sound, without giving a second thought about their own safety. And for that, they deserve immense respect and should be heaped with pride and gratitude.

