

# THE FRONTIERSMAN

COMMAND PATRON: Dr Shane Reti QSM MP  
Legion of Frontiersmen (New Zealand) Command Inc.



## F Troop Whangarei

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Editor Lt Colonel V.J. Baker  
C/- Baker Timber Supplies Ltd  
31 Waterford Road,  
KATIKATI.

[baker.timber.supplies@xtra.co.nz](mailto:baker.timber.supplies@xtra.co.nz)

Deadline for the next issue 30 November 2019

**Routine Orders:**

|      |            |            |
|------|------------|------------|
| 3228 | M J Smith  | N Squadron |
| 3200 | BCA Sadler | O Troop    |
| L267 | CA Sadler  | O Troop    |
| L271 | L Jones    | O Troop    |
| 3443 | BA Clarke  | O Troop    |

**Last Post:**

**Editor's note: It was pointed out to me that in the previous journal I never recorded the date of birth and death for Ian. I am sure that Grumpy would not have minded but for those that did and I did try to do the Eulogy for him. Ian Patrick Stephen Bowater was born on St Patrick's Day 17 March 1942 and Died 19 May 2019. RIP**

**Commandant's Report:**

Greetings to all,

I came across these and thought that they were well worth a mention in the journal for everyone to reflect on the words of wisdom.

“You do not lead by hitting people over the head -- that's assault, not leadership.” -

**Dwight Eisenhower**

Service to others is the rent you pay for a room in heaven

**Muhammad Ali headstone**

It seems that the Legion work never slows down there is always something for me to do as Commandant, so at times if I can't get back to anyone as quickly as they would like, I am sorry, however I am not retired although I am tired these days. Ha ha.

I had the pleasure the other day of receiving a parcel of old photos and newspaper clippings from Audrey Henderson, (daughter of Claude Bathe) she is spritely age of 86 and I found this hard to believe as it means that Claude passing

only seems but weeks ago rather than a large number of years. The photos which Audrey gave me I have scanned and forwarded over to the U.K, Canada H & A and also off to Mike Smith who once again assists me so much with getting it all recorded. As Claude was a member of Y Squadron a lot of the photo's are about Y Squadron and in amongst the photos one envelope which had several photos on the Manhunt for Angus McGill who shot Traffic Officer no. 36 John (Jack) Kehoe in the 31<sup>st</sup> January 1949, the Legion then assisted Police with the manhunt all armed with .303 rifles. Photos showed not only the marked out position of where the officer fell but also McGill's decomposing body which was found later in a farm orchard. Many of us including myself have seen the photo taken by the Auckland Star of Frontiersmen talking to the public in a car as they searched all vehicles in the week that followed. In fact I showed it in the slide show at conference this year. However not many of us have seen the other photos. Mike has sense receiving them added this story and some of the photos up on the website plus there was photos of the LOF at the Opepe Cemetery clean up that was undertaken in and around the 1950's. These stories are also found in the book put out by Y Squadron 1944 – 1960 16 years that some of you may have been able to read.

These stories of days gone past make interesting reading for website searches and are more highlighted if pictures of the events can be included.

I thank Audrey and her husband Ian for remembering me as their children and grandchildren no longer wanted the photos that they didn't through them away but passed them back to me and I have been able to share them with the command and overseas.

I can remember some of my old photos in my collection of albums were given to me by Baden Henry for the same reason.

Florrie and I have been busy working through the Charities Commission papers, and boy what a mission that is, they don't accept any accounts from an accountant they want you to fill out the tier 4 in our case form from their own site. It's very important that one needs to print out the forms first and then read them over more than once. Mistakes have been made in the past in how one will interpret them to how they interrupt them. Cash in bank and money that you are looking after for someone else ie units is really different and once the figure is put in twice its hard to clear up. Also we need to record our hours not that we are holding two headquarters meetings and one conference a year. We need to record the number of voluntary hours to maintain our charitable status. Of course our financial year is different to the recording hours of units which makes things a little confusing for them as well, but it has been filed. This brings me to the point of our recording of hours, as we all change from those who are active units to fewer duties available we need to change our recording times. So those who are doing work as a volunteer for the organisation also need to record the time. This will have to be discussed at our next NZHQ meeting. For example how long does it take to get the journal out, it's all voluntary time and for those of us who attend meetings or do other work for the command or your own unit then we should know about it. Mike smith is a prime example he does huge hours on the website and other research work, it's not about recording this work with the duty hours that we currently are doing but is about keeping a record of those other voluntary hours. If you want no one is going to win a prize for these hours but it shows that the Legion is working as voluntary members for the organisation and ultimately the public. I am sure that we would be quite surprised with how much effort we do for the command if you started recording even some of it. NZHQ will have to decided

what we are going to record and how at their next meeting.

