

RNZAC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER #238 December 2024

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

Whose is it?



QAMR

25/01 Support Squadron Promotion

Please join us in congratulating MAJ Hudson who was promoted yesterday with his wife and son in attendance.

This milestone is a well-deserved recognition of his efforts and we wish him all the best in his role as OC Spt Sqn.





28/01 Turakina Highland Games 2025

At the 160th Turakina Highland Games, NZ Scots Sqn took part in the Clan march past, proudly flying the St Andrew's Cross. Personnel then participated and demonstrated their skills in the various events, as well as showcasing some of the Sqn vehicles in a vehicle display. As a token of appreciation for their continued support, the Sqn was presented with a Targe, a traditional Scottish shield.



31/01 WEC Sqn Small Arms Shooting

This week WEC Sqn conducted small arms weapons qualifications and shooting development. Personnel qualified on the MARS-L (rifle) and Glock 17 (pistol). Shooting development consisted of pistol mastery and Mag 58 machine gun shooting. High scores went to CPL Mosley (MARS-L) and SGT Akau (Glock 17), well done gentlemen. The Sqn is poised for a successful year ahead.



01/02 RNZAC Farewells

The corps paid tribute to LTCOL King and LTCOL Taylor's service at a function in Trentham yesterday. With over 60 years of combined service, they have demonstrated remarkable dedication to QAMR, the RNZAC, and the wider NZDF. The event provided a chance to reconnect and share stories about the careers of both men. Both individuals commented on the culture of the unit and corps, and its impact on their professional careers. We extend our best wishes to them as they embark on life outside of the Army.



13/02 NZ Scottish Promotion and Medal Presentation

This week, NZ Scots Sqn recognised the efforts of two soldiers. The OC presented LCPL Smith with his NZ Defence Service Medal and promoted TPR Harting to LCPL. These presentations acknowledge service, performance, and potential as a junior leader. Well done to both soldiers.



15/02 Linton Camp Family Day 2025

The Family Day featured NZLAV rides and a static display of a NZLAV and Bushmaster. Similar to last year, the rides proved highly popular, with a steady line throughout the day. We would like to express our appreciation to the soldiers who helped support today and a special mention is also owed to the Linton Community Board for their efforts in making today a fun and enjoyable day for all.

Admin & Log

Good morning, I am the Squadron XO of New Zealand Scottish Squadron, QAMR, RNZAC. I and a number of other RNZAC Subalterns are looking to bring back, where possible, the wearing of the old RNZAC Mess Dress, which is no longer issued, as a means to enhance the esprit de corps of the RNZAC. The RNZA have a very good system where they hand down their Corps mess dress when they leave the Army. Though I would never tell the RNZA this, they do look very smart whenever they hold a Mess event and their Officers are all wearing the RNZA Mess dress. I would love to see a similar system for the RNZAC.

I have managed to find, with much searching, three former RNZAC Officers who were willing to sell or donate their Mess Dresses to the current generation of RNZAC Subalterns. Which has resulted in two full wearable sets of Mess Dress now being owned Subalterns of the Corps. We are now in need of leads in order to ask more ex-Tankies if they would be willing to sell their Mess Dress.

I am writing to ask if you would put out a call for help in your next newsletter asking for former RNZAC Officers, who are willing, to get in touch with myself in order to sell or donate their Mess Dress to the current generation of RNZAC Officers.

I look forward to hearing from you. Kindest regards, LT Luca Vignolini

Executive Officer – New Zealand Scottish Squadron
QAMR, Queen Alexandras Mounted Rifles RNZAC

luca.vignolini@nzdf.mil.nz



Cone & Keddie

The photo was taken at the end of the 1984 Annual Camp, at Tekapo, when Rod and I were presented with our EM (Efficiency Medals). It was the day after major flooding in Invercargill. We were all on standby to head down there and help, so the parade was on/off two or three times before it finally went ahead at very short notice. (Photo Christchurch Library Collection)

Bruce Keddie

Answer: Ukraine KF41 Lynx AFV

Combat Report: Ukraine is Testing a Powerful New Weapon in the Field

Ukraine is testing a powerful new armoured vehicle against Russian forces on the battlefield. The highly advanced German-made KF41 Lynx infantry fighting vehicle was recently added to Kyiv's arsenal of Western weapons.

