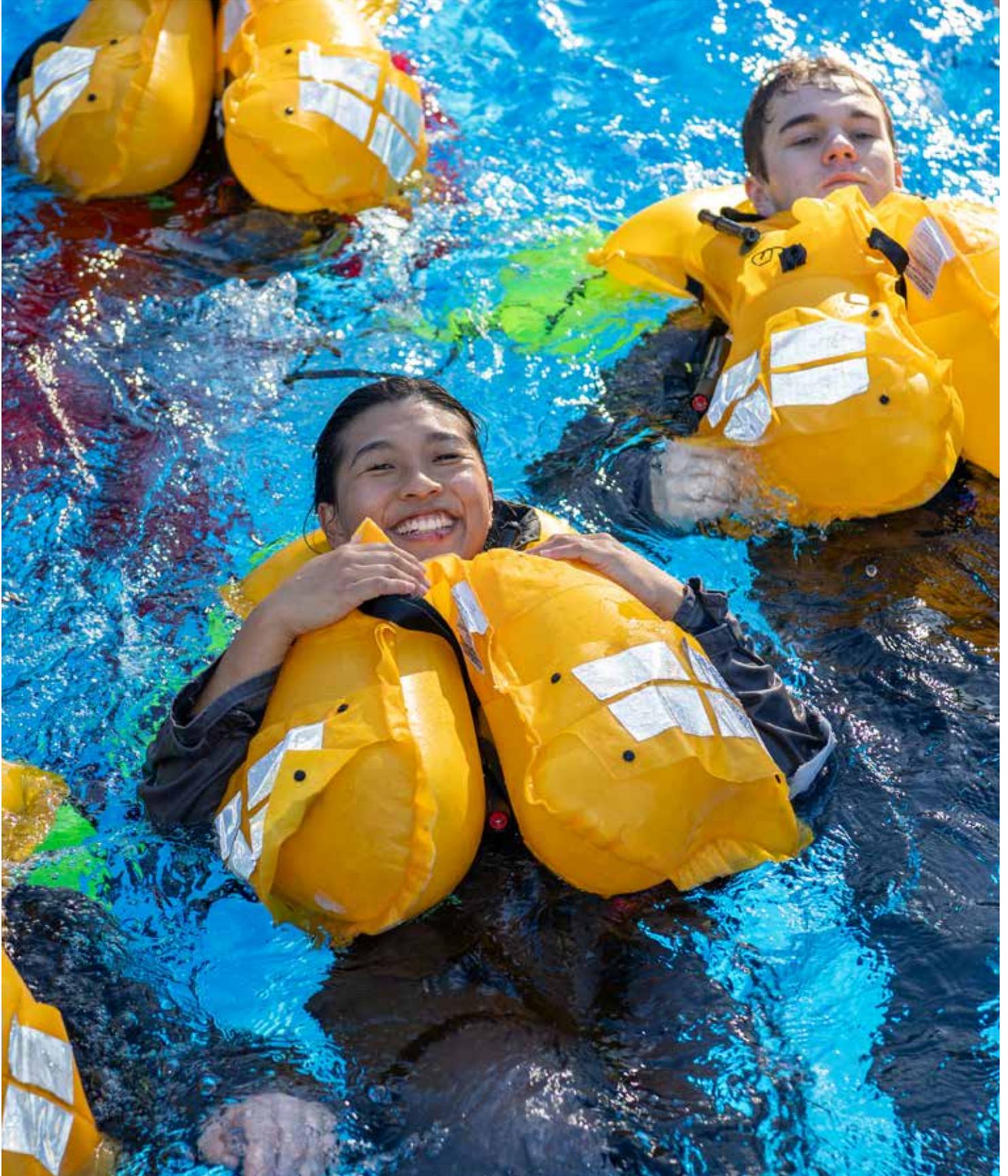


NAVY

T O D A Y

HMNZS TE MANA
ON DEPLOYMENT
SHORE SUPPORT
IN SAMOA
COMMANDER
AT WAR COLLEGE



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“I’ve always missed many aspects of the Navy and there were so many reasons to say yes and not many to say no.”

- New Fleet Sports Officer,
Lieutenant Commander Mark Harvey



Navy Today is the official magazine of the Royal New Zealand Navy. Established to inform, inspire and entertain serving and former members of the RNZN, their families, friends and the wider Navy Community.

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Front Cover:
Members of NRCT 23/1 test their survival skills in the Fleet Pool.

Photographer:
PO Chris Weissenborn



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NZDefenceForce



Yours Aye

Chief of Navy



He moana pukepuke e ekengia e te waka: A rough sea can still be navigated was the title of the **Defence Assessment 2021**. The assessment determined that strategic competition and the impacts of climate change were/are the two principal challenges to Aotearoa's defence interests, and the worsening trend was likely to continue.

Nearly two years on, as predicted, the challenges of strategic competition and the impacts of climate change have grown and pose a clear threat to New Zealand's sovereignty and a number of key national security interests.

Tō Tātou Korowai Manaaki; Secure Together is the title of **Aotearoa New Zealand's National Security Strategy 2023–2028** released on 4 August. *Secure Together* is the nation's first National Security Strategy. I urge every sailor to read it, as a foundational and fundamental document not just for the nation, but for us the sailors who serve as Te Taua Moana o Aotearoa. It reminds us of the 'why'.

Tō Tātou Korowai Manaaki will influence the future of our Navy in a number of areas in the near to medium, and through to the long term. From exercises, operations and who we work alongside and where we do our mahi on the ocean, through to the future capabilities that we acquire in the next ten or so years.

Nested within the Defence Policy Review, the **Defence Policy and Strategy Statement (DPSS) 2023** and the complementary **Future Force Design Principles (FFDP) 2023** were also released on 4 August. They tautoko the national security strategy and provide more specific guidance for Defence as a part of the national security architecture.

The DPSS reminds us of Aotearoa's defence interests: a secure, sovereign, and resilient New Zealand; a secure, stable and resilient region; collective security through strong partnerships; and a strong and effective rules-based system. The DPSS also outlines thinking on the future delivery of various combinations of scalable defence capabilities, covering the range of defence diplomacy through to combat operations. There are three objectives:

- *Promoting and protecting New Zealand's defence interests in our region, particularly in the Pacific;*
- *Contributing globally to collective security efforts that promote and protect New Zealand's interests and values; and*
- *Responding to events in New Zealand, in our region, and globally where required.*

One part I like about the DPSS is that while acknowledging we, as Kiwis, are of the Pacific, and therefore have a focussed interest in our neighbourhood, nonetheless we remain committed to contributing to global security. This obviously makes sense for a nation so reliant on global trade for our prosperity.

FFDP makes a statement that *"the current Defence Force is designed for a relatively benign strategic environment, and not the challenges of increased strategic competition and the adverse impacts of climate change"* and *"as a result, it is not in a fit state to respond to future challenges"*.

The FFDP states that change is necessary. A 'Systems Approach', 'Kaitiakitanga' and 'People' are three fixed principles, and 'Combat Capability', 'Concurrency', and 'Resilience' are the first three of the sliding principles identified to guide future force design and capability requirements. In reading the first six

principles, I note that the tangata/ people component of defence capabilities is clearly discernible in their definitions. This is an indicator of the acceptance that investment in our people is equally as necessary, perhaps more so, than investment in equipment.

Two months back in the June 2023 *Navy Today*, the Deputy Chief of Navy, Commodore Andrew Brown, outlined the people, conditions of service, and workforce focussed initiatives being led by the NZDF People Capability Portfolio. Some of that mahi is already being delivered eg. **REM 23**, however, I note pleasingly that more is coming in the year ahead. This mahi is important as further stabilisation of the workforce is required to enable improved resilience across the Navy, and thereby better concurrency of maritime output delivery ie. enabling all our ships to get to sea and deliver maritime security outcomes, without over-stressing sailors through unsustainable workloads and/or sea time.

