

THE BUGLE

ISSUE 287
NOVEMBER 2021

THIS ISSUE

A DSO Signing Off
A Unique Experience
An Icy Handover
Armistice Day

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



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Deadline

The deadline for Edition 288 is **26 November 2021**

Bugle contributions are welcome and should be sent to Carol Voyce.

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Cover Photo:

Recognising UN Day, 24 October 2021. LTCDR Pitiera Dawson, RNZN, deployed on Op SUDDEN (UNMISS) to South Sudan in 2010.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Carol Voyce
Deployment Services Officer
Burnham Military Camp

I feel privileged to write the Guest Editorial for the November issue of The Bugle. This column is generally reserved for those whose words and actions, have over time, shaped the New Zealand Defence Force and ultimately our contribution to our nation. I am but a small cog in an organization that takes pride in serving one's country. Now some 20 years later I take my leave. It's time for retirement.

I recall the nervousness of my first day in Burnham Camp, the strange language which I came to know as "army speak" and as a Registered Nurse, coming to grips with 'in theatre' meaning an area of operations, rather than having an operation! Ranks, Units and Chains of Command all became a challenge as did the commute to work and a 24 hour cell phone. Added to that, the travel, the public speaking, the "party pies" and the many camps and bases to experience and explore, it was to become a quick learning curve, but one I came to relish.

What has made this job so special is the people. Every day I have the privilege to meet many fine men and women who make up our Force. I have seen personnel rise through the ranks thanks to their hard work and determination and to become great leaders, leading by example. These people have been "guiding lights" in the way we have moved forward and have contributed to the development, understanding and acceptance of our Deployment Support Services and the impact



they do have on the lives of so many. Although my role as DSO commenced during NZ BATT 5 (East Timor—later to become Timor-Leste) it took some years, many surveys, much consultation and experiences, to fully develop what we have now and to be able to make a difference. It is the willingness of the many who have gone before us in sharing their hardships, practicality and wisdom that have shaped the way forward. Deployment Support Services look very different from 2001.

In 2009 I had the honour of accepting the New Zealand Defence Person of the Year award. This wasn't just for me, but rather for the resilient and proud families making the sacrifices to keep the "home fires burning" while their loved ones deployed to all corners of the world. How could we achieve what we have without their commitment to juggling work and family responsibilities

to allow us to make a difference to the lives of so many, so less fortunate than ourselves? It's been a privilege to know so many of you.

In 2010 my husband, Oz, passed away after a lengthy illness. During the time he was unwell, I was fortunate to receive amazing care, compassion and support from within the NZ Defence Force. I was able to continue to work with much flexibility and it was often good to have a distraction and commitment to something else in troubled times. While Oz was hospitalized in Wellington, we were fortunate to receive personal visits from the Chief of Defence, Chief of Army and other work colleagues who understood the battle we as a family were facing. I have seen that same compassion extended to others in their time of need and will always be grateful that as a family, our battle was not fought alone.

This job has bought many highs and lows. Highs, not for any accolades received, but rather for the opportunity of meeting and working with great people. Over time, it has been a real highlight to meet with our families about to farewell loved ones on deployment and then to support them during a separation and anticipation of homecomings. To be there for the good times and the bad! And then to cross paths with them again years later, when babies have grown and circumstances changed. (And a few more grey hairs for me!)

Sadly there have been lows. The loss of some of our fine young service personnel abroad, still remains very much in my mind. While such tragedies brought amazing support and strength from others, their losses still weigh heavily on our minds and their loved ones are forever in our thoughts.

I sometimes think back too, to my first King Air flight from Nelson into a howling Canterbury nor' wester and my long journey from Palmerston North to Timor-Leste on a Herc. Both experiences I would never have gained in civvy street! To visit a deployment location gave me an insight into what life truly was like abroad and helped me clearly see deployments from both sides of the equation. It's never about who has it the hardest. It's hard for those abroad and those at home. I am proud too, of the way The Bugle has gone from strength to strength, for the many contributors, the great read and communication tool it has become and the place it has taken in our Defence history.



This job has also given me the opportunity to move outside my comfort zone at times, with many other experiences. One in particular springs to mind. I was invited to visit the Navy patrol vessel, HMNZS WELLINGTON while in New Zealand waters on exercise with Southern Katipo 17. For someone who doesn't love being at sea, this adventure took some courage. What I can only describe as a "hair raising" journey in a Rigid-hulled Inflated Boat (RHIB), and bouncing across waves to then be winched onboard was a challenge. Thank goodness we managed to avoid climbing rope ladders to board, however it was all well worth it – a real eye opener to see life from a different perspective and to appreciate the work of our Navy personnel. Perhaps the return journey to shore squealing with delight (or fright) reinforced I do better on solid ground!

I have spent some of the past weeks clearing out my storeroom and filing cabinet and trying to prepare things for my successor. It has been a huge trip down memory lane, even discovering photos with Prince Charles and Prince Harry. I have probably taken more time than I should have, reliving moments and remembering those who I met along the way and who showed amazing resilience in times of separation and hardship—be it deployment, earthquakes or in grief. And now in our COVID world.

To name those who have influenced my role and supported me for the past years is difficult and would mean that many would be excluded from a very long list. I would however like to give a special mention to Janine Burton, DSO Linton. Janine has played a huge role in all that we have achieved. Her enthusiasm and dedication is infectious, her support unquestionable and her friendship valued. To my family, thanks for your patience and tolerance as I worked odd hours, often missed special family events and chatted far too loudly in the middle of the night when the cell phone rang! You knew I loved this job and your understanding allowed me to pursue it for so long.

