

# THE BUGLE

ISSUE 335  
NOVEMBER 2025

## THIS ISSUE

Foreign Correspondence  
RSA Christmas Packages  
Important Mailing Information  
Christmas Activities

The Deployment Newsletter is produced for families and service personnel associated with current overseas deployments



## THE BUGLE

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### Deadline

The deadline for Edition 336 (December) is **27 November 2025**

Bugle contributions are welcome and should be sent to the Community Inbox: [community.deployment@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:community.deployment@nzdf.mil.nz).

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Contributions are co-ordinated by your Deployment Services Officers

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### Disclaimer

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### Cover Photo:

Caption.

# GUEST EDITORIAL

## SECURITY—How Can We Help?

### Security Manager

Headquarters Joint Forces New Zealand

*Reprinted from previous Bugles*



**A**s security manager for our operational headquarters, it is my job to advise on and monitor all aspects of security within the headquarters. In Defence we always have an eye on security because it is an integral part of our business, both at home and abroad. But sometimes we forget that those people in our wider Defence community may not always understand why we need to apply security measures, and this can pose a risk to deployed personnel and the Defence community at home.

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) community includes all our people, their families, friends and, of course, our retired Service personnel. Unfortunately the right messages about security do not always get out to those who need them. Also, in today's changing world, out of date knowledge can be a dangerous thing and our extended community are always eager for information and updates on what is going on with our deployments. Sometimes this can lead to annoyance if information is not provided by Defence, and people are asked not to talk about what they do know.

Operations Security, or OPSEC, is about keeping potential adversaries from discovering critical information about our military operations, related capabilities and intentions. OPSEC thereby helps to protect our operations; those planned and those in progress. Military success depends on security and surprise, so our deploying and deployed force elements (our sailors, soldiers and aviators) can accomplish the mission more effectively, and with less risk. Our adversaries want our information, and they will get it wherever they can.

Being a member of the Defence community you may know some information that, when combined with other information, could give away detail that can be used against us, or even you in some cases. So it's very important that we avoid:

- discussing NZDF-related information outside of your immediate family, especially not over the phone or via messages or email;
- divulging military or personal information on social media;
- discussing sensitive NZDF-related topics in public places, which can potentially result in information being overheard and made public; and
- speculating about deployed loved ones or their deployment (this can be misinterpreted as fact by those overhearing it, especially if they know you are part of the Defence community).

All members of our extended military community contribute to our success, and we couldn't do our job without your support. By protecting what you know about our day to day and deployed operations, you protect your deployed loved ones, along with family and friends at home. That's a very important contribution to OPSEC.

If at any time you feel in any doubt about matters concerning security, don't hesitate to contact Defence, and for our family members, the Deployment Services Officers are always able to assist you.



## NEW ZEALAND SOLDIERS DIG DEEP FOR EXPERT US ARMY CHALLENGE

In a first-time encounter with a gruelling US Army expert-level challenge of fitness and soldiering skills, a team of New Zealand Army soldiers has bettered the typical pass rate.

A New Zealand Army Infantry Platoon, deployed to South Korea earlier this year, was invited to participate in Expert Infantry Badge (EIB) testing alongside United States and Republic of Korean Army personnel at Camp Casey. The EIB is a special skills badge within the US Army, initiated in 1944 to honour infantryman and symbolise their infantry's "tough, hard-hitting role in combat".

To earn it, candidates must pass a demanding sequence of events that validate physical fitness, medical proficiency and tactical field craft.

Across the five-day period, 28 NZ Army soldiers took part, with seven successfully meeting all standards. This 25 percent success rate is notably higher than the average American pass rate of 15 percent. The five-day challenge began with the Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) and land navigation, involving successive days of navigation (day and night), individual skills testing, and culminating in a 12-mile (19.3km)



*LCPL O RECEIVES HIS EXPERT INFANTRY BADGE*

weighted march.

Any failure at any stage meant immediate elimination. It was this particular criteria that really put the pressure on, You're tested on 30 different infantry skills, and one mistake

would mean you were out of the competition.

Personnel had a week's preparation, which included having to learn how the US Army performed drills.

"That was probably the hardest part," says Pte M

You'd think things would be similar, but almost everything was different, including drills with weapons.

Some weapons were the same or similar to weapons used by the Kiwis but drills were different, which meant resisting muscle memory.

Another tricky task was the navigation exercises, Pte M said. "It's a lot more challenging than people expect. The complex terrain made the land navigation challenging."

The 12-mile (19km) foot march, which must be completed in three hours or less while carrying 35 pounds (16kg) of weight, was more familiar territory, It's the point of the competition where



# NZDF NEWS CONT....

you are almost finished, it's just physical and there's not much thinking involved. Pack marching is normal for us at the end of an exercise.

Pte M said it was an awesome opportunity to compare their ability on an international stage.

"For the Americans, it's an essential thing for their ranking system. They train for up to two weeks, including after-hours study and drills. For us, we looked at it as a challenge."

Pte E-G said after hearing what the Americans were saying about it, he didn't expect to pass.

"But the Americans were really good to us. Heaps of them wanted us to succeed, so they took us under their wing and were really patient. That support really helped."

The New Zealand platoon has been in South Korea since July and will be coming home this month.

Those who passed the challenge earn a long rectangular blue badge depicting



a Springfield Arsenal Musket.

"It would be great if we brought in something similar," Pte M said.

"Their awards span across multiple trades – infantry, logistics, combat, even an advanced medic one."

Lt W , who is deployed with the

platoon, says their achievement reflects both exceptional individual resilience and the professionalism of the NZ Army's infantry training.

"It not only underscores interoperability and shared standards between infantry forces, but also sets a strong precedent for future exchange and development opportunities with US Army formations operating in the Indo-Pacific region."



Source: NZ ARMY FACEBOOK

# A Taste of Home

A taste of home is on its way to every member of the New Zealand Defence Force deployed overseas this Christmas, thanks to the Royal New Zealand RSA.

For 85 years, the RNZRSA has sent Christmas parcels to deployed personnel, and while the content has changed over the years – the sentiment at the heart of them remains the same.

This year 150 parcels have been sent to deployments around the world including the Republic of Korea, South Sudan, Egypt, the Middle East and Antarctica.

The parcels were packed near Trentham Military Camp yesterday by a busy production line of 'elves' including the Chief of Defence Force Air Marshal Tony Davies, RNZRSA National President Sir Wayne Shelford, staff from the RNZRSA's National Office and volunteers from the New Zealand Defence Force.



Christmas boxes were filled with treats and Kiwi classics donated by the wonderful team from Pams. Each box also contained a poppy and cards handmade by students from Mt Cook and Silverstream Primary Schools in Wellington, to let those serving overseas know the country's thoughts are with them.

RNZRSA National President, Sir Wayne Shelford said the parcels are designed to let New Zealand's service men and women know they are not alone at Christmas time.

"It's hard for anyone to be away from family at Christmas, but for our deployed service men and women they're also facing uncertain circumstances and may have limited communication.

For 85 years the RSA has sent these Christmas parcels to show our defence personnel how grateful we are for their sacrifice, and to let them know how much we value them."

Chief of Defence Force Air Marshal Tony Davies said that these small packages make a big difference to those away from home at Christmas.



