



RNZAC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER #194 December 2020

Meetings Next Happy Hour: Thursday 4 February 2021 at 1700 hrs, Papanui RSA.

Whose is it?



Article from the President

Trip for Cambrai in Waiouru

After arriving in Palmerston North, we went to Linton Camp to see QAMR and present the SSM of Scots with the Scots' drill cane and sgian dubh that had been in safe keeping with the RNZAC Association. Mark Thompson RSM QAMR and the SSM Sam Porteauss met us at the gate and escorted us to the QAMR hangers. The SSM showed us around the hangers and most of the LAVs were outside ready for a drive round the camp on the 20th for Cambrai. If anyone would like to see that, you can go and check QAMR Facebook page.

Sam Porteauss was really taken aback with us returning these pieces of his highland dress which is on loan from RNZAC Association to QAMR. I must say the SSM is doing a great job getting all the highland dress up to date. I would like to specially thank RSM Mark Thomson for all his help and all the best for his new posting. I would like to welcome incoming WO1 Shannon Brears to his new posting with QAMR and look forward to catching up sometime soon. Before we left QAMR we spent some time paying our respects at the RNZAC memorial.



Myself, Bruce Tweedy and Alan West handing over the NZ Scottish Regiment Drill Cane to SSM of Scots.



QAMR Cambrai group photo.

The Christchurch contingent of RNZAC Assn arrived in Waiouru later that day and stayed at the local motel. On Friday we met up with everyone at the camp marae for the powhiri and welcome, and a catch up with all the other people from MTA over some refreshments before settling into the Korea Barracks. It was good to be back in the Waiouru camp 800 man mess and even better in WO's & Sgts Mess.



On Saturday we had an update on the History Project and by now everyone here has had all the last info on that by emails. The MTA donated all funds raised over the weekend to the History Project. There was a great tour through the

Army Museum, then an update on RNZAC and QAMR from Col Glen King and WO1 Mark Thomson. Over 2021 they are mainly involved with Op Protect which is supporting NZ with the quarantine facilities. In 2022 QAMR will be introducing the Bush Masters to Linton and hopefully a second group in 2023 which could be posted to Burnham.

We had a Cambrai Church service taken by Stan Pilbrow, group photos and then the Cambrai Dinner which I must say was really impressive and we finished the evening in WO's and Sgts Mess. A thoroughly enjoyable weekend.

So, from the President of the RNZAC Association, have a safe and Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to one and all in RNZAC, MTA and to all members QAMR.



**SITREP from QAMR,
QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S MOUNTED RIFLES, RNZAC**



21 DEC 20

Run down:

2020 has been a trying year for QAMR with the COVID-19 pandemic, RHQ taking on TU HQ for the Central North Island along with providing our soldiers for hotel management and security tasks. On top of this output the team has been involved with field exercises, maintaining unit coursing and supporting TRADOC (Business as usual).

Hello & Good bye:

Firstly we would like to thank the outgoing RSM, WO1 Mark Thompson for all the hard work and sacrifice he put in over his time and wish him all the best for his future role as RSM MCTC. Secondly to the incoming RSM, WO1 Shannon Brears we would like to welcome him back in to the Unit. Best of luck with the new role and the challenges that come with it. To everyone who has posted out of the Unit this year a big thank you for your efforts over the last couple of years and all the best with your future postings. Everyone who has posted in to the Unit, Welcome.

Sum up:

Well the year has been rinse and repeat for most of our soldiers, with going in and out of the Isolation Facilities. For some of our soldiers, they will be spending Christmas away from their families before being replaced by the incoming team for the New Year's period. For all it will be a welcome break to spend with their families before returning to the COVID response.

So to all the past and present RNZAC family we wish you a safe and happy holidays.
Ake Ake Kia Kaha.

Radio Check

From Ross de Their. It certainly has been a strange year. I was lucky enough to get over to NZ in March to see my sister and made it back to Oz before any lockdown occurred. We are all well here. Rhiannon my daughter is now 18 years old. My other kids in NZ are 45, 43 and 41. We have 7 grandchildren. All in NZ. I hope to get over next year sometime so I'll let you know when as I would love to catch up with you all.

All the best and hope you have a great Xmas.

Best Regards

Ross



Humour



Answer

K2 Black Panther (South Korea)

The Black Panther is one of the most advanced main battle tanks in the world, outclassing anything North Korea or China have. It is the most expensive main battle tank developed to date. Deliveries of the K2 Black Panther tank commenced to the South Korean Army in 2016. They are expected to have around 300 of these new tanks, as they replace their older K1 tanks.

This tank uses composite armour of undisclosed type and explosive reactive armour modules. It is claimed that the front armour withstands direct hits from 120 mm tank rounds, fired from L55 guns. Its protection level is broadly similar to that of the M1A2 Abrams, but the K2 is much lighter. The Black Panther tank also has an active protection system and countermeasures system that further increase its survivability on the battlefield.

This new South Korean tank is armed with the latest German 120 mm/L55 gun, similar to that used on the German Leopard 2A6 and 2A7. This tank has a very advanced fire control system, which can spot, track and fire automatically at visible vehicle-size targets, and even low-flying helicopters, without needing any input from a human operator. The K2 also uses advanced munitions.

The Black Panther is fitted with a powerful diesel engine. It is fast and has a state-of-the-art hydropneumatic suspension. www.Military-Today.com Top 10 Main Battle Tanks

Reminders; RNZAC Association Website: www.rnzac.co.nz

Contributions to this newsletter are gratefully accepted. Email: smithmd@xtra.co.nz

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