EXERCISE TALISMAN SABRE
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT
NH90s
THE STORY SO FAR

DAILY LAST POST
PUKEAHU NATIONAL PARK
AIR CAPABILITY ENHANCES POLICE OPS
Our mission
To carry out military air operations to advance New Zealand’s security interests with professionalism, integrity and teamwork.

Air Force News is the official magazine of the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) — established to inform, educate and entertain its personnel and friends.

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Contributions need to include
• writer’s name, rank and unit
• photos provided separate from the text – at least 300dpi.

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First Word

By Secretary of Defence, Helene Quilter

The Secretary of Defence is the Government’s lead civilian advisor on defence matters.

Key to my job is advising the Government on the developments that will shape our need for a Defence Force in the future, and delivering equipment that service men and women can use safely and effectively over the coming decades.

I feel very privileged to hold the position of Secretary of Defence, as the more time I have spent with the NZDF and our international partners, the more I see the positive difference that New Zealand Defence Force personnel are making.

For the Royal New Zealand Air Force, I see this in areas such as humanitarian assistance, search and rescue, maritime surveillance, and contributions to multi-national efforts such as in Afghanistan, the Combined Maritime Force in the middle East, and the search for Malaysian Airlines flight MH370.

The Ministry of Defence support of NZDF to undertake this work actually started many years ago. The Ministry makes assessments and provides the direction to government to help advise on what capabilities we will need in the future. So the better equipped Air Force of today, with new air platforms like the NH90 and A-109 helicopters, refurbished C-130 Hercules and P-3K2 Orions, and the new Pilot Training Capability that includes 11 new T6 Texan training aircraft, all came from capability assessments and purchasing support conducted, in some cases, as early as the 2000’s.

Through the Ministry of Defence Evaluation Division, we also provide an audit function on occasions. Recently the Ministry of Defence conducted a comprehensive and independent examination of the treatment of women in the NZDF. Through studies such as this, initiatives are developed to make the NZDF a more inclusive workplace, more reflective of New Zealand society, and to increase overall mission effectiveness. I applaud NZDF for the work it is doing in this area and believe that initiatives such as Force 4 Families and the More Military Women programme will make NZDF a better place to work for all people.

You will have heard about the latest Defence White Paper being drafted and I hope many of you have taken the time to enter submissions. The Government has just closed consultation on this, and the final document will be published next year. This key strategic policy for defence will set out information on the international strategic environment, how our armed forces are positioned for the demands they may face, and how that might change.

I encourage you to read the final White Paper itself when it is published. These documents aren’t just for Government Minister’s and Command talking about global trends and defence equipment — they are highly focused on the future expectations of you, and how we will support each of you to undertake the roles and responsibilities Government requires of you.

I look forward to the publication of this key document which will help shape both the outputs of the NZDF and the Ministry of Defence so we can continue to work together as a Force for the good of New Zealand.
Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing is a significant problem for the marine environment and for high seas fisheries, which is why the RNZAF and the Ministry for Primary Industries work hard together to halt the practice.

The seas around New Zealand are a prime target for IUU activities as fishing vessels move away from the largely exhausted fisheries stocks in other oceans in search of less exploited stock. Detecting and deterring IUU fishing around New Zealand’s EEZ and the wider South Pacific region is a strategic priority for New Zealand, protecting these sensitive ecosystems and ensuring the long term sustainable management of an important economic resource for the region.

“Operation TAPESTRY plays a key role in supporting the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), a Regional Fisheries Management Organisation. It seeks to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks, such as Tuna, in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean,” MPI analyst Jacob Ennis said. The 33 members and participating territories of the WCPFC, which includes New Zealand, negotiate various rules and cooperate to support the monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) of fishing activity in the region. “The Operation TAPESTRY P-3K2 patrols allows us to monitor this activity and check that these rules are being complied with,” Mr Ennis said. For example ensuring that vessels are reporting their positions correctly and that appropriate conservation techniques and equipment is being used.

With such a vast expanse of ocean, thousands of vessels from a multitude of countries extract thousands of tonnes of fish each year from the WCPFC region and the surveillance provided by the Op TAPESTRY patrols is critical to understanding the pressures on the fishery industry and helps to guide decision making by the WCPFC.

“Being nominated for a P-3K2 patrol was a great opportunity for me to appreciate the capabilities of the aircraft and crew,” Mr Ennis said.

“A phenomenal amount of work goes into these surveillance patrols but the result is information that is invaluable to our operations. The flight was a great opportunity to chat with the crew about their role, and to answer questions about high seas fisheries management,” he said.

“Thanks to 5 Squadron for hosting me and for their efforts to support the conservation and sustainable economic prosperity of the Pacific Fisheries. Fisheries compliance on the high seas is unbelievably complex, and it couldn’t be achieved without NZDF and MPI making best use of their resources and working together to combat the threat of IUU fishing.”
HONOURING FOUR YEARS OF SACRIFICE:
THE DAILY LAST POST AT PUKEAHU NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL PARK

The haunting call of the Last Post will echo around Wellington’s Pukeahu National War Memorial Park every evening for the next four years to mark the years of sacrifice during World War I.

By Corporal Erica Challis

The Air Force Band has been tasked to provide buglers as part of a ceremony that takes place daily at 5pm.

The bugler plays the Last Post while two service personnel lower the flag. The ode is then recited in te reo Māori and English, followed by a minute’s silence.

The first daily ceremony took place on April 25 and the tradition will continue until Armistice Day in 2018, marking the centenary of the First World War.

I’ve played the Last Post three times there now and it is proving to be an immensely rewarding experience. Pukeahu is a stunning place to do it. From the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior, I see the green lawns and the simple, monumental sculptures as a space of precious calm in the midst of the busy city.

It is midwinter but, sometimes even on the stormiest days, the last rays of the setting sun break through the clouds in time for the ceremony. Pukeahu comes alive in the golden light and the sandstone pillars of the Australian Memorial glow brilliantly red.

The bugle notes echo from those pillars, filling the space. It is rush hour, yet the first notes of the bugle rise over the traffic noise and frequent sirens, opening up a sense of stillness. It is a fitting introduction to the solemn and beautiful words of the Ode that follows it.

In many cultures instruments played with the breath, like the bugle, are associated with the spirits of the dead. Symbolically, the Last Post serves to call the soldiers’ spirits back to the cenotaph in order that we may honour them.

The consensus among players is that we play as much for the dead as for the living. CPL Lex French, who leads the Band’s trumpet section, says it is one of the hardest things they have to play because it means so much to so many people.

He says he thinks about “giving the sound back to the earth”, remembering the dead and their sacrifice.

LAC Sarah Henderson, who played the Last Post for the Anzac Day Dawn Service at Pukeahu this year, says it is a chance for people to connect with their own sense of what the commemoration is about.

The audience may be a group of tourists, some commuters homeward bound, or a single skateboarder and his dog - but word is getting around, and people are making time to attend.

On rainy evenings, the ceremony takes place inside the Hall of Memories beneath the Carillon.

Organising the players is a commitment shared between Warrant Officer Denis Spurdle and CPL French.

Want to participate in the daily Last Post ceremony?

Servicemen and women, as well as the New Zealand public are welcome to take part in the daily Last Post ceremony. The two predominant roles to fill are the readings of the Ode in te reo Maori and English. If you can play the Last Post on a trumpet, cornet or bugle you can volunteer for this role.

NZDF personnel (military or civilian) can sign up to participate on the NZDF’s intranet.

DID YOU KNOW?

A daily Last Post ceremony has been performed at Belgium’s Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing every night since 1928 (except during the Second World War). It is played at 8pm and traffic through the Gate is stopped.

On July 17 a special ceremony was held to commemorate the 30,000th Last Post played at the Menin Gate.
In Focus

The recent NZDF Women’s Development Forum, held in Ohakea in June, was the third of its kind (following on from 2011 and 2013), with the theme this year focusing on “Being Our Future”. The primary outcome of this forum was to retain NZDF mid-career-range talent through the opportunity to be placed in front of inspirational, informative speakers that enhanced the audience’s own knowledge and promoted self-development. Participants were encouraged to “refresh, reinvigorate, and revive” their careers.