As November 19 approaches and I lock my office door for the last time, I am sure there will be many mixed emotions. I will take with me the memories of many years, of many people and the hope that I did make a difference. I will hug my little grandson a little tighter and a lot more often, as a new phase of life opens up for me.



Face Of Your Force: Flight Lieutenant Emily Hall

5 October 2021

Meet Emily, she has just returned from deployment on Operation Monitor as the Assistant Corridor Control Officer for the United Nations Military Armistice Commission in the Republic of Korea.

"My role is to monitor all passengers and freight transiting between North and South Korea along the Transport Corridor, which runs across the DMZ, on the West Coast of the Korean Peninsula. The importance of this role is working as part of a coalition to support the upholding of the Armistice Agreement and cessation of hostilities on the Korean Peninsula. I work with people from a wide range of military backgrounds and countries including the US, Denmark, Switzerland, Sweden, Australia and the Republic of Korea.

Currently, due to Covid-19, the Transport Corridor has been closed and so there are currently no border crossings. Although we still monitor the access of people in and out of the corridor, the closure has meant I have the opportunity to work with other areas of UNCMAC. I have had the opportunity to carry out Inspections at Frontline Infantry Divisions, ensuring Korean Army units which are situated on the DMZ are following the rules outlined in the Armistice Agreement.

A highlight of my job has been taking orientations of the Joint Security Area and Observation Post Dora for Distinguished Visitors, teaching both military and civilian high-ranking groups about the Armistice Agreement and the history of the Joint Security Area. I have also worked duty shifts sitting as the most forward person to the border between North and South Korea. This includes sending messages and conducting a twice daily phone check with the KPA, maintaining one of the only operational communication lines between North and South Korea for the UNC Commander.

In August, I was involved in the bi-annual Combined Command Post Training at Camp Humphreys. My role included working in the UNC Operations Centre providing advice on the Armistice Agreement and working at the UNCMAC headquarters to assist with Special investigations and Armistice Agreement violations.

I feel very lucky to be experiencing a new country and culture, particularly during a pandemic. I have met many incredible people and have experienced generous hospitality which I will never forget."

Source: NZDF



NZDF NEWS

Memory March

5 October 2021

Members of the New Zealand contingent at the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) peacekeeping mission in the Sinai recently took part in a 45km march around camp in memory of the fallen.

They joined members of USBATT, an American infantry battalion, who do the walk annually in the US. Our personnel created a memory board of fallen NZDF comrades contemporary missions.

We have deployed personnel to the MFO since it was established in 1982, and our personnel fill a number of roles there including as drivers and instructors. The current MFO Force Commander is New Zealand Army officer, Major General Evan Williams.

Source: NZDF





HMNZS Te Kaha Joins Military Partners on Transit of South China Sea

6 October 2021

Royal New Zealand Navy frigate HMNZS Te Kaha is joining military partners as it transits the South China Sea en route to a major international defence exercise.

The New Zealand Defence Force last month announced its participation in Exercise Bersama Gold 21, and that it would interact with the United Kingdom's Carrier Strike Group (CSG) as it conducts engagement activities in the Indo-Pacific region.

While with the CSG in recent days, there have also been exercises and training with ships from Japan, the Netherlands, Canada, and the United States, including the US aircraft carriers USS Carl Vinson and USS Ronald Reagan.

HMNZS Te Kaha and the Navy's replenishment tanker HMNZS Aotearoa, with a Seasprite helicopter on board, departed Auckland in September.

HMNZS Aotearoa recently met up with HMS Queen Elizabeth, the Royal Navy's flagship vessel in the CSG, as both ships conducted exercises off the coast of Guam.

Now it is HMNZS Te Kaha's turn as the frigate enters the South China Sea and transits in company with the CSG and ships of other partner nations.

The NZDF has operated in the South East Asia region for decades as part of bilateral and regional defence engagement, and demonstrates its commitment to regional security through its presence in the region.

NZDF deployments exercise freedom of navigation and overflight. The NZDF undertakes all activities in accordance with international law, and for ships in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

The South China Sea is one of the world's major sea lanes and is routinely transited by merchant and naval vessels and aircraft.

HMNZS Aotearoa is en route to Singapore for Bersama Gold 21, a major exercise marking the 50th anniversary of the Five Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA), which is being held off the coast of Singapore and the Malaysian Peninsula.

The nations of the FPDA are Australia, United Kingdom, Singapore, Malaysia and New Zealand.

A Royal New Zealand Air Force P-3K2 Orion will join the exercise, and will also interact with the CSG.

After about a week with the CSG, HMNZS Te Kaha will head to Singapore to participate in Bersama Gold 21.

Exercises with international militaries are designed to enhance interoperability and strengthen relationships.

Source: NZDF



HMNZS Te Kaha, second from the right of the vessels at the rear, in company with ships from the UK, US, Canada, Netherlands, and Japan in the Philippines Sea





Recognising UN Day

24 October 2021



In 1945, New Zealand helped form what we know today as the United Nations. Since then, we have deployed Kiwis all over the globe to support the UN's vision of 'peace, dignity, and equality on a healthy planet.'

As one of the member countries of the UN, our personnel provide support in many countries in various forms on behalf of New Zealand. This includes upholding international law, promoting sustainable development, delivering humanitarian aid, protecting human rights, and maintaining international peace and security.

Once military personnel have participated in a joint UN activity, they may receive the United Nations service medal upon the completion of their deployment. The medal consists of the UN emblem on the front, and the words "In the service of peace" on the back.

