

## HMNZS NGAPONA ASSOCIATION INC

### LONGCAST

11 November 22 – Armistice Day  
11 November 22 – Navy Club  
12 November 22 – Northland Lunch  
18 November 22 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Grey Lynn RSA  
10 December 22 – Navy Club (Saturday)  
16 December 22 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Birkenhead RSA  
25 December 22 – Christmas Day  
26 December 22 – Boxing Day  
27 December 22 – Christmas Day observed

Hi Folks

#### **DEATH NOTICE**

It is with much regret that I have to advise of the passing of Carol Wood, wife of the late Doug Wood (ex PODEF). Carol was a great supporter of Ngapona.

#### **STOP PRESS – NGAPONA ASSN MONTHLY LUNCH**

Our next lunch is on Friday, 18 November, at the Grey Lynn RSA. We have been most fortunate in securing a guest speaker for this lunch. It is the amazing story of the return to NZ from the UK during the Covid 19 lock-down.

Make an effort to attend and hear Lt Cdr Chetan Sawyer (HMNZS Ngapona) recount this fascinating tale.

See flyer below.



## HMNZS Ngapona Assn Inc



### **Chetan Sawyer - The story of Kingfisher: Repatriation of 4 Kiwis Tahiti to Auckland 2021**

In late 2021 when MIQ was operating in full capacity as the Hunger Games, 4 kiwis banded together from 4 different continents to get home to their families.

Kingfisher was a Hanse 400 bought in Tahiti to act as the floating MIQ, and after 16 days on the high seas, the intrepid travellers made landfall in the Bay of Islands.

The result will probably remain in their memories as one of the best times of their lives.

**Grey Lynn RSA  
Friday, 18 November at 1200**

**All welcome. The club bar will be open**

### **NORTHLAND NAVY LUNCH – THIS SATURDAY**

Northland Navy lunch will be held at the Bay of Islands Yacht Club on **SATURDAY** the 12<sup>th</sup> of November 2022.

Same **great venue**, same **great menu**, same **great price** \$25 per head.

Bank Acc. No **12-3015-0895218-52** Name: **Margaret Mitchell** (please use your name as reference.)

Please advise your eagerness to attend no later than the 9<sup>th</sup> of November. Several have already booked accommodation at Copthorne at Waitangi which is walking distance to the yacht club.

If you know of anyone who may like a great meal and very good company, please forward this on.

This day is due to much pressure from many, and with the assurance from Lindy and Stephen that together we as a team can make it happen.  
Margaret, Lindy and Stephen.

Accommodation is available for two couples and two singles. Please advise by return email if you require accommodation.

### **AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ORDERS ADDITIONAL PATROL BOAT**

Austal Limited is pleased to announce that the Australian Government has ordered an additional Guardian-class Patrol Boat from Austal Australia for A\$15.2 million. The 39.5 metre steel hull patrol boat, to be constructed in Western Australia and delivered in September 2024, is in addition to the 21 Guardian-class Patrol Boats ordered by the Australian Government under the Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project (SEA3036-1) in 2016. Fifteen of the 21 vessels have been delivered to 11 Pacific Island nations under the Australian Government's Pacific Maritime Security Program, since 2018.

The Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project (SEA3036-1) was awarded to Austal Australia in May 2016, with an additional contract option awarded in April 2018, taking the program to 21 vessels, valued at more than A\$335 million. Twelve Pacific Island nations including Papua New Guinea, Fiji, the Federated States of Micronesia, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau, Samoa, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Timor-Leste will receive the vessels through to 2023.



### **WORLD'S LARGEST CONTAINER SHIP**

The world's largest container ship, the first of its kind made by China, undocked at the shipyard of Yangzi Xinfu Shipbuilding Co. Ltd. in Taixing City of east China's Jiangsu Province on October 29. Each with a capacity of 24,346 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units), the two container vessels mark a new record set by the city in the world's top ultra-large container ship construction field.



### **NEW COMBAT BOATS PATROLLING BLACK SEA**

Six U.S. Navy type patrol vessels have recently been supplied to Ukraine. These are already active in the Black Sea where they face a much more powerful adversary in

the Russian Navy. But the Ukrainian Navy is building a reputation as an effective asymmetric force. The Ukrainian Navy suffered badly in the opening days of the Russian invasion. Now they are rebuilding and transforming. New boats are being supplied by the west, including Riverine and Coastal Combat Boats from the United States. The newly delivered 'Defiant' patrol boats are already operating in the Black Sea.



### **NEW ZEALAND VICTORIA CROSS RECIPIENTS**

Flying Officer **Lloyd Allan Trigg** VC DFC (5 May 1914 or 5 June 1914 – 11 August 1943)



Lloyd Allan Trigg, the son of Arthur and Cecelia Louisa Trigg (née White), was born at Houhora, Northland, New Zealand on 5 May 1914, or 5 June 1914, and was

educated at Whangarei Boys' High School, where he served in the school cadet force. He later studied at Auckland University College and then took up farming in the Victoria Valley, as well as serving as a non-commissioned officer in the part-time North Auckland Rifles prior to World War II.

