

# HMNZS NGAPONA ASSOCIATION INC

## LONGCAST

5 April 20 – Daylight Saving finishes

25 April 20 – ANZAC Day

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 New Lynn RSA

25 July 20 - Ngapona Assn Formal Dinner at Pt Chevalier RSA

Hi Folks

These are totally unprecedented times, the Government has taken decisive action to mitigate the effects of possibly the worst medical event the country has ever experienced. We are now in lock-down for at least four weeks. This means the cancellation of all our scheduled activities for the next month at least. I will keep you posted as the situation develops.

If you know of anyone who needs assistance please use this newsletter as a means of communication, we may have access to resources which could help.

Keep safe and watch out for your mates.

## NGAPONA MONTHLY LUNCH

We held our monthly lunch at the Waiheke RSA last Friday. We had 19 in attendance, which is more than we expected, given the current situation.

This will be the last lunch that we can hold for a while, but I will keep you posted.

## RNZN BAND 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Due to the current situation with the Corona virus, this event is now cancelled. We wish the Band all the best for their anniversary.

Other events on the Longcast may have to be postponed or cancelled. We will keep you informed.

## 2020 OTAGO REUNION POSTPONED

The 2020 Otago Reunion has been postponed and will be revisited in 6 months and depending on what's happening with COVID, either it will be postponed again or a new date will be advised.

The committee has taken this action in the interest of the health and wellbeing of the members.

## REUNION COMMITTEE WANTED

*"Do you hear there"....The administrators, (Tony Lewis, Peter Robb, Duncan MacMillan and Jack Donnelly ) now have the arduous task of putting together an efficient and dedicated team of former and current Navy personnel to form a 'steering' committee for the **Tamaki-Fort Cautley Reunion**. The initial positions on the committee that we seek are:*

POSITION. KNOWN AS.

- a. Reunion Patron (Commodore)
- b. Chairperson (Captain)
- c. Vice Chairperson (XO)
- d. Treasurer (Pay Bob)
- e. Secretary (Captains Sec)
- f. 'Buffer' (Chief Boson's Mate)

g. Committee (Ships Company) Numbers to be confirmed.

h. A sponsorship/fundraising “wizard” (Lower-deck Lawyer)

We invite personnel who genuinely believe that they have what is required to be an effective team member on this committee to submit your name and your preferred position on the committee (*optional*) by email, to either, Tony Lewis, email address is [tony@tonylewis.co.nz](mailto:tony@tonylewis.co.nz) or Jack Donnelly, email address is

[gijackd@yahoo.com](mailto:gijackd@yahoo.com) If you can also CC the other person whom you have not sent the email to.

Living in the Auckland area is preferable but not essential. This invitation will be open for two weeks.

Once the committee is established they may feel that certain positions require two people, they may then re-advertise. We see this reunion as being an enormous assignment. General comments and suggestions will be most welcome however, please don't nominate somebody else.

### **SHIP OF THE WEEK – HMNZS KOURA (Q1350 – P3564)**

Q1350 was one of 16 Harbour Defence Motor Launches (HDMLs) delivered to the RNZN in 1943-44. Commissioned on 27 March 1944, it joined the 125<sup>th</sup> ML Flotilla based in Auckland. Placed in operational reserve in July 1945, it was commissioned for use by the Otago RNZNVR Division in November 1948. Renumbered P3564 in early 1950, it was named *Toroa* from December 1951 until commissioned as HMNZS *Koura* in December 1967. When decommissioned in 1984. *Koura* was decommissioned on 3 March 1984 and handed over to the Historical Maritime Park at Paeroa as a museum ship. She was subsequently sold to a Wellington based owner and has slowly deteriorated through lack of attention. She is currently on the hard at Kopu near Thames, adjacent to ex HMNZS *Tamure*. Also in the same yard is another ML, *Alert*, which was sold by the RNZN immediately after WWII. *Alert* is currently being restored and is due to be relaunched early next year.



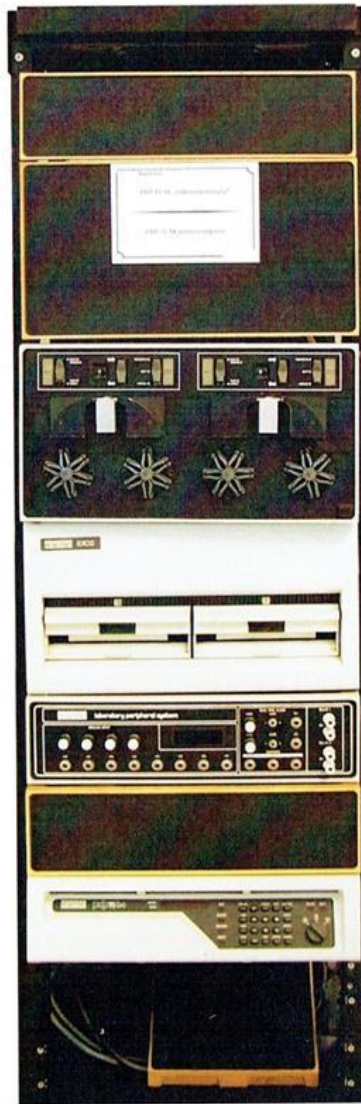
HMNZS *Koura* with HMNZS *Paea* at Paeroa



## DID YOU KNOW?

On 24<sup>th</sup> March 1982, the Digital Equipment Corporation PDP 11/34 computer was introduced into RNZN service. It was called a mini-computer, but was nearly two meters tall and had a capacity of just 256 Kb of RAM.

*(I think my wrist watch has more than that.)*



PDP 11/34 Computer

Regards

**Jerry Payne**

Editor

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