



LONGCAST

9 September 22 – Navy Club

16 September 22 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at New Lynn RSA

14 October 22 – Navy Club

21 October 22 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Glen Eden RSA

Hi Folks

DEVONPORT RSA EVENT

Devonport RSA MUSIC NIGHT – Thursday 08th September 2022 Presentation Time: 1730 (Doors and bar open at 1600, finger food provided) This will be a family friendly evening for all ages. Youngsters welcome; oldsters too; RSA members (bring a friend); civilian members or service; ex-service or penal service, we will make room for you. All serving members of the NZDF are automatically members of the NZRSA Organisation, no membership fee is payable. Devonport is the home of the Navy and Devonport RSA is here to support you. Situated in the centre of Devonport at 61 Victoria Rd, we have a bar (currently open the first Thursday of every month) and hall facilities for your use. The club holds regular events so Email the manager at manager@devonportrsa.co.nz to register as a member and receive our newsletters and event emails.

MEMORIAL SERVICE CORNELIA BEENTJES: CAPTAIN RNZN

Cornelia Beentjes: Captain RNZN (Rtd) WRNZNS. H 28619. (Corry) 29th September 2021

The family advise all Naval Family friends of Corry that a memorial service for the late Corry will be held on the first anniversary of her passing.

The Celebration of Corry's life service will take place in St Christopher's Chapel, HMNZS Philomel, Thursday 29th September 2022 at 1100.

Names of those wishing to attend are required for Defence purposes and access to the Base. Names to. margaretmitchell@xtra.co.nz. by the 26th September 2022, please note numbers may need to be restricted.

SOLOMON ISLANDS TO BAN ALL FOREIGN NAVY VESSELS

The Solomon Islands has suspended entry into its waters for foreign navy ships pending adoption of a new process for approval of port visits, the Prime Minister's office said on Tuesday, in a bid to better police its exclusive economic zones.

The step follows an incident last week when a United States Coast Guard cutter, the OLIVER HENRY, was unable to make a routine port call because the government did not respond to a request for it to refuel and provision. "We have requested our partners to give us time to review, and put in place our new processes, before sending further requests for military vessels to enter the country," Prime Minister Manesseh Sogavare said in a statement. "These will universally apply to all visiting naval vessels," he said in the statement his office emailed to Reuters.

NEW INDIAN NAVAL ENSIGN

India has unveiled a new naval ensign as part of national efforts to move away from its colonial past under British rule – with a new Indian Navy flag that drops the St George's cross from the design.

The new flag, unveiled for the first time on Friday, replaces its former ensign that bore close similarities to the British Royal Navy's White Ensign, ending hundreds of years of association with Britain's naval fleet.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi saluted as the new ensign was hoisted during a ceremony to officially commission the country's first domestically-built aircraft carrier, the INS Vikrant.



NEW ZEALAND VICTORIA CROSS RECIPIENTS

Reginald Stanley Judson, VC, DCM, MM (29 September 1881 – 26 August 1972)



Judson was born into a farming family at Wharehine, north of Auckland, in New Zealand, on 29 September 1881, the son of Emma Frances Judson (née Holmden) and Edgar William Judson. After being educated at Port Albert and completing a mechanical engineering apprenticeship, he worked as a boilermaker and engineer in Auckland, living in the suburb of Ponsonby. In 1905 he married Ethel Grice and the union resulted in four children.

Judson enlisted in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force (NZEF) in October 1915 and embarked for the Middle East in January 1916 as a reinforcement with the New Zealand Rifle Brigade. In February, shortly after arriving in Egypt where the New Zealand Division was in the process of being formed, he was transferred to 1st Battalion, Auckland Infantry Regiment. Two months later, the division was transferred to the Western Front. Promoted to corporal, he participated in the Battle of Flers-Courcelette on 15 September 1916, where he was seriously wounded. He was evacuated to England and spent several months recovering from his injuries. Once his health permitted, he performed training duties and then spent a period of time in charge of a Royal Engineers depot in Codford.

