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1. **Purpose**

1.1 This Policy provides guidance on the provision of plaques or headstones for eligible veterans and their spouses or partners.

1.2 Veterans’ Affairs does not arrange for, reimburse, or subsidise burial plots, or make decisions on who can be buried in a services cemetery. These arrangements are made between the local council and a veteran’s or spouse’s or partner’s estate.

2. **Legislative Reference**

2.1 The relevant legislative provision is section 156 of the Veterans’ Support Act 2014 (the Act). Eligibility for burial in a services cemetery is covered in section 15 of the Burial and Cremation Act 1964.

3. **Plaques or headstones**

3.1 Veterans’ Affairs is responsible for providing service plaques and headstones where burial of eligible veterans (see section 5 below) and their spouses or partners is in a New Zealand services cemetery. In such cases Veterans’ Affairs will pay the full cost of the plaque or headstone and for the installation of these.

3.2 A services cemetery is a part of a cemetery set aside to be used for the burial of eligible veterans, and/or their spouses or partners.

*Section 156(1) of the Veterans’ Support Act 2014 and section 15 of the Burial and Cremation Act 1964*

3.3 Alternatively, Veterans’ Affairs will contribute up to NZ$1,000 towards the cost of a plaque or headstone of an eligible veteran and their spouse or partner where interment is in a private or public cemetery.

3.4 Veterans’ Affairs will not pay the NZ$1,000 contribution if the person for whom the plaque or headstone is sought died before 1 July 2016.

3.5 Veterans’ Affairs does not normally contribute funding for an additional plaque or headstone for a veteran or their spouse or partner where there is already a plaque or headstone in place (in New Zealand or overseas) for that veteran or spouse or partner, regardless of whether Veterans’ Affairs funded the first plaque or headstone or not. (Note: refer to section 5 regarding plaques or headstones for spouses or partners of eligible veterans).

4. **True War Graves**

4.1 Veterans who served in the First World War and who died during combat or from wounds relating to their service before 31 August 1921 are eligible for
“True War Graves”. Similarly, veterans who served in the Second World War and died in combat or from combat-related wounds before 31 December 1947 are eligible for “True War Graves”. True War Graves (including the plaques and headstones) are administered by the Ministry of Culture and Heritage.

5. **Eligibility for plaques or headstones**

5.1 Appendix 1 sets out a chart on *Eligibility for Burial in a New Zealand Services Cemetery and Eligibility to a Plaque or Headstone*.

5.2 A person is eligible for funding for a service plaque or headstone and its installation, if they are:

- A New Zealand serviceperson who served before 1 April 1974, had specified operational service in His or Her Majesty’s Forces under section 15 of the Burial and Cremation Act 1964 that is qualifying routine or qualifying operational service under the Veterans’ Support Act 2014; or

- a New Zealand serviceperson who served on or after 1 April 1974, and had specified operational service in Her Majesty’s Forces under section 15 of the Burial and Cremation Act 1964 that is qualifying operational service under the Veterans’ Support Act 2014; or

- the spouse/partner of a serviceperson who meets the eligibility criteria above.

5.3 The Minister for Veterans specifies which operational service provides eligibility for interment in a services cemetery. The list of specified operational service is available on the Veterans’ Affairs website.

**Overseas servicepersons**

**Allied Countries**

5.4 Servicepersons from allied (non-Commonwealth) countries such as the USA are not entitled to interment in a services cemetery, nor to a plaque or headstone.

**Commonwealth countries**

5.5 Under the provisions of the Burial and Cremation Act 1964, Commonwealth servicepersons who have served in specified operational service that New Zealand Armed Forces have served in may be interred in a services cemetery, as may their spouses or partners.

