2017 AIR TATTOO: JUST DAYS AWAY

FAREWELL TO NEXT MIDDLE EAST CONTINGENT

NH90 CELEBRATES LATEST CAPABILITY
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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New Zealand Government
In his end-of-year message last year, Chief of Air Force outlined how excited he was at the prospect of celebrating the RNZAF’s 80th anniversary in 2017, starting with the showcase event – the 2017 Air Tattoo at RNZAF Base Ohakea.

It has been a huge planning process, with lots of detail, and the Air Tattoo Committee and extended team have been working hard over the past few months. As I type, we are less than six weeks from hosting what promises to be a magnificent showcase of RNZAF capability (that’s our aircraft and our people), as well as those of our closest friends and allies. Confirmation of visiting aircraft is growing, with F-15s, F-16s, F/A-18s, C-17s, a KC-135, KC-767, and C235 all signalled. The global reputation of the RNZAF and the desire of our friends to be part of this significant milestone are combining well to ensure the 2017 Air Tattoo is the premier air show in the southern hemisphere this year.

The sight of the Black Falcons polishing their routine is becoming a regular sight in the skies over Ohakea and the prospect of a range of visiting aircraft from our friends and allies bodes well for an Air Tattoo promising to offer something very few New Zealanders will have seen.

The number one priority for the Air Tattoo Committee has been traffic management to ensure people can actually get to this event, instead of being stuck in traffic on State Highway 1. We have painstakingly and continuously given the message that public access to the base is by a ticket booked through Ticketek. Parking near the base is limited to ticket holders and there are free “park-and-ride” bus options from Bulls and Feilding.

People can park their cars and ride the free buses that will be operating throughout the day to get to and from the event. Local road closures and traffic management teams will ensure the buses have unimpeded priority access to Ohakea. With these procedures in place we hope all the action will be in the sky that weekend and not on the road.

The Air Component Commander is working with planners to provide an air transport plan to ensure personnel from other bases, as well as key VIPs, can fly in and out, to allow as many of our RNZAF personnel as possible to be on site for each of the two days.

One of our strategic issues as an Air Force is that a majority of the work the RNZAF does often occurs overseas or outside the public view, meaning many New Zealanders don’t get the opportunity to see and understand what a great, diverse, professional and multi-faceted organisation we are.

The outstanding RNZAF response to the Kaikoura earthquake in November brought the RNZAF into people’s living rooms via television and social media, and February 25 and 26 will provide a fantastic opportunity to showcase our capability once again to thousands of people.

I am looking forward to welcoming you all to Ohakea to help celebrate and acknowledge 80 years of RNZAF service to the people of New Zealand.
The RNZAF 2017 Air Tattoo at Base Ohakea is just around the corner. For two days the air above the base will be filled with the sights and sounds of aircraft from the RNZAF and air forces from around the world. Thousands are expected to pour through the gates to get their aviation fix from static and air displays by more than 60 rotary and fixed-wing aircraft. Each day will conclude with a breath-taking display by our Black Falcon aerobatic display team. It will truly be a weekend of celebration as the Royal New Zealand Air Force enters its 80th year.
Putting together an air show of such magnitude is no walk in the park — a dedicated team has been working on the details for more than a year. They have worked on solving significant challenges, including dealing with the increased traffic, how and where to park all the extra aircraft on the base and ensuring tens of thousands of visitors are taken care of over the 48-hour period.

One of those working hard to put the show together is Squadron Leader Jim Rankin, whose job is to ensure all the aircraft are in their right place at the right time.

“It’s what we’re calling the giant game of Tetris — how we make the 64 aircraft fit on to the base.”

The team had to come up with multiple scenarios where all the aircraft would fit on base regardless of what order they arrived, he said.

He also needs to ensure the visiting aircraft are supported when they arrive on base.

“There’s two parts to that — one is the support that we give to any aircraft that comes in, and then there is the support we are giving to them to be a part of the air show. There’s a bit of a cross-over there, so we’ve got a little bit of that going on — making sure the right people are taking care of the right jobs.”

SQNLDR Rankin is also responsible for organising the air display.

“We’ve got to make sure they can take off and land and park. So we look at how to put on about five-and-a-half hours of an entertaining spectacle and how we make sure each aircraft can get airborne and land without getting in the way of somebody else.”

The Air Tattoo would showcase to the public the Air Force’s capability, he said.

“The air displays are only part of that — the ground displays will be an integral part of what we do. We want the public to engage with their Defence Force and find out what the Defence Force does.”

Another team member, Air Tattoo event manager Renee Barbour, looks after all the public interaction.

The 2012 air show faced huge challenges with traffic management and a lot of lessons had been learned from the event, with sound traffic management systems put in place this year, she said.

“There have been major changes to the way the whole event was run, including no gate sales and a traffic plan that expands from the State Highway 57 turnoff from Levin, right through to the Vinegar Hill turnoff. So the traffic management plan is extensive this time.”

As well as a parking option, “park-and-ride” buses will ferry visitors to the event from locations in Bulls and Feilding.

The team was planning for 50,000 people each day, so there might be a few traffic hold-ups, but the plan was to ensure the traffic kept moving, Ms Barbour said.

The days would be very “military-focused” and a great opportunity for the public to interact with members of the Defence Force, she said.
When you have a party, you should invite your mates. For that reason, this year’s Air Tattoo has an exciting line-up of international aircraft to help us to celebrate the RNZAF’s 80th anniversary. Here is a sneak preview of the aircraft that will be on display, either in the air or, for a closer inspection, on the ground.

