

## HMNZS NGAPONA ASSOCIATION INC

### LONGCAST

13 March 20 - Navy Club Lunch – Remuera Club  
20 March 20 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Waiheke RSA  
27 – 30 March 20 - NZPACRON1 Reunion  
5 April 20 – Daylight Saving finishes  
17 April 20 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Henderson RSA  
20 April 20 – RNZN Band 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert at Auckland Town Hall  
27 April 20 – ANZAC Day observed  
8 May 20 – Navy Club Lunch – Remuera Club  
15 May 20 – Ngapona Assn Lunch at Pt Chevalier RSA  
1 June 20 – Queen’s Birthday  
12 June 20 – Navy Club Lunch – Remuera Club  
19 June 20 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Howick RSA  
10 July 20 – Navy Club Lunch – Remuera Club  
17 July 20 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at RSA  
25 July 20 - Ngapona Assn Formal Dinner at Pt Chevalier RSA

Hi Folks

#### **HMNZS NGAPON ASSN – COMING EVENTS**

We have a busy time ahead in the next few months. Our next major event is our annual trip to Waiheke for lunch at the Waiheke RSA on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> of this month. This is a great outing and should not be missed.

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April we are organising a meal in town (venue to be confirmed) followed by RNZN Band 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert at the Auckland Town Hall.

Our bi-annual Formal Dinner will be held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July at the Pt Chevalier RSA.

Make sure you keep these dates free.

#### **THE ONGOING SAGA OF NZ’S HDMLs**

I went to Thames over the weekend to have a look at *Tamure* (Q1193 – P3555) which has recently been slipped at Kopu. She was taken there by the Auckland Harbour Master after she started taking water and was in danger of sinking. For the last twenty years she has sat on her mooring at Greenhithe without moving. After all that time the hull is in surprisingly good condition and she is definitely salvageable. Worm has eaten into the outer skin in some places and it is not until some planking is removed that the true condition of her hull will be revealed. There is of course extensive work needed topsides. The engines have been for a swim and it is doubtful if they can be salvaged, but you never know. Once again it was sad to see a

vessel, which was once the pride of HMNZS *Ngapona*, slip into a state of disrepair and neglect. She is crying out to be saved.

In the same yard at Kopu is another HDML, *Alert* (Q1186), which was sold by the navy in 1946. Her owner is two thirds through a massive refit and will likely take to the water again early in 2021. *Alert* has had her superstructure extensively modified but the hull is still identifiable as an ML. She spent a large part of her life in the South Island on deer recovery. New stringers and planking along with a new deck has given her a new lease on life.

In a paddock adjacent to the yard sits another HDML, *Koura* (Q1350 – P3564). While she is totally original her condition can only be described as very poor. Virtually nothing has been done to her for the last thirty years and her fate is unknown. There are a bunch of people who are keen to start an HDML restoration society to save the remaining MLs. If you are interested, reply to this email and I will pass you the contacts.



*Tamure* (*Koura* can be seen in the background)



*Tamure*

### **NZPACRON1 REUNION**

Date Time Action Notes:

Friday 27 March 18.00hrs Pre workup drinks at Devonport RSA. Pay-as-you go.

Saturday 28 March 18.00hrs Opening drinks and get together at Navy Museum, North Head Parking onsite.

Saturday 28 March 19.30hrs Dinner and get together at Waitemata Golf club 3 minute drive from Museum

Sunday 29 March 11.30hrs Expedition to micro brewery Pay-as-you go.

Sunday 29 March tbc Golf Paul Kirby POC

Monday 30 March Tour of HMNZS Hawea

Tour of Philomel & DNB:

- Seamanship Training Facility
- Bridge Simulator (if they don't have a course on)
- SATU to check out the latest small arms

LUNCH at VMG to follow. HMNZS Philomel.

Meet at main gate to be directed to car parking.

For further details please contact [peter.batcheler@gmail.com](mailto:peter.batcheler@gmail.com)

### **HMNZS KIAMA - CREST**

I have had a request for the loan of a real crest of HMNZS *Kiama* to be used as a pattern for 3D printing. If you have one, or know of anyone, please contact me by return email. (See below)

### **HMNZS OTAGO ASSOCIATION - REUNION**

The HMNZS Otago Association is holding their Reunion in Tauranga on 29 May - 1 June 2020.

Join them in Tauranga for the 60th Commissioning Anniversary and Reunion.

Weekend Activities to include:

AGM

Mix & Mingles

Scavenger Hunt

Formal dinner with Commodore Tony Millar

Church Service

Trip to Waihi RSA

Otago Anniversary Quiz

Contact [noel@daviesgroup.co.nz](mailto:noel@daviesgroup.co.nz) for a registration form, or see HMNZS Otago Assn on Facebook.

### **CYBER SECURITY COURSE**

I've just recently learned of an initiative to offer veterans free online training (and certification) in cyber security through the Melbourne based Mosse Cyber Security Institute (MCSI).

This looks like a really good course. The course is free and has no fixed completion date so students can work through the material at their own pace.

If you are interested, reply to this email with your name and email address and I will pass the details.

### **SHIP OF THE WEEK – HMNZS KIAMA (M353)**

HMAS *Kiama*, named for the coastal town of Kiama, New South Wales, was one of 60 Bathurst-class corvette constructed during World War II, and one of 36 initially manned and commissioned solely by the Royal Australian Navy (RAN).

On 5 March 1952, *Kiama* and three other *Bathurst*-class corvettes (*Echuca*, *Inverell*, and *Stawell*) were transferred to the Royal New Zealand Navy. *Kiama* was commissioned into the RNZN, receiving the prefix HMNZS. Upon acquisition by New Zealand, the corvette was converted into a training ship. *Kiama's* 4-inch gun and aft minesweeping equipment were removed, and replaced with two 40 mm Bofors anti-aircraft guns.

In 1964, *Kiama* was re-commissioned in the 27th Fisheries Protection Squadron. Other duties included search-and-rescue operations and transportation of scientific teams to small islands along New Zealand's coastline. The corvette revisited her namesake town in Australia in late 1966.

*Kiama* was paid off for disposal on 19 August 1976 and broken up in 1979.



Regards

**Jerry Payne**

Editor

HMNZS Ngapona Assn

021 486 013

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