

## HMNZS NGAPONA ASSOCIATION INC

### LONGCAST

11 March 22 – Navy Club Lunch at Remuera  
18 March 22 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Waiheke RSA  
8 April 22 - Navy Club Lunch at Remuera  
15 – 18 April 22 – Easter  
22 April 22 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Henderson RSA  
25 April 22 – ANZAC Day

Hi Folks

#### **FUNERAL NOTICE**

Unfortunately, the funeral for Brian O'Brien has had to be postponed due to Covid-19. A new date will be advised in due course.

#### **NGAPONA ASSN LUNCH**

Our next lunch is at the Waiheke RSA on Friday 18 March. We have contacted the RSA and the only restrictions are Vax passes and a mask. This is a great day out and I have requested fine weather.

#### **ALL EVIDENCE IS NOW AT 3000m**

All hopes of recovering some of the nearly 4,000 luxury cars Volkswagen Group had onboard the 6,400 ceu (car equivalent units) *Felicity Ace* have been dashed after the Panama-flagged vessel sank yesterday off the coast of Portugal's Azore Islands. Volkswagen had VW, Porsche, Audi, Bentley and Lamborghini-branded models destined for the US market when the fire broke out on February 16 and subsequently consumed the Mitsui OSK Lines car carrier. Despite efforts to tow it to safety, the ship sank Tuesday at 09.00 hrs local time in an area where the water is about 3,000 m, the Portuguese Navy said.

Risk solutions company Russell Group suggested the accident would cost the carmaker at least \$155m. There were \$438m worth of goods on the ship, of which \$401m were vehicles.

#### **FREIGHT RATES TO RISE**

Russia's invasion into Ukraine is likely to send ocean and air shipping rates skyrocketing at a time when the global supply chain is still reeling from the pandemic. Ocean rates could double or triple due to the invasion, according to Glenn Koepke, the general manager of network collaboration at the supply chain consultancy firm FourKites. Koepke told The New York Times that shipping rates could surge from \$10,000 per 40-foot container to \$30,000, while air freight rates could jump even higher. Since the pandemic started, ocean shipping rates have hit

all-time highs. Koepke warned the war could be yet another blow to the global supply chain. He noted that while the shipping industry hasn't hit its peak season "companies are ramping up for summer volume, and that's going to have a major impact on our supply chain." Russia's invasion has heavily impacted cargo ships that traverse the Black Sea — a key route for oil and bulk food exports. Since Thursday, several ships have been fired upon or detained. On Monday, the UK banned all Russian ships from entering its ports.

### **COURT MARTIAL FOR ARSON**

A sailor accused of starting the fire that destroyed the USS *Bonhomme Richard* will face a court martial for arson, the Navy said, Friday. Seaman Recruit Ryan Mays, 20, faces two counts in military court for the July 2020 blaze that injured dozens of personnel aboard the amphibious assault ship as the fire burned for five days and sent acrid smoke wafting over San Diego. It marked one of the worst noncombat warship disasters in recent memory and the vessel had to be scrapped. It would cost an estimated \$4 billion to replace. Mays set the fire because he was disgruntled after dropping out of Navy SEAL training, prosecutors said.

### **CAPT BЛИGH R.N.**

#### **The Castaways Pt 3**

Meanwhile, now in New Holland, Bligh and his Loyalists found food and water on an island just off the coast. Bligh continued to note items of interest and the lat/lon of islands and other places of interest in his log of the voyage. The island that had provided them the sustenance they needed was named by Bligh as Restoration Island. It is now known as Ma'alpiku Island National Park and lies about 1198 miles north-west of Brisbane. One third of the island is leased to a David Glasheen who lives a solitary existence there.

31 May 1789. Around 1600, Bligh and his crew were ready to depart Restoration Island and sail to the north in search of Timor. Their departure was timely as about twenty islanders carrying spears had appeared on an opposite shore as they made ready to depart.

On Sunday 31 May 1789, mutiny was again afoot led by the Master and Carpenter. Landing on an island, (named by Bligh as Sunday Island), Bligh had detailed his men into different groups, two for searching for food and one to stay by the boat as a precaution to secure a means of escape if attacked. This caused disharmony amongst the crew and had Bligh not taken extreme measures, would have led to his downfall. However, on seizing a cutlass and threatening the Master, the revolt was put down.

Bligh then recorded the names of those who still supported him: The botanist Nelson, Samuel, Hayward, William Peckover the Warrant Officer Gunner, Ledward, Elphinston, John Hallet Midshipman, William Cole Warrant Officer Boatswain, Smith and Lebogue the sailmaker (10 men). In opposition were Fryer, Hall, Lamb, Linkletter, William Purcell the carpenter, Simpson and Tinkler (7 men).