**United States Air Force**

**F-16C FIGHTING FALCON**  
*AIR DISPLAY*

- Ferry range: 3,200 km
- Length: 15 m
- Max speed: 2,414 km/h
- Wingspan: 9.8 m

**C-17A GLOBEMASTER III**  
*AIR DISPLAY*

- Wingspan: 52 m
- Ferry range: 8,704 km
- Weight: 128,100 kg
- Length: 53 m

**Royal Canadian Air Force**

**KC-135R STRATOTANKER**  
*STATIC DISPLAY*

- Wingspan: 40 m
- Length: 42 m
- Max speed: 853 km/h
- Range: 2,419 km
- Weight: 44,660 kg
- Max takeoff weight: 146,285 kg

**CC-130J HERCULES**  
*STATIC DISPLAY*

- Max speed: 556 km/h
- Wingspan: 40 m
- Introduced: 2010
- Engine type: Turboprop
Royal Australian Air Force

F/A-18 HORNET FIGHTER/ATTACK JET
AIR DISPLAY

Max speed 2,200 km/h
Length 17 m
Wingspan 12.4 m
First flight November 18, 1978

C-17A GLOBEMASTER III
STATIC DISPLAY

Wingspan 52 m
Ferry range 8,704 km
Weight 128,100 kg
Length 53 m

Republic of Singapore Air Force

F-15SG
STATIC DISPLAY

Combat Ceiling 65,000 ft
Wingspan 13 m
Length 19.4 m
Max speed Mach 2.5+

C-130H
STATIC DISPLAY

Length 29.8 m
Wingspan 40.5 m
Weight 34,927 kg
Range 8890 km
Cruise speed 590 km/h

New Caledonia Armed Forces

CASA CN235
AIR & STATIC DISPLAY

Length 21 m
Wingspan 26 m
Introduced 1 March 1988
First flight November 11, 1983

Royal Air Force

A400M ATLAS
STATIC DISPLAY

Range 3,700 km
Length 45 m
Max speed 759 km/h
Wingspan 42 m
Weight 76,500 kg

Japan Air Self Defence Force

BOEING KC-767J
STATIC DISPLAY

Max speed 915 km/h
Range 12,325 km
Length 49 m
Wingspan 48 m
Cruise speed 851 km/h
Squadron Leader (SQNLDR) Brett Clayton, who flies the lead T-6C Texan in the aerobatic group, said the team began training in August last year and in November they received approval to display publicly.

“So that was quite a neat milestone to achieve in a relatively short timeframe. We worked hard to get it done before Christmas.”

The pilots have been practising solidly in the build-up to the Air Tattoo and are prepared for anything the elements can throw at them over the show weekend.

“We’ve got three types of shows,” SQNLDR Clayton said. “We have the high show, which is when the cloud-base is 3500 feet, so nice, clear skies. When the cloud comes down to about 2500 feet we can do the low show, which is essentially just taking out the looping manoeuvres, and then if the cloud is lower than that we can do a flat show.

“So all three shows have elements of commonality, but basically what it means is that we have got a degree of flexibility to get airborne if the weather deteriorates or improves.”

The team had received high praise for the routine, he said.

The display will take about 15 minutes, starting with aerobatics involving the entire team before they split into smaller groups.

“There’s a bit of tagging in and tagging out, before we join back together and we finish with some more passes and some aerobatics,” SQNLDR Clayton said.
The New Zealand Defence Force has sent a 55-member contingent and an Air Force P-3K2 Orion surveillance aircraft to the Middle East as part of an international partnership against piracy and people and drug trafficking. The team will help patrol 3.2 million square miles of international water in the Middle East to support the US-led Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) over the next 12 months.

“Through this mission, we will help protect vital trade routes around the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean and demonstrate once again our government’s long-standing commitment to global security,” Joint Forces New Zealand Commander Major General (MAJGEN) Tim Gall said.

The first rotation of personnel left for the Middle East on February 7, with the Orion following three days later.

The CMF is a 31-nation naval partnership that promotes maritime security and seeks to defeat terrorism and prevent piracy and people and drug trafficking.

Mission Commander Wing Commander (WGCDR) Daniel Hunt said the contingent was looking forward to working with New Zealand’s CMF partners to keep the seas safe in the Middle East.

“Everyone is upbeat, and with the world-class skills of our people I am confident we will be able to make a significant contribution,” WGCDR Hunt said.

The contingent aimed to represent New Zealand in a positive light and provide a meaningful contribution to security in the Middle East, he said.

“We were valued because of our high mission success rate in 2015 and the unique capabilities of our Orion, so we will be striving to achieve that again.”

The last NZDF Orion mission to support the CMF conducted 174 maritime surveillance flights involving about 1400 flying hours over 16 months to December 2015. It also helped the CMF locate and intercept vessels attempting to smuggle drugs worth nearly NZ$500 million.

“Working with other navies and air forces is always a bonus,” WGCDR Hunt said. “It allows you to benchmark your performance and provides opportunities to learn from each other. Invariably we measure up pretty well and my expectation is that it will be no different this time.

“The challenges will likely come from operating in a hot and dry environment. Temperature is less of an issue when you are airborne but before and after the flights the heat poses challenges to those working in and around the aircraft.”

WGCDR Hunt, the Commanding Officer of the Air Force’s No. 5 Squadron until early this year, is an experienced hand, having completed three tours in the Middle East. He has also been deployed to Southeast Asia, South Pacific, Europe and the Caribbean.
No. 3 Squadron’s NH90s have been stood up to operate on to ships at home and internationally after work on the HMNZS CANTERBURY late last year. This important development has vastly increased the countries they can travel to when they are needed for disaster response.

No. 3 Squadron Commanding Officer, Wing Commander (WGCDR) Scott McKenzie, said the capability broadened the nature of the NH90s’ role within the New Zealand Defence Force.

“We are able to transfer personnel and stores from ship to shore or reverse and we can also refuel on the ship,” WGCDR McKenzie said. “So that gives us a greater range and a greater capability, especially for HADR (humanitarian assistance and disaster relief) or earthquake response.”

The NH90s would be able to perform the tasks regardless of whether the ship was moving, he said.

“I think it’s a fantastic capability that can operate all around New Zealand and further afield, such as the Southwest Pacific and beyond.”

The people who were involved in developing the capability
– from maintenance, supply, air crew – had done an enormous amount of work, he said.

“We’ve also worked with the Australian Navy and No. 6 Squadron during the process. So we’ve had great support. It’s been a big team effort on the back of an intense period with earthquake recovery operations.”

HMNZS CANTERBURY Commanding Officer Commander Simon Rooke said from a Navy point of view it significantly enhanced the capability that the CANTERBURY could deliver on behalf of the whole of the Defence Force.

