



## W3 Company RNZIR 40th Anniversary Reunion 2010

**Reunion Date:** the Reunion Committee has selected the weekend of Friday to Monday 19 – 22 November 2010 as the dates for the W3 40th Anniversary Reunion. This weekend is past Canterbury Show weekend and meets the criteria of 'it ain't a birthday till its past'. The following detail is from the Committee planning notes.

### **Venues:**

**Latimer Hotel.** Following a successful V5 reunion held Queens Birthday weekend 2009 at the Latimer Hotel in central Christchurch, the Latimer Hotel complex will be first choice for an accommodation and function venue. This has advantages of having most attendees under one roof for accommodation, off-road parking for visitors, there are several function rooms and bars, and much of the organising can be left to Hotel staff. The Committee has obtained special pricing for the accommodation.

**Papanui RSA.** Papanui RSA has the advantage of being close to Christchurch airport for late Sunday departures while within the city-wide public transport network and is first choice for the Sunday activities.

**Programme:** The theme for the weekend will be developed around the statement 'this could be W3's last reunion'. In line with this statement the reunion committee felt the programme needed more social time but not at a hectic pace. It was considered that a longer reunion was needed to meet this aim and the following outline programme is proposed:

**Friday Night:** 'meet and greet' at the Latimer bar from 6PM. Bar food will be provided. Invited - any Vietnam veterans in the greater Christchurch area.

**Saturday:** Options period, including doing nothing organised. It is proposed to arrange an all-day bus trip to Esk Valley near Timaru to greet and farewell Dave Wright 2Pl. Golf not recommended due to facility issues. The committee is open to other options for day activities such as vineyard tours, or an informal bus tour of Burnham Camp.

**Saturday Night:** Formal dinner [perhaps with Regimental colour 2/1 RNZIR present], short catwalk display of modern equipment, and afterwards a band. Invited – registered veterans and NOK plus special guests

**Sunday Morning:** 1100 memorial service at Capt Charles Upham VC & Bar gravesite near Papanui RSA. Following the service a buffet lunch at Papanui RSA is proposed.

**Sunday Afternoon:** Remain at Papanui RSA for the W3 AGM, followed by further opportunity to mingle and perhaps have dobs and other activities, presentation of attendance certificates to veterans and family NOK attending.

**Sunday Night:** Bar food or buffet meal and music, private farewells.

**Monday:** dispersal with assistance from Christchurch veterans.

**Registration fee:** The Committee feels that an early registration deposit was not required. It was preferable veterans' register and separately make their own accommodation bookings [which might require a deposit] and that seed money be from the existing funds and any grants obtained.

**Attendance & Invitations:** A planning figure for events might be 150 people attending at various times, made up of W3 veterans and any NOK willing to travel [all will be invited] and their partners, guests, outside registrations [e.g. Australian veterans from 6RAR and 2RAR, FOO party from 4 Fd Regiment RAA]. Invitations to special guests at some events will vary. A list of special invitations will be developed.

**Commemorative Attendance Certificate:** Ideas for memorabilia of the reunion was discussed. The Committee considered that clothing items were not really popular or necessary. The meeting considered in lieu of other ideas a Certificate of Attendance of sufficient quality to be pride of place on recipients walls would suffice.

**Publicity:** A wide publicity programme will be needed to reach most veterans. It will start as soon as possible but crank up in early-2010.