



HMNZS NGAPONA ASSOCIATION INC

LONGCAST

- 18 April 19 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Henderson RSA (Thursday)
- 19 – 22 April 19 – Easter Weekend
- 25 April 19 – ANZAC Day
- 3-5 May 19 - Radar Plotters' Reunion, Taupo. Contact pearcegc@xtra.co.nz
- 10 May 19 - Navy Club Lunch, Remuera Club. (WoN & SoY)
- 17 May 19 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Pt Chevalier RSA
- 25 May 19 - Artificer Apprentices Assn, Ngataringa. Contact andy.francis@xtra.co.nz
- 1-3 June 19 – Queen's Birthday Weekend
- 1-3 June 19 – RNZN Antarctic Veterans Reunion, Rangiora RSA Contact bill.lochrie@xtra.co.nz
- 16 June 19 – Ngapona Assn AGM, Pt Chevalier RSA

Hi Folks

HMNZS NGAPONA ASSN MONTHLY LUNCH

Our lunch this month will be held at the Henderson RSA on **Thursday** 18 April at 1200. Please note that it is a Thursday due to Easter weekend.

ANZAC DAY PARADE - DEVONPORT NAVAL BASE

A welcome is extended to all members, partners and friends to attend the HMNZS Philomel Memorial Wall Service. You will be required to be on Base by 0715. Be warned that there is heightened security and you will need photo ID to enter the Base.

Please advise by return email your intention to attend and numbers

HMNZS AOTEAROA

The Aotearoa, the biggest ever vessel to be built for the Royal New Zealand Navy is taking shape and is ready for launch in South Korea.

Aotearoa is being constructed at Hyundai Heavy Shipbuilding's Ulsan shipyard and is scheduled to be launched within the next two weeks, according to the New Zealand Navy.

The launch will take place some nine months after the tanker's keel was laid in August 2018.

Aotearoa represents the first of a new fleet of RNZN ships built specifically to address the global requirements of the New Zealand Defence Force and government agencies for deployment from Antarctica to the Arabian Gulf.

Aotearoa is designed to provide logistical support to New Zealand and coalition maritime, land and air units.

Her primary purpose is to conduct fuel resupply but she will also be capable of supplying dry goods, water, spare parts or ammunition. Her missions will include humanitarian and disaster relief, support to United Nations security operations, support to a coalition naval task group and Antarctic resupply.

Featuring a wave-piercing hull form, the 173.2-meter-long ship will have the ability to carry twelve 20-foot shipping containers, high-capacity freshwater generation plants, self-defence systems, aviation and marine fuel cargo tanks, dual all-electric replenishment-at-sea rigs and will be able to carry a Seaspire or NH90 helicopter.

Aotearoa will displace 26,000 tonnes and will be operated by a crew of 64.

The ship's \$493 million price tag includes the tanker's enhanced "winterization" capabilities, such as ice-strengthening for operations in Antarctica, including resupplying McMurdo Station and Scott Base. Her predecessor HMNZS Endeavour was not Antarctic-capable.



Photo: Royal New Zealand Navy

NAVY CLUB LUNCH - 10 MAY 19

The Navy Club will have the 2018 Sailor of the Year, LCSS Alicia Wall, as their guest speaker at their lunch in May. She will be accompanied by the Warrant Officer of the Navy, WO Wayne Dyke.

You will need to be at the club by midday.

HMNZS ROYALIST

(From Tony Goodwin)

Tony notes that an article in the latest "Volunteer" [journal of the The New Zealand Military Historical Society] regarding the rough crossing of the Tasman in 1959 by Gerry Wright. I have never read his history of Royalist.

I was in the dockyard drawing office at the time. Gavin Appleby was the construction manager, and Charlie Painter was the Draughtsman heading the repairs. {He is in his 90s and still lives on the North Shore} We weren't allowed to take any photos, and to my knowledge, none exist. It was one of the rare occasions we were granted overtime.

I never served on royalist, but in the Dockyard we considered her a dog.

We also had a major issue with the Fwrdr engine room stbd main reduction gearing, that was fretted. It was a major exercise to replace it with the gearing from Black Prince which was in reserve. Alec Daroch, assistant Engineering Manager was responsible for this.

DID YOU KNOW?

On 11 April 1960, the SDML colour scheme was officially changed to black hull, white boot topping, white strake and light grey superstructure with white masts and yards. In 1958, HMNZS Toroa's Staff Officer was ex RN and in his experience the UK small craft, i.e. Ham Class Inshore Minesweepers and Survey craft, hulls were painted black. As we in the RNZN sailed under the same flag as the RN, he believed we should follow suit! As a consequence in 1958 when P3564 (*Koura*) was due for a bottom clean he ran the ML on to the beach close to her moorings and had the hull painted black. It is rumoured that the black paint may have come from the NZ Rail Store. She remained black for some time, until February 1959, when P3564 was due for a refit in Auckland. On completion of her refit, P3564 returned to Dunedin, but painted grey!!!



Certainly needs the white boot topping and strake



Can you name the launch to the rear of Koura?

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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