Source: NZDF



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

*News from
Dubai*

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

My Dubai Experience

SSGT Katy Townsend
Supply Technician, Op TROY

Deploying in Covid times. Initially I was uneasy about the situation and the international flight ahead of me. However, once I settled into everyday life of face masks, remaining 2m apart and heaps of hand sanitiser, it easily becomes a way of life.

Deployed life here in Dubai is interesting. I deployed into the summer months with temperatures getting up over 55 plus degrees on the tarmac and high 40s around camp. This heat is something else but it's the humidity of 60% that really gets you. The heat here isn't really a burning heat. It takes a lot to get sunburnt but you do eventually tan up which is nice.

Dubai is an incredible city. Looking out towards a dusty horizon you can catch a glimpse of the Burj Khalifa and on a clear day (only once so far) you can see the Burj Al Arab, the sail shaped



CPL F Murray-Birch helping unload the C-17

building on the Jumeirah coastline. The architecture here is nothing we would ever see in New Zealand.

I'm part of a small team here of six NZDF personal and a resident cat (rodent deterrent device) ,Camel. We



Camel the cat, looking nice and friendly.



The HOTO parade between 01/21 & 02/21. This is the WO, Air Mover and ISOP change over.

News from Dubai

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have the Senior National Officer (SNO) LTCOL A Davis, Contingent Warrant Officer WO2 P Fisher, Operations (Staff) Officer (OPSO), PO C Topham, Information Systems Operator (ISOP), CPL G Stewart, Air Mover CPL F Murray-Birch and myself as the Supply Technician. Camel isn't like your normal domestic house cat, she prefers that you don't pet her or pick her up; nor do you lock her inside the cake tin accidentally. I wasn't having a bar of this however, and after six months of persistent pats and fights she is starting to enjoy the occasional one. We have had a milestone event and we can now brush her without having to wear welding gloves.

On camp Baird (Aussie Lines) there is a range of sporting activities that we can attend such as HIIT, Spin, Bingo, Volleyball and the best of all, Corn Hole. The current OPSO was the first kiwi to ever make it to the final round however she threw her corn bag into a tree which lost them the final.



SSGT K Townsend prepping ammo at the range

We are here to support our NZDF brothers and sisters that are transiting through the region. Our small team was put through its paces this rotation supporting transiting troops, housing some of our coalition partners and supporting TG KOKAKO and the evacuees from Afghanistan.

It has been a long but rewarding tour.

Working in a small team had its challenges but we also had a very low maintenance mission focussed team which made the working environment a lot easier.

I'm looking forward to going home for cooler weather, food that isn't spicy and a double bed. It's the simple things that make you appreciate home life.



The Op TROY team at the end of Op KOKAKO prior to the Herc departing for NZ.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

News from Bahrain

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Softball Challenge

CDR James Barnes

There is a well known phrase in the military—Compulsory Fun. It typically describes a Command directive for a bit of team building on the sports field or somewhere else. And just as typically it is met with mixed reactions; resignation, dread, enthusiasm and excitement. So it was in Bahrain for the Op TIKI staff recently. The Deputy Commander of the Combined Maritime Forces felt that it was time for a bit of fun and everybody was going to enjoy it. The chosen sport was softball, because the Command Warrant is an American Marine Sergeant Major and he got to choose the game, act as umpire, bowler, judge and jury. Four teams were required; a headquarters team, calling upon the combined might of 34 nations and a team from each of the three task forces; CTF150 (Maritime Security (Op TIKI), CTF151 (Counter Piracy (Brazil) and CTF152 (Maritime Security in the Persian Gulf (Kuwait)). It was to be a full afternoon in the blazing sun of Bahrain, a balmy 34 degrees and a knockout format. Win the first game and you're in the final.

Always enthusiastic and up for a challenge, even though half (or more) of the staff had never or rarely played, the Op TIKI staff were first at the softball diamond and there was a quick run-down of the rules. Swing, hit the ball, run!!! Well, none of us were chosen for Op TIKI based on our softball skills so we stuck to the basics.

Our first game was against CMF HQ; the biggest pool of players representing 34 nations and full of Americans. We clearly had no chance. And so it panned out, at least for the first 3 innings. 5-0 down, then we got a few, then we were 6-3 down. Something needed to be done. What a comeback, out of nowhere in the fourth innings there was a massive reversal and the Op TIKI team were in the lead 7-6. Amazing scenes, the crowd went wild, or looked grumpy if they were on



the CMF staff and by the end of the fifth innings the four nations of CTF150 (NZ, Aus, Singapore and USA (Coastguard)) had completely turned things around to cause the greatest sporting upset seen that day. The TIKI players ran off the field in glorious celebration, the CMF staff returned desolate to the dugout and drifted away.

The second match was between CTF151 and CTF152. Neither team come from nations renowned for their softball pedigree but they gave it

everything. It was a close match, but 151 probably had one more ringer than 152 and gradually edged ahead. Weak fielding led to very high scores and lots of fun was had by all, but in the end Brazil came out victorious.

