

HMNZS NGAPONA ASSOCIATION INC

LONGCAST

12 June 20 – Navy Club Lunch – Remuera Club
19 June 20 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Howick RSA (tbc)
10 July 20 – Navy Club Lunch – Remuera Club
17 July 20 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at New Lynn RSA

Hi Folks

Congratulations to all those who were recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours; if yours got lost in the mail, wait till New Year!

SHIP OF THE WEEK – HMNZS MONOWAI (1939)

SS *Razmak* was built at Greenock yard for P&O by Harland and Wolff, launched in 1924 and completed on 26 February 1925. She was designed for service between Bombay and Aden and spent several years in the Mediterranean Sea. When demand on her original route dried up, she was laid up. Fate then intervened by way of a disaster in the South Pacific. The Union Steam Ship Company ship *Tahiti* was enroute from Wellington to San Francisco on 15 August 1930, when the starboard tail shaft broke, puncturing the hull and the ship sank south of Rarotonga two days later. As a replacement the Union Company purchased *Razmak*, modifying it in Britain to increase the passenger capacity to 208 in First Class and 203 in Second Class. Renamed *Monowai* the ship sailed to Sydney, leaving that port on its first Pacific voyage on 27 November 1930. She ran a subsidized service from Wellington to Vancouver via several Pacific stops. From 24 November 1932 she ran mostly from Wellington to Sydney.

Monowai was requisitioned by the Royal New Zealand Navy on 21 October 1939 and was prepared for mounting the guns. Guns suitable for *Monowai* had been ordered and stored at the Devonport Naval Base in Auckland. Then followed a period of indecision, and in February 1940 work on her was suspended for over four months. After construction was completed in August 1940, she was commissioned. The Japanese submarine *I-20* conducted an unsuccessful attack on her on 16 January 1942.

Monowai was the first of two ships with this name to serve in the Royal New Zealand Navy. She was named after the New Zealand glacial lake Monowai.

As surplus, in 1943 she was transferred to Liverpool in the United Kingdom and handed over to the British Ministry of War Transport. *Monowai* went to Glasgow for conversion to an "Landing Ship, Infantry (Large)" or LSI(L). From June 1943 to February 1944 she was refitted with completely different armament, capacity for up

to 1,800 fully equipped troops, and 20 Assault Landing Craft. She was used during the Normandy landings.

In the later period of the war she was used as a troopship transporting soldiers and after the end of the war in repatriation.

On 31 August 1946 she was returned to her owner. She resumed merchant service in January 1949 after extensive repair. In 1960 she was sold for breaking up in Hong Kong.



HMNZS *Monowai* in service as a troop carrier



COCKNEY RHYMING SLANG

For no particular reason I have included an item on rhyming slang.

Rhyming slang is believed to have originated in the mid-19th century in the East End of London, with sources suggesting sometime in the 1840s. It dates from around 1840 among the predominantly Cockney population of the East End of London who are well-known for having a characteristic accent and speech patterns.

It remains a matter of speculation whether rhyming slang was a linguistic accident, a game, or a cryptolact developed intentionally to confuse non-locals. If deliberate, it may also have been used to maintain a sense of community. It is possible that it was used in the marketplace to allow vendors to talk amongst themselves in order to facilitate collusion, without customers knowing what they were saying. Another suggestion is that it may have been used by criminals (see thieves' cant) to confuse the police.

Some of the better known terms:

Alan Whickers – knickers	Frog and Toad – road
apples and pears – stairs	Gypsy's kiss – piss
Barney Rubble – trouble	half-inch – pinch (to steal)
Battlecruiser – boozier	Jimmy Riddle – piddle
Boat Race – face	Khyber Pass – arse
Bob Hope – soap	Kick and Prance – dance
bottle and glass – arse	Laugh n a joke – smoke
Brahms and Liszt – pissed (drunk)	Mork and Mindy – windy'
Brass Tacks – facts	north and south – mouth
Bread and Cheese – sneeze	Orchestra stalls – balls
Bread and Honey – money	plates of meat – feet
Bricks and Mortar – daughter	Pony and Trap – crap
Bristol City – breasts	raspberry ripple – nipple
Brown Bread – dead	raspberry tart – fart
butcher's hook – a look	Rub-a-Dub – pub
china plate – mate (friend)	Skin and Blister – sister
custard and jelly – telly (television)	Sky Rocket – pocket
Daisy Roots – boots	Sweeney Todd – flying squad
Dicky Dirt – shirt	tea leaf – thief
Dinky Doos – shoes	Tom and Dick – sick
dog and bone – phone	tom tit – shit
dustbin lid – kid	tomfoolery – jewellery
Elephant's Trunk – drunk	trouble and strife – wife
Fireman's Hose – nose	Vera Lynn – gin

Regards

Jerry Payne

Editor

HMNZS Ngapona Assn

021 486 013

(To be removed from this email list please reply to this email with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.)