

RNZAC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER #215 November 2022

Meetings Happy Hour: Thursday 1 December 2022 at 1700 hrs at the Papanui RSA.
To be followed with dinner.

Whose is it?



QAMR

QAMR has been rather busy over the past few months

WEC SQN have just finished supporting Ex Phantom Major

Scots SQN have been taking on all the smaller tasks asked of us, a static LAV display was conducted for the local cadet unit

As well as supplementing WEC numbers on larger tasks

EX Beersheba, a live fire ex for the whole regiment, with service ammunition, will finish this weekend with WMR being invited to watch and shoot



Concurrently the largest exercise in recent years is on in Linton this week, **EX TOROKIKI** , a huge “longest day” / “Skill at arms” type exercise , culminating in a large , much needed, festivity with the Army band & Shapeshifter playing

(I will send another update with photos upon completion.)

Dec 2 is the command hand over LTCOL Craw will leave to become Chief of staff, and we will welcome LTCOL Murray as the new CO

Then hopefully this year will relax.

Nga mihi

CPL Josh Hermansen

Assistant S3 Corporal - QAMR, Queen Alexandras Mounted Rifles RNZAC

Cambrai Day

The Regiment commemorated Cambrai in Linton and in Pukeahu along with previous OCs, COs and RSMs. This was quite a fitting moment for our younger generation to socialise with the older generation and, most importantly to hear those good old stories.



WEC Squadron

Congratulations to CPLs R and H, the Corps newest, posted as TP CPLs in WEC Sqn. Earlier in the week, WEC Sqn also conducted a SQN parade to present medals and Marksmen badges.

As usual the Manawatū weather decided not to play ball giving the SDs a good drenching. Special mention to CPL L and LCPL T for gaining their silver marksmen badges.

Also to all those who receive their NZDSM.

Fortes Fortuna Juvat



Update from Mounted Ops Gunnery Wing:

Students on the RCO course planned a number of Stage 2 Live Fire Activity's for the current Troop Leaders course. Unfortunately, the heat and dry conditions caused a hindrance upon the conduct and resulted in numerous fires.

Although restrictions were then put in place due to the fire hazard, gunnery wing had to apply some flexibility to zones but mentioned overall planning and conduct were of a good standard.

Well done!



Last Post

The funeral for Alan (Hoff) Hoffman took place on 4th November, at Northbrook Chapel, Spark Lane, Rangiora. Several members of the Association attended, as well as a large contingent and LAV from QAMR.

There is a You Tube link for anyone wanting to view a clip of the day:

<https://youtu.be/3SDjrZnTKko>.



Admin & Log

What a great Cambrai commemoration. Thirty Members and guests for the service and lunch and then the Association AGM.

Two pipers this year. Looking forward to most of the band next year!!

Thursday the 1st December is our last Happy Hour for the year, and we are going to book in for a meal after the happy hour for those that are interested. In order to book we need to know the numbers **so please let me know by return e-mail if you wish to book in for the meal.**

Remember you can still come to the happy hour and not stay for the meal.

Looking forward to a great crowd at our last event for 2022

Kind regards to all

Mike Sheppard
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Answer: USA

More AMPVs for US Army after Ukraine M113 provision

The US Army will be permitted to increase its purchase of AMPV following the provision of around 200 in-service M113 armoured personnel carriers to Ukraine to aid Kyiv in its fight against Russia.

The programme will deliver around 2,900 vehicles across five variants, including command and control, mortar carrier, general-purpose, medical evacuation, and medical treatment. The medical variants in particular will offer a step-change in capability to deployed soldiers, providing greater mobility, force protection and on-board power than the M113 platform it will replace.

A further 1,900 M113 vehicles will be retained for use in roles referred to as Echelon Above Brigade, which have not been included in the US Army's modernisation plans, according to a US Congressional Research Service (CRS) report from May 2022.

US Army officials speaking at AUSA in Washington, DC, this month said that the unit equipped with the platform will receive around 130 vehicles starting from January 2023.

Final testing for the AMPV began at the start of Q2 this year, concluding in mid-Q3, with production now ramping up to 12 units per month from manufacturer BAE Systems, which is planned to rise to 16 units per month to take into account the Ukrainian M113 recapitalisation.

US Army officials said that they are targeting the replacement of all M113 platforms that were taken from frontline units with the AMPV. The AMPV platform entered low-rate initial production (LRIP) in 2019.

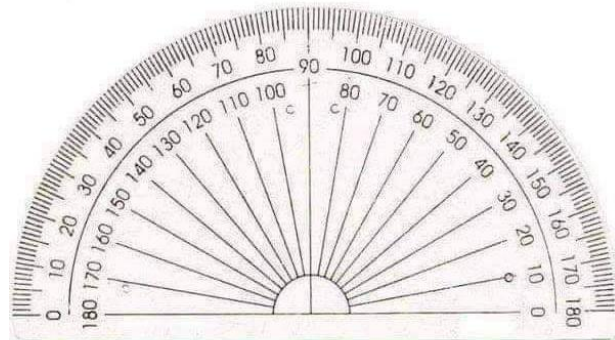
According to the CRS report manufacturer BAE Systems did not meet the LRIP targets due to difficulties encountered as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. It failed to meet its July 2020 first vehicle delivery date and was more than six months behind the original schedule to deliver vehicles to support AMPV initial operational testing and evaluation and live-fire test events. BAE Systems reportedly delivered the first LRIP AMPV to the US Army in August 2020.

The US Army is currently undergoing an extensive recapitalisation programme of its armoured mobility fleets, with the AMPV replacing the legacy M113 platforms, while the future Optionally Manned Fighting Vehicle (OMFV) will in turn replace the Bradley vehicles. The OMFV contract to take forward three proposals into the concept design phase is expected to be awarded in November.

Richard Thomas
Army Technology 21 October 2022

Humour

**I support farming,
I guess you could say I'm...**



Eyelashes are supposed to prevent things from getting into your eyes, but when I do have something in my eye it's always an eyelash

EyeroniC



Reminders

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Mike Smith, Editor