The programme differed from previous years as the audience was given the opportunity to network frequently while listening to inspiring speakers from both external organisations and serving military personnel. This type of forum was designed to inspire the audience to take ownership of their own success, remain engaged with the NZDF and to leverage other people’s experience and tools. In turn this would assist them with approaching their own mid-career challenges with speakers including Dr Habiba Sarabi, the first female Governor of Bamyan province in Afghanistan, Jimi Hunt from Live More Awesome Trust, Lee-Anne Wann the Warriors Nutritionist and Shelley Campbell from Sir Peter Blake Trust. Internal speakers from Army, Navy, Air and civilian positions also spoke, aiming to give senior leadership and mid-career range men and women an appreciation for the challenges NZDF women and service couples face.

Feedback following the forum indicated this type of opportunity is invaluable for all personnel and, although this year’s forum was limited to 200 personnel, if you are offered the opportunity in the future ... take it!
Chief of Air Force Air Vice-Marshal (AVM) Mike Yardley has appointed former Deputy Solicitor-General Karen Clark QC to carry out an independent inquiry into the handling of historic sexual abuse complaints in the Air Force.

The inquiry has been launched after the conviction of former serviceman Robert Richard Roper, now aged 73, who left the service in 1989.

“With the completion of the Roper criminal investigation, I am now able to direct an inquiry into how the complaints were handled,” said AVM Yardley.

“For reasons of transparency and expertise, I have appointed Ms Clark to carry out an independent inquiry.

“Convening an independent inquiry is the right thing to do to ensure all areas are thoroughly and expertly investigated.

“Ms Clark will propose the terms of reference and the scope of the inquiry, taking into consideration the outcome of legal actions that have already occurred. She will also be talking to the survivors and myself.

“Such behaviour contravenes the values of not only the Air Force but our entire society, and I want to be sure that the safeguards that we have instituted over the last 30 years reflect best practice, and that our measures for identifying and preventing this kind of behaviour are the best they can be,” said AVM Yardley.

Ms Clark has been involved with a number of high-profile inquiries including the Coronial inquiry into the deaths of those who died in the CTV Building during the February 2011 Christchurch earthquake, as well as the Pike River Mine tragedy.
Four RNZAF aircraft and more than 600 personnel, including 40 from 3 Squadron, took part in Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 2015. Two NH90s were embedded within the ADF’s 16 Aviation Brigade. A Seasprite helicopter was embarked on HMNZS TE KAHA, which saw ‘action’ off Darwin as part of the Opposing Force. And a C-130 Hercules aircraft operated alongside the Royal Australian Air Force’s (RAAF) 37 Squadron. TALISMAN SABRE marked the first time the RNZAF NH90s were deployed offshore. “The exercise gave us the opportunity to demonstrate our battlefield support capability and to confirm our operating procedures in challenging and remote locations,” said Wing Commander Scott McKenzie, 3 Squadron Commanding Officer.

“It also confirmed our ability to operate in a coalition with our allies. It was fantastic to be operating in an ANZAC helicopter battle group on our first overseas deployment with the NH90s,” he added.

As soon as the ‘war’ began on 3 July, the Air Force’s NH90s and C-130 Hercules aircraft conducted assaults during the day and at night, airlifted troops and dropped supplies and ammunition in the Queensland bush.

“We conducted deliberate assaults with up to eight aircraft in coordinated formation. It took up to 72 hours to plan some assaults and coordinate all the assets required such as lift and attack helicopters, artillery, electronic warfare, unmanned aerial vehicles and fighter jets,” said WGCDDR McKenzie.

“Other tasks required our helicopters to be airborne at very short notice, with our crews conducting rapid planning as well as planning inflight whilst coordinating a large number of assets to achieve the mission.

“Many of the flights were complex and required a lot of coordination. It was quite exciting to be flying in large formations, on night vision goggles at very low levels and in different weather conditions,” he added.

The NH90s formed part of ‘Battle Group Griffin’, which was also comprised of six Australian MRH90 and eight ARH Tiger helicopters and up to 600 US troops that served as the ground force.

During the exercise from 5 – 21 July, an RNZAF C-130 was on call for the Combined Forces Air Component Commander to use in support of the ‘ground war’.

“We airlifted hundreds of troops across the battlefield to support land manoeuvres as well as airdropped food, water, ammunition and first aid supplies to the troops fighting the ground war,” said Squadron Leader Leigh Foster, Detachment Commander for the 25-strong contingent from the RNZAF’s 40 Squadron.

A total of 620 New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) personnel, two ships, 22 Light Armoured Vehicles and 23 other military vehicles were also deployed for the exercise, which was held mostly in Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area in Central Queensland and Fog Bay in Australia’s Northern Territory.
Exercise TALISMAN SABRE

The NH90 in tactical formation flying over northern Queensland as part of Exercise TALISMAN SABRE, a multinational exercise held in Australia.

The ADF lauded the Air Force personnel who took part in TALISMAN SABRE for their “dedication, skill and willingness to fully integrate”.

“The RNZAF’s 3 Squadron has a long and proud history in air mobile helicopter operations and they brought a wealth of experience, not to mention character, to the Battle Group,” said Australian Army Lieutenant Colonel Dean Thompson, Commanding Officer of Battle Group Griffin.

“Having 3 Squadron in the Battle Group is also a reminder of the tradition of mateship and trust that exists between the ADF and the NZDF.”

“In the centenary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli, it is a poignant reminder that New Zealand and Australia share a common bond in adversity through war. As it was 100 years ago, it is an honour and privilege to serve and fight alongside the NZDF,” LTCOL Thompson said.

TALISMAN SABRE involved almost 30,000 troops from the ADF, the US military, the NZDF and the Japan Self-Defense Force, 21 ships including the US Navy aircraft carrier USS George Washington, more than 200 aircraft and three submarines.

The biennial exercise aims to enhance participating nations’ capabilities to deal with regional contingencies and terrorism. Highlights included amphibious landings, parachuting, land force manoeuvres, air operations, maritime operations and the coordinated firing of live ammunition and explosive ordnance from small arms, artillery, naval vessels and aircraft.

“The operations that the NH90 helicopters conducted with the ADF confirmed their ability to support battlefield manoeuvres and their readiness to be deployed on operations throughout the Southwest Pacific,” said Major General Tim Gall, Commander Joint Forces New Zealand.

“The training that our personnel got in the exercise helps us better understand how we can work together with our partners as well as within our Defence Force as we enhance combat capabilities needed to support New Zealand’s requirements and a Joint Task Force,” Major General Gall added.

Since they were introduced into the RNZAF in 2013, the NH90s have been used for search and rescue missions, transport for military and government personnel and lifting of equipment.
QUEEN MARGARET COLLEGE OLD GIRL IN WARFIGHTING EXERCISE

Two years after joining the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF), Air Warfare Officer Jessica Moore took part in Australia’s largest warfighting exercise.

“Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 2015 was memorable as it was my first deployment with my Squadron and the deploying flights were my first in the navigator’s seat,” said the former House Prefect at Wellington’s Queen Margaret College.

Flying Officer Moore was the Operations Officer of 40 Squadron’s 25-member contingent to TALISMAN SABRE 2015. In that role, she liaised with the Combined Air Operations Centre in Hawaii and the different units across Australia as well as host base personnel and media.

During the exercise, 40 Squadron operated alongside the Royal Australian Air Force’s 37 Squadron out of Townsville.

“In the past three weeks, I’ve had a chance to work closely with the team and gained an insight into the type of flying that is in store for me when I become a more qualified navigator. I also gained a better appreciation of how our Squadron and Air Force work, and how we interact with other nations,” she said.

FGOFF Moore joined the Air Force in 2013, after completing a bachelor’s degree in Political Science and International Relations, Classical Studies and English and an honour’s degree in Classical Studies at Victoria University followed by a one-year stint at a government department.

Joining the RNZAF was no surprise to the family and close friends of FGOFF Moore, whose father was with the Air Force for 38 years and mother for seven years. Her paternal grandfather and a paternal great uncle served in the Army during World War II.