Incorporated society are also ones that have forms to be filled out, So far this year we have at the request of Barry Coker tried to remove his address from their records. Firstly on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March and again on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April and again more recently September 3<sup>rd</sup> seems when you fill in those forms our they read the instructions is different to mine. For example when filing a form and it says in one box no. 5 contact details: and then in the next box no 6. Postal address: don't write "same as shown" in box 6. As that means to them what is currently on file not same as shown on the same page, in box 5. Then it has an optional officer box and once in that box it's hard to remove it out of the box ever as it is kept on file, the only good thing is they tell me only those who have been listed as holders of the account can go on line and see this information it is not available to the general public. My point is if there are optional boxes really think hard before filling out this information.

St George medals LSEM medals, that I requested to be replaced onto the stock lists, due to this being listed your NZHQ have been able to sell these at the stock list price to Canada and Scotland who are still using this type of award, we now have gone back to the original NZ Command LSEM medal. Scotland has 2 and Canada has 8, thank you gentlemen and thanks to Ken for letting me know that one recipient was Phillip Stead.

This brings us to the production of the awards and medals, we have moulds for most of the medals but we no longer have the steel dies for casting the medals, Ali and I have been hoping to apply for a grant to have the dies made, these will produce the high quality that NZ Command has always held dear unfortunately if we can't get the grant and this has taken far longer and more time consuming that it has taken me in the past, I haven't quite gotten there. All grant applications need two quotes and

the hold up for me so far is the getting the second quote.

The quote I have will also place a lot of the medals from \$40.00 to \$60.00 each, but the cost of the dies is the biggest cost which is not included in the above price, it will cost \$750.00 plus the GST to make the die one sided, we can have the words engraved on the blank side which will save money for a second die per medal, but we still need to find two lots of this money as there are two medals we need to get struck. If any unit out there wants to help out and make a donation towards this then the command will gladly receive your money. Volume one was paid for by Mike Subritzky, the last journal was paid for by N Squadron, and this issue the costs to print are being paid for by the Baker twins, we still have the Christmas issue to find a sponsor for. The command thanks all parties for their help in continuing with its production.

In closing have a read again of the sayings at the beginning and think on them.

God Guard Thee all,  
Val

### **Deputy Commandant's Report:**

### **Staff Adjutant's & North Island Liaison Officers Report:**

Greetings from cool B.O.P, well conference been gone what a surprise for me been presented with Pioneer Cross. Great to meet everyone again and to see new members who attended there first Conference.

Things been very quite duty wise but we have one end September and others are pencilled in.

Arrangements for conference 2020 in Whakatane are under way we have had enquires already.

I would like to wish those unwell speedy recoveries and sympathy to those who lost loved ones.

God Guard Thee  
Arthur

### **R.S.M's Report:**

Hi to you all out there in the cold. If it's getting you down look on the bright side summer is coming and then we will be looking for rain and some cooler days and nights so we can sleep better, man is never happy.

On the troop side we have been pretty quiet of late we have some work in front of us before Xmas, so we won't forget when we hung our uniform and a good opportunity to brush the brass and leather and check your hat. Remember if you are going to be on a marae when socks without ventilation. Well that is it.

When calling on the sick make sure that they are taking visitors and call by phone first, ask if there is anything that you can do for them, don't just knock on the door they may not be up to seeing anyone.

GGT DR Vaile RSM

### **Record Officers Report:**

Hi everyone,

Things have been very busy of late, I have started another paper this time it's on Horticultural. It is a free paper on line and I just have to meet the assignments on time.

I have received a few more completed forms but there is still more to come in, so please take the time to ask your members to complete and return to me.

Remember that November the 11<sup>th</sup> is coming up and if you have any celebrations that you are attending then please take some photos.

Well that is it from me,

Ali Baker

### **South Island Liaison Officers Report:**

Greetings from the Deep South. In the last couple of months as far as recruiting goes, we have gained five new members. Three are re-joining members Lynn Jones, Cathy

Sadler and Brian Sadler. New members are Bailey Mowday and Hamish Campbell. They are due for their second reading in October and Harley McCallum is having his first reading in September. On behalf of the Legion of Frontiersmen I would like to welcome these members into our organisation.

We are having our annual dinner in September. There are 20 people coming. It is good to get together to socialise and relax after a busy year.

We will be getting into our summer duties with horse racing coming up, The Xmas Variety Show in December and more BBQs. We also have the Bluff Hill Climb in March which is part of The Burt Monroe Challenge.

