


# AIR FORCE NEWS

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE

78  
FEB 07

- 
- Four men in Royal New Zealand Air Force uniforms stand in front of a large aircraft. The man on the far left wears a light blue short-sleeved shirt and dark trousers. The man next to him wears a light blue short-sleeved shirt and dark trousers. The man in the center wears a light blue short-sleeved shirt and dark shorts. The man on the far right wears a light blue short-sleeved shirt and dark trousers. They are all standing with their arms crossed on a tarmac.
- » PEOPLE PORTAL
  - » HYPOBARIC CHAMBER
  - » GRADUATIONS

## 2007 - GETTING ON THE FRONT FOOT



### Keith Gell Warrant Officer of the Air Force

Teamwork and leadership will be important for us in 2007. Keeping in touch with the wider Air Force will also play an important part in our behaviours, therefore communication will be vital if we are to progress as one team and one Air Force. I say this for many reasons. But the big one that stands out is the arrival of tomorrow's Air Force, in particular what effect this will have on today's Air Force.

2007 will see more people going off-shore to begin training on equipment and systems for tomorrow's Air Force. This is excellent news and is a good indication of the progress we are making with our fleet upgrades. However, what we need to understand and appreciate is that today's Air Force still needs to keep delivering the outputs. Removing key people will have an effect on some units because these folk will not be replaced immediately, and if they are, upskilling those replacements will take time. That is why teamwork and leadership needs to be foremost in our minds. For 2007, having people away to train on the upgraded P-3, C-130, B757 and other support systems will leave some gaps for a period of time. This should be no surprise as it has been planned. What we need to consider is how do we cope and how do we achieve it?

Having spoken to a few commanders since returning from a rejuvenating break, the key word coming from them has been planning, planning and more planning. As one Commander said to me, there are knowns out there that we need to plan for, it is the unknowns that are the challenges. However, this has always been the case and

we should not see this as a major hurdle. The scoreboard says it all when the unexpected happens.

The RNZAF Strategic Plan is the foundation for all of our planning. All RNZAF units should be feeding into this plan. It is our starting point and it is fundamental to our success, without it we are rudderless. We need purpose, we need aim points and we need goals. Having these essentials provides us the right flight path for success. I liken it to being in the same waka, paddling the same way, listening to the same beat.

I appreciate also that it is more than plans and strategy, our people culture has a huge part to play for our strategy to succeed, and to be honest our culture is the main reason for a lot of our successes.

So what will 2007 bring. Like anything it's what you make of it. What we do is very much visible; how we do it however is less visible for those not directly involved. This is where we make a difference and this is where we show our wares. Our values are the guidelines that give us the how. If you can see your team through these values,

then we are on a good thing, and you will know this; if you cannot, then we have got some work to do, and you will know this also.

Bring on 2007. For me it will be a year of development and growth for the RNZAF, both in technology and personnel. Operations will happen as they do, and I am 100 percent confident we will step up as we do. However, development of our Air Force for the future now needs to take centre stage along with operations. Who gets the lead role on stage is not the issue. It comes down to teamwork. Get on the front foot for the future, don't mark time, or you will get run over by history.

**So what will  
2007 bring?  
Like anything,  
it's what you  
make of it.**

## DEFENCE PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT



### FEBRUARY 2007, ISSUE 78

#### OUR MISSION:

To carry out military air operations to advance New Zealand's security interests, with professionalism, integrity and teamwork.

#### OUR VISION:

We will be an Air Force that is the best in all we do.  
He Tauarangi matou ko te pai rawa atu i to matou mahi katoa.

The official journal and forum of the Royal New Zealand Air Force established for the information, education and enjoyment of its personnel and other people interested in RNZAF and associated matters.

Published by: NZDF Public Relations Unit  
NZDF HQ  
Wellington  
New Zealand  
Telephone: (04) 496 0289  
Fax: (04) 496 0290

Editorial authority: Ian Brunton

Editor: Grant Carr  
grant.carr@nzdf.mil.nz

Design and Layout: Duncan Allan  
duncan.allan@nzdf.mil.nz

Proofreader: Katrina Randerson

Printed by: Keeling and Mundy Limited  
PO Box 61  
Palmerston North

Editorial contributions and letters to the editor are welcome. All contributions may be sent direct to Air Force News and do not need to be forwarded through normal command chains. Letters are to be signed with the writer's name, rank and unit although, unless requested otherwise, only the rank and geographical location of the writer will be published. The editorial staff reserves the right to abridge letters. Anonymous, offensive or abusive letters will not be published. Opinions expressed in Air Force News are not necessarily those of the RNZAF or NZDF. Nothing in NEWS should be taken as overriding any Defence regulations. Readers should refer to the relevant Service publication before acting on any information given in this periodical. No item is to be reproduced, in part or whole, without the specific permission of the editor.

COVER PHOTO: When SQNLDR Bo Palmer arrived on No. 5 Squadron in mid-2006, it brought about a reunion of four members of Recruit Course R5/82. It has been a strange coincidence, given the length of time and the differing paths that brought each of them to the Squadron 24 years on, including re-musters and re-enlistments said FLTL Eichelbaum. Pictured L-R are: FLTL Simon Eichelbaum, SQNLDR Bubba Hallinan, MACR Donnie Donnellan, SQNLDR Bo Palmer. To the best of their knowledge only two other course members are still serving in the Air Force.



OH06-0674-44 CH NICK CLARKE

The interservices softball competition held at RNZAF Base Ohakea between 5th - 7th December 2006 was 'awesome' says SQNLDR Duane Butts in his report on the tournament. See pages 38-39 for a full report and more photographs.

## FEATURES

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 4 CHANGE OF COMMAND<br>No.6 Squadron's new leader       | 16 AFGHANISTAN<br>CIS, Education Boost, Three Years On   |
| 5 A JOB WELL DONE<br>CO Commendation                    | 20 RESCUE SEASON<br>Auckland Prepares for Trouble  |
| 6 REFINING OUR STRUCTURE<br>Project REFINE              | 22 STEEL TALON<br>No.3 Squadron's Tactical Exercise  |
| 7 PERS CORNER<br>Responses and Statistics               | 23 GO WEST YOUNG MAN<br>No.5 Squadron Fly West   |
| 8 MAPPING YOUR CAREER<br>New Tool for Career Management | 24 HYPOBARIC CHAMBER<br>Training Tool Revived  |
| 10 WINGS OVER WAIRARAPA<br>Air Show Season              | 26 CIS OFFICERS<br>Back to School In Australia   |
| 12 IOTC GRADUATION<br>Parading their Pride              | 28 FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD<br>Vitamins and Minerals   |
| 13 ENGINEERING GRADUATES<br>Melbourne Court             | 34 CADET FLYING COURSES<br>Aviation and Gliders  |
| 14 SENIOR COURSE<br>Top Students                        | Maintainance personnel walking out to complete a daily inspection during Ex Steel Talon during Waiouru phase at Jamieson Shed. |



AK07-0020-01



OH06-0682-18

## REGULARS

- 36 SPORT  
Running, shooting, softball
- 43 AIR FORCE MUSEUM



## CENTRAL BAND TOUR DATES

**MONDAY 19th FEBRUARY** 7.30 pm.  
TIMARU THEATRE ROYAL  
Book now at MERLINS/TICKETEK  
TIMARU - 03 688 4160

**TUESDAY 20th FEBRUARY** 7.30 pm.  
DUNEDIN TOWN HALL  
Book now at TICKETEK - 03 477 8597  
Admission: \$12 ADULT, U14 Free.  
A booking fee may apply.

**WEDNESDAY 21st FEBRUARY** 7.30pm.  
INVERCARGILL CIVIC THEATRE  
Book now at The ICC Booking Office  
03 211 1692  
Admission: \$12 ADULT, U14 Free.  
A booking fee may apply.

**THURSDAY 22nd FEBRUARY** 7.30 pm.  
TE ANAU COMMUNITY CENTRE  
Book now at FAB & FINESE,  
Te Anau - 03 249 7309

**SATURDAY 24th FEBRUARY** 7.30 pm.  
QUEENSTOWN MEMORIAL HALL  
Book now at TICKETDIRECT  
03 422 3664  
Admission: \$12 ADULT, U14 Free.  
A booking fee may apply.

## WISEOWL TO MOTUEKA

Air Force student pilots will converge on sunny Motueka airfield for a training exercise in March.

Exercise Wise Owl will take place from March 5-15 when the Air Force sets up a virtual tent village to accommodate the trainee pilots and up to 100 support personnel.

The 10 trainees, flying their distinctive yellow and black Airtrainers will become a regular feature over the Marlborough skies as they fly several waves each day.

An open day – including static displays and aerial displays by other Air Force aircraft - will be held on March 10.

The regular exercises are designed to give the trainee pilots experience in flying in unfamiliar skies and unknown terrain.

## CHANGE OF COMMAND



Outgoing CO LTCDR Keith Gilchrist with CAF AVM Graham Lintott.



New No.6 Squadron CO LTCDR Jason Haggitt RNZN addresses the Squadron.

No 6 Squadron RNZAF conducted a Change of Command on Friday 15 December 2006 when LTCDR Keith Gilchrist RNZN handed over to LTCDR Jason Haggitt RNZN.

CN, David Ledson and CAF, AVM Graham Lintott, attended the Change of Command ceremony, which was held before invited guests, families and friends.

## >>> A JOB WELL DONE

### FLTLT Shauna Graham

In December 2006 one of the Base Ohakea SCM members was awarded the Commanding Officer Materiel Support Wing (COMSW) Commendation.

SSUPLR LAC Hemi Tahuparae was awarded the COMSW commendation for raising the professional profile of Supply activities on Base Ohakea through outstanding work performance. Through a period of considerable change to processes, systems and personnel in the Supply Chain Management environment he displayed maturity and ability commensurate with that of a more senior rank. He excelled at communicating with external vendors and internal Supply and Technical areas to provide support for the Iroquois fleet, demonstrating 'big picture' perspective of how the Supply trade supports and impacts a Force Element Group.

LAC Tahuparae is also a successful candidate for the NZDT scheme and will attend AUT in February 2007 to complete two years full-time study.



Air Movements Lounge, WGCDR Walford presenting LAC Hemi Tahuparae the Commanding Wing Materiel Support Wing Commendation.

I understand that the 'Commanding Officer' awards were only recently approved (in Dec 06) by the CAF Leadership Executive and that these commendations now replace the previous Directorate

level awards. LAC Tahuparae was the first recipient of a Commanding Officer commendation. WGCDR Walford presented the award on his last day in the RNZAF after 26 years service.



Applications are called for in the following branches/trades for the **April Officer Aircrew Selection Board**.

### NCO AIRCREW VACANCIES

- Air Engineer
- Air Warfare Specialist
- Air Ordnanceman
- Parachute Jump Instructor
- Flight Steward

### OFFICER VACANCIES

- |                        |                 |   |
|------------------------|-----------------|---|
| - Engineering Officer  | - Chaplain      | - Air Warfare Officer                     |
| - Secretarial Officer  | - Psychologist  | - Air Loadmaster                          |
| - Logistics Officer    | - Pilot         | - Communications and Info Systems Officer |
| - Air Security Officer | - Works Officer |   |

### WANTED INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS AND NCOS

Applications are being sought from personnel wishing to re-branch/re-muster into the proposed Intelligence Specialisation and trade under the new Operational Support Branch wef 01 Jul 07 (see AF0(T) 69/2006).

Positions exist for Officers and NCOS who are currently employed, or who have previous experience in intelligence roles within the NZDF. Applications will also be considered from personnel who have been employed in operational support roles. Interested personnel are to apply via the command chain, with applications to reach DRec(F), HQNZDF(Air) NLT 12 Mar 07. Personnel who are seeking a commission should have an F1370C raised IAW NZAP 53 Chap 17, other personnel should submit a Routine Personal Minute.

Personnel who have an interest in intelligence related employment but do not have any previous experience in either intelligence or operational support should register their interest in re-mustering / re-branching via their command chain to their applicable ADCM.



# REFINING OUR STRUCTURE

The RNZAF's recently released Strategic Plan (see centre pages of this issue for your copy) is critical to its future success in achieving its goals.

So that our organisation is able to effectively achieve those goals it must adjust the way we do some things. In October last year CAF announced the establishment of REFINE, a three-phase project aimed at improving the RNZAF's performance and eliminating waste.

Good progress has been made with the completion of the first phase with effect from 15 January 2007. Essentially this phase saw the optimisation of command and control arrangements and the establishment and adoption of some new senior appointment roles and titles. Accordingly, on 15 January, Mr Ian Brunton was appointed Assistant Chief of Air Force Plans (ACAFPLANS), GPCAPT Peter Randerson was appointed Project Takitini Implementation Manager (PTIM), and GPCAPT Shaun Clarke was appointed to the new Ohakea-based position of Commander Operational Support Group. This last appointment is arguably the most critical.

GPCAPT Clarke's role will be to exercise primary command and control over all three Air Base Wings with the ultimate aim of bringing together the wide range of specialisations and trades to support military air operations.

His secondary role is to oversee affairs at Ohakea by chairing the Ohakea Base Co-ordination Committee and providing strategic oversight and guidance to functional commanders at Ohakea.

Other changes in phase one include integrating the Air Power Development Centre into the Capability Branch in Air Staff, and retitling the Operational Support Squadron as the Expeditionary Support Squadron (ESS).

The next two phases of Project REFINE are targeted for completion by 1 April and 1 July respectively. Phase two will see amendments to establishment tables to reflect a refined organisational structure including retitling Air Base Wings to Operational Support Wings to reflect their new focus. Phase three will see a reform of RNZAF Branch, Specialisation and Trade structures, again to better reflect the operational focus.

## SUPPORT FOR OPERATIONS



New COSG(F) GPCAPT Shaun Clarke says 'the critical role of OPSG HQ is to champion the Air Force's recognition of the paramount nature of good service and support to operations.'

New Commander Operational Support Group (COSG) GPCAPT Shaun Clarke has been located on the top floor of Base Ohakea's old Airways building since 31 December 2006. This is now officially the Operational Support Group's HQ and, to date, six of the nine established positions have been filled.

GPCAPT Clarke says he would like to 'personalise' the approach to building the new structure, working closely with senior personnel on Bases. 'We have some excellent people leading our Bases,' he said.

'Project REFOCUS did away with the Base being paramount. Before that we had duplicate organisations, cloned systems and individual GPCAPTs in charge of each Base. This provided unity of command on each Base, but also had potential disadvantages such as communication bottlenecks. After REFOCUS, Bases each comprised of a series of WGCDRs who co-existed, and reported to specialist GPCAPTs in Air Staff. The result was a tremendous improvement in standardisation, information flow and general efficiency but it did leave Bases without a single senior commander.'

'Project Refine restores that unity without putting everyone under the direct command of a GPCAPT "Base Commander". Refine provides a single identifiable leader on Base who can help sort out conflicting interests and prioritise according to the needs and resources of the whole Air Force.

'We had to get away from the parks and gardens approach. The Chief wants the OSG HQ to have a primary operational focus,' he says. He estimates that 90% of his work as COSG is pulling together the disparate operational services. The other 10% is acting as a figurehead senior officer on Ohakea. 'For example at Base Ohakea I'll be relying heavily on CO Air Base Wing, WGCDR Russell Mardon who is everyone's first port of call for co-ordination of all Base activities.'