5.6 Although they are eligible for interment in a services cemetery they are not eligible for a plaque or headstone under section 156 of the Veterans’ Support Act 2014 and their family or estate must bear the costs. The plaque or headstone, however, must conform to standards and requirements and be made and installed by Veterans' Affairs' provider. Details for inscription on the plaque or headstone will be verified by Veterans’ Affairs with the relevant overseas service if the estate is unable to provide the necessary service papers. (This verification can take a considerable amount of time).
In the past Veterans’ Affairs has funded plaques and headstones for Commonwealth or other allied countries’ servicepersons and their spouses/partners. In those cases, Veterans’ Affairs will fund the replacement of a plaque or headstone where a serviceperson of a Commonwealth or other allied country has been buried in a New Zealand services cemetery and the spouse or partner is to be interred in the same plot (or if the spouse or partner has been interred first and the serviceperson is to be interred in the same plot). This policy applies only if the application for the original plaque or headstone was received before 1 July 2016.

Veterans’ Affairs will contribute as set out in paragraph 3.3 towards the replacement of a plaque or headstone where a serviceperson of a Commonwealth or other allied country has been buried in the public area of a cemetery and the spouse or partner is to be interred in the same plot (or if the spouse or partner has been interred first and the serviceperson is to be interred in the same plot). This policy applies only if the application for the original plaque or headstone was received before 1 July 2016.

The following persons do not meet the requirements of section 15(1) of the Burial and Cremation Act 1964 for interment in a service cemetery as they are not members of Her Majesty’s Forces. Because of this they are also not eligible for a plaque or headstone under section 156 of the Veterans’ Support Act:

- members of the Merchant Navy/Marine and Allied forces
- members of any police force
- members of the civilian surgical team based at Qui Nhon Provincial State Hospital, Viet Nam
- those who served in the conflict in Palestine after 14 August 1945 when it was no longer deemed part of Second World War service.

If a person who is not eligible under the Burial and Cremation Act 1964 has already been buried in a services cemetery, Veterans’ Affairs will not provide the plaque or headstone. A service plaque, however, must be made by the Veterans’ Affairs approved provider to show the deceased person’s name, age, date of death and an ionic cross only. No other emblems or references are added to the plaque. Funding will not be provided by Veterans’ Affairs for either the service plaque or headstone or a re-make at a later date to include details of the spouse or partner.

A veteran’s spouse/partner is eligible to be interred in the same plot in a services cemetery. Where a veteran has had more than one spouse or partner, the name of only one spouse can be recorded on the plaque or
headstone. (Most local councils will not allow the burial of more than one spouse or partner in a services cemetery).

5.12 Veterans’ Affairs will fund a:

- plaque or headstone if the spouse/partner pre-deceases the veteran and the veteran is to be interred in the same plot
- replacement plaque or headstone when the veteran’s spouse or partner dies after the veteran and is interred in the same plot
- separate plaque or headstone when the spouse or partner cannot be buried in the same plot (e.g. because double burials in the same plot are not permitted by the services cemetery’s authority due to issues with the land).

5.13 The name of the spouse or partner will be included on the veteran’s plaque or headstone only when the remains of the spouse or partner are interred with the veteran.

Veterans already commemorated in a Commonwealth cemetery overseas

5.14 A veteran already buried or commemorated in a Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery overseas is not eligible for a burial plot in a services cemetery in New Zealand. If a local authority provides a plot in a services cemetery, Veterans’ Affairs will not contribute towards the cost of a service plaque or headstone. However, the family must use Veterans’ Affairs’ provider to make and install the service plaque or headstone. The veteran’s family needs to organise and fund their own plaque or headstone if they are seeking to commemorate the veteran in a public or private cemetery.

New Zealand veterans or their spouse or partner interred overseas

5.15 For New Zealand veterans or their spouse or partner interred overseas, Veterans’ Affairs will provide a contribution for a plaque or headstone only for those veterans or spouse or partner who meet the eligibility criteria as set out in paragraph 5.1.

Plaques or headstones in public cemeteries

5.16 If a veteran’s or spouse’s or partner’s estate wishes to install a service plaque or headstone, the estate must order the plaque or headstone from the Veterans’ Affairs approved provider.

