

- Our phone line is temporarily operating with reduced hours. You can call us between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday. [Contact us](#)

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- [Get support](#)

The support you may be able to get depends on your circumstances.

[Currently serving](#)

Support while you're still serving.

[Ex-serving](#)

Support once your regular service has finished.

[Family and whānau](#)

Here's how we can support you, and how you can support your family and whānau.

[Non-military personnel](#)

Non-military personnel can have Qualifying Operational Service in certain circumstances.

- [Remembrance](#)

We're proud to honour the service of the veteran community.

[Services Cemeteries and plaques and headstones](#)

We help look after Services Cemeteries. We're also able to contribute towards plaques and headstones.

[Commemorative funding](#)

There are two types of financial contributions available from the Commemorative Fund.

[Medals and service records](#)

The NZ Defence Force's Personnel Archives and Medals team administer medals and hold most New Zealand military service records.

[When someone dies](#)

We may be able to provide support when someone who had Qualifying Service dies.

[Your family's military history](#)

Learning more about your family's military history is a great way to honour their service.

[Certificate of Appreciation and Veterans' Pins](#)

The Certificate of Appreciation and Veteran's Pin recognise operational service.

- [Eligibility](#)

To be eligible to receive support from us, you—or certain family members—need to have Qualifying Service.

[Check your eligibility](#)

Check the support, services, or entitlements you may be able to get from us.

[Qualifying Service](#)

To get support from us you — or certain family members — need to have Qualifying Service.

[Living outside NZ](#)

You can still get support from us even if you live outside NZ.

[Eligibility criteria for family and dependants](#)

You may be able to get support if you're the spouse, partner, child or dependant of someone with Qualifying Service.

[Veterans of foreign militaries](#)

Veterans' Affairs New Zealand was established to support New Zealand veterans.

- [For clients](#)

We put veterans and our clients at the heart of everything we do.

If you have a question at any stage please contact us—we're here to help.

[How we'll work with you](#)

We'll work with you to help you get the best support available.

[Your treatment card](#)

Your treatment card helps you get no-cost treatment and medication for your approved conditions.

[Your rights and responsibilities](#)

We want to make sure you have the best possible experience when you deal with us.

[Payments](#)

Information on payment rates and dates.

[How we make decisions](#)

We use a number of tools and processes to make decisions. This helps ensure each decision we make is fair and treats our clients consistently.

[Living outside NZ](#)

You can still get support from us even if you live outside NZ.

[Other benefits](#)

You may be able to access a range of discounts and benefits. Not only that, your family may get access too.

- [For providers](#)

Information for providers of services to Veterans' Affairs and our clients.

[Treatment cards and letters](#)

To help you identify our clients, we issue treatment cards and letters.

[Invoicing us](#)

How to invoice us to ensure we pay you quickly and correctly.

[Treating our clients](#)

Information for healthcare professionals providing treatment to our clients.

[Councils and local authorities](#)

Guidance for councils and local authorities relating to services cemeteries and memorials

[Forms](#)

Forms for our clients, family and whānau, and our providers.

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Sir Bom Gillies: The last surviving member of the 28 Maori Battalion

Sir Bom Gillies: The last surviving member of the 28 Maori Battalion

Sir Robert Nairn Gillies KNZM, affectionately known as Bom Gillies, served with B Company, 28th (Maori) Battalion, during the Second World War. He is the last surviving member of the 28 Maori Battalion.

Born on 14 February 1925 in Rotorua, he is of Ngāti Whakaeu and Ngāti Kahungunu.

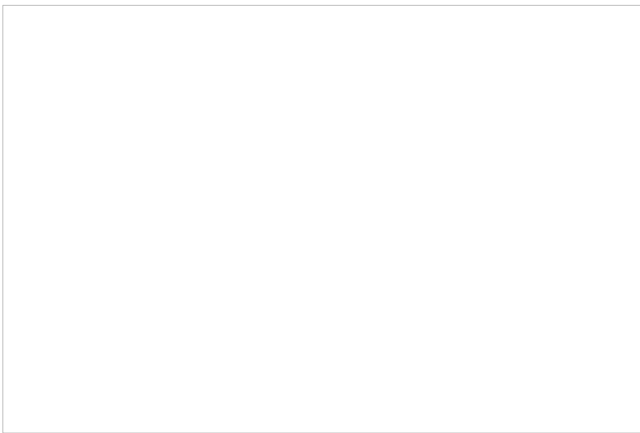
He attempted to enlist in the Maori Battalion twice but failed. He succeeded on his third attempt at just 17 years old, after lying about his age, as many others did.

Sir Bom served in B Company during the Second World War from 1942–1945. He saw action across Africa, Europe and the Middle East. He fought in the Italian campaign, and sustained injuries at Orsogna but continued serving with the 28 Maori Bn until the end of the war, including at the Battle of Monte Cassino.

Sir Bom has represented the Maori Battalion at many local, national and international commemorations. He attended the ceremonies in Italy marking the 70th and 75th anniversaries of the Battle of Monte Cassino in 2014 and 2019. He also led the celebration on the 75th anniversary of the return of B Company to Rotorua in 2021.

He had previously declined the New Zealand honour, but accepted it on behalf of all those who had served, saying:

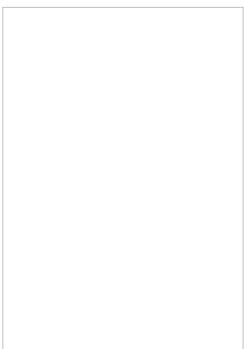
“There are many soldiers who did more and who have never been recognised. I accept on behalf of all the boys, all my mates who served in the Maori Battalion.”



Sir Robert Nairn Gillies KNZM receiving his knighthood

In the 2022 New Year Honours, Sir Bom was appointed a Knight Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit, for services to Māori and war commemoration. His investiture was at Government House in Wellington, on 4 May 2022.

You can read more stories and updates in the Winter 2022 edition of the Veterans' Affairs Magazine



[\(external link\)](#)

[Read the Winter 2022 edition of the Veterans' Affairs Magazine \[PDF, 5.2 MB\]](#)

Date

05 July 2022

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