He is confident that having all support services operationally focussed will result in efficiencies. He's also keen to talk with W/Os to find ways of ensuring that focus. 'At present we have some involvement in 19 overseas operations. I want to see if W/Os can help answer the question of how we can improve the situations of operational Squadrons.'

## SENIOR TITLES

The following are Air's senior titles, which incorporate Project REFINE Phase 1:

Long Name	Short Name	Before
Chief of Air Force	CAF	
Deputy Chief of Air Force	DCAF	
Air Component Commander	ACC	
Commander Logistics Group	CLG(F)	DLog(F)
Commander Training Group	CTRGG(F)	DTrg(F)
Commander Operational Support Group	COSG(F)	
Assistant Chief of Air Force Personnel	ACAFPERS	DPers(F)
Assistant Chief of Air Force Plans	ACAFPLANS	ACAS Plans
Assistant Chief of Air Force Capability	ACAFCAP	ACAS Dev
Chief Financial Officer (Air)	CFO(F)	
Officer Commanding 485 Wing	OC485WG	
Project TAKITINI Implementation Manager	PTIM	

## FEEDBACK ON OATs RESPONSES

The result of the latest Ongoing Attitude Survey (OATs) regarding concern over insufficient contact with career managers has been noted. Further analysis of the survey data is being completed, but in the meantime, the following outlines intentions to address the concerns identified.

Individuals, with their commanders, have prime responsibility for management of careers. The Directorate of Career Management (DCM) does not have sole responsibility for management of all careers, but with the assistance of LMTC for certain trades, combined with command input, facilitates the career management environment and takes the workforce management decisions as and when required to meet both organisational and individual needs.

DCM does not currently have the resources available to have direct contact with all RNZAF personnel on a frequent basis, hence the key role that command, and LMTC where applicable, need to play on an ongoing basis. Nonetheless, every effort is made to address specific requests made through the command chain, and certain direct contact with DCM is provided for. During 2007, DCM staff have as a planned objective an increased regular physical presence on units through an updated visitation programme. In addition, officers and aircrew may continue to contact the applicable Career Manager (CM) as and when required, and formal DCM interviews are also available on request of the individual. W/Os now also have the opportunity for formal DCM interviews, and along with F/Ss and SGTs may contact the applicable CM directly concerning their own career or that of one of their subordinates. DCM also provides briefings

## CORNER

### PERS

GPCAPT Grant Crosland  
ACAFPERS



to Recruit, Initial Officer Training, Promotion Qualification, and other professional development courses, and these will continue to provide opportunities for a career management meeting if requested by either party.

The introduction of the 'My Career' People Portal application this year is intended to ensure that all personnel have the ability to state their career aspirations on an ongoing basis, and to seek command and DCM input and oversight of those desires. People Portal will also be used to advertise vacancies and receive applications for most posts, and will facilitate advice of posting intentions and consultations for any Directed Postings that may be necessary. The frequency and quality of contact with career managers at all levels, e.g. command, LMTC and DCM as applicable, should be improved as a result of implementing this essential workforce and career management tool.

We in Personnel take this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed to OATs, and in the hope of increasing response rates!! wish to assure you that your contributions are valued, are considered, and do contribute to the implementation of positive change within our organisation.

## PERSONNEL STATS AT A GLANCE

This is a new regular column for Air Force News designed to give you an ongoing quick reference of RNZAF Personnel strength and recruitment targets.

1 Jul 06 actual = 2,804  
1 Jul 07 original target = 2,829 (2,848 less 19 personnel transferred to JLISO)  
1 Jul 07 forecast = 2,872

Regular Force attrition rate (12-months to 1 Jan 07) = 7.67%

### UK Recruitment Project

71 out of 150 personnel originally intended have been recruited.  
84 people are still registered with the project, 35 of whom will be here by 1 Jul 07.

### Other Skilled Recruits

6 out of 22 personnel planned for FY 06/07 have been enlisted, with the remainder already identified but yet to enlist.

### Recruit Course Numbers

	07/1 Recruit Jan-07	07/2 Recruit May-07	07/3 Recruit Sep 07
Trade	Actual	Target	Target
ADMIN	9		
ASYGD			8
AVRFLR			8
CIS	8		
FIRE		10	
MEDICAL		3	2
PHOTO			
PHYSICAL		5	
SUPPLY	11	12	8
AIRCRAFT	14	18	8
ARMAMENT		6	
AVIONICS	15	12	8
COMPOSITES		2	
GSE			
MACHINE		2	
METAL			
S&S			6
AEOP	3	4	
FSTWD			2
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>50</b>

### Forecast IOTC Training Numbers

Specialisation	07/1 IOTC Actual	07/2 IOTC Target
RUS NAV		
RUS PILOT		
RUS ENGR		2
RUS SUP		
RUS PYSCH		
ADMINO		
ASYO (CFR)		1
CHAP		3
CISO		2
DOCTOR		1
EDUC	3	1
LEGAL		
MEDADMIN (CFR)		
PFO		
PSYCH	1	
SEC		1
WORKS	1	1
ENGR	7	3
SUP	5	
NAV	2	2
PILOT	11	10
AIRENGO (CFR)		1
AEO (CFR)	2	2
ALMOFF		1
HCMOFF		
PARA		
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>31</b>

# MAPPING YOUR CAREER ASPIRATIONS

December 2006 saw the completion of the first release of the 'My Career' People Portal project. The aim of the 'My Career' system is to capture people's career aspirations in a method which allows Commanders on the Directorate of Career Management to access it in a timely and efficient way. RNZAF Business Systems Analyst, **Mr Dean Hall** explains how it works.

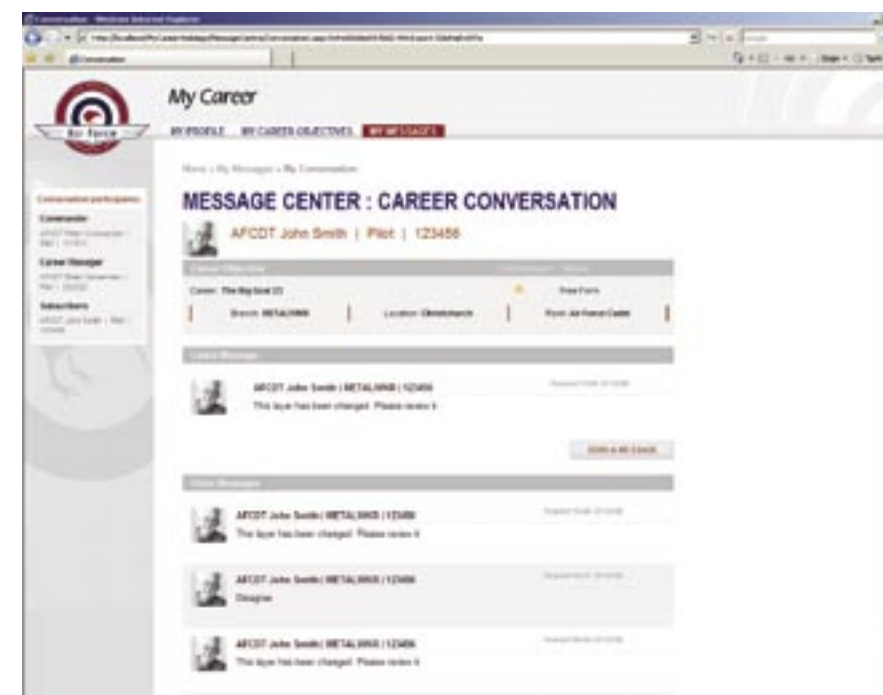
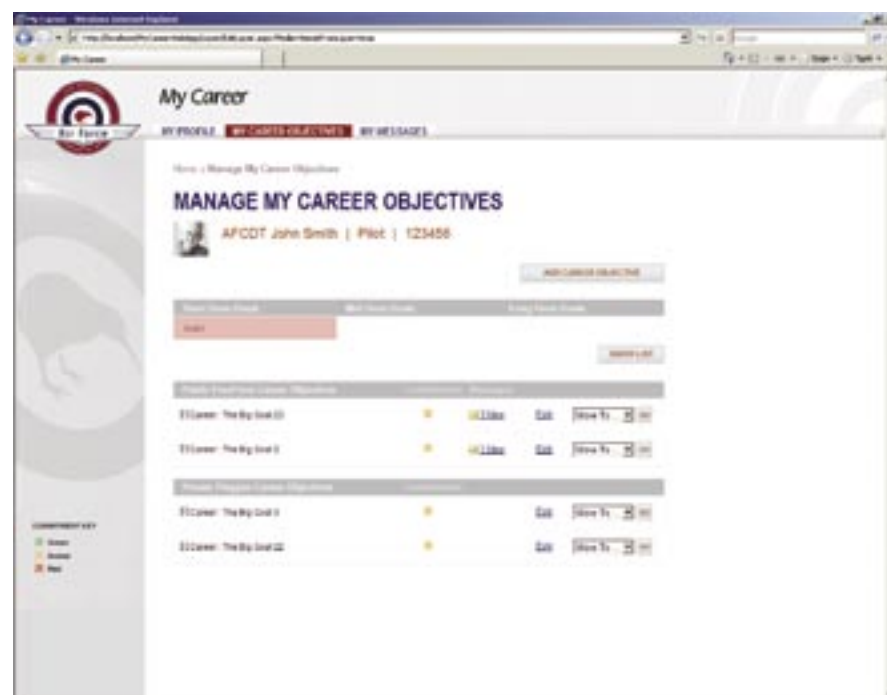
## USING 'MY CAREER'

MyCareer collects career aspirations from users, and provides a process to allow commanders and career managers to assist the user in mapping out these aspirations into short, medium, and long-term objectives. The system will eventually be extended to manage the entire vacancy process, from advertisement through to appointment, plus posting consultations.

The system is simply a tool and that puts the information in a way that Command and DCM can easily access it. The power to improve career management within the Air Force remains with the personnel themselves at all levels.

The project is currently being reviewed by DCM prior to being tested and assessed for release on the Defence Intranet, and here are some screenshots that take you through the process as it currently stands.

The initial summary page (above) provides an overview of what exists in the system for you. This includes any objectives you may have already outlined, discussions currently in progress, and your personal details.

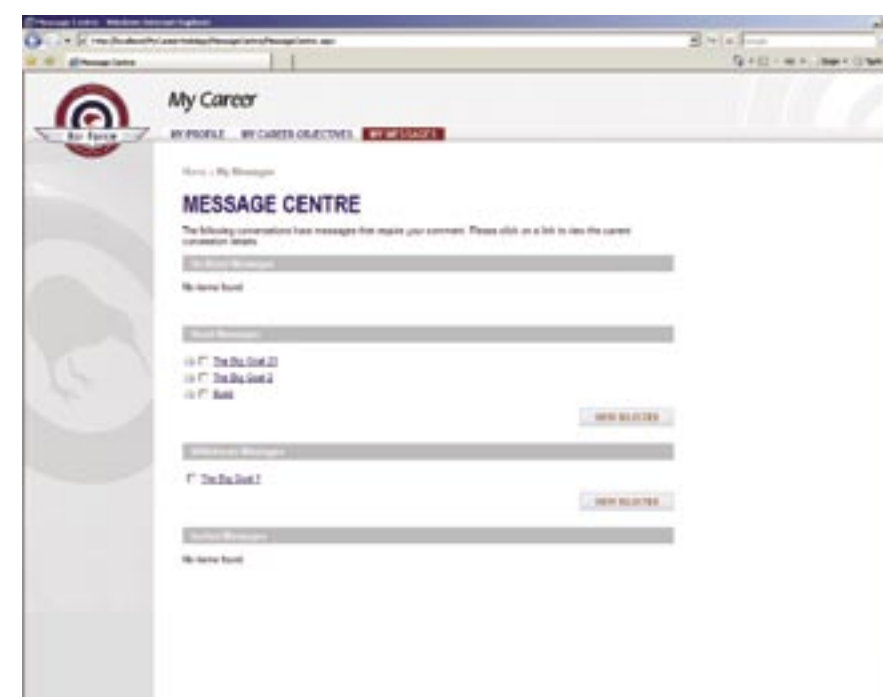
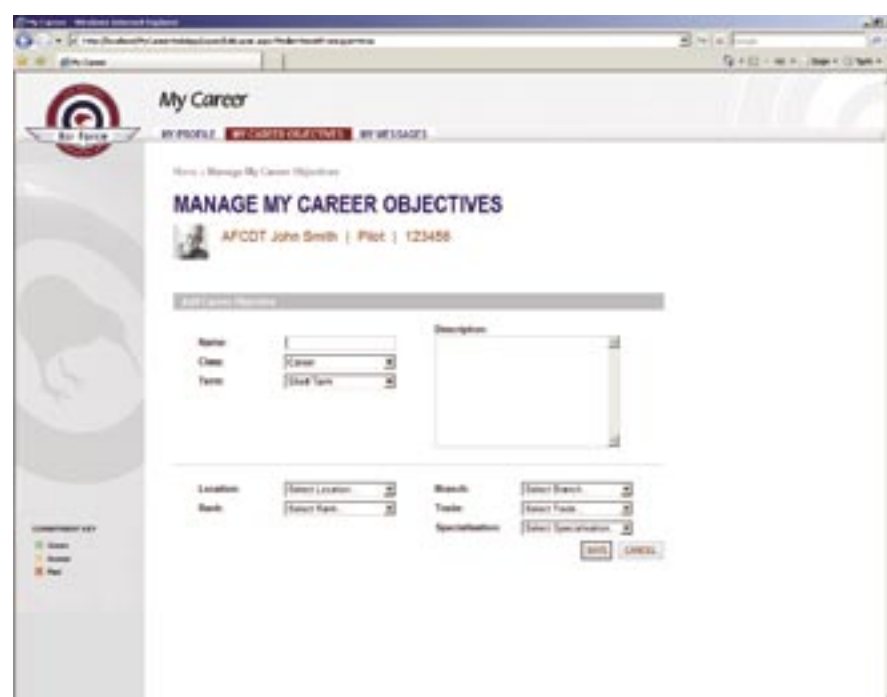


### FREEFORM MODE

From the 'Play Pen', any aspirations that you would like to highlight are forwarded into Freeform mode, where a discussion occurs with your commander and career manager. The outcome of this discussion is the creation of your career objective. The discussion may also highlight the need for additional objectives to be completed in the short and medium term, or the user may decide to withdraw their request.

### USING THE 'PLAY PEN'

You can model your career aspirations in the 'Play Pen'. Only you can access information submitted to this stage, and you may list as much as you like. A career aspiration may stem from a change in personal circumstances (such as requiring locational stability), a requirement for progression within your trade/specialisation (such as attendance at a training or promotion course), or something that you would like to do (such as an operational tour, or rebranching).



### REDUCING WORKLOAD

The system aims to reduce potential workload burden from such an open communication method. One of the key efforts in this area is the introduction of a messaging system to notify you internally within the system of what areas require your attention. This is particularly important for career managers who may have hundreds of messages to review and reply.





# WINGS OVER WAIRARAPA

## SHOWCASE FOR THE AIR FORCE AND ARMY

### RICHARD JACKSON

This year's Wings Over Wairarapa air show included an extensive ground display accompanying the dramatic five hour-long air display. As well as over 60 rare vintage aircraft, there were vehicles ranging from 1910 steam traction engines through to the latest Saab, Volvo and Jaguar cars, as well as a wine and food festival. Ironically the growth in complexity and sophistication of this airshow (like Warbirds Over Wanaka and other such air shows) means that the NZDF units taking part have to work harder to capture the public's attention.

