

HMNZS NGAPONA ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

LONGCAST

15 February 19 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Titirangi RSA
8 March 19 - Navy Club Lunch, Remuera Club
15 March 19 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Waiheke RSA
23 March 19 – Kumeu Militaria Show
6 April 19 - HMNZS Otago Reunion, Birkenhead RSA
18 April 19 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Henderson RSA (Thursday)
19 – 22 April 19 – Easter Weekend
25 April 19 – ANZAC Day

Hi Folks

NGAPONA ASSN MONTHLY LUNCH

Our monthly lunch is this Friday, 15th February, at the Titirangi RSA. Hope to see you there at 1200hrs.

Take Titirangi Road from New Lynn, when you reach the Titirangi township turn left into South Titirangi Road, it is about 200m on your left.

HMNZS OTAGO ASSOCIATION

[The Otago Association](#) is hosting the All Ships Reunion on 6 April 19 at the Birkenhead RSA.

Registration form attached. Send Form to: Noel Davies, Treasurer HMNZS Otago Association, PO Box 128143, Remuera, Auckland 1541, New Zealand or Email to: noel@daviesgroup.nz



HMNZS *Otago*

A TRIBUTE TO OUR NAVY WIVES

Our naval sites proudly display photos, stories, dits, anecdotes and comments about matelots, their ships, travels, experiences and achievements of their memoirs in the RNZN. The matelot wears his medals with distinguished pride and rightly so. But we must also never forget that the one person who is most deserving of a medal is none other than our navy wives. What they had to endure on their own is absolutely amazing.

An anecdote of these wonderful human beings who played a significant part of our lives deserves to be told. "Behind every good man is a very good woman" and most matelots can identify with that quote. From the very beginning of a naval marriage the majority of our ladies did not know what they were in for. The long periods of time alone, (in those

early years it was between 12–18months) having to bring the children up on their own, daily tasks of cleaning, washing, ironing, cooking, shopping.

They had to learn how to be a father and mother, required the guile of an accountant, car mechanic, solicitor, and teacher. There were other tasks such as mowing the lawns, paying the 'bills' house maintenance, the gardening, taking the kids to sport or any activities that they wished to participate in. Some wives had a part-time job and others attended universities to upskill themselves.

They had to be of strong character, confident and a decision maker. The saddest day was when their husbands ship sailed away and the happiest, was the day he arrived home.

Sadly, many marriages ended in separation or divorce in which there were no winners, it was also hard on the children. But on the positive side, many navy marriages were successful, survived the hardships and turned out to be a very happy and devoted union. For me personally, after many years of marriage it has been challenging, a rollercoaster ride at times, but certainly it has been a life we have enjoyed together and now in the "twilight" of our years we have never been closer, we wouldn't have wanted it any other way. God bless all those Navy wives and partners who have survived a naval baptism of marriage over the many years of Navy life together.....

By Jack Donnelly (WOGI Rtd)



DID YOU KNOW?

On 11th February 1982, a contract was signed with Whangarei Engineering and Construction Co to build four IPCs for the RNZNVR Divisions.



HMNZS *Wakakura*

Take care

Jerry Payne

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Editor

HMNZS Ngapona Assn Inc

"There are good ships, and there are wood ships, the ships that sail the sea."

"But the best ships are friendships, and may they always be."

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