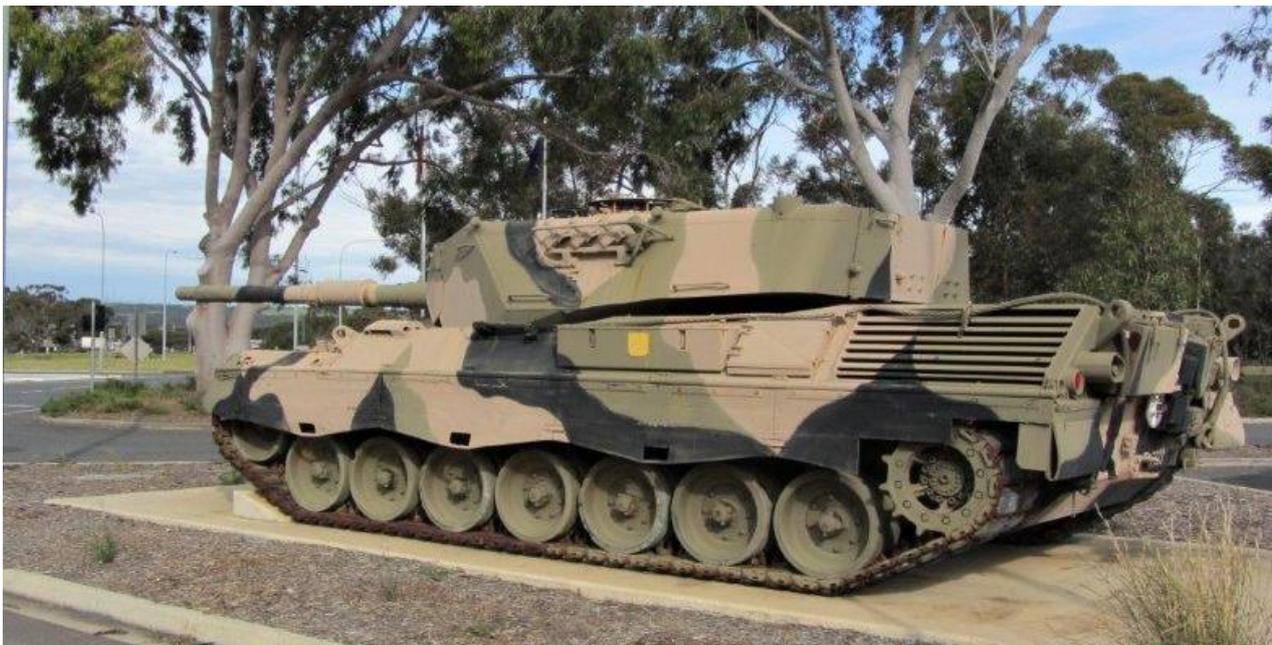


# RNZAC ASSOCIATION CANTERBURY BRANCH NEWSLETTER #181 October 2019

**Meetings**      **Happy Hour: Thursday 7 November 2019 at 1700 hrs at the Papanui RSA**  
**With a committee meeting at 1815 hrs.**

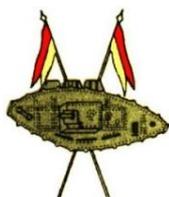
**Next Happy Hour: Thursday 5 December 2019 at 1700 hrs, Papanui RSA.**

**Where is it?**



## **Events Past and Future**

### **Cambrai 2019**



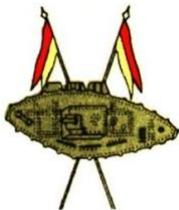
#### **Cambrai Commemoration, Weekend Saturday - Sunday 23 and 24 November 2019**

This year because we are hosting visitors from the North and South Island Cambrai will be held over 2 days. If you wish to attend, even at this late stage and need accommodation please contact David Harrison Editor.

**1100 hrs Saturday 23 November: – Military Vehicle Display and Barbecue.** This year, because of the extended invitation to MTA members, we have arranged this display. This display is presented by the same group of enthusiasts who did such a magnificent job in August 2017. This display will be even better with more AFV's and equipment from both wars present. The Mounted Rifles with horses will also be in attendance so it should be something not to be missed. As this is such a special event, and to support these enthusiasts, we ask that you make a special effort to attend. We have also opened the attendance up to friends of RNZAC Association members. They are most welcome. The display will be followed by a barbecue.