This year First Battalion at Linton sent over two Pinzgauer LOVs and a detachment

of soldiers with examples of all their current infantry weapons. The Army display, supplemented by the massive recruiting bus, was also in good company with 'The Military Mules', that growing band of military vehicle enthusiasts and 're-enactors' whose ground theatre supplements the mock dog fights during the air display.

The Military Mules had a wide range of vehicles, guns and tanks on display, including a massive 5.5" gun and a number of beautifully restored WWII Bren Gun Carriers. Supported too by the Army Museum from Waiouru, who demonstrated their M41 Bulldog tank and M113 APC, the military vehicle park

became a busy 'training area' for the two days of the show.

Of course an air show focuses on aviation and the RNZAF contributed:

- the Kiwi Blue parachute team
- a Hercules, which after dropping Kiwi Blue gave a spectacular handling display
- two Iroquois helos - one on the ground for the kids to climb all over and the other in the flying display
- the Historic Flight Harvard, and
- the Red Checkers.

A King Air flew in each day to join the static park and the Air Force Museum added their display.

The Hercules stands out at this airshow,

which attracts Warbird, Agricultural and General Aviation aircraft from around the country, but (due to the limits of Hood Aerodrome) very few multi-engine aircraft. So the C-130's arrival, with a tactical landing, reverse thrust back-up to where the Kiwi Blue team were waiting, followed by a tactical take-off with rapid climb, became a show-stopping moment in itself.

The Red Checkers' display was impeccable, but these days they have increasing competition:

- the Yak aerobatic team now flies an 8 ship formation;
- the Roaring 40s Harvards from Ardmore have the distinctive sound of

the Harvards as their signature,

- three privately-owned jets which this year flew a coordinated display, and
- the competition aerobatic pilots in their Pitt Special and Edge 540 flying gut-wrenching displays (and that's just the onlookers!)

However the extraordinary 'Spaghetti Break' by the Red Checkers still remains the (unequalled) climax of their display.

On the Sunday the RNZAF display also had to fit in with over-flights of the A1GP in Taupo and the Skytrain Open Day at Napier. None the less the Air Force contribution drew warm applause from the Masterton crowd, especially Kiwi Blue who repeatedly landed just a few

feet from the crowd in rapid and precise succession.

This year the Air Force also had a secret weapon, FLT LT Kate Clark, whose authoritative and detailed commentary was delivered in a confident yet feminine voice. As her voice first echoed from the public address system every single male on the ground came to a standstill!

Overall it's estimated some 25000 people attended this year's airshow, which means that the RNZAF team on the ground were able to talk about the Air Force to many Kiwis over the two days, among them some future recruits but all our interested 'owners'.



# IOTC GRADUATION PARADE

It was the time to get out the ceremonial swords, white gloves and Steyr rifles complete with fixed bayonets when a graduation parade marking the graduation of the nine Officer Cadets of No. 06/2 Initial Officer Training Course (IOTC) was held at Base Woodbourne on 6 December. The Reviewing Officer was AIRCDRE Gardiner.

An afternoon tea for graduates, their families, invited guests and Base personnel immediately followed the parade. A formal dining-in was later held in the Officer's Mess.



**ABOVE:** Reviewing Officer AIRCDRE Gardiner give the general salute.

**BELOW:** IOTC graduates march past with eyes right.

**LEFT:** PLTOFF Wagstaff receiving the No. 2 Officers Mess Trophy.

**BELOW LEFT:** In a tradition maintained by Service hats are thrown into the air.



## 2006 RNZAF ADFA GRADUATIONS

Just 7 days after the IOTC graduation, on 14 December, Officer Cadets Rud Andrew and Alex Hutchings graduated from the Australian Defence Force Academy.

Soon after the graduation parade, PLTOFF rank slides were presented and fitted to the two graduates by the Head NZDS Canberra, AIRCDRE Gavin Howse, ably assisted by two relatives, Mr Dudley

Lormer and Mrs R Hutchings. Rud Andrew began ab-initio pilot training at Ohakea in January and Alex Hutchings will return to ADFA - UNSW in February to complete his final year of an Engineering Degree.

RIGHT (L-R): RNZAF ADFA Instructor FLTLT Mike Cunningham, AIRCDRE Gavin Howse, PLTOFF Alex Hutchings, PLTOFF Rudyard Andrew.



# ENGINEERING AND SUPPLY OFFICERS GRADUATE IN MELBOURNE

At a ceremony held in the Old Magistrates Court in Melbourne on 17 November, four RNZAF engineering officers and two RNZAF supply officers graduated from their studies at RMIT University.

The venue, now owned by RMIT University, is known for being the court where the infamous bushranger, Ned Kelly, was tried and sentenced to death. The graduates, who received their Diplomas from the 'Accused Box', experienced first-hand the sense of what it would have been like to stand before the Magistrates.

The graduation was the culmination of 10 months of study for the engineering officers (FLTLTs Mike Gasson and Dwayne Boyes and FGOFFs Angus Johnston and Craig Kenny) who had been undertaking the Engineering Officer Technology Course (EOTC). The EOTC is a RNZAF designed course that is delivered by RMIT University and is aimed at providing engineering officers with the theoretical knowledge required to manage the maintenance of military aircraft and associated equipment.

At the completion of the EOTC, those engineering officers who have met the RMIT prerequisites aligned to other RNZAF courses are also awarded the RMIT Advanced Diploma of Engineering (Aerospace). This year Flight Lieutenants Gasson and Boyes received this award, presented by Professor Diane Alcorn the Pro Vice Chancellor of RMIT University. In addition to the Advanced Diploma, the Honeywell Prize is awarded to the student on the course with the highest aggregate score. This year Mr Adam Watterson, the Honeywell Customer Account Leader, awarded the Honeywell Prize to FGOFF Kenny.

The supply officers (FLTLTs Michelle White and Susie Barns) had also spent 10 months at RMIT University undertaking the Supply Officer Development Course (SODC). The SODC is a standard RMIT University Post Graduate course that has been tailored to the needs of the RNZAF. The SODC provides RNZAF supply officers with tertiary level knowledge of

logistics principles and is a prerequisite for promotion to SQNLDR. On completion of the SODC, RNZAF supply officers are awarded a Post Graduate Diploma in Logistics. DLog(F), GPCAPT Andy Woods, who was in Melbourne for the annual review meeting with RMIT; presented

the SODC certificates to FLTLTs White and Barns.

By the time you get to read this, the graduates will have returned to their Units and will be employing their new-found skills in their new engineering and supply roles.



GPCAPT Andy Woods, presents FLTLT Michelle White with her SODC Certificate.



RMIT University Pro Vice Chancellor, Professor Diane Alcorn, presents FLTLT Dwayne Boyes with the RMIT Advanced Diploma of Engineering.



Mr Adam Watterson of Honeywell Pacific presents FGOFF Craig Kenny with the Honeywell Prize for top student.



# 'SIR, YOU MIGHT BE EDUCATED, BUT YOU AIN'T INTELLIGENT!'

**WGCDR Carl Nixon** was deserving recipient of the Dux prize at the graduation ceremony for the NZDF's Senior Command and Staff College Course (No.47 Staff Course). Here he ruminates on the course which gave him 'the tools to think critically about the world.'

I once witnessed an old aircrew officer telling a much younger but more senior officer that although he was clearly educated, he was not yet intelligent! After seven months on the Command and Staff Course at the NZDF College I am, at last, educated and have been provided with the tools to at least think critically about the world. The course brings together operators and academics, students from New Zealand and overseas, and military officers and civilian professionals in a marriage of convenience: simply, to learn stuff. In describing the NZDF's most senior course, I am reminded of the saying, 'something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue'.

First - something old. The course is run in a mature, collegial environment. There are no lists to learn by rote or highly prescriptive syllabi to follow. The College promotes a Socratic style of learning: technically 'cross-examining someone's claims and ideas in order to synthesise opposing theses'. Or, in Air Force-speak, take nothing at face value but have darn good evidence to back up your argument. We students are encouraged to challenge norms, debate traditional models, and think about what might be, not what is.

Second - something new. Almost everything on the course is new. Aside from late Friday nights in the bar, steely-eyed airborne warriors are not known for their dissertations on Marxism or feminism, evaluating [The Great] Colin Gray's thesis on strategic geography, or explaining the outcome of Brigadier Kippenberger's battle for Ruweisat Ridge in 1942. Also, the overseas study tour to China and Noumea provided us with the experience of new cultures and international politics firsthand.

Third - something borrowed. The College draws extensively on the best available visiting lecturers. I lost count of the number of PhDs that spoke to us, both from academia and private research institutions. All of the visitors contributed



**PROUD** (L-R): Ms Julie Knight (WGCDR Nixon's partner), WGCDR Nixon and Minister of Defence Phil Goff.

to the knowledge required for us to be able to submit our essays for Massey University's Post Graduate Diploma in Arts. The PGDipA provides roughly two-thirds of the requirements for follow-on Masters programmes offered by both Massey and Victoria Universities.

Finally - something blue ... well, purple. The course is in its third year as a Defence course, graduating from its heritage as the Air Force Staff College. The classroom is therefore not a forum for Air Force officers to all agree with one another. The debates are fierce and fun, each Service

acknowledging the strengths of the other but never giving a professional inch.

For those contemplating time away from the front line to broaden their outlook of the world the Senior Staff Course is recommended. At the outset of the course I was terrified of the unknown. Was I finally going to be found out? But by the end I had been educated and had seen glimpses of what I was capable of.

And without a doubt, the relationships formed with my fellow students were key to my success. Through them, I learnt how to laugh again.

## BACKGROUND TO THE COURSE

No 47 Staff Course held their Graduation Dinner of on Wednesday 6 December 2006.

The course was made up of 27 officers of LTCOL(E) and MAJ(E) from all three Services, the Ministry of Fisheries, the NZ Customs Service and the Defence Forces of Australia, China, Fiji, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Thailand; and was held over 8 May to 8 December 2006.

The Staff Course is intellectually demanding, and for seven months the course members applied themselves diligently to the highest level of professional military education available in New Zealand. The NZDF runs what is perhaps the only, and certainly the most demanding, in-house executive development course in New Zealand.



Staff Course Writing Prize - Mr John Wech, NZ Customs presented by Hon Phil Goff.

### Chief of Defence Force's Writing Prize.

The prize, known as the Chief of Defence Force's Writing Prize, was instituted both as an incentive to students and as a reward for work of high quality.



Mitchel Prize for Formal Speaking - WGCDR Carl Nixon, RNZAF presented by Hon Phil Goff.

### Mitchell Prize for Formal Speaking.

In 1986, Wing Commander I.R. Mitchell, OBE, DFC RNZAF (retd) gifted the sum of \$1,000 to the (then RNZAF) Command and Staff College for a book prize to be awarded for public speaking.



Staff Course Dux - WGCDR Carl Nixon, RNZAF, presented by LT COL R.J. Taylor, Commanding Officer Military Studies Institute, Dux 2005.

### The Dux Prize:

The purpose of the Dux award is to recognise overall achievement on the Staff Course. Overall achievement is defined in terms of academic performance and professional competency across all areas of study, and adherence to College values.



NZDF MAP Prize - MAJ Ong Ai Chuan, Singapore Armed Forces. Presented by VCDF.

### MAP Prize.

Donated to NZDF Command and Staff College by the Mutual Assistance Programme, the MAP Prize recognises the particular circumstances of overseas officers studying in New Zealand on a course conducted entirely in English.

### OTHER AIR FORCE GRADUATES

RNZAF officers receiving their ranks slides on promotion to WGCDR at the conclusion of the course and on posting to their new positions. Presented by AIRCDRE P.J. Stockwell, Air Component Commander HQ JFNZ, attending the Graduation Dinner as CAF representative.

1. SQNLDR Darren (Digby) Webb, new CO Flying Training Wing Ohakea.

2. SQNLDR Alan Jenkinson, new Commanding Officer Maintenance Wing, Auckland.

3. SQNLDR Mark (Cookie) Cook, new Military Assistant to Air Component Commander.

4. SQNLDR Chris (Sammy) Clark, new Project Manager for Introduction into Service of Fixed Wing Transport Force.







CPL Clapham (left) and LAC Thompson on top of PT Hill New Year morning.

# AIR FORCE CIS IN AFGHANISTAN

Two RNZAF Communications and Information Systems (CIS) personnel - LAC Julian Thompson and CPL Kelly Clapham - are being kept busy on their deployment to Afghanistan. LAC Thompson describes first light over the Hindu Kush and how they are 'adjusting to the Army way of life.'

Adjusting to the Army way of life isn't easy, especially when you're thousands of kilometres from home, one of only two Air Force junior ranks and living with 100 Army and Navy personnel. However, CPL Kelly Clapham and I have adjusted well. We are now three months into our six-month deployment to Bamyán, Afghanistan.

New Year 2007 began nothing like I would have experienced in New Zealand. At 0600 hrs 20 camp personnel, braved -20.5° temperatures, walked up PT Hill. It was here that we saw the first light of 2007 over the Hindu Kush. Someone demonstrated their golfing skills by attempting to hit golf balls across the

valley. Others spent the time in quiet reflection or drinking a well-deserved non-alcoholic beer.

My role in the Provincial Reconstruction Team is Command Post Operator. It involves ensuring at all times there is a communication link between Kiwi Base and the deployed patrols. I work on a shift basis - a bonus as this leaves a bit of free time to get out and about with various groups. The first time I went out was to destroy a UXO that was found in the township just next to Kiwi Base. Other tasks included providing security for vehicles, or security for personnel in meetings.

CPL Clapham's job is very different. His role is to maintain the information systems on camp and it can certainly be time consuming. He has spent many long nights at work making sure the information links with New Zealand are the best we can get. Overcoming the time difference to liaise with New Zealand is often a challenge. When the Internet isn't working he's flat out trying to get it up and running again.

There is always something to do in your



CPL Clapham handing out Air Force pins to local children.

down time, especially exercise. PT Hill is always a good option for a workout. There's a bit of snow on the top of the hill, which makes for an interesting climb and the view is worth it. If the snow is not your

thing there is the gym, which is always buzzing. Soccer is popular at lunchtime with 20 or so people usually showing up. Although CPL Clapham and I are in the same trade and trained together we are

doing completely different jobs here. We are definitely keeping busy and no two days are the same, but we're also counting down the days to come home.



LAC Thompson at work in the Bamyán control tower (more commonly known as the roof of the CP).

## KIWIS BOOST AFGHAN EDUCATION

Education in Afghanistan's Bamyán province was given a boost in December when Kiwi troops serving in the New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team (NZPRT) opened Bamyán Boys School.

New Zealand troops oversaw the school's eight month long building process, helping with planning, organising contractors and the allocation of \$500,000 worth of funds provided by the New Zealand Agency for International Development.

The 16-classroom school is one of the largest in the province, catering for 300 boys from Years 1 to 12.

During his opening ceremony address New Zealand contingent commander GPCAPT Kevin Short said completing the school before the Afghan winter reached its peak was a major achievement.

'This boys' school is a success on many levels. It is unique in the province as a two storey building and is a very visible and tangible example of progress towards a positive future for the people of Bamyán.

