

HMNZS NGAPONA ASSOCIATION INC

LONGCAST

12 March 21 – Navy Club Lunch – Remuera Club, Guest Speaker, Professor Stephen Hoadley

19 March 21 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Waiheke RSA

26 – 28 March 21 – Comms Reunion

9 April 21 - Navy Club Lunch – Remuera Club

9 – 11 April 21 – Cooks and Stewards Reunion

16 April 21 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Henderson RSA

14 May 21 - Navy Club Lunch – Remuera Club

16 May 21 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at the Bays Club, Browns Bay

21 May 21 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Pt Chevalier RSA

Hi Folks

NGAPONA ASSN – MONTHLY LUNCH

It is with regret that I have to advise that due to the current Covid-19 situation, it has been decided that, in the interest of our members, we should cancel our scheduled lunch at the Titirangi RSA this coming Friday.

NGAPONA ASSN – FUTURE LUNCHESES

Our March lunch (COVID-19 permitting) will be held at the Waiheke RSA. This is an annual event and is one of the highlights of the Ngapona Assn calendar.

Please ensure that you mark your diary for 19 March. Bring some friends and have an enjoyable day at Waiheke Island.

A special lunch is being held on Sunday, 16 May at the Bays Club. This is being held so that those who are unable to attend our Friday lunches can attend. Get a group together and relax at the Bays Club on Sunday afternoon.

NGAPONA ASSN ADDRESS LIST

A requirement of the Incorporated Societies Office is that all Incorporated Societies keep an up-to-date list of their members and addresses.

If you have changed your physical address since joining the Ngapona Assn could you please advise your current address by return email so we can update our records. This information is stored on a secure database and will never be passed to a third party. Your help would be appreciated.

SEAFARER'S PLIGHT

Nearly four years into their odyssey at sea, the five-member crew of oil tanker MT IBA is tantalisingly close to shore, yet still unable to set foot on dry land. Bleary-eyed and wearing tattered clothes, the men are exhausted from an ordeal that has kept them from their families and aboard the 5,000-tonne vessel long after its owner abandoned it in the Gulf. What started out as a regular seafaring job turned into what the men call a nightmare, when the tanker's owner, Alco Shipping, fell into financial trouble and stopped paying their salaries 32 months ago. The crew was left to fend for itself, relying on donations from charities they contacted for food and hygiene supplies. The tanker ran aground in Umm Al Quwain, one of the seven emirates that make up the United Arab Emirates, in late January, after rough seas severed both of its anchors and pushed it to shore. Maritime laws also mean that if they abandon the ship, they could be detained and held responsible.

Source: Reuters



LOCATION OF IPCs

Hinau is still guarding the Cook Strait power cables.

Wakakura is over in the sounds not doing much a look a bit worse for wear.

Moa does charter trips in the Fiordland area.

Kiwi was last heard of in Melbourne.

(Thanks to Peter Arnold for the update)

THE RN IS SHRINKING

If you aim to go to war with the Royal Navy, plan to fire the first shot in 2026—the year the British fleet could be at its weakest. In five years under current projections, the Royal Navy will have just 10 frigates—down from 13 today—as aging Type 23 vessels decommission. The 10 frigates, plus the six Type 45 destroyers that should still be in service at the time, could struggle to meet the United Kingdom's naval needs. There will be aircraft carriers and amphibious ships to escort, fisheries and shipping lanes to patrol, vessels of rival fleets to shepherd near U.K. waters and at least one key territory—the Falkland Islands—to protect. A force of 16 warships can't possibly handle all of those tasks. Especially considering that, at any given time, just a third of the vessels will be available for operations. The others will be in maintenance or refit or working up for deployments. Indeed, a single carrier battle

group—built around one of two new Queen Elizabeth-class flattops—could require a destroyer and three frigates. That might leave one frigate for other tasks or to replace any ships that suffer damage or sink in combat.

Source: Forbes

SHIP OF THE WEEK – HMNZS WAKEFIELD

Commander Ian Andrew took over command of HMNZS Wakefield, the "ship" of Naval staff at Defence HQ in Wellington on 18 January 2019. The unique command involves CDR Andrew becoming the Commanding Officer of people who in some cases will be more senior than him.

The outgoing Commanding Officer, Commander Jennie Hoadley is a past CO of HMNZS Ngapona.