**Location:** School Road, Yaldhurst. There is no road number as entry is via the back entry to the farm. Go through the Yaldhurst/Pound Road roundabout onto the West Coast Road. Turn right (after about 200 metres) into School Road (just after Oderings) and then turn left at the T intersection. Follow School Road to the end of School Road. The farm gate entrance will be marked, and manned where you will sign in. If you get geographically embarrassed ring 0274 318 529.

**Sunday 24 November 2019:** This is all about what Cambrai means to us and getting together and enjoying the company of comrades and friends.



12 noon. Cambrai Church Service, St Paul's Anglican Church, Harewood Road

12.45 pm Papanui RSA: Drinks followed by a buffet lunch then by the RNZAC Association and the Canterbury Branch AGMs. If you are interested in joining the committee please contact Len Haynes.

Non RNZAC Assoc members may attend but do not have voting rights.

**Cost:** Attendees \$10 pp.

**Please note:** For catering purposes, please contact Len Haynes with numbers attending by **Sunday 17 November**. Phone: 0277 340 006, email: lennardhaynes53@gmail.com



**SITREP from SGT Johnny Duncan, NZGD  
QAMR, QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S MOUNTED RIFLES, RNZAC  
DAVID.DUNCAN@NZDF.mil.nz**



*Johnny Duncan has advised us that he has been posted to Hamilton and that someone from QAMR will be tasked with providing monthly SITREPs. On behalf of all members of the RNZAC Association we wish Johnny all the very best in his new posting and thank him for supporting all current and ex RNZAC members by providing monthly updates about QAMR and its activities.*

*Thank you Johnny and all the best.*

### Radio Check.

**From Neville Reilly;** Hi - thought you might be interested in this advertisement:



Sorry we have now closed which means you cannot book in for a driving experience. However our CENTURION TANK is still for sale - the last vehicle we have to sell!

### **Centurion Tank.**

**Vickers / Royal Ordnance Factories / Leyland Centurion Mk5/1 Aust. gun tank.**



The Big Daddy of our fleet, the Centurion weighs a staggering 52 tonnes, has a huge 27 litre Rolls-Royce V-12 engine producing 650bhp and torque to burn.

Centurion is one of the longest serving and most successful tanks ever. Very large, noisy & impressive, VERY low mileage and in great working order! Once you drive this bad boy, you'll be addicted!

**Price: \$70,000+GST** [More info »](#)

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT: All prices are GST exclusive and are for the vehicle ex our site just outside Christchurch. The price includes a user manual for the vehicle plus full driving training if wanted. In most cases we also have technical manuals and various spare parts which can be purchased if not already sold.**

*Lenny Haynes: If we remember correctly, you won first prize at the November 2011 RNZAC Reunion and as a result you were given the opportunity to drive this wonderful AFV. Come on Len, out with your petty cash voucher and up with the money. You can relive the experience and we would again enjoy the pleasure of your huge smile.*

**From KJ Murray:** Thanks for the details about Mike G and Terry W. Also got call last night re Jimmy Naera passing away up Opononi. He had had heart probs for some time so maybe a blessing for him. Be careful Dave, let's not make it a 'tank crew' eh!

Linda and I sat in a Gold Class local theatre, frothy coldies n cheeps, to watch the film "Danger Close". We came out drained and very, very respectful of the producers, actors and all the original members of D Coy 6 RAR and 161 Bty. It's a 'must see'. Hope you do and enjoy without any nostalgia or adverse reactions. The young actor playing the part of Willy (Walker) did very well (he's VERY good looking eh - was that a 'must have' for the role?