'The future is your children. Their education is key to your success as a country,' he said.

Bamyán provincial Governor Habibi Sarabi said the school was yet another example of the great work done by the NZPRT in the province.

Since assuming responsibility for the Bamyán provincial reconstruction team in September 2003, New Zealand troops have facilitated the construction of five police stations, a maternity ward at Bamyán Hospital and a number of new bridges.

The NZPRT has also helped in the construction of new local government infrastructure, wells for local villagers and the purchase of new equipment for Bamyán's medical services and police.

All of these initiatives contribute to the reconstruction team's role of ensuring security in Bamyán province, nation building and helping to distribute aid and improve infrastructure.



The front of Bamyán Boys School. The two-storey school is one of the largest buildings in Bamyán province.



Governor Sarabi, her Assistant, and GPCAPT Short.



# BAMYAN, AFGHANISTAN THREE YEARS ON

**SQNLDR Peter Cochran** was part of the first deployment to Afghanistan in 2003. He returned to Afghanistan late last year as a Patrol Commander in the ninth Kiwi Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) rotation. In this article he reflects on the changes that have taken place since he was first there.

When I arrived with the New Zealand Defence Force on the first Kiwi deployment to Afghanistan in September 2003, I saw the poor, war-weary people of Bamyan, struggling to get their lives back to normal. Many were refugees returning home from Iran or Pakistan, to houses and villages, amidst a harsh and unforgiving mountainous environment, totally destroyed by the Taliban. There were many fatherless families and the economic situation was desperate.

Despite these hardships these people showed the coalition forces a gratitude and hospitality, which was amazing and very humbling. We were seen both as the liberators and the means for rehabilitation - and to future prosperity.

Due to the war, a generation had largely gone without any education. While there was a desire to get the children back to school immediately, we often ran into struggling teachers who hadn't been paid for six months because of the limited administration. In other areas, independent and haphazard aid was given by many aid agencies, but this aid was of the "quick and obvious" type. Few agencies wanted to channel their resources into the less glamorous areas of training, systems development, and infrastructure. In yet another area, due to the uncertainty of the future, most people still had weapons hidden - especially the Warlords - and understandably they were reluctant to surrender them. Until the threat

many substantial changes in the Bamyan area. Stand-out visual differences include the many new government, police and communication facilities. The policemen are much more evident and thanks to the NZ Police input, their impact, equipment and professionalism has greatly improved. The Bamyan Bazaar looks to have tripled in size as more refugees return. Confidence has grown in security and business opportunities and there is evidence of a crude form of town planning. The condition of the roads still has a long way to go with travellers still experiencing a bone-shaking journey, but on the main routes where we often used to cross our fingers before fording the river, there are now good bridges. The

On my return three years later, I was in a unique position to judge the changes the NZPRT and others had made in Bamyan, Afghanistan.

While it was great to feel such gratitude, we all realised that there was a huge task ahead. We had to operate in a tough and desolate environment and fulfil many future expectations. On my return three years later with the latest rotation of NZ troops I was interested to see whether things had improved and whether the Kiwis were still welcome.

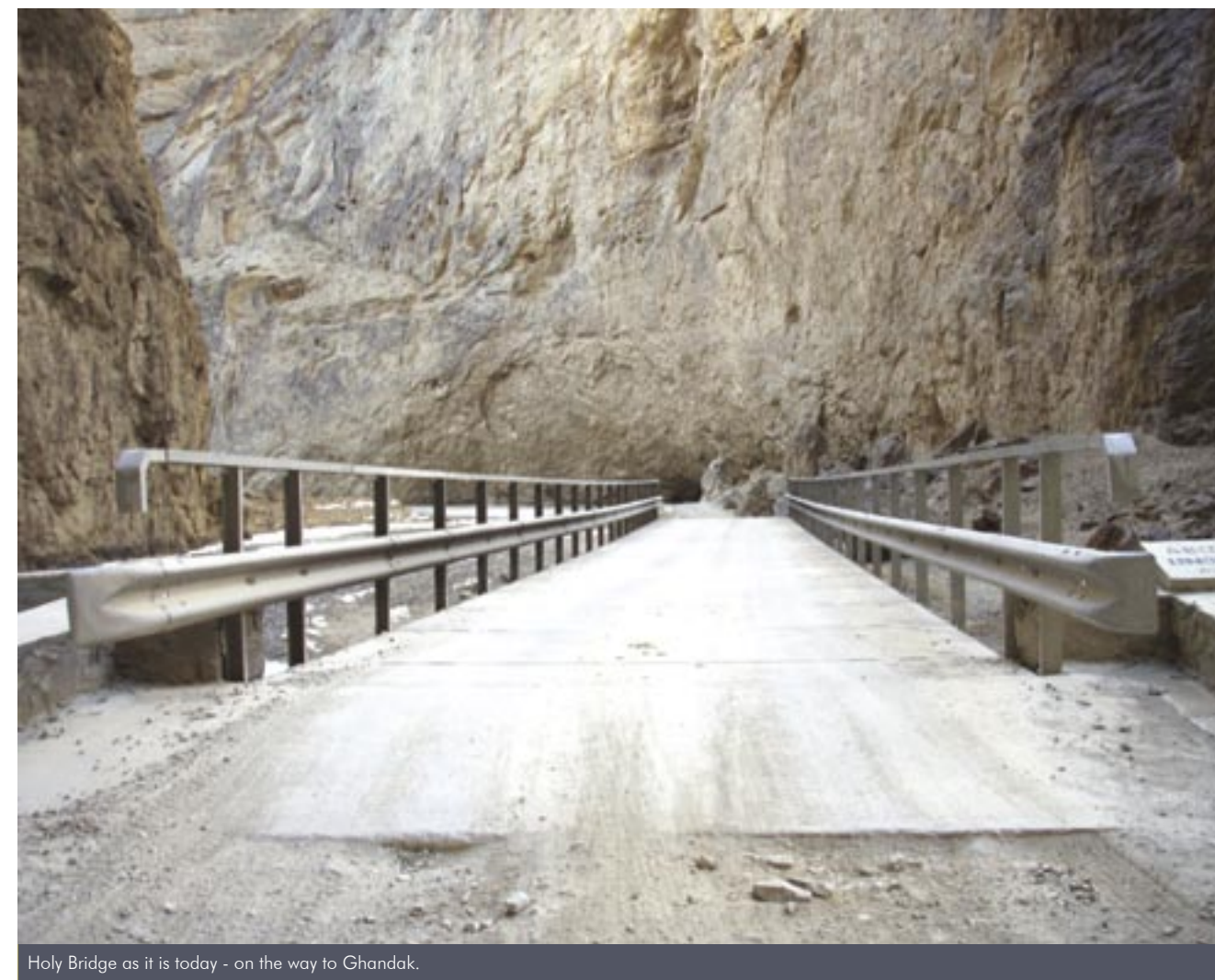
After twenty years of war and dislocation, there were two major concerns. First, there was a huge lack of obvious structures like schools, clinics, roads and bridges. Second, the social system was based on a feudal-like fealty towards the local Warlord. As such there was almost no local government infrastructure and little confidence in a central democratic system.

of war was gone, no military commander was willing to hand in his means of self-protection. The civil police network was almost non-existent and the policemen were untrained, poorly paid, and forced to rely on bribes and kickbacks to survive. In a country that was still in conflict - a truly daunting task lay ahead. This was the situation we faced when New Zealand first arrived in Bamyan. On my return three years later, I was in a unique position to judge the changes the NZPRT and others had made in Bamyan, Afghanistan.

The proverb about not building Rome in a day can apply equally to Afghanistan. I think the rebuild would need to be stretched to a decade or two. Nonetheless, in three years there have definitely been

road builders now also have much better plant and machinery to work with. Many of the tortuous side-roads up the valleys have now been improved - so that the farmers can at least get a truck to bring out their produce, rather than having to rely on donkeys.

From a socio-economic viewpoint, it also appears that conditions have improved, especially for the central Bamyan area. There are more vans, bikes and busses on the roads and a lot of villages now have access to power thanks mainly to the many mini hydro-electric plants. Even in the out-lying areas there are noticeably more schools and many more students studying. More young people are able to speak English and are actively taking



Holy Bridge as it is today - on the way to Ghandak.

tertiary education in the Bazaar and at the Bamyan University. In outer areas, there are more clinics, more wells in the villages and it appears that people are more aware of preventative health practices. Agricultural practices are still very backward and labour intensive but machinery is starting to appear and there are small signs of diversification into orchards and forestry. Socially, the prominence of the old Warlords has subsided with many having handed in their weapons.

It was also very encouraging for me to find the PRT was still seen by the locals to be a valuable and necessary provider of security. Moreover, the PRT was still appreciated for its provision of assistance in many areas. Although the average villager may not necessarily appreciate the part that the PRT plays in improving the central services, infrastructure and police training he or she still sees the PRT as a stabilising keeper of the peace, a source of aid, and a means to advance



Holy Bridge as it was three years ago.

his village's case for access roads and general improvements. Generally the reception to the patrols is also still very positive and friendly. There are still some areas, particularly on the fringes of the region where the ethnic mix changes, still subject to outside extremist influences.

Here things hang more in the balance, the sentiments are more fickle and the PRT has to work continuously to protect the security. However among the bulk of the people, there is a desire to keep the extremists marginalized and give the peace a chance.

Overall I have been impressed by the improvements in a difficult environment, and believe that the PRT has played a very important part in this progress. The maintenance of security, in a country that is still at war, is obviously a huge and on-going task, but 'In Shah Allah' (God Willing), the Kiwis will be able to maintain the peace. As patrol commander I am often thanked by the locals for this peace, even when we are doing vehicle and personnel searches at 3am on a minus twenty degree morning! Personally I am proud of the fact that the original cheerful acknowledgement and acceptance of our patrols has not diminished since my last tour and it is obvious that the Kiwis are still very welcome.



# THE SEASON TO BE RESCUED

As the season for Search and Rescue (SAR) callouts by the NZ Police loomed, the Base Auckland Civil Defence Response Group (CDRG) took advantage of two training opportunities in November. **SGT Duanne Morrison** explains how the CDRG geared itself up for SAR season.

## Helicopter Familiarisation and Winch Training

On Friday 3 November, 28 members of the CDRG gathered at Airmovements Auckland for a trip to Ohakea on the MIGHTY C130 (after a slight delay on the tarmac...) to conduct helicopter familiarisation and winch training with No. 3 Squadron. In the past CDRG personnel have been involved in searches with the NZ Police where No. 3 Squadron have provided assistance through winch insertion and extraction, and in some cases these personnel had little or no winch training. This training was therefore organised to give CDRG personnel an appreciation of what to expect when in the field, an understanding of helicopter safety procedures, and confidence in the winching process.

On arrival at Ohakea we were met with fine weather (which was a novelty - a whole week of fine weather in Ohakea?!) and were greeted by FLT LT Aaron Devlin and CPL Bryce Morgan who escorted the group to No. 3 Squadron and introduced us to our third aircrew member FLT LT Kelli Williams. The aircrew then took the CDRG through a thorough familiarisation of the Iroquois, the winch and winching techniques, and the helicopter role equipment.

With the familiarisation complete, it was time for the real thing. In groups of five the aircrew flew CDRG personnel out to the back of the Ohakea airfield where each member was winched to the ground in approximately 50 meter spacings, with the chopper then doing a lap before returning to winch each member back in. The winching went without a hitch (except for a jammed hand between the winch boom and handle, those who have experienced this will know...) and for the newer members of the CDRG who have not been involved with helicopters in the past this made for an eventful day. Once the winching was complete the aircrew debriefed the CDRG on the day's events, and answered a few questions. Following this the team left sunny Ohakea and

returned to Auckland on the MIGHTY C130.

## Land Navigation Training

The second training session came about due to a few of the younger (and some of us not so young) members being a little scratchy on the ins and outs of bush navigation, so F/S Andy Armstrong (currently working at Auckland Recruiting) returned to the Base Auckland Survival School to provide a half day training on basic navigation and survival skills on 14th November. During searches with the NZ Police the CDRG are split into groups that are led by Police personnel (who are in charge of the search proceedings), however a good knowledge of map reading is still required.

The training consisted of two hours in the class, where CDRG personnel learnt that there are many bush navigation methods that work well, but the compass and map technique we learnt was one that they prefer to use. (GPS is not much use to us in dense bush damn it!!). After the class work, it was off to Riverhead forest for a couple of scenarios, where we confirmed our start location, and were given a map reference by which we had to figure out direction, distance and estimated time of travel. Once determined, it was time for a bit of 'bush bashing'. On the way a few of us 'salty old experts' were wondering if the

younger ones up the front knew what they were doing, as things didn't seem right. But after about an hour of clambering through the bush we came out onto a track about 20 meters from our target! (fluke?). Although we did underestimate a little how long it was going to take. Our instructor (F/S Andy Armstrong) then decided to continue the scenario and carry on to the RV with our vehicle. When we reached the RV (once again proving the navigation theory learnt earlier in the morning despite doubts) we found our driver who shall remain nameless with the Navara bellied in the clay...nice work, it was a good thing that we had an MT driver in the group to show us how to get out of a mud bog with ease.

Thanks very much to the good people at No 3 Squadron and the Survival School for providing the CDRG with these training opportunities - your efforts have been much appreciated. These two training sessions, along with the various training days carried out this year with the NZ Police (including basic tracking and clue awareness and a rope rescue/night SAREX), have ensured that the CDRG will be well prepared to assist in a SAR callout in support of the NZ Police in the future.

Thanks to all who assisted the CDRG this year with training and resources.



Each member of the CDRG was winched to the ground in approximately 50 metre spacings.



A CDRG member hangs out with No.3 Squadron.





Getting the Iroquois' side gun ready for action.

## IROQUOIS ON EXERCISE

Three of No.3 Squadron's Iroquois helicopters took part in the Squadron's annual major tactical flying exercise, Exercise Steel Talon, from 4 to 8 December 2006. The exercise was based at Waiouru and Lochinvar Station.

The exercise calls for the unit to set self-sufficient operations in the field

including all living, dining, administration, helicopter operations and maintenance facilities. While deployed the Squadron also carried out tactical tasks including troop movements with the NZ Army, night flying and formation flying. Steel Talon is also a good opportunity for the Squadron to check its communication and computer

networks and its refuelling capabilities.

Squadron Adjutant SQNLDR Kelvin Read said the exercise had been highly successful for all personnel who took part.

While most of the flying was over unpopulated rural areas many would have heard the familiar sound of the Iroquois overhead.



**LEFT:** Refuelling at Waiouru Airfield.  
**TOP:** Ready for takeoff on a tactical mission.  
**ABOVE:** In a sign of the times the mountains were still snow covered in December.

## 'GO WEST YOUNG MAN...'

A No.5 Squadron contingent took that advice literally last November when they flew to Western Australia for two exercises with the Australian Defence Force. **FLTLT Simon Eichelbaum** gives an amusing account of submarines, Red Bulls, moustaches and how the west was won.

'Stand-by attack, stand-by MAD...attack now, now. MAD! MAD! MAD!'

One thing is for sure: none of the crew is left in any doubt when F/S Adam O'Rourke calls the Magnetic Anomaly Detector (MAD). Not only can he be heard clearly at port aft without the use of the intercom, but the sight of him physically lifting out of his seat as he attempts to push the Smoke Release button through the side of the fuselage lets everyone know that we have just flown over a large lump of submerged metal!