When she is not deployed, FGOFF Moore is one of the Air Warfare Officers of 40 Squadron, which flies the C-130 Hercules transport aircraft. Her role involves the tactical employment of the aircraft and her duties include navigation, flight and fuel planning, air drop calculations and the management of the aircraft’s self-defence system.

“I have always been interested in the roles that our Air Force plays in New Zealand and around the world, and was keen to become a part of this exciting and dynamic organisation. I have never been so passionate or determined about anything else,” she said.

She encourages high school students to consider a career in the Air Force. “It is a great way to challenge yourself, gain excellent skills and see the world. You will make great friends, have a great lifestyle and feel like you are doing something worthwhile.”
Corporal Robin Beauchamp never fails to draw “ohs” and “ahs” every time he is asked what his job is.

“Most people love planes, if not flying, so there is that sense of wonder and lots of follow-up questions when I say I fix helicopters,” said the 29-year-old Wellingtonian.

As an Aircraft Technician in the RNZAF’s 3 Squadron, Beauchamp’s main task is to service the NH90 helicopters.

“This can range from simple routine inspections to technical troubleshooting and repairs,” said Beauchamp, who formed part of the 40-strong Air Force contingent to TALISMAN SABRE 2015.

During the exercise from 5 – 21 July, a Seaspire helicopter was embarked on HMNZS TE KAHA, a C-130 Hercules airlift aircraft was operating from several airfields, and two NH90 helicopters were operating as part of the Australian Defence Force’s (ADF) 16th Aviation Brigade.

Together with 20 other Aircraft Technicians, Beachy – as he is known to friends – helped to ensure the two RNZAF NH90s were always in tip-top condition. In addition, he helped to man checkpoints and prevent “enemy forces” from taking control of the airfield.

“We were usually up before 7am and carried on working until more than 12 hours later. When the main ‘battle’ started, it was all hands to defend the airfield so there were several nights of broken sleep,” said the former Onslow College student.

Beauchamp thought of joining the military since he was a child. So after starting an accounting degree at Victoria University, he decided to enlist in the New Zealand Army in 2005 and later moved to the Air Force in 2007.

“The Air Force is a unique workplace. You get the chance to work on equipment and operate items that no one else gets to do. The experience is also varied and interesting,” he said.

One of his memorable assignments is supporting the RNZAF’s Counter-Terrorism Response Team for the Rugby World Cup 2011 finals. “We watched the final in the hangar and had the UH-1H Iroquois ready to fly at a moment’s notice,” he recalled.

From 2012 to 2014, Beauchamp was posted in Townsville, Queensland with the Australian Army’s 5th Aviation Regiment, which operates the majority of the ADF’s transport helicopters.

“It was a unique opportunity to see how our neighbours perform their business. It was a challenging environment as they are an Army unit and they do things differently but I learnt a lot from the experience.”

Beauchamp said taking part in TALISMAN SABRE was “a great chance to work with our allies”. “It was an opportunity to perform our job in a coalition environment and further develop our skills for any future overseas deployments with the NH90s. For me, that also meant catching up with friends I made whilst posted to Australia.”

CPL Robin Beauchamp

The RNZAF NH90 flying over the Shoalwater Bay Training Area alongside the Australian Army MRH and Tiger Aircraft as part of their integration training.
Military air operations aren’t always conducted during a 9–5 work day, so equipment that can be used 24/7 is certainly worth investing in, Wing Commander Richard Beaton says. Recently 40 Squadron invested in the development of a Night Vision Goggle (NVG) capability on their C-130 Hercules fleet to enhance and improve their existing night time combat capability.

“Effectively turning ‘night into day’, the NVG equipment worn by the flight deck crew markedly improves safety, enhances interoperability with its allies, and increases its overall night time combat capability,” WgCdr Beaton said.

“Flying in a tactical environment at night is challenging even at the best of times, but through the use of NVGs 40 Squadron and the C-130 fleet are now developing a safer and more effective capability in the tactical night time environment.”

Squadron Leader Leigh Foster said using NVG was “more tactically sound and ultimately safer” than operating at night without them.

40 Squadron’s latest training was using the equipment for take off and landing, which was vital when flying in areas without lighting, with tactical lighting or in low light situations, SqnLdr Foster said.

The next phase for the NVG roll out will be the focus on combat capability.

Flight Lieutenant Matt Rieper was part of the first two crews to head to the United States to train with NVG.

“A weeks training in Florida gave us a good insight into what the real aircraft would be like, and a chance to test the required procedures. The capability development has drawn on the knowledge of various NVG users including simulation with the RNLAF (Royal Netherlands Air Force), USAF instructors embedded with 40 SQN, our resident RAAF exchangee as well as NZDF rotary wing users.

It has been a capability in the pipeline for many years. The C-130LEP provided the flight deck with NVIS (near vertical incidence skywave antenna) compatible lighting, so at the press of a button our flight deck is configured for NVG use meaning we don’t have any glare influencing the goggles. Your field of view is restricted but overall it is amazing how effective they can be. The amount of environmental light does change how useful they are, but most of the time it is very similar to vision during the day, except it’s green. The goggles are focused so that only objects in the distance are clear; we can’t use them to read our instruments we must scan beneath the goggles. Overall it’s a lot more comfortable than previous techniques used to land on unlit airfields and will develop into a very useful Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), Antarctic and combat capability.”
The Pilot Training Capability contract was signed in January last year signalling the start of a 30-year relationship between the contract winner Beechcraft Defense Company (BDC) and the NZDF. A little over 18 months later we have accepted 11 T-6C aircraft and the latest step in the capability, flight simulation, is just around the corner.

A custom built synthetic training device facility has been built on the northern side of Ohakea’s number 1 hangar and installation of two fixed base simulators commonly known as Operational Flight Trainers (OFTs) have now been completed. The OFTs comprise of a replica of the T-6C front cockpit and include a high resolution visual database that provides 3D modelling across the whole of the virtual NZ environment and projected onto a screen that encapsulates the trainee (270° horizontally and 71° vertically). The visual database also includes custom built airfields that accurately replicate Ohakea, Whanganui, Palmerston North, Napier, New Plymouth and the surrounding areas.

The next step in the process is to conduct acceptance testing with the OFT manufacturer CAE (formerly Canadian Aviation Electronics) prior to qualifying each OFT against an international certification standard to assure the accuracy of simulation. Finally the OFTs will be subject to a validation process whereby each of the training exercises that a new student will be taught will be objectively and subjectively compared against flying and teaching in the aircraft. This process will identify any areas of particular strength or deficiency in operating the OFTs, and importantly it will ensure training efficiency through the proper allocation of training exercises between the OFTs and aircraft.
NO REGRETS AFTER 30 YEARS

When Supply Officer Squadron Leader Michelle Goulden joined the RNZAF in 1985, she had no idea her career would span three decades. After being presented with a 30 year clasp in Freyberg House in Wellington, she looks back on her extensive career.

“It doesn’t feel right saying 30, because it’s such a big percentage of your life.”

SQNLDR Goulden joined on a scheme where the RNZAF was recruiting suppliers and administrators to do a commercial certificate through Polytech.

“It was great, it was the idea of tertiary study paid for, the lifestyle, the action, activity – all that appealed.”

At the time it never crossed her mind she would be deployed overseas, but during her career, SQNLDR Goulden has had the opportunity to travel widely, including to Antarctica, Middle East, Canada and Europe.

“I’ve had some magic postings.

“One of my first highlights, absolutely, was as a young Corporal being selected to go on the Battle of Britain 50 year anniversary parade in front of Buckingham Palace.”

Some parts of the last 30 years had “been a bit of a blur”, she said.

“You’re in the same organisation for all that length of time, but your jobs change every two to three years – so there’s always something new.

“You do age in years, but it keeps you young I think, to a certain degree.”

The Defence Force’s focus on being more family friendly would serve to encourage personnel to consider the force as a long-term career option, Goulden said.

As mother to a nine-year-old son, Callum, the RNZAF’s flexibility with postings and working hours had made it possible to have time at home without missing out on work opportunities, she said.

