

NEW ZEALAND PERMANENT FORCE OLD COMRADES ASSN INC

NEWSLETTER No 52

December 1986

A registered publication

LAST POST: 33083 N.A. (Norm) Jensen, 5 Sep 86 at Tokoroa.  
1984 N.C. (Norm) Coe, 26 Sep 86, at Wellington.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS: T.J. Arnott to 24 Surfdale Rd, Waiheke.  
Lt L.E. Autridge to 4A Glenwood Ave, Birkenhead, Auckland 10.  
D. Barkle to Tangowahine Valley Rd, RD2, Dargaville.  
Capt J.P. Bellamy to 7 Karachi Cres, Khandallah, Wellington.  
H.G. Bigg-Wither to Box 51, Houhora, Northland, but still lives at  
'Pawa' on the Parengarenga Harbour.  
W.A. Dodd to 117 Remuera Rd, Remuera, Auckland 5.  
F.M. Lupo to 1297 High St, Taita, Lower Hutt, until approx. April 87.  
Mr H.J. Macown to c/o 16 Fd Regt RNZA, Papakura Camp.  
J.I. Mercer to c/o Ahora Home, 6 Cooper St, Taita, Lower Hutt.  
J.G. Murray to c/o Avondale Police Station, Box 19190, Avondale, Ak 7.  
H.J. Osmers to Unit 2, 7 Tallington Cres, Torbay, Auckland 10.  
R.O. Robinson to 1 Kenwyn Tce, Wellington South.  
F.B. Schroder to 31 Robert Garrett St, Coffs Harbour, 2450 NSW.  
Lt P.E. Schweder to 8 Caley Court, Manukau Central, Manukau City.  
Lt Col C.C. Stewart to 7 John Sim Drive, Broadmeadow, Wellington.  
Capt T.A.N. Vine to 162/461 Hillsborough Rd, Mt Roskill, Auckland 4.  
Major R. Wylde to Flat 1/13 Ranfurly St, Upper Hutt.

GONE NO ADDRESS:

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS

Lt Col W.E. Colton	38 Alexander Rd, Raumati Beach.
Sgt R.A. Fairburn	16 England St, Christchurch.
S.E. Morrison	Hotel Ashburton, Ashburton.

FROM AROUND AND ABOUT: Capt Ivan Wilson MBE has got himself elected to the Napier City Council

J.G. (Dozey) Murray retires from the Police in February 1987.

Mr B.W. Culhane, RSM 16 Fd Regt RNZA retires at the end of this year, and will be replaced by Mr H.J. Macown.

WO2 L.G. (Les) Jackson, who is now Barrackmaster, Papakura, takes over as our 16 Fd Rep.

Colin Young, our Christchurch Rep was very disappointed with the attendance at the October meeting he organised, there being three only besides himself, Ginna Hunter, Emil Jennings, and Joff Adams. Colin deserves better support than this; what about it, you Mainlanders?

Jack Hickson is still active at the Epsom Bowling Club, and will welcome any old friends who may be passing the Club. He states the beer there is particularly good. Do you also bowl, Jack?

George Sutherland reports that all seven members in Taranaki are in good health, but he himself suffers from arthritis in the right knee which prevents him from playing golf. However, it does not prevent him from standing up to his lathe. Next time you visit the Army Museum at Waiouru take a good look at the model steam engine in the POW disply. George made it while a 'guest' of der Fuehrer at Stalag 344 in Germany during World War 2!

Zig Schroder writes a very interesting letter from Australia, describing among other things the weather and the perks; the first is hot, the second 'not so hot'. The 'red tape' is worse than that in Godsown - and every time you use the 'phone it costs 20c! Change of ownership of



a car costs \$2 for every \$100 of the car's value, and a driving license costs \$21, but a pensioner gets his license free. He also gets two free return bus or rail trips within NSW a year. For further info drop Fred a line - his address is on Page 1 of this Newsletter.

Henry Salt had back trouble so painful it prevented him from driving to the reunion. We hope he is soon well.

Tan Vine underwent open heart surgery in late September, and just prior to the reunion reported he was progressing satisfactorily.

We congratulate John Smith who was recently promoted W02 and posted to 3 Fd Regt RNZA, Burnham Camp.

Brig Harry Honnor missed the reunion because he had just had his right hip replaced. The operation was a great success, and Harry promises he won't miss the 1987 reunion.

Ron (Tommy) Atkins missed the reunion because he was attending a clinic for the treatment of arthritis.