By next February we will have 18 financial members which is looking really good.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again at Conference next year in Whakatane.

To those on the sick list a speedy recovery and to those who have lost loved ones, our condolences to you all.

God Guard Thee

Capt Murray Hamblin PNR

**Overseas Liaison Officers Report:**  
**Quartermasters & Editors Report:**

Have you a copy of the Pioneers and the HQs photos from 2012, 2013, 2014 Conferences. If you do have any of these please forward or scan and send to me I need them to finish a project. Yes I know they are Te Awamutu, Katikati and Whakatane but I can't find the copies I have of them all, one day soon I am going to get all those boxes sorted in the new office from all the closed down units and be able to get to the bottom of it all to find my own papers. If you have any in hard

copy I will scan them and send back, otherwise send via email will also be good.

I have a bit of news from overseas, the command from which RSM Stephen Gallard belonged has now split with CMO a disappointing matter but one we have ourselves experienced and one that has occurred many times over the years with people having differences of opinions. NZ will not break ties with those we have had dialog with over the years and neither will we enter into debate on who is right or wrong.

However we will offer our hand out in friendship to both sides and until a wrong is done to us directly we will continue as we are. Some bonds do not get broken regardless of years and differences. One thing I must say is however we always will stand firm in our convictions with the Jocks. Ken especially is my mentor and I hold a father like respect towards him, which no amount of forces can break apart, this is for me personally. One should heed the warning of how kiwi's put their friendships on high pedestals. This also has been shown in years gone by.

I thank also all the good work that has been done and support given the H & A team working together its great working together for the betterment of the Legion of Frontiersmen regardless of which side of the fence one may sit on as this is the way forward.

Val

**Central North Island Liaison Officers Report:**

Greetings Comrades,

Recently, I was contacted by Mr Lynn Smith, who back in the 1970's, was a member of City Troop N' & W. Lynn was wanting to find the whereabouts of Wayne Stokes, had I a contact number, so he

could get in touch with Wayne, as they were old friends back then, and had less touch as you do, over the years. Lynn had moved away from the Manawatu in the 1980's, currently living in Auckland. A quick call to brother Graham, of what was needed; next update I got Wayne was visiting Lynn in Auckland, old friendships reunited. Thank you Mayor of Pahiatua, for your assistance.

I don't know what more I can do, to rectify these problems of poor Communication, within our Troops & Squadrons within this area. As OC of N' & the NZHQ posting role, I have given the following units C,N & W continued updates when required, only to find the lack of feed back to me at times is disgusting, and it stops here.

My contact with C 'Troop in Napier, I have no problems with, then we come into N' Squadron Palmerston North, which is very frustrating to manage. I send out emails & covering Letters to these members, which I have two members in Stratford to be on the pulse with, and one get's no reply back, I then have to make a phone call, to these various members, to see if they have received the track and trace courier parcel.

Dave West has given me this morning, permission to use his email address, for both him and Mike Smith, as I haven't a current address for Mike. With W 'Troop Pahiatua, things are tracking ok here, I'm assisting Graham with his Troop, which means a phone call over to the Roy's in Wanganui, we have bridged the animosity in the ring here, having me on side has worked better for the OC & members. To Members that have health ailments, I wish you a speedy recovery.

I wish to also thank Lt. Col. Val Baker, for her assistance given to myself recently, with regarding the Squadron & Troops performances.

God Guard Thee

Kathy

### **C. Troop Report:**

Greetings from C Troop,

The warmer weather is on its way hopefully we will be able to spend more time in the sunshine.

Our OC Robin Cawte is still patiently waiting for an operation on his knee.

No sign of any duties coming our way maybe something in the summer months.

That's all from me for now. To those who are sick get well soon and to those who have lost loved ones, our condolences.

God Guard Thee,

Sgt Sec Derek Gordon.

### **D Troop Report:**

### **E. Troop Report:**

The youth of today, mainly those under 25, speak a new language and view the world in a way different way than the older generation, mostly through what they see on social media like Facebook and Youtube & c. The legion should I feel, in an attempt to enlist younger members, find a dedicated younger person, with the right persona and voice, in their 20's, to be the face of the Legion in NZ. This person should use their media skills and to host a Youtube Channel, making videos on a regular basis (weekly, monthly) to spark interest in the youth of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

In the meantime check out the new information going up on to the website for the Legion of Frontiersmen, two new articles on Opepe Cemetery in the 1950's and the Manhunt of Angus McGill who shot and killed Traffic Officer Jack (John) Kehoe in 1949, both articles relate to Y Squadron Whakatane.

