

NEW ZEALAND PERMANENT FORCE OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION ::

Registered at GPO.
Wellington, as a
Magazine.

NEWSLETTER NO. 26.

P.O. BOX 33-710
TAKAPUNA,
AUCKLAND. 9.

1. CHANGES OF ADDRESS :

L.H.BARNES to 16 Tauwi Cres. CHCH.4.
R.J.BENNETT c/-Hoyle, Box 26 Maungataroto
A.W.BIRCHALL 255 Huatoki St New Plymouth
C.E.BURGESS 87A Velma Rd Glenfield, Auck 10
T.J.CHAPMAN 19A Corbett St, Karori, Wgton
N.M.FISHER, WO1, (S) NZFORSEA, Singapore,
J.E.FITZGERALD, Capt (S) O/South Army Area, Dunedin
D.A.COLLINS Sgt (S) 4 Med Bty, Box 212 Hamilton
J.GIBB 10A Pohutukawa Cres, Raumati Beach
M.J.HELLYER 31 Tatariki St, Papakura
A.J.HOLLAND 225 Ashdown Place, Papakura
L.G.JACKSON Ssgt (S) 16 Fd Regt, Papakura
H.L.JONES, Col, (S) 60 Burgess Rd, Wgton.4. ^
A.S.LEIGHTON 18 Buller St, Picton
N.H.LUNDON 22 St. Ives Tce, Mairangi Bay, Auck.10
M.S.PHILLIPS, (Dad) c/- RSA, Picton
P.D.PRYCE 34 ~~Carlisle~~ Carlisle St., Levin
D.G.MAXWELL WO2 (S) School of Artillery, Waiouru
A.R.MCLEOD Capt(S) Pers Br. Def HQ, Wgton
G.NORRIS 40 Isola St, Whangarei
C.J.PICKERING Sgt (S) 3 Fd Regt, Burnham
C.W.N.STANBRIDGE, Maj (Retd) 111 Braemar Rd, Castor Bay, Auck.9.
S.STOTT 57 Nile Rd, Milford, Auck.10
H.DALE 46 Dunamon St, CHCH.6.
L.W.WRIGHT, Brig.(S) 9 Hillcrest Pl. CHCH. 4,
B.P.SHAW 70 Clark Rd, Papakura,
F.R.SCOTT, Rev.Fr. St. Patricks Presbty. Box 191, Te Awamutu,
M.W.THORNTON. Capt.(TF) 27A Victory Ave, Karori, Wgton.6.

Thank you for letting us know, and for some other 'lost ones' we were able to find. - somewhere there's a cobbler Gunner who'd like to get in touch with you.

2. GONE - NO ADDRESS ::

H.K.C.CRAWFORD - P.J.DIXON - B.J.L.HEWITT - A.N.KING - O.F.MacDONALD -
A.S.McMATH - J.G.MURRAY - W.SIMPSON -- where have you gone ?
someone weeps for you ! let's know if you find them !

3. NEW MEMBERS ::

L.GORDON, Flat 1, 10B. View Rd., Papakura
P.KEARNEY, 78 Rosehill Dve., Papakura.

Good effort, Ted, anyone know of anyone else ? twist their arm and let us know. It's a good thing to belong to - "once a Gunner"-- but you know that one.

4. ANZAC DAY PARADE ::

The Association was represented by over twenty Members at the Takapuna Municipal Ceremony. A permanent wreath had previously been obtained and further embellished by a suitable backing - Red over Blue - on which was mounted a perfectly carved replica of the Association's Badge by Henry Salt, (a carver of some note). This effort has been appreciatively redordrd in the Minutes of the Assn. This wreath was laid on your behalf by Mr. President, Wally Ruffell, and Secretary. A note of interest - the speaker for the occasion was Maj-Gen L.A. PEARCE - well known to a great many Gunners.

5. GUNNERS DAY CELEBRATIONS ::

These began with a most enjoyable "get together" attended by about

Gunners Day Parade and Memorial Service :: held at Auckland Cenotaph on 26 May 78 at 1040 hrs.

Participants were :-

16 Fd Regt RNZA, - Auckland Artillery Officers Club, - Band of the RNZA, - Other RNZA Personnel attached to Auckland Units.

Sequence of events involved Prayers, the firing of a ten-Gun Salute, Lowering and raising of Regimental Flags during Last Post and Reveille played by the Band. The Association was not officially represented due to the absence of Members of the Exec. at other functions on the day, - although many Members, serving or retired, were present. We are told it was a colourful and moving Ceremony, and of course for those of you who know the venue - the setting superb.

The Gunners Ball :-

A function arranged by Waiouru Gunners Club - and held in Chateau Tongariro, on Sat 27 May, was attended by President, Wally Ruffell, Secretary, and Alan Boyd and their wives. It was a glittering occasion attended by all ranks of all Corps - that is, a large representation of them, from Waiouru. The evening went very well, and we were all very proud to represent you before all these fine young Gunners of to-day. The official guest for the evening was Colonel-Commandant RNZA, Brig J. Burns, DSO.MBE., who spoke well of the fine esprit-de-corps which exists among Gunners, past, and certainly at present. Another distinguished Member, Col. G. Hitchings, MBE, Comdt. Waiouru Camp was also present.

6. NEWSBITS AND NEWSABOUT MEMBERS ::

Lt-Col E. Manders writes that he is off to UK for their Summer, and hopes to look up old acquaintances who were in Comwel Div. in Korea. The best of trips to him, and a safe return.