Immediate response to the challenges is also apparent in HMNZS TE MANA's current deployment to Australia and South East Asia. She will operate alongside partners throughout her time away and will be joined for much of the deployment by HMNZS AOTEAROA. This follows on the heels of HMNZS TAUPO's recent Pacific deployment to Samoa, and I look forward to watching HMNZS MANAWANUI and CANTERBURY regenerate and deliver maritime security effect as they come out of maintenance.

I remain immensely proud of the security and military effect Iwi Heramana and Te Taua Moana o Aotearoa provide the nation. As I look ahead, I see increased investment in the Navy. Not just the necessary replacement of ships, infrastructure and investment in new technology and combat capabilities. But also better investment in the people; as sailors are the foundation of a resilient maritime capability.

He heramana aha.

Rear Admiral David Proctor
Chief of Navy

FIVE MONTH DEPLOYMENT FOR HMNZS TE MANA

Photo: PO Chris Weissenborn



“We want to give a large shout out to all our loved ones, family, friends and Navy whānau for their continued and unwavering support in what is an important deployment for the Navy and look forward to once again representing the NZDF on the world stage. Kokiri Kia U.”

– Commanding Officer HMNZS TE MANA, CDR J J McQueen



On 17 July Anzac frigate HMNZS TE MANA departed for the New Zealand Defence Force's biggest naval deployment, Operation Crucible.

TE MANA, with an embarked Seasprite SH-2G(I) maritime helicopter, will spend five months at sea, travelling to Australia and partnering with Maritime Sustainment vessel HMNZS AOTEAROA to South East Asia.

Essential to the evolution of the mission was a Maritime Training Group Covered Shake Down (MCSD) for TE MANA in the first two weeks of deployment, designed to put a post-Frigate Systems Upgrade frigate – and its crew – through its paces and ensure everything is working correctly.

The mood started from departure, with the frigate sailing at Action Stations in a Force Protection posture, while Coastguard vessels as 'enemy' forces harassed the frigate on its exit.

The following day the ship came under aerial 'attack' from enemy fast aircraft and simulated missiles – contracted civilian jets from Australian company Air Affairs – while an RNZAF P-8A Poseidon provided surveillance for the ship.



Ships Information Officer Sub Lieutenant Cam Angland said it was fantastic to work with these kinds of assets to progress their air defence training. "Working with the P-8A added richness to the scenario for the ship and demonstrated the ability of the two assets to communicate with each other."

The day continued with live firing using the ship's 0.5 calibre machine gun against an inflatable target, and a 'whole ship' damage control exercise, after taking 'damage' from the attacks. "This was vital in training and demonstrated the ship is safe to enter an operational theatre."

Next was a Search and Rescue Exercise, with the ship as the On Scene Coordinator managing the search information flow and coordinating five surface units, including Coastguard and Customs, one Coastguard aircraft and the ship's Seasprite helicopter.

TE MANA then combined forces with a P-8A Poseidon aircraft and the Seasprite to undertake an Anti-Submarine Warfare exercise, acting as the Scene of Action commander and working collectively to 'neutralise' a submarine contact, while the P-8A dropped sonar buoys to assist in tracking.

"The entire serial demonstrated that the NZDF is able to operate together and communicate effectively in the Anti-Submarine Warfare domain," says SLT Angland.



Above: AET Joe Thurlby cradles a five-inch shell during TE MANA's ammunitioning at Kauri Point.

AWTR Leighton Hampton and LWT Danielle Walsh stand ready for a Replenishment at Sea Approach exercise with HMAS WARRAMUNGA.

Opposite page: TE MANA's Seasprite helicopter touches down following a Force Protection serial.





“It was a massive effort for all on board, testing the skills and resilience of the Ship’s Company.”

During Week 2 of Shake Down, Australian Anzac-class frigate HMAS WARRAMUNGA joined TE MANA at sea. With WARRAMUNGA in its first week of ‘Working Up’, both ships made the most of the time together. Multiple serials were conducted between the two, including Officer of the Watch Manoeuvres, Towing Exercises and Replenishment at Sea Approaches.

‘Cross-decking’, when personnel go from one ship to the other, saw multiple personnel experience life on each other’s ship.

Damage Control scenarios were escalated, with TE MANA suffering multiple incidents forward and aft. Teams had to work hard to keep the ship in the ‘fight’.

Close to Australia, TE MANA conducted confined waters navigation, with two small craft posing as Opposing Forces making fast attack runs against the frigate. It was a tricky play for the TE MANA team, employing Force Protection measures with the ship’s own deterrence systems and using the helicopter to engage the ‘attackers’. Two days later, TE MANA and WARRAMUNGA conducted another confined waters exercise, this time to recover a VIP from shore.

A high point was TE MANA’s Gun Function Trial, firing the ship’s five-inch main gun at different elevations and ranges, then conducting a Surface Exercise firing against a towed target.

After two weeks at sea TE MANA and WARRAMUNGA entered Sydney Harbour in formation.

Clockwise from top: Looking past the green shoulder of a Maritime Training Group officer, TE MANA approaches the stern of WARRAMUNGA for a towing exercise.

CDR JJ McQueen eyes up WARRAMUNGA as she passes TE MANA at the completion of Officer of the Watch Manoeuvres.

A break from the rigours of Shake Down with sporties on the flight deck.

TE MANA conducts a Gun Function Trial, with the main five-inch gun well elevated during the test run.

RESURGENCE OF LOGDETS

Ships may be in care and custody but the opportunity to engage in logistics planning and execution outside of a vessel is on the rise. *Navy Today* talks to Fleet Logistics Advisor (Minor) Lieutenant Sam Wilson about the resurgence of Logistics Detachments (LOGDETs).

When a Navy ship travels to other ports, it's the job of the 'pusser', the Maritime Logistics Officer (MLO) on board, and the ship's Logistics Supply Specialists (LSS), to ensure the ship has what it needs to sustain and carry out its deployment.

But it is also useful to send a logistics team to a country in anticipation of a ship's arrival, to smooth the way with administration, supplies and advice. It's a useful opportunity for MLOs and other support branch personnel, keeping them up to date and involved in current operations while providing hands-on, practical on-the-job training at home and aboard.

It was a skillset that fell to one side during the COVID-19 pandemic, but is now on the rise again, both domestically and internationally.

When HMNZS AOTEAROA visited New Plymouth in April, a Logistics Detachment of two MLOs assisted with administration for the ship's visit, as well as flying down to assist. Working alongside the Regional Naval Officer, the LOGDET sourced everything from waste bins and line handlers, to vans required for transportation to services, and flower arrangements for the functions.



Above: The team meet puppies at the Animal Shelter in Apia.

It meant the ship's logistics burden was eased, allowing the Ship's Company to attend functions and carry out community work.

The concept really showed its worth with the recent deployment of HMNZS TAUPO and the Maritime Training Group to Samoa (see *Navy Today July 2023*).

As well as the pre-deployment planning preparations, a LOGDET with LT Wilson as Officer in Charge, Lieutenant Erica Williams (MLO), Able Logistics Supply Specialist Amra Simek, Petty Officer Medic Alice Jones, Warrant Officer Marine Technician (Electrical) Howie Rait and Chaplain Lloyd Salmon went to Samoa to pave the way for TAUPO and provide on-the-ground logistics.





Opposite page: A team effort at the Animal Protection Society Samoa.

Cleaning graves of New Zealand service personnel.

Above: Sporties with the Samoan Police.

LT Sam Wilson (right) with Samoan RSA president Peter Jensen, former CPOMM.

LT Wilson says that unlike larger Navy ships, Inshore Patrol Vessels carry a Logistics Supply Specialist but not a Maritime Logistics Officer. Often the Executive Officer takes on the MLO role. There was also the needs of the Maritime Training Team to consider.