By that measure of enthusiasm No.5 Squadron's deployment to Perth in November was a definite success. At the exercise wash-up the submariners acknowledged (in a rare moment of honesty) that we had made life difficult for them. To put it in more colloquial terms, we didn't have to ask of the submarine: 'Where the bloody hell are ya?'

The Squadron deployed an aircraft, 18 aircrew and 11 maintenance personnel to RAAF Pearce for 21 days. The purpose was to participate in two exercises - ASWEX 06 (Anti-Submarine Warfare Exercise 2006) followed immediately by PWO SAW (Principle Warfare Officer Sea Assessment Week).

ASWEX 06 was further broken down into two phases - workup for the first week followed by a week of the Warex phase.

By the time we arrived the exercise was somewhat in disarray. Following political events in the South Pacific a number of participating naval units had been withdrawn. The RAAF's 92 Wing was also unable to provide MPA support, leaving No.5 Squadron holding the ball as the only fixed-wing participant.

Unfortunately we promptly dropped it, returning early from our first sortie with a radar fault. Finding the fault proved very elusive. The remainder of the workup phase was spent sitting on the ground in frustration as the maintenance guys sweated through all possible - and some improbable - solutions to the problem.

At last the aircraft returned to full serviceability just in time for war to break



A No. 5 Squadron deployment to Perth in November participated in two exercises, ASWEX 06 followed immediately by PWO SAW (Principle Warfare Officer Sea Assessment Week). This image gives a submariners view of a P-3 Orion swooping down on you. 'Stand by Attack...stand by MAD'.

out and we launched ourselves to protect the joint ANZ naval force from the evil Avalonian submarines. The remainder of the exercise went pretty much according to plan, with some excellent training over the following two weeks.

The hardships of war were relieved somewhat by the fact that the Perth leg of the Red Bull air race series was held the first weekend we were there. The sight of aircraft flicking from parallel to perpendicular at 50 feet above the Swan River was most impressive. Captain Fitzzy, however, was rather dismissive and had to be physically restrained from taking the Orion up and showing them how it really should be done.

The only other distraction for the team, apart from visiting museums and art galleries, was participating in 'Movember'. A wide range of facial fur was grown, with F/Ss Paul Barrett and Adam O'Rourke battling it out for the most evil Mexican bandit look.

For sheer volume SGT Justin Pike scooped the overall Squadron award, reflecting the great growing conditions. Special mention has to be made of FGOFF Joe Tasker, who took the stealth approach by growing a moustache that no one could see. In desperation he tried artificial enhancement by way of china graph pencil, which prompted the question: 'Geez Joe - you bin eating dirt or something?' A sad day for men.



Spectators watch the practice flying on the bank of the Swan River during the Perth leg of the Red Bull air race series.



An aircraft gives an aerobatic display over the Swan River during the Perth leg of the Red Bull air race series.



FGOFF Joe Tasker and the author discuss the finer points of Movember at the 5 Sqn Christmas function.



# HYPOBARIC CHAMBER REVIVED

Most military Air Forces conduct hypoxia training for their aircrew. Hypoxia is a condition where there is lack of oxygen to critical tissues within the body, usually the brain and the retina. This causes a spectrum of symptoms that include vision and colour degradation, difficulty with problem solving and making decisions, difficulty with calculations, a 'she'll be right attitude' and often memory loss. The main cause of hypoxia is inadvertent exposure to altitude, either due to a rapid loss of cabin pressurisation or a slow, subtle decompression that may go unnoticed by aircrew.

Hypoxia is a killer and every couple of years there are lives lost due to high profile hypoxia incidents. A few years ago a civilian King Air crashed in Australia after running out of fuel because the aircrew had become incapacitated. More recently a Cypriot Boeing 737 crashed in Greece, the probable cause - HYPOXIA.

The purpose of hypoxia training is to give aircrew an appreciation of the dangers of hypoxia and to allow them to experience the symptoms in a controlled environment, with the expectation that if they experience the symptoms in the operational setting, they will recognise the condition and take appropriate, and possibly life saving action.

In 2002 the RNZAF ceased hypobaric chamber hypoxia training because the RAAF were reporting a high incidence of decompression illness during their hypoxia training (decompression illness is caused by nitrogen bubble formation in the tissues of the body and is an inevitable consequence of exposure to altitude over a period of time). Although the RNZAF had no reported incidents over the past 18 years, our chamber was closed by the previous Director of Air Force Medicine to allow the Australian situation to be fully evaluated. The closure also allowed for our chamber operations, chamber maintenance and OSH practices to be re-assessed.

The cause of the high incidence of decompression illness during RAAF hypobaric training was never fully explained. Early this year Director of Training, in conjunction with the Aviation



Internal instructors under training - MAJ Sue Chambers-Ross, FLTLT Ben Johnston, CPL Clarie Beauvais, LAC Rachyl Harris, LAC Amanda Johnston - first sit for 30 minutes while the chamber gets to the right altitude.



A bit of light reading on the way up.



SQNLDR Bagnall checks the time.



SQNLDR Bagnall and Mr Bruce Neagle just prior to the first live run in over 4 years.



Participant's reactions are checked at 25,000 feet.

Medicine Unit, performed risk/benefit analysis of providing hypobaric hypoxia training for our aircrew and in a report to Chief of Air Force DTRG (F) recommended the re-commencement of chamber training. This was accepted by CAF in May 2006 and over the past few months AMU and Auckland based engineers have been working towards re-commissioning of the chamber. The chamber went through a

rigorous Air Worthiness programme and on 2 November 2006 the Airworthiness and Capability Management Board recommended that the chamber be re-certified.

On 11 December 2006 the first live run in over 4 years was conducted as the final 'check flight' for the newly trained internal instructors.

The ground training of new internal

instructors and the chamber run went as planned, and on 15 December 2006 the first hypoxia training run was conducted for aircrew.

The plan is to run a regular weekly one-hour lecture/chamber brief followed by a hypoxia run.

This 'catch-up' course will be in addition to the regular Aviation Medicine Refresher courses conducted by AMU.

SQNLDR Len Bagnall, OC AMU says 'it has been a lot of hard work re-commissioning the chamber, but the end result is very satisfying. Hypoxia is an ever-present danger, and if over the years we can save even one life, the time and effort will have been worthwhile. It was great to re-new my 18 year partnership with Mr Bruce Neagle who has operated and maintained the chamber for over

22 years. Bruce came out of retirement to ensure that we got 'his baby' up and running.'

'We were all a bit apprehensive prior to the first live run in over 4 years, but with the controller's familiar words "Bruce, ascend the chamber to 18 thousand feet at 6 thousand feet per minute", we knew we were back in the groove and back in business,' he said.



# BACK TO SCHOOL FOR CIS OFFICERS

For five officers from the RNZAF's newest trade, it was back to school at RNZAF Base Woodbourne last October. 06-1 Communication and Information Systems Officer Course (CISOC) was the first formal training of its kind undertaken by the RNZAF since 1998. **PLTOFF Jim Sheehan** explains.

Although CISO training is designed to meet the needs of newer Branch members, the five graduates of 06-1 CISOC have collectively amassed a surprising 65 years of military experience. The reason for this is the unusual range of service time completed by members of the CISOC - it ranges from just under 2 years in the RNZAF to more than 31 years Royal Signals experience.

The successful push to revive and launch CISO training was a culmination of effort on the part of the Air Staff CIS Branch team, WGCDR Steve Alexander (DCIS(F)), SQNLDR Rhys Taylor (ADACIS and 06-1 CISO Course Manager), W/O Tony Johnstone (SOCIS) and Mr Nick Burrows (ADIS).

In determining the content of the course, DCIS(F) examined the syllabus produced for the now-defunct Comms Officer Branch, and set to work reshaping the

material to align with current operational requirements, and to equip the candidates to handle the depth and breadth of professional challenges presented daily in the RNZAF's CIS Trade.

The range of professional responsibility vested in junior CISOs is getting broader by the day, as both NZDF requirements and information technology continue to generate endless cycles of progressive change.

The foremost question throughout the revamp process was 'Why?' DCIS(F) rationale for this is that it is vital we understand 'why' we do things, why we don't do things and even why we exist. This focused the course in a manner which inculcated a strong sense of professional purpose. After much hacking and slashing, the original 12-week course was reduced to seven weeks and included visits to almost all NZDF camps and Bases. Unfortunately,

weather in Palmerston North (yes, Palmy, not Wellington!) meant the cancellation of visits to 1 RNZIR and 2 SIGS SQN at Linton.

CIS Sections routinely provide services such as long distance Command & Control (C2) communications for missions via HF radio (the RNZAF has HF radio sites located in Auckland and Christchurch which are remotely accessed from its Air Operations Communication Centre at Whenuapai). There is also a significant expeditionary communications inventory which deploys in support of NZDF and RNZAF missions and exercises, all of which require detailed planning and collaboration with HQ JFNZ. New technologies are providing increased scope for individual members of the NZDF to be self-sufficient in CIS, but there is a corresponding demand for ESS and FE unit-level training in the handling requirements and operation of CIS equipment such as



**ABOVE:** CISO course members gaze into the Sun at IPS.

**LEFT:** Mr Eric Jones from Stratos points out Asia Sat 4 in orbit.

**BELOW LEFT:** CIS meet their equivalent RAAF 1 Combat Communications Squadron.

**BELOW RIGHT:** SGT Stu Middendorf guides the course through a deployable communications centre.



**‘The range of professional responsibility vested in junior CISOs is getting broader by the day, as both NZDF requirements and information technology continue to generate endless cycles of progressive change.’**

handheld and manpack military radios, satellite terminals, and Communications Security (COMSEC) devices.

A large portion of the course was dedicated to the planning processes required for CIS deployments. This is a rapidly expanding commitment for CIS, as most JFNZ deployments require the continuous support of CIS elements. After initial classroom lessons, the CISO Course were given a hypothetical CIS scenario based on deploying to a Pacific island in the midst of a political crisis. A Tactical Communications Unit (TCU) was created to provide support. Questions such as 'Which satellite, and what HF circuits do we require?', 'What pack-up configuration can be despatched by C-130?', 'Will they need JEMS?', 'What are the IERs? (Information Exchange Requirements) of the deploying FE?'.

To recognise the changing role of RNZAF

CIS, the course also focused on topics such as:

- satellite communications
- concepts of airworthiness
- Electronic Warfare
- deployment of NZDF CIS
- Network Enabled Capability
- coalition (Allied) interoperability

Before probing too deeply into the future, time was also spent exploring the advantages (and disadvantages) of existing RNZAF systems and inventory, much of which has been recently upgraded. Radio systems, particularly HF and V/UHF, were covered. HF radio systems require professional management if they are to avoid falling victim to the geophysical effects from sunspots, or disturbances in the Earth's geomagnetic state, thus generating more classroom time for the CISOC.

The course ended with a visit to Australian units and organisations with whom RNZAF

CIS frequently operates. ADF units visited included HQACAUST (Air Command Australia) at RAAF Glenbrook, 1CCS (Combat Communications Squadron) at RAAF Richmond, Ionospheric Prediction Services (IPS), and HQJOC located alongside HMAS Kuttabul in Sydney. Following a drive to Canberra, the course visited the ADF's sole HF communications station which is the hub of a modernised HF communications network, and finally COMPUCAT Australia, a private company with significant Defence involvement around the world. COMPUCAT have provided CMX and a suite of other world-class communications and security products to the RNZAF. It is also the NZDF contractor for the networked integration of HF radio equipment recently purchased by the RNZAF.

Often sweltering Aussie conditions posed little threat to the hardened CISOs. Sydney resembled Waiouru in at least one respect as it hosted the CISO course to its coldest day in one hundred years.

The conclusion of the visit to Australia meant it was time for the mad dash to connecting flights home, and more importantly, to graduate as the RNZAF's newest CISOs at Woodbourne on 17 November 2006. A CISO course will now be held every two years, and will use the work that DCIS(F) and his team have completed and refined to ensure the RNZAF CISO branch keeps abreast of the rapidly changing world of CIS. The activities CIS now conduct are different from those conducted six months previously, and six months from now, they will be different again. CIS, C4ISR, NEC and Intelligence are among the fastest developing fields throughout the world's defence organisations.

By the time 06-1 CISOC graduates reach the appointment of DCIS(F), the RNZAF and its CIS Branch will have changed dramatically and they may be looking to become the first CISO appointed to the role of NZDF Chief Information Officer.

One thing, however, will remain constant. The CISOs we produce right now, and in the future, will all strive to make the RNZAF CIS Branch a successful and respected provider of capability – and to quote WGCDR Alexander, 'to be the best little CIS Branch in the world'.





## FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

### Vitamins & Minerals

FLTLT Lara Blackmore

I am often asked about the role that vitamins and minerals play in our health and whether or not we should regularly take a vitamin or mineral supplement. The dietary supplement market, a multi-billion dollar industry, is flooded with thousands of these products and marketing of these items often clouds and confuses our knowledge of the role they play in our general health and wellbeing. Hopefully this article will provide clarification on a few points and I welcome questions or comments from anyone who would like further information.

#### What are vitamins and minerals?

Vitamins and minerals are called micronutrients, meaning that they are only required in relatively small quantities compared to protein, carbohydrate and fat. However, as they cannot be manufactured in the body it is essential that they are provided in the diet as a deficiency of a vitamin or mineral can cause serious consequences. Our bodies have an extraordinary ability to adapt in many situations and often deficiencies must become severe before they manifest themselves as medical conditions. This means that we can casually cope for a long period with a less than ideal dietary intake (depending on the nature of the

deficiency) but it also means that we can do a lot of damage to ourselves before the deficiency becomes evident. Therefore, it is important that we consume a varied diet (covered in AFN Nov 06) in order to obtain all of the micronutrients we require in sufficient amounts.

#### Should I be taking a vitamin or mineral supplement?

In short, probably no. Most New Zealanders are able to obtain the majority of their micronutrient requirements by consuming a well balanced diet that is high in fruits, vegetables and whole grains. In general, the vitamins and minerals available in foods have a higher bioavailability than those in supplements.

**Most New Zealanders are able to obtain the majority of their micronutrient requirements by consuming a well balanced diet that is high in fruits, vegetables and whole grains.**

This means that they are more effectively absorbed in the gut which is usually due to the presence of other molecules in food that are not contained within supplements. Much of the advertising of supplements highlights the apparent benefit of the supplements being natural and makes the assumption that if a nutrient is good for you, more must be better. But research shows that giving more does not necessarily equate to any improvement as the body takes what it needs and rejects the excess, so the supplements literally go down the toilet. In some cases, high doses can even be harmful, such as mega doses of fat soluble vitamins (A, P, E and K).

It is important to note though that some people are required to take micronutrient supplements. These people generally include those with a medical condition that predisposes them to a micronutrient deficiency, those with a medically diagnosed deficiency, pregnant (or planning pregnancy) and lactating women, strict vegans, and those on an energy-restricted diet. Even in these cases, doctors and dieticians will attempt to address and correct the deficiency through modification of the diet before contemplating the use of supplements.

In my view, for those people who a dietary requirement for a mineral or vitamin supplement has not been identified, money spent on these products is money not spent on good, healthful foods. I can understand that many people, who are confident that they (and their family) have a well balanced diet, still choose to use supplements to maximise health. This is fine so long as you are aware of the products you are taking and any potential risks associated with the combined

intake from the supplements, food and fortified products. A recent article in the New Scientist magazine showed that a children's multivitamin supplement available in New Zealand had up to three times the daily requirement of some vitamins, which in combination with dietary intake could become a risk to vulnerable populations.