<http://frontiersmen.homestead.com/stor1.html>

Mike

### **F. Troop Report:**

This was sent to me recently via a sister of another member: Under News Saturday June 22 2019: Headlines: Still giving back at 100 years old. Written by Mike Dinsdale. Northland Paper.

This week is National Volunteer week where all around the country our 1.2 million volunteers are celebrated. This year's there is "Whiria te Tangata – weaving the people together"

Volunteering, Mahi Aroha and social action weave people and communities together as we stand together in our differences and choose to connect.

Northland has the highest rate of volunteering in New Zealand. Around 37% of the adult population volunteer for about four hours per week on average, according to Volunteering Northland.

You're never too old to care and help others, and it's something Whangarei woman Doreen Alexander knows well.

Aged 100, Doreen is still volunteering at the Hospice Shop in Whangarei and reckons it helps keep her young.

Besides, the sprightly centenarian jokes, if she wasn't there to keep the rest of the people at the Hospice Shop in line chaos could ensue.

And that's just what she does as well as keeping everybody happy, entertained and inspired, Hospice retail manager Kathy McMillan said.

"She's just wonderful and has such a great sense of humour. The customers love her being herself," McMillan said.

"She's great with the customers and she has her regular customers who come in just to see her on Mondays. She's also been a regular at the Growers Market on Saturday mornings – (LOF Duty) she's such a great volunteer. Her contribution is immense and she's such an inspiration."

The article continues and sings Doreen's praises which are well deserved and so true of this lovely lady who thankfully is also one of our members.

### **J Troop Report:**

A Very Big Happy Birthday to Doreen Alexander who reached the very young

age of 100 on the 26th of June 2019. She is in "F" Troop, Whangarei.

A lovely day in Sanson for a change. Not sure for just how long but it is giving us a chance to catch up on the washing.

One or two of may know, but my father at the age of 83 has just had a stent and also a valve replacement. He had that done in Waikato hospital on July 17, 2019. He had been in the Hawera hospital where he lives for a couple of days then went to New Plymouth for one night. He was then flown up to Hamilton via Air

Ambulance. He was in the Hamilton Hospital for a good week before they were able to do his heart as he developed an infection in his arm where the intravenous line had been. That came right very quickly, thank goodness for

us. Everything went to plan and he has been back to Hamilton for his first months check up and got the all clear. That also meant that he was allowed to drive again.

That is not all the fun and games we had while in Hamilton. My mother was staying at the motel across the road from the hospital with my sister Judy and I think my other sister Gail was there at the same time. She (my mother) had been to the bathroom about and had a fall. Judy instantly called the Ambulance. Luckily for my mother she never broke

anything. She is 78. She did have a very bad does of Pneumonia. She spent 3 days in the H.D.U. and then they her out into the ward. She was meant to be visiting our Father but she decided that it was time for her to have some time out as well. We were very lucky that when our father was allowed to be discharged from one hospital back to New Plymouth, our mother was allowed to be transferred with him. When I went to see them in New Plymouth, I was very surprised. They were both in the same ward and also in the same room. They have been discharged and they are on the mend at home.

There may be a few of you that may know but Stephen lost his mother on June 17, 2019. She was 90.

They still do not know completely what I have done to my Hand. The one that I had strapped up at Conference. There is every possibility that I may have to have a M.R.I. on it yet. If I do have to have one I cannot do much about it.

Well if I don't get this in I will get the message from the Editor.

Everyone to whom has had some form of anniversary or illness; we do wish you all the best and also a speedy recovery.

G.G.T. Ann Sheary, Pnr. "J" Troop.

J Troop has held a very successful conference and by most counts all enjoyed themselves. They have donated the \$5.00 per head back to NZHQ for the levies as promised at the annual conference and still come out ahead, managed by some of the our costs coming back in as a reduction from the suppliers. We have opted to purchase new buttons for the command 300 of each of the two sizes, we just have to find the time to put the order together, have them made and shipped to NZ.

We only have two duties booked to the end of the year, the annual Christmas parade, and the event we did last year for the first time which has changed its name due to the Christchurch shootings, this is the weekend after the Headquarters meeting later in September.

Our initiation of our new member will take place at our dinner in October, so we will go in our Mess kits for the occasion which is nice as we did the same thing last year. Some of our members would like to see us do this once a year and the rest of us agreed, so it seems October is a good time. Well that is my lot also, as I have a huge amount of work on going at the yard, and with the share purchase of companies shares, it has become extremely time consuming.

God Guard Thee all,  
Val

### **N: Squadron Report:**

Hello to you all from the Manawatu.