“The family friendly stuff has allowed me to stay in a career like this in uniform, but still actually manage the juggle of a family.”

“Because if they were more rigid than that, I would have to make a choice.”

Even though SQNLDR Goulden is in the RNZAF, she works out of Burnham Military Camp in Canterbury so she can be with her partner, who is in the Army.

It was interesting living with a partner who worked in another service, she said.

“But since I’m senior to him, there’s no rivalry – for now.”

SQNLDR Goulden laughed.

And what does the future hold?

A few more years yet with the force in her role at Burnham, she said. “As long as they’ll have me... I’m not done yet.”

SQNLDR MICHELLE GOULDEN CAREER TIMELINE

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<td>Enlisted as a NZ Certificate in Commerce Trainee Supplier and posted to Wigram</td>
<td>Selected to represent the RNZAF in September 1990 at the Battle of Britain Parade in London, Great Britain</td>
<td>Promoted to Flying Officer</td>
<td>Posted to RNZAF Base Auckland</td>
<td>Promoted to Flight Lieutenant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Became a substantive Corporal in the Supply Trade as a Senior Supplier</td>
<td>• Gained the rank of Pilot Officer • Represented RNZAF in Water Polo and received an RNZAF ‘representative badge’ • Aug 1991: Posted to Ohakea as Flight Commander Provisioning and then onward to Flight Commander Forward Support in 1992</td>
<td>Completed Air Movements courses at RNZAF Base Auckland and at the RAAF Air Movements School, and was posted as Section Commander Air Movements Auckland</td>
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Q&A

GROUP CAPTAIN

KARL HARVEY

Karl, you’ve both given and received long service medals in your 27-year career with the Air Force. Why is it important to acknowledge long service?

These awards are important, it is a military award that recognises 15 years of exemplary and unblemished service to New Zealand. It truly illustrates an individual’s commitment to NZDF and in serving their country. Throughout my career, these awards have never gone unnoticed – Command take great effort and pride to ensure ceremonies are held to recognise this important milestone, and I have never been to one that hasn’t acknowledged the immense contribution and role families have in supporting the serviceperson. As a Commanding Officer in Whenuapai, I was always impressed to see the sense of immense pride among the people who received these awards and that was echoed for their families, friends and partners who came along to the ceremony. Long service is – and should be – seen as an outstanding achievement.

There aren’t many organisations now that can and do acknowledge long service. How do these awards add to our organisational culture do you think?

These awards acknowledge irreproachable character and conduct – but it is the individuals’ dedication, passion and professionalism that gets them to the 15 year mark. I believe coupled with this is our culture and the values – service is a lifestyle choice and you know that you’re part of an organisation that strives to do the extraordinary every day.

Caring for your medals

What’s the best way to clean my medals?

Do not use any form of abrasive cleaner or polish because it will already have a protective lacquer coating. However - ALWAYS ensure your medals are wiped clean and dry with a tissue or soft cloth before being stowed away.

How do I best store my medals?

Store your medals securely inside a drawer in a lined box – either one of the NZDSM presentation cases, or use a strong wood or cardboard box – good quality cigar and chocolate boxes are great. You can line the box with tissue paper or bubble wrap. Commercial medal storage cases are also available through your local medal mounter.

Who can wear my medals?

The recipient is entitled to wear these medals whenever ordered to do so. Generally this will mean full size medals during the day and miniature medals after sunset for Mess or other official events. The recipient is entitled to wear these medals on their left chest at any official function where the host directs that ‘Medals may be worn’ for their lifetime. This also applies after they retire when they may wear the medals on their civilian suit, jacket or coat in the same way as if they were wearing them in uniform. After their death, the family may wear these medals on their right chest.

How do I clean old sets of inherited medals?

We recommend you leave them as they are and wear them. They tell the story of that medal’s history. Finger prints and minor marks can be cleaned with a soft cloth, a silver polishing cloth or a spectacle lens cleaner cloth. Silver dip products can be used for sterling silver awards such as long service awards, WW1 medals and some WW2 awards.

What do we do if our medals get wet on a parade?

Pat the ribbons and medals dry with a soft cloth or tissues. Allow it to dry naturally at room temperature.

Can family members wear Mum and Dad’s old RSA badge and their other military badges showing membership entitlement?

No. To do so can give the impression that you are personally entitled to that membership, but you can wear it if you are entitled to be a member of the RSA in your own right.

AUG, 2002

Posted from RNZAF Auckland to the newly established HQ JFNZ on promotion to Squadron Leader, as the Joint Movements Officer

JULY 2010

Posted to HQ DLC to Logistics Policy

APRIL 2012

Deployed in support of TG CRIB as the DET CDR of the Force Extraction Team

OCT 2001 TO FEB 2002

Completed a successful Tour of Duty at McMurdo Station Antarctica as Officer Commanding Terminal Operations Team

MAY 2009

Posting into Directorate of Aeronautical Supply, Air Staff

MAY 2011

Posted as Staff Officer Two Multinational Logistics Policy in COMLOG’s Strategic Policy team

JAN 2015

Awarded the clasp to the New Zealand Armed Forces Award
Ohakea played host to the Junior Ranks Leadership Forum in July, bringing together 80 RNZAF junior ranks from Auckland, Ohakea, Wellington, Woodbourne and Christchurch. The forum was opened by the Deputy Chief of Air Force, Air Commodore Andrew Clark and facilitated by the Warrant Officer of the Air Force and Command Warrant Officers. The morning presentations included a strategic view from Ms Griere Cox (People Capability) and presentations on Values, NZDF Leadership Framework, Impact Conversations and Health and Safety (including Airworthiness and Alcohol and Substance abuse).

The afternoon involved interactive workshops where groups discussed questions related to three topics; Values, Health and Safety and Reputation. This gave the groups a chance to voice their views and present back to each other.

Here is some feedback from forum attendees:

**CPL ROCHELLE ROWE – OHAKEA**
The JR’s forum was very enjoyable. I felt like it was a very open environment, which made me feel comfortable speaking my mind and not holding back when it came to the group workshops. I felt like the senior personnel including the WOAF were all very interested in what we had to say and I believe they got a lot out of it, and so did I.

**CPL CRAIG MOORE-AUCKLAND**
The Junior Ranks Leadership Forum was a good opportunity for junior voices of the Air Force to be heard at a higher level. There was a lot of good debate and thoughts over key areas, especially around health and safety. Overall I thought the day raised some valid issues and hurdles faced by junior ranks.

**CPL DAVE BURROWS – OHAKEA**
I found it great to be in an environment were we could bounce ideas and thoughts off each other, whilst they may not have been like-minded, it made for great discussion. “As the guardians of our Air Force, there is always more we can do to ensure we stay true to our values, the moment we stop to think if we have made it, we start moving backwards.”

**LAC BLAIR PATERSON – AUCKLAND**
The 2015 Junior Ranks Leadership Forum was a real eye opener as to what other junior ranks’ thoughts are within the RNZAF – both positive and negative. The day as a whole was brilliant as many of our junior leaders could speak their minds in an open environment. What I personally can takeaway from the forum was that there is more than one way of being a leader in the RNZAF.

**AC ALEXANDRA MACDONALD - OHAKEA**
The forum was a fantastic opportunity to be involved in. The discussions that came about, especially as part of the workshops, were very thought provoking and definitely challenged some views I held about what leadership is and what it means to me.

As an AC, I’m not often presented with the chance to voice my opinion or thoughts on topics such as this (although I try regardless!) and the forum provided a great platform for some of us junior ranks to have our voices heard.
**HOBSONVILLE YOUTH POINT**

Students from Hobsonville Point Secondary School visited RNZAF Base Auckland as part of a school project, and underwent a range of military physical training exercises under the supervision of the Base Gymnasium Manager and an Air Force Physical Training Instructor.