#### Are New Zealanders at risk of any particular deficiencies?

A recent research article from the USA concluded that all Americans should be taking a vitamin and mineral supplement. This research has been used within New Zealand as a marketing tool to promote their use here. It is important to be aware that what might be appropriate for the population of one country is not necessarily appropriate for those of another. Our food production systems and the availability of a wide range of foods within New Zealand helps to ensure we can get all of our micronutrient requirements from our food.

The most recent National Nutrition Survey revealed that the majority of New Zealand adults have a satisfactory vitamin and mineral intake. The report did highlight that those individuals within lower socioeconomic groups may be at risk of insufficient intake of vitamin A, riboflavin and folate. However, it would not only be unethical to market the use of supplements to this group due to their limited financial resources, but unnecessary as intake can be improved by altering diet, in particular increasing intake of fruit, vegetables and low fat dairy products. Possible calcium deficiency among females in New

CONTINUED OVER



‘As there are very few plant-based sources of this vitamin, humans generally obtain all of their vitamin B12 requirements through consumption of animal foods such as meat and dairy products. ’

Zealand is another risk area. Again this can be addressed with diet, in particular an increased intake of low fat dairy products and ensuring adequate vitamin D status (sun exposure – not sun burn).

An interesting case of a potential dietary deficiency in New Zealand is selenium. New Zealand soil is very low in this mineral which has important antioxidant properties. This means that most food grown and produced here is low in this mineral. Even so, no obvious deficiency disorder has become apparent, which may be testament to the body's ability to adapt to different environments. Foods that are higher in selenium include seafood, poultry and eggs, so a varied diet that includes regular consumption of these foods should help ensure that you get enough.

As I stated earlier, some population groups may be at risk of a particular micronutrient deficiency. For example, as vegans consume no animal products at all, they are at risk of vitamin B12 deficiency and will need to supplement with this nutrient. As there are very few plant-based sources of this vitamin, humans generally obtain all of their vitamin B12 requirements through consumption of animal foods such as meat and dairy products.

#### Are any supplements useful?

Interestingly, despite their widespread use, much of the scientific research investigating the health benefits of vitamin and supplement use has provided conflicting results with little conclusive evidence that supplements improve health over and above what is provided by the diet, particularly in New Zealand. It is important to note that the supplements I am referring to within this article are limited to vitamin and mineral supplements. There are literally hundreds of different

nutritional supplement products available within New Zealand and some of these, including other micronutrients, provide obvious benefit to particular groups; but that's a whole different article.

#### What is fortification?

Fortified foods have had nutrients added to the product over and above what is naturally occurring within that food. One of the oldest examples of food fortification in New Zealand is the addition of iodine to table salt but there are now many foods available that are fortified and this is often advertised on the packaging. In general, the introduction of government policy for either voluntary or mandatory fortification of foods has the intention of increasing the intake of a particular nutrient across the population. The latest example of this is the debate for and against the fortification of bread with folic acid, the synthetic form of folate. Folate is extremely important in the prevention of neural tube defects in babies but also has a role in the prevention of cardiovascular disease. As 50% of pregnancies within New Zealand are unplanned many women miss the opportunity to supplement with folic acid prior to pregnancy and within the first trimester when it is most important. The argument against fortification includes the removal of your right as a consumer to choose what you are eating, the potential for extremely high intakes among some people which can have adverse effects and the additional cost to manufacturers to fortify their products.

#### So what do we do about micronutrients?

I believe by focusing attention on micronutrient requirements we are avoiding New Zealander's more important

nutrition issues. Yes, some possible deficiencies have been identified within New Zealand but these deficiencies can be improved by addressing diet as a whole. Alarming, 34% of our adult population are overweight and an additional 20% are obese, while the highest mortality rates are caused by cardiovascular disease and cancer (a combined total of about 60% of all deaths). At least 40% of the total morbidity and mortality from these 'lifestyle' diseases can be attributed to poor diet and lack of physical activity. By replacing our intakes of nutrient-poor, energy-dense foods and drinks with plenty of vegetables, fruits and wholegrain cereals, moderate amounts of low fat dairy foods, lean meat, poultry, fish, legumes and small amounts of vegetable oils, we can address both our macronutrient and micronutrient requirements; avoiding both morbidity associated with over consumption of macronutrients and micronutrient deficiencies. Am I starting to sound like a broken record?

Unfortunately nutrition education is only part of the road to improving the health of New Zealanders; the other half of the equation is creating supportive environments that allow you to make positive choices. Perhaps we can start to think about what we can do to contribute to this need. I hope I have dispelled some of the myths regarding supplement use. If you are interested in obtaining more advice on vitamin and mineral supplements, or how to improve your diet to ensure you are obtaining all of your micronutrient requirements, I strongly suggest you make sure the person you are talking to does not have a financial interest in selling you any of these products. Dieticians or Nutritionists are probably your best option.

## CDF VISITS ANTARCTICA

CDF LTGEN Jerry Mateparae accompanied the Prime Minister Helen Clark, Sir Edmund Hillary, other dignitaries and media to the Antarctic to mark the 50th anniversary of Scott Base on Saturday 20 January.

LTGEN Mateparae gave a speech on New Zealand Defence's 50 years support of the Antarctic programme.

NZDF personnel were part of a team that erected the first hut at Scott Base, officially opened on 20 January 1957.

The Antarctic/NZDF relationship goes back to 1956 when the HMNZS Endeavour carried personnel, dogs, aircraft and stores to the Antarctic to set up Scott Base and assist the NZ Support Party of the Commonwealth Trans Antarctic Expedition, led by Sir Edmund Hillary.

Former RNZAF pilot Bill Cranfield accompanied Sir Edmund Hillary at the commemoration. FGOFF Cranfield was part of the original RNZAF Antarctic Flight formed at Wigram on 1 May 1956 under the command of SQNLDR John Claydon. The flight was equipped with two aircraft, a de Havilland Beaver and an Auster Mark 7.

The relationship continues today with NZDF transporting people and equipment to the ice each year.



John Claydon and Bill Cranfield at the South Pole in 1956. Note the RNZAF flag in the background.

## THE BIG ONES



Handling the Big Ones at Wellington Air Movements are W/O Brian Lay and Cpl Sharon Dobson. The USAF C-17 Globemaster made a recent visit here on the 27th of November carrying General Hayden, CIA Director, for the SIS's 50th Birthday Celebrations.

## FOND MEMORIES OF A TIGER MOTH



Birthday boy Mr Ian Carnie (his 91st Birthday!) rolls back the years as he visits the Historic Flight at Base Ohakea to view a Tiger Moth aircraft he flew as a pilot. Mr Carnie served with the RNZAF, flying the Tigermoth when stationed with No. 2 Elementary Flying Training School (2 EFTS) as an instructor at Ashburton. Mr Carnie has flown in this very Tigermoth on many occasions. This image shows Mr Carnie being shown the Tiger Moth by FLTLT Scott McKenzie.

Ian Carnie was one very happy chap on his 91st birthday on Sunday 26 November. The still sprightly Cantabrian was reunited with his old Tiger Moth trainer thanks to the efforts of Red Checkers team member SQNLDR Jim Rankin.

The birthday surprise came out of an email Mr Carnie's daughter Lynn Bushell sent to Ohakea Air Force Museum Manager Paul Gibson. Mr Gibson passed on the request to SQNLDR Rankin who planned to be at Base Ohakea on the Sunday for aerobatic training.

Mr Corrie was more than pleased to reunite with his old war era Tiger Moth commenting that seeing the old bird had made 'one young 91 year old's day.'

## MSS GRADUATION PARADE

A graduation parade was held at Maintenance Support Squadron (MSS), Ohakea, on 15 November 2006 for LAC Terrence Hasler.

The graduation parade was reviewed by SQNLDR Hans Van Leeuwen, Officer Commanding MSS, and supported by a flight of MSS personnel and invited guests, not to mention a very proud family contingent.

The successful graduation marked the culmination of 20 weeks of solid effort by LAC Hasler.

Composites Technician training consists of a two-module course. Module One being a four-week course of Aircraft Structure Repair training carried out at GTW. The second 16-week module is delivered by the Composites Research, Development and Training Cell at Ohakea and covers all aspects of aeronautical composite manufacture and repair techniques, including surface preparation processes for structural bonding applications for both composite and metal bonded structures. The whole philosophy of the course is to foster creative thinking within the bounds of the training environment, while maintaining



LAC Terrence Hasler, astute airworthiness practices and awareness.

The course was even more of a challenge for Terrence, including his instructor, being the sole trainee during his 16 weeks at Ohakea.

LAC Hasler is now required to consolidate his training to a higher level by completing a 12-month period of on-the-job-training while undertaking all aspects of composite manufacture and repair under the watchful eye of his Sergeant supervisor at the Ohakea Composites Bay.

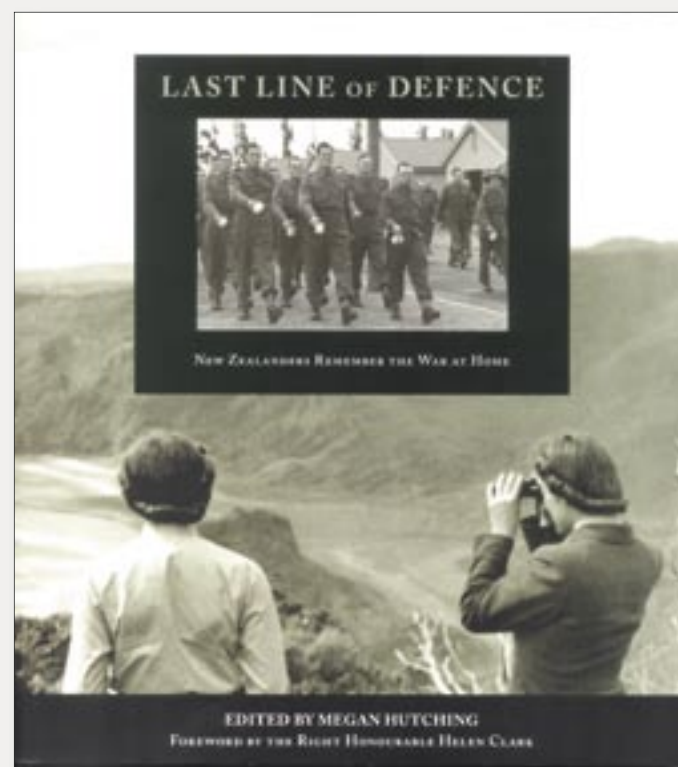
LAC Hasler received heartfelt congratulations for a rewarding career as he looks toward to an exciting era as we move toward the development of a new era of helicopter maintenance. Roll on the NH-90.



# LAST LINE OF DEFENCE

## NEW ZEALANDERS REMEMBER THE WAR AT HOME

EDITED BY MEGAN HUTCHING  
PUBLISHED BY HARPER COLLINS  
REVIEWED BY CHARLES COOKE  
AVAILABLE MARCH 2007



This is the seventh and final book in the series of oral histories of veterans of the 1939 – 1945 war. A history of the men and women who served in New Zealand, and were indeed the last line of defence.

New Zealand was not well prepared for war, with only small permanent and territorial forces. The attack on Pearl Harbour, and the subsequent capture of Singapore, made the threat of invasion a reality. By October 1942, 107,000 people were serving in NZ based defence forces with more than 250,000 serving in the Home Guard and a variety of Emergency Services.

In the interviews the author successfully captured the mood of those years and how the war affected their lives. There was still a close emotional bond with Britain, and a patriotic urge to serve 'King and Country'.

This book has a high degree of human interest portraying the lives and events of people quickly put in uniform, trained, with some sent overseas, and what happened to them after the war. Many friendships were formed which lasted, while many marriages failed due to separation and

uncertainty.

In reflecting on their war time service, many agreed that they had grown emotionally during those war years; most of the women had never been away from home and the experience made them more independent.

Post war adjustments to civilian life were not always easy, the trauma of war created problems for some. On a light hearted note; one soldier living in a small flat in Wellington after the war with his wife and two small sons found the quiet of home life difficult. He had spent so long in crowded male barracks that home life was too quiet.

And for the sublime, the best example noted, the Home Guardsman who following his discharge received an invoice for 1/7d (15 cents) because he failed to return a field dressing.

Conditions of war frequently develop enduring bonds of friendship between

servicemen. One interesting story is of 60 airmen arriving late one night in Picton to learn that their travel to Delta camp, near Blenheim, was to be completed standing crushed together in the guards van. They were tired and hungry, having travelled from Auckland, one rummaged in his great coat and located a bar of chocolate which he shared half of with the airmen next to him. Sixty five years later they still remain friends.

Also included are the recollections of those who registered as conscientious objectors, held for the duration of the war in detention camps. The camp conditions were harsh; the sincerity of those dissenters is sensitively expressed.

This is an interesting record of our history, complemented by a good selection of well chosen photographs.

A highly recommended book, a fitting conclusion to the Year of the Veteran.

# ON PROFESSIONALISM

**WGCDR Tim Walshe**

As we begin a new year it is timely to reconsider our mission as an Air Force 'To carry out military air operations to advance New Zealand's security interests, with professionalism, integrity and teamwork'. As with past years, this mission is sure to provide us all with many challenges. While I am sure we have all read this mission statement many times, how often have you stopped to consider it more closely? For example, what are "military air operations"?

It is military air operations, or put another way, the provision of air power, that sets us apart from other similar organisations. Recognition of this fact and a wider appreciation of the role of air power in

New Zealand's security is the fundamental aim of the Air Power Development Centre's (APDC) work.

However, the mission statement also acknowledges three of the Service's core values of professionalism, integrity and teamwork. Again, we have no doubt read these on many occasions but have we taken the time to consider their meaning and contemplate how they should guide our actions? In the following issues of the *Air Force News* the APDC team will each take a look at one of these values and explore its meaning and how it might guide our actions.

L e t



me begin with Professionalism.

During last years tri-nations, my family and I had the great pleasure of attending the Captain's run the day before the All Blacks test match with South Africa in Wellington. For my two boys it was an occasion that they will always remember and interestingly, has had direct consequences on their Weetbix consumption. While the occasion provided an opportunity to see the team up close, the aspect that impressed

**One well known perspective of professionalism suggests that the professional person is an expert with specialised knowledge and skills in a significant field of human endeavour.**

me most was the way in which the All Blacks interacted with the public, a public that must at times challenge their patience. After all, how many autographs and smiling photographs constitutes enough?

This experience came to mind when considering the notion of professionalism. Professional rugby is now a well established reality, but, was it the simple fact that rugby players got paid for doing 'the job' that meant they were professional? In the basic sense of the word you might argue this, in particular when using the word as an adjective and seeking a distinction from the days of amateur rugby. However, as we all know, true professionalism is more than money and when considering profession as a noun, implying the occupational group, the word offers new perspectives.

One well known perspective of professionalism suggests that the professional person

is an expert with specialised knowledge and skills in a significant field of human endeavour. Also, expertises are acquired only by prolonged education and include a breadth of knowledge which is lacking in the normal trade. It is argued that professions are steeped in history and some knowledge of that history is essential to professional competence. Finally, the professional can only successfully apply his or her skill when they are aware of the broader traditions of which he is a

part including ethical constraints and written and unwritten rules which guide behaviour.