Col. R. Pearce, NZDEF Staff, London, writes of his pleasure at receiving our previous Newsletter, and his appreciation at being granted Honorary Membership of Woolwich Mess - "the grand old home of British Gunners".

(Note in this connection I have discovered that we have a number of Gunners on overseas Postings - Brig Honor in Washington, Col Pearce in London, Capt Flinkenberg, Larkhill, and six of varying Ranks in Singapore. Although not all are Members, I've put them on the mailing list, knowing how pleasant it is to get Gunner News from home).

Emil Jennings writes that ChCh Members he has been able to contact are in good heart, has found some changes of address, and still hunting for some of our lost ones. Stout work Emil, as we know ChCh has not been "Repped" for some time.

Len Barnes writes, giving his final retirement address, and wishes to be remembered to all his old cobs of 6A Wing.

Fred Mitchell also mentions the old 1926 Buckle St. Barracks before the move to Fort Dorset. They must have been hard old days then Fred.

Sir Arthur Nevill writes in thanking us for his election to Life Membership, and says that he had been asked recently, "What happened to the Gun which was removed from the Gun Pit to provide the final resting place for Bill Massey, in 1925. I had happened to mention that I was present at Bill Massey's funeral, concerned as a member of a repository squad from Fort Dorset in removing the 6 inch E.O.C. Gun at Point Halswell in a great hurry as Bill Massey was dying. We just got it out in time as the Funeral Procession was on its way. Perhaps some member of the RNZA may remember it. Master Gunner Weybourne and Capt Ivory were there also I was a mere Lt. RNZA at that time".

Sir Arthur subsequently transferred some years later with the rank of Capt, (all pre-1939 Gunners will remember that any rank was long and far between in those days). Went on to a distinguished Air Force career and retired as Air Vice Marshall, Chief of Air Staff, still keeping a close contact with our Assn.

Frank Cherry writes of the old days in the deep South at Matarea, prior to the move to Sutton where TF Camps were held. Away in "Central" and L of C being long - not much fresh grub - had to get there by train and horse wagon, so QM relied on corned beef - breakfast, lunch, and dinner. TF being in camp for a week or ten days - RF eight weeks.

Finally the breaking Camp day came, and "Big Jim" or "Kewpie" - known under either name - asked a certain humerous Bdr, "Did" by nameto send a telegram for him. When Kewpie got home, throwing his pack savagely on the hall floor, he was served a large plateful of corned beef.

6.(Cont'd)

"My Gawd I've lived on that stuff for eight weeks" - His good wife said, "Jim, here's your telegram, "home tomorrow night, please have corned beef for dinner". Frank that's what we want, snippets from old times - and in fact recent ones - everybody join in ! they make a good laugh, and Gummens can always laugh at themselves - or one another.

7. NOMINAL ROLL ::

Having had some requests for a recent Nominal Roll - all Dist.Reps have a copy - plus some others in mildly isolated areas who have asked for them. However, the Roll we produced last year 1977, from info held at that time, is now due to new Memberships, changes of address, etc. slightly out of date. A careful review has been done, and we hope to grind out a better 1978 version later in the year.

8. GUNNER JERSEYS ::

For those who requested a Gunner Jersey at the Re-union last year, I have to confess a certain amount of chain-dragging went on, having temporarily lost site of the list - but ultimately found it. Not enough stock is held of sizes required at the moment, but a new production run is coming forward, so will let you have them as soon as they are available.

9. THIS YEAR'S RE-UNION ::

Two venues have been suggested for this year, the Committee is actively considering ; expected numbers - is the Dining Room space adequate ? - costs - accommodation, Dinner, wines etc, all these ponderables and imponderables we must weigh up. We are anxious to avoid General Election week-end, and as soon as we can ferret out this info we can set a firm date. More of this in next Newsletter, we are working on it !

10. PAYMENT OF SUBS ::

All Dist.Reps are now armed with Receipt Books, so that if from time to time you are in contact - give him your Sub - thus saving postage. A note here is that response this year has been terrific, and Treasurer is delighted with the health of the Account - but there is always a need for improvement by the laggards - sadly there are a few.

11. ARMY MEMORIAL MUSEUM ::

We keep this project in view on your behalf, but if you have any donation or item which may be useful to them, let us know, or the Trust itself at H.Q.Home Command, Private Bag, Wgton.

12. FURTHER HEWSBITS ::

R.W.(Rex)Lovett - now retired and "Mayor" Whatuwhiwhi, Doubtless Bay in the Winterless North - bags of good fishing, and you can have a mile of white sandy beach all to yourself.

L.V.(Lionel) Hankey still working at Whangarei Hospital Board, and back in the rāks of the fit. He and Joyce have the best garden in Whangarei, just as they had in Waicuru.

H.R.(Hugh) Sigley now retired at Devonport, and prominent in all activities of Stanley Bay Bowling Club, but the, don't keep him quite as fit as the old Trentham days.

W.R.(Bill) Baker still slaving for Holeproof, but about to give it away at the end of the year - taking up bowls - Which is the more strenuous Bill ?

D.H.(Nudger) Black at present on tour in UK/Europe,

~~H.R.(Harry) Anderson is the 1st time he has read even a republished "Newsbit" from an old mate ?~~

All the best for you,

Terry Inneson