“Having the NH90s now being to operate from the ship opens up so many more capabilities for us, and for the navy it’s just a further extension of our jointery, given that we’ve had Air Force personnel within our naval flights for 50 years with the Wasps and now the Seasprites.”

Until now the NH90s could be shipped, but they could operate only from the shore, CDR Rooke said.

“Now we have integrated the NH90 capability, if we’re in a remote location they can come with us to that location and then they lodge ashore. More importantly, they can pick up fuel and transport cargo and people.”

In the future the NH90s would also be able to operate from the HMNZS ENDEAVOUR replacement ship and the littoral off-shore support ship, CDR Rooke said.

“It’s a great result for all of us and it came about after a great amount of hard work by a number of different parts of the organisation.”

The embarked capability will be developed further later this year, in conjunction with Exercise SOUTHERN KATIPO on the South Island’s West Coast.
Hello, From South of Wherever You Are

By Leading Aircraftman Leigh Douglas

Four RNZAF personnel deployed as part of an eight-strong New Zealand Defence Force contingent to Antarctica to continue our commitment to provide logistical support to the New Zealand Antarctic programme. The roles the RNZAF personnel fill are cargo handler and communication operators.

We flew down on an American C-17 aircraft, and the moment we stepped off the plane on to the ice it took my breath away – not only from the -35°C temperature that greeted us, but the sheer size and beauty of this place.

Scott Base is a maze of interconnected green buildings, which I now call home. During our first few days on the ice we all had to complete Antarctic field training, which consisted of building a field kitchen and sleeping the night in a polar tent.

I thought that I had been cold in the field before, but this was a new experience, as your breath froze as you exhaled and began snowing back down onto your face.

My role is communications operator, which is not my day to day job in New Zealand – as a result, there were a few giggles in the beginning as I found my feet. In the first few weeks, as we were preparing for the start of the summer season and the frenzy of scientists it was going to bring, I was lucky enough to get a flight over to the Dry Valleys on mainland Antarctica, to help install a radio repeater. This is vital to maintain communications with the deep field science parties.
The flight provided stunning views but they were nothing compared to the beauty and grandeur of the Valleys themselves.

Day-to-day life here in the communications office is rather busy, with scheduled radio updates from the field parties checking their welfare and passing messages back and forth, answering phone calls to Scott Base and being the source of all knowledge for new scientists about where to find things.

We run a 24/7 service, which involves working a rotating roster of three morning shifts, three afternoon shifts and three night shifts. The night shifts are made considerably easier by the fact that the sun never sets, and shines as brightly at night as it does at lunchtime.

The non-stop daylight has other benefits, such as whatever time you finish work you can still go out for a walk and explore the local scenery without having to worry about it getting dark. A few of the local walks include going on to the sea-ice to look at the pressure ridges and sunbathing Weddell seals, up Observation Hill to the memorial of Captain Scott’s polar party, and to the square frame, which is New Zealand’s southernmost bach, and over the hill to McMurdo, the American base.

Another highlight so far is a day trip out to Cape Royds to visit Shackleton’s hut and Scott’s hut at Cape Evans. These huts provide such a dramatic step back into the heroic era of exploration in Antarctica. They are so well preserved you almost felt guilty for looking around, because it felt like the men had just walked out and would be back any moment to catch you snooping around their house.

The scenery on the trip to these huts is difficult to put into words – the Barne Glacier rises abruptly 300m from the sea ice, making the Hagglunds vehicles look like Lego toys.

Although we are only one month into our time down here, I am sure the following months will go just as quickly, and we will return home with many interesting experiences to share.
Leading Aircraftman Luke Minnell was one of five experienced New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) firefighters sent to Whitianga late last month to help battle a devastating bush fire that burnt almost 100 hectares of land and destroyed at least six homes. It was painstaking and dangerous but worth it, he said.

The group’s main task was to extinguish hotspots to prevent them from flaring again and to make sure the areas near houses were safe. The NZDF firefighting team went straight to work after arriving at night on 19 January.

“It was dark and hot, about 25°C. We had to lug all our equipment over two to three kilometres of steep terrain, looking for hotspots,” LAC Minnell said.
“We had our head lamps and torches to light our way. There was a light fog of smoke and we could see no farther than two metres in front of us.”

Because of limited water supplies in the area, LAC Minnell said the team used shovels, axes and fire rakes to extinguish embers.

“Removing a hotspot can take between 20 minutes and two hours. It depends on the area and whether there is vegetation surrounding it.”

LAC Minnell said the deployment to Whitianga gave him an opportunity to work alongside rural firefighters from across New Zealand. “It was a great learning opportunity for me. They are very experienced and I learnt new techniques, especially in removing hotspots, from them.”

However, the most important part of the role was being able to help other people, he said.

LAC Minnell enlisted in the Royal New Zealand Air Force in September 2013, a year after graduating from Wanganui High School.

“I’ve always wanted to join the Air Force. My grandfather and great grandfather on my mother’s side were both firefighters, and I’ve always wanted to follow in their footsteps.”

Major General (MAJGEN) Tim Gall, the Commander Joint Forces New Zealand, said the National Rural Fire Authority requested NZDF assistance to get the blaze under control.

“Our firefighters have experience here and overseas in fighting bush fires. Last year, we sent 10 firefighters to remote bushland in northwest Tasmania to help battle the state’s bush fires for about a month,” MAJGEN Gall said.

“We are aware that this work involves immense physical labour and some risks, but we in the Defence Force are always ready to help the local community.”
Maintainers and refuellers:

The teams behind maintaining critical fuel equipment and delivering fuel to our aircraft are often the unsung heroes during operations and exercises. Without them, our assets would literally not get off the ground! FGOFF George Hercus, from Ohakea, tells Air Force News about the service those teams provide.

Last year was a particularly high-tempo year for the Ground Support Maintenance (GSEMS) and Aviation Fuel sections, which work closely together to ensure outputs are met.

A big project was to stand up four new refuelling vehicles, which had been bought to supplement the aging Scania and Fuso fleets and to support T-6C Texan operations. This meant extra work for the teams to make sure personnel were trained and the vehicles were ready to support base operations. After a great effort, the last two of the vehicles finished that process recently.