So the scene was set. 150 v 151. Now 150 and 151 have become great friends as well as colleagues over the past three months so everyone was looking forward to this, but there was still competition. The Brazilians were desperate to win and before we could



News from Bahrain

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blink it looked like game over. TIKI were not scoring and the Brazilians were scoring at will. At the end of the Brazilian third innings they were 12-2 ahead and the umpire said that if TIKI did not score then he would end the game out of 'mercy'. Well, backs against the wall and the Anzac spirit came out, no way were we going to be sent off the field prematurely out of mercy. The comeback began, well we did score one and finished the 3rd innings 12-3. We stayed on the field. The fourth innings was dramatic. 12-12 by the end. Then the fifth and final. Two scores by the

Brazilians. Two needed for a tie, three for victory. Before we knew it, mission accomplished, CTF150 completed an even bigger turnaround than the first match to be crowned the CMF softball champions. Much was owed to the hand-eye coordination of our most valuable player, LT Wes Moir who somewhere towards the end of the first game found his groove and started hitting home runs with abandon, and a special mention must go to FLTLT Nina White who showed great commitment scoring a vital run in the first match simultaneously taking out a senior officer on the base. Always good for

morale when that happens.

Compulsory fun? Yes. Darned good fun? Yes, absolutely. CAPT Clark gave CTF150 a new motto "No surrender". The next compulsory fun is football (soccer). The competition will include the Brazilians and the British next time so we will have little chance to repeat this victory, so the pundits would say, but we shall see. The Anzac spirit burns bright, anything is possible.

Kitesurfing Regatta

Making the most of the weekend opportunities, LT Wesley Moir competed in the first Official kitesurfing regatta in Bahrain. The event was racing format and consisted of four races throughout the day with a points system determining the overall rankings. Over 45 competitors from 16 nations raced and with strong wind conditions, Lt Moir was able to secure a 2nd placing in the open Men's division. A positive outcome for NZ Inc. with another kiwi placing 3rd on the podium.



Icy Handover—Maintaining The Tradition

Flight Sergeant Laura Brown
Cargo Handler
Scott Base, Antarctica

There is a lot of history associated with Scott Base, from construction in 1957 to allow New Zealand to participate in the Trans-Antarctic Expedition with Sir Edmund Hillary to assisting scientists to conduct further scientific research in the Ross Sea region. Since the beginning, the NZDF has maintained a long-standing history with Scott Base which started with the HMNZS Endeavour setting sail from Wellington in 1956 to embark on the journey to the southernmost continent. On board was Able Seaman Ramon Tito, who was the youngest crew member and had the opportunity to raise the first flag at Scott Base. Remarkably, the flag staff that is used today was once used by both Antarctic explorer Robert Falcon Scott at his Discovery Hutt between 1901 and 1904 and ABSCS Tito to hoist the first Scott Base flag. This flag ceremony was significant as it indicated that New Zealand has a physical presence in Antarctica, Scott base was officially open and the beginning of the relationship between Antarctica and the NZDF.

Since Scott Base was opened it has housed over 10,000 people, from scientists to government representatives and everything in between, to conduct scientific research and enjoy the Antarctic environment. Over the summer months Scott Base is home to 40 staff members for six months, to allow the scientists a facility to achieve their research outputs. A total nine NZDF staff are embedded into Scott Base for the summer season with

Antarctica NZ in various roles to assist in enabling Antarctic operations.

Customarily here at Scott Base the flag ceremony is held to honour history and symbolise the changing of custodianship from the winter team to the summer team. The tradition of the youngest NZDF member raising the flag has continued to this day to mark the changing of the seasons. During a flag ceremony the youngest NZDF member lowers the winter flag, which is smaller in size due to weather conditions in the darker months (pictured below), and raises the summer flag. Once the new flag has been raised the outgoing winter crew have officially passed Scott Base to the new custodians, the incoming summer crew.

This year on the 2nd of October 2021 the NZDF formed up, along with the members of Scott Base for the ceremony. Sapper Liam McGuire, was awarded the duty of raising the flag to kick off the 2021-2022 Antarctic season. The winter flag was then awarded to one of the winter team for their outstanding contribution to maintaining Scott Base in the dark. At the end of this summer season we will change the flags again to mark the end of the summer season and to hand Scott Base to the winter team to see through to October 2022. This will see the summer staff depart back to New Zealand and one lucky recipient will have the summer flag to cherish for a lifetime.



News from Antarctica

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FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

*News from
Sinai*

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A Unique Experience

PTE Josh Wilding
Driver, NZCON

I entered this deployment part way through which provided many challenges in itself. I had to fit in with the crew that had already been operating without me and work effectively as a team member. I hit the ground running with the work load as it was very busy here when I arrived and had to get up to speed on where places were and how to operate each vehicle on tasks. Despite everything happening very quickly everyone here was very helpful, and I didn't have too much trouble taking up the reins after a couple of weeks.

One thing I really enjoy about living here on camp are the number of sports, PT and recreational events that get run. There is always something coming up such as a running event, fitness competitions, football, touch rugby, pack marches and plenty more. They keep you busy and give you something to look forward to as the months go on whilst at the same time keeping fitness levels up. This is also a great way to mix and mingle with other nations and get to know one another.

It has been very exciting making new friends from different countries and it's a very unique experience as we have many different nationalities located in

one camp to work/socialise with.

The pizza nights are a real highlight in camp. These give each country a chance to show off their culture and invite everyone over to play games and buy souvenirs/gifts to take home.

I will miss this social environment when we leave but will have plenty of future contacts across the waters.

As of now we only have approximately one month to go, so we are all getting excited to be going home—time has gone fast! I have been fortunate to be part of such a good crew here where we all get on which is key to living so closely with one another.

Doing our jobs operationally out here in Sinai is truly an unforgettable experience. It is cool to finally take the training wheels off and do the real thing. I have had an amazing time over here and have nothing to complain about since we get to see a totally different part of the world.

Hope everyone at home is doing well, I am looking forward to coming back.