"Deployments come with many challenges, not least of which is being separated from family and loved ones. These packages really do help our people feel connected at Christmas time – and we're grateful to the RSA for their continued support."

The RSA is incredibly grateful for the generosity of Pams New Zealand and Packaging Products. Pams donate the majority of goodies inside the parcels, and this year included items such as packets of lollies, roasted and salted deluxe nut mix, scorched almonds, packets of biscuits and much more. Packaging Products print and donate the boxes the goodies are packed in to .

More photos on page 32

Source: RSA FACEBOOK

# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

## News from Bahrain

Articles and opinions from Foreign Correspondents are not necessarily those of the NZDF

### A Day in the Life in Bahrain

#### SGT R

I have been deployed on OP PUKEKO for almost a month and a half since I started writing this article—and time really does fly! I still remember the time I stepped off the plane at the end of August to the hottest weather I have ever experienced—very hot and humid. Luckily, as we move into October and November, the weather is cooling down—making it more comfortable for us Kiwis who are used to the colder climate.

#### Bahrain

On my first week here, I visited the Al-Fateh grand mosque that happens to be not far from the accommodation and naval base. This was the largest mosque in the world in the 1980s. It is

adorned with Italian marble floors, teak doors, and topped with a 60-tonne fibreglass dome, giving off a grand yet calming vibe. Islam is the predominant religion in Bahrain, but this small island is also home to a diverse mix of faiths, including Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism and others. Bahrain is quite the melting pot of cultures, and I have found it to be incredibly welcoming.

#### My Role

I am currently posted to a U.S. led naval base, in Manama city. My role during the deployment is to act as an Information Knowledge Manager. It is a new role that was established within the Combined Maritime Force (CMF). The CMF hosts 47 nations that have different operational backgrounds. Essentially, I am here to ensure that

information and knowledge are accessible and easily retrievable from the systems we use, such as SharePoint 365.

A key part of this involves working with the people, processes, tools and organisation to ensure it aligns with the CMF strategic outputs. This enables on-boarding (newly arriving) staff to know exactly where and how to efficiently retrieve information relating to the different Task Forces supporting the CMF, which is especially vital given the short rotation period.

#### Challenges

This newly established role presented me with a challenging yet progressive learning curve. Although knowledge management is well-established within



Maritime base in Manama

# News from Bahrain

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*The interior of Al-Fateh Mosque is filled with various geometric shapes and patterns, and adorned with jewel like chandeliers, creating a sense of grandeur*

the U.S., it is not currently inherited within the CMF. So, my first task is to ensure that everyone is equipped with the right skills to utilise information and knowledge management. Navigating through the U.S. base has also proven to be complex, which is why I encourage everyone to ask heaps of questions during on-boarding! And the final 'challenge' is simply remembering to have fun and be safe—even with the added responsibilities that comes with deployment. Maintaining a good routine, finding some moments of normalcy, and enjoying your time here are all parts and parcel of working in a foreign country. I've found on my first deployment that the other kiwis here are a great lot to work with, and I encourage everyone to maintain social ties whilst deployed!

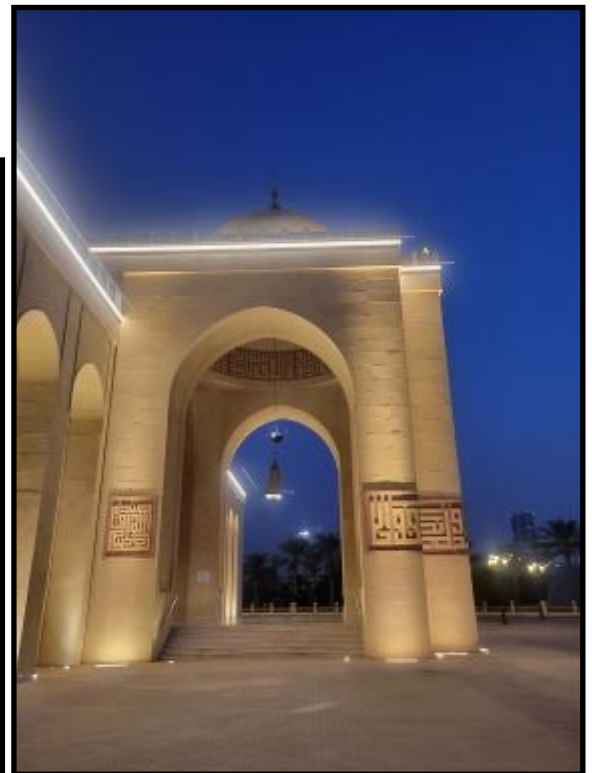
## My Life

The base itself is like a slice of the U.S., even the shopping registers as a U.S. currency on the Wise app (which is for foreign spending). During my time here, the base has hosted a variety of fun activities and events, such as Oktoberfest celebration and a commemoration of The Battle of Britain by the British personnel. At the same time, I continued my studies in Te Reo, which serves as a meaningful reminder of where I come from, practice some Gulf Arabic to speak with the locals, and taking on a challenging fitness programme.

Finally, a huge appreciation and shout out to the home base staff, PDT, and Joint staff who planned and organised these deployments and ensuring that we are safe whilst here. Also, I would like to give thanks to my seniors of trade and senior staff in Bahrain for the invaluable support they have provided me with.



*Al-Fateh Grand Mosque at Dawn*



*Ancient Kufic Calligraphy adorning the main entrance of AL-Fateh Mosque*

# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

*News from  
Sinai*

*Articles and opinions from Foreign Correspondents are  
not necessarily those of the NZDF*

## The Desert Grind: Guns and Gains

CPL K

For this article, I wanted to focus on what has brought us together significantly over our time so far, the things we do as a team beyond our core job.

Over the last couple of months, we have participated in several fitness competitions, and some awesome range shoots organized by NZCON Force Training Team (FTT).

Recently, a CrossFit competition took place in North Camp, with seven Kiwis competing across three mixed Canadian, Australian and NZ teams. It was an early start at 0600 where the teams competed over the next three hours in 3 main events.

The Kiwi competitors were in the teams that placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Solid effort from everyone involved, with a particular shout out to CPL P, holding a prone hold for 10.35 minutes, surpassing the current MFO record.

After some well-earned rest, the evening was spent enjoying an ANZAC pizza night where everyone was able to relax after a hard day's work.

An MFO tug of war competition was held at Herb's beach in South Camp during the month. Only one team per



*Australia, NZ and the US participate in a multinational range shoot*

contingent was permitted, with no limit on the number of participants, provided the combined team weight did not exceed 680kg. The kiwi's won the first heat against FIJI, and lost the second heat to Serbia, coming third place overall after defeating USA. Serbia placed first with Italy coming in second.

The morning was a great success, with impressive mahi from all

teams involved and outstanding support from both participants and the crowd.

Throughout the deployment the NZ Contingent has been conducting dedicated training focused on Move, Shoot, Communicate and Medicate soldier skills. This ensures we are in a strong state to be able to respond to



*NZ competitors in the recent fitness challenge in North Camp*



*NZ Tug of War team posing following a solid 3<sup>rd</sup> place win*

any situation that may arise while deployed. FTT led the training supported by various Subject Matter Experts within the contingent.

Training serials have included:

- Combat Shooting in line with the NZDF Combat Shooting Program.
- Med Training focused on TCCC whilst in contact.
- Communications focused on reports and returns relevant to the MFO.