“A trip like this carries a far greater logistics burden compared to TAUPO’s usual routine,” he says. “There was extensive personnel movement ashore, along with functions and local engagements.”

The different skillsets among the team lent themselves to TAUPO’s deployment. “TAUPO has a junior crew. Our Petty Officer Medic can provide support and advice to the Able Medic on board. So can our Warrant Officer Marine Technician, or our MLOs or Logistics Supply Specialist to TAUPO’s LSS.

“The padre was awesome. He added so much more value into the community engagement piece we were doing.”

While in-country, six members of TAUPO’s ship’s company joined the team, making room for Samoa Police and government agencies to sail with the ship on fisheries patrols.

“It allowed us to do some ‘hearts and minds’ stuff, something the ship’s company would normally do.

The High Commission and the local RSA gave us some tasks. We conducted a range of activities in the community, including a sporties day with the Samoan Police Force, cleaning graves of NZDF personnel who passed away in WWI and WWII while stationed in Samoa, a visit to the Deputy Director General of Health and some volunteer work at the Animal Protection Society.”

He says when the trade’s names changed from ‘Supply Officer’ (November 2021) and ‘Stores Accountant’ (July 2018), the new names came with roles and expectations beyond simply being a ship’s ‘pusser’.

“We want to grow this skill set within our trade, so we can help ships deploy and support them in another country. Traditionally some of this is contracted out to a providore contractor, but when we do it, it makes us better pussers and shows that there is more to the trade than just being at sea.”

He says there will be a team supporting HMNZS TE MANA and HMNZS AOTEAROA when they deploy later this year for South East Asia.

“We might have some platforms in care and custody, but there’s plenty of other opportunities in the Maritime Logistics world.”



Chaplain

Lloyd Salmon

Navy Chaplain Lloyd Salmon says there is growing demand to deploy chaplains to the Pacific Islands in support of NZDF exercises and operations.

Chaplains remain mobile and active, even during the COVID pandemic. Ship's Commanding Officers and HQJFNZ staff will regularly request chaplains for deployments. CHAP Salmon has been deployed with HMNZS TE MANA's crew to Canada during the ship's Frigate Systems Upgrade. He's been to Japan with HMNZS AOTEAROA and to Fiji on Exercise Mahi Tahi on board HMNZS CANTERBURY and more recently to Samoa in support of HMNZS TAUPO. CHAP Salmon's fellow chaplains also worked alongside NZDF personnel during the Defence Force's response to Cyclone Gabrielle while serving on HMNZS CANTERBURY and HMNZS MANAWANUI.

He says the work with CANTERBURY in Fiji was an excellent forerunner for Samoa. Christianity is widespread in the Pacific Islands, and an NZDF chaplain is well-received there. His duties included connecting with local ministers and key leaders in the local community alongside the usual wellbeing support. In deployments like these, faith-based connections can open the door to some unexpected opportunities, from a game of touch to being invited to join a senior official worshipping at their local church.

In the profoundly Christian culture of countries like Samoa, his former life as a senior pastor helps as well. "Being a senior minister is held in high regard in the Islands, and they are sometimes curious about why I stepped away from that to join the Navy."

The 'hearts and minds' community engagement arena is where chaplains can add value to the mission, supporting the Logistics Detachment of a Ship's Company. "It's about finding meaningful activities while you're there, making the most of our time. We always aim to encourage people in what they are doing, but it's also about creating opportunities for genuine connections between NZDF and the local community."

He says he loves these deployments. "It's always an adventure. You come up with a programme, and there are some things you don't know how they'll go until you get there. Like all our sailors, we are required to be adaptable and ready for many varied situations. Being part of the team and serving alongside our amazing NZDF personnel is what makes it really awesome."



NEW BATCH OF NAVAL RESERVES

Strong recruiting and word of mouth from the success of last year's inaugural Naval Reserves Common Training course has helped kick off another strong intake.

NRCT 23/01 boasts 21 personnel under training, from an eclectic range of backgrounds.

The training programme, two years in development, was introduced last year to revitalise the Reserve training capability and to strengthen the contribution of the Naval Reserve to the wider NZDF, with a boost in numbers of 100. The course has been designed to ensure Reservists are trained to the same standard as their Regular Force counterparts, but in a way that works around their civilian employment.

Ranging in age from 17 to 26, there are nine Maritime Trade Operations ratings and 12 officers in NRCT 23/01. Within the officer cohort, nine are Maritime Trade Operations specialisation and three are Legal officers. Other specialisations available for Reserve Officers are Public Affairs and Medical.

While some are new to Defence, there is almost 30 years of past military service within the intake. Six are undertaking university study and two of them want to join the Regular Force when they complete their studies. Also among them are entrepreneurs, legal counsel, political advisers, musicians and small business owners.

Above: Undertaking survival skills in the Fleet Pool during Exercise Orient, the first residential training session for NRCT 23/01.

Below: Members of NRCT 23/01 during a wreath laying ceremony during the Mururoa Nuclear Veterans 50th reunion.



WAR COLLEGE YEAR A BOOST FOR STUDY AND CULTURE

Academia, American culture and pavlovas. *Navy Today* talks to Commander Wiremu Leef about his US Naval War College journey.

“I’ve got some great ideas from my time there, opportunities for improvement, all contributing to the warfighting ethos, and I want to look at how this can translate to fit our people.”

Over page: Commander Wiremu Leef flanked by Rear Admiral Shoshana Chatfield, President of the US Naval War College, and Victor Stanescu, CFO of the Naval War College Foundation.

It’s been an eventful time for Commander Wiremu Leef, having only re-enlisted in the Royal New Zealand Navy in 2020. Engaged on a three-year contract as Commanding Officer of HMNZS MATATAUA, he was asked in 2021 if he would consider attending the US Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. He left in July 2022, returning a year later.

“I was focused on the job I had come back for, and I was enjoying being back in the Navy. There’s an element of the Navy you don’t get in civilian life.”

The year-long course, which involves studying for a Masters (CDR Leef’s second Masters), commits officers from multiple countries of O5 to O6 rank to academic study combined with a deep-dive into American culture, industry and society. There is a strong emphasis on creating bonds and relationships among classmates, as the similarly-ranked officers progress in their careers in different navies around the world.

“The course is broken down into core and elected courses, including joint military operations, strategy and policy, national security and foreign policy analysis and ethical leadership. I picked up Climate Change and National Security, and a course on war poetry and literature, discussing



leadership lessons from texts like *All Quiet on the Western Front*, *The Charge of the Light Brigade* or *The Red Badge of Courage*.”

Learning the American system involved field trips around the US which included visits to the State Department and other agencies in the National Security framework.

“You see some amazing things. We visited the Grand Canyon, San Diego to San Francisco, Washington DC, Philadelphia and Boston. We had the opportunity to visit companies like General Motors and see an Amazon Distribution Centre.”

Making friends among 51 international students comes naturally. “Networking and building relationships is a big aspect of the course. Before I went I talked to several friends who had attended previously and they said that some of their classmates are now Chief of Navies. That’s the quality of officer you get there. If I was to become Deputy Chief of Navy or Chief of Navy, I’ll have these relationships with peers around the world. I can literally ring a friend and say, what’s going on?”

The option exists to undertake the course accompanied with family, but CDR Leef went unaccompanied. He

was elected Class President and helped to represent and coordinate the class throughout the year.

CDR Leef finished the course with a Masters in National Security and Strategic Studies. He received the Joseph C Strasser International leadership prize.

“Something I take away from that course is the importance of ongoing professional education. My US classmates had read so much more than me. I also found with the international students that we bring a different perspective to discussions around something like nuclear weapons. I had a British classmate and a French classmate and they had different perspectives on that. New Zealanders are subject matter experts in the Pacific, and Arab classmates can provide insight into how things work in the Middle East. But there’s commonality. We’re all students, all there to learn, and barriers were being broken down.”