5.17 Veterans’ Affairs will contribute towards amending or replacing an existing plaque or headstone to add details of one deceased spouse or partner.

5.18 Veterans’ Affairs will not provide a plaque or headstone in a services cemetery if the veteran’s remains are to be left in a public cemetery.

6. Applications for plaques or headstones

6.1 A plaque or headstone will be arranged for a deceased veteran or their spouse or partner when:
• a completed application form has been supplied to Veterans’ Affairs
• the supporting evidence required by Veterans’ Affairs has been provided, and
• Veterans’ Affairs has accepted the application.

6.2 Where a veteran or their spouse or partner is being buried in a services cemetery, applications for the service plaque or headstone may be made by the funeral director representing the deceased’s estate, directly by the estate, or by a representative authorised to act on behalf of the estate.

6.3 Where a veteran or spouse or partner is being interred in the public area of a cemetery or in a private cemetery Veterans’ Affairs will only accept applications for contributions towards costs from the deceased’s estate or a representative authorised to act on behalf of the estate.

6.4 A party, not authorised to act on behalf of the veteran’s or spouse’s or partner’s estate, who wishes to install a plaque or headstone needs to seek out the deceased veteran’s or spouse’s or partner’s estate and ask them to contact Veterans’ Affairs.

6.5 If the information on a veteran’s or spouse’s or partner’s service plaque is incorrect, Veterans’ Affairs will replace the plaque or headstone with one showing the correct information. If a family member comes forward after the veteran’s or spouse’s or partner’s death seeking to correct information on a service plaque or headstone, a signed affidavit needs to be provided stating the applicant is authorised to act on behalf of the veteran’s or spouse’s or partner’s estate (e.g. as the deceased’s executor).

6.6 If there is a family dispute over a veteran’s or their spouse’s or partner’s burial arrangements (including plaques and headstones) the executor or administrator of the veteran’s or spouse’s or partner’s estate only has the right under law to make decisions. If the family wants to challenge the executor’s decisions they would need to take the matter to Court. If there is no executor or administrator a family member may apply to the Court to become one. (Note: the Court will usually appoint an administrator according to a particular order). Where more than one person is claiming to be the executor or administrator of the estate Veterans’ Affairs needs to see a copy of the court order granting administration for the estate or for the part of the estate relevant to the question of burial and plaques and headstones (see separate policy on Persons with legal authority to act as executor of a claimant’s estate).

Application process

If Veterans’ Affairs becomes aware of a death

6.7 If Veterans’ Affairs becomes aware of a veteran’s or spouse’s or partner’s death it will ensure the estate is aware it can apply to test eligibility for plaques or headstones in a services cemetery.
Ordering a plaque or headstone in advance of death

6.8 Applications for a plaque or headstone cannot be accepted in advance of death. The veteran or spouse or partner should advise the administrator of his/her estate of their wishes regarding burial in a services cemetery.

Evidence required

6.9 Applicants should supply evidence to Veterans’ Affairs of the veteran’s service, including the deceased veteran’s service number, branch of service, highest rank and unit. Note that the issuing of a certificate of appreciation or medallion recognition does not constitute verification of service.

Veterans who served with overseas forces

6.10 For Commonwealth veterans Veterans’ Affairs will check whether the service meets the required eligibility criteria and will ensure that the service details are correctly recorded on the plaque or headstone (see also section 5).

Sections 7 – 9 of the Veterans’ Support Act 2014

Obtaining the necessary documentation well in advance

6.11 It can take some time to verify service. It is helpful for a person who wishes to be buried in a services cemetery to obtain documents verifying their service in advance of his or her death.

Timeline for applications

6.12 Veterans’ Affairs must within 7 working days after receiving the application, acknowledge receipt of the application, and must keep the claimant up-to-date on the progress of the application.

6.13 Veterans’ Affairs will make a decision on a claim as soon as practicable after receipt of the application. If further information is required that Veterans’ Affairs does not hold, this process will take longer.