As per usual, the time has done the disappearing trick, and it's time for the report to be presented & Short one again sorry. I did try to delegate the script position, but were notified back, not this time, sorry about that, will try next time. "Good old txt Messages"

N' Squadron welcomes Re-joining Member, Michael Smith into the unit.

Over the past quarter term, we haven't had any duties. I've been unable to seek further work, at this time of reporting.

"From the Scripts Desk"

**- PLEASE PHONE FIRST, BEFORE GOING AROUND TO A MEMBERS HOME, THAT HAVEN'T BEEN WELL.AS THIS CAN CAUSE A LOT OF STRESS ON THE FAMILY, JUST TURNING UP UNANNOUNCED. !**

God Guard Thee

OC N'

### **O Troop Report:**

Hello all and greetings from the Deep South. Sorry I haven't kept in touch as I have been a bit unwell. Feeling better now though. We are at the moment very quiet till the end of the month when we will start getting busy again. We have the multicultural Polyfest at the stadium and more BBQs.

Hope all North Island units are doing well. We have two who have their second reading and one who has his first to bring in more members into the Unit.

It was a great conference in Kati Kati, thank you for my stirrer's spoon and merit medal. All five of us had a great time and look forward to the Whakatane conference next year and meeting my comrades again. To those on the sick list a speedy recovery



and condolences to those who have lost loved ones.

God Guard Thee

Sgt Sec A Webb (PNR)

### **W. Troop Report:**

Hi from W Troop,

I hope everyone enjoyed themselves at conference in Katikati 2019. We would like to thank Florrie and Ali for fixing up our uniforms, they arrive back recently. When we came back home Lt Graham Stokes Pnr got the flu, quite bad and had chest pains as well. He is coming right now.

We went out to a 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding anniversary and my husband got himself in trouble again. He asked where the old lady of the house was to her sons, she was coming through the door and heard what Graham said and he also told her daughter she was old and wrinkly and apparently she is 4 years younger than her oldest daughter. So nothing like him to put his foot into it big time.

There are a lot of young and old girls that still want to give Graham a hiding and still wanting to kill him. I'm still here waiting. If you know my husband Graham there is never a dull moment when he's around. We would like to thank Captain Kathy Butler for keeping us in contact and making the trip over to Pahiatua.

God Guard Thee,

Sgt Sec Carol Stokes.

### **Y Squadron Report:**

. - It was great to hear that everyone enjoyed their time at the Conference in Katikati and well done to Val and the gorgeous ladies and everyone else who helped. A very hard act to follow:- "Y" Squadron were thrilled with their awards, Arthur Pioneer Cross, Reg, Bibian, Anthony, Michelle and Jill with their Long Service Medals and Brilliant news that Reg was awarded "Frontiersman of the Year".

Thank you Val for making it such a special Conference.

Duties are few and far between but it will soon be Christmas again!!!!!! Lots of Love to all,

God Bless Love Julia xxxxxxx

### **Overseas Reports:**

Dear Val,

I have received the LSEM from Col. Ken and I should just like to thank you for generously supplying this and making the award to me possible. I am greatly honoured.

Both the medal and ribbon are of exceptional quality, and then there is the history as well ... which is available to read on the NZ Command website.

I will, of course, send you a photo for your journal in due course, along with illustrated mention in the Scots Journal (ie Routine Orders).

If you would like to make any further comment about the medal and its distinctive ribbon, history etc, for publication in the September issue, I would be happy to include it ... for wider interest.

Once again, many thanks - I am immensely proud to receive and wear such a fine award.

With very best regards  
Philip GGT

Hi Val,

Below is the notification of the new topic page. I thought you would be interested in this one with regard to the food parcels that NZ Squadrons were sending to members of UK Squadrons. Ken and I are among the few older ones in the Legion who lived right through the 1940s, admittedly as boys, and remember the shortages of every basic item in Britain. Goods you would just pop down to the shops for today would either never be seen or were in very short supply. It

was actually worse after the war when Britain was almost bankrupt. When meat was on ration (until 1954) if the butcher had a few sausages for sale off-ration queues would form down the road. The fact that he might have packed them out with a bit of sawdust did not matter. We were desperate for food of any sort. Ken and I can tell many tales. So you can understand how overwhelmed British Frontiersmen were to receive parcels of food that was impossible to get here from New Zealand Frontiersmen. There was always a close friendship between British and New Zealand Frontiersmen. It is something that has been unjustly forgotten by British Frontiersmen so perhaps Ken and I can send a belated thank you on behalf of those 1940s families. You will find notes about these gifts in 1940s NZ Frontiersmen magazines. Best wishes to all from a British summer. Geoff.