German defence firm Rheinmetall delivered the first KF41 Lynx infantry fighting vehicle (IFV) to Ukraine in December 2024 according to remarks from the company's CEO Armin Papperger. Papperger told the German news outlet 'Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung' that the delivery occurred in December 2024 and he also revealed Ukraine was testing the Lynx in the field. "It is now being tested by the armed forces so that a mass order may be placed as soon as possible," Papperger stated according to a report from the Ukrainian military news website Militarnyi.

In June 2024, Rheinmetall announced that it signed an agreement with Ukraine to produce and supply several hundred KF41 Lynx IFVs to the embattled country. The company also announced plans to produce its new high-tech infantry fighting vehicles in Ukraine in the future. But what can this IVF actually do for the Ukrainian Armed Forces in battle?

Rheinmetall's KF41 Lynx was first unveiled in June 2018 in two configurations according to Army Recognition—an infantry fighting vehicle and command post model. The Lynx was

improved upon its earlier KF31 model and offers operators more firepower in a new design that was specifically engineered to make the Lynx KF41 more modular. “Specific variants can be built around a common hull and common mobility assemblies and protection components,” Army Recognition explained about the KF41 Lynx.

Mission-specific equipment can be added to the Lynx based on customer needs, giving the weapon more functionality while making it quite cost-effective. “The Lynx KF41 is more than just a new, highly advanced vehicle: it is the ultimate future-proof platform, blending unsurpassed protection with massive firepower and unbeatable mobility in a uniquely modular concept,” Rheinmetall explained on its website.

A few examples of selectable mission pods include a Rafael Spike LR2 anti-tank guided missiles, unmanned aerial vehicle or electronic warfare packages, and even non-line-of-sight loitering munitions according to Rheinmetall. “The tracked vehicle comes with ballistic steel armor for protection against anti-tank weapons, medium-calibre ammunition, artillery shrapnel, and bomblets,” Defense Post reported about the advanced IFV.

The Lynx may look a bit odd but the angular nature of its design has been configured to meet the challenges of the modern battlefield. It also packs quite a punch with an upgraded weapons module. Featuring a Lance 2,0 gun turret equipped with the new Wotan 35 eclectic cannon, the Lynx KF41 can fire Rheinmetall’s “proven and in-service 35x228mm ammunition family” according to the defence firm, more than enough to take on equivalent armoured systems and infantry.

Rheinmetall claims that its Lynx system is the “most advanced infantry fighting vehicle available to global defense customers.” However, whether or not the vehicle will prove to be effective on the battlefield of Ukraine has yet to be seen.

Story by thedailydigest.com 11/02/2025

Humour

Police search for driver after house falls off truck in Far North



Police are appealing for information about a bizarre incident involving a house falling off a truck, a blocked road, and a vanishing truckie.

Speculation in the Far North as to what happened ranges from an amateur house-moving attempt gone horribly wrong to an extraordinarily brazen theft attempt.

What is known for certain - as confirmed by the police and the Far North District Council - is that a house fell off the back of a truck on Orakau Road, in the Punakitere Valley south of Kaikohe.

A police spokesman said the incident came to light at 7.40am on Tuesday when a motorist reported coming across a house blocking the road.

The truck was reported to have jack-knifed and crashed into a ditch some distance from the severely damaged house.



The spokesman said the truck driver was not at the scene. Follow-up enquiries were underway to locate and speak to the driver.

As to the background to the house-moving blunder, police were still in the dark. "Police have no immediate information to confirm speculation of a stolen house. If anyone in the community does have information regarding any criminal offending taking place, we would always advise people to report this."

Meanwhile, a Far North District Council spokesman said the house suffered extensive damage in the crash. It appeared the home had struck trees before coming off the trailer about 3.5km from Pokapu Road.

Traffic management was put in place while a contractor widened the road by cutting into the bank. By mid-afternoon on Tuesday, the road was wide enough to allow trucks to pass, though the house was still on the road and traffic management remained in place.

<https://www.rnz.co.nz> 26/02/2025

Reminders

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

Contributions to this newsletter are gratefully accepted. Email: smithmd@xtra.co.nz
Phone 0220130778.

Mike Smith, Editor