6.14 Veterans’ Affairs will give notice of its decision on a claim in writing, providing:

- the reasons for the decision, and
- information about the claimant’s right of review.

Section 11, Veterans’ Support Act 2014

Timelines for unveiling

6.15 Estates can indicate on the application form that the plaque or headstone is required for a specific date for unveiling. Applicants should be aware, however, that the provider of the plaque may not be able to meet the estate’s deadline. Where this is the case, the provider will advise the estate direct, or will notify Veterans’ Affairs who will advise the estate.
7. Delayed Application for plaque or headstone

7.1 In circumstances where a delay in notification of death has impacted on the date an application is made for a plaque or headstone, the Death Verification information advised to us by the Department of Internal Affairs, in place of a Death Certificate, may be applied for decision-making purposes.

8. Appearance of plaques and headstones

8.1 The type of plaque or headstone will depend on the cemetery. For uniformity, cemeteries usually only permit one type. Each option below will depend on the cemetery.

Bronze plaque

8.2 There are three types of bronze plaques:

a. Single
b. Double (veteran and their non veteran spouse or partner)
c. Double veteran

Granite plaque (for Rotorua Services Cemetery only, due to impacts of the environment)

8.3 Granite plaques (single or double or double veteran):

a. Rectangle (for burials)
b. Square (for cremations)

Granite headstone

8.4 The three types of granite headstones:

a. Single
b. Double
c. Double veteran
Appearance of plaques or headstones

Inscription example

8.5 Service plaques and headstones have a standard design set by Veterans’ Affairs. Veterans’ Affairs contracts a provider to manufacture all service plaques and headstones to this standard design. Only officially manufactured service plaques and headstones may be installed in a services cemetery.

8.6 The inscriptions on plaques or headstones within services cemeteries are standardised and it is not possible to deviate from the set format or to include any personal messages or photographs. There is no restriction on the style or content of plaques and headstones where interment occurs in a public cemetery, except that service details must be verified.

Name

8.7 One first name can be shown in full; or a nickname may be shown in brackets after the initials. For a spouse or partner who is not a veteran, the plaque or headstone will show the name, date of death and age (optional) only.

Decorations/Awards

8.8 Decorations/awards are:

- combatant awards for military personnel for acts of gallantry and bravery in times of war or in war-like conditions
- non-combatant awards for acts of bravery in saving or attempting to save life
- civilian awards bestowed by the Queen (till May 1996)
honours bestowed by the New Zealand government (post 1996).

8.9 Honours or awards do not include:

- campaign medals
- Dr, which is an academic, not military title
- Sir or Dame (these honorifics are entailed in the award's initials, e.g. D.B.E. and K.B.E., which are permitted to appear on the plaque or headstone)
- Honours or awards for operational services for forces other than Her Majesty’s Forces.

8.10 When an order form for an ex-service plaque or headstone includes a decoration/award to be shown in the inscription, Veterans’ Affairs will:

a. verify that the decoration/award is on the list of accepted decorations/awards attached at Appendix 2
b. confirm verification of the decoration/award having been bestowed by:
   - requesting that the family/funeral director provides a copy of the citation, or
   - checking with the Honours Secretariat office, or
   - reviewing accepted published guides such as “Service Lives Remembered” by Howard E. Chamberlain.

Service, including Service Number

8.11 Where the veteran has had qualifying service in both the New Zealand Armed Forces and another Commonwealth service, only one service number and one service emblem can be shown.

8.12 As noted in paragraph 5.9 where an ineligible serviceperson has been buried in a services cemetery the plaque will only show the name, age and date of the death of the deceased and an ionic cross.

Rank

8.13 The highest rank attained by the veteran, regardless of whether it was obtained during war time or in post war service, is shown on the plaque or headstone.

Unit

8.14 The war-time unit or corps is shown using the standard abbreviations e.g. N.Z.A., or N.Z. ENGINEERS. For infantry personnel either the particular battalion (e.g. 22 BTN) or regiment (N.Z. INFANTRY) may be shown, but not both.

