

LONGCAST

8 October 21 - Navy Club Lunch
15 October 21 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Glen Eden RSA
25 October 21 – Labour Day
12 November 21 – Navy Club Lunch
19 November 21 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Grey Lynn RSA

Hi Folks

NGAPONA ASSN MONTHLY LUNCH

Unfortunately, due to Covid Level 4 restrictions in Auckland we will have to cancel our lunch this month. Hopefully we will be able to hold the October lunch at the Glen Eden RSA. For those in Auckland you might get a bit more freedom next week. In the meantime, stay safe and don't go boating!

PHOTO COMPETITION

Can you name the event and the four ladies?



What year and who are they?



EX HMNZS KAHU – IN THE NEWS

Six men including a Briton have been arrested off the coast of Plymouth after authorities seized more than two tonnes (2,000kg) of cocaine.

The British man, from Stockton-on-Tees, and five Nicaraguans were arrested on a luxury yacht on Thursday.

The men, aged from 24 to 49, were held on suspicion of drug trafficking and remain in custody, the National Crime Agency (NCA) said.

Officers estimate the street value of the drugs is about £160m.

The group were sailing in the Jamaican-flagged Kahu when they were intercepted 80 miles off the coast, in international waters north of Guernsey.

The yacht, which had sailed from the Caribbean, was intercepted and boarded by specialist Border Force and NCA officers.



LIGHT HOUSE OF THE WEEK – NUGGET POINT

Position: 46.27.0S 169.49.0E

Characteristics: FIW 14s

Range: 14NM

Structure: Stone tower

Nugget Point Lighthouse is at Nugget Point in the Otago region of the South Island of New Zealand. It is owned and operated by Maritime New Zealand. Nugget Point had over the years been considered a dangerous locality for ships. Most shipping casualties were small vessels travelling to the Clutha River.

The lighthouse was built from 1869 to 1870 and first lit on 4 July 1870. The tower was constructed from locally quarried stone. The lighting apparatus that was installed had come to New Zealand on the same ship as the lighthouse designer James Balfour in 1863 and was originally intended for the lighthouse at Cape Saunders. With the project on Otago Peninsula experiencing many delays, the lighting apparatus was used at Nugget Point instead.

Originally, the lighthouse was powered by an oil burner. In 1949 the oil lamp was replaced with an electric 1000 W lamp powered by a local diesel generator. The generator was replaced in the 1960s by a connection to the mains grid although the original lens for the light remained in place and continued to be used. The light was fully automated in 1989 and is now monitored and managed from a Maritime New Zealand control room in Wellington. In 2006, the original light was replaced with an LED beacon, powered by mains and backed up by battery.

An easy 20-minute return walking track leads from the car park at the end of The Nuggets Road to a viewing platform right next to the lighthouse overlooking "The Nuggets". The lighthouse itself is fenced off.

Life at "The Nuggets", as it was known, was a challenge. The region is renowned for its cold weather.

Although the station was connected to the mains power supply, electricity was not supposed to be used for heating. One keeper was turned down twice when he requested electric heaters for his house. This was despite the neighbouring station, Cape Saunders, receiving seven heaters. After a series of letters and much debate, the issue was finally resolved, at the end of winter.

The Nugget Point light station was only 11 kilometres from the town at Kaka Point. Keepers and their families could take part in the local community and the lighthouse keeper's children could attend the local school.

Access to the station was by a track marked with a sign saying "road not recommended". After a difficult journey to get to the station, the keepers were not always happy with what they found.

During the 1960s, one keeper wrote:

"Nugget Point, in fact, was a mess and in particular our house was a shambles. The furniture had not been replaced since 1868, when it had been first supplied to the station. The roof was dilapidated and stained the water pink [drinking water was caught from the roof in tanks], the septic tank was broken and the house leaked."

Nugget Point originally had three keepers; however, by the time the light was automated this had been reduced to one keeper and his family.



Regards

Jerry Payne

Editor

HMNZS Ngapona Assn

021 486 013

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