Top left to right: Student Kaleb Ashton (right) counts as fellow student Blake Van-Dijk performs press-ups in the Base Fitness Studio as part of an introduction to the military Operational Fitness Test (OFT). CPL Nick De Vries (2nd from right) briefs the students in the Base Fitness Studio on aspects of the military OFT. Student Thomas Monds (right) ‘rescues’ fellow student Travis Olge (left) during a contact tow in the Base swimming pool as part of an introduction to the Air Force Aircrew Swim test. Bottom left to right: Student Sarah Wheeler (right), timed by Air Force PTI CPL Nick De Vries (left), crosses the finish line at the end of a run around Base as part of an introduction to the military OFT. Students Kaleb Ashton (left) and Thomas Monds (right) run around a timed course on Base during an introduction to the military OFT.

**300 RUGBY BALLS BOUND FOR SAMOA**

Three hundred spare rugby balls were flown by an RNZAF Boeing 757 to eager young rugby players in Samoa before last month’s test match against the All Blacks in the Pacific nation. The flight took on the unusual cargo after a tweet by an employee of Dunedin manufacturer Leslie Rugby asked how they could donate their excess stock to players in need in Samoa. Sports commentator Ken Laban alerted Labour leader Andrew Little to the request, who in turn contacted the Prime Minister’s office to see if the RNZAF could help. The balls were delivered on time and safely to the arms of players in Patu, Vaiala Village in Apia. As an extra treat for the players, former All Black Michael Jones signed a number of the balls on the flight over.
**RNZAF’s NH90s: The Story So Far…**

**Key Dates in the Life of the NH90s**

- **JUL 2006**
  - **9**
  - Contract signed to purchase nine NH90s.

- **MAY 2009**
  - First flight off the production line in France.

- **FEB 2012**
  - Delivery of the first aircraft to New Zealand.

- **FEB 2013**
  - First release of capability
    - Start of NZ Domestic NH90 Operations

- **MAY 2014**
  - Second release of capability – NZDF Tactical Operations

- **OCT 2014**
  - Delivery of the last NH90 to New Zealand

- **DEC 2014**

- **JUL 2015**
  - Fourth release of capability – NH90 and A109 take over Counter Terrorism standby from the UH-1H, allowing the Huey to retire

**Stories and milestones**

**OCT 2013**

- **WGCDR Geoff Comber:** “The NH90s were more technologically advanced than the analogue Iroquois, which were becoming obsolete. There is a ‘walk, crawl, run’ approach to the NH90s incrementation.”

**JUL 2015**

- **AIRCDRE McEvoy:** “We have successfully completed a deployment offshore and our experience at Exercise TALISMAN SABRE in Australia has proven it to be a very capable aircraft in air mobile operations.”

**PIKE RIVER SUPPORT**

- **The NH90 operated at its 11,000kg limit hauling items from the mine’s ventilation shaft – more than any other helicopter could carry to date. Its heaviest load was 3200kg generators.**

**Exercise Talisman Sabre**

- **AIRCDRE McEvoy:** “We have successfully completed a deployment offshore and our experience at Exercise TALISMAN SABRE in Australia has proven it to be a very capable aircraft in air mobile operations.”
Air Force News 19

**Feature: NH90s**

THE STORY SO FAR...

**OCT – DEC 2015**

*Exercise SOUTHERN KATIPO*

**AIRCDRE McEvoy:** “We are looking at putting the aircraft and crews through a full set of missions representative of a combat environment in a deployed setting and I have no doubt those in the exercise will find it challenging as the scenario unfolds.”

**2015 – 2017 will see the release of future capabilities**

**NH90s FACTS**

- 6 phases before being fully in service in Dec 2017
- 4 phases already completed
- 8 delivered for operational use
- 1 delivered to use for spare parts

**NH90s are flown by:** Australia, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Spain and Sweden.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) was responsible for the Acquisition Phase

A team of two engineering officers, a pilot and two technicians were sent to France to oversee the acquisition

**They were built in Marignane, France, by Airbus Helicopters**

**RNZAF aircrew and technicians conducted training in France in 2011**
The RNZAF’s helicopter fleet provides an important platform for police operations, providing added capability to respond rapidly to a range of situations. This includes access to the new NH90 and A190 platforms, which are being used successfully by police across a range of activities.

Commander Operations Support Inspector Geoff Jago says both airframes have proved their worth in training exercises and deployments by specialist squads such as the Special Tactics Group and Armed Offenders Squad.

“Having access to helicopter support from the Royal New Zealand Air Force has enabled police to provide important training to our specialist group staff, as well as the ability to respond quickly in situations where a rapid response is required, potentially anywhere in the country. The larger capacity of the NH90 also increases our ability to transport more people and equipment into these situations.

“It’s thanks to the excellent working relationship that we have with the Air Force that we can call on their support at short notice when required to respond to an emergency or an evolving situation, and we are very grateful for that ongoing support.”

The platforms also enhance police’s capability across a number of other activities, including search and rescue, and cannabis recovery operations, Inspector Jago says.

“The great thing about these operations is that they not only benefit police and the wider community, but they also provide excellent opportunities for Air Force staff and crews to test their skills and gain experience across a range of different operational taskings, and we look forward to that continuing in future.”
After 49 years of NZDF service about 750 people gathered at Ohakea to commemorate the retirement of the Iroquis.

The guests ranged from a former Chief of the Defence Force to junior technicians and included a large number of ex-3 Squadron personnel, many of whom travelled from overseas to share the occasion.

Noting that No 3 Squadron has lost serving personnel over the years, the organising committee were keen to support the Missing Wingman Trust in some way so an auction of memorabilia was organised.

The evening proved a great success with many acquaintances rekindled and many stories embellished, and the Missing Wingman Trust benefitted from the generosity of those attending to the tune of over $26,000.

As a parting note, the members of No 3 Squadron would like to thank all those who have supported them throughout the life of the mighty Huey.

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**HUEY TRIVIA**

**49 YEARS IN SERVICE**

**TOTAL HOURS FLOWN APPROX.**

**200,000 = 22.8 YEARS**

Assuming an average speed of 70 knots, this equates to 14,000,000nm, equivalent to 34 times to the Moon and back.
Warrant Officers Frank Watkins and John Horan gave their lives to save their crewmates, but were each denied the Victoria Cross because of insufficient evidence. Instead both were mentioned-in-despatches, the only other recognition which could be given posthumously.

Despite considerable lobbying after World War Two, neither award was upgraded, leading to criticism that this diminished their valour and sacrifice.

Frank Watkins was working as a Government clerk when he enlisted into the RNZAF in 1940 as a pilot and was sent to Europe mid-1941.

While attacking Duisberg, Germany, on the night of December 20, 1942, Watkins’ Wellington bomber was seriously damaged from a direct hit. His friend and bomb-aimer Sergeant Brooke-Norris was wounded and could not be removed from the stricken aircraft. Watkins ordered the rest of the crew to parachute to safety while he stayed with the aircraft and tried to crash land it in an attempt to save his friend’s life. Sadly, both men died.

Writing from within captivity Watkins’ crewmates described his actions as the “most outstanding example of love and sacrifice”. These sentiments were echoed by senior officers who all recommended him for the Victoria Cross. However, Air Marshal Arthur “Bomber” Harris did not endorse the recommendations due to insufficient evidence and Watkins was later mentioned-in-despatches.

Share-milker John Horan had arrived in Europe earlier in the war, and served as an air-gunner with No. 256 Squadron during the Battle of Britain. Throughout the war, he served with RAF pilot Peter Almack. After completing three tours together, Almack talked Horan into volunteering for a fourth in the Far East.

It was during that tour that Horan’s Sea Otter aircraft was attacked by six Japanese Oscar fighter bombers while conducting reconnaissance in the Bay of Bengal on January 9, 1945. Part of Horan’s left hand was blown off during the fight, but he refused medical aid. He instead returned to his guns, jamming them against his chest and fired over 800 rounds, until he was hit in the chest and head as the aircraft crash landed. The remainder of the crew made it ashore, while Horan could not be freed from the fuselage and sank with the damaged plane.

When his body was washed ashore the following day, he was buried with full military honours. Air Commodore Keith ‘Grid’ Caldwell, the RNZAF Liaison Officer in South East Asia, requested that the award of the Victoria Cross be investigated. However, Base Air Force South East Asia considered there was insufficient evidence to do so, and Horan was instead mentioned-in-despatches.