8.15 Navy personnel will generally have the unit shown as R.N.Z.N., or R.N. If there was service on a particular ship this can be shown instead (e.g. H.M.N.Z.S. ACHILLES).
8.16 Similarly Air Force personnel will generally have the unit shown as R.N.Z.A.F. or R.A.F. Service with a particular squadron e.g. 74 SQN can be shown instead.

8.17 More than one service, or arm of service (unit reference) can be shown, for example 2\textsuperscript{ND} NZEF, KOREA, or R.N.Z.A.F., R.N.Z.N..

**War**

8.18 For those who served overseas during the Second World War in the navy or air force, the war is shown as 1939-45. However, for army personnel who served overseas during the Second World War the war is shown as 2ND NZEF.

8.19 For post Second World War conflicts, the specific area is used, e.g. KOREA, MALAYA or VIETNAM.

8.20 More than one conflict where the veteran had service can be shown on the plaque. Each conflict named has to be deemed *qualifying operational service* under the Veterans’ Support Act 2014.

**Date of Death and Age**

8.21 While the date of death is always shown, the age at death is optional. The date of birth is not included in the inscription.

**Personal messages**

8.22 It is not possible to include any personal message or inscription on a plaque or headstone.

**Emblems**

8.23 There are standard emblems for all arms of the services. An illustrated list of the standard emblems available can be found at Appendix 3.

8.24 Individual unit emblems may be included on the plaque or headstone. A list of the individual emblems we have used previously can be found at Appendix 4. If the emblem is not listed the veteran’s estate should contact Veterans’ Affairs.

9. **Maintenance of service plaques and headstones**

9.1 Local authorities are responsible for the upkeep of the services cemeteries, including the upkeep of plaques or headstones once they are installed, using the maintenance grant provided by Veterans’ Affairs.

9.2 Veterans’ Affairs will consider a contribution to the cost of replacement of damaged, vandalised or stolen service plaques or headstones, in conjunction with the local authority.

9.3 Photographic evidence will need to be provided of the plaque or headstone before and after damage.

9.4 Veterans’ Affairs will not fund replacement of a service plaque or headstone where replacement is requested due to the natural ageing process or need for basic cleaning.
9.5 Veterans’ Affairs is not responsible for the maintenance of a private headstone or plaque.

10. **Reviews, Appeals and Complaints**

10.1 Where an applicant disagrees about a decision concerning eligibility for a service plaque or headstone see separate policies on *Reviews* and *Appeals*. 
Appendix 1: Eligibility for Burial in a NZ Services Cemetery and Eligibility to a Plaque or Headstone

ELIGIBILITY FOR BURIAL IN A NZ SERVICES CEMETERY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BURIAL AND CREMATION ACT 1964 – section 15</th>
<th>Administered by the Ministry of Health</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who decides who can be interred a NZ services cemetery?</td>
<td>The local authority responsible for the relevant public cemetery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is eligible for interment?</td>
<td>Members of His or Her Majesty’s Forces who have been on operational service, and their spouse or partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the definition of (His) Her Majesty’s Forces?</td>
<td>Any of His or Her Majesty’s naval, military, or air forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who decides what operational service is?</td>
<td>The Minister for Veterans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is operational service?</td>
<td>Service declared by the Minister for Veterans for the purposes of the Burial and Cremation Act 1964 to be operational service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What member of (His) Her Majesty’s Forces other than NZ can be buried in a NZ service cemetery?</td>
<td>Any of His or Her Majesty’s naval, military, or air forces who have served on the same operational service as New Zealand’s Armed Forces</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ELIGIBILITY TO A PLAQUE OR HEADSTONE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VETERANS’ SUPPORT ACT 2014 – section 156</th>
<th>Administered by the New Zealand Defence Force</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who is eligible for a plaque or headstone (or contribution)?</td>
<td>A veteran (as defined in the Veterans’ Support Act 2014) who must also be eligible for burial in a services cemetery; and their spouse or partner (including a veteran with qualifying routine service who has operational service under the Burial and Cremation Act)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is a veteran but is not eligible for burial in a services cemetery?</td>
<td>Members of the NZ Police (UNIFICYP), members of the Civilian Surgical Medical Team- Qui Nhon Vietnam, Members of the Merchant Navy, Members of NZ’s Armed Forces with Qualifying Routine service who do not have operational service under the Burial and Cremation Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is not eligible for a plaque or headstone but is eligible for burial</td>
<td>Members of His or Her Majesty’s Forces who are not members of New Zealand’s Armed Forces</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Appendix 2: Accepted decorations and awards for inscription on a veteran’s service plaque or headstone**