On top of introducing a new capability into service, the Bulk Fuel Installation had an extensive upgrade. Civilian contractors had full rein of the facility during work hours, meaning the hard-working ground support technicians and aviation refuellers were able to complete only scheduled maintenance and fill the refuelling vehicles after hours and in the weekends.

The Air Force undertakes numerous exercises and operations yearly and last year was no exception. We were on hand to support Exercise Skytrain, Operation Antarctica, the work required after Tropical Cyclone Winston hit Fiji, police operations, combat training in the Australian outback and most recently in the aftermath of the 7.8 earthquake that struck the South Island’s upper east coast and lower North Island.

Following the Kaikoura earthquake, the Aviation Fuel Section deployed personnel and two fuel tankers to support the response. Meanwhile, the GSE technicians had to drop everything to return to service a fuel tanker so base operations could continue. During the 10 days after the quake the deployed fuel section carried out 243 refuels and ran 24-hour shifts, while a reduced team at home managed to maintain the increased tempo of output at Ohakea. It was an amazing effort by everyone.

Well done to the teams in their service-first attitude throughout the year – these sections exemplify how RNZAF teams work together towards the Chief of Air Force’s priority of carrying out military air operations.
Maintainers and refuellers: Unsung Heroes

**Did You Know...**

During the Kaikoura earthquake, the team of 4 Refuellers and 1 GSE Tech completed 243 refuels in 10 short days they were deployed.

This equates to enough fuel for a Toyota Corolla to circumnavigate the earth 47 times or approximately the same amount of kerosene to power all the households in Dunedin for 5 hours.

The 5 man team deployed during the Kaikoura earthquake completed a total of 750 man hours in 10 days.

This year both the GSE Techs and the Aviation Refuellers have struggled with significant staffing shortages, the fuel section in particular have at times been reduced to personnel levels as low as 25%.
On with the Show(s)

By SQNLDR Simon Eichelbaum, Public Affairs (Air)

The Royal New Zealand Air Force 2017 air display season kicked off in the relaxed atmosphere of the Classics of the Sky Air Show, held in Tauranga last month. A good crowd enjoyed the afternoon, which showcased a mix of aircraft and high-speed motorsport.

Surrounded by previous generations of RNZAF aircraft, the team showed off static displays of Hercules, Seasprite, and Kingair aircraft as well as a Communications and Information Systems Pinzgauer. During a break for commercial air traffic, the ever-popular Force Protection’s Military Working Dogs put on their usual polished display of discipline and canine action. A role-demonstration by the Seasprite ended with Able Helicopter Loadmaster James Drain waving goodbye dangling on the end of the winch.

The show wound up with a great display of the Texan T-6C’s handling abilities in the hands of Squadron Leader Anthony Budd, before the curtain was lowered under a darkening sky by a pair of classic ex-RNZAF Strikemasters.

Classic Flyers chief executive Andrew Gormlie was delighted to have the RNZAF present, with the Seasprite making its first appearance at the show. “The crowd is always pleased to be able to interact with the aircraft and personnel on the ground,” he said. Organisers estimated over 7000 people attended – about the same as the previous year – and were pleased with the turnout in spite of a gloomy weather forecast.

With the RNZAF Air Tattoo on February 25-26 being the obvious major highlight, the season winds up in April with the Omaka Classic Fighters where there will also be a strong Air Force presence.
Able Helicopter Loadmaster James Drain flown away by a Seasprite

Crowds taking in two T-6C Texans

A young visitor taking in the complexities of a Pinzgauer Light Operational Vehicle

LTCDR Alex Trotter, No. 6 Sqn Naval pilot grabbing a selfie with a show visitor

A budding Seasprite pilot?
Support During the Worst of Times

Making sure support is available for all those affected by tragedy is one of the principal focuses of New Zealand Defence Force Casualty Support Manager Yvonne Walden.

“There is a ripple effect of tragedy – not just those at the very centre but also think about the impact on colleagues, bosses, friends etc.” says Yvonne, who started the role in November last year and is based in the Wellbeing Directorate.

She has an extensive background in social work in one form or another spanning 40 years. Most of that time was spent in Britain, where she worked as a Force Welfare Officer for the Greater Manchester Police, in casualty cell management for the Royal Navy, working with personnel deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, and for the Royal Air Force, which included six months in an operational theatre in the Falkland Islands.

She works in the NZDF framework of KIWI (Killed, Injured, Wounded, Ill) but, sadly, the bulk of her work so far has been in the Killed area, with 13 deaths since she started.

She is now moving more into the areas of Injured and Ill, either helping to support people in rehabilitation processes or helping them transition out with the right advice in place. Support is also there for personnel with terminal diagnoses so that they and their families, friends and colleagues can access all the help that is available to them.

“All that this role does is about keeping the person at the centre of everything and doing what needs to be done at their pace,” Yvonne says.

“It is important to get the services and support right for those at home, so that operational effectiveness is maintained. There has to be trust that, if the very worst happens, those delivering the support to those who need it have all the resources and advice they require.”

Four handbooks are available now on:

- A Guide to Entitlements, Benefits and Services – how NZDF will support you and your family following an incident (available on the HR toolkit).
- Death of an NZDF member – a handbook available to all commanders and managers.
- A Family Bereavement guide.
- An NZDF Casualty Liaison Officer guide (when a service member has died).

Training is being developed for Casualty Notification Officers (CNO), Casualty Liaison Officers (CLO) and Family Liaison Officers (FLO), based largely on Yvonne’s experience gained from her roles in the Royal Air Force and Royal Navy.

Should there be a death Yvonne is also available for telephone consultation if the commander/manager, CNO, CLO or FLO need assistance.
Deploying overseas? Send a DJ

By Squadron Leader Lee Bradford

I was asked recently what my job was. I jokingly responded, “I’m a DJ”. The following question was inevitable – had they heard any of my music?