Anyway, the true politics of our respective governments of the day were in print at the end - and the 'Honours' awards etc, paucity probably still occurs today. Cheers and beers to you, enjoy the movie. KJ & Linda

**From John Drummond:** The video of Mike's funeral was almost as good as being there, as unfortunately we could not attend, Mike was a year older than Kathy and she was quite upset and could not view the video for a few days, but, okay now. Obviously I went back to 1960!! Michael and Sue did really well in our opinion and we're proud of them.  
Regards John

**From Sue Gullery.** In your newsletter can you please thank QAMR for their role in the funeral, which was really appreciated and was a big effort. They had 20 guys they brought up from Linton for the weekend and did the whole thing. Also the MTA and Auckland RSA for their support.

I do have a video link to his funeral if you feel like watching it, it only shows inside, when much of the action was outside, but it is there.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pqnruo00mb1xeaf/AABkAc2GxGTxRm-li4523e6Sa?dl=0>

Regards Sue

**Last Post:** Many members and ex members of the RNZAC will be saddened to hear of the death of Mike (Michael Joseph) Gullery RNZAC on Tuesday 24 September 2019. A service for Mike was held at Purewa Cemetery and Crematorium Auckland 28 September 2019. QAMR provided a firing and bearer party and a bugler was present. The service at Purewa was videoed and streamed live and appreciated by many.



Mike served for 30 years, 1959 to 1989 in the RNZAC in many appointments, D&M Wing Sergeant Major, RSM School of Armour, RSM Papakura Camp to name just a few. In 1969 / 70 in Vietnam he served with A SQN 3 CAV REGT RAAC and proved a most capable crew commander.



On his return he joined the then APC Troop (M113) and as a result of his experiences in Vietnam passed on much needed information about operating the M113. Mike had a wonderful sense of humour. An example of this was when he was acting as a platoon commander at the TF Depot in Burnham Camp. Instead of ordering "Right Wheel" he would order "Right Stick".

Mike will be very much missed. Our condolences go to all of Mike's family, comrades and friends. Rest in peace.

**Last Post:** With regret we report the death of Q645647 Terry, (Marutuna Terence Francis) Wereta. W/O (Rtd) RNZAC, RNZAF. Our great Totara has fallen. Terry passed away peacefully at home on 10th September, aged 85. The funeral service to celebrate Terry's life was held on Saturday 14th September at St Faith's Church, Rotorua. All correspondence c/- PO Box 926 Rotorua.



Many will have great memories of Terry, especially his golfing prowess. Those ex Scottish Squadron members will remember him when he was the SSM 1972/73. He was an outstanding example of correctness yet was very approachable. He wore a kilt so well that he was given the name "Terry Mc Wereta". He was also so proud of his Baby Austin car. When he left the NZ Army he changed uniform and transferred to the RNZAF as a General Service Instructor Flight Sergeant. For the first year he had some difficulty adjusting to the different standards of discipline, but once he did, he became very highly respected by all RNZAF personnel. Terry eventually became the Base Warrant Officer of the Wigram Air Base. A man very much respected for his high standards and the standards he set for others.

Terry was an easy man to talk with, and had a great sense of humour and distinctive laugh. Our condolences go to all of Terry's whanau, comrades and friends. Rest in peace

**Last Post:** Many Black Hatters will be sorry to hear of the passing of Jimmy Naera. Unfortunately we do not have any information to hand regarding funeral services.



The photo may be a young one of Jimmy but is certainly how many will remember him back in the early 1970's. Jimmy served with the original APC Troop and was a pleasure to be with. He had a remarkable sense of humour and always seemed to be able to see the lighter side of events.

Jimmy you will be remembered with fondness and very much missed.

Our condolences go to all of Jimmy's family, comrades and friends. Rest in peace

**Humour:** The signs you see.



**Answer:** - RAAF Base Edinburgh which is a Defence super-base 25 km north of Adelaide, one of two in Australia. The base is also home to the army's Horseshoe Barracks housing 1st Armoured Regiment and the 7th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment of the 1st Brigade. This Leopard tank is only one of many dotted around Australia as memorials to servicemen.

**Reminders;** RNZAC Association Web site: [www.rnzac.co.nz](http://www.rnzac.co.nz) Contributions to this newsletter are Gratefully accepted. Email: [jandavid@snap.net.nz](mailto:jandavid@snap.net.nz) Phone 03 359 6861. **David Harrison, Editor**