CDR Leef brought his Maori and New Zealand culture to the class. “I would always mihi, and I was expected to speak on different occasions. I performed a haka for a classmate at graduation. I also leveraged my pavlova-making skills. We had these nights where we would cook cuisine

from our countries. My first pav was a 100 per cent failure. I called my Aunt and she said, did you follow the recipe? I admitted I hadn’t.”

He says the course broadened his perspectives on national security, while his studies – particularly around climate change – has opened him up to the challenges the Pacific faces.

“What was interesting was, so many of the issues we deal with in New Zealand, are exactly the same that my classmates are dealing with in other parts of the world.

“The opportunities that we have within the Navy and wider NZDF to deploy, operate and in my case study with other nations are so important.

We are a world class Navy and I would encourage each and every one of us to demonstrate how good we are by taking the opportunities to get away and represent the Navy when they are offered. Equally, is the importance of building friendships with our partners and allies so that they will be there if you ever need them. If you get a chance, take it – what have you got to lose.”



MILITARIES COMBINE FOR DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING

Members of 19 foreign militaries worked with the New Zealand Defence Force and 12 domestic agencies to wargame how they would work together in the aftermath of a major earthquake in Wellington.

Exercise Tempest Express was based on a fictional scenario where New Zealand's capital city had been struck by a 7.5 magnitude earthquake, triggering a tsunami and causing damage throughout Wellington, Lower Hutt, Upper Hutt, Porirua, Kāpiti, Carterton, Masterton and South Wairarapa.

Commander Kerry Tutty was among the participants in Wellington, working to find practical solutions to real-life dilemmas such as where military aircraft could land and where ships could berth if Wellington Airport and the port were to suffer significant damage.

The exercise drew on the experiences of countries who have had real exposure to natural disasters, including New Zealand and Nepal. The latter endured a 7.8 magnitude earthquake in 2015.

CDR Tutty said it was a fantastic collaboration among key partners, wargaming how their Standard Operating Procedures worked in this fictional scenario and how aligned everyone's initial responses were, including those from government and civilian agencies.

There had to be some guesswork with what such a scenario could look like, she says. "That's when the Nepalese came in so well, in hearing about their response. We earned about the complexity of collaboration, but also learned about not overstepping our remit. The public can sometimes see us as primary collaborators, and there's an expectation from the public, but we are really just a supporting agency."



“We looked at the scenario, came up with courses of action, and presented a template of what those actions would be, and recommendations that could be presented to the government of New Zealand.”

– Commander Kerry Tutty

Rear Admiral Jim Gilmour, Commander Joint Forces New Zealand, said the value of multinational coordination and interoperability was recently highlighted during the Cyclone Gabrielle response; a 34-strong Humanitarian Assistance Disaster Relief Task Force flew in from Fiji, and Australia sent two C-27J Spartan aircraft and crew, a mobile air load team and environmental health support staff to assist New Zealand’s response.

“When a major disaster happens, it’s all hands on deck and the NZDF will support national and regional emergency organisations to get help to where it’s needed most. You need to have planned in advance, so people know how to act and can deliver an emergency response which saves lives.

“It’s invaluable to have countries around the table who in recent years have been through natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis and cyclones, so we can all learn from each other’s first-hand experience.

“This exercise will enable the NZDF and our partners to come together and forge relationships now, so we know who to contact should we ever need each other.”





LT Quinn Quinlan was among a number of Babcock personnel presented with his COVID pin for his work in Managed Isolation Quarantine Facilities from CAPT Maxine Lawes.



BRIG Rob Krushka, Commander Joint Defence Services, awards the NZDF Civil Staff Recognition of Service Award Gold to Stuart Elliott (41 years' service).



A thumbs up from MID Graham Nelson, HMNZS NGAPONA, during survival training in the Fleet Pool for NRCT intake 23/1.

OUR P



CDR Trevor Leslie receives the Defence Meritorious Service Medal from Chief of Defence Force AM Kevin Short.



WOCWS Peter Gee RNZNVR, OPSO of HMNZS TOROA, is promoted to Lieutenant.



A/LTCDR George Blackmore is promoted to substantive LTCDR, with his partner Natasha and Deputy Chief of Navy CDRE Andrew Brown handling the rank slides.



WOHLM Nathan Tamihana receives his RNZN Long Service and Good Conduct Medal 1st clasp from Chief of Navy RADM David Proctor.



BRIG Rob Krushka, Commander Joint Defence Services, awards the NZDF Civil Staff Recognition of Service Award Gold to Timothy Simmons (47 years' service).



Writers pose for a trade photoshoot. From left, AWTR Matthew Flores, AWTR Mikayla Brown Antonovich, AWTR Alberta Moeono-Alaiasa and OWTR Irinieta Toduadua.

PEOPLE



CPOEWS Michael Romeril receives a Chief of Defence Force Commendation from AM Kevin Short.



LCSS Corey Heien mans a console at the Maritime Warfare Training Centre for a trade photoshoot.



CDRE Andrew Brown, Deputy Chief of Navy; WOCWS Darren Crosby and LTCDR Andrew Lincoln are among Navy personnel paying tribute at the Mururoa Nuclear Veterans' reunion service at the memorial wall, Devonport Naval Base.

FLEET SPORTS OFFICER TAKING IT IN

Lieutenant Commander
Mark Harvey



The Navy's newest Fleet Sports Officer has been away a long time, but he's always missed it.

Lieutenant Commander Mark Harvey oversees most things sport and recreation in the Navy, bringing with him over 20 years in the high performance space across a variety of national and international sporting codes.

He joined the Navy in 1982 as an Ordinary Seaman/gunner, straight off a Southland farm. He moved to Physical Training Instructor and eventually commissioned from the ranks in 1996.

While posted to the Officer Training School, he started working with the Fijian national Rugby team as the Strength and Conditioning Coach. LTCDR Harvey subsequently took leave to carry on with Fiji and attended the 1999 Rugby World Cup in France and England.

It was a world that would see LTCDR Harvey leave the Navy in 2000, in pursuit of other Strength and Conditioning (S&C) opportunities. He worked with a variety of rugby teams including North Harbour, Blues Super Rugby and finally the All Blacks 7s team for seven years, all as a S&C coach. He was also fortunate to be assistant S&C coach for the All Blacks from 2012 to 2016.

A particular highlight came in 2018, when Captain Shane Arndell (who remembers PTI Harvey drilling him as a young sailor) escorted Harvey and the NZ Sevens team around the Commonwealth War Graves at Messines, Belgium – including the grave of All Black legend David Gallagher who lost his life on 4 October 1917.

Deciding it was finally time to spend more time at home he picked up a role as Rehabilitation specialist with NZ Warriors before a brief stint with NZ Breakers in 2019. His latest role was three years with New Zealand Police as a Physical Education Officer.



"I consider myself fortunate and privileged to have done what I have done. Back then it was more who you knew that got you in the door. You then just had to make sure you did a good enough job to keep the role."

His return back to Navy came with a phone call late last year while working at the Royal New Zealand Police College in Porirua. "I was actually driving to the airport to head back to Auckland for the weekend when the caller asked if I was interested in coming back to the Navy.

"I actually thought it was a mate winding me up but it was legit and I was asked to at least consider the offer to return to the Navy as Fleet Sports Officer. I was just going through the Terrace Tunnel and I said yes by the time I got to the other end."

He says it was a "no-brainer" decision. "I've always missed many aspects of the Navy and there were so many reasons to say yes and not many to say no to be honest. Those previous 19 to 20 years were some of the best experiences and learnings of my life."

