

RNZAC ASSOCIATION CANTERBURY BRANCH NEWSLETTER #185 March 2019

Meetings **Happy Hour: Thursday 2 April 2020 at 1700 hrs at the Papanui RSA**
Next Happy Hour: Thursday 7 May 2020 at 1700 hrs, Papanui RSA.

Whose is it?



Social Events

BBQ Sunday 8 March 2020. What a wonderful outing. The barbecue was held at Bruce and Meri Tweedy's home at Greenpark near Lincoln. Many things stood out. The first was the weather. One could not have asked for a more pleasant day: sunny but not too hot. Another was the lovely venue. Meri is a very enthusiastic gardener and the garden was, as several people commented, "a very colonial English Country Garden" setting. It was beautiful and Bruce had done a good job on the lawns as well.



The food

was excellent: more of a banquet than a barbecue. Thanks to all those who brought along such wonderful food, and to our Chef Westy for his excellent preparation and cooking of the meat. 25 people attended. It was good



to see Steve Thompson from Versailles, and as can be imagined, many a good tale told. Problems of the world were sorted and everyone enjoyed thoroughly themselves.

Thank you to all those who came along and a special thank you to Bruce and Meri who were such good hosts.

Events Past and Future



**SITREP from CPL Clem Williams, QAMR,
QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S MOUNTED RIFLES, RNZAC
CLEM.WILLIAMS@nzdf.mil.nz
9 Feb 20**



First let me start with greetings to all as this is the first correspondence for the year, and what a busy year we are shaping up for: Exercises in and out of country and overseas duties.

The Regiment so far

The Regiment started the year of with a bang! Literally, with guns, grenades and sunny ranges for AWQs in Waiouru. Now exercises are underway, Support Squadron and the Sabre Squadrons are gearing up to conduct training around the North Island, so all hands on deck to get the horses prepped and ready in the stables.

The annual Army Skill at Arms competition was conducted last week and under the watchful eye of the teams Section Commander CPL Kurt Hughes. QAMRs team placed in the middle of the pack but good on the lady and gents for all their hard work and effort. CPL Caleb Amner and LCPL Jake Low made the Army combat shooting team and will be competing in Australia: good luck to the both of those men.



Overseas interests

Public duties are being held in the United Kingdom in August of this year and QA have been announced lead for this event with support from the wider army. This is an exceptional turn of events - the last time NZ sent troops to perform these duties in 1983 it was also QAMR selected. There will also be an opportunity for Troops to conduct training in America later in the year.



Our Soldiers

On a personal note big congratulations to the following from the unit. Newly married SGT Tama Te Whata and also a big welcome to one of our newest members MAJ Steven MacBeth from the Canadian Army.

We had SGT Johnny Newcomb be a part of the NZ Army Cricket Team,

which won the inter-services cricket comp for the first time in 20 or so years. Also congrats to TPR Daniel Moseley for making the NZDF touch team along with CPL Jackie Tuala for Managing/Coaching the NZ Army men's team and selected to manage touch teams at provincial and NZ levels.



The unit triathlon team for placing third and CAPT Ian Eagle for taking out the open men's.

Sign off

Well I hope the year has started well for all RNZAC warriors and continues to bring new and great things, Ake Ake Kia Kaha.



RNZAC Association Subscriptions for 2019/20 are now due - (\$30.00)

Subscriptions for the RNZAC Association are now due for the 2019/20 year and must be paid by the 30th September 2020. The subscription amount was increased to \$30.00 by the AGM at Cambrai last November.

It is preferable that subscriptions be paid by internet banking direct to the RNZAC Association: Account number: **03 0566 0209452 001**. (Please include your surname and initials in the details field.)

Payment can also be made by cheque made out to the RNZAC Association, posted to the National Treasurer at the following address:

Mike Sheppard, 9 Greenfield Place, Mairehau, Christchurch 8052.

A reminder that under the Association rules if your subscription remains unpaid for more than 12 months, you cease to be a member of the Association. Your subscription helps the Association to maintain the RNZAC Association Website and to support important projects like the RNZAC History Project. Your continued support of the RNZAC Association is much appreciated.

Mike Sheppard, Treasurer, RNZAC Association

Radio Check

From KJ Murray: Gudday, thankfully the wet 'n windy weather has gone and it's blue skies and warm, to very warm, i.e. mid 30s! Coopers here from 6 to 10-11 March then sail from Freo Passenger wharf to - ?? Hope the only Corona they meet/get is from a cold bottle!

Mass hysteria parts of Oz (incl. Perth) - frenzied bulk-buying of toilet paper, bottled water, baby powder,!!! WTF. . . ? Toilet paper is manufactured here in Oz - why bulk buy?
Regards KJ .

From Sean Trengrove: I have read the newsletter on the Kaipara Ferry as we cross to Helensville. I am participating in the Tour Aotearoa along with Phil Gibbons and Barry Vryenhoek. Going well so far (now that I have some padded pants: it was a long way to Dargaville!) You can track our progress on the ride here:
<https://touraotearoa2020.mapprogress.com?bib=BPS&justme=yes&showPath=yes&showMarkerHistory=yes>

The charity we are supporting is the Mental Health Foundation and more information and a donor link is here: <https://events.mentalhealth.org.nz/fundraisers/philgibbons/doing-stuff-helps> Please consider making a donation, it makes a difference.

Please pass on my regards to everyone,
Sean

From Stew Couchman: Just to say that I enjoyed reading through the February Newsletter. Do you by chance have a comparative listing of the relative performance data of the 9 rated tanks? Hoping that you & all are well and dangerous?

Hello Stew, below at the end of the newsletter is abbreviated info you requested. It is taken from the Army Technology site at

<https://www.army-technology.com/features/feature-the-worlds-top-10-main-battle-tanks/> see also
http://www.military-today.com/tanks/top_10_main_battle_tanks.htm

Humour

How to get to Heaven from Ireland

(A true story from an Irish Sunday School Teacher)

I was testing children in my Dublin Sunday school class to see if they understood the concept of getting to heaven.'

I asked them, ' If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into heaven?' 'NO!' the children answered.

'If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the garden, and kept everything tidy, would that get me into heaven?' Again, the answer was 'NO!'

'If I gave sweets to all the children, and loved my husband, would that get me into heaven?' Again, they all answered 'NO!'

I was just bursting with pride for them. I continued, 'Then how can I get into heaven?'

A little boy shouted out:"YUV GOTTA BE F- - N' DEAD."
It's a curious race, the Irish. Brings a tear to the eye, doesn't it?

Answer: Sweden: Combat Vehicle 90 (CV90) represents a family of ACVs produced for the Swedish Army for a family of ACVs with high tactical and strategic mobility, air defence and anti-tank capability, high survivability and protection. The CV90 is in service with the armies of Sweden (509), Norway (103), Switzerland (186), Finland (102), the Netherlands (192) and Denmark (45).

Power/weight: 17.65 kW/t Operational range: 320 km Speed: 70 km/h
Transmission: Automatic Secondary armament: 7.62 mm MG 6 × 76 mm grenade launchers
Height: 2.7 m (8 ft 10 in)

The all-welded steel hull can be upgraded with add-on armour, which protects against 30mm APFSDS. The vehicle has low radar, acoustic and infrared signature, fire detection and extinguishing system and is fitted with NBC protection.

The CV90 infantry fighting vehicle carry a crew of three: commander, driver and gunner, together with up to 8 soldiers. Versions can be equipped with 40mm gun or a 30mm Bushmaster II cannon. The Grenadier Tank 2000 is in service with the Swiss Army is fitted with an ATK 30mm/40mm Bushmaster II mk44 cannon, and includes a battlefield management system.

Reminders: RNZAC Association Web site: www.rnzac.co.nz Contributions to this newsletter are gratefully accepted. Email: jandavid@snap.net.nz Phone 03 359 6861. **David Harrison, Editor**

Details on the nine best rated tanks

Leopard 2A7+, Germany is a MBT revealed in 2010. The new version leverages the technology of the Leopard 2 MBT and has been adapted by the German Army to conduct warfare in urban areas, as well as traditional military missions. The AFV is armed with 120mm L55 smoothbore gun capable of firing standard NATO ammunition and new programmable 120mm HE-rounds. The tank has a remotely controlled light weapon station mounting a 7.62mm/ 12.7mm MG or a 40mm grenade launcher.

Attached passive armour modules offer all-round protection from anti-tank missiles, mines, IEDs and RPG fire. The MBT can be fitted with additional attachments such as a mine plough, mine roller or a dozer blade for clearing mines and obstacles. This highly mobile tank has a maximum speed of 72km/h and cruising range of 450km.

Abrams M1A2, United States of America The Abrams M1A2 was based on the experience gained from the M1A1 and incorporates new technologies to deliver superior firepower and mobility. The main gun of the tank is the manually loaded 120mm XM256 smoothbore cannon, which can fire a range of NATO ammunition against armoured vehicles, infantry and low-flying aircraft. The tank is also armed with two 7.62mm M240 machine guns and a .50 cal M2 machine gun and can store 42 rounds of 120mm, 11,400 rounds of 7.62mm, 900 rounds of 50 calibre ammunition, 32 screening grenades and 210 rounds of 5.56mm ammo.

The Abrams M1A2 integrates heavy exterior composite armour and steel-encased depleted uranium armour at the forward hull and turret to offer a high level of protection to its crew. The tank has a cruising range of 426km and can travel at a maximum speed of 67.5km/h.

T-14 Armata, Russia is a new-generation Russian MBT being manufactured for the Russian Army. The tank is currently under production with deliveries scheduled for 2020.

The main gun fitted to the tank is a 125mm 2A82-1M smoothbore gun fed by an automatic loader. The secondary armament includes a Kord 12.7mm machine gun and a PKTM 7.62mm machine gun. The tank can carry 45 rounds of ammunition and fire laser-guided missiles.

The T-14 Armata MBT is anticipated to provide up to STANAG 4569 Level 5 protection. The Afghanit active protection system (APS) aboard the tank can detect, track, and engage incoming anti-tank munitions. Powered by an A-85-3A turbocharged diesel engine, the tank offers a maximum speed of 90km/h and range of 500km. All 3 of the crew are housed on the hull.

Challenger 2, United Kingdom is the main battle tank of the British Army and the Royal Army of Oman. The MBT was designed and manufactured by British Vickers Defence and is promoted as the world's most reliable main battle tank, the capabilities of Challenger 2 were proven during combat missions in Bosnia, Kosovo and Iraq. Armed with the 120mm L30 CHARM (CHallenger main ARMament) gun, a coaxial 7.62mm chain gun and a turret-mounted 7.62mm machine gun. The tank can carry 50 APFSDS, HESH and Smoke rounds, as well as 4,000 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition.

The second-generation Chobham armour of the Challenger 2 offers a high-level of protection against direct fire weapons. The Perkins-Condor CV12 engine of the tank ensures a maximum on-road speed of 59km/h and off-road speed of 40km/h.

K2 Black Panther, South Korea The Korean New Korean MBT developed by Hyundai Rotem for the Republic of Korea Army (RoKA) entered service with RoKA in 2014.. The MBT is intended to offer high mobility, firepower and self-protection. Its primary weapon is a 120mm smoothbore gun, which fires advanced kinetic energy ammunition and is equipped with autoloader for on-the-go ammunition loading, even in rough terrain. The secondary armament includes 7.62mm and 12.7mm machine guns.

The maximum speed of 70km/h and range of 450km make the K2 highly mobile on the battlefield. The tank incorporates composite armour and ERA for all-round protection against direct fire. The ammunition rack also employs blow-off panels to protect against explosions.

Merkava Mk.4, Israel

The Merkava Mark IV is the latest version of the Merkava range of MBTs. The tank entered service with the Israel Defence Forces in 2004 and is regarded as one of the best-protected tanks in the world. The Mk.4 is armed with a 120mm MG253 smoothbore gun capable of firing HEAT, sabot and anti-tank guided missiles. Addition weapons include a coaxial 7.62mm and 12.7mm swivel-mounted machine guns with a 60mm grenade launcher.

The Merkava Mk.4 is fitted with special spaced armour, sprung armour side skirts, an Elbit laser warning system and lin-built smoke-screen grenades. The Trophy active protection system aboard the tank protects the crew against advanced anti-tank missiles. The tank moves at a maximum speed of 64km/h.

Type 10 (TK-X), Japan is an advanced fourth-generation MBT built by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries for the Japan Ground Self Defence Force. The tank entered service in 2012 and claims outstanding mobility. The MBT's firepower is complemented by a 120mm smooth-bore gun, a 12.7mm HMG and T 7.62mm cannon.

The tank's hull is attached with modular ceramic composite armour offering protection against HEAT projectiles and anti-tank missiles. The add-on modules can be easily removed and installed to alter the protection levels. The 1,200hp water-cooled diesel engine provides a maximum speed of 70km/h.

Leclerc, France is the MBT developed by GIAT Industries for the French Army and is also currently in service with the UAE Army. The first Leclerc tank was handed over in January 1992. Leclerc is a third-

generation tank armed with a NATO standard 120mm smoothbore gun, a coaxial 12.7mm machine gun and a roof-mounted 7.62mm machine gun. The tank can carry 40 rounds of 120mm ammunition and more than 950 rounds of 12.7mm ammunition.

The advanced modular armour made of steel, ceramics and Kevlar offers all-round crew protection, which can be raised to protect against IEDs, mines and RPGs. The Galix self-protection system fitted to the tank further increases its survivability. The tank has a maximum speed of 72km/h and can strike targets at a speed of 50km/h on any terrain.

T-90MS, Russia is a modernised version of the T-90 main battle tank was unveiled for the first time at Russian Expo Arms in September 2011. The T-90MS has been extensively modernised to deliver enhance combat performance in present warfare scenarios. The 125mm 2A46M-5 gun of the tank fires different types of ammunition with high accuracy. The tank is also armed with a 6P7K 7.62mm antiaircraft machine gun on a remotely controlled weapon station.

The modular ERA panels mounted on rear and side of the tank offer protection against small weapons and shell splinters. The forward hull and turret can be fitted with RELIKT reactive armour for protection against anti-tank missiles. The T-90MS also features an optoelectronic screening system and electromagnetic protection system. A V-92S2F engine with a rated power of 1,130hp provides a maximum speed of 60km/h to the tank.