The training also provides a great opportunity for NZCON members to train for an upcoming MFO force competition, where all contingents compete to determine who has the highest proficiency in soldier skills. This also allows individuals to strive to be the best they can be with their individual soldier skills.

Overall, it is safe to say we are enjoying our time within the MFO, making the most of every opportunity that has presented itself, and developing strong relationships with other contingents along the way. With approximately one month remaining, we look forward to returning home while acknowledging all that will be missed in the Sinai. Thankfully, our gains will be coming with us.



**ABOVE:**

*SSGT T doing the mahi during an early morning battle PT session.*

**LEFT:**

*NZ Tug of War team battling it out for 3<sup>rd</sup> place against the US*



# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

*News from  
United Kingdom*

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## DEMO SECTION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

In mid-July, the Demo Section touched down in the United Kingdom. The team consists of two engineers (a Plant Operator and a Carpenter), three Armoured Corps, and five infantry personnel. Our role as the Demo Section was to assist the three training teams, who together make up TDSU-E (TRIDENT Company), in delivering the Section Commanders' Battle Course. These training teams were made up of instructors from Kosovo, Estonia, and Lithuania.

The Force Enabling Platoon's mission here is to contribute to the ongoing training of Ukrainian soldiers. This particular course focused on developing future leaders, identified as potential section commanders, and equipping them with the skills and confidence needed to make decisive decisions in and out of combat. Many of the Ukrainian soldiers attending had already served on the front lines. Their experience, motivation, and eagerness to sharpen their tactics and leadership skills has been impressive and



inspiring.

A typical day for the Demo Section involved supporting the training teams whether that meant helping instruct lessons or acting as the opposing force. Playing the "enemy" had its perks, we were able to observe from a unique perspective, often from inside the trenches or buildings as the trainees made their entries. This allowed us to offer valuable feedback and help refine their tactics and operational execution. We "died" countless times in a day, but we were

fully committed to giving the training teams whatever support they needed.

Working alongside the Estonians, Kosovans, and Lithuanians has been both an experience and an honour. We've had the chance to build strong connections, both in and out of work. On the job, it's been great swapping stories and observing how other nations approach similar tasks, it's been a real eye-opener. Each team has its own systems, communication styles, and leadership methods, offering fresh perspectives and a deep respect for their professionalism.



*Demo Section members prepare to assault a rural village*

You quickly learn that while we all wear different uniforms, we share the same sense of purpose. We're here to do a job, and there's always something to learn from one another. And, as the old saying goes, "work hard, play hard." Outside of work, the bonding has been just as rewarding, especially seeing how competitive the Estonians are at volleyball. Even if they didn't win every match, they still put on some wicked games. The Kosovans, Estonians, and Lithuanians are top people, sharp operators and all-round good blokes.

The Demo Section itself has been solid. High morale is mandatory, and banter is essential. Everyone is eager to give their all, on and off the field. After hours, you'd find the section hitting the gym (some of the lads got big and strong, an

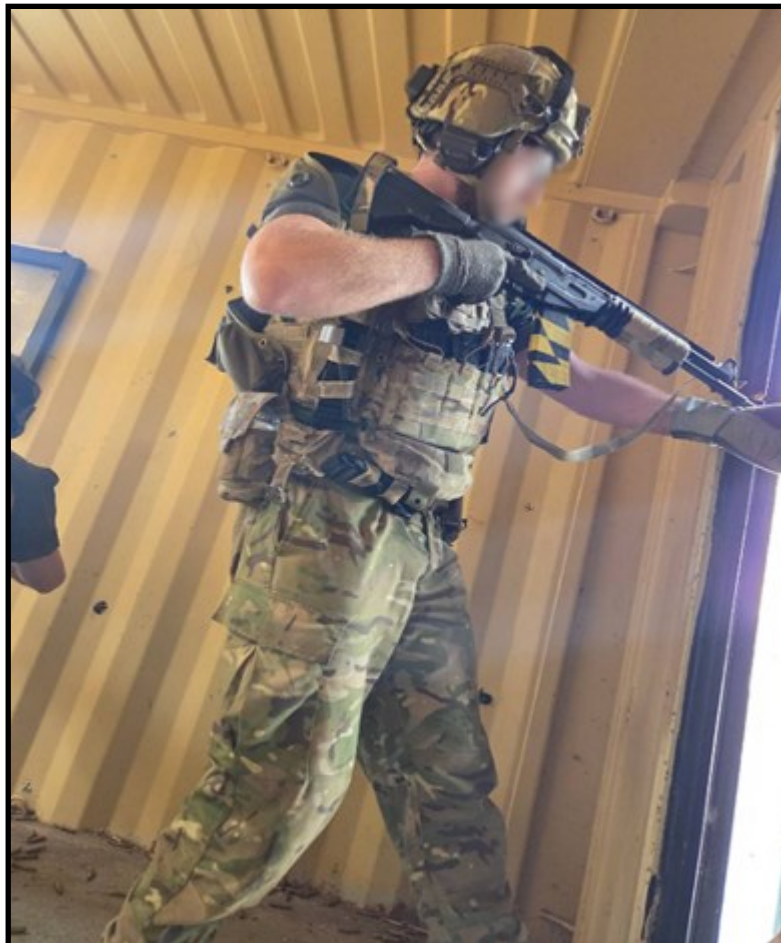
# News from United Kingdom

*Articles and opinions from Foreign Correspondents are  
not necessarily those of the NZDF*

absolute feast for the eyes), or exploring the local areas, making the most of everything and everyone. They're a top group of guys, and they've made the trip that much better.

We've picked up new skills, learnt a few new languages, shared a lot of laughs, and seen first-hand the drive these soldiers have to defend their home. It's been an honour to play a small part in that. As the final Section Commanders' Course comes along, we're keen to pass on as much knowledge as we can to the Ukrainians before our deployment wraps up and we return home to the motherland that is New Zealand.

Slava Ukraini!



**ABOVE:**

*Demo Section members conduct a break in on an urban facility*

**LEFT:**

*PTE S defends an 'enemy' held building*

# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

*News from  
Middle East*

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not necessarily those of the NZDF

## Welcome to the Middle East

LCPL C

The Middle East, what can I say? The air is thick, the weather relentless, rather different from the bountiful nature and fresh air in NZ.

With an hour of real rain since my arrival almost six months ago and temperature of 35C/96F (in the shade), peaking in the high 40s on arrival, OP TROY has proven an interesting experience to say the least.

I've been filling the roll of the INTSPEC here, working alongside my fellow "news reporters with extra steps", thankfully under constant air conditioning. We work to provide awareness to the commanders and personnel on base on what's happening around the region which has given me the opportunity to work alongside partnered nations, develop my understanding of the region and, improve my technical and briefing skills.



*Carrier Visit—USS NIMITZ*

In addition to my day-to-day, I've also been fortunate enough to attend a multinational sports day at a nearby American base, tour of one of their aircraft carriers and most recently, attend a 250<sup>th</sup> US Navy, anniversary celebration. These events summarize

some of the highlights of my working time here, giving me the opportunity to converse with partnered militaries, to gain insight on the roles they play in the region, and how we mesh together in the grand scheme of things. We've also participated in multiple range shoots, including both the Kiwis and Aussies,



*Carrier Visit—USS NIMITZ*

# News from Middle East

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using both our MARS-L and their EF-88 rifles.