He's watched the Navy evolve from the outside looking in and is now excited to be part of these changes going

forward. "It's a new generation still blended with some solid core values, and it's quite refreshing. I see these young people and even reconditioned older models like myself and I see a real sense of purpose and pride. If I was joining again I'd be in there."

One of Fleet Sports Officer's roles is to advise Deputy Chief of Navy and Commanding Officer HMNZS PHILOMEL on all things sport. He feels there is still a sense of 'coming out of COVID' with sports but recognises that sport and recreation in general still has a vital part to play with maintaining general health and wellness of Navy personnel. "Our people are still our holy grail. Sometimes it's not how much you know, it's how much you care," he says.

"Sports and fitness and recreation is such an important component for mental health and wellness. We need to provide an opportunity for people to have some form of release. Competing at Inter Service level may be the goal for some while others might just want to enjoy the banter and fun associated at Internship/lunchtime circuit environment. I'm here to make sure those options are there."

CAPT Shane Arndell, Defence Attaché, with All Black Sevens Strength and Conditioning coach Mark Harvey at Messines, Belgium in 2018.



Maritime Regulator and Chief Naval Engineer – two roles

The role of Maritime Regulator was established in 2015 to provide maritime safety and environmental assurance to the Chief of Defence Force.

The Maritime Regulator is responsible for the day-to-day management and governance of the Seaworthiness System. Since its inception, this role has been held by a General List Engineering officer of Captain rank, who has also held the supernumerary appointment of Chief Naval Engineer.

Over the past eight years there has been an increasing awareness of the tension between the responsibilities and accountabilities of the two roles. As the Chief Naval Engineer, the appointee was responsible for assuring the seaworthiness of the technical and engineering aspects

of naval capability, whilst at the same time, and as the Maritime Regulator, the appointee was responsible for setting and enforcing the regulations that would make the technical and engineering aspects of naval capability seaworthy.

This conflict of interest has now been removed by the appointment of Captain Owen Rodger as Maritime Regulator. CAPT Rodger is looking forward to the challenge the role presents and notes, “I’ve spent my recent time in the diplomacy arena overseas for our Navy and I’m looking forward to returning to New Zealand and being intimately involved in getting the ships to sea, focusing on the delivery of our warfighting capability, but doing it safely and looking after our people who are the essential key to everything we do”.

Captain Colleen Smith, who has been the Maritime Regulator since January 2023, will continue to hold the appointment of Chief Naval Engineer. CAPT Smith notes that, “the separation of the Maritime Regulator and Chief Naval Engineer roles will ensure that the technical aspects of Seaworthiness are able to be regulated and reviewed in a fully

independent manner, free of bias. Additionally, it will enable me to focus my efforts on delivering outcomes that improve the experiences of our Technicians and Engineers, and improve the outputs of Naval Engineering across the Naval System”.

The separation of the Maritime Regulator and Chief Naval Engineer roles has initiated a review of the five areas that were led up to now, by the Maritime Regulator/Chief Naval Engineer: the Maritime Regulator Group, Naval Engineering Authority, Technical Assurance Team, Fleet Engineering Office and Maritime System Safety Assurance Group. The organisation, processes and outputs of these five teams will now be reviewed and modified to ensure that the objective to achieve separation and delineation between the regulated and regulating communities is achieved, and is clearly understood by all stakeholders. CAPTs Smith and Rodger will lead this organisational change together, which will be completed by the end of 2023.

Above: CAPT Colleen Smith, Chief Naval Engineer, and CAPT Owen Rodger, Maritime Regulator.

WAI 2500

NZDF listens to experiences of Māori military veterans at tribunal hearings.

The New Zealand Defence Force is continuing to listen to the experiences of veterans through the Wai 2500 Military Veterans Kaupapa Inquiry into all claims involving past Māori military service.

The Waitangi Tribunal inquiry extends to all types of military service, whether operational or routine, in time of war or peace, and at home or abroad; undertaken directly for, or on behalf, of the Crown of New Zealand or the Imperial Crown in New Zealand.

For Navy, this includes the Korean War, Malaysian Emergency, Indonesian Confrontation, Vietnam War and nuclear testing events Operation Grapple and Operation Pilaster (Mururoa).

The purposes of the inquiry, in addition to determining the Treaty of Waitangi consistency of Crown conduct, is also to prepare an official narrative that will put Māori experiences of military service for the Crown on public record, and consider how to improve support for veterans and current serving personnel.

This is the second phase of hearings after oral evidence was heard in 2016.

The first hearing week was opened by Tā Robert 'Bom' Gillies, the last surviving member of the 28 (Maori) Battalion, in Rotorua in June. Witnesses called by claimants gave evidence in respect of service in Malaya, Korea, Vietnam, South East Asia, Operation Grapple nuclear testing, and Antarctica.



Each hearing began with relevant technical evidence contained in the Tribunal commissioned reports, followed by claimant evidence, prioritising the lived experiences of veteran witnesses.

Chief of Defence Force, Air Marshal Kevin Short, and a number of senior Defence Force personnel attended the hearing to demonstrate clearly the importance the NZDF attaches to this Kaupapa Inquiry.

"It's crucial we support this opportunity for our veterans and their whānau, acknowledge them and their stories, explain what the Crown knew at the time and what it knows now," AM Short said.

"This enables us to not only consider how we can effectively support all of our veterans who have left the services, but those who are currently serving too."

AM Short said the Kaupapa Inquiry can inform the current implementation of veterans' and service people's support measures.

"We are listening, engaging and acknowledging our past to inform and protect our future."

Further witnesses' evidence will be heard in later hearings throughout Aotearoa over the coming months. The NZDF is continuing to research its history to appropriately inform the inquiry.

Heart Transplant at 25

■ By Charlene Williamson
Senior Communications Adviser (South)



At 5am on Sunday, 10 October 2021 Leading Physical Training Instructor Jack Church got a phone call that would save his life – there was a heart waiting for him.

Just a few hours later he was under the knife “taking the old engine out and putting a new one in”.

LPTI Church will compete at the sixth Invictus Games in Düsseldorf, Germany as part of the 21 strong New Zealand Team.

Dedicating his career to fitness and an avid CrossFit competitor, in early 2021 LPTI Church noticed a change in his training efforts.

“As the weeks went on I became more ‘unfit’ and breathing during exercise was becoming difficult. I noticed I was having to take naps during the day, and had limited energy. I wasn’t my energetic self at all,” he said.

When he found walking up a set of stairs difficult and would be out of breath from such a simple task, he decided to take a week off training, as he thought his body needed some rest. This didn’t solve the fatigue, or his trouble breathing.

“It felt like I was breathing through a straw and could never get a full breath; I was also very low on energy.”

Unsure what was going on, he saw a doctor in May 2021, then a series of tests were undertaken.

“I got a call only two days after having some chest x-rays saying I needed to go to hospital for further tests, and was told to take an overnight bag, just in case.

“When I was asleep my heart rate was 120bpm, which is triple what it would normally be when I’m asleep. My heart was working overtime just to keep me alive,” he said.

LPTI Church was moved to Auckland Hospital Cardiology Ward, where further testing was done to determine what was causing his heart failure. There it was discovered his heart had swelled to twice its normal size. In and out of hospital over several months it was determined he would need a heart transplant, but before that, he would need open chest surgery.

“I had to get two pumps put in my heart called VADs (Ventricular Assistance Device). This was to bridge the gap while I waited for a new heart. My chances of survival were not good unless I had the VADs.”

Following rehabilitation from this surgery, ensuring he was fit and healthy enough to survive heart transplant surgery, in late September 2021 he was placed on the active waiting list for a new heart.

Just 10 days later he got a call at 5am in the morning saying they had a heart - within a few hours he was under the knife in surgery. A month later, after recovery and rehabilitation, he was allowed to go home.

Only 25 years of age, LPTI Church said knowing he needed a new heart was actually a relief.