Trigg joined the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) as a trainee pilot on 15 June 1941. On enlistment, his occupation was recorded as "machinery salesman" and he was married with two sons, having married Nola McGarvey in 1938. After completing basic training at the RNZAF base at Levin, Trigg attended pilot training school at No. 3 EFS in Canada. Noted for his hard work and willingness to learn, he was recommended for a commission. He obtained his pilot's wings on 16 January 1942, and was commissioned as a pilot officer. After converting onto the Lockheed Hudson and completing further training at a reconnaissance school, Trigg was promoted to flying officer and embarked for the UK in October 1942, to join Coastal Command.

He was posted to West Africa in November 1942 and joined 200 Squadron RAF in January 1943. As a first pilot he took part in over 46 operational reconnaissance patrols, convoy escort flights and anti-submarine patrols. Having previously operated Hudsons, the squadron later converted to the maritime version of the B-24 Liberator. He was an experienced pilot (he had already been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross) having been involved in two attacks against U-boats in February 1943.

He was flying his first operational flight in a Liberator V over the Atlantic from his base at Yundumn, West Africa (now Banjul, The Gambia), when on 11 August 1943 he engaged the German submarine U-468 under the command of Oberleutnant Klemens Schamong. His aircraft received several catastrophic hits from the submarine's anti-aircraft guns during its approach to the submarine and was on fire as Trigg made his final attack.

After dropping its depth charges, Trigg's Liberator crashed 300 yards behind its victim, killing Trigg and his crew. The only witnesses to Trigg's actions were the U-boat crew members. The badly damaged U-boat sank soon after the attack but a small group of survivors (including Schamong) were spotted by an RAF Short Sunderland of No. 204 Squadron in the dinghy of the crashed Liberator, drifting off the coast of West Africa. They were rescued by a Royal Navy vessel, the HMS Clarkia, the next day, and the German crew reported the incident, recommending Trigg be decorated for his bravery. On 2 November 1943, Trigg was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions.

The Victoria Cross was presented to Trigg's widow, Nola, by the Governor General of New Zealand, Sir Cyril Newall, on 28 May 1944. At his wife's request, the presentation took place at the Trigg family home so that family and friends could be present.

The citation reads as follows:

Air Ministry, 2nd November, 1943.

The KING has been graciously pleased to confer the VICTORIA CROSS on the undermentioned officer in recognition of most conspicuous bravery: —

Flying Officer Lloyd Allan TRIGG, D.F.C. (N.Z.413515), Royal New Zealand Air Force (missing, believed killed), No. 200 Squadron.

Flying Officer Trigg had rendered outstanding service on convoy escort and antisubmarine duties. He had completed 46 operational sorties and had invariably displayed skill and courage of a very high order. One day in August 1943, Flying Officer Trigg undertook, as captain and pilot, a patrol in a Liberator although he had not previously made any operational sorties in that type of aircraft. After searching for 8 hours a surfaced U-boat was sighted. Flying Officer Trigg immediately prepared to attack. During the approach, the aircraft received many hits from the submarine's anti-aircraft guns and burst into flames, which quickly enveloped the tail. The moment was critical. Flying Officer Trigg could have broken off the engagement and made a forced landing in the sea. But if he continued the attack, the aircraft would present a "no deflection" target to deadly accurate anti-aircraft fire, and every second spent in the air would increase the extent and intensity of the flames and diminish his chances of survival. There could have been no hesitation or doubt in his mind. He maintained his course in spite of the already precarious condition of his aircraft and executed a masterly attack. Skimming over the U-boat at less than 50 feet with anti-aircraft fire entering his opened bomb doors, Flying Officer Trigg dropped his bombs on and around the U-boat where they exploded with devastating effect. A short distance further on the Liberator dived into the sea with her gallant captain and crew. The U-boat sank within 20 minutes and some of her crew were picked up later in a rubber dinghy that had broken loose from the Liberator. The Battle of the Atlantic has yielded many fine stories of air attacks on underwater craft, but Flying Officer Trigg's exploit stands out as an epic of grim determination and high courage. His was the path of duty that leads to glory.

— Supplement to London Gazette, 29 October 1943, (dated 2 November 1943)

In 2007, New Zealand researcher Arthur Arculus tracked down Klemens Schamong near Kiel. The commander said of Trigg's effort "such a gallant fighter as Trigg would have been decorated in Germany with the highest medal or order".

In May 1998, Trigg's VC was sold at auction by Spinks of London for £120,000, the equal highest price ever realised for a VC at that time. The seller was not believed to have been a relative of Trigg and the medals were purchased on behalf of the Michael Ashcroft Trust, the holding institution for Lord Ashcroft's VC Collection. The VC is now on display at the Lord Ashcroft Gallery at the Imperial War Museum.





Since Trigg has no burial place, he is commemorated on the Malta Memorial to the 2,298 Commonwealth aircrew who lost their lives around the Mediterranean during the Second World War and who have no known grave.