As for personal highlights, visiting the grand mosque, the outrageously sized malls and the regular quiz on base have kept me entertained. Not to mention the sweet escape from the heat, the pool here at kiwi lines, which is consistently clear thanks to our resident ISOP fighting the dust storms. Looking back, as I'm preparing to return home.

I would summarize this trip as both personally developmental and eye opening to the wider military community. I was lucky enough to have an offset deployment, allowing me meet and learn from two rotations of Kiwis and Aussies a valuable experience for sure, which let me draw from the knowledge of a range of

characters.

TROY has become somewhat a home away from home, only made possible by the solid team working alongside me.

*RIGHT PHOTO:*

*Wahat Al Karama War Memorial, Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in background*



*Safari*

# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

## News from South Korea

Articles and opinions from Foreign Correspondents are not necessarily those of the NZDF

### Handover complete

#### CAPT H

It's been a busy and rewarding month for the OP MONITOR team as we wrapped up a successful handover between rotations. These transitions are always a significant milestone, a moment to look back on what's been achieved and to pass the torch to the next group of Kiwis continuing New Zealand's contribution on the Korean Peninsula.

With the Kiwi contingent spread across several locations and working within different teams under United Nations Command, there's a lot of coordination required to keep things running smoothly. Maintaining New Zealand's role while rotating personnel is a delicate balance that requires flexibility, professionalism, and plenty of teamwork. Despite the moving parts, both the outgoing and incoming rotations worked hard to make sure the handover went off without a hitch, setting the stage for another successful rotation.

While the handover was taking place, infantry training remained front and centre. The platoon made the most of every opportunity to learn and train alongside our international partners.

Working with US forces and receiving support from Black Hawk helicopters gave the team a valuable taste of



aviation integration, an experience not often seen back home in New Zealand.

This joint training helped strengthen planning skills and provided the platoon with a better understanding of how air mobility fits into larger operations. The final phase of the training cycle saw the platoon complete live range shoots and take part in the Expert Infantry Badge (EIB) testing alongside US and Republic of Korea Army soldiers. The EIB is a demanding test of infantry skills. The Kiwi soldiers impressed everyone involved, showcasing the high standards, professionalism, and determination that define our infantry.

With their training complete, the platoon has officially wrapped up its deployment on the Korean Peninsula. As they prepare for extraction from theatre, the excitement is starting to build for the much-anticipated return home to loved ones and family. It's a well-deserved opportunity to rest, reconnect, and reflect on everything achieved during their time overseas.

Beyond the training and operational work, the Kiwis have been making a real effort to get involved in the local



# News from South Korea

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Above and Below: Outgoing and Incoming team

community. Sport, as always, has proven to be one of the best ways to connect. Several members of the team have joined local sports clubs, while others have volunteered their time to help with coaching. The past month has been one of change and achievement.

The outgoing team can be proud of the legacy they've left behind, while the incoming rotation has already hit the ground running, ready to build on that foundation. The OP MONITOR team remains committed to upholding New Zealand's strong reputation within the United Nations Command. With new challenges ahead and plenty of opportunities to learn and grow, the Kiwi contingent continues to demonstrate the professionalism, adaptability, and good humour that define the NZDF wherever it serves.



# DSO'S CORNER



different environment to what we have here in New Zealand, have been able to focus totally on their job, bonded with colleagues and even some others in their deployment locality. All require understanding, patience and communication during the period of adjustment and reintegration.

Even though our means of communication are now better and more diverse than they have ever been and keeping connected is no longer just by a hasty phone call because of the cost, or the good old pen, paper and post method, there will still be a period of adjustment as things settle back into what might now be the new-old or old-new normal or anywhere in between.

We have one final dinner for the families of our deployed personnel for 2025. So, if you are either in the the Manawatu, Wellington or Christchurch areas or will be travelling this way please join us for dinner—see page 29 for details.

We are looking forward to connecting with our families just one last time for the year.

RVSPs please by **Monday 10 Nov** so I can confirm numbers with the Mess staff.

We will be collecting Christmas messages for our December Bugle so encourage you all to be thinking about what message you might like to send to your special someone.

Finally, if you are wanting to send parcels to your loved one overseas for Christmas, then please attend to this sooner rather than later. We are working on mail arriving at DPSC by **Monday 10 November** for it to arrive in the deployment locations by Christmas Day. Please see the *For Your Info* pages for more mail dates.



**H**appy November everyone! Spring has certainly lived up to expectations with unsettled weather and changeable temperatures.

At this time of the year we see a considerable changeover of personnel on many of our deployments around the world. Families will have experienced, or will be anticipating the departure of their loved one. This follows that a number of families will be excitedly waiting for the return of their precious loved one who will have been away for anything between four to twelve months; or in some cases, perhaps a little longer. Birthdays, anniversaries and any number of family occasions will have been missed.

We know that saying goodbye can be hard, even if you have been through the process before—it never seems to get any easier. And it can be just as difficult for parents as it is for partners and children. Your sacrifice is adding to the great contributions that our people continue to make in all sorts of situations and environments around the world. Families are definitely a part of deployment and we believe that you are all heroes in our eyes.

We also know that having your family member depart at this time of the year and will be away for Christmas, can be

especially challenging. In the past we have heard that some families will have a Christmas early; they may decorate the tree, exchange gifts and feast on what they would normally have for Christmas Day. Some may not go quite that far but enjoy a smaller version of the celebrations. For some parents who will be away from their children for Christmas, they may have taken the time to do the Christmas shopping and have the gifts all wrapped and stashed where inquisitive little ones won't find them. Then if they are into exchanging gifts with spouses or partners, that those have already been taken care of—either exchanged or wrapped and ready to be shared on Christmas Day. Whatever your tradition, I hope that all is in place and ready to go.

For those who will have completed their deployment and will already be home or returning shortly, there will be a mix of emotions from feelings of excitement and anticipation to some feelings of anxiety and worry on how the reunion will go—on both sides. These are all very normal reactions and not something to get too concerned about. Those at home may have become a little more independent, may have developed new friendships, skills and routines, or might have experienced a little more financial freedom that they won't want to give up, and the big one—sole control of the TV and the remote control! Our returning personnel will have experienced life in a very

# ADVENTURE IN MOTION

## WALK - RIDE - EXPLORE

*Every step, every pedal, every view - Every Move Counts*



### Explore on Two Feet, Two Wheels, or a Vespa

#### Australia:

- *Northern Rivers Rail Trail (6 days)*: Electric bike included, scenic rail trails, fresh-air adventure.
- *Brisbane Valley Rail Trail (4 days)*: Mountain bike included, upgrade to e-bike optional.
- *Murray to Mountains Rail Trail (7 days)*: Hybrid bike included, enjoy extended cycling adventures.

#### Europe:

- *Croatia Bike & Boat*: Cycle scenic coastlines, overnight on comfortable boats.
- *Tuscany Vespa Tour*: Explore hilltop towns and vineyards on a Vespa.

#### Japan:

- *Kumano Kodo Walks*: Walk iconic historic trails at your pace.

Register your interest today to secure your spot on these active adventures.

