

RNZAC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER #247 October 2025

Meetings Happy Hour: Thursday 6 November 2025 at 1700 hrs at the Papanui RSA.

Whose is it?



QAMR



01/10 Crew Commanders Course Fire & Manoeuvre Exercise assessments in Waiouru.

The training provided an opportunity to showcase the Waiouru Training Area and Camp to our Exercise LONGLOOK and ANZAC Exchange personnel from The Royal Tank Regiment and 8th/9th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment.

We wish all the best to the course students as they continue their assessments and warmly welcome our exchange personnel to New Zealand and to the Regiment.



10/10 Bushmaster User Group (BUG) 2025. Members of the unit attended the BUG Conference held in Wellington this week.

The event, jointly hosted by the NZ and Australia BUG, brought together Bushmaster industry partners and operators from NZ, Australia, the Netherlands, UK, Fiji, Jamaica, and Indonesia.

Special mention to the Protected Mobility Capability Project for hosting and inviting the Regiment, and to Thales and other industry leaders for their ongoing support and commitment.



13/10 2025 Crew Commanders Course. Congratulations to all the students who successfully completed the course last week.

The course developed and tested the next generation of NZLAV Crew Commanders — focusing on tactical awareness, crew coordination, decision-making, and leadership under pressure across diverse conditions and environments.

Kudos to LT K for receiving the Top Student Award, and to LCPL Simpson for being recognised for the Best Fire and Manoeuvre Exercise.

Special mention to the MOW staff and unit personnel for their dedication and support throughout the 10-week course.



20/10 WEC Squadron - Exercise SANTICI. A LAV Troop recently deployed in support of Officer Cadet School (OCS), conducting security and stability operations in the Hawke's Bay.

Throughout the exercise, the Troop executed a range of tasks including blocks, raids, cordons, and quick attacks, showcasing the NZLAV's agility and precision in a dynamic environment.

The exercise provided a strong demonstration of capability and teamwork in support of our future leaders.



24/10 NZ Bushmaster 5.5 Driver Course. The final course of the year has wrapped up!

The team put in a solid effort — gaining confidence and skill behind the wheel, exploring the vehicle's capabilities, and further developing our understanding of the Bushmaster.

A special mention to CPL Sylvester from 8/9 RAR, whose extensive Bushmaster experience brought real value to the course and contributed greatly to ongoing training development.

Massive thanks to all the unit instructors for their effort and support this year. Your drive to grow our knowledge and evolve the course continues to showcase the professionalism and “can-do” attitude that defines both the regiment and RNZAC.

Admin & Log

RNZAC Association Cambrai 2025

The Association will be commemorating Cambrai on Saturday 22nd November at St. Paul's Papanui 12 midday. Church Parade, lunch and Association AGM. We will be asking for a donation of \$10.00 per person to offset the cost of the lunch.

You may not be aware that the Papanui RSA is closing on the 8th of November. An alternative venue for lunch and the AGM on the 22nd of November 2025 is being decided on, possibly the Church Hall.

QAMR Cambrai 2025

Cambrai Day & QAMR Christmas Function. Mark your calendars — Saturday 22 November!

Join us for a combined celebration of Cambrai Day and the QAMR Christmas Function, featuring rides, displays, and fun activities for all ages.

It'll be a great day for our Regimental whānau and friends to come together and celebrate the year that's been. Saturday 22 November, Linton Camp.



10th Squadron CMR parading through Nelson 17/08/1914

Answer: Finland PMPV 6x6 MiSu Mine Protected Carrier

Finland has launched large-scale military exercises involving around 15,000 personnel across its southern and eastern regions, including areas near the Russian border. The drills mark a shift toward full wartime readiness and deeper integration with NATO forces less than three years after joining the Alliance.

On 30 October 2025, Finland announced that it will deploy around 15,000 soldiers, conscripts, reservists and active personnel for a broad series of early-winter military exercises stretching from Southern Finland to the northern training areas close to the Russian border, as reported by the Finnish Defence Forces. Coming less than three years after Helsinki joined NATO and at a time when the war in Ukraine continues to generate new battlefield lessons, the decision signals that Finland is now training for the rapid generation of wartime forces on its own territory, together with Allied detachments. The new regional command headquarters in Mikkeli, barely 140 km from Russia, gives this exercise cycle a clear operational focus and will be closely watched in Moscow, which has long regarded southeastern Finland as a sensitive area. The announcement also fits into the broader trend of Finland internationalising its training calendar and opening national ranges to partners.

Humour

Gassing up....

A trucker came into a Truck Stop Cafe and placed his order. He said:

"I want three flat tires, a pair of headlights and a pair of running boards."

The brand new waitress, not wanting to appear stupid, went to the kitchen and said to the cook:

"This guy out there just ordered three flat tires, a pair of headlights and a pair of running boards..... What does he think this place is an auto parts store?"

"No," the cook said:

"Three flat tires mean three pancakes; a pair of headlights is two eggs sunny side up; and a pair of running boards... are 2 slices of crisp bacon!"

"Oh... OK!" said the waitress. She thought about it for a moment and then spooned up a bowl of beans and gave it to the customer.

The trucker asked, "What are the beans for, Honey?"

She replied:

"I thought while you were waiting for the flat tires, headlights and running boards, you might as well gas up!"

What God looks like.....

A kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

Reminders

RNZAC Association Web site: www.rnzac.co.nz

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