Ingredients for Winning on Operations—Culture, Reputation, Relationships

Captain S L Manuolevao

Senior Instructor, Force Training Team

Seven months ago, LTCOL Morris stood in front of what was to become NZCON 01/21 declaring that “our reputation will be our centre of gravity” and critical to achieving mission success in the Sinai. Working in a multinational environment presents an array of challenges with the largest being the human terrain. With 13 nationalities and cultures smashed together, building relationships is vital to achieving and sustaining operational effectiveness; however, the strength of these relations is underpinned by the trust that emanates from a highly regarded reputation.

Clausewitz suggested Centre of Gravity as the source of power upon which everything depends. The reputation of the NZDF as a credible professional force and enabler to the MFO has been forged by those who have served



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before us; therefore, it has been the responsibility of NZCON 01/21 to not just protect that reputation as a source of power—but enhance it.

Sir Graham Henry once alluded – “Better People make better All Blacks” and the same can be said for military professionals. Early in our road to war, it was determined we wanted the identity and culture of a high performing team – guided by the overarching NZDF values of Courage, Commitment, Comradeship and Integrity. Fundamentally Kiwis are known to be relaxed, positive people who are open-minded and welcoming to people of all countries, and this blended with the high performing culture of NZCON 01/21 has enhanced our reputation in the MFO. In 2020, \$140 million of dairy goods made up NZ’s largest export to Egypt. In 2021 it has been the export of Kiwi Culture marketed by the charisma of NZCON 01/21.



Kiwis are embedded throughout the Force and working in teams comprised of personnel from other countries. Our people are driving the plans and operations of the Force largely with our Australian partners, training the Force under Canadian leadership, sustaining operations with Uruguayans, maintaining discipline as part of multinational military police unit,



facilitating physical training and fitness with Columbians and Fijians to providing engineering support with both military and civilian personnel. For the third time in 40 years, a Kiwi holds command of the MFO supported by a close team of Kiwis, Canadians, Americans and Columbians. On the back of our reputation, NZCON have enjoyed building relations in all areas with ease and in turn have achieved a

News from Sinai

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significant degree of mission success to date.

The Do-It-Yourself spirit and Kiwi Ingenuity stems from a willingness to succeed, and our history celebrates courageous Kiwis overcoming extreme adversity punching well above their

weight. While only a small contingent of 30 personnel in a multinational force of 1200, NZCON has consistently demonstrated a competitive spirit to be dominant whether that be in the workplace or on the sports turf. The international community in the MFO have been drawn to the genuine good

nature of Kiwis and organic culture that NZCON 01/21 have exuded like a brand synonymous with winning. Winning on operations.



DSO'S CORNER



Janine Burton

Deployment Services Officer

This month marks the end of an era with my colleague and friend Carol Voyce finally naming the day when she hangs up her DSO shield in Burnham to start the new phase of her life in retirement. It has taken her many, many months to get to this point as she continued to put the needs of others before her own. Over our years of working closely together we have come to recognise and compliment the strengths of the other and have developed a good and strong working relationship. My challenge will be covering what she has done so well until a successor is appointed.

I started this role five years after Carol and she was a huge guiding light for me as I took up the reins as a DSO for NZ Army. Back then (2006) we were supporting three large missions into Afghanistan, Timor Leste and the Solomon Islands and at that time we were working solely in the support of missions if they were mounted out of our respective camps, i.e. Linton or

Burnham. As they were large missions we were holding pre-deployment family briefs around the country (in three or four locations over as many days), and mid-tour briefs as well, which had us practically living out of suitcases to meet the needs of our families. When I think back I can't believe that we managed them all as well as we did. But, like Carol, being out and about meeting and supporting families had its own rewards and remains the highlight of the role.

As those missions concluded we were able to move into providing the same support to our current group of missions—smaller, but more numerous (12). Along with you, our families, we may not physically deploy to destinations around the world, but it is a great contribution that NZDF makes so each and every one of us should take pride in the part we play in supporting from afar. We know that it isn't always easy to be the one left at home to keep things going on a daily basis but I genuinely and sincerely believe that each and every one of you

deserves a huge pat on the back for a job well done!

Over the coming weeks we have a large number of personnel who will be departing NZ shores to begin their own deployment to release those who have been away to begin their journey home, complete the 14 days quarantine required and be home in time for Christmas.

Our December Bugle has always been our largest publication of the year. If you are wanting to include a special Christmas message for that special someone you will have on deployment—or from deployment to your support team (family) at home—over the Christmas period, don't forget to get it to me by the end of November. Even though we now have a variety of communication methods, we have witnessed the joy of seeing a special message in print to or from the deployment location. So if you are only going to do this once over the period of a deployment, then make the Christmas edition the one.

Apart from Op FARAD, Christmas mail for all other missions needs to be in Trentham by Friday 26 November—sooner rather than later would be the best advice. Wrap your gift in Christmas paper and attach a note “to keep wrapped until Christmas Day”, rewrap and address the outside of the package. Remember to complete the customs declaration form—it takes away the surprise but you could ask your loved one to remove the form as soon as they receive the package *without* reading the customs form. Might work.

Have a great month, happy reunions if it applies, and call me if you have any queries or concerns.

We are here for you!

Need advice, support or information to manage the deployment journey?

Contact Janine Burton, DSO Linton 0800 683 77 327

FOR YOUR INFO

DSO Contact

With Carol's retirement, until a replacement is appointed, I will be covering the DSO role for all missions. All the DSO numbers will be coming through to my phone so if you have Carol's number in your phone, you won't need to change it, it will divert to me. This may take a few additional seconds to connect so please be patient.

