

HMNZS NGAPONA ASSOCIATION INC

LONGCAST

17 January 20 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Swanson RSA
27 January 20 – Auckland Anniversary Regatta
6 February 20 – Waitangi Day
14 February 20 – Navy Club Lunch
21 February 20 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Titirangi RSA
13 March 20 - Navy Club Lunch
20 March 20 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Waiheke RSA

Hi Folks

GREETINGS

Welcome to 2020, I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

FROM THE SICKBAY

Bryan Shankland is In Auckland Hospital CCU awaiting bypass surgery. He had a small heart attack in Whangarei on Friday 27 December 2019. A stent was not seen as an option.

Jim Paltridge is in Ward 2, Middlemore Hospital this week for treatment. He expects to return to St C at the end of the week.

Keith Nicholson is in Whangarei Hospital today undergoing surgery. Keith is expected home tomorrow.

All the best to those on the sick list

SHIP OF THE WEEK – HMNZS Hinau (P3556)

HMNZS *Hinau* (P3556) was a *Moa*-class inshore patrol vessel of the Royal New Zealand Navy. It was commissioned in 1985 for the Naval Volunteer Reserve and decommissioned in 2007.

Hinau is the second ship with this name to serve in the Royal New Zealand Navy. The name comes from a forest tree which is native to New Zealand.

Built : Whangarei NZ Displacement: 105 tons Length : 27 m. Beam: 6 m. Draught: 2.4 m. Pennant No.: (P 3556) Machinery: 2 x Cummins KT-1105M – 530kW, 2 Diesel Generators Speed: 12 knots Armament: 1-12.7mm MG Complement: 18 HMNZS *Hinau* was commissioned: 4 Oct 1985 for the Royal New Zealand Naval Volunteer Reserve (RNZNVR) and was based at Auckland. She was used for conducting basic seamanship and navigation training and also supported many Naval and Defence Force exercises. *Hinau* also took part in multi-agency government work including fishery patrols and , search and rescue operations. In 1994 she was modified to conduct mine countermeasures route surveying using side scan sonar. This was also used to assist in search and rescue and transport investigations. In 2005 *Hinau* reverted to the RNZN to provide basic sea training and had the side scan sonar removed. HMNZS *Hinau* was formally decommissioned from operational service 23 January 2007.

There are many stories that could be told concerning HMNZS Hinau, perhaps you could email me some of your experiences – Ed





HMNZS *Hinau* commissioning crew



DID YOU KNOW?

On 1 January 1943 Lieutenant Commander Charles (Bunty) Palmer RNZNVR, was awarded a DSC for gallant and distinguished service in minesweeping duties when in command of the minesweeper HMS Cromarty. It had been mined and sunk in the Straits of Bonifacio, Mediterranean on 23 October 1943. Palmer had been badly wounded during the action and rescued by fellow New Zealander, Ordinary Seaman Sheffield.

The HMNZS *Ngapona* building in *Philomet* has been named after **Commander Charles 'Bunty' Palmer DSO & Bar, MiD.** and his father Captain Charles Henry Palmer OBE.

Regards

Jerry Payne

Editor

HMNZS Ngapona Assn

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