REUNION 1986: We are pleased to report that the reunion was even more successful than last year's. The following attended: Charlie and June ANNISS, Lt Eric and Patti AUTRIDGE, Harry ANDERSON and May WARD, Des BARKLE, Capt Jack BAIGENT and Thea, Eric and Joyce BICKERTON, Allan and Elsie BOYD, Les and Margaret BYERS, Capt Bill and Valda BAKER, Slim and Mollie CUMMING, Dave and Mollie CRICHTON, Major Murray and Patricia CONNOR, Lt Col Spencer and Joan COCKS, Capt Tom and Margaret CHAPMAN, Dan FOLEY and Dorothy SMITH, Jack (Scotty) FRAME, Capt Jim and Dot GILBERD, Capt Keith (Slim) GILMER, Bill and Emma GILES, Major Frank GIBBISON, Brig Sir William and Lady Patricia GILBERT (guests of honour), Jock and Joan GUNN, Capt Joe HANVEY and partner, Major Bert and Jackie HARVEY, Pat HALL, Lt Ginna and Amy HUNTER, Major Dutch HOLLAND, W02 Les and Emma JACKSON (Les was dining Vice-President), Noonie JAMES and Gwenda SALISBURY, Emil JENNINGS, Dave and Averill JONES, Col Don and Noeline KENNING (Don is Colonel Commandant), Major Jack and Paddy KEARNEY, Lt Col David LOUGH (Director, RNZA), Vic and Audrey MEYLE, Johnnie and Lee MEIKLE, George and Patti MILN, Herb MILNE, Dick and Lorma MITCHELL, Bill and Estelle MORLAND, JG (Aussie) MOORE, John and Amy MONK, Maj Gen Walter and Anna McKINNON, Ian and Rene McLEAN, Harold NICHOLSON, Major Reg NUTSFORD, Des and Bunty O'CONNOR, Tony and Helen PARKES, Major Len PARTNER, Bill and Joyce POWRIE, Robbie and Joyce ROBINSON, Ian and Iris ROWNTREE, Wally RUFFELL, Vic and Marie SVENDSEN, Terry and Joan TRANSOM, Gordon and Nora WEAVER, Bill and Barbara WINTER, Cora WOODS and brother Doug, Major Roger WYLDE, Major David (Spike) HUGHES, Fred and Beryl PRIOR, Charles and WOTHERSPOON, Cliff and Babs BRAGG with Mrs Marie PEARSON. Owing to last-minute health problems the following could not make it: Capt Dick Healey and daughter Mrs Hellyer, Alf and Vicki SMITH, Wally and Joan SHERSON. We hope Dick, Alf, and Wally make speedy recoveries.

AUCKLAND DECEMBER SOCIAL: Attendances at evening functions have been falling off, mainly we believe because older members are unwilling to drive at night. Our Auckland Rep, Alf Smith, has been looking at other possibilities, e.g. luncheons, but the cost tends to be rather high, and as no other alternative has yet presented itself, the usual Christmas social was not held this year. We invite suggestions, e.g. a barbecue at a member's residence on a BYO basis for food and liquor. The next Executive Committee meeting will be held at the Takapuna RSA at 0930 hrs, 14 Feb 87; how about coming along with your ideas?



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: The following who were unable to attend apologised: RE ATKINS, HG BIGG-WITHER, DH BLACK, NE BENNETTS, J BINGHAM, LH CLARK, IJ DOAK, Col RH DYSON, FC FOX, J FALLON, JF FRAME, GDS GEDDES, Brig HB HONNOR, RG HICKSON, Maj BK HENDL, T HUGHES, EG HIGHT, EH HALL, AR JOHNSON, Col PW JOPLIN, JH KEEN, Maj KF LEE, VO LOADER, Maj JGR MORLEY, RB McIVER, AS McWHINNIE, GC MANSFIELD, G NORRIS, HD NICHOLSON, R OAKES, J O'MEARA, A PILCHER, PJ PAGE, TT PILCHER, Maj JMcL ROSS, Lt Col JF SPRING, Capt LJ SKINNER, WO2 JH SMITH, HGC SALT, WN STEPHENSON, Capt GE SUTHERLAND, GA STUART, Lt Col EL TAVERNER, Capt TAN VINE, Lt Gen Sir R WEBB, Brig LW WRIGHT, SD WRIGHT, GL WILLIAMS, FB SCHRODER, AJ SMITH, WA WORDSWORTH, Padre WN DRAKE. This list will be quoted in the minutes as read at the 1987 AGM. If there are any errors or omissions please inform Secretary.