The new Topic page for August and September "**Real Austerity**" is online from August 1st at

[www.frontiersmenhistorian.info](http://www.frontiersmenhistorian.info)

The two history websites have been consolidated under the original website address although typing the wordpress address will still take you to the correct pages. There will no longer be any advertisements, the photos will be at a better resolution, and the layout will be more modern, using modern technology so that it can be viewed easily on phones. Politicians in U.K. make a fuss about austerity today, but it is nothing to compare with what was suffered after WW2 when Britain was nearly bankrupt and most manufactured items were for export only. All everyday necessities from bread, to clothing, to the humble bar of soap, were on a ration of the most meagre allowances. British Frontiersmen were

most grateful to their New Zealand counterparts who sent food parcels. Letters of grateful thanks arrived in New Zealand. In spite of all this difficulty, the Legion of Frontiersmen managed to re-build and run its HQ in London.

The History and Archives team will continue to expand knowledge of the history of the Legion of Frontiersmen uncovering and publicising truths that have been overlooked for far too long. We will endeavour to produce topic pages every two months, but this is a spare time occupation by a small team, so our free time is limited and also other issues can cause problems. We ask you bear with us if we do sometimes have to increase the time scale.

Please may we ask all Frontiersmen to advise colleagues and others that the new topic is now online.

*David Lilburn Watson for:-*

*The History and Archives team*

(The site also contains information on a new book, edited and produced by the Webmaster Roger Pocock, of interesting articles of Frontiersmen history, some of which have never been previously available.)

Dear Val

First may I introduce myself as the recently appointed Public Relations Officer to the Commandant General Nigel Peel and secondly to say how much I enjoyed your recent newsletter of June 2019. You certainly have got things together in New Zealand!

I don't have quite as much news as you have included in your Newsletter but I thought you might like to hear a little about our Corps Day held at South Park Surrey.

Our recent Corps Day was held on the 21st July and was a great success in many ways. In particular it brought Frontiersmen of the CMOLof together

with our Patron and rekindled that spirit of service and pride that only such an occasion can do.

I have attached a leaflet (PDF format) produced for the Day which gives an outline of events and avoids the necessity of repeating myself here in text.

Suffice to say the venue at South Park was a wonderful setting and the weather obliged by keeping hot but not unbearably so. Some say "what keeps the heat in keeps the heat out" but that must have been written before the introduction of the "Blues" dress!!

Met by the Mounted Troop our Patron was escorted to the parade which was formed up to greet the Countess with a General Salute. The Colours were resplendent in the sun and the sight was enough to stir the emotion of all including one of our guest who was from the Coldstream Guards!

The Countess presented Medals and Awards to those on parade adding words of congratulations to every recipient.

A presentation of our history given in the Chapel preceded a walkabout to the various exhibitions where the Countess was given an opportunity to see the scope of our work and the varied skills brought to the CMOLOF by its members.

The Mounted Troop riding display was to say the least "Burghley Horse Trials" impressive and remaining on the theme of how important horses have been to our history and service in all conflicts of war a pack-horse laden with goodies led us to lunch, and what a lunch.

The catering team greeted everyone with gin and tonics (Not compulsory!!) And provided a superb salad buffet amid the shade of the beautiful gardens. There was time for an informal gathering bringing Frontiersmen and Patron together.

Three hearty cheers for our Patron bid our farewell as the Colour Party formed up for the final salute to our very own Countess Mountbatten of Burma.

Our Patron sent her best wishes to all her Frontiersmen wherever they may be with a

wish that they will be able to join us at the next Corps Day. Our friends in other proud Legions of Frontiersmen and from H&A will be not only be welcome, but encouraged to join us too.

It's good to share best practice and you have much that we can strive to equal. However it's likely to take a while with a "New boy" like me on the scene so I hope you will forgive me for inaccuracies as I learn.

My best wishes to you and all in New Zealand and my respects and admiration for your Command Patron.

God Guard Thee

Best wishes

Derek

Legion Major Derek Bristow OBE DL  
MStJ BA Chartered MCIPD

Public Affairs Officer

Dear Lt Col Val,

Please accept both my own and Anne's appreciation for sharing the News from New Zealand' Legion of Frontiersmen. We were hoping to revisit our son located at Lower Moutere on the South Island not far from Nelson and Richmond. Sadly due to other commitments this appears now not possible. Hopefully soon into next year we may be able to visit, hopefully to meet up and have a chat with our colleagues.

I do compose a monthly Newsletter which I send throughout the world to my colleague Military Padres / Chaplains, Priests and friends. If you would wish me to include yourselves please let me know. I do not wish to overburden you with emails! It includes many interesting articles, in July's Newsletter I have composed an article and history on Nurse Edith Cavell who was executed by the Germans for assisting soldiers escape and to get out of Germany.