*Campaign medals and stars, Victory medals, Long Service and Good Conduct medals or the like are not shown on service plaques or headstones.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air Efficiency Award</td>
<td>A.E.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force Cross</td>
<td>A.F.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force Medal</td>
<td>A.F.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Royal Red Cross</td>
<td>A.R.R.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bailiff or Dame Grand Cross of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem</td>
<td>G.C.St.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baronet</td>
<td>Bt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Empire Medal</td>
<td>B.E.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain of the Order of St John of Jerusalem</td>
<td>Ch.St.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonial Auxiliary Forces Officer's Decoration</td>
<td>V.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commander of the Order of the British Empire</td>
<td>C.B.E.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commander of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem</td>
<td>C.St.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commander of the Royal Victorian Order</td>
<td>C.V.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companion of the Distinguished Service Order</td>
<td>D.S.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companion of the Imperial Service Order</td>
<td>I.S.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit</td>
<td>C.N.Z.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George</td>
<td>C.M.G.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companion of the Order of the Bath</td>
<td>C.B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companion of the Queens Service Order</td>
<td>Q.S.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conspicuous Gallantry Medal</td>
<td>C.G.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dame Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George</td>
<td>D.C.M.G.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dame Commander of the Order of the Bath</td>
<td>D.C.B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire</td>
<td>D.B.E.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dame Commander of the Royal Victorian Order</td>
<td>D.C.V.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit</td>
<td>D.N.Z.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dame of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem</td>
<td>D.St.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit</td>
<td>D.C.N.Z.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Conduct Medal</td>
<td>D.C.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Flying Cross</td>
<td>D.F.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Flying Medal</td>
<td>D.F.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Service Cross</td>
<td>D.S.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Service Medal</td>
<td>D.S.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Efficiency Decoration</td>
<td>E.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esquire of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem</td>
<td>Esq.St.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Cross</td>
<td>G.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Medal</td>
<td>G.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings Police and Fire Service Medal</td>
<td>K.P.F.S.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings Police Medal</td>
<td>K.P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight Bachelor</td>
<td>K.B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight Bachelor</td>
<td>Kt.Bach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George</td>
<td>K.C.M.G.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath</td>
<td>K.C.B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire</td>
<td>K.B.E.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order</td>
<td>K.C.V.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit</td>
<td>K.N.Z.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight Companion of the Order of the Garter</td>
<td>K.G.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem</td>
<td>K.St.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight of the Order of the Thistle</td>
<td>K.T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight or Dame Grand Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit</td>
<td>G.N.Z.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight or Dame Grand Cross of the Order of Saint Michael and</td>
<td>G.C.M.G.</td>
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<td>Saint George</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knight or Dame Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath</td>
<td>G.C.B.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knight or Dame Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire</td>
<td>G.C.E.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knight or Dame Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order</td>
<td>G.C.V.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lady of the Order of the Garter</td>
<td>L.G.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lady of the Order of the Thistle</td>
<td>L.T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order</td>
<td>L.V.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit</td>
<td>M.N.Z.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member of the Order of Merit</td>
<td>O.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member of the Order of New Zealand</td>
<td>O.N.Z.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member of the Order of the British Empire</td>
<td>M.B.E.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member of the Order of the Companions of Honour</td>
<td>C.H.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem</td>
<td>M.St.J.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member of the Royal Victorian Order</td>
<td>M.V.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentioned in Despatches</td>
<td>M.I.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meritorious Service Medal</td>
<td>M.S.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Cross</td>
<td>M.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Medal</td>
<td>M.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Zealand Antarctic Medal</td>
<td>N.Z.A.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand Bravery Decoration</td>
<td>N.Z.B.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand Bravery Medal</td>
<td>N.Z.B.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Zealand Bravery Star</td>
<td>N.Z.B.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Zealand Cross</td>
<td>N.Z.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Zealand Distinguished Service Decoration</td>
<td>N.Z.D.S.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand Gallantry Decoration</td>
<td>N.Z.G.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand Gallantry Medal</td>
<td>N.Z.G.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand Gallantry Star</td>
<td>N.Z.G.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit</td>
<td>O.N.Z.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officer of the Order of the British Empire</td>
<td>O.B.E.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officer of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem</td>
<td>O.St.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit</td>
<td>P.C.N.Z.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen’s Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air</td>
<td>Q.C.V.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen’s Commendation for Brave Conduct</td>
<td>Q.C.B.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens Fire Service Medal</td>
<td>Q.F.S.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens Gallantry Medal</td>
<td>Q.G.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens Police Medal</td>
<td>Q.P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens Service Medal</td>
<td>Q.S.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Marine Forces Volunteer Reserve Decoration</td>
<td>V.R.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Decoration</td>
<td>V.R.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal NZ Naval Volunteer Reserve Decoration</td>
<td>V.R.D.</td>
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<td>Title</td>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
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<td>------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Red Cross</td>
<td>R.R.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Victorian Medal</td>
<td>R.V.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serving Brother of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem</td>
<td>S.B.St.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serving Sister of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem</td>
<td>S.S.St.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territorial Decoration</td>
<td>T.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Cross</td>
<td>V.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Officer’s Decoration</td>
<td>V.D.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Appendix 3: Standard Emblems

