

[RAF A400M 'ATLAS' demonstrated to NZ Air Force](#)

A glorious day in Wellington, New Zealand, provided the perfect backdrop for the RAF to show-off the Airbus A400M 'Atlas' to the Royal New Zealand Air Force as part of a prestigious partnership between the two nations.



The A400M, based at RAF Brize Norton in Oxfordshire is the newest aircraft in the RAF's fleet. It boasts cutting edge technology, combined with sheer brute strength to make it a formidable strategic and tactical air lift platform. Able to deploy globally, it specialises in carrying over-sized loads and can transport a load of 25 tonnes over a range of 2,000 nautical miles.



The A400M combines huge lifting power with agility, with manoeuvrability akin to a fast-jet rather than an Air Transport Aircraft. It is a phenomenally capable aircraft and able to fly at a staggering 170 degrees angle of bank.



Number 70 Squadron demonstrated the aircraft to Air Commodore Darryn Webb, the New Zealand Defence Force Air Component Commander on a short flight around New Zealand's stunning islands.



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[Chief of the Air Staff celebrates NZ Air Force 80th Anniversary](#)

This year marks the Royal New Zealand Air Force's 80th anniversary and the RAF is proud to have been invited to take part in the celebrations at the Ohakea Air Tattoo.



The Airbus A400M 'Atlas', the RAF's cutting-edge tactical and strategic airlift aircraft, impressed the public, international air forces, and defence chiefs alike in New Zealand this weekend.

The highly-capable aircraft, which provides a wealth of options in both operational and humanitarian environments, played host to a meeting between the Chief of the Royal New Zealand Air Force and the Chief of the Royal Air Force. Later, gifts were exchanged and both thanked the crew and engineers for bringing the aircraft 11,600 miles from RAF Brize Norton, Oxfordshire, to

Ohakea to celebrate a great partnership between the two nations.

Air Chief Marshall Sir Stephen Hillier, Chief of the Air Staff, said: "As Chief of the Air Staff I am delighted the Royal Air Force has been able to come to New Zealand to help celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Royal New Zealand Air Force. We have a long and rich history together going back over decades, going back over operations, and everything we do today.



"It's a fantastic new capability for the Royal Air Force, showing our ability to deploy all the way from the UK to the other side of the world really underlines the Air Forces Global Mobility capability in support of operations, wherever they might be. We get here quickly and effectively in this fantastic new aircraft."



The A400M Atlas is the newest aircraft in the RAF's fleet. It boasts cutting edge technology, combined with the ability to move outsized loads vast distances, making it a formidable strategic and tactical air lift platform. Able to deploy globally, it can transport a load of 25 tonnes over a range of 2,000 nautical miles.

Air Vice-Marshal Tony Davies Chief of the Royal New Zealand Air Force said: "I did get to see the aircraft and have a good introduction with it last July, when I was kindly hosted by 70 Squadron. I got to fly the simulator and go flying in the aircraft, which was really impressive. Great range and payload. I am really envious that you've got them. This one has a lot of capability and a lot of credibility."



"We have a huge shared history together, our roots are from the RAF. It is very meaningful that in our 80th year the RAF is first and foremost the prime guests at our own party. To take the time and effort to come out here, especially for your Chief of the Air Staff, is really meaningful."

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[News story: Animal medicines seizure: Johnston Agro Supplies](#)

Johnston Agro Supplies, Enniskillen, County Fermanagh. The following products were seized as they are not authorised in the UK:

- 3 packs Albex 10% (1litre)
- 2 packs Albex 10% (2.5 litres)
- 1 pack Albex 10% (5 litre) batch
- 2 packs Triclaben 10% (2.5 litre)
- 194 Endogard Plus tablets for dogs (batch)

This is an offence under Regulation 27 (Supply of an unauthorised veterinary medicinal product) of the Veterinary Medicines Regulations.

[Tories' complacent attitude to relations with prison staff suggests they are still not serious about resolving the crisis – Burgon](#)

Richard

Burgon MP, Labour's Shadow Justice Secretary, commenting on reports that the Government will take legal action over "unlawful" industrial action by prison staff, said:

"The

Tories' complacent attitude to relations with prison staff suggests they are still not serious about resolving the crisis they have created in our prisons.

"Violence

is at record levels and more people are leaving the service than joining.

"After

having their last pay offer rejected, ministers have followed it up with one which attempts to divide prison staff across the country and is condemned by governors as well as by frontline officers.

"To

turn around this mess, we need a Justice Secretary who is serious about working

with prison officers and we need a Prisons Bill which will deliver serious

reform. Sadly, at the moment we have neither.”

Ends

[News story: 2017 Clinical Excellence Awards round opens](#)

The latest round of National Clinical Excellence Awards opened on Tuesday 28 February 2017 and will close at 5:00pm Tuesday 25 April 2017.

Applicants need to submit the completed online application form to ACCEA by the deadline. To do this, once the application is complete, click ‘submit to ACCEA’. Failure to do this means that the application will not be accepted for the 2017 national awards round. Please make sure that your contact details are up-to-date.

Clinical Excellence Awards recognise and reward NHS consultants and academic GPs who perform ‘over and above’ the standard expected of their role. They award quality and excellence, acknowledging personal contributions. The number of new national awards in the 2017 round will remain at 300 for England.

All applications, new or renewal, must be made on the [online system](#). The Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards (ACCEA) has published [guidance for applicants, assessors, nominators and employers](#).

You will need to put in a renewal application if:

- you received your current award in the 2013 round
- your award was last renewed in 2012 (awarded in 2008, 2003, 1998)

In some cases, consultants will be renewing out of the usual cycle. Awards are reviewed earlier if there is a change in job, or a significant change in job plan.