[sport@traveltheworld.co.nz](mailto:sport@traveltheworld.co.nz)

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Merivale | 54 Holmwood Road | 03 741 4600  
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# VETERANS' AFFAIRS NEW ZEALAND

**V**eterans' Affairs represent and serve those who have fought in our country's best interests and who make sacrifices, even today, to ensure New Zealand remains a free and safe country. There are over 31,000 New Zealand veterans, with diverse backgrounds that range in age from 19 to more than a hundred years old. Their veterans include current NZ Defence Force personnel, those who have left the Defence Force and work in civilian roles, and retired ex-service personnel.

Veterans' Affairs are focused on providing excellent personal support for veterans and their families. They also partner with the broader NZ Defence Force and with other government and non-government agencies to facilitate their support.

Veterans' Affairs support those with Qualifying Service to be well at home, at work, and in their communities. The Veterans' Support Act 2014 defines what support can be provided to those with Qualifying Service and their families and whānau.

## Check your eligibility now

You may be eligible for support from Veterans' Affairs.

The easiest way to check is online at  
[www.veteransaffairs.mil.nz/eligibility](http://www.veteransaffairs.mil.nz/eligibility)

It only takes a few minutes to check.

We don't collect any information  
or check any HR records.



**Or contact us at:**

0800 483 8372 (Freephone NZ)

[veteransaffairs.mil.nz/contact-us](http://veteransaffairs.mil.nz/contact-us)

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[veteransaffairs.mil.nz/newsletter](http://veteransaffairs.mil.nz/newsletter)

[facebook.com/NZVeteransAffairs](https://facebook.com/NZVeteransAffairs)

[veteransaffairs.mil.nz/eligibility](http://veteransaffairs.mil.nz/eligibility)

# FOR YOUR INFO

## Postal Address for Deployed Personal

Changes to NZ Post have resulted in some issues with the mailing address for letters, cards and any economy-rate packages that need to be sent overseas.

This type of mail is now to be sent using the following address:

**First Name, Initial, Surname**  
BOX # (refer to your guide)  
C/- DPSC  
PRIVATE BAGE 900  
WELLINGTON

All parcels can continue to be send to the mailing address provided in your guide.

## Green Custom Stickers

Some post officers may not have the green custom stickers to attach to your parcels as they are moving to an electronic version. If you find they do not have the green custom stickers, we will require you to place the following information on the outside of the parcel:

Description of each item  
Quantity  
Value of item  
Weight  
Total cost and total weight.

DPSC will then process the parcel once it arrives in Trentham.  
All parcels are to be addressed to:

**First Name, Initial, Surname**  
BOX # (refer to your guide)  
C/- DPSC  
HQJFNZ  
2 Seddul Bahr Road  
Trentham  
Upper Hutt 5018

## Christmas Mail

By now we hope that your Christmas mail is ready to go, if not sent already. For mail to (hopefully) arrive in time for Christmas, your parcels need to be in Trentham by **Monday 3 November**.

Mail will continue to be sent to deployment locations with the final mail for 2025 leaving on 8 December. The first mail for 2026 will leave on 6 January.



## Deployment Support Services

Need information?  
Need support?  
Need a listening ear?  
Need to send an urgent message to a deployment location?

### Deployment Support Services are here for you

All personnel on deployment and their families have the support of the Deployment Services Officers (DSOs). In addition there is support from Unit Points of Contact (UPOC) and local Welfare Support Services. The nominated Primary Next of Kin (PNOK) of families of deployed NZDF personnel should, in the first instance, contact their DSO who can assist or facilitate the best pathway for welfare issues.

#### Deployment Services Officers:

**Burnham**—Nicky Ruki  
Ph: 0800 337 569 or 027 449 7565

**Linton**—VACANT  
Ph: 0800 683 77 327 or 021 649 903

Added to this, there are other very valuable support networks available in your local region.

For additional support and services:

#### Navy Family Support Services:

0800 NAVY HELP (0800 628 94 357) to connect with:

- Social Workers
- Navy Family Events
- Naval Welfare Liaison Manager.

#### Army:

##### Defence Community Facilitators:

**Linton:**  
Lesley Clutterbuck—Ph: 021 649 901

**Trentham :**  
Dee O'Connor—Ph: 021 905 157

**Burnham:**  
Ph: 021 245 5099

**Waiouru:**  
Sharlene Turua—021 226 9057

**Papakura:**  
Helena O'Neill—021 934 635  
Toni Piggott—021 229 8039

#### Air Force:

##### Defence Community Facilitators:

**Air Staff Wellington:**  
Linley Williams—Ph: 021 243 4108

**Base Auckland:**  
Vanessa Rowan —Ph: 027 450 2001

**Base Woodbourne:**  
Donna Wilson—Ph: 027 246 4910

**Base Ohakea:**  
Rebecca Smith—Ph: 021 351 542

#### Local Chaplaincy Services

#### Unit Point of Contact (UPOC)

# OPEN BANKING IS THE NZ FINANCIAL DATA REVOLUTION YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU NEEDED

## The quiet revolution in your wallet

For decades, your relationship with your bank has been a bit of a monologue. You put your money in, they hold it, and they decide what services to offer you. If you wanted to see your full financial picture, say, for instance to see your KiwiSaver account balance, your term deposit at another institution, and your mortgage, you'd have to manually log in to three different portals, grab a calculator, and probably brew a strong coffee.

But the days of banking isolation are nearing their end.

New Zealand is on the cusp of a financial data revolution, often called 'Open Banking.'

This is not a new "crypto-something" or a fad dreamt up by financial technology ([FinTech](#)) marketers. It's a global financial shift that's already changing how people manage, borrow, and invest their money. And now, it's slowly making its way to New Zealand.

It's a change that promises to shift the power dynamic away from big financial institutions and place it squarely where it belongs: with you, the customer. This isn't just about faster payments; it's about reshaping how you interact with money, making it more flexible, competitive, and ultimately, more *yours*.



## What Exactly is Open Banking?

In its simplest form, Open Banking is a secure way to share your financial data with third-party service providers (like fintech companies, other banks, or financial advisers) *only* when you give them explicit permission to do so.

Think of all your financial data as a vault. This includes your account balances, your spending habits, your loan details.

Traditionally, only your bank had the key to this treasure trove of data. Open Banking gives *you* the master key and the ability to hand out a temporary, revocable copy to a trusted, accredited third party.

This sharing is facilitated through secure digital connections called Application Programming Interfaces (APIs). These APIs are standardised tunnels that allow different computer systems to talk to each other safely. Crucially, this mechanism is a significant upgrade from the old, clunky method of sharing data. Prior to Open Banking, many innovative financial apps relied on a system called 'screen scraping,' where you had to give your username and password to a third party so their computer could 'scrape' the data off your bank's website.

Screen scraping was the digital equivalent of giving your neighbour the key to your house so they could tell you if your lawn was getting long. It worked, but it felt a

little weird. Open Banking is giving them a secure, temporary window to check the lawn *without* them needing your front door key. It's far safer and smarter.

Open Banking is about data liberation. But it is liberation with consent, control, and security as the non-negotiable foundations.



## The World is Watching: How Open Banking Has Shifted Global Finance

New Zealand is not the first to travel this road; we have the distinct advantage of learning from others who have taken the leap. Open Banking isn't a theory; it's a proven model that has fundamentally changed financial services overseas, particularly in the UK, Europe, and Australia.

