



LONGCAST

- 14 October 22 – Navy Club
- 21 October 22 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Glen Eden RSA
- 11 November 22 – Navy Club
- 12 November 22 – Northland Lunch
- 18 November 22 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Grey Lynn RSA
- 9 December 22 – Navy Club
- 16 December 22 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Birkenhead RSA

Hi Folks

NORTHLAND LUNCH

Bay of Islands Yacht Club, 12th November 2022. So, mark it on your calendars now.

Further news will follow.

Accommodation is available for two couples and two singles. Please advise by return email if you require accommodation.

THE GREEN PARROT

Does anyone know what happen to / the where abouts of the ex-NZ Navy

launch, nick named the Green Parrot, and at some stage named Lindauer?



At Philomel Landing with the Queen on board



At Kawau, 1980?

NAVAL RESERVE RECRUITING

Naval Reserve Junior Officer and Basic Common Training Course for 2023 has been put back to June 2023. This means it is not too late to encourage suitable potential candidates to consider signing up.

Officer Trades Applications