“Being such an active person, I hate being injured. So when the injury wasn’t obvious I was frustrated and just wanted to train again.

“So when I found out that I had heart failure and needed a new heart, I was good to go. I’m a pretty relaxed sort of person, so when the doctor said you need a transplant I said ‘yeah, sweet, all good, let’s do it’.

“I knew that I would be able to train again after recovery, so I just wanted to get a new ticker right then and there,” he said.

Having been such an active person before the diagnosis, fitness in the two years since the transplant has been a roller coaster for LPTI Church.

“Initially, some modes of training felt good, others I was rubbish. I had to start from square one, learning to walk again, and I struggled to lift a 2kg dumbbell which was a huge reality check.

“I am not a very patient person so for me to slowly build my strength and fitness was really difficult. I wasn’t allowed to return to CrossFit, a sport I love, for about nine months post-transplant.

“I am just grateful to be able to move my body again, so amongst all the frustrations of having to move slow and be patient came gratitude and joy to be able to even move and train again,” LPTI Church said.

The support from the New Zealand Defence Force has been an “unreal” experience for LPTI Church – from the Doctors to the Chief of Navy.

“I owe a lot to Tracey Sanders, the complex case coordinator in Devonport, she made mountains move and was the angel on my shoulder.

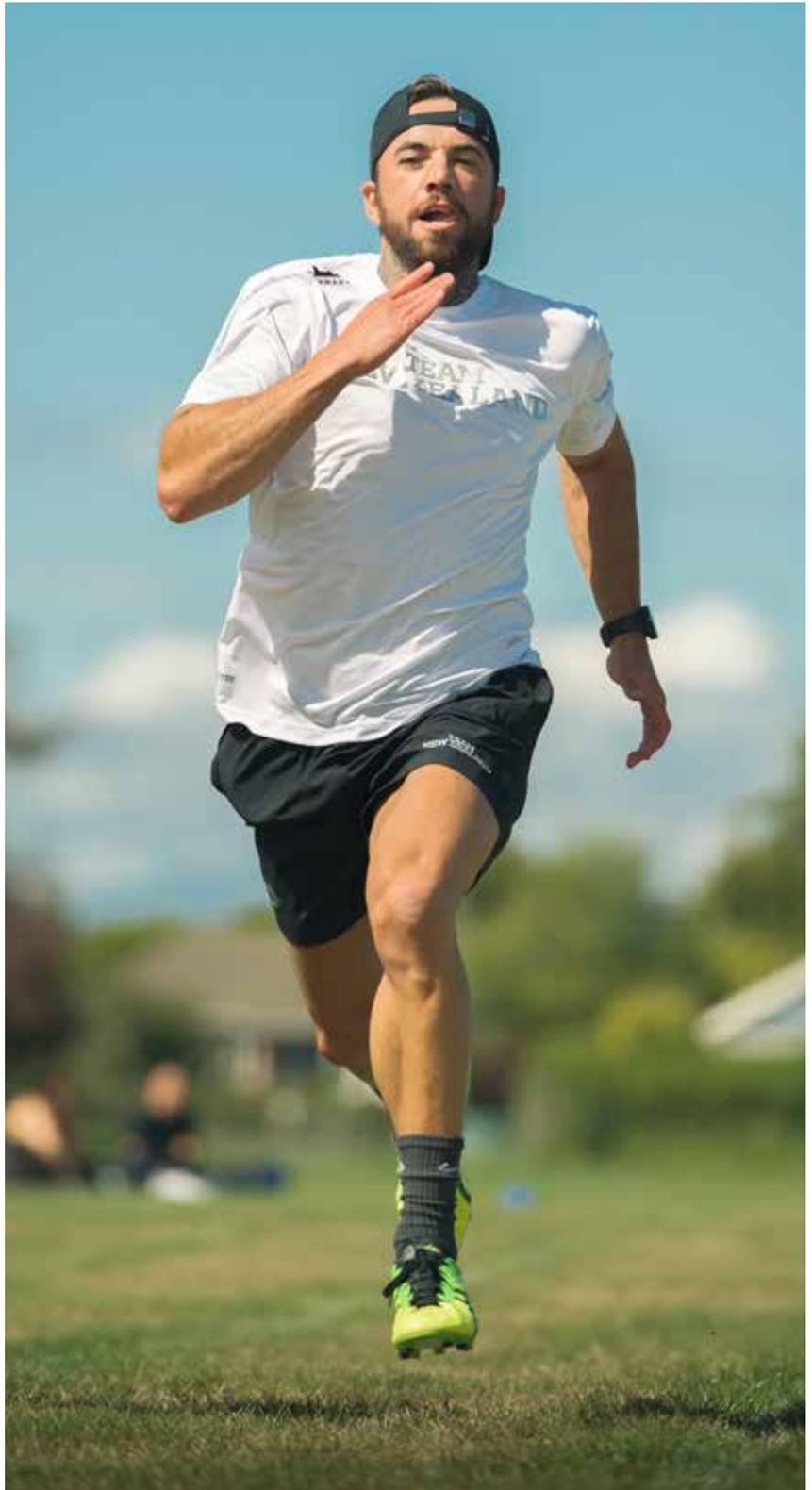
“I was worried about returning to my job as a PTI and being in a physically demanding job, however Chief of Navy Rear Admiral David Proctor was backing me and reassured me, I would be able to return to work.

“Being in a position to ignite and unlock sailors’ passions and potential in health and fitness is what I love most about being in the Navy. Also being blessed with the knowledge to help others live a healthy lifestyle and achieve their goals is something I really enjoy. I am pleased I’m able to do this again,” he said.

Fast forward a few years and LPTI Church will be competing at the Invictus Games this September, something he admits he’s still learning more about.

“I am still new to the Invictus family, but I want to be able to tell my story and prove to people that just because I nearly died doesn’t mean that I’m out – ‘the body achieves what the mind believes.’”

LPTI Church will compete in the Athletics events including the 100m and 200m run and has firm goals for his time in Düsseldorf.



“For me, I want to get a medal. My competitive nature won’t allow me to just go there for fun, it’s not me.

“But, I am far more excited about meeting new people and sharing journeys, and just be empowered and inspired by so many people, who have also had struggles during their service to their country,” he said.

The sixth Invictus Games will take place in Düsseldorf 9–16 September and will welcome around 500 competitors from more than 20 nations, to compete in ten sporting disciplines.



ENGINEERING A PATH INTO THE ROYAL NEW ZEALAND NAVY

Above: MID Jess Layburn at Canterbury University.

Two women who attended the same Air Force School to Skies programme in 2019 have discovered their Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) skills are highly sought after in the Navy. *Navy Today* talks to Midshipman Jess Layburn and Able Weapons Technician Alesha Martin.

Jess Layburn, 21, from Johnsonville, knew from a young age she wanted to study engineering but she never thought the Royal New Zealand Navy would help to realise her ambition.

MID Layburn first got a taste of military life with School to Skies, a Royal New Zealand Air Force initiative designed to increase the number of women in the aviation industry. Every year, 30–40 Year 13 students from around Aotearoa New Zealand get a chance to spread their wings and spend six days with NZDF to find out if a career in the military is right for them.

Her decision to attend proved to be a turning point.

“I was so impressed by all the different roles that were available in the NZDF. No one in my immediate family had served in the military, so growing up I never considered it to be an option,” she said.

“The instructors were so passionate about what they were doing. They took us around the hangar and we got to fly in a Hercules, which was incredible. The week gave a really good insight into what it would be like to work for the military,” she added.

After arriving home from the camp, she visited the NZDF careers website to check the application process, and discovered that NZDF awards tertiary scholarships.

“I wasn’t fully set on the military lifestyle yet, but I knew I wanted to pursue an engineering degree at the University of Canterbury, and figured it couldn’t hurt to apply to the Chatham Scheme scholarship that the Navy offers,” she said.