While it is unfortunate that neither servicemen received the Victoria Cross—despite their actions clearly warranting such an award—we should not allow this to diminish their valour and self-sacrifice. Instead it is up to us as an Air Force to preserve their memory and honour their deeds.

Wing Commander Mark Brewer, currently serves in the NZDF Institute for Leader Development. He has a long-running interest in the medallic recognition of service personnel and is currently Vice President of the New Zealand Military Historical Society.
Victor Baker’s diary was recently discovered by his grandson Russell. It told vivid tales of battles and near death experiences including from Zeppelins, Turk and German bullets and German U-boats. It also revealed an unknown family secret - Victor had an older brother, Malcolm, who gave his life during the conflict.

Russell unearthed as much as he could about his ancestors and their contribution to World War I. He turned to his friend and genealogy expert, Clint McInnes for help.

Together, the two scoured the diary and pieced together the unique war story of the brothers. Containing pictures, quotes, excerpts from the actual diary, as well as little known facts about World War I the book pays homage not only to the Baker brothers, but to all those who fought in ‘the war to end all wars’.

“This is a story not just of the war, but also of family misfortune, emigration and brotherly love,” McInnes said. “It’s a reminder to us all that our freedom has not come easily and that sacrifice should be remembered and respected.”

Russell Baker said he remembered his grandfather from a fairly young age.

“As an inquisitive young boy, when I realised he was in WWI, I am sure I asked all the wrong questions for when he did talk he always spoke as though he was an observer and not the participant he actually was.

“It was not until his WWI diaries came to life that I was able to comprehend just how involved in the war he had actually been, and just how much life experience he really had as a consequence.”

War took the brothers from New Zealand to Egypt and Gallipoli; from England to the front lines on the Western Front; from hospital ships to recovery hospitals; and from the Sinai to the Allied advance through Palestine and into the Jordan.

Victor Henry Baker died on his birthday on 22nd February, 1983, at Oamaru, New Zealand, aged 87 years.

“The Baker Boys”, by Clinton mhic Aonghais (Gaelic for McInnes) Price: $39.18. Available at: Amazon, Trafford and Barnes and Noble online bookstores.
Awards

CAF COMMENDATION AWARD

By SGT Shane Drummond (Air Movements Christchurch)

Three flight sergeants have been awarded the Chief of Air Force Commendation by CAF Air Vice Marshal Mike Yardley. The awards, presented at the end of June, were for outstanding zeal and devotion to duty.

Flight Sergeant Nathan Harkess received his award for completing the year-long project in setting up the Christchurch Air Movements Section as a point of first arrival for international flights. The work resulted in significantly enhancing the efficiency of the Air Movements Section. It also improved the level of support provided to Operation ANTARCTICA and the New Zealand Defence Force’s other regional stakeholders.

Flight Sergeant Nathaniel Dustin Goza was integral in the standing up of satellite classrooms for the NZDF IT Academy at the Royal New Zealand Naval Base Devonport and Linton Army Camp. Due to F/S Goza’s efforts, the NZDF IT Academy has also become a Cisco Certified Instructor Training Centre, which now allows the NZDF to train its own instructors in-house. He also facilitated opening up the NZDF IT Academy to deliver training to other government agencies such as the New Zealand Police.

On posting into the Directorate of Aeronautical Engineering, Flight Sergeant Brad Watson has undertaken a number of high profile and complex projects. They included the development and implementation of performance-based navigation policy and approval processes which were deemed a high priority project for the Air Force. He also created a stand-alone Air Force publication which focused specifically on communication, navigation, surveillance and air traffic management systems. F/S Watson also helped the NZDF Capability Branch in identifying and quantifying future aircraft upgrade requirements as a result of pending regulatory changes and obsolescence.

TE RAPA TROPHY WINNER'S HAPPY SURPRISE

Sergeant Casey Davenport has won the 2014 Te Rapa Trophy. The award recognises outstanding performance of duties from both the commissioned and non-commissioned ranks within the RNZAF Logistics Supply Branch.

In April SGT Davenport was asked to report to the Senior Trade Advisory Board (STAB) under the guise of discussing MHD Rockland invoices - so she was a little shocked but happily surprised when the board’s attention turned to her.

SGT Davenport was officially presented the award in May and her citation said she received it in recognition of her outstanding role as SNCOIC No 40 Squadron Forward Support Section for three years, her integral role as part of the Base Contingency Plan when SAP was unavailable during the introduction of HRMIS, her short notice deployment to the Philippines for OP TYPHOON and her deployment to OP TIKI VII where she developed robust SOPs for the deployed admin role in addition to contingent logistics support.

SGT Davenport has consistently demonstrated the highest standards of professionalism and has delivered success in both domestic roles and those abroad. She has left an enduring influence on both the junior personnel she has developed and on the robust practices she has left in place. SGT Davenport’s continued commitment, determination and performance as an RNZAF Logistics Specialist is exemplary.
JUNIOR OFFICERS GRADUATE INITIAL TRAINING

Welcome and congratulations to our new Air Force officers who marked the completion of their Initial Officer Training Course (IOTC) with a graduation parade at Base Woodbourne. The IOTC consists of five months of intensive training to prepare graduates to carry out their responsibilities as Commissioned Officers of the Air Force. The course includes training and assessments (essays, tests, assignments and assessments!), in areas such as RNZAF history, customs, organisation and administration, foot and sword drill, weapon training, Service Law, defence tactics and field camps.

A strong emphasis is placed on Defence and Strategic Studies, where the current roles and requirements of the New Zealand Defence Force are related to the basic framework of international relations both past, present and future.

Sword of Honour + Officer Training Course Trophy and CAF Coin: Flying Officer Aimee Turei

Robinson Memorial Trophy and RSA Coin: Pilot Officer James Newbould

Karl Dobson Memorial Trophy: Flying Officer Rhea Hornby

UNFORGETTABLE WEEK FOR WALSH MEMORIAL TROPHY WINNER

Mr Kurte was the 49th winner of the Walsh Memorial Prize, which was awarded by GPCAPT Tim Walsh at the Scout Aviation Camp in Matamata.

My visit to Air Force Base Ohakea was an incredible experience as I got a full tour of the base and its operations. I stayed in H Block with the senior and junior Kingair course. They were all very welcoming and gave me a good look at the life of a pilot under training. Some of the highlights of the week were a hands on flight in a Kingair and the full movement A109 helicopter simulator. There was a planned NH90 flight for the Thursday but unfortunately it was cancelled which gave me an insight about how everything does not always go as planned in aviation. It looks to be an exciting time for the Air Force with the new T-6 Texans and amazing new training facilities for them and for the next Wings course that will come through. I’d like to say a big thank you to the Air Force and Walsh Memorial Flying School for giving me this remarkable opportunity as it was an unforgettable week.
Major General (Rtd) Louis Gardiner, ONZM (1952 – 2015) died peacefully on Saturday 18 July, surrounded by his family.

Chief of Defence Force Lieutenant General Tim Keating said there was widespread sadness within the Army, the wider Defence Force and internationally among the many people MAJGEN Gardiner had known.

“The Army family has lost a General with a sincere and common touch and our thoughts and condolences are with Lou’s family.”

MAJGEN Gardiner joined the New Zealand Army in 1971 and entered the Royal Military College, Duntroon, Australia before joining the Royal New Zealand Army Ordnance Corps in 1975. He completed a number of appointments in New Zealand as well as courses at Fort Lee in the United States and a two-year posting to Army Office in Canberra, Australia as a Major, before being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and Commanding Officer of the 1st Base Supply Battalion.

MAJGEN Gardiner served at the United Nations Operations in Somalia, and was promoted to Colonel on his return to assume the appointment of Chief of Staff, Support Command. In 1997, MAJ GEN Gardiner attended the Australia College of Defence and Strategic Studies in Canberra, Australia and during 1998 he attended the Harvard Business School.

In December 1998, he was promoted to Brigadier and assumed the appointment of Chief of General Staff before becoming Land Commander. During this time he oversaw support to the New Zealand Police for APEC and NZDF activity in East Timor.

