



Graham Gibson

Details of Service History

- Enlisted in the New Zealand Army in Jan 1968, as a Regular Force Cadet (Waiouru).
- On graduating in December 1968, I was posted as an infantry Instructor (RNZIR) to NSTU Burnham.
- Posted to Singapore in May 1970.
- In May 1971 posted on Active Service to Vietnam with 4RAR/NZ ANZAC Battalion (Victor 6).

External Service History

- Private Military Contractor (PMC) Security Afghanistan and Iraq 2005/07.

RNZRSA Involvement

- Member of the Auckland RSA for over 23 years
- Executive Committee for the past 20 years. Have held the position of Vice President for 3 years and President for the past 12 years.
- Currently Auckland District RSAs President for 4 years and member of the RNZRSA Forum.
- A supporter/fundraiser for the Auckland District Women's Sections / RNZRSA National Women's Association
- Strong advocate for Veterans support and Veterans issues.
- I was instrumental in advocating with the then Prime Minister Helen Clark to ensure that veterans service since WW2 was recognised by the issuing of the NZ Operational Service Medal (NZOSM)
- I have negotiated with many generous benefactors who have been willing to sponsor numerous projects for the RSA including this year's National Conference.

Community Service

- Vice Chairman / Principal Fundraiser - Fields of Remembrance Trust WW1 (2014-2018) Commemoration/(White Crosses Project) generating \$1.6 million in sponsorship, in collaboration with RNZRSA, Passchendaele Society and Auckland RSA.
- National Vice President of the New Zealand Vietnam Veterans Assn. (Principle tasking Sponsorship/Fundraising).
- Trustee – New Zealand Vietnam Veterans and Families Trust.
- Instrumental in obtaining funding for the NZDF/Invictus Games participation, in collaboration with the Christchurch Memorial RSA.

Vision for RSA Going Forward

- Strong Welfare/Support and Advocacy for our veterans, their families and dependents.
- Transparency - openness and honesty with our membership organisations.

- Strong representation to Government, VANZ and other Government agencies to improve outcomes/benefits to veterans and their families.
- Focusing on working with National Office, RNZRSA Board and Presidents Forum to ensure these groups are working for the benefit of **all members** of the RSA community.
- Whilst I certainly adhere to the fact that the RSA was formed primary to support the needs of our Veterans, those that had served, we must also ensure we support the health of our Associations, assisting them to be viable for **ALL** members of the RSA family to enjoy.
- I am committed to supporting our RNZRSA Board, the President's Forum, to create a strong team to meet the needs of our RSA community into the future