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THE RNZAOC NEWSLETTER NO 69/3



CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

67. There is still a shortage of contributions to the newsletter, with only 1 BOD and 3 COD offering items for publication.

68. Remember, the complete success of the newsletter depends on contributions supplied, so what about it?

WORK

69. The Laundry & Bath Platoons have been doing some great work with OUMC who are in Camp at Burnham just now. Great interest has been shown in their activities by a large cross section of the people in Burnham, judging by the number of visitors the unit has had to watch it in operation. NS Men were even paraded one week-end to have their personal washing done for them.

HONOURS & AWARDS

70. Congratulations to WO1 Alick Doyle on the award of the Meritorious Service Medal.

PROMOTIONS

71. To WOII Stewart Fussell on commissioned in the rank of Lt.
To Sgt Brian (Budge) Burgess on his promotion to Sgt.
To WOII Norm Smythe on his promotion to WOII.
Lcpl Dick EDEN promoted to Cpl 18 Apr 69.
Lcpl Pat MINEHAN NZWRAC promoted to Cpl 12 May 69.
WO1 "Hec" McLACHLAN commissioned in the rank of Lieutenant 20 May 69.
Ssgt Bill GALBRAITH promoted to WO2 19 May 69.
Ssgt Mike NICHOLSON promoted to WO2 19 May 69.
Sgt Len CONLON promoted to Ssgt 19 May 69.
Cpl Laurie HAWKINS promoted to Sgt 19 May 69.
Lcpl Jim BLACK promoted to Cpl 3 Jun 69.

SOCIAL EVENTS

72. Congratulations to the following on their marriage.
Sgt Doug Lyle.
Pte Charles Johnson.
Cpl John Goddard & Pte Nancy Rolston.
Lcpl Maureen (Blossom) Jones.

HOSPITALISATION

73. We record with regret a three week spell in Hospital of WO1 "Hughie" ADAMS, one of the two RNZEME Tech Advisors of 1 BOD. WO1 ADAMS was discharged from hospital on 2 July, and it is hoped to see him back 'on deck' at an early date.

POSTING AND RETIREMENTS

74. Major M.J. ROSS left 1 BOD on posting prior to attending the RNZAF Staff College WHENUAPAI, on 23 Jun 69; after some 2 1/2 years as OC 1 BOD.

Major I.G. ROSS was welcomed as the new OC 1 BOD on the same day.

OC. 21/c. CAQ 21/2

2Lt Keith HANSEN arrived at 1 BOD from OUIT and is attached to 1 BOD for Corps Trg in the meantime, and is welcomed to the Corps.

2Lt 'Vern' GOODWIN RNZA also arrived from OUIT the same day, to study Ordnance life at 1 BOD; with a Corps Transfer in view which, it is hoped, will come to pass.

Major R.H. EDWARDS retired after a long Army career in both the UK and NZ Armies, his last appointment being that of OC EDS. His place, as new OC EDS has been taken by Major J.S. BOLTON.

Mr Roy JONES left 1 BOD on retirement from the Public Service. Mr Jones has served as CAO 1 BOD for the last 4 years and was liked and respected by both military and civil staff. As his retirement was for health reasons, a return to full health and a long life is wished for Mr Jones by all.

Pte Terry SHARPE posted into 1 BOD as Storeman (MT Spares) from RF Cadet School on 14 May 69.

Lcpl Jim HARVEY left 1 BOD on posting to 1 Inf Wksp Stores Sect PAPAURA on 21 May 69. Jim Harvey was one of the first Auto Parts apprentices to arrive in the Corps from RF Cadets.

Officer Cadet Michael COWAN posted into 1 BOD on 28 May 69 prior to proceeding to OCEU at WAIOURU.

SPORT

75. 3 COD Golf team is lying about the middle of the field at the moment but are expected to put in a big late run very soon. They hope!

TOURS NOT ON DUTY

76. 1 BOD welcomed back Lt Mary BOTTEN from a prolonged and much enjoyed holiday in DENMARK. Mary was away from the end of March to the end of May. Whilst in Denmark, a country whose area is much the same as Canterbury; Mary saw the country's highest mountain (Shy Mountain) about 500 ft high, and greatest river, very similar to the Christchurch Avon in mid city. Denmark however makes up in quality what she lacks in spectacular attractions, and anyone planning a future visit to Europe is advised to include this marvellous little country in their tour. An overnight ferry from England or one footstep from Germany will get you there.

FINAL THOUGHT. HEAD OF CORPS DEMOTED

77. In the revised gradation list of Saints (commonly known as The Calendar of Saints), recently issued by the Vatican, much publicity was given to the relegation of such old favourites as St GEORGE (Patron St of England) and St CHRISTOPHER (Patron St of Travellers). It seems this was done because some saints were shrouded more in legend than in reality, and so, though not losing their sanctity, they have lost their place in the Calendar.

How many Corps members were aware that St BARBARA was among those saints "demoted"? St BARBARA is Patron Saint of the Artillery as well as Ordnance, and so she has long filled what must surely have been the first ever "dual role appointment". This dual role stems from the time when the Master General of Ordnance was a sort of combined QMG-cum-Master Gunner. When not actually firing his perilous pieces at the French, Scots or some insubordinate English Baron; he stored them away in the Tower of London.

Later, as warfare grew more complex, it became necessary to divide the Ordnance firing role ** from the storage role, hence the dual appointment of our Patron Saint.

This dual role appointment is perhaps even more fitting in view of St Barbara's unfortunate martyrdom. It seems she was a Princess who converted to Christianity thereby enraging her Dad, the King. When she refused to abandon her new faith he had her beheaded! It is thus that our Patron Saint became the first Head off Corps and, being unhappily divided at the moment of her martyrdom, she now honourably fills the dual appointments mentioned above.

Distribution:

NMD (10)
CMD (8)
SMD (6)
1 BOD (10)
1 COD (8)
2 COD (10)
3 COD (8)
RNZAOC School (4)
1 OFF
3 OFF
1 Comp Ord Coy(3)
File ORD 9/6

Internal:

DOS (30)
DFD (2)