I would argue that the military profession to which we belong exhibits all of these attributes. Our core values as a

Service speak of traditions and history, service and allegiance. We are judged by our breadth of knowledge and guided by both the written and many unwritten rules of Service life. We ask for 110% from our people and our vision is to be 'the best in all that we do'.

Like the All Blacks and other professional sports men and women, we must recognise that our career choice is more than a job and that playing the actual game (doing our job) is only the start of what it means to be part of the profession of air power. Like other professionals be they Lawyers, Doctors or the All Blacks, we as Servicemen and women must be cognisant of the fact that our actions, both on and off the job, reflect on the military profession to which we belong. While we may not be asked for too many autographs, our actions 24/7 reflect on the profession to which we belong and impacts our Service's vision to be the best.

**Director - WGCDR Tim Walshe**  
**Development Officer - SQNLDR Jim Jennings**  
**Briefing Officer - MACR Gats Pleasants**  
**Resource Library**  
**APDC Fax**

**368-7780**  
**368-7781**  
**368-7782**  
**368-7784**  
**368-7785**



# ATC NATIONAL AVIATION COURSE

The New Zealand Cadet Forces National Aviation Course was held at Woodbourne over 8-19 January. 53 cadets from Air Training Corps Squadrons throughout New Zealand attended the course. **SQNLDR Joanna Wooffindin, NZCF and W/O Buzz Harvey** describe the outcome.

Two elements of aviation are run simultaneously with 35 students in the Power Flying Flight and 18 in the Navigation Flight. Those cadets lucky enough to have their nomination chosen to be part of the Power Flight spend 10 days at Woodbourne learning to fly, while the Navigation Flight cadets spend eight days learning the art of aeronautical navigation.

Under the guidance of course Chief Flying Instructor, Padre John Neal, seven volunteer instructors, and light aircraft sourced from throughout New Zealand spend each day taking to the skies teaching their students the art of flight, whilst the Navigation Flight with 3 aircraft and pilots bravely take the word of their students and fly off on a course plotted by them.

Many of the students come to Woodbourne with very few hours in a light aircraft, nil in some cases and can leave the course having greatly extended their flight experience and in a large number of cases having flown solo. Those in the Navigation Flight leave with the knowledge that they are now capable of plotting and acting as navigator in a light aircraft.

The Power Flight students have the opportunity to sit their Flight Radio Telephone Licence and the Navigation students sit the Navigation paper required for their Private Pilots Licence. These examinations are provided free by Aviation Services Ltd (ASL) and company CEO, Mr Brian Carruthers (GPCAPT Rtd.), personally flies over to Woodbourne and conducts the exams and marks them to provide provisional marks to the students before they leave the course. Mr Carruthers has also generously provided incentive prizes to those who achieve the top scores in each exam.



Course photograph.



Navigation Flight – syndicate 1.  
Names clockwise from top left: CDT Tom McPherson [No 42 (Dunedin) ATC Sqn]; CDTF/S Marleigh Brady [No 4 (Ardmore) ATC Sqn]; CDTU/O Scott Cunningham [No 17 (Christchurch) ATC Sqn]; CDT CPL Daniel Kilkelly [No 2 (Hutt City) ATC Sqn]; FLTLT Craig Piner [No 23 (Nelson) ATC Sqn – Instructor / Pilot]; CDTSGT Andrew Stewart [No 15 (Timaru) ATC Sqn]; CDT Courtney Nimmo [No 18 (Avon) ATC Sqn].

A special prize was instigated last year by Air New Zealand for the top all round Power Flying Student. The Air New Zealand prize was awarded this year to CDT CPL Leisje Connor of No 8 (New Plymouth) ATC Squadron and consists of two hours in an AirNZ aircraft simulator and a flight to Australia and back on the flight deck of an AirNZ aircraft. This year saw the establishment of a new prize generously donated by the Chief of Air Force for the Navigation students, to be known as the RNZAF Navigation Prize. This is to be awarded to the top Navigation student and, while the actual details of the prize are yet to be announced, will consist of something similar to the AirNZ prize, with the winner spending a day aboard either a P3 or C130 working with the aircraft navigator. The inaugural recipient of this prize for 2007 is CDTSGT Alexandra Laurence of No 23 (Nelson) ATC Squadron. NZ Cadet Forces is very grateful to CAF for this welcome additional sponsorship, to which the RNZAF already make a huge commitment.

CAF also presented two special awards at the end of the course presentation



RNZAF Navigation Prize is presented by CAF to CDTSGT Alex Laurence.

ceremony. He presented a commendation on behalf of the Commandant NZCF to CDTU/O Scott Corlett for his efforts in support of this course and he also took the opportunity to present his personal commendation to Mr George Kay, for his sterling work as the General Secretary of the ATC Association of NZ.

This course could not happen without the very generous support of the RNZAF and other aviation orientated organizations that donate resources and money to enable these very fortunate cadets to be part of the wonderful world of aviation.

# THE WEATHER WON THE DAY

But the ATC's annual Gliding Course was still a 'buzz' says **CDT CPL B. Kropp** of No.41 Squadron ATC.

Mist meanders over the vast horizon - an army of cloud closing in. The day was as grey as our hopes. More Rain.

Twenty keen Cadets gathered at Waipukurau Aerodrome for the Air Training Corps (ATC) Annual National Gliding Course held over 18-22 December 2006. Although the weather conspired against us the week was extremely entertaining with students from Gore to Auckland and ranking from Cadet to F/S.

The time we spent gliding amounted to around two of the five scheduled days. For all of us this brought a myriad of new skills and an immense confidence boost. The thermals, as always, were a challenge to locate, but well worth the search. The more experienced students flirted with the prospect of going solo had we been gifted another suitable day.

Our down time away from the airfield was spent back at our accommodation; the Ruahine Cadet Corps Unit hall; or carrying out supplementary exercises. Best of these were swimming, ten-pin bowling and PT sessions with Private Whitehouse, one of our caterers.

Overall the course was a 'buzz', the staff and students got on well and had barrels of fun. Next year we might just find a few familiar faces returning to Waipukurau but for now it is farewell.



CDT CPL Kropp ready to take flight.



CDT Nanayakkara of No.3 Squadron ATC is briefed prior to flying.



Group photo of the 2006 ATC Gliding Camp.



# THE KEPLER CHALLENGE

## CPL Karinne Gillespie

A goal involving the words '60km mountain run' bring the term 'suckers for punishment' to mind. The countless hours of training, early mornings, running marathons for fun as training, why would we do this to ourselves? As I write this I am starting to wonder myself, but if you look a little deeper it is simple.

During a run of this calibre it is only natural to experience a range of emotions from feeling excited to the feeling of complete body and mind numbness. The only thought going through your head is to place one foot in front of the other in order to make it to the finish. It is hard to imagine why we go back for more, but to answer this question you almost have to go out and experience it for yourself first hand, and feel what it's like to cross the finish line. That is why we go back for more.

The RNZAF participants this year were F/S Richard Gillies, SGT Duanne Morrison, SGT Dave Walters, CPL Brad Marra, CPL Sam Baker, Debs Williams (ex Air Force) and myself. We definitely stood out wearing the RNZAF multisports tops that provided some good publicity but also reasonable protection from the negative 5 degree temperatures, 10cm of snow and strong wind gusts that lay ahead. The course this year was known as the hardest in 19 years.

A fourth attempt for Dave, second for Debs and I, and a first for the other four. Regardless if it's your first year or fourth year you will still go in not knowing what to expect along the way, the challenges, mental games, fatigue, dehydration, monotony. Every year it will be different.



The day kicked off around 0415hrs in preparation for the race to start at 0600hrs from the Te-Anau control gates marking the beginning of a 60km run or for others a popular three day tramp.

The horn sounded for the 361 participants, 256 men and 105 women. It all starts with approximately 6km of flat terrain alongside the lake, soon to be greeted with a steep hill climb up to 1400 metres. Upon reaching the top you are greeted with views of the Fiords as far as the eye can see, what more could you ask for....'ahhh the serenity!'

When arriving at the down hill your legs greatly appreciate the change in muscle use. It is fantastic, you feel invincible, well apart from Morry who was suffering from a knee injury the down hill was not working in his favour. You then hit the bottom and arrive at Iris Burn Hutt where all the reality comes flooding back to you. You still have a little over 30km to go before reaching the end. It is now like a whole new race, 30 km of undulating ground. The best things to keep your spirits up through here are Trampers on the track cheering for you and honey sandwiches, hard to chew but full of fuel.

Another incentive is knowing that at

the 50km point, supporters are able to wait there and cheer you on. Sam had a friend and her sister waiting to run the last 10km alongside her, other supporters dressed in santa suits offering words of encouragement and providing incentives to reach the end. A beer never sounded so good.

Brad was the first Air Force runner across the line with a time of 7.15hrs, a commendable effort placing him 44th in the mens section. Dave followed closely behind with a time of 7.17hrs. Richard crossed in 8.28hrs after a series of leg cramps that slowed him down, followed by Sam 8.50hrs, myself and Debs 8.56hrs and Morry 9.29hrs. I didn't see anyone all that keen to do a victory lap as they crossed the finish line.

There may be a lot of people that think we're mad but I can think of others who accept even greater challenges. It may be a challenge to complete a 3km run or an extreme adventure race, at the end of the day everyone has their own reasons to go out and do this type of thing. This may be to test your limits, feel the sense of achievement, in memory of someone or just so you can eat as much as you like for a year while you train.

For all the like minded people wanting to give this a crack be in quick this year as entries usually fill up fast, unfortunately meaning there are quite a few people who miss out. So check out the website [www.keplerchallenge.co.nz](http://www.keplerchallenge.co.nz)

*'All that you are is a result of what you have thought, the mind is everything, what you think, you become.'* (anon)



WGCDR 'Two guns' Peter Neilson, renowned for completing Interbase tournaments using at least two guns.

Clay target shooting in the RNZAF began with the training of pilots and air gunners during WWII. Over 20-24 November the Wellington Small Arms Club continued that long tradition by hosting the 2006 RNZAF Interbase, NZ Army Regional & NZ Police Annual Clay Target Shooting competitions at the Hutt Valley Gun Club. With Wellingtonians having endured one of the more forgettable winters on record, visitors were understandably sceptical that the weather would hold long enough for the tournament to proceed. Thankfully the weather improved enough to produce a three-day window in which shooters enjoyed a quick practice before competition commenced across a range of clay target shooting disciplines.

Needless to say the stalwarts of the sport were out in force and a number of friendly rivalries got an annual rekindling. When not indulging in friendly banter with their opposition, the more experienced shooters took time to guide and advise newcomers to the sport on some tricks and techniques to improve their accuracy.

As always the competition started well for some while results for others suggested they were simply warming into their work. Not so for one WGCDR Peter 'Two Guns' Neilson (WGNTN) who, as a part-time shooter, calmly stepped up and smacked a possible (25/25) in the skeet round, albeit with a borrowed gun. Naturally a protest was lodged given that WGCDR Neilson's own antique semi-automatic shotgun had steadfastly refused to eject and load fresh rounds due to heat stress, resulting in the need to borrow WGCDR Patch Nelson's Miroku under & over.

Another notable performance was that of F/S Snow Playle (OH) who took



The 2006 Wareham Trophy winning team from Ohakea. From left to right: CPL Craig Brain, CPL Hayden Powell, WGDCR Peter Neilson (shot for Wellington), F/S Snow Playle, F/S Bryan Kirker and CPL Leon Poyzer.

out the Skeet Doubles, Minis and Single Rise events which ultimately culminated in him picking up the 2006 Shell Trophy (Individual Highest Overall). Across the remaining disciplines the winners were:

- Double Rise: WGCDR Patch Nelson (WGNTN) (hard to believe Two Guns didn't burgle this title as well after winning it last year!)
- Single Barrel: Mr Danny McGowan (WB)
- Points Score: F/S Bryan Kirker (OH)
- Novice Award: LAC Dave Carney (AK)
- Personality Award: F/S Grant Pringle (WB)

In terms of team results, the winner of the Wareham Trophy (Interbase) for 2006 was RNZAF Base Ohakea with the team comprising of F/S Bryan Kirker, F/S Snow Playle, CPL Craig Brain, CPL Hayden Powell and CPL Leon Poyzer. Overall results were as follows:

1st	Ohakea	519 Points
2nd	Wellington	495 Points

3rd	Auckland	445 Points
4th	Woodbourne	428 Points

As with every interbase event a great deal of planning goes on behind the scenes and special mention must be made of the significant contributions of W/O Blue Freeman and WGCDR Patch Nelson, to whom the success of this event can be largely attributed.

And so RNZAF clay target shooting enthusiasts look forward to this year's tournament in November. It's fair to say that historically clay target shooting has encountered difficulty in attracting younger members to the sport, but if the fun experienced by all participants of the 2006 event is a gauge, then the 2007 tournament is in good shape. For those who would like to participate in this year's interbase or would simply like to give it a go, contact your respective Base Team Captains (AK – F/S Stu Walker, OH – F/S Bryan Kirker, WGNTN – W/O Blue Freeman & WB – Mr Harvie Morrow).



# 0800 AIRFORCE

FIND OUT WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT A CAREER IN THE AIRFORCE



# 'AWESOME' SERVICES SOFTBALL 2006 TOURNAMENT



Air Force's AC Jason Thomas steps up to bat.

## SQNLDR Duane Butts

The Interservice Softball tournament hosted by RNZAF Base Ohakea over the period 04-08 December 2006 looked likely to be both a hard fought competition and a special tournament due to the inclusion of the Fire Service and Australian Defence Force men's and women's teams participating.

The first night welcome involved a special and moving tribute to W/O Graham Chard in recognition of his 30 years of contributions and involvement to all levels of softball within the NZDF. The competition that followed this did not disappoint, with some excellent softball played over the first two days of the tournament to decide the finalists for the last day. Needless to say, with 183 personnel in attendance and a well stocked bar, the after hours fun took care of itself!

The games played over the first two days formed a seeding round. On completion of the seeding round, the lowest seeded team was eliminated from the men's and women's competition. So the pressure was on every team from the outset to avoid elimination!!!

The women's competition in particular had some fierce and close fought encounters throughout with the majority of seeding games finishing within 5 runs of each other. This continued into the semifinals where the ADF narrowly beat the Fire Service while the Army overcame an experienced RNZAF side. The result was a final showing great promise as a "semi-international" match between the ADF and NZ Army and both sides had provincial level softball players.

The hype did not disappoint, with the ensuing match a tactical battle fought between the experienced players in either side. Batting proved difficult for both sides and fielding

was sharp. With the crowd behind them, the Army women's team gradually turned the pressure up and stuck to the basics playing the short game well when required. Eventually this caused the ADF to make mistakes in the field leading to an excellent upset victory.

The men's competition was a less clear-cut affair throughout the seeding round. Some of the experienced teams struggled to find form early in the competition while less fancied sides found form early and took advantage at times. This led to a lot of good-natured ribbing and placed pressure on the players at game time throughout the week. The last day was a turnaround with the experience in both the Army and RNZAF sides showing with convincing semifinal victories over Navy and Fire respectively. Once again this meant both sides in the final had experienced provincial and ex national level players participating in the final. The stage was set!