Text messages won't be forwarded so please send them directly to Janine on the below cellphone number.

Call or text: 021 649 903
0800 Number: 0800 683 77 327 (24 hours, 7 days)
Email: janine.burton@nzdf.mil.nz

Christmas Mail

By now I hope that many of you have already sent your Christmas mail on its way. We know from experience that additional mail over the Christmas period can cause delays so hope that you have allowed for this. Mail will continue to be sent from Trentham up until Christmas closedown (more specific dates will be included in the December Bugle).

The Best Help Can Come From You

There is no greater value than firsthand experience! If you know of families about to face the deployment journey, please feel free to offer some sound advice and information on tips and treats that helped you along the way. It may be that your loved one will return shortly so those tips are very recent and relevant.

Life within the NZ Defence Force is unique.

"Defence families are a resilient lot - not to mention smart, educated, well resourced and trained to adapt and overcome challenges that would bedevil others."

How true this is! Sharing can lighten a load! While homecomings for many seem insight for some, others are just embarking on the journey and would welcome your contact. If you can reach out to those around you, I am sure it would be appreciated.

Personal Messages

The Personal Messages column has proved very popular when large numbers of service personnel were deployed over the past years. Nowadays the column looks somewhat smaller. We have been told that the first thing recipients of The Bugle do is not to admire the cover page, but to flick to the messages in the hope that there is one included for them. So now here is your chance to send your good wishes abroad—or if you are reading this from a deployment location, then send your messages home. Non de plumes and secret codes are most welcome.

Communication is the key to a successful deployment and this is just another tool for keeping in touch. Give it a go - you might be surprised by the response.

All Bugle messages should be sent to Janine Burton (DSO) by deadline date—contact details above and on the Personal Messages page.

Perhaps the December Bugle could be your first message for Christmas!

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 has a responsibility for transparency into welfare issues.

Deployment Services Officers:

Linton—Janine Burton
Ph: 0800 683 77 327

Burnham—Carol Voyce
Ph: 0800 337 569

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

For additional support and services:

Army:

Defence Community Facilitators:

Waiouru:

Rebecca Smith—Ph: 06 387 5531

Papakura:

JJ—Ph: 09 296 5744

Burnham:

Kathryn Hodgkinson

Ph: 03 363 0322

Linton:

Lesley Clutterbuck—Ph: 06 351 9970

Trentham:

Dee O'Connor—Ph: 04 527 5029

Air Force:

Defence Community Facilitators:

Air Staff Wellington:

Linley Williams—Ph: 04 496 0555

Base Auckland:

Kylie Smedley

Ph: 09 417 7000, xtn 7035

Base Woodbourne:

Ph: 03 577 1177

Base Ohakea:

Bridget Williams—Ph: 06 351 5640

Navy Community

Organisation:

Ph: 09 445 5534, 0800 NAVYHELP
nib@nzdf.mil.nz

Local Chaplaincy Services

Unit Point of Contact

DEFAULT MOODS



What rings true?

A Chaplain's brief contemplations on relationships.

The Labrador Syndrome

A wise woman once said, "The quality of our lives is 80% attitude and 20% circumstances."

What is your default mood? For many years I did not know I had one! Our default mood is the background mood we default to when we are not thinking about or doing anything in particular. It is often our morning wake up mood. It is our "screen-saver" mood that appears when we are doing nothing. It shines out for the world to see, but we are not actually aware that it is turned on—it just is. It is a well ingrained habitual feeling/mood that has carved a well-worn groove in our brains.

Some examples of the more negative default moods may be a sense of feeling always overwhelmed, missing out again, always angry, not wanted, rejected, left out, powerlessness, or a sense of impending disaster. Positive default moods may include a sense of feeling secure, wanted, valued, optimism, enthusiasm, eager to please, teachable, and a peaceful even-temperedness.



Be like a Labrador. What is the default mood of the average family Labrador? No matter who you are, a stranger or a family member, every Labrador greets us all the same—their attitude is "wow—another human to make a fuss over me!" If you put food in front of a Labrador, they inhale the food like it is both their last supper and a choice steak. A Labrador's behaviour towards people is close to the same regardless of whether the Labrador is feeling sick or well, half asleep or awake, sad or happy. Labradors know that if they greet someone with enthusiasm and respect, they get enthusiasm and respect back. People don't look up at being greeted by a Labrador and think "what a pain, the dog is back!" A Labrador's screen-saver default mood raises

the morale of almost all they meet and will usually elicit the best out of people.

We get to largely shape and choose what sort of screen saver we show. It is our screen-saver. By and large, our screen-savers are learned behaviour. Is our current screen-saver still valid or is it out of date reflecting another time and circumstance? That was then but this is now! Humans only get good at what they practice. We can choose to greet others with warmth and respect regardless of our circumstances. We can choose to be even tempered, we can choose to be engaging, and we can choose to be positive. We can choose to replace our screen-saver with another. Make a choice, then practice it until it sticks. Be a Labrador in all things (apart from the food!)

Hold on to what rings true for you and let the rest ebb away.

Regular and Reserve Force, Veterans, Civilians and their families can access Wellbeing and Counselling support on 0800 NZDF4U (0800 693 348).

CHAP3 Hamish Kirk
Linton Military Camp

Armistice Day

Source: nzdf.mil.nz

11 November

Armistice 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')



BAD DEBT VERSUS GOOD DEBT

What is bad debt and is there such a thing as good debt?