The Chatham Scheme is a bursary engineering scheme offered by the Royal New Zealand Navy. Recipients join the Royal New Zealand Naval Reserves and complete a six-month induction course in the summer prior to embarking on study towards a Bachelor of Engineering.



Upon graduation, recipients of the scheme transition to full-time service in the Navy as a Marine Engineer Officer or a Weapons Engineer Officer.

MID Layburn said it was really only during the Final Officer Selection Board that she became dead set on joining the NZDF.

"It was three days of interviews and evolutions and fitness testing, but even just in those three days, I learnt so much about myself, about leadership and heard so many stories from naval personnel about their work and lifestyle," she said.

MID Layburn's application was successful and her next step after the selection board was officer training.

"I was only required to do the first three weeks of officer training before heading back to Christchurch to continue working towards my degree in mechanical engineering."

"In such a short time, I learnt so many valuable skills and met a ton of amazing, motivated and interesting people," she said.

Alongside university study, MID Layburn attends weekly parade nights at HMNZS PEGASUS. She has also learnt military skills including shooting, drills and sailing and has taken part in Anzac Day services which she says is a really special part of being in the Navy Reserves.

Now in her final year of study, MID Layburn is looking forward to utilising her skills as a mechanical engineer and embarking on her career as a marine engineer officer with the Navy. She will return to Auckland to complete the Junior Officer Common Training course in January 2024.

"It has been such a privilege to be able to study under the Navy Chatham Scheme and I'm so excited for what the future holds after graduation," she said.

Above: Jess Layburn on the ramp of a C-130 Hercules during her School to Skies programme in 2019.



Above: AWT Alesha Martin, second from left, during loading of HMNZS TE MANA prior to sailing on Operation Crucible.

DEPLOYED TO SOUTH EAST ASIA

Alesha Martin, from Geraldine, is hooked on aviation, and when her Careers Advisers at Geraldine High School told her about School to Skies, she jumped at it.

She attended the same Schools to Skies intake in 2019 as MID Layburn. “The biggest takeaway I got from it was that I knew I wanted a career in the military, especially in Science Technology Engineering Maths (STEM).”

But when she applied to join the Air Force at the start of 2020, she was told she wasn't eligible for any Air Crew roles due to having asthma as a child.

“I was really heartbroken at this point as flying was all I wanted to do. At the time I was working on getting my Private Pilot's Licence (which I got in August 2020) and was considering a career as a civilian pilot instructing and then eventually going to airlines.”

Her recruiter suggested she look at Navy roles. “I watched videos on the Navy and I got talking to friends that were in the Navy, and realised that the Navy was the right place for me! The travel and comradeship that the Navy brings were definitely the biggest deciders.”

Today she is an Able Weapon Technician on board frigate HMNZS TE MANA, and getting familiar with the largest gun in the Defence Force, the five-inch main gun. She is currently deployed on Operation Crucible, a five-month deployment partially in company with HMNZS AOTEAROA, involving port calls to Australia and throughout South East Asia.

“I did Basic Common Training intake 21/01, then graduated from my Electronic Technician course at the end of 2022. I did my Seamanship and Damage Control courses at the start of 2023. I was posted to HMNZS MANAWANUI for a couple of months at the start of the year while I was waiting for my posting to become available in TE MANA in May. While in MANAWANUI I completed my task book, so I got promoted to Able Rate before posting onto TE MANA.”

When she initially joined the Navy she wasn't certain what trade she wanted. “When I looked at all the Navy has to offer, the technical trades really stood out for me. I knew I wanted to do something where I would be hands on and challenged and Weapon Technician sounded really cool!”

It's a trade she really enjoys, she says, but her love for flying will win through. “I'm putting my nomination in at the end of the year for transferring to Pilot, as I have been cleared of having childhood asthma and flying is my passion.”

KEEPING A GRIP ON YOUR MUSIC

When you're in a military band, you not only have to sound good, you have to look good doing it. It's a challenging combination that can be spoiled by sheets of music falling from your instrument stand.



Able Musician
Natalie Williams

Able Musician Natalie Williams has come up with an innovation to mitigate that frustration for the Royal New Zealand Navy Band, with the help of the Defence Excellence team at Devonport Naval Base.

Military musicians use small, mobile music sheet stands called lyres, which are attached to a player's instrument. However, they are generally small, cheap, and sheets of music are prone to slip around and sometimes fall off completely.

"It looks quite unprofessional," says AMUS Williams. "Music sheets fall relatively often, perhaps one drop per rehearsal, if not more. It's also common for sheets to nearly slip off after a drill or dance movement, which adds to the stress. If you are on parade, standing at attention, you can't just scramble around the parade ground retrieving your music. You've got the normal stress of performing, you don't need to be dealing with

the additional worry of keeping your music together. I realised this problem was an opportunity to help my team."

When the suggestion of backing boards came up, AMUS Williams wondered what it would be like to have boards with edges. She had an idea of what might solve the problem, but no way forward to design and manufacture a prototype for testing. "A while later, I got a NavyAll email that mentioned Defence Excellence had 3D printers. I got a tour of their setup and they thought this would be a good project for the NZDF White Belt Course I was already scheduled to undertake later that year."

It was a two-stage process: ordering bigger lyres from Germany and then using the 3D printer to create the boards. "The 3D printed backing card has edges and a small slot custom-designed to fit the lyre it corresponds to, creating a tight grip between the two interlocking components."

AMUS Williams looked up resources for 3D design software. She was able to teach herself how to use one of the free platforms available and create functional designs for printing. "I learned a lot of new skills and had to really think outside the box. As someone with absolutely no background in engineering or design, my main take-away was that if I could do it, anyone can."

Two trials were run with five band members, testing the original kit, the new lyres and then the lyre/backing card combination for slippage, falls and wind effect. The lyre/board combination was 100 per cent effective.

It worked better than she thought it would, she says. "The design combo completely eliminated all the elements I targeted, but did result in one additional variable of increased weight on the instrument." One of her follow-on actions will be to look at the weight, which was particularly noticeable for the clarinet player, and see if the board's structure can be reduced.

"Apart from that, everyone else said they'd be happy to use it again, which I think is a fantastic result."





HMNZS TOROA in Dunedin is going to relocate, with the New Zealand Defence Force moving its three separate Dunedin-based facilities into one combined regional location.

Over the next 18 months, the Royal New Zealand Navy Reserve Unit HMNZS TOROA, New Zealand Army Reserve Units based in Kensington Army Hall, and the Defence Careers office, will re-locate to a new Defence Facility on Cumberland Street (previously Farmlands).

The two NZDF-owned properties – Kensington Army Hall in Bridgman Street and TOROA in St Andrew Street – have both been assessed by Dunedin City Council as being earthquake-prone.

Vice Chief of the Defence Force, Air Vice-Marshal Tony Davies, said that while remedial work had been done in recent years, parts of the buildings had to be isolated from routine use to ensure staff safety.

“Remedial actions have mitigated the risk associated with the buildings, but they were never intended to provide a long-term solution to the structural issues in buildings of this age,” he said.

The Kensington Army Hall was built in 1915, while the Otago Division of the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve (later to be commissioned HMNZS TOROA) was established in 1928 and shared the Army Hall before moving to its current site in the central city in 1948.

“Co-locating our various Dunedin facilities into an engineer-approved, fit-for-purpose building will not only provide a safe working environment but there will be real benefits that come from integrating our 150-plus Otago-based permanent and Reserve NZDF personnel into the one location,” AVM Davies said.

The NZDF took possession of the yet-to-be-named Cumberland Street building last month and work will now commence on the internal design, alteration and fit-out to meet each unit’s specific requirements.

It is anticipated that this work will be complete in the latter part of next year with the potential for some units to be able to move in earlier than that.