Sending you all best wishes and blessings,  
Prayerfully Yours

GGT.

Rt Rev Major David Bennett ( Padre ).

Captain Anne Bennett (Welfare Officer)

‘And the heavens opened, and lucky all was not washed away’... those few that passed were as if drowned rats!

I set up at 7 30, in fine weather ,light breeze...a passing stranger in search of food, helped me to erect the gazebo, unfortunately had to park on the opposite side of the road, carrying all across,..

It was MENDLESON ON MULL day.

Two concerts starting after lunch in Aros Hall.

My saviour was a. large sheet of clear plastic, which I covered one side completely, .that was to save what was to come.

With all in situ, I wondered why there was no one about, as I could see the ‘Linnie; boat on the Mac pier, at least there was one boat in, if the other was cancelled..., I must have looked cold, when the conductor of the orchestra brought me a mug of coffee, he was staying in the house set back from the Hall.

He had looked up the Oban Times about the Foreign Legion medal that took his eye I know all about it’ colonel.’ He later brought one of the orchestra chaps who was a Frenchman to talk to me and we discussed Epinol,

I was first aware that the liner had arrived, when my first customer said he was off it. All the books on the liner were in German! At that point, around half eight, the downpour came, continuous, isolating the stand and contents it seemed to never let up,, but the gazebo was water tight, thankfully, .the clear sheet on the side protecting the books.

One thousand eight hundred souls, where were they? no one about. And who could blame them, by eleven; I had taken eight pounds in the bucket. To keep warm I had to dodge, and frequent the hall to get warm, there I met two ladies off a yacht , they were from Ainsley Close, Great

Harwood, just above where Marcelle lives, here for a week we agreed to meet up.

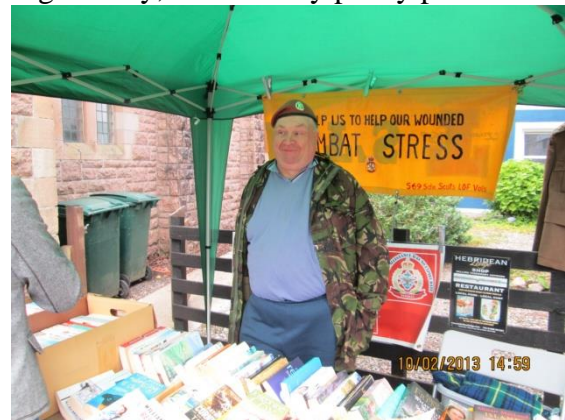
With no help, Margaret and big Tony (Java) away on holiday Ivonne arrived, (the town librarian), who said. I can’t leave you on your own’ and she stayed the rest of the day, to go to work at four. Having knowledge of book, I have none, she was a great help.

A German man came and asked me if I wanted German Scout badges, he gave me two warning one was Hitler Youth, which was banned. !!! Why he mistook me for a scout? He insisted we shook’ left’ hands, as scouts, I think I should send the badges to Klaus 6<sup>th</sup> Para,. LOF.

The sun came out as did the visitors, a Mac Arms lunch arrived, to help,, and Ivonne, .and myself decided to wrap up, one thirty,, she was magnificent, as usual, .good to share everything, and a real companion.

The takings £ 61, is it worth the pain and cold? To miss the blether, and meeting the variety, of different shapes and sizes. And accents, and the unasked for hugs, We had cleared all, when one lady came and slipped a pound coin in my pocket, that’s because you care for others ‘. That coin made the total £ 61.

A good day, worth every penny piece!!!



Ken, Scots LOF GGT



They were Yorkshire based, Halifax, or thereabouts some were from Hull, as was Pen Smith.

The crossed arrows are something to do with the area.

The medal was awarded profusely, but the Unit, I was told, did not wear it, but the last three members preferred those complementary. Which you can buy [??@+????...daft](#) idea!!!

Ken GGT



Dear Val,

**All these items were handed over with the Hallamshire colour.**

**We may need help from Geoff to identify some as some are foreign to my own knowledge.**

**As far as I can gather, the Hallamshire Command was commanded by Raymond Howard, ex-police inspector they were Europe Command (see the EC on the top of the cap badge, and the British Isles in the centre), also in wire embroidered.**

**The crossed swords on red background were worn as collar dogs.**

They were with Barry Metcalf before he went to Canada to start his Independent Unit.

One time IOC ?

Hi Val, Ken has started a habit of asking me simple questions which need complicated answers! He asked me another one yesterday.