In June 1918, Judson, now a sergeant, returned to his battalion which, along with the rest of the New Zealand Division, was engaged in fighting on the Somme in France. Late the following month, he rescued six of his fellow soldiers during a German counterattack near Hebuterne. For this action, he was recommended for the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM). On 16 August, he was at the forefront of a bayonet charge at Bucquoy that earned him the Military Medal (MM).

Ten days later, Judson participated in the Second Battle of Bapaume, an early engagement of the Hundred Days Offensive. The actions which led to Judson being awarded the Victoria Cross (VC), the DCM and the MM took place over a period of just four weeks. The citation for Judson's VC was published in the same edition of the *London Gazette* as the citation for his DCM. His VC citation read as follows:

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty when, in an attack on enemy positions, he led a small bombing party under heavy fire and captured an enemy machine-gun. He then proceeded up the sap alone, bombing three machine-gun crews before him. Jumping out of the trench he ran ahead of the enemy. Then, standing on the parapet, he ordered the party, consisting of two officers and about ten men, to surrender. They instantly fired on him, but he

threw a bomb and jumped down amongst them, killed two, and put the rest to flight, and so captured two machine-guns. This prompt and gallant action not only saved many lives, but also enabled the advance to be continued unopposed.

— *The London Gazette, No. 30982, 30 October 1918*

In September, Judson was a victim of a gas attack and returned to England to recover his health. He then attended an officer training school, first at Cambridge and then at Aldershot. By this time the war had ended and it was not until February 1919 that Judson was commissioned as a second lieutenant. Before departing England, Judson, along with three other New Zealanders who had been awarded the VC, received his medal from King George V in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace on 27 February 1919. After an extended stay in hospital, he left for New Zealand in June 1919.

Discharged from the NZEF in October 1919 and having decided on a career as a professional soldier, Judson joined the New Zealand Staff Corps. He served in posts in Auckland and then New Plymouth, where he was the area officer. Due to his war wounds (eight fragments of shrapnel remained in his chest and abdomen) and the aftereffects of his gassing, his health was fragile, and he had two periods of extended sick leave in 1924 and 1934. Despite being regarded as a reliable and conscientious officer, promotion opportunities in the post-war Staff Corps were limited, and when he retired in 1937, it was with the rank of captain.

Judson's marriage to Ethel had ended in divorce in 1920. Eight years later he married Kate Lewis, a war widow, and had a fifth child. On his retirement, Judson's pension was insufficient to support him and his children. Unable to return to his civilian trade of engineering due to poor health, he found employment as a secretary at a school in Auckland. A year later, he was voted onto Auckland City Council for the Citizens and Ratepayers Association and served for nine years. He was one of six candidates who stood for selection for the Auckland East electorate by the National Party for the 1938 election, but Harry Merritt was chosen instead.

Following the outbreak of the Second World War, Judson volunteered for military service. To be eligible, he deceived the authorities about his age. He served on the home front for the duration of the war, commanding the Guards Vital Points Battalion in Auckland. He retired from the military in September 1946 with the rank of major.

Judson moved to Mangonui in Northland and took up farming. He was also community minded, and served as a justice of the peace as well as being a coroner. He retired in the late 1950s, and returned to Auckland where he died on 26 August 1972. He was buried at Waikumete Cemetery, survived by his wife and four children. One of his sons, Reginald, served in the Second World War with the 24th Battalion as a chaplain and won the Military Cross during the Italian Campaign.

Judson's Victoria Cross was displayed at the QEII Army Memorial Museum, Waiouru. On 2 December 2007 it was one of nine Victoria Crosses that were among a hundred medals stolen from the museum. On 16 February 2008, New Zealand Police announced all the medals had been recovered as a result of a NZ\$300,000 reward offered by Michael Ashcroft and Tom Sturgess.