In July 2000, he was appointed Chief Military Observer in United Nations Transitional Authority East Timor (UNTAET) for twelve months, before becoming NZ Defence Advisor to Australia in December 2001.

MAJGEN Gardiner was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) for his operational service in East Timor in 2004. In November 2004 he was promoted to Major General and posted as Commander Joint Forces New Zealand.

On May 1, 2006 MAJGEN Gardiner was appointed Chief of Army, a position he held for three years.

On leaving the NZ Army, he became the Chief Executive of Crimestoppers New Zealand.

MAJGEN Gardiner was the loved husband of Judith, father to Matthew, Erin and Benjamin, and poppa to Melanie.
The HQNZDF Reserve Force Internship Scheme (RIS) will provide selected NZDF Reservists with an internship at NZDF bases across New Zealand. Interns will be placed where their individual skills can best be used and the intern can be exposed to opportunities to further a military or civilian career with the NZDF.

At the end of the 14 week placement, applicants receive a final report/reference from their sponsor branch. The report is detailed and covers Position Title, Position Description, Experience Gained, Task/Projects completed, Skills Acquired, Strengths Displayed and a general comment from the supervisor.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
Twelve internships are available to tertiary students who:
• are NZDF Reservists, of PTE or LCPL rank and are from either the Navy, Army or Air Force,
• are in their 2nd or final years of study,
• are available for 14 weeks from 16 November 2015 to 26 February 2016 (individual start and finish dates are able to be negotiated to suit academic commitments),
• are not in paid civilian employment and
• agree to wear civilian clothes for the duration of the internship.

REMUNERATION
• Interns will be paid their Reserve Force salary, up to a maximum of 8 hours per day.
• Interns are not to work weekends.
• All public holidays are unpaid.
• Interns are offered full board accommodation at the nearest military base to their place of employment.
• Interns are offered a daily train pass to and from their place of work to their nearest military base.
• Travel expenses to and from either university or home locations will be met by NZDF at the beginning and end of the internship.
• Travel expenses to and from home location (stated on initial application form) will be met by NZDF for Christmas leave. Christmas leave is unpaid.

ADMINISTRATION
The Reserve Force Internship Scheme is managed by the Directorate of Reserve Forces and Youth Development (DRFYD), Freyberg House, HQNZDF, Wellington. For any queries please email reserves@nzdf.mil.nz.

SELECTION CRITERIA
Applicants from any academic discipline will be considered. Specific placement opportunities exist for law, HR, science and commerce graduates.
1. Security Clearance: Interns must have an NZDF (CV) security clearance prior to application.
2. Application Process
• Applications are available by emailing request to reserves@nzdf.mil.nz
• Applications to be endorsed and sent to reserves@nzdf.mil.nz by applicant’s chain of command
• Applications to include:
  i. Completed application form (available by email request to reserves@nzdf.mil.nz),
  ii. Covering letter, outlining why you would like to work at NZDF on a Reserve Internship,
  iii. CV – current, including all academic, sporting and cultural achievements.
• Interviews will be held for short-listed applicants. The interview will be either by phone or in person.

Final day for applications: 02 October 2015
On a balmy July morning, about two dozen Defence Force families gathered at the Air Force terminal at Wellington’s Lyall Bay, ready to board a Hercules bound for Christchurch.

The group was being flown to the Royal New Zealand Air Force Museum as part of an initiative timed to coincide with the school holidays.

Small children ran excitedly around the stark terminal waiting for the plane to arrive and when the large dark grey aircraft did touch down about 9.30am, phones and cameras emerged to record the moment.

Once the group arrived at Christchurch, they were bussed to the museum where they explored the Air Force’s national collection as well as a behind the scenes tour of hangars holding exhibits being worked on by the conservation staff.

Flight Lieutenant Sarah Collins brought her former Air Force husband Tony, and children Liam, 11, Georgia, 8 (almost 9), and Zoe, 5 on the special trip.

“We work very hard and often parents go away, so it’s an opportunity to get your family to come and experience a bit of military life – in terms of the flight down on the Hercules.

“It’s a real thank you to the families – it’s not an ordinary life.” Liam said he enjoyed seeing how the planes and other military equipment were worked on before they came out for display.

Georgia said the day was “really fun”. The flight down in the noisy Hercules was at first “creepy”, but then it improved, she said.

The day was also a hit for Zoe who enjoyed everything and the plane ride down was “awesome”.

Warrant Officer David Milne and his teenagers Jason, 16, and Jess, 13, also appreciated the opportunity.

“It’s great that 40 Squadron were able to put on a plane today. It was absolutely fantastic,” W/O Milne said.

Jess said the museum was “really cool and interesting”, while her brother said it was a great opportunity to see how far the Air Force had come since its inception.

“It’s cool to look back on the history.”

Squadron Leader Rebecca Maynard had brought her 2-year-old Lily on the trip.

It was a great opportunity to come to Christchurch on the aircraft and share the day with family, she said.

Museum director Therese Angelo welcomed seeing the personnel’s children come through the museum.

“We do a lot of work with young people and part of our move to go to free admission a few years ago was all about driving attendance so that everyone could come and enjoy the story.

“It’s great - a new generation of Air Force people hopefully.” Museum Technical Conservation Officer Shayne Harris said they were there to look after the artefacts for the Air Force.

“It’s not our museum, it’s the Air Force’s museum and that’s what we’re here to look after.”
New Zealand Defence Force Ball 2015

New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) through the ages

Tickets cost $105 each includes canapés, 2 course buffet dinner with drinks

Only 400 tickets available

Mess dress or service equivalent

Black tie + ball gown

Entertainment by

The Royal New Zealand Air Force Band

Wellington Foyer

Te Papa Museum

Friday 11.09.15

7.00pm till late

Only 400 tickets available

Tickets cost $105 each includes canapés, 2 course buffet dinner with drinks

Mess dress or service equivalent

Black tie + ball gown

RNZAF flights & Tretham accommodation will be available.

Registration of interest open 22 July
When Don Mackenzie saw two uniformed men stride up his driveway, he thought they were the police.

Instead, they were NZDF officers who had made a surprise visit to present the former Flight Sergeant with the Royal Air Force Bomber Command clasp for his service with 75 Squadron during WWII.

The 91-year-old had been sent the clasp earlier in the year, but his wife Lynley secretly arranged for a formal presentation by RNZAF Liaison Officer and former Squadron Leader Andrew Rooney on July 4.

“It was terrific, really great,” Mr Mackenzie said.

“I didn’t know a thing until the officers arrived – it was a wonderful day.”

SqnLdr Rooney said it was a “great privilege” to be able to present such a meaningful and well deserved acknowledgement to Mr Mackenzie.

“The reaction from Don, Lynley and family showed just how much it meant to them. Although we served in totally different eras, on totally different aircraft in different times, there is always a special bond and interest about being on the same squadron and it was reciprocal.”

Mr Mackenzie joined the Air Force in 1943. He trained as a wireless operator and rear gunner. While his wireless operating skills were not needed, Mr Mackenzie flew 55.55 daytime hours and 8.35 night hours as a rear gunner.

He also volunteered and flew three sorties for Operation MANNA, which took place near the end of the war and involved dropping food in the unliberated western Netherlands, where people were starving in the Dutch famine.

Mr Mackenzie’s clasp will be fitted to his ribbon, alongside his other wartime medals.

**EXERCISE FLASH LANTERN NET**

Exercise FLASH LANTERN NET was conducted at Whenuapai during June. It provided essential training for the US Air Force Special Operations Command MC-130H aircrews, pararescuemen and supporting personnel, whilst simultaneously increasing the interoperability of NZDF units to operate in a joint and combined environment, Base Commander GpCapt Tim Walshe said. Three MC-130H were used to support the exercise. “My thanks to all personnel involved in the planning and running of this important exercise,” GpCapt Walshe said.
Improving Systems at a Black Belt Level

By Mr John Reps, Business Support Manager LC(A)

The frustration of valuable time being clogged up with unnecessary red tape is becoming a thing of the past as staff work to become “black belts” in streamlining processes.