Decisions reached were as follows:

- a. Subscription for 1987 to be S3.
- b. Honorarium for Secretary to be re-instituted at S250 per annum, to be reviewed each year.
- c. Rule 8 para (b) be amended thus: Delete '... either in the General Post Office Savings Bank or the Bank of New Zealand...' Substitute 'in any authorised trading or trustee bank.'
- d. Next reunion to be held in Taupo over week-end 13-15 Nov 87.
- e. Changes to Executive for 1987:
  - A. Boyd to be President; WO2 L.G. Jackson to be Papakura Rep;
  - Bdr P. Ness to be Waiouru Rep.

#### PRESIDENTS REPORT 1985-86

Gentlemen:

A sincere welcome to Taupo for our 52nd Annual General Meeting and reunion, a special welcome to our new members, and to others attending for the first time.

LAST POST: 1966 J.B. (John) Hipkins, 6 Jan 86 at Wellington.  
 1808 G.D. (George) Standen, 28 Jan 86, at Wellington.  
 1693 Major L. (Les) Rawley, 11 Apr 86 at Auckland.  
 1971 H.W. (Hunter) Leggett, 19 Apr 86 at Dunedin.  
 31289 L.A. (Laurie) Adam, 17 May 86 at Lower Hutt.  
 1788 J. (Jack) Colclough, 5 Aug 86, at Sydney.  
 33083 N.A. (Norm) Jensen, 5 Sep 86, at Tokoroa.  
 1984 N.C. (Norm) Coe, 26 Sep 86, at Wellington.

(All present stood for a few moments in silent tribute).

#### OFFICE BEARERS:

Patron: Major General W.S. McKinnon CB CBE BSc.

President: Captain James G. Gilberd.

Vice-Presidents and District Representatives:

Auckland and North Shore:

Northland

South Auckland

Thames/Coromandel

Hawke Bay/Taupo

16 Fd Regt RNZA, Papakura

3 Fd Regt RNZA, Christchurch

Waiouru

Wanganui

Taranaki

Wellington/Hutt Valley

A.J. Smith

W.N. Stephenson

T Hughes

I.A. Rowntree

Capt J.G. Gilberd

WO1 B.W. Culhane RNZA

Sgt I.S. Trott RNZA

WO2 L.G. Jackson RNZA

D. Jones

Capt G.E. Sutherland

Capt A.J. Baigent MBE



## Office Bearers (Continued):

Otago	G.A. Stuart
Southland	G.L. Williams
Canterbury/Westland/Nelson	C.C. Young
Secretary	W.L. Ruffell
Treasurer	D.P. O'Connor
Hon. Auditor	W.A. Wordsworth ACA.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

A. Boyd (Chairman)	R.J. Keinzley	H.G.C. Salt MBE
B.W. Culhane	W.B. Morland	A.J. Smith
T. Hughes	A.F.W. Powrie	J.T. Transom
F.D. Foley	I.A. Rowntree	

FINANCE: The Association is in a sound position financially, which will be seen from the Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet, a copy of which is available for every member present. Members unable to attend may obtain copies from their District Reps.

ANZAC DAY 1986: At Takapuna, our Association's Headquarters, some 30 members paraded, and at other parades throughout greater Auckland the Association was well-represented.

GUNNERS DAY 1986: Over the week-end 24-25 May 16 Field Regiment RNZA turned on a truly remarkable programme of ceremonial, displays, and entertainment, full details of which were published in Newsletter 49. Numerous members of the Association attended, and all enjoyed themselves immensely. A letter of appreciation was later sent to the CO, Lt Col Barry Dreyer, who is also a member of NZPFOCA.

SUBMISSION TO DEFENCE COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY: Your Association presented a written submission to the Defence Committee. Prior to this submission I wrote to all District Reps giving them the main points on which our submission would be based. They were requested to test opinion in their areas on our submission. One District did not answer my letter, one disagreed with our proposals, but all the remainder supported our submission. When the Committee sat in Auckland, Allan Boyd (our Chairman of the Executive Committee), made a sincere appeal based on our submission. I understand it was well-received by the Committee.

SOUTH ISLAND MEMBERS REUNIONS: Owing to distance, cost, and on accommodation problems, many of our members from the 'Mainland' are unable to join us in Taupo. Our Christchurch etc Rep is making endeavours to organise a South Island reunion every so often in ChCh. We wish him well in his endeavours.

