

HMNZS NGAPONA ASSOCIATION INC

LONGCAST

3 September 20 - Merchant Navy Day Service, Maritime Museum, Auckland

6 September 20 - Merchant Navy Day Service, Tauranga

11 September 20 - Navy Club Lunch – Remuera Club

18 September 20 – Ngapona Assn Lunch at Mt Maunganui RSA

9 October 20 - Navy Club Lunch – Remuera Club

16 October 20 – Ngapona Assn Lunch at Glen Eden RSA

16 October 20 – Trafalgar Day Lunch at Te Atatu RSA

Hi Folks

MONTHLY LUNCH

The Ngapona Assn monthly lunch scheduled for this Friday has had to be cancelled due to Auckland going to Level 3.

The lunch scheduled for September at the Mt Maunganui RSA is still on.

The date is 18 September and we need to know numbers attending.

Please advise by return email if you are attending or require transport.

PORTS OF AUCKLAND - DREDGING

Auckland sees green light for channel deepening Ports of Auckland has announced it has been granted consent to deepen its shipping channel. Ports of Auckland has been granted consent by New Zealand authorities to deepen Auckland's shipping channel. The consent allows the channel to be deepened from 12.5m to between 14m and 14.2m. According to a statement, it safeguards Auckland's international supply line by allowing larger container ships to enter Auckland's port, such as the 366m long New Panamax vessels with a maximum draft of 15.2m. In addition, tidal windows will be used to make the best use of the natural water depth and keep dredging to a minimum. "By allowing larger ships to reach the port, it will also reduce carbon emissions and the cost of transporting Auckland's freight," commented Port of Auckland's chief executive, Tony Gibson. "The Covid-19 lockdown highlighted the essential role Auckland's port plays in the economy," he added. Ports of Auckland said it asked for the application to be publicly notified even though it was not required, so people could have their say on the project. Over two hundred submissions were received with the main concern raised being the disposal of dredged material, according to Ports of Auckland.



TAMAKI-FORT CAUTLEY REUNION – TOURS & ACTIVITIES

One of the features of any reunion are the tours and activities. To date the committee have not finalized the program, however, they have looked at many ways in which they hope will be beneficial, interesting and stimulating for attendees.

Here is a tentative list which they have identified to date. The committee would like attendees to name just ONE tour or activity that they would like to attend. This will give the committee a fair idea on what to expect when planning. (See TAMAKI-FORT CAUTLEY REUNION Facebook page)

If there are any other tours or activities not named here, please add them when you make your comment.

TOURS:

New Entry School

DC School. (Damage Control)

SATU (Small Arms Training Unit)

Bill Morley (Seamanship Training Centre)

Museum

Naval Base and Dockyard

Ship Visit

Mystery Bus Tour

Achilles Turret

ACTIVITIES:

Minor Games

Uckers inter-divisional competition

The Dunk Tank (Instructors of your choice to be Targets)

Golf

Divisional/Branch 'Tug O War'

Seasprite flying and static display

Free time/Free to roam.

MV WAKASHIO - GROUNDING

The MV *Wakashio* oil spill occurred offshore of Pointe d'Esny, south of Mauritius, after the bulk carrier *Wakashio* ran aground on a coral reef on 25 July 2020 at around 16:00 UTC. The ship began to leak fuel oil in the following weeks, and broke apart in mid-August. Although much of the oil on board *Wakashio* was pumped out before it broke in half, an estimated 1,000 tonnes of oil spilled into the ocean in what was called by some scientists the worst environmental disaster ever in Mauritius. Oil began to leak from the ship on 6 August, by which time Mauritius authorities were trying to control the spill and minimize its effects, isolating environmentally sensitive areas of the coast, while waiting for help from foreign countries to pump out an estimated 3,890 tons of oil remaining on board. By 10 August, about 1,000 metric tons of fuel had spilled, with estimates of the remaining oil on-board ranging from 2,500 to 3,000 metric tons. High winds and 5 metres (16 ft.) waves halted clean-up efforts on 10 August; visible cracks in the hull of the ship led to worries that the ship might "break in two," according to Mauritius' prime minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth. Jugnauth said that 3,000 tons of oil had been pumped out of the ship's

fuel reservoirs. Data from Finnish Iceye satellites indicated the spill had increased from 3.3 km² (1.3 sq mi) on 6 August to 27 km² (10 sq mi) on 11 August. According to investigators who conducted interviews with crewmembers, the crew had been engaged in celebrating the birthday of a sailor on board the ship at the time of the grounding, had sailed near shore for a Wi-fi signal, and subsequently failed to respond to communications to *Wakashio* warning of the errant course. The island's environment minister Kavy Ramano, together with the fisheries minister, told the press that it was the first time that the country faced a catastrophe of this magnitude, and that they were insufficiently equipped to handle the problem.



RN-LED GULF TASK FORCE MOVES INTO NEW HQ

A Royal Navy-led force which safeguards merchant shipping in the Middle East has moved into new operational headquarters. Coalition Task Force Sentinel was established in the autumn of 2019 to provide additional security and reassurance to tankers and cargo vessels at a time of heightened tensions in the region. The International Maritime Security Construct consists of eight nations – the UK, Australia, Albania, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Lithuania, United Arab Emirates, and USA – all committed to ensuring the safe passage of shipping. They provide either personnel or military assets – warships, patrol vessels and aircraft – for the Sentinel Task Force, among them Plymouth-based frigate HMS *Montrose* which is deployed to the Gulf region long-term in a pilot initiative, alongside her sister HMS *Argyll* on a regular Middle East deployment.

SHIP OF THE WEEK – HMNZS PUKAKI (2007)

HMNZS *Pukaki* was a Protector-class inshore patrol vessel inshore patrol boat of the Royal New Zealand Navy. *Pukaki* was launched in Whangarei Harbour on 6 May 2008. Its primary duties include border and fisheries protection patrols, surveillance, boarding operations and search and rescue response.

Pukaki was the third ship of this name to serve in the Royal New Zealand Navy and is named after Lake Pukaki.

HMNZS *Pukaki* was decommissioned at Devonport Naval Base on 17 October 2019. Regulatory changes in 2012 resulted in operating restrictions around speed and sea states being imposed on them. Subsequently the RNZN assessed them as no longer being suited to the heavy seas typically encountered off New Zealand and further afield. According to *Newshub* figures, in-shore patrol vessel HMNZS *Pukaki* hadn't spent a single day out of port since the end of 2012, and HMNZS *Taupo* hadn't done the same since the end of 2013.

The two remaining IPV's would continue to play a role in providing local fishery monitoring and border protection patrols, as well as providing important training and command opportunities for junior officers.





FROM JIM DELL

Re your article on the Lake Class Patrol Boats last week. Originally six boats were ordered with a length of 50 metres to counteract the swells around the NZ Coast. I had a posting to the UK to be the Squadron Radio Supervisor as the boats were to sail back in company. Unfortunately, elections came along and Labour took over as the Government. They reduced the number of boats to four and the length to just over 32 metres so that they could be deck cargo on a heavy lift ship.. Their argument was that had the boats sailed back to NZ from UK, they would have needed a major refit upon return. My posting was subsequently cancelled to NZ Patrol Craft Squadron One and I went to Otago instead. *(Thanks Jim)*

Regards

Jerry Payne

Editor

HMNZS Ngapona Assn

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