Taking on debt has a bunch of negative associations. However, debt can be a helpful way to increase your earning potential, grow passive income, or otherwise invest in a financially stable future. Sometimes it's necessary to protect your health or wellbeing. When managed responsibly, good debt—including most student loans and mortgages—can be a clever thing to take on.

In contrast, bad debt doesn't make a positive contribution to your life. Things like most automotive loans, credit card debt, and other consumer debts can be expensive to borrow and aren't long-term investments. These sorts of debts usually come with high interest rates.

Just like many things in life, it's not always easy to clearly define 'good' versus 'bad' debts, so there are a few grey areas.

What's the difference between good and bad debt?

Though the line between good and bad debt can get fuzzy, there are some things that tend to differentiate the two. Things to consider when comparing good debt versus bad debt include:

- Does the debt still make sense after considering the total cost of the loan? (Think: fees, principal, interest, and any missed investment opportunities)
- Along the same lines, is there a better way to spend or invest the money that will help you in the long term?
- Is this an investment that will produce long term income or growth (capital gain), or does it just offer a short term solution?

- Will you get more from the debt/expense than you put into it?

While some might argue there's no such thing as good debt, taking out loans can still be a smart investment in your future. In general, good debt is that which increases your net worth or otherwise helps generate some sort of value. Good debt also typically comes with a lower interest rate than many types of bad debt. This means you can pay off the loan quicker and at a lower overall cost than high-interest debt.

Conventional financial gurus still usually suggest keeping good debt to a minimum — especially if you have dreams of financial independence or early retirement. However, with interest rates remaining stubbornly low (acknowledging most economists expect them to creep up a little) it's fair to say plenty of conventional

approaches such as this are being challenged.



Examples of good debt

Common types of good debt are listed below:

Student Loans

Education costs, especially through university, are generally classified as good debt. This is primarily because a

degree, though expensive at the time, increases your long-term earning potential.



However, some degrees have a greater value than others. For example, Google offers affordable design and coding certificates that can land you a six-figure salary, while an expensive arts degree from a university might not achieve the same results. From a purely financial perspective, it's best to balance the cost of a degree against your likely earning potential. Note: the cost of a degree also includes the missed earnings during the years it takes to get the qualification.

There are also plenty of far less expensive non-university qualifications that can lead to high paying careers.

Mortgages

A home mortgage is usually the largest loan someone takes out in their lifetime. Though daunting, shouldering this debt can be a great investment in your future. For this reason, home mortgages are generally classified as good debt. Likewise, debt associated with investment properties can put rent payments in your pocket each month while acting as a long-term investment—both signs of good debt.

Building equity in a home also gives borrowers access to a home equity loan, both of which can be responsible alternatives to more expensive forms of debt.

As with other forms of debt, it's always best to evaluate your individual circumstances before signing up for a mortgage!

Business Loans

Though never easy, starting or buying a small business can be an incredibly lucrative investment in your financial and professional future. Plus, with plenty of uncertainty in the job market, owning your own business is one way to invest in yourself and limit your risk of getting made redundant.



Business loans are considered good debt if they increase your earning potential or help generate more income. If used on a side hustle, these loans can also reduce your reliance on an employer and have the potential to lead to more robust and sustainable income.

Naturally, starting a business can still be a risky venture and your investment isn't necessarily safe. When deciding whether to take out a business loan—and whether it will be more good debt than bad—stick with loans that will help you generate instantly increased income for your business.

Business loans aren't easy to get, and it's common for small NZ business owners to borrow against their own home with a home equity loan to fund a business. This usually comes at lower interest rates too.



Examples of bad debt

Generally speaking, bad debt does not generate long-term income or otherwise increase your net worth. It is often used to purchase goods or services that do not have lasting value. Often, bad debt is associated with financing clothes, cars, electronics, holidays, and other consumer goods and services that lose their value quickly. Plus, bad debt frequently comes with higher interest rates, making it harder and more expensive to pay off.

Automotive Loans

Cars are one of the more famously depreciating assets because of their high upfront cost and rapid depreciation once driven off the lot. For this reason, financing for a new car is generally considered a bad debt. What's more, auto loans nearly always come with high interest rates.



Note that car loans can fall into a grey area, depending on the needs of the borrower. If you are financing a sports car to use on the weekend, you are likely dealing with bad debt. However, if you live in an area without public transport or bikeable roads and need a car to get to your job, maybe a modest

BAD DEBT VERSUS GOOD DEBT Cont.



car loan is an investment in your future success. In that case, just try to repay the loan as soon as you can without penalties.

Payday Loans

Payday loans (sometimes called cash advance loans) are bad debt because of their high interest rates, fees and short payback periods.

If you are feeling strapped for cash and are considering a payday loan, consider asking your employer for an advance, borrowing money from friends and family, or working with a local credit union to find lending terms that fit your needs.

Be sure to spend a little time working on your budget. That will save you getting too cash-strapped next time around.

Credit Cards

Credit card use can land you in a spiral of debt if you max them out or only make minimum monthly payments. If the interest is left to build up, it becomes more and more difficult to stay on top of those minimum payments.

However, in some circumstances, disciplined people can use credit cards for maximum benefit at little or no cost. For example, if you're paying your

monthly balance off on-time within the interest-free period that many credit cards offer, then they can generate significant cash back or rewards, and perhaps include other perks which most credit card users don't realise—such as built-in travel insurance or warranties on purchases of goods made on the card.

Grey areas

When evaluating what constitutes bad debt, remember that there is a grey area. The true cost—and value — of debt is likely different from person to person.