## Open Banking in The UK and Europe

The United Kingdom and the European Union were pioneers. The EU's revised Payment Services Directive (PSD2), which mandated Open Banking, went live in 2018. This regulatory push led to a boom in FinTech focused on consumer benefit. The results have been transformative:

**1. Personal Finance Management (PFM) Tools:** Imagine an app that pulls data from your Westpac account, your ANZ credit card, and your KiwiSaver Scheme provider *all in one place*. This allows for hyper-accurate budgeting, spending categorisation, and financial forecasting.

**2. Faster, Cheaper Payments:** Open Banking has enabled 'Payment Initiation Services,' where a third-party app can initiate a payment directly from your bank account to a merchant, bypassing costly card networks.



**3. Lending Innovation:** Lenders no longer need to rely on patchy information or tedious paper statements to assess your suitability for a loan or mortgage. With your permission, they can instantly, securely, and accurately assess your income and expenditure. This means faster decisions, often within minutes, and potentially more competitive offers because the lender has a clearer risk profile. According to research published by McKinsey, the ability to consolidate financial information has been cited as one of the top three ways Open Banking improves a customer's experience.

## Australia's Consumer Data Right (CDR):

Our neighbours across the ditch adopted the CDR, a government-mandated rule giving consumers the right to access and share their data across sectors, starting with banking. Australia's phased roll-out demonstrates a crucial point: Open Banking is the *first* application of a wider principle. If it works for your bank account, why not your power company, your phone provider, or your health records? The Australian model showcases how a robust regulatory approach fosters competition and innovation, ultimately putting pressure on incumbent banks to improve their offerings.

## The Kiwi Context: Regulation and the Consumer Data Right

In New Zealand, the movement toward Open Banking is encapsulated within the larger framework of the **Consumer Data Right (CDR)**.

The government has chosen a regulatory path. This is vital for building trust and ensuring the system operates fairly. The CDR is designed to put



consumers in control of their data, allowing them to share it safely for their own benefit. This means the rules of engagement are clearly defined, mandatory for participating institutions, and overseen by a regulator.

This move addresses the inherent caution that most Kiwis have when it comes to their finances. Data security is paramount, and a clear regulatory mandate ensures that only accredited, trusted, and secure third parties can access your information. It's not a free-for-all; it's a controlled, consent-driven system. The CDR will mandate standards around:

- **Security:** How third parties must protect your data.
- **Consent:** Clear rules on how and when consent is sought, and how easily it can be withdrawn.
- **Liability:** Who is responsible if something goes wrong.

The key takeaway is this: the New Zealand approach prioritises safety and control. In a way this makes sense, as the entire proposition hinges on public confidence. If people don't feel secure sharing their data, the benefits of Open Banking simply won't materialise.

# become<sup>NZ</sup>

## REDEFINING WEALTH

### What Will Open Banking Mean for Your Wallet? Practical Examples and Possibilities

*The bank won't own your data, you will.* For most New Zealanders willing to embrace it, Open Banking won't just be a theoretical change. It will translate into practical, day-to-day advantages that make managing personal finances quicker and smarter.

#### 1. SMARTER BUDGETING AND SAVING

You could use an app which automatically analyses your spending across all your accounts, highlights recurring subscriptions you've forgotten about (yes, even that gym you stopped going to in 2021), and suggests ways to save.

#### 2. FASTER LOAN APPROVALS

Instead of sending months of bank statements to apply for a loan, with your permission lenders could access your verified transaction data instantly. That means faster approvals, fewer headaches, and less paperwork.

#### 3. SEAMLESS PAYMENTS

Open banking enables direct bank-to-bank payments without credit card intermediaries. Merchants pay lower fees, and you may see those savings reflected in pricing, or at least in fewer "convenience fees."

#### 4. BETTER FINANCIAL ADVICE

Financial advisers (including our team at Become Wealth) could access accurate, real-time data to provide more tailored and proactive advice. No more rounding numbers or guesstimating last quarter's spending habits.



#### 5. GREATER CONTROL AND TRANSPARENCY

Perhaps the greatest benefit is empowerment. You'll own your financial data, and you'll decide how it's used. That's a shift from the current model, where banks guard your data like dragons sitting on a gold hoard.

### The Two Sides of the Coin: Risks and Downsides

While the promise of Open Banking is huge, we would be remiss not to address the genuine risks and potential downsides. An informed customer is a protected customer.

#### 1. THE PERILS OF SHARING: SECURITY AND DATA MISUSE

The primary risk is security. While the CDR is designed to enforce rigorous security standards, every time you share your data, you are increasing the number of parties that hold it. A breach at a smaller, accredited third-party provider could theoretically expose your information.

**MITIGATION:** The control mechanism is your consent. You must treat access to your financial data with the same care you treat your credit card PIN. Always verify the accreditation and reputation of any company you grant access to. If you haven't heard of them, or if the benefit they offer seems too good to be true, be cautious.

#### 2. CONSENT FATIGUE AND COMPLACENCY

As Open Banking rolls out, every new app and service will ask for consent. This constant barrage of 'Do you agree?' prompts can lead to consent fatigue, where users simply click 'Yes' to make the prompt go away, without reading the fine print.

This complacency can be dangerous. You might accidentally grant overly broad access, perhaps for a loan assessment tool, that is also permitted to use your data for targeted advertising. This is where education and mindfulness become essential.

When a new app asks for all your data, read the terms. Remember, if you're not paying for the product, you are the product. You wouldn't sign over the title of your car just to get free air for your tyres!

#### 3. THE RISK OF ADVERSE SELECTION



# become<sup>NZ</sup>

REDEFINING WEALTH

A more subtle, systemic risk involves adverse selection in lending. Today, banks often use average data and broad models to assess risk. In an Open Banking environment, third-party lenders can get a surgical, data-driven view of a borrower's finances.

While this is excellent for low-risk individuals (who can prove their exceptional budgeting and secure lower rates), it may lead to higher-risk borrowers being left with only the most expensive lenders. If a borrower opts *not* to share their data, a lender might automatically infer they have something to hide, leading to a negative assessment. The World Bank notes that as competition increases and models become more granular, "adverse selection in credit markets" can occur, meaning the benefits are not evenly distributed. For individuals with messy financial histories, the transparency of Open Banking might, absurdly, make accessing affordable credit harder, though it will certainly provide clearer reasons why.

This highlights the importance of financial education and financial advice.



## The Bottom Line: The Open Banking Door to Financial Empowerment

The rollout of open banking in New Zealand will take time.

Open Banking, underpinned by the Consumer Data Right, is not just another technological trend; it's a necessary, powerful shift that will start to re-engineer New Zealand's financial arena. For the individual, whether you're saving for your first home or managing complex retirement funds, it means more choice, more convenience, and most importantly, more control.

Consumers can expect gradual access to new services. This will likely start with simpler applications like payment initiation and data aggregation, before expanding into loans, insurance, and investment services.

The coming changes will challenge traditional institutions and empower new FinTech challengers to offer products that are better tailored to your life. The time to prepare for this change is now, not when it arrives. Start thinking about your data as your most valuable financial asset, and resolve to be deliberate, not complacent, about who you trust with the master key. The road ahead is open, and for those who embrace data literacy, it leads directly to greater financial empowerment.