In line with government requirements, the vacated NZDF-owned buildings in Bridgman Street and St Andrew Street will be disposed of in accordance with the Public Works Act.



NZ Special Service Medal (Nuclear Testing) – Applications Still Open

In 2002, the New Zealand Government recognised the service of our nuclear test veterans by the institution of a new medal, the New Zealand Special Service Medal (Nuclear Testing).

This medal is awarded to the personnel who were part of an official New Zealand Government presence at an atmospheric nuclear test between 1956 and 1973.

More than 600 medals have been issued since 2002, but many medals have not yet been claimed. We encourage veterans and their families to apply for this medal.

NAVAL SERVICE WHICH QUALIFY PERSONS FOR THE NZSSM (NUCLEAR TESTING)

HMNZS PUKAKI	15 May 1957, 31 May 1957, or 19 June 1957
HMNZS ROTOITI	15 May 1957, 31 May 1957, or 19 June 1957
HMNZS PUKAKI	8 November 1957
HMNZS ROTOITI	8 November 1957
HMNZS PUKAKI	28 April 1958
HMNZS PUKAKI	22 August 1958, 2 September 1958, 11 September 1958, or 23 September 1958
HMNZS OTAGO	22 July 1973
HMNZS CANTERBURY	28 July 1973

Applications for this medal are still open. For more information go to <https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/nzdf/medal-and-service-records/medal-applications>

HONORARY CAPTAIN APPOINTMENT



A military historian and author has become the latest Honorary Captain appointed by the Royal New Zealand Navy.

Doctor Andrew Macdonald, the Official Historian to the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services Association, was appointed an Honorary Captain by Chief of Navy Rear Admiral David Proctor at the National RSA Office in Wellington on 26 July.

The appointment recognizes individuals in the political, commercial or academic fields who have a specific relationship or affinity with the Navy, or otherwise provide exceptional support or model behaviour in some way.

Honorary Captains are presented with a Naval officer's cap. Captain Macdonald's wife, Lara Schönberger, placed the cap.

RADM Proctor says in the past it had been Admirals who had identified persons to be appointed, but in this case it was the Royal New Zealand Navy who had deliberately considered the appointment. He acknowledged former Chief of Navy Rear Admiral Jack Steer, Vice-President of the RSA and present at the ceremony, for suggesting the appointment.

After tidying the angle of his cap ("Straighten that cap, sailor!") CAPT Macdonald, a former Reuters correspondent, says he had known from an early age he was destined to write "big books" on military history. His books include the well-received *First Day of the Somme*, *Passchendaele* and *On My Way to the Somme*. He gained his Doctorate at the University of London and is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. He is researching the Battle of Crete, with its key naval component, and New Zealand's post-Vietnam military operations. He is a consultant to the New Zealand Defence Force on specialist military heritage matters.

"This is a journey I have been very privileged to forge," he says. "I've been fortunate enough to travel the world, meeting many people, breaking bread and drinking beverages of all kinds, with Navy, Army and Air. It began as a high school student, interviewing veterans, and it's never really stopped."



He also thanked RADM Steer for taking an interest in his work and furthering his involvement in the Royal New Zealand Navy.

Rear Admiral Fred Wilson, Chief of Naval Staff 1997–2000, revived the practice of Honorary Captains. According to RADM Wilson (*Navy Today* November 2020), the first honorary captain was appointed at the start of World War II. While leading the Anzac Ship Project in the late 1980s RADM Wilson was inspired by those in industry who championed the Navy, and saw it as a way of forging a link between Navy and the community.

PROMOTIONS:

Congratulations on your promotion
(For the month of June 2023)

POCT BRADLEY AMOS
SLT ROHAN BHONSLE
SLT EMILY BINGHAM
LHST ROSE BLENKARNE
CDR GRANT BOORE
LWT JAMES BUCKLAND
LCSS SEAN BYERS-COOK
AMT(P) GIRBAUD JOHN
CANLAPAN
POMUS YUAN CHENG
LT SCOTT CLEMENS
LCSS LANCE COOK

ADR HUTCH DYE-HUTCHINSON
SLT TOM FORBES
ASCS DOMINIC HAHUNGA
POSTD DANIEL HILL
POSTD LEISH MACGREGOR
SLT MICHAEL-JOHN MCCARTHY
SLT KYLE MENDONCA
CPOMT(P) SIANO MOALE
SLT DANIEL MOORE
POLSS JASON MORRISON
SLT MALCOLM PATTERSON
LMUS JEREMY RICHARDSON

CPOLSS ETHAN SHARPLES
LHLM JOSH SORENSEN
SLT NATE STAINTON
ASCS TAYLA TAUPAKI
LCSS EMMA TAYLOR
POLSS JOSEPH TUALA
LHLM TYSON TURNBULL
LMTO ROBERT TURNER
AET KYLE UYS
POMEDIC ADAM VAN LEEUWEN
POLSS BROHDAN WHITTAKER



SAILOR OF THE YEAR 2023

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

Nominations are invited for this year's Sailor of the Year. We need to hear from you about an amazing Junior Rate that you feel embodies the values and traditions of the Royal New Zealand Navy.

Our chosen Sailor of the Year will be a representative for our junior ranks, engaging in domestic and international events in 2024.

Please send your nomination to
person.sailoroftheyear@nzdf.mil.nz

Nominations close 25 September 2023.



CORRECTION

In our July edition on page 29 we misidentified the senior officer attending the opening of Calliope House in 1976. Two retired senior officers have insisted he is either Rear Admiral Ted Thorne, Chief of Naval Staff, or Rear Admiral Neil Anderson, Chief of Naval Staff. At time of going to print it was not resolved.



NZDF SAFETY AWARDS 2023

Let's recognise those who have improved health and safety in the NZDF this year.

Nominations close 8 September.

Visit the Safety page on the ILP, or email NZDFSafety@nzdf.mil.nz

15 ROUNDS

COMMANDER PAULA DACEY



01

Job Title and description:

Supply Chain Manager and Fleet Maritime Logistics Officer. Best job I've had so far – a good balance of fighting daily fires and influencing the future direction of my trade. I take over as Commanding Officer Leadership Development Group in December.

02

Date Joined RNZN:

Waitangi Day 2001.

03

First ship posted to:

HMNZS CANTERBURY (Leander Class Frigate).

04

Best deployment and why:

S4 on Task Group CRIB in Afghanistan 2006/07. Working with the other services and really feeling like I was contributing to making a difference for the local people.

05

Hometown:

I was born in Wellington but moved to Palmerston North when I was two.

06

High School:

Queen Elizabeth College, Palmerston North. I also spent a year at Caloundra State High in Queensland.

07

Favourite book:

Wuthering Heights, Emily Bronte.

08

Favourite movie:

Can I chose two? True Romance (very early Tarantino) and The Breakfast Club.

09

Favourite album:

I definitely need more than one. If I had to limit it to two then The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars, David Bowie; and Abbey Road, the Beatles.

10

Favourite song:

Just Like Heaven, the Cure.

11

Favourite holiday destination:

Camping at Hahei.

12

Outside of work, what's the one thing you enjoy doing?

Spending time with my family and reading.

13

What's something about you that not many people know?

I'm a big fan of true crime podcasts, especially My Favorite Murder. A shout out to my fellow Murderinos.

14

A person that taught you a valuable life/Navy lesson was... and the lesson was?

My family, they have taught me that there is more to life than just work. I strive every day to get the balance right.

15

How would you describe the Navy in 10 words or less?

Whānau.

New Zealand Defence Force

**PERSON OF
THE YEAR 2023**



CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS



Sailor of the Year • Soldier of the Year • Aviator of the Year
Civilian of the Year • Reservist of the Year • Safety person of the Year
Outstanding Sports Award • Volunteer of the Year • Cadet of the Year
SQNLDR Peter Rule Inclusion Award • Innovation of the Year