10 WING RNZA - 50th ANNIVERSARY REUNION: 10 Wing RNZA are holding a reunion in Trentham on 6 Feb 1987. It is taking the form of a dinner and church service. In addition there will be a display of weapons etc, and a tour of the Camp. Thirty-eight former members and wives are to attend. Surviving members of the 1937 instructional staff have been invited; they are:

Colonel R.W. Foubister OBE	-	Sigs instructor.
Major G.F. McCulloch	-	RSM.
Captain J.G. Gilberd	-	Equitation and gun drill instructor.
Captain R.J. Healey	-	" " " " "

CENTENARY OF N.Z. POLICE: This year the Police are celebrating their first 100 years as a national Police Force. Their association with the Armed Constabulary has been well-recorded. Our Association sent a letter to the Commissioner congratulating the Force on their centenary



and recalling the part played by the Armed Constabulary in the early days of the Colony.

GUNNERS HANDBOOK: The Gunners Handbook - An Introduction to the Regiment, contains information on history, customs, and traditions. It was produced by the RNZA Advisory Council, partly from notes supplied by our Secretary, Wally Ruffell, and is issued to newly-joined members of the RNZA.

MEMBERSHIP: The present effective membership is as follows:

Ordinary Members	408	(438)	Figures in brackets are for 1985; they do not include (gone no address) of which there are 30. Figures taken on 30 Sep 86.
Associate "	12	(13)	
Life "	16	(14)	
Honorary "	2	(2)	
Totals	438	(467)	

Resignations for various reasons numbered seven, 20 were struck off strength for failure to pay dues, eight deaths occurred, and 11 new members were recruited. Not included in the effective membership figures are two resignations which do not take effect until 31 Dec 86, and one which takes effect on 31 Dec 87, i.e. they are paid up until those dates. Major MW Thornton, Major NC Thornton, and KR Turner resigned owing S13, S11, and S15 respectively.

WELFARE: No major cases have been brought to our notice. Christmas or Gunners Day Cheer was voted for two members who through infirmity are now in institutions. See Auckland District Reps report.

THE 105-mm LIGHT GUN: 16 Fd have one at Papakura now, but it is the prototype, cannot be fired, and has to be returned to Australia where it was made. They expect the first shipment of eight guns, i.e. one battery, to arrive here in March 1987.

DISTRICT REPS REPORTS: See reference below.

APPRECIATIONS: My special thanks to all District Reps for keeping in touch with our members throughout New Zealand. Without their assistance much of our news about members doings would not be forthcoming.

To Allan Boyd and his committee, many thanks for their efforts throughout the year. They run the outfit, and it is fitting that after their deliberations they dwell awhile at 'Cordite Corner' in the Takapuna RSA !

I am stepping down as President this year. It has been a rewarding two years to have become involved in the running of the Association's affairs. However, I am sure things will work even better with the CO at his Headquarters in Auckland with his 'Adj' instead of being out in the provinces.

James G. Gilberd.

Taupo, 15 November 86.

DISTRICT REPS REPORTS: Read in conjunction with notes 'From Around and About.'

Northland: Harry Anderson, on behalf of Bill Stephenson who was unable to attend AGM, reported most members had been visited and all were in a reasonable state of health

Auckland and North Shore: Wally Ruffell, on behalf of Alf Smith, who was taken ill just before the AGM, stated most were in good health. Arnold Philpot was still a wheel-chair case (arthritis), and Alec Johnson had entered the Ranfurly Veterans Home. NB: At time of writing this newsletter Alf was still not 'out of the wood' but was improving.



Hawke Bay/Taupo: Jim Gilbert reported all in good fettle except Alex (Farouk) MacDonald who was still having 'ticker' trouble but bearing up bravely.

Wellington/Hutt Valley: Jack Baigent reported favourably on his area. He dwelt at some length on the funeral of Norm Coe on 30 Sep 86. Norm was interred with restricted military honours, but the ceremony was impressive, and the turnout, especially of RSA members, very good. Army provided a bearer party of uniformed Gunners, a firing party, a 14-man guard of honour, and a Trumpeter for Last Post and Reveille. Jack spoke at the funeral on behalf of Old Comrades.

Taranaki: George Sutherland was not present at the AGM, but had earlier informed Secretary that all members in his District had been contacted and were in good health.

### A STORY OF NEW ZEALAND

The following epic, written by 1515 Ex-W01 Phil George MM, is an outline of events occurring during New Zealand's occupation by man, Moriori, Moa Hunter, Maori, and Pakeha. It contains an important message to all New Zealanders, and I urge you to read it carefully.

WLR.

#### NEW ZEALANDS TRUE PIONEERS - MORIORI

#### NEW ZEALANDS NEW PIONEERS - PAKEHA

(Written 1980)

Fashioned in stone by the true pioneers  
Came they from whence and when;  
Could these tools speak, roll back the years,  
Tell of these first exploring men.