I am posted to the HQ Deployable Joint (DJ) Inter-Agency Task Force as the Operations Officer, where I’m not busting out beats, but do make a difference. This very small (14-person) tri-service unit is not well known in the RNZAF, yet it fulfils a vital role within the NZDF. In fact, when the NZDF needs to send personnel overseas, it is often personnel from HQ DJIATF who are the first to deploy.

We deploy as the Joint Command and Reconnaissance Team, most recently to Fiji as part of the Government’s response to Tropical Cyclone Winston early last year and to Kaikoura after the earthquake in November. Our role is to ensure we establish clear links with local authorities, aid agencies, other New Zealand agencies and, importantly, to provide input for the greater NZDF response to ensure what we send is appropriate for the situation and is capable of doing the job needed.

Once NZDF forces arrive we become the headquarters for all the NZDF forces in theatre. Our role extends through war fighting to stability and support operations, non-combatant evacuation operation and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

My current role is a far cry from my usual role as an engineer. On deployment I work at the operational level as the Task Force Operations Officer. This involves managing a small ops team, providing situational awareness to higher command, co-ordinating effort to support the units deployed, responding to the changing situation and co-ordinating effort with other New Zealand agencies, non-government organisations, other militaries, or host nation authorities.

In my short time in DJ I have deployed to Fiji and Kaikoura, conducted training with the United Nations in Jakarta and been on Exercise RIMPAC in Hawaii as the Future Operations Officer for the Coalition Task Force HQ.

DJ is unique in that we maintain a high state of readiness 365 days a year. When OP PACIFIC RELIEF was declared I was at home painting my house in the morning and on a plane that evening. When the Kaikoura earthquake hit I was on a hunting trip and found myself going straight from the bush to work.

Short-notice deployments can be very stressful on families and the job involves a lot of travel.

The NZDF’s future lies in successful joint operations. It is therefore vital for RNZAF personnel to be fully exposed to the joint environment. The DJ has given me that exposure and the job is incredibly rewarding and humbling.
United States Air Force (USAF) Staff Sergeant (SSGT) Matthew Burns has become the first overseas officer to complete the Sergeant Promotion Course at RNZAF Base Woodbourne. The course prepares current junior non-commissioned officers with additional command and management leadership tools that will help them as they move into middle management roles as sergeants. The course includes the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) lead leaders course.

SSGT Burns, based at Japan’s Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, said one of the things he would take from the course was the different perspectives he gained from other students. “We have learned through leading exercises and have worked through new challenges together that we haven’t faced before,” he said. “It has been great discussing different concepts with my classmates and the different approaches we all have to solving problems.

“Working with another military has been exciting and a real privilege. Not many people get a chance to do another air force’s promotion course and it has been awesome. Being chosen to come to New Zealand and work with the NZDF has been amazing and I am so lucky. I was really excited to be chosen.”

SSGT Burns’ role in Okinawa involves instructing the Airman Leadership Course at Kadena Air Base, where he teaches seven courses a year. Being able to take away the lessons of the course and apply them to his role was going to be beneficial, he said.

“I will take back with me memories that I will look fondly back on for the rest of my career, not to mention some people who I hope to remain friends with for the rest of my life.

“I hope to be able to share this experience with my students and to motivate and inspire them with this opportunity. I will also be able to share with them what it’s like to operate with another air force and how important it is to be a positive ambassador.”

Although there hadn’t been too much time to explore while being in New Zealand, SSGT Burns said he had made the most of it.

“Woodbourne is a beautiful place. I have been able to go to a few places while I’ve been here and met some extremely nice people. My classmates took me out to Havelock and we had fish and chips. They are the best I have ever had,” he said.
UN Women
Equipping Women Military Officers

By WGCDR Shauna Graham, Executive Officer to Joint Support Component Commander

UN Women recently hosted a Female Military Officers Course in Beijing, China, which focused on increasing the pool of senior women to deploy to United Nations missions and to equip them with the knowledge and tools to implement UN policies in peacekeeping leadership roles.

The course brought together 39 senior female officers from 29 countries – just like a mini UN! For me, it was a privilege to represent the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) and to engage with women who are changing the face of peacekeeping and of their own militaries.

A unique feature of the course was the secondment of personnel serving in current UN missions to instruct on issues happening on the ground now – providing real-time experience in missions including the UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan and the UN Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and at the headquarters level in the area of force generation within the Department for Peacekeeping Operations.

For the NZDF, the presence of women in peacekeeping roles is a reflection of our culture and values – it is who we are. For the host nation, the presence of women in a peacekeeping mission reflects the values and culture of the troop-contributing countries and provides role models to encourage local women and girls to contribute to their own peace process.

Broadening the skills available within any mission is a good thing, and providing the opportunity for women to talk to women can enhance operational effectiveness. Including women and more ethnic, religious and cultural diversity in any peacekeeping mission can add value, particularly when the peace process has broken down and a different perspective can bring a solution to an existing problem.

The UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations is advocating for 15 per cent of peacekeepers to be women by 2017 and is aiming for 30 per cent by 2020. The current rate is 4 per cent.

| WHAT       | UN WOMEN: Female Military Officer Course (FMOC) |
| WHERE      | Peacekeeping Training Centre, Beijing, China |
| WHO        | 39 female military officers from 29 countries |
| WHY        | To equip female military officers with the knowledge and tools to implement UN policies, with specific focus on the violence against women and the protection of civilians. |
Flights in a Tiger Moth and an Air Force C-130 and a visit to Christchurch Airport were just some of the activities Air Training Corps Cadets undertook to celebrate their 75th anniversary.

Exercise Southern Falcon was held in Canterbury late last year, with more than 100 personnel attending from all over the country. The anniversary weekend started with cadets arriving at West Melton Rifle Range – the headquarters for the exercise.

Exercise Commander Squadron Leader (SQNLDR) Michael White said the Canterbury Aero Club at West Melton Aerodrome took cadets on individual and group flights around the area, which tested their navigation and physics skills.

A Tiger Moth, flown by Captain Graham Holley, arrived at the aerodrome from the Marlborough Aero Club. Some cadets got to fly in the aircraft, which was a unique and exhilarating experience. Cadet Corporal Kaylee McCracken said though she was a little anxious at first about the flight, it was worth it.