Debt Consolidation

Using a new loan to consolidate your other debts can be a great way to simplify payments, reduce your interest rate, and lower your monthly payments. However, if you don't also change your approach to budgeting and money management, you may find yourself struggling to make payments.

Many debt consolidation loans can also charge high interest rates or have other

fees or stricter terms of early repayment. This can mean the total repayments are higher than the original debt!

Borrowing to Invest

Borrowing to invest can be good debt for those who understand investing and are prepared to hang in there when markets take a short-term dive. However, borrowing to invest is not a good idea for novice investors who panic when markets fall and may end up selling at less than the original purchase price.

The bottom line—what is bad debt?

Taking on debt usually has a bunch of negative meanings.

Despite this, some things qualify as good debt because they can help you grow financially. Buying a home, getting a degree or funding a course, or investing in a business or real estate can all be effective ways to expand your income or assets. To make the most of your cash, avoid bad debts — like credit cards and car loans — that can sap your financial resources without improving your bottom line.

This article has been contributed by Joseph Darby, CEO and Financial Adviser at Milestone Direct Limited. The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of Joseph Darby and not necessarily those of Milestone Direct Limited. 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.

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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 Milestone (645 378)** or email info@milestonedirect.co.nz. There are no costs involved until an adviser has established your specific needs.

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 Task Group GYRO mission to Timor Leste, 2006-2012.



PERSONAL MESSAGES

The deadline for contributions and personal messages for The Bugle is the last Friday of each month (**the next edition deadline is 29 November 2021 at 4.00pm**). Please note: All Bugle messages are to be sent to Janine Burton, DSO Linton (email: janine.burton@nzdf.mil.nz).



From In-Theatre

To Zac and Josh

Love you boys heaps and heaps. It's been great hearing about your gymnastics and hearing how good you're getting with your reading. Love you both to the moon and back.
Daddy
Xoxox

Dear Emma

You're doing well, not too long now. Can't wait to be with you coming up to Xmas and New Years.

To Wifey and Lexi

Not long to go now before I get cuddles from you both. Hope you girls have an awesome time in Queenstown. Love you both lots and lots!

The time is getting closer for my return my darlings. Mum can't wait to be back with you both and Dad. Please keep being good for Dad on this final stretch. Love you all to the moon and back.
Love Mum xx

Dear Harry

I hope your game of cricket went OK? Sorry I couldn't be there to see it.

Dear Arlo

Have you sent me any artwork yet? I would love a picture to hang on my wall.

Dear Max

Have you moved to Australia yet? You probably shouldn't because Mum would miss you too much.

Dear Reety

Can you build a long train with the Lego? You are a good builder!

Dear Mrs M

Remember to start Colin every once and a while!

Happy birthday Troy

Hope you had a great day and enjoyed all your presents. See you next month love and miss you xo

To Ethan and Leon

See you soon guys.
Ethan great work on your bike love and miss you xo

To babygirl

Days are getting very few now. Cannot wait to get home to disrupt your routine and mess the house up for you.
Love and miss you so very, very much.
xo xoxo

Jacob F.

Happy Birthday Jacob F. Wow Jacob 11 years old. You must be nearly as tall as me know. Happy birthday for the 6th. I hope you enjoyed last month's school holidays and had fun ten pin bowling, laser strike, Takamatua and getting passed by a Lamborghini on the way. Just so you know I miss you a lot and love you very much my handsome man. Look after your mum and brother, Love from Dad ooo xxx.

Marcus F.

Happy Birthday Marcus F. 14 years old on the 27th, wow you no doubt have grown since I have been away. I miss you lots Marcus and can't wait to see you when I get back. I hope you are working hard at school and getting interested in some out of school activities. I wonder if I can still compete with you in Fortnite on the Xbox. Happy Birthday my man, look after you brother and Mum. Love from Dad xxx ooo.

From Home

Marty

Not long to go now bestie. Can't wait to see you. I hope you got to see some amazing sights! Counting down the days.
Love Teza x

Hello my son

Loved seeing you in the mag. Garden planted, avo tree going nuts this year. Took myself out for dinner with my birthday money, many thanks.
Love you and so proud. Mummsie xxx

Dear Dadda

We love you very much and miss you lots. We can't wait until youtube back. We are very excited to do airsoft and go skating when you get back. We love you.
From Marcus and Jacob xxxx

P Squared

I think of you every day and love nothing more than seeing your gorgeous smile every day. I know you're working hard and I can't wait till you are home so we can head off for a few adventures. Keep working on that tan as when you're home it will be Summer.
Love you lots and love you crazy big!
P



Legends say that hummingbirds float free of time, carrying our hopes for love, joy and celebration. The hummingbird's delicate grace reminds us that life is rich, beauty is everywhere, every personal connection has a meaning and that laughter is life's sweetest creation.



Op FARAD Contingent 1/21



Sincere thanks to you all for the most amazing Bugle contributions. You have excelled! We have all enjoyed your many contributions and photos of your time abroad and very much appreciated the roster you established for contributions and the timely way they arrived in our inbox! We all have a greater understanding of your commitment to your role and the difference you have made. You kept us informed and at times amused! We are all proud of your efforts.

Many thanks too for your support and understanding on welfare issues that needed your input. You made a difference. We wish you safe travels home and happy reunions.

Carol and Janine.



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: **Monday 29 November** to Janine Burton, DSO Linton—email: janine.burton@nzdf.mil.nz.



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 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."



Op FARAD
—On Operations in Sinai