**Standard Emblems for New Zealand Service Personnel**

- **Navy**
- **Army**
- **Army 2nd NZEF (Overseas Service)**
- **RNZAF Wartime Insignia**
- **Long Range Desert Group**
- **Holders of the Victoria Cross**
## Appendix 4: Special Emblems

Special emblems can be ordered for ex-service memorials as an alternative to the standard emblems. The list below shows those emblems that are currently available. If the emblem you prefer is not listed, please contact Veterans’ Affairs.

### New Zealand Emblems

#### World War I

- 1<sup>st</sup> NZEF
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Auckland Regt
- 5<sup>th</sup> M R Otago Hussars
- Auckland Mounted Rifles
- Canterbury Regt
- Machine Gun Corps
- Maori Pioneer Btn
- NZ Field Artillery
- NZ Signals
- Otago Regt

#### World War II

- HMNZS Achilles
- HMNZS Leander
- Fleet Air Arm
- 27 Machine Gun Btn (1<sup>st</sup> Echelon)
- NZ Army Nursing Service
- NZ Army Ordinance Corps
- NZ Army Service Corps
- NZ Artillery
- NZ Corps of Signals
- NZ Dental Corps
- NZ Engineers
- NZ Medical Corps
- NZ Provost Corps
- NZ Scottish Regt
- NZ Veterinary Corps
- NZWAAC
- RNZAF - 14 Sqn
- RNZAF - 75 Sqn
- RNZAF - 486 Sqn
- RNZAF – 489 Sqn

#### Post World War II

- HMNZS Pukaki
- NZ Infantry Regiment
- Royal NZ Armoured Corps
- Royal NZ Army Service Corps
- Royal NZ Artillery
- Royal NZ Army Dental Corps
- Royal NZ Electrical and Mechanical Engineers
- Royal NZ Engineers
- Royal NZ Infantry Regt
- Royal NZ Medical Corps
- Royal NZ Signals
- RNZAF – Post War