Hallamshire: For once Wikipedia is reasonably accurate. It is the area of South Yorkshire where Raymond Howard lived. It is connected to the legend of Robin Hood, so I assume that is why the arrows were used on some form of area badge.

Metal badge plus embroidered badges top left: These are the badges of the "European Command" of the Legion now defunct. In the mid 1980s a man of Hull joined the Legion. He claimed that he had recently retired from the RAMC as WO2. He lasted 6 weeks until he was shown the door when it was discovered that he had not actually retired but had been kicked out of the army and served a couple of years prison for offences I would not enlarge upon to a lady. He then formed his own "European Command" of the Legion with himself as self-appointed Brigadier. He owned an army surplus/militaria shop in Hull. For several years he produced a magazine in which inaccurately he claimed affiliation for his "European Command" to various official European organisations. (We have some copies) He could be very economical with

the truth! He recruited steadily and granted senior officer rank right left and centre. When he tried to form a cadet group aided by another ex-Frontiersman whose interest in teenage boys was also not always educational, he attracted the interest of local papers which published some uncomplimentary articles about him. Both LOF HQ and Can Div UK contacted various authorities and the MOD to try and get him shut down but it was considered a civil matter. Eventually in the early 90s he decided to change the name of the organisation and re-invent the "Independent Overseas Legion of Frontiersmen", which had ceased to exist in 1934 when it was amalgamated back into LOF. Some of his recruits thereafter

were interesting characters, but the man eventually took a back seat. I am not sure if he is still alive. Therefore these are badges of an organisation that existed for less than 10 years. As to the epaulettes with the crossed swords I can only assume that these were senior rank badges for European Command or IOC, but I admit I have never seen these before.

Any more questions, please fire them at us. Hopefully H&A can answer more simply. Best regards, Geoff.



Correction I have his old uniform blues! Dear man, cannot complain as he was kind and generous to the Scots whatever he was Ken GGT



Members of F Troop, Oldest serving member Doreen Alexander QSM front right.



Y Squadron Anthony Clarke, Cpl Reg Clarke, Major Arthur Myers, Bibian Clarke.



NZ HQ L- R RSM Ross Vaile, Capt Ali Baker, Lt Col Val Baker, Major Joe Yearbury, Major Arthur Myers, Capt Murray Hamblin absent Capt Kathy Butler.



W. Troop Lt Graham Stokes, Sgt Carol Stokes, Roanne Roy and Fm Rob Roy.



E & P units L – R John Osborne, Wayne Burrows, Mike Subritzky Pnr, Lt Mike Smith



N Squadron, Pnr Alfie Hepburn, Maxine Beamont, Pnr and Life member Athol Smith, Sue Smith

**Annual Conference Whakatane 2020.**

Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Sat 30<sup>th</sup> & Sun 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2020 at the Tuscany Villas Boutique Hotel, Whakatane. Registration will be held at the Tuscany Villas from 3-00pm.

**Registration Form.**

|                              |                                  |         |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Member                       | Companion                        |         |
| Surname.....                 | Surname.....                     |         |
| First Name.....              | First Name.....                  |         |
| Postal Address.....          |                                  |         |
| Telephone Number.....        | Mobile.....                      |         |
| Squadron Troop and Rank..... | Email.....                       |         |
| Registration.                | Number..... @ \$85-00 per person | \$..... |
| Sunday Lunch                 | Number.....@ \$15-00 per person  | \$..... |

Total.

\$.....Registration \$85-00 per person includes Saturday morning snack, lunch, afternoon tea and Saturday Dinner.

The Saturday evening meal will be held at Spice Junction just a short walk along the road at 6-00PM.

The Conference will be held at the Tuscany Villas. Awards will also be held in the evening at Tuscany Villas.

Registrations to the Secretary:

Sgt/Sec Julia Stevenson-Renwick  
224A, James Street,  
Whakatane, 3120.

Phone 07 308 5329 or 0211029866.

Please make cheques payable to L.O.F. "Y" Squadron.

Accommodation Please make your own arrangements with the Hotel direct. Their contact is below: -

Tuscany Villas Boutique Hotel, 57, the Strand East, Whakatane 3120. Phone 07 308 2244 m

0273082244 email [stay@tuscanyvillas.co.nz](mailto:stay@tuscanyvillas.co.nz) [www.tuscanyvillas.co.nz](http://www.tuscanyvillas.co.nz)

Quote booking reference #777 and please book before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

Do you need a pick up from airport YES/NO If yes, what date and arrival time? Flight  
number.....

Do you have any special dietary requirements? YES/NO If yes, what are they please?

**NO LATE REGISTRATIONS AFTER MARCH 31 2020**



