

Help Make History



The Royal New Zealand Armoured Corps needs your help on its next campaign...



The New Zealand Armoured Corps (RNZAC) was formed on 1 January 1942 and is the second in seniority of Corps within the New Zealand Army. The title “Royal” was granted on 12 July 1947. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is the Captain General of the Corps.

The RNZAC has a proud history dating back to the volunteer cavalry and mounted rifles units formed during the New Zealand Land Wars in the 1860’s. Since that time, members of the Corps’ Predecessor Units have served in the Boer War, World War 1 and World War 2. Subsequently, individuals from the RNZAC have served in South Korea, the Malayan Emergency, Malaysia, South Vietnam and Afghanistan, and in peacekeeping and monitoring operations in India, Pakistan, the Middle East, Bougainville, Zimbabwe, Angola, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands, South Sudan and Iraq.



Corps History Project

The Royal New Zealand Armoured Corps History Project Charitable Trust Incorporated (RNZAC HPCT Inc) has been established to manage the publication of a RNZAC History by 20 November 2023.

The Chief of Army, Maj Gen John Boswell, DSD, fully supports the project and he has written a letter of support. The five Trustees of the RNZAC HPCT (all volunteers) have served with the RNZAC and are committed to completing this very worthwhile project.



Why is this History important?

This will be the first consolidated history of the RNZAC ever written. It will draw wide interest because of the significant contribution the Corps has made to New Zealand military history. Apart from filling a major gap in written New Zealand Military History, this book will also have wide appeal to New Zealand families through the long involvement of relatives from both the rural and urban communities who served in the cavalry and volunteer mounted rifles units and subsequently in the Boer War, World War 1 and 2, followed by operations post World War 2.

The intended audience are those who are serving and have served in the RNZAC, relatives of those who are serving and who have served, students and scholars of New Zealand military history, those interested in gaining an understanding of New Zealand military history, tertiary institutions providing courses in New Zealand history and strategic studies, and libraries internationally

The author Matthew Wright

Matthew Wright has been chosen to be the author of the RNZAC History. He has been internationally recognised for scholarship in military history and has had over 30 years' experience as a qualified professional historian and writer. Matthew specialises in military and social history and has had over 60 books published by leading publishers including Penguin, Random House, Reed and others. A Fellow of the Royal Historical Society at University College, London; an honour that has been accorded to only a few New Zealanders. Matthew has also written over 500 academic papers and articles.



The Trust advisor

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Dr Christopher Pugsley ONZM, DPhil advises the Trust. He is a freelance historian and an authority on New Zealand at war. Dr Pugsley is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, an Adjunct Professor of the University of Canterbury, a Research Fellow of the University of Buckingham, a Distinguished Alumni of the University of Waikato and a Vice President of the Western Front Association.

Financial support

The Trust is responsible for raising the budgeted cost of publishing the history and is seeking a donation towards the author's fee, research expenses and publication costs.

Any support you provide will enable:

FUNDING

A contribution to the total funding required for the research, writing and publication of the RNZAC History.

AUTHOR

Employment of an author to complete research over the period November 2019 - November 2020 and write the detailed manuscript over the period November 2020 to November 2022.

PUBLICATION

Production, printing, publication and distribution of the RNZAC History by 20 November 2023.

RNZAC HISTORY

The consolidated history of the RNZAC and its Predecessor Units to be told for the first time and the significant contribution made to New Zealand Military history recognised for posterity.

Donations

If after reading this brochure you would like to make a donation to the RNZAC History please email Alan Day at alansday@xtra.co.nz once you have placed a donation into the Trust Account, so that he knows where to email the receipt to. All our receipts are sent electronically.

We are asking for donations of **\$20.00, \$50.00** or **any other amount** you consider appropriate please. Thank you.

For internet banking or bank deposit:

Bank: Westpac

Account Name: RNZAC HPCT Inc

Account Number: 03-0631-0030863-000

Reference: (insert surname and initials please)

Further information

If you require any further information can you please direct these to Chris Wotton, Deputy Chair, who is responsible for arranging funding for the project. His contact details are below:

Yours sincerely



Chris Wotton

Deputy Chair

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On behalf of the RNZAC
Thank you.

Acknowledgments

Photographs have been kindly contributed as follows:

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10 April 1945. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.
Reference DA-09151-F. George Kaye photograph.

Page 4: New Zealand Divisional Cavalry on completion of patrol, El Alamein,
July 1942. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.
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Page 7: CVR (T) Scorpion, 1 Troop, QA Squadron Range Shoot, 1988, Waiouru,
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