### British Emblems

- Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders
- Army Air Corps
- Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS)
- Black Watch, The
- Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers
- Royal Engineers (WWI)
- Royal Engineers (WWII)
- Royal Fusiliers, The
Cameron Highlanders, The
Duke of Wellington’s Regt
Green Howards, The (Yorkshire Regt)
Hampshire Regt, The
Highland Light Infantry
Indian Engineers
Kings Own Malta Regt, The
Kings Own Scottish Borderers
Manchester Regt
Middlesex Regt
Military Police Corps
Northamptonshire Regt
Parachute Regt
QAIMNS
Queens Own Royal West Kent Regt
Queens Royal Regt, The
Robin Hoods, The (Royal Artillery)
Royal Armoured Corps
Royal Army Chaplains’ Dept
Royal Army Medical Corps
Royal Army Ordinance Corps
Royal Army Service Corps
Royal Artillery
Royal Corps of Signals

Royal Horse Artillery
12th Royal Lancers
Royal Pioneer Corps
Royal Scots
Royal Scots Greys, The
Royal Sussex Regt, The
Royal Tank Regt, RAC
Royal Ulster Rifles, The
SAS
Scots Guards
Seaforth Highlanders, The
Welsh Guards

Other Emblems
(World War II Emblems unless otherwise stated)

Fiji Military Forces
Royal Canadian Air Force
Royal Canadian Navy
Royal Rhodesia Regt

Fleet Air Arm
Royal Naval Patrol Service
HMS Drake
HMS Gambia
HMS Ruler
RAF - 35 Sqn
RAF - 59 Sqn
RAF - 82 Sqn
RAF - 122 Wing
RAF - 214 Sqn
Glossary

**Burial** [section 156 (2)]
Burial includes the burial of cremated remains.

**Her Majesty’s Forces** [section 62, Part 3 of the Government Superannuation Fund Act 1956]
Means any of Her Majesty’s naval, military, or air forces, whether established before or after the commencement of this Act, and whether established in New Zealand or elsewhere.

**member of the armed forces** [section 7]
Means a person who is or has been a member of the New Zealand armed force raised by the Governor-General on behalf of the Sovereign,—
(a) whether in New Zealand or elsewhere; and
(b) whether before or after the passing of this Act.

**partner** [section 7]
Means a civil union partner or a de facto partner.

**qualifying operational service** [section 8]
Means—
(a) service on any deployment treated as a war or emergency for the purposes of the War Pensions Act 1954; or
(b) service on any deployment declared to be operational service under section 9.

**qualifying routine service** [section 8]
Means service in the armed forces before 1 April 1974 that is not qualifying operational service.

**qualifying service** [section 8]
Means—
(a) qualifying operational service; or
(b) qualifying routine service.

**service plaque or headstone** [policy]
Means:
a standardised services bronze plaque or a headstone provided by Veterans’ Affairs (or before 2000, provided by Internal Affairs).

**veteran** [section 7]
Means—
(a) a member of the armed forces who took part in qualifying operational service at the direction of the New Zealand Government; or
(aa) a member of the armed forces who took part in qualifying routine service before 1 April 1974; or
(b) a person:
   (i) who has been:
      (A) appointed as an employee of the Defence Force under section 61A of the Defence Act 1990; or
(B) seconded to the Defence Force with the permission of the Chief of Defense Force; and
(ii) who took part in qualifying operational service at the direction of the New Zealand Government; or
(c) a person who, immediately before the commencement of Part 3 of this Act, is eligible for a pension under the following provisions of the War Pensions Act 1954:
   (i) section 19 (but only if the person was a member of the forces);
   (ii) section 55 or 56:
   (iii) Parts 4 and 5.

**working day** [section 7]
Means a day of the week other than:
(a) a Saturday, a Sunday, Waitangi Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Anzac Day, the Sovereign’s birthday, and Labour Day; and
(b) if Waitangi Day or Anzac Day falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, the following Monday; and
(c) a day in the period commencing on 25 December in any year and ending with 15 January in the following year.