Cadets also had a chance to fly in an RNZAF C130 Hercules around Christchurch and see the view from the rear opening of the aircraft.

After the recent Kaikoura earthquakes Christchurch Helicopters pilots had been working overtime to support the people of the region. However, they still made time to show the cadets through their facilities.

SQNLDR White said the smiles and reactions from the cadets made the effort spent planning and preparing for the exercise worthwhile.

The celebrations ended with a formal dinner at the Air Force Museum of New Zealand at Wigram. Wing Commander Bruce Sinclair, from New Zealand Cadet Forces, and SQNLDR Brett Marshall spoke at the dinner, congratulating the Air Training Corps on its 75th anniversary.

The exercise was enjoyed by all and was a fantastic way to celebrate 75 years of the Air Training Corps of New Zealand.
When a Pacific war became likely in the late 1930s, New Zealand was given responsibility for air reconnaissance around Fiji. As a result, airfields were built at Nadi and Nausori, while a flying-boat station was developed at Laucala Bay, near Suva. This book, by author and historian Bee Dawson, tells the story of the RNZAF’s operations in Fiji during the war and the two decades after, until the station finally closed in 1967. In war and peace, the drama caused by tragedies and extreme weather was tempered by the charm of Laucala Bay life: picnics on Nukulau Island, sailing competitions, parties, rugby and romance. Small wonder that this was one of the most popular postings the RNZAF ever offered.

* Laucala Bay: The story of the RNZAF in Fiji 1939 to 1967 will be launched at Base Ohakea during the 2017 Air Tattoo.
New Patrol Ration Pack

The Logistics Delivery Group

What is this?
Over the past year we have been working alongside our partner, Lockheed Martin, to develop and introduce a new shelf stable meal called the Patrol Ration Pack (PRP). It has been designed to provide an alternative to the cut lunch or hot box meals and provides about a third of the daily energy requirements to fill the nutrition gap between main meals.

What have we done?
We ran trials of the PRP in the field, using students and staff from a number of training courses. More than 190 personnel participated in the trials, with some great comments and suggestions provided in the questionnaires and debriefing sessions. All of the trials were successful and overall the PRP concept was favourably received. A big thanks to those who participated in the trials!

Where are we at?
Following the trials some changes were introduced, based on the feedback received. We took into account the product likes and dislikes, as well as the suggestions on things such as serving size, preferred means of consumption, ease of use of packaging, preferred component combinations, use of jack rats, damage to components and issues about cleaning up and rubbish disposal. As a result we have provided three hot options (Menues A, B and C) at $12.45 each and a ready-to-go option (Menu D) at $9.15. Menus A, B and C each contain a flameless ration heater (FRH) to heat the main meal retort pouches.

Where to from here?
We will now introduce the PRP to the SAP SRM catalogue under the Shopping Cart location of Ration Packs and Hexamine Stoves (Lockheed Martin). This is the same SRM location as the 24-hour Operational Ration Pack and orders can be placed immediately. The minimum order quantity will be individual boxes, each containing 20 PRP units of the same menu.

What are the key benefits of the Patrol Ration Pack?
The PRP is seen as a versatile and flexible feeding option that can be incorporated into a ration plan as a replacement for a fresh cut lunch, hot box or as a fourth meal or supplementary meal for high-intensity activities. It could be considered for use overseas during exercises and deployments, including HADR missions. The minimum shelf life for each PRP at the required delivery date is three months – therefore providing enhanced food safety in comparison to high-risk fresh foods in certain conditions. If you have some in your store the PRP is flexible for short-notice tasks, as well as being able to be returned to store if tasks are cancelled at short notice. It has a higher total energy value than a standard cut lunch and contains branded products that are known, liked and trusted.

More information
For more information on this exciting new meal concept, contact Major Nicola Martin, Dietician, Joint Operational Health Group on Internal (347) 7288.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MENU A</th>
<th>MENU B</th>
<th>MENU C</th>
<th>MENU D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retort Pouch – Beans Bangers and Bacon</td>
<td>Retort Pouch – Mexican Chicken and Corn Salsa</td>
<td>Retort Pouch – Chicken Tortellini</td>
<td>Chocolate Oat Power Bites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strawberry Fruit Grains</td>
<td>Tropical Trail Mix</td>
<td>Banana Chips</td>
<td>Raspberry Fruit Bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custard</td>
<td>Custard</td>
<td>Teriyaki Beef Steak Bar</td>
<td>Original Beef Steak Bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lightly Salted Cashews</td>
<td>Peanut Butter Slug</td>
<td>Cranberry Nut Mix</td>
<td>Honey Roasted Peanuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chocolate Bar (Dark Ghana)</td>
<td>Chocolate Bar (Dark)</td>
<td>Chocolate Bar (Milk)</td>
<td>Chocolate Bar (Peanut Slab)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cream Crackers</td>
<td>Cream Crackers</td>
<td>Apricot Chocolate Power Bites</td>
<td>Nuts and Ancient Grains Scroggin Mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isotonic Sports Drink</td>
<td>Isotonic Sports Drink</td>
<td>Isotonic Sports Drink</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
You Asked For It!

Ideas from personnel have guided work on a number of NZDF support packages. Some of the suggestions made at a series of workshops last year have already been delivered, for example, a range of discounts and a discount card are now available. But there are plenty of other services offered by NZDF that you may or may not be aware of.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

You asked for more help with home ownership, professional financial and budgeting advice and more flexibility with superannuation schemes.

We’ve ramped up our work on the financial support and advice available to help you and your families make good financial decisions.

**WE HAVE**

- joined forces with the Commission for Financial Capability to improve your financial know-how. A programme is being rolled out to all camps and bases
- engaged Milestone Direct Ltd to provide you and your families with professional financial advice and mortgage brokering services at no-cost or reduced cost
- introduced FlexiSaver and NZDF KiwiSaver schemes to help you get into your first home. The NZDF KiwiSaver has low fees and also comes with an additional CDF contribution of $3,000 over seven years.
- provided additional tools to assist with your financial planning

**FAMILY SUPPORT**

You asked for more support to build resilience in individuals and families and to build a sense of community and social connection.