Bligh's Sunday Island lies near Cape Grenville in the far north of Queensland and has an area of about 0.15 square km.

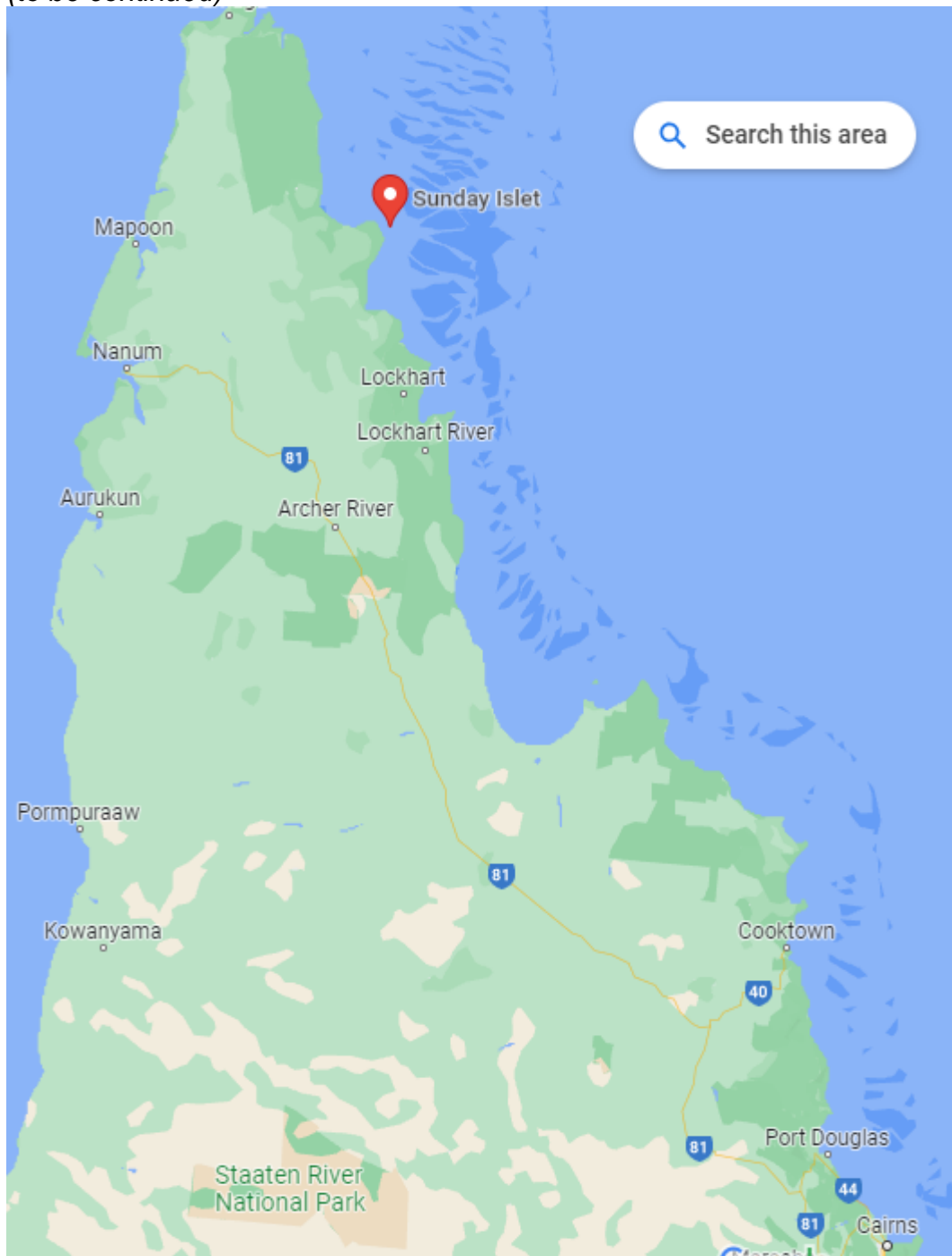
They sailed on. Eventually reaching the open water to the north of New Holland and the misery of open sea sailing once more overcame them. Again, there were gales and high seas resulting in the requirement to continually bail out the launch.

8 June 1789. Two of the men, Ledward and Lebogue were recorded to be in a very poor state.

Around the 11<sup>th</sup> June 1789. Timor is sighted. Bligh must now attempt to find the Dutch outpost he was searching for. Around the 14<sup>th</sup> June he anchored the launch

off Coupang. However, instead of rushing ashore as would be expected of those in their plight, Bligh elected to follow protocol and hoisted a signal of distress. Soon after, he was invited to land. So ended a journey in an open boat of about 3,600 miles.

*(to be continued)*



Regards

**Jerry Payne**

Editor

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