Logistics Command (Air) has been engaged with Continuous Improvement since its inception as a Defence initiative. In that time LC (A) has turned to and run improvement events on the small (white belt) and large (green belt) scale. The initiative hones skills to ensure every process is completed with utmost efficiency and effectiveness – freeing up more time for your day.

The NZDF has a new intranet site aimed at transforming the way information on individual learning (training, education and workplace experience) is made available to its personnel.

The Learning Toolkit site, developed and owned by the NZDF, consists of:

- learning information (information, processes and guidance on a wide variety of individual learning matters, ranging from nominating and enrolling on a course through to getting assistance with study)
- the Defence Manual of Learning (the primary source of NZDF individual learning policy), and
- the SAL Toolkit (processes, guidance and support material to assist learning practitioners in undertaking the Systems Approach to Learning).

Chief People Officer Debbie Francis has welcomed the introduction of the site. “The website is a great innovation that provides our people with easy access to material and information that’s critical to delivering individual training and education within the NZDF. As such, the Learning Toolkit is included within ‘2020 Ready’ as one means by which the NZDF is delivering better support to its personnel as we progress towards an Enhanced Combat Capability in 2020.”

We have been trained by Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt consultants and in turn, we have taken that knowledge and trained our own personnel. Now, LC (A) readies itself for the next step. It is our turn to have the high level skill set of Black Belt as an integral part of our organisation.

For those unfamiliar, the designation of Black Belt is the highest level one can achieve in the Lean Six Sigma methodology.

Why is this significant?

“Simply put, it demonstrates the Defence Force’s true dedication to getting better at the things we do.”

A person designated as a Black Belt is a doer, an owner, the brains and spirit of continuous improvement. No small task indeed, but our people are ready for the challenge.

This coming year, within LC (A), is very exciting. “Improve” is being thrown our way and now we have the power to score that try.

Learning Toolkit launched

The Learning Toolkit can be accessed:

- by going directly to its web address: http://ref/sites/learning/
- from the NZDF intranet landing page (ILP), either from the button on the right under “HR Toolkit” or the link under “Training & Education” from the top menu, or
- from the button located on NZDC’s home page.
Flying Officer Adam Palmer took a break from work at 40 SQN in Whenuapai for a week last month to take part in the Rugby Carnival on Australia’s Gold Coast.

About 30 teams – roughly half from New Zealand – took part in the schoolboy tournament, with players ranging in age from 13 to 18.

FGOFF Palmer joined four other New Zealanders in refereeing some of the games. One of the more exciting games FGOFF Palmer refereed was the U16 Final between Sydney’s Scots College and Christchurch’s Shirley Boys’ High School.

“It was very even in the first half and in the second half Scots just got more dominant and ran away with it.” Scots won the match 17 – 11.

He also had the opportunity to ref a premier game between the Gold Coast Eagles and Surfers Paradise Dolphins, which ended up in a nail biting 13 – 11 result to Surfers Paradise.

“There was a decent crowd who were fairly vocal,” FGOFF Palmer said.

At the end of the Carnival FGOFF Palmer was awarded the Paddy O’Brian Memorial Award for the most outstanding tournament referee, chosen by the referees themselves.

The players involved in the Carnival weren’t there so much for the winning, but more to “celebrate rugby”, he said.

“All the players play in a really good spirit.”

FGOFF Palmer is part of the Auckland Rugby Referees Association and has been involved in the New Zealand Wider Training Group. His intent is to gain enough experience to referee Heartland Rugby and ITM Cup matches – with his eye set on All Black games in the future.

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Leading Aircraftman Chris Robertson from 3 Squadron is travelling to Brazil this month to compete in the Aircraft Maintenance section of the WorldSkills international competition.

He was selected to represent New Zealand after winning the silver medal at the National competition in 2014 and Gold at the Oceania competition in 2015.

To prepare him for the international competition he has had to undertake on-line training in the WorldSkills’ rules and processes as well as hone his trade skills to take on the world’s best young aircraft engineers.

LAC Robertson’s training has included a month at Logistics Training Squadron and Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology at Woodbourne to learn aircraft electrical wiring and fault finding techniques and flight control rigging. He has also visited Helicopters NZ in Nelson to familiarise himself with the Squirrel helicopter. He has also spent many hours at Ohakea perfecting his skin bay and engine inspection skills, and several days at Hawker Pacific working on 42 Squadron King Air engines.

WorldSkills has included teamwork training care of Command and Recruit Training Squadron and mental toughness training in the preparation to enable our competitors to perform at peak effectiveness. The last aspect of preparation will be a trial competition at the end of July based at Whenuapai and Ardmore to try and replicate the pressures of international competition.

LAC Robertson said his last two months of training had been “intense, stressful, yet rewarding.”

“I have learnt a lot of new skills such as Avionics and Flight Control Rigging. I am now at the point where I want to get over there and get the job done.

“It’s a very daunting prospect but I know once it’s over and done with, it will be something I look back on fondly.”

To watch the opening ceremony on August 11 and closing ceremony on August 16, click on www.worldskillssaopaulo2015.com

A group of RNZAF Whenuapai base personnel proved their mettle by braving the conditions to compete in the annual Tough Guy Tough Gal Challenge at Woodhill Sands Equestrian Centre in June. The pressure was on the team to win the Corporate Challenge title for a second year in a row after a very successful 2014 competition, Acting Base Commander, Wing Commander Glenn Gowthorpe said.

A field of over 800 competitors lined up at the start and after the gruelling, wet, muddy and undulating 6km course the Base Auckland team again won the Corporate Challenge title. In addition to the title there were individual successes as follows: Brittney Shirriffs (1st female overall); Brandon Purdue (2nd overall); Regan Hannett (3rd overall) and Shane Leaming (7th overall). Congratulations to all those who competed and bring on the ‘three-peat’ next year!
Notices

THE AIR FORCE IN CONCERT
The RNZAF Band will perform The Air Force in Concert on Sunday, September 27.
The concert, formerly the Air Force Proms, will be held at the Opera House in Wellington from 2.30pm.
Tickets will go on sale in mid-August from Ticketek.

NZDF RESERVE FORCE INTERNSHIP SCHEME – OCTOBER DEADLINE
The NZDF is accepting applications for 12 Reserve Force internships with a closing date of 2 October. The 14-week internships are aimed at serving Reservists about to complete their university studies. Applicants must be interested in learning more about the NZDF.

Eligibility criteria
Tertiary students who:
• are NZDF Reservists of PTE or LCPL rank (in Navy, Army or Air Force)
• are in their second or final years of study
• are available from 16 November 2015 to 26 February 2016
• are not in paid civilian employment
• agree to wear civilian clothes for the duration of the internship.

Apply
The Reserve Force Internship Scheme is managed by the Directorate of Reserve Forces and Youth Development (DRFYD), Freyberg House, HQNZDF, Wellington. For an application form, email: reserves@nzdf.mil.nz

1956 RNZAF BOY ENTRANTS’ REUNION 2016
WHAT:
1956 RNZAF Boy Entrants’ 60-Year Reunion 2016

1956
WHEN:
19 – 21 January, 2016

TO REGISTER: Contact the reunion secretary, Gray Adams.
F12/128 Cleghorn Street, Blenheim, 7201
Phone: 03-578 5335 | Email: graya@slingshot.co.nz
The photograph of Helicopter Crewman Sgt Lyle Wooller was taken during one of my flights on the NH90 during Exercise TALISMAN SABRE in Australia.

This particular flight was part of 3 Squadron’s two NH90’s involvement transporting US Soldiers from Williamson Airfield (where they arrived by dropping out of C-17 Globemasters the day before) to Samuel Hill Airfield. As we were returning back to Williamson we happened to be flying at just the right angle to view the double rainbow and Sgt Wooller happened to be keeping watch of the three other helicopters (two Australian MRH90 and our second NH90) flying to our rear. It really was a case of being in the right place at the right time.
COURAGE
BEING BRAVE ENOUGH TO ASK FOR HELP

NZDF Mental Health Help Line – After Hours
Monday – Friday 1630 to 0800  Weekends / Stat Holidays 24 hours
0800 189 910