The first three innings of the men's final saw little action, with both sides tentative and finals pressure was being soaked up in equal volumes. The fourth innings saw the RNZAF top order batters facing the Army pitcher for a second time. The experienced top order strung together a number of well-placed hits. Some gamesmanship resulted with two runners on base that led to a tactical walk to "load up the bases". Much to the crowds delight, the game breaking hit eventually came in the form of a "grand-slam" so all runners scored. A large number of subsequent hits from the younger members of the team brought in more runs and sharp work in the field by the RNZAF team sealed a well-earned victory. It was a great win on home turf that led to three successive services tournament wins in a row for the RNZAF men's side.

The RNZAF also did well in the award ceremony later that night with AC Haley Ireland and AC Jason Thomas awarded

rookies of the tournament, W/O Graham Chard awarded top pitcher, Sgt Gav Kotua amongst the men's batting trophies and Sqn Ldr Clayton Willocks with his hands on the majority of the remaining men's trophies! Lastly, FLTLT Ross Paterson was awarded the Black Sox trophy for his dedication and effort to further the interests of softball at all levels as a player, coach and administrator within NZDF and Combined Services softball.

The RNZAF officials and players listed below were selected for the NZDF teams who subsequently played the ADF in test matches at Ohakea. The games resulted in a 16-0 win to the NZDF men and 3 -1 win to the ADF women. The following day the NZDF teams played Manawatu representative sides. The women won convincingly forcing the mercy rule to be applied in the fifth innings and the men's team narrowly lost in a ten innings tiebreaker.

## RNZAF members of the NZDF Teams were:

### NZDF OIC FLTLT M. WATERS

### NZDF MEN

W/O I DITFORT SCORER  
SQNLDR C. WILLOCKS CAPTAIN  
SQNLDR D. BUTTS  
W/O G. CHARD  
SGT G. KOTUA  
SGT C. WILLIAMS  
AC J. THOMAS

### NZDF WOMEN

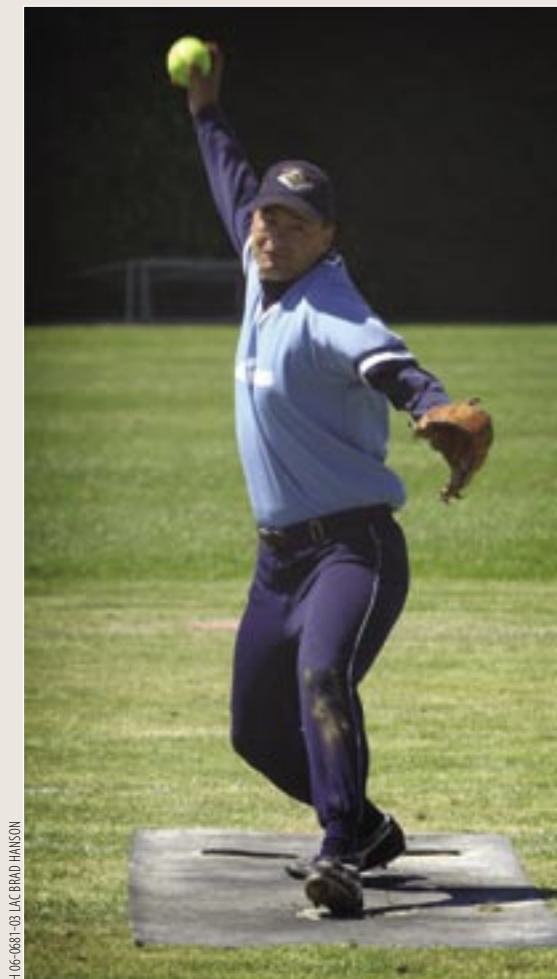
F/S M. THOMAS COACH  
SGT A. CLARKSON STRAPPER  
F/S T. BUCHANAN  
F/S S. CARSON  
SGT L. HILL  
CPL T. DALY



01/06-0681-23 LAC BRAD HANSON



01/06-0681-01 LAC BRAD HANSON



01/06-0681-03 LAC BRAD HANSON

ABOVE: SGT Gavin Kotua with the pitch.

ABOVE LEFT: Air Force CPL Aaron Collier checks to see if the catcher caught the low pitch.

LEFT: Army pitcher WO1 Grant McCarroll pitches to an Air Force batter.

BELOW: The RNZAF men's team go into bat.



01/06-0674-47 CPL NICK CLARKE



# RNZAF SOFTBALL TOUR TO AUSTRALIA – NOVEMBER 2006



2006 RNZAF Softball Touring Team. Back Row - AC Alanson Smith, AC Jason Thomas, LAC Matt Griffin (Strapper), FLTLT Mark Waters (OIC Tour), SGT Vinnie Green, Mr Johnny Hickman (Umpire), SGT Annie Clarkson (Strapper), SGT Doug Inwood, SGT Matt Lamberg. Third Row - Mr Glen Metcalf, LAC Josh Jellyman, LAC Alex Senior, LAC Rebecca Trethowen, LAC Andrea Connell, F/S Carmen Whittaker, AC Hayley Ireland, SGT Danny O'Keefe, CPL Melanie Gill, ACO Paula Borell, SQNLDR Duane Butts, SGT Chris Mitchell. Second Row - FLTLT Craig Searle, SQNLDR Clayton Willocks, F/S Max Cawley, F/S Tracey Buchannan, CPL Terraine Hollis, LAC Stacy Adam, CPL Chris Cubit, Mrs Jay Sefo, F/S Viti Flanagan (Manager), CPL Aaron Collier. Front Row - SQNLDR John Cassidy, Mr Murray Smith (Coach), SGT Glenda Peri, Mrs Mandy Tepania, CPL Tania Rangitawa, SGT Eileen Taogaga (Assistant Coach), F/S Karen Chard (Scorer), W/O Ian Dittorf (Scorer), F/S Geoff Polglase (Tour Manager). Standing - W/O Graham Chard.

## SGT Chris Mitchell

Over the period 04-12 November 2006, an RNZAF Softball Contingent, comprising 44 players and officials travelled to Melbourne, Australia to compete in the Australian Defence Force Inter-State Softball Tournament. Management, with the aid of excellent support from the RNZAF Sports Committee, adopted the '7 P's' philosophy, resulting in the tourists having a couple of days to acclimatise to the weather conditions, shops and entertainment in Melbourne, prior to commencing the tournament.

Day one of the tournament saw the men's and women's sides playing two games each with mixed results, seeing the



Going to the Melbourne Cup was a highlight of the tour.

ladies with 1 win and 1 loss and 2 wins for the men.

Due to various deployments around the world, the Australian sides were only able to muster sides from two states (New South Wales (NSW) and Northern Territories (NT)), which unfortunately meant that there were no games to be played on the Tuesday. Those of you out there that like a bit of a punt on the geegees will be well aware that Tue 07 Nov 06 was the day of the famous Melbourne Cup and a large bunch of the tourists decided that it wouldn't be right to be in Melbourne and not go to this prestigious event.

In true kiwi style we conjured up some 'fencing' (Great work Vinnie!) and

...the tour was a great success, not only for victories on and off the diamond, but for the fostering of relationships with our Aussie neighbours.

proceeded to rope off an area in the most sought after spot – right at the fence opposite the finishing post! A great day was had by all, and I can tell you there is nothing quite like the atmosphere of 200 000 people screaming as the horses make the final dash down the straight!!

Wednesday saw the focus back on the softball, resulting in a win for the men against NT and a loss for the ladies. Thursday was the big day for the squad where NZ pride was on the line – the day of the Trans-Tasman Test Matches. After the last of the round robin matches in the morning, it was time to relax and mentally prepare for the highlight of the tournament.

1700hrs on Thursday saw the RNZAF Women play the Australian Defence Force Women in a battle royale. Considering the number of 'skins' in the RNZAF side, the ladies battled valiantly against a strong ADF side but were unable to hold them back and lost the match 0-13.

1900hrs arrived and the RNZAF Men lined up against the ADF Men. A fierce challenge in the form of the haka put the Aussies on the back foot right from the get-go and the RNZAF Men proceeded to put on a text book display of how to play softball, beating the ADF into submission with solid batting, backed up by the old stalwart of RNZAF Softball, W/O Graham Chard with a great pitching effort, resulting in a no-hit game for the Aussies. The Australian pitching line-up received a work out, with a couple of balls being solidly sent over the fence for automatic home runs. The game was all over in 5 innings, with the RNZAF running out 11-0 victors.

Overall the tour was a great success, not only for victories on and off the diamond, but for the fostering of relationships with our Aussie neighbours.

Mr Bryan Dollimore of Air Marshal Ltd has been a great supporter of RNZAF Softball solidly since 2001. A huge thanks goes out to him as our core sponsor for the ongoing support and provision of tour and services clothing.

The new players to the RNZAF Softball Fraternity performed well and those selected will take the experiences gained to the NZ Interservices Tournament to be played in Ohakea over the period 04-08 Dec 06. Notably, the ADF Combined Services Team has been invited to Services ... watch this space for the rematch!

## CHANGE OF COMMAND FOR NO. 40 SQUADRON

The end of 2006 saw many changes of command throughout the Air Force - No.5 Squadron, No.3 Squadron, OSS, Air Base Wings and many more (for a list of who went where see page 4 December 06 Air Force News). It seemed that just about everyone in command was moving onto a new role. It was No.40 Squadron's turn to go though the Change of Command parade and ceremony on 16 December.



**TOP:** WGCDR Kevin McEvoy (left) receives the No. 40 Squadron Wing Commander's pennant from WGCDR Tony Davies. WGCDR Davies was posted to the J3 branch of HQJFNZ with effect from 16 January 2007.

**LEFT:** WGCDR Tony Davies addresses the Squadron for the last time.

**ABOVE:** The WGCDRs arrive at the ceremony.

## ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS - AWO and AWS Proposal

### GPCAPT Grant Crosland

Thank you to all personnel who provided feedback on the proposed non-pilot aircrew specialisation and trade name changes. The online survey response was considerable with 249 respondents. A summary of the survey findings can be viewed at <http://org/airforce/NonPilotAircrewNameChangeDoc> during the next 4 weeks. CAF has approved the new Air Warfare Officer (AWO) Specialisation to replace 'NAV' and 'AEO', and the

new Air Warfare Specialist (AWS) Trade to replace 'AEOP'. These changes will come into effect on 1 July 07 as part of Phase 3 of Project REFINE when the RNZAF Branch, Specialisation and Trade structures will be reformed (see AFO(T) 69/06). The associated issue of the AWO/AWS brevet is now being progressed, with the intent to have the new brevet available for all applicable personnel wef 1 Jul 07. Once again, thank you to all RNZAF personnel for contributing your views to this important survey.





## WELCOME

A big welcome aboard goes to AC K.J. JORGENSEN who re-enlisted in the RNZAF on 11 December 2006.

## FAREWELLS

### BASE AUCKLAND

A/CPL B.M. LEWELL

Enlist: 16-01-01

Terminate: 17-01-07

No.6 Squadron

CPL D.H. McELHINNEY

Enlist: 05-01-99

Terminate: 05-03-07

No.40 Squadron

### BASE OHAKEA

CPL L.M. BLOEMENDAAL

Enlist: 16-01-01

Terminate: 18-02-07

ABW OH ASYPOL

CPL K. DE LACY

Enlist: 31-03-98

Terminate: 07-01-07

LSS

FLTLT M.T. LALLEY

Enlist: 01-12-05

Terminate: 31-01-07

No.3 Squadron

CPL B.T. MORGAN

Enlist: 05-01-99

Terminate: 14-01-07

No.3 Squadron

CPL D.B. MORRIS

Enlist: 28-09-99

Terminate: 25-02-07

AVFLT

CPL E.J. RIDDLE

Enlist: 08-07-97

Terminate: 25-02-07

AirMovements

LAC D.M. TAINGAHUE

Enlist: 21-01-03

Terminate: 05-01-07

ABW OH

AC B.A. VERCOE

Enlist: 16-05-06

Terminate: 07-01-07

OH Fire Section

CPL D.J. WATSON

Enlist: 18-01-99

Terminate: 22-12-06

OH Fire Section

### BASE WOODBOURNE

LAC Q.P. McDONALD

Enlist: 16-09-03

Terminate: 27-01-07

ABW WB

AC S.J. McDONALD

Enlist: 18-01-05

Terminate: 29-01-07

Medical Flight

F/S P.M. SNAFT

Enlist: 07-07-03

Terminate: 05-02-07

TDHQ

### WELLINGTON

AC R. CAMERON

Enlist: 01-04

Terminate: 01-07

CIS

W/O R.N. DRYSDALE

Enlist: 07-01-86

Terminate: 22-01-07

Wellington Recruiting

# UPCOMING EVENTS & REUNIONS

## SHELLY BAY REUNION

10-11 MARCH 2007

IN WELLINGTON

Contact: Bart Bartlett:

loisandbart@hotmail.com

## WRNZAF REUNION

No.37 Recruit Course

May 1964

All interested contact the following:

Jean (Nairn) Nix, 11

Marshwood Place,

Christchurch 8004.

Rebecca (Pavala) Dower

31A Kashmir Avenue, Upper

Hutt 5018

Wiki Ward-Holmes

m.v.adamson@xtra.co.nz

Colleen Towgood

towgoods@iqnin.co.nz

## No. 41 Squadron(RNZAF)

Association is having

its bi-annual reunion in

Christchurch over 13-14th

April 2007.

Contact the President:

Barry Balsom

Tel: +64 3 374 3045

Fax: +64 3 374 3001

barry.balsom@nz.pwc.com

## MALAYSIAN MEMORY TOUR

Merdeka 50th Anniversary

August 2007

Contact: Russ Byrne

56B Hynds Road,

Greerton, Tauranga

## NO. 25 AIRMEN CADET

SCHOOL INTAKE

1968 & NO.7 CERT IN

ENGINEERING COURSE.

40th Anniversary

2008

Contact: Philip Blank

phil@cbdnet.com.au



SGT J Edmonds, ABW Auckland, of the Whenuapai Aviation Sports Club ferried an ex-RNZAF Air Tourer to its new owners in Melbourne Australia.



**Sunday 1 April marks the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the RNZAF and the 20th anniversary of the Air Force Museum. The Air Force is planning various activities in connection with these important events. Mark this date in your diary.**

In conjunction with the NZDF's Historian, Mr John Crawford, the staff at the Air Force Museum in Wigram have been given the green light from CAF to organise a major conference on Air Power covering both historical and contemporary concerns. Confirmed speakers are from England and Australia. The conference will be of interest to academics, serving and retired Air Force personnel and people with a keen interest in military aviation. The conference opens on Saturday 31 March and Sunday 1 April with a meet and greet on the Friday night. Chief of Air Force AVM Graham Lintott will open the conference and the proceedings will be published at a later date.

**For more details contact RNZAF Museum Director Mrs Therese Angelo: 03-343 9530**

**Email: [therese.angelo.nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:therese.angelo.nzdf.mil.nz) or Mr John Crawford: 04-498 6997**

**Email: [j.crawford@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:j.crawford@nzdf.mil.nz)**



# AIR FORCE OPEN DAY WHENUA PAI SATURDAY 3 MARCH 2007 (WET WEATHER ALT 4 MARCH)



**GATES OPEN 9.00am**  
**ENTRY: \$5 FOOT TRAFFIC**  
**CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE**  
**\$20 PER CAR/VAN**