**SO WE’VE**

- set up an integrated wellness programme that takes a preventative, early-intervention approach to all aspects of personal health and wellness – physical, mental, spiritual and social
- established better support for families with enhancements to parental leave introduced this year and are working on a new breast-feeding in the workplace policy to be delivered early in 2017.

**BUT DID YOU KNOW?**

- you can access government employee special banking rates with Westpac and special home loan rates with ANZ
- the NZDF Superannuation Scheme (Cats A, B and C) allows members to withdraw their funds to purchase their first home
- a range of discounts from well known businesses throughout New Zealand are available to NZDF personnel and their families. Have a look at the Force4Families page on the ILP
- flexible working arrangements are available to help people balance personal obligations and interests with work commitments. To find out more, look at the HR Toolkit on the front page of the ILP

**FIND OUT MORE**

- Check out the Force Financial Hub on the ILP.
- The Force4Families site on the ILP has plenty of useful information on support for families
BUT DID YOU KNOW?

• DSSG have produced an information booklet on the posting process
• your Career Manager and local HR Advisor can provide additional information and advice
• the NZDF contributes to the cost of posting

POSTING

You asked for more planning around the frequency and timing of postings, more support and information around relocation, transport, travel home, storage and family.

WE HAVE

• scheduled a comprehensive review of posting policies. This will start with a review of DFO5 chapters 3 to 6 (travel and removal expenses)

FIND OUT MORE

• The HR Toolkit on the front page of the ILP has information on posting entitlements including the Posting Booklet
• The Force4Families site has information on postings and on camps and bases as well
The RNZAF and other services were invited to participate in a clay target shooting competition in Christchurch by the NZ Police recently. Clay Target Shooting used to be a recognised sport in the RNZAF so after a few phone calls to some of the old hands a proposal was quickly submitted and approved to send a RNZAF team to compete. After a quick selection process, nine personnel headed south to take up the challenge.

More than 30 shooters turned up to compete with representatives from many government departments including NZ Police, Ministry for Primary Industries and Corrections. The field varied in skills with some very new to the sport, however there were a few who competed at a national and international level.

The first day was a practice day and many of our members took advantage of some great coaching from Blue Freeman who has represented New Zealand in the past. The competition kicked off with 50 target skeet, 24 target skeet doubles, 30 double rise and 50 handicap by distance events all shot. The weather was great and some high scores were achieved across the field.

Day three saw 30 target triples and 50 target single rise, single barrel and point score matches all shot. The weather however had turned and a strong southerly change made life difficult with driving rain making vision problematic. The scores suffered as a result, but that could still not wipe the smiles off everyone’s faces. It was a great event, the RNZAF held their own and once again there was a desire to grow the shooting disciplines in the RNZAF.

**RNZAF shoots off against other Services**

The winners of the RNZAF awards were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Winner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RNZAF Skeet</td>
<td>AC William Snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RNZAF Skeet Doubles</td>
<td>SQNLDR Hayden Powell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RNZAF Double Rise</td>
<td>SQNLDR Hayden Powell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RNZAF Triples</td>
<td>AC William Snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RNZAF Handicap by Distance</td>
<td>SQNLDR Hayden Powell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RNZAF Single Rise</td>
<td>W/O Tom Kelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RNZAF Single Barrel</td>
<td>FLTTLT Glenn ‘Jack’ Russell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RNZAF Points Score</td>
<td>AC William Snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RNZAF Most Improved</td>
<td>AC Bryce Luckin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RNZAF Highest Overall</td>
<td>Mr Blue Freeman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RNZAF team members also won Services Medallions in the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services Skeet Doubles</th>
<th>A Grade (Gold)</th>
<th>SQNLDR Hayden Powell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B Grade (Gold)</td>
<td>SGT Nick Ransfield</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Grade (silver)</td>
<td>AC Perrie Smith</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services Skeet</th>
<th>B Grade (Gold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Services Double Rise</td>
<td>B Grade (Bronze)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services Points Score</td>
<td>B Grade (Bronze)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Services Double Rise</td>
<td>B Grade (Bronze)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services Points Score</td>
<td>B Grade (Bronze)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
World Triathlon: Intense conditions don’t stop athlete

LAC Bunting was one of 1500 competitors from more than 15 countries competing in the 12 age groups in Mexico. He raced in the most competitive age group, 20-24 years.

Race day conditions were challenging, with the temperature exceeding 35°C and 100 per cent humidity.

The 750m swim was held in the crystal clear waters of Playa Del Mar Cozumel, over the second-largest coral reef in the world. There was an abundance of tropical fish and turtles swimming below to provide distraction.

LAC Bunting powered through the 20-kilometre bike leg in a blistering 28 minutes but the heat took its toll in the final 5-kilometre run leg. This leg was disastrous, with many competitors collapsing with heatstroke and requiring medical attention. LAC Bunting endured the arduous conditions to finish in a respectable 48th position against the best triathletes in the world.

The heat was so intense he did not realise he had even finished the race until he found himself sitting in an ice bath with other competitors and looked down to see a finishers’ medal around his neck.

Although disappointed with his placing, he found the experience and learning opportunity from racing against the world’s best amazing. It has fuelled his desire to keep improving as he sets his mid-term sights on this year’s world championships.

By Flight Sergeant Warren Mant, DHC Ohakea

Ohakea medic Leading Aircraftman (LAC) Nich Bunting travelled to Cozumel, Mexico, late last year to compete in the World Triathlon Championships. He qualified after finishing fourth in both the New Zealand sprint distance national championships and the New Zealand world championships selection race.

LAC Bunting
The New Zealand Defence Force cricket team recently played an Indian Armed Forces team for the first time, in two T20 matches in New Delhi. They faced a daunting challenge against an experienced team, but they made an impact in more ways than one.

The purpose of the tour was to enhance NZDF relations with our Indian counterparts, and conduct defence diplomacy through the Indian national sport of cricket. The team was in India for less than two days and was graciously hosted by the Indian Armed Forces team at Air Force base Palam. Nearly 40°C heat and the smoky Delhi haze that greeted the team were foreign conditions but a good batting wicket and well-maintained ground ensured a good day of competitive play.