*The information contained in this publication is general in nature and is not intended to be financial advice that is specific to your personal circumstances. Before making any financial decisions, you should consult a professional financial adviser.*

*Nothing in this publication is, or should be taken as, an offer, invitation or recommendation to buy, sell or retain a regulated financial product. No responsibility is accepted for any loss caused as a result of any person relying on any information in this publication. This publication is for the use of persons in New Zealand only.*

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### How to get hold of us

Please get in contact with us with any questions about your financial needs. Feel free to call us on **0508 BECOME (0508 232 663)** or email [hello@become.nz](mailto:hello@become.nz). There are no costs involved until an adviser has established your specific needs.

# Are You Ready to... MO!



This Movember, we're standing shoulder-to-shoulder for our mates, the comrades, dads, sons, sailors, soldiers, aviators, partners, and colleagues who make up our Defence whanau.

**Movember isn't just about moustaches.** It's about connection, courage, and looking out for each

other on base, at sea, in the air, and at home.

#### Here's why:

- Three out of four suicides in Aotearoa are men.
  - One in eight Kiwi men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime.
  - Testicular cancer is the most common cancer in young men aged 15–34.
  - Tane Maori have a life expectancy around seven years shorter than non-Maori men.
  - Every hour, around the world, 60 men die by suicide.
- These are more than numbers — they're our mates, our families, our people.

#### This Movember is for them.

##### Grow a Mo.

**Move** 60 km for the 60 men we lose every hour.

**Host a Mo-moment** and get your unit, section, or ship involved.

##### And it's not just for the blokes.

Mo Sisters — our wahine allies — play a crucial role too. You don't need a moustache to make a difference. Rally the team, host an event, share the message, and help change the face of men's health across NZDF.

Scan the posters around camp, ship, or base to join the NZDF Mo Force team.

## Surviving Deployment

**Set a goal.** Start that little project that you've been putting off. Start a course. Do something that will make you feel good.

**Take a break.** Take time away from your normal routine. Go to dinner with friends and arrange a babysitter. Plan an outing – ring friends to join you.

**Pamper yourself.** Treat yourself to a special occasion. Take a long bath, have a massage or read a book.

**Don't feel guilty.** Separation can be a stressful time, so "time out" from your daily routine is important.

**Treat yourself to some retail therapy,** but don't break the bank!!

**Exercise and keep fit.** Find fun activities and allow yourself to have a good time. Make a list of things that you like to do and then plan time to do them. Say "No" when you have to and be kind to yourself.

# LOOKING BACK

Over the years, and over many deployment rotations, we have collected some amazing photographs. Rather than just storing them in our archives, we enjoy sharing some of these incredible images with our readers.

These images are from the Operation OP FARAD mission to the Sinai Peninsula, Egypt.



# Armistice Day

Source: nzdf.mil.nz

## 11 November

**A**rmistice Day (also sometimes also referred to as “Remembrance Day”) marks the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended the First World War and commemorates the sacrifice of those who died serving New Zealand in this and all wars and armed conflict.

The Great War of 1914 to 1918 was one of the most disastrous events in human history. New Zealand, with a population of 1.1 million in 1914, sent 100,000 men and women abroad. 16,700 died and over 40,000 were wounded—a higher per capita casualty rate than any other country involved.

The coming of peace on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918 brought blessed relief for all involved. On Armistice Day 1918, New Zealand had 58,129 troops in the field, while an additional 10,000 were under training in New Zealand. In total, the troops provided for foreign-service by New Zealand during the War represented 10% of its 1914 population between the ages of 20-45.

The signing of the Armistice is observed annually in New Zealand at 11.00 am on 11 November (the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month). Two minutes silence is observed in memory of those New Zealanders who died while serving their country. Wreath laying ceremonies will take place across New Zealand.

### Remembrance Sunday

In addition to observing Armistice Day, Remembrance Sunday has become a universal time of commemoration when all men and women who have died in the service of their country are commemorated in church services throughout New Zealand.

In New Zealand, Remembrance Sunday is observed on the second Sunday in November. We also take this opportunity to remember our comrades in other parts of the world, especially our personnel currently serving in the various operational missions.

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

(Fourth stanza of Laurence Binyon's 'For the Fallen')



## The Donkey in the Well

One day a farmer's donkey fell down a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. Finally he decided that the animal was old, and since the well was non-functional anyway, it wasn't worth trying to retrieve the donkey so he had a bright idea to kill two birds with one stone by burying the donkey in the well.

It was a big job, so the farmer asked his neighbours to come and help. They all brought a shovel and began to toss dirt into the hole. As the donkey realised what was happening with the dirt raining down on it, it started to bray terribly. Then, to everyone's amazement, the donkey suddenly went very quiet. Some assumed the donkey had decided to die quietly, or that he had been quickly buried. After a while, the farmer looked down the well and saw something amazing. The donkey was still standing and with every shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey would shake it off and step on it. This carried on for some time until the donkey's head appeared over the lip of the well. A few more shovelfuls later the donkey quietly stepped up onto the surrounding grass and trotted off.

The moral of the story is that life will shovel dirt on you. All kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the well of trouble is to think clearly, shake off the dirt and then use the dirt to your advantage. Each of our troubles is a stepping stone. We can get out of the wells of trouble by stepping up not by giving up.



**Balloons For Happiness:**

- They brought balloons to a school.
- One was given to every student, who had to inflate it, write their name on it and throw it into the hallway.
- The professors then mixed up all the balloons before the students were given five minutes to find their own balloon.
- Despite a hectic search, no one found their own balloon.
- At this point the professors told the students to take the first balloon that they found and hand it to the person whose name was written on it. Within five minutes everyone had their own balloon.
- The professors said to the students:  
"These balloons are like happiness. We will never find it if everyone is looking for their own.  
But if we care about other people's happiness ... we will find ours too."



# Jingle & Mingle

JOIN US FOR  
OH BASE CHRISTMAS PARTY

**SAT 29 NOV**  
**10am-1pm**

OH MULTI FUNCTION CENTRE

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE, RIDES, ACTIVITIES,  
TREATS & SANTA & HIS ELVES.  
FOOD TRUCK (AT YOUR OWN COST)

Best Dressed Christmas themed...  
0-4yrs, over 5yrs & Family.

Open to all OH BWF Members and  
Immediate family.

ENQUIRIES & RSVP NLT 4PM MON 24 NOV  
OHAKEAEVENTS@NZDF.MIL.NZ



# RNZAF WELLINGTON CHRISTMAS PICNIC

SUN 30 NOVEMBER  
1100 - 1500

JOIN US IN THE BARN,  
BYO PICNIC LUNCH  
CAFE ON SITE FOR COFFEE



## AIR WELLINGTON FAMILY PICNIC

Registration to  
[AIRDcfwn@nzdf.mil](mailto:AIRDcfwn@nzdf.mil.nz)  
[.nz](mailto:AIRDcfwn@nzdf.mil.nz)

Include names of  
those attending and  
ages of children.

This event is open to  
all RNZAF Wellington  
military and civilian  
members of the  
WRWF and their  
families.

## Burnham Christmas Gala

Thursday 4th December 4.30pm – 7.00pm  
BURNHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

**NZDF & NZDF CONTRACTORS FAMILIES - FREE ENTRY**  
Includes all the usual rides, entertainment, Santa's Grotto, all food and drinks!