Who came to these far distant isles,  
Whose seed had not been thrown  
By man; nor had his footsteps trod  
This land they made their home.

Made it their home just for a while,  
'Twas theirs and theirs alone;  
When every tool required was made  
From wood, shell, stone or bone.

With practised eyes and skilful hands  
Their ancient crafts pursued  
From waters, land and skies  
Reaping their daily foods.

Draping themselves from season's chills  
With garments warm and strong,  
Made from the kuri's spotted hide  
From fibres scutched with song.

From feathers of the birds which flew  
And those which were earthbound,  
Cloaks gay of intricate designs  
Soft as their singers' sound.

Across the land like shadows cast  
By clouds on sunlit day  
Seeking, finding, making, leaving  
Footprints cast along the way.



Naming every landscape feature,  
Every insect, every bird,  
Many minerals, plants and sea-life,  
Where-so-ever these occurred.

Everywhere throughout these islands  
Find we footsteps cast of stone  
Telling of the pioneers' passing  
Where their seeking footsteps roamed.

#### PART 2 (Written 1985)

Till others came of kindred race,  
Of warlike mien and powers,  
Engulfing those who found this land  
In those their darkest hours.

#### LAND WARS BEGIN

Still others came, an alien race,  
As they had come before;  
When strife arose, and war-clouds rolled  
Around these island shores.

Valiant were the scions of those  
The first pioneers, the true;  
Valiant were the alien folk  
Who each the other slew.

The taiaha parried bayonets  
Or musket barrels long,  
Each wielded by the Valiants,  
Combatants brave and strong.

The meres clove the shakos,  
Swords the mokos slashed,  
When true pioneers and new pioneers  
In mortal combat clashed.

#### THE END OF THE LAND WARS

Peace at last, a treaty signed  
On bright Waitangi Day,  
The true pioneers and new pioneers  
March side by side to-day.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN WAR, WORLD WARS 1 and 2

They have marched and sailed to battlefields  
Thousands of miles away;  
Fighting they died where now they lie  
Keeping our foes at bay.

Let us not forget this brotherhood  
Forged in days of war;  
Endeavour to increase its strength,  
In friendship evermore.

For surely as the sun will set,  
Again tomorrow rise,  
Envious foes are waiting  
To seize our golden prize.



RAINBOW WARRIOR BOMBING

Beware of infiltration,  
The enemies within  
Insidiously scheming  
To strike if mail is thin.

We must not be divided  
But must together stand;  
Sentinels alert together,  
Guarding this golden land.

For surely as the tide ebbs out  
To once again flow in,  
Our foemen are preparing  
New assaults to begin.

Be loyal to the nation  
That twice came to our aid\*  
Turning defeat to victory  
This cannot be gainsaid.

Hide not your heads within the  
sand,  
Dreaming that 'she'll be right';  
Without support we cannot stand,  
Nor hope to win the fight.

Around our shores in fisher guise  
Potential foes are plying,  
Made easy in this trustful land  
For those intent on spying.

Agressors may tomorrow strike  
With lightning awesome speed  
From bases near or far away;  
Awake! Awake! take heed.

Cruising not far offshore today  
Nuclear armed and powered,  
Undersea and surface fleets,  
Potential foes of ours.

Again we must depend on those  
Who twice came to our aid\*  
Who can and would retaliate;  
This cannot be gainsaid.

The law of nature is the same  
As it has ever been;  
Survival of the fittest is  
The great selective scheme.

\* World Wars 1 and 2.

1515 P. George.

A POISON PEN AT THE REUNION

An otherwise very successful reunion had an aftermath we on the Executive find extremely disturbing.

At the dinner we invited Lt Col David Lough, Director, R.N.Z.A., to propose the toast 'The Regiment' which he did in a very capable and interesting manner. In commenting upon defence matters he referred briefly to one Helen Clark who we understand is a member of the Government caucus committee on defence. Later someone present reported his speech in a letter to the MP.

That such a letter should have come from a person invited to a private function of our Association is bad enough; that the letter went beyond the truth we are convinced, because it resulted in the Director being castigated by his superiors for what we know were quite innocuous remarks.

We deeply regret that a distinguished guest should have suffered in this way, and for what they are worth tender our apologies to the Colonel.

At the same time we invite the poison pen - if it has the courage of its convictions - to show good cause why the Association should not cease to recognise it.

The President and Executive extend to all Members best wishes for a happy and prosperous 1987.

From Secretary: The subscription for 1987 is \$3. To be financial to 31 December 87 you owe us \$ . 3.00