The Indian Armed Forces team are all professional cricketers who join their defence force as part of their sports trade. Typically the Indian players play in their national first class competition, with some of the team having played Indian Premier League, and one player having played in the national side.

As a result there were some nerves within the NZDF camp and the team was comprehensively beaten in the first T20, after being sent in to bat and failing to post a competitive score. The performance in the second T20 in the afternoon was a vast improvement, with the NZDF players applying some significant pressure to their Indian counterparts. Some late hitting got the Indian team to a competitive total and the NZDF ultimately fell short.

A highlight for a lot of players was Brendan McCullum, acting as the patron of the tournament, closing the tournament and meeting the players. His status and reputation in India was an eye opener for the NZDF cricketers – when he arrived at the ground the crowd of Air Force onlookers seemed to quadruple suddenly.

Overall, although it was a very short stay the tour to India was a fantastic success and the New Zealand Defence Attache in Delhi, Air Commodore Shaun Clarke, thanked the team and said: “What they’ve done for the relationship we have here, we will enjoy for some time. The High Commission is impressed.”

The team is looking forward to hosting an international team or touring again in the next few years.

Results:

Game one IAF selection defeated NZDF by 6 wickets
NZDF 102 all out (19.4 overs), SGT Chris Turkington 21
IAF 104-4 (15.2 overs), PLTOFF Stuart Glendinning 1-12

Game two IAF selection defeated NZDF by 47 runs
IAF 163-6 (20 overs) CPL Stu Nairn 2-14, Sgt Chris Turkington 2-35
NZDF 116 all out (18.5 overs)
Nominations for the Mau Rakau wananga (Level 1, 2 and 3) are now open to all male NZDF personnel for 2017. This is an opportunity to learn the Taiaha art style of Te Kore enabling the mana of Ngāti Tūmatauenga, Te Taaua Moana, Te Taaua a Rangi and Te Ope Kaatua to be maintained during ceremonial occasions.

Nomination forms are to be forwarded through your normal command chain for consent, and then forwarded to NZDF HR Service Centre for action onto ESS. All participants are to be male members of the NZDF (including civilian employees).

This course encompasses 3 separate phases of learning. It is expected that students will complete all 3 phases in order to achieve competency.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RNZAF TEAM MEMBERS</th>
<th>ARMY TEAM MEMBERS</th>
<th>RNZN TEAM MEMBERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FLTLT Simon Mathewson <em>(Captain)</em></td>
<td>SGT Rory Lorimer <em>(Vice-Captain)</em></td>
<td>ACWS Alistair Sail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FGOFF Richard Raven</td>
<td>WO2 Joel Grason <em>(Manager)</em></td>
<td>ACH Zylen Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLTOFF Stuart Glendinning</td>
<td>CAPT Michael Clulow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/O Glen Whitley <em>(Coach)</em></td>
<td>SSGT Leighton Hamlin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGT Chris Turkington</td>
<td>SSGT Tim Medland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPL Stu Nairn</td>
<td>CPL Ryan Walmsley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F/S Derek Tidswell <em>(Scorer)</em></td>
<td>LCPL Caleb Bate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Merv Parr <em>(Tour Director)</em></td>
<td>Mr Peter Hogan <em>(Umpire)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Warwick Tempo <em>(Umpire)</em></td>
<td>CAPT Rose Fraser <em>(Medical)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Graham McKenzie <em>(Umpire)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Information:**
- **Course short title**: A4015
- **Noms Close**: NLT D-40
- **Dates**:  
  - Tauira (L1): 03 April 2017  
  - Pou (L2): 01 May 2017  
  - Kaiwero (L3): 12 June 2017
- **Where**: Rongomaraeroa o ngā Hau e Whā Marae, WMC.

**Enquiries contact:**
- **Marae Staff Officer**: SGT Mike Te Hau  
  - ph: 021986925
- **Marae Educator**: Mr Steve Bethell  
  - ph: 021914068
- **Maori Cultural site**: http://communities/mcg/default.aspx
**Notices**

**NO. 41 SQUADRON**

There will be a celebration of 40 years since its withdrawal from Singapore and the closing of the Squadron.

The reunion will be held in Tauranga 17th – 19th March 2017.

All ex-squadron members are invited to attend.

Registration forms are now available from 41 Sqn Assn secretary, email alanchung42@gmail.com

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**NO. 17 (CITY OF CHRISTCHURCH) SQUADRON**

**AIR TRAINING CORPS 75TH ANNIVERSARY**

The Unit will be celebrating its 75th anniversary over the weekend **24 – 25 March 2017**, commencing with a meet and greet on Friday evening, a lunch and combined Wing Parade on Saturday afternoon, followed by a Dine and Dance with the Air Force Band on Saturday night. All functions will be held at venues at the old Wigram Air Force Base, including the Museum.

Total function cost for weekend $100 per person.

Please register your interest at www.17squadronatc.com/?reunion or go to our Facebook page www.facebook.com/events/1744533662434248/

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**PARACHUTE TRAINING AND SUPPORT UNIT (PTSU)**

Are you an outgoing person willing to jump out of a plane?

Can you see yourself instructing people to take their first leap out of a plane?

Is a Parachute Jump Instructor (PJI) a career path that interests you?

If you answered yes to these questions we would like to hear from you. PTSU is a unit dedicated to instructing parachutists.

If you have ever wondered what being a PJI is or what PTSU does then go onto the PTSU intranet webpage http://org/air-485wg/PTSUPages/PTSU.aspx.

If you would like more information about how to become a PJI contact DCM at Air.AirStaff.DCMAircrew@NZDF.mil.nz

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We were all very excited to see the P3 operating out of Invercargill Airport and that morning some of the friendly crew had taken the time to show us around the aircraft. Once it had returned for the day and parked up on the Apron, the moody southern sky and long grass made for an excellent backdrop, so I took the opportunity and snapped a few shots. We look forward to seeing it again - the P3 is welcome back any time!

Photographer
Invercargill Airport Rescue Fireman,
John Forsyth
CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF SERVICE TO NEW ZEALAND

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