FOR NON-NZDF FAMILIES—ENTRY IS \$15 PER FAMLY  
NON-NZDF PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY 20 NOV.  
PLEASE EMAIL: [Nicola.Rukii2@NZDF.mil.nz](mailto:Nicola.Rukii2@NZDF.mil.nz)

NON-NZDF ticket includes: rides, entertainment, Santa's Grotto, a drink and candy  
floss only! So please eat before you come along. NO FOOD FOR SALE!

# PERSONAL MESSAGES

The deadline for contributions and personal messages for The Bugle is the last Friday of each month.

**The next edition deadline is 27 November 2025 at 4.00pm.**

Please email your DSOs: [community.deployment@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:community.deployment@nzdf.mil.nz).



## From In-Theatre

### Happy Birthday Sweetheart.

Hope you have a great birthday. I am so proud of you and what you have achieved since I have been away. Looking forward to see you soon. Love Dad

Happy 30th Wedding Anniversary Mum and Dad, I hope you guys have a great night out celebrating. Love J

### Happy Birthday Mum

Have a great day on November 26<sup>th</sup>. I will be thinking of you – probably pottering away in your gorgeous garden. I hope everyone spoils you and it's a special day. xxx

## From Home

“He aroha mutunga kore kia koe Koro

We miss you and are proud of you in your manaaki for your new whānau over there.

Kia haumaruru te noho. Arohanui your W Tribe”

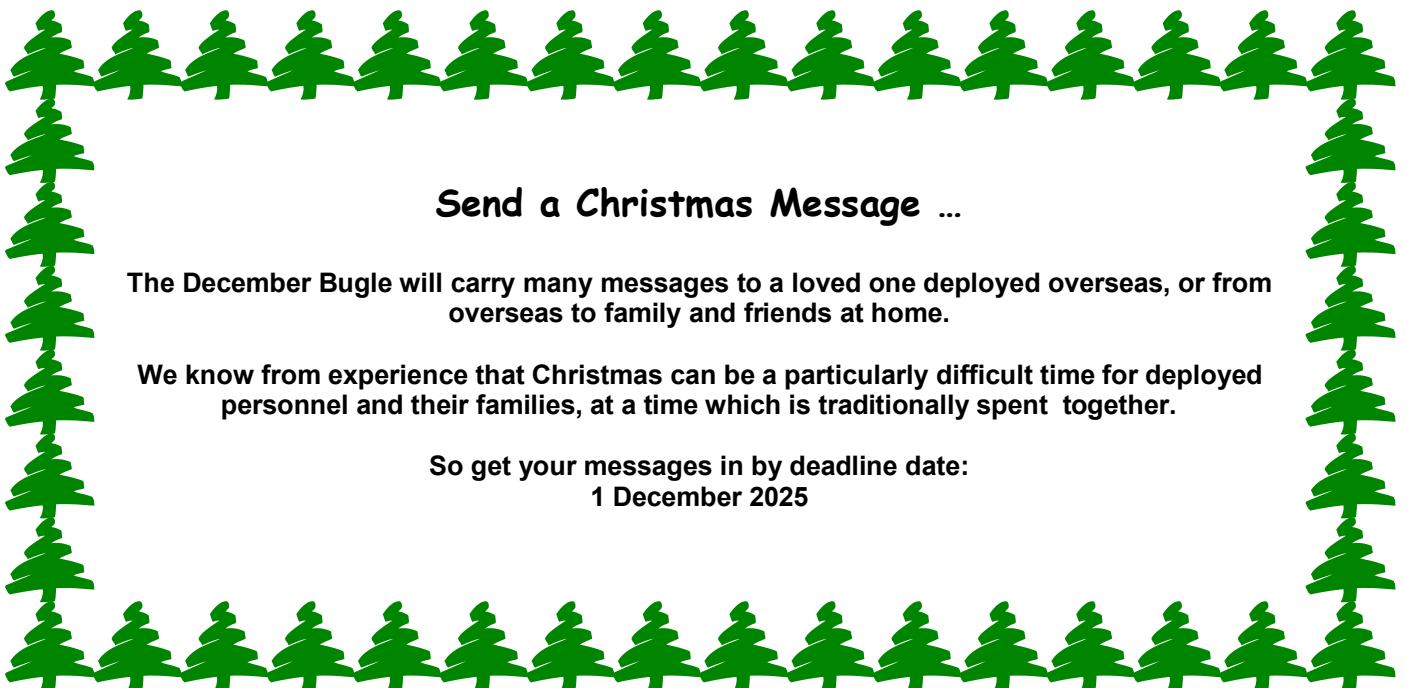
**Dad,** I miss you, I've been waiting. I think you might come back soon. I hope you'll be back for Christmas and I love you and I even miss you. You can take me for a bike ride after preschool. Lots of love, Finny.

### Boss

Look forward to your return. Counting down the days and getting organised with all the jobs about the house. All our bookings are confirmed for the holidays so it will be great to laze in the sun and take a walk along the beach. Keep safe, work hard and see you in a month or two. Always love you, The wife xx

### To Dad,

You're going to have lots of jobs when you get home. We can have an outside fire. Love from, Alex.



## Send a Christmas Message ...

The December Bugle will carry many messages to a loved one deployed overseas, or from overseas to family and friends at home.

We know from experience that Christmas can be a particularly difficult time for deployed personnel and their families, at a time which is traditionally spent together.

So get your messages in by deadline date:  
1 December 2025

# Join us for the Last Deployment Dinner for 2025 in Linton, Burnham and Wellington

No cooking or doing dishes—just good food and great company!

Bring your Family or a Friend

## 3 Venues in 3 Camps

### **LINTON:**

**DATE:** *Sunday 30 November 2025*  
**TIME:** 5.30pm  
**VENUE:** JRs Mess—42nd Street, Linton Camp  
**RSVPs TO:** Nicky Ruki: 0800 337 569 or 027 449 7565  
Email: [nicola.ruki2@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:nicola.ruki2@nzdf.mil.nz)

### **BURNHAM:**

**DATE:** *Sunday 23 November 2025*  
**TIME:** 5.30pm  
**VENUE:** Community Centre, Burnham Camp  
**RSVPs TO:** Nicky Ruki: 0800 337 569 or 027 449 7565  
Email: [nicola.ruki2@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:nicola.ruki2@nzdf.mil.nz)

### **TRENTHAM:**

**DATE:** *Sunday 23 November 2025*  
**TIME:** 5.00pm  
**VENUE:** Community Centre, Burnham Camp  
**RSVPs TO:** Nicky Ruki: 0800 337 569 or 027 449 7565  
Email: [nicola.ruki2@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:nicola.ruki2@nzdf.mil.nz)

**Please RSVP:** Nicky (Burnham) by **Monday 10 November**  
so catering numbers can be confirmed with our respective Messes.

Families within the Manawatu, Wellington and Burnham/Christchurch areas will also be emailed. This will be our final dinner for the year so hope to have lots of family join us. We are looking forward to hosting you.

These will be hosted by our lovely Defence Community Facilitators in Linton and Trentham. RSVP to Nicky and our Facilitators (Lesley and Dee) will be in touch



Continued from story on page 5