

RNZAC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER #191 September 2020

Meetings Happy Hour: Thursday 1 October 2020 at 1700 hrs at the Papanui RSA
Next Happy Hour: Thursday 5 November 2020 at 1700 hrs, Papanui RSA.

Whose is it?



Social Events

Another good turnout for our Happy Hour early this month. Great to see Ian Donaldson come along. Always good to see and catch up with people from the past. Ian was a member of 1 NZ Scots in the 70's.

Events Past and Future



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



Sorry for the hold up, nothing has really changed from the last letter I sent you.
Cheers, Clem.

[Members will remember that QAMR are very much involved in Covid 19 Border Security and certainly from reports they are doing a particularly good job of it. Firm but equally very understanding of those under quarantine. Good also to see them involved in Maori language week and spreading the word about safe Covid 19 health measures. Ed.]

Radio Check:

From the Editor:

British media report dated 25 Aug 2020 that British may disbanding the Challenger 2 and Warrior
"BRITISH ARMY ENDING CHALLENGER 2 AND WARRIOR"



Matsimus talks about this in his

"Why is the British Army disbanding Tanks? -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-DIi0iOyU>

This U-tube site also has some excellent pictures of current British Army AFVs.



From Dave Palmer:

Thanks very much for the e-mail, greatly appreciated. Ken (KJ) and I go back to his days when he was a RF cadet and I took over his job as Accounting Officer NZ Force Singapore which was the last time I saw Ken and Linda.

Once again, many thanks
Dave Palmer

From Dave Lester:

Hello there, Thank you for the link to KJ's funeral service. Watched with a tear and many memories. Thought of Mike and John also. A bad year for the original APC Troop.

Kind regards Dave Lester

From Steve Thompson:

A very sad occasion as we have lost a great entertainer and stalwart Blackhatter. KJ will be remembered fondly by many.

Cheers Steve

From Tony Connell.

Very sorry to hear that Roger Ballance is unwell - he was another real gentleman. Like Jack Brunton, I was also horrified at the senseless decision to get rid of the Black beret. Your humorous story (August newsletter), made me think immediately of KJ Murray - that is exactly the sort of thing I could imagine he would do. With his quick wit & story-telling abilities, he fits the bill for that perfectly.

I have settled back into "work" in Ukraine. Summer is here so we get warm temperatures of low 30s each day - which is quite pleasant. While I obviously miss Adi & Sami (& the grand kids) it is great to be back at work - returning to Ukraine & to my old team was a similar experience to returning to the squadron after being away for a couple of years at an ERE posting - almost like coming home.

Kind regards Tony.

Last Post: It is with great sadness we record the death of Y41491 WO1 Ken (KJ) Murray who died very peacefully surrounded by wife Linda, their daughters, and the dogs on Friday 28 August, in Perth, Australia. KJ joined RF Cadets in 1966 and so began his most interesting career. He served in Vietnam with W2 Company and with an American armoured unit. On his return he went to QA Sqn and became one of the original members of the APC troop. When the troop became part of NZ Scots he proudly wore the highland kit and in 1972 he was posted to 2 NZ Scots in Dunedin. In 1975 he then changed his trade to that of storeman, and after a posting to



Waiouru went to Singapore. There, KJ became involved in hockey and its administration, even assisting the NZ Hockey team who were passing through. KJ ended his army career in 1987.

Although he had left the army, he never forgot the army and the people he had met. He became the editor of the RNZAC Association Newsletter and in typical KJ fashion always produced excellent copy coupled with his magnificent brand of humour. Soldiers he had met continued to enjoy his company through reunions, visits, and his very genuine interest in others. KJ helped so many people and had that wonderful ability to see the fun side of almost everything.



KJ you were always a pleasure to be with.

Our deepest sympathy to Ken's family, friends, and comrades.

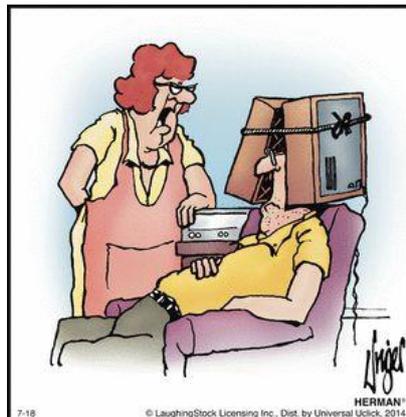
REST IN PEACE

It was a privilege to attend the service via the video link. Please note that access to the recorded service is still available via the link sent out by email earlier this month.

Humour



"It's hard to believe you've never put up wallpaper before."



"Why don't you buy a proper set of headphones?"



"I told her, the day I do the dishes is the day the sky falls in."

Answer: Russian. Bumerang (Boomerang) [8x8 AFV prototype is under test for the replacement of vehicles such as the BTR80. The requirement is for at least 2,000. The Boomerang carries a total of 10 soldiers, including driver, commander, gunner.

The Boomerang has a V shaped hull for improved mine protection, and for protection against 14.5 mm AP rounds bolt-on ceramic armour can be fitted. Air-conditioning, NBC protection, night vision equipment, computerized fire control, and tyre pressure regulation systems are fitted. It is fitted with video cameras to provide the troops inside a full 360° view.

The AFV is powered by a 750 hp turbo-charged diesel engine coupled to an automatic transmission and has a range of 800 km, a road speed of 100 km/h and 50 km/h off road. Using its two water jets at the rear it can swim at a speed up to 10 km/h.

Interestingly the Boomerang is equipped with an unmanned electric powered turret that mounts a 30mm automatic cannon and a 7.62mm coax MG. It is also equipped with 4 Kornet fire and forget anti-tank guided missile giving it a 5-times increase in accuracy out to a max range of 5500m.

Other combat support variants expected include command, self-propelled gun, and mortar carrier.

https://defense-update.com/20150510_boomerang-2.html

https://defense-update.com/20190624_boomerang_apc.html

<https://www.army-technology.com/projects/boomerang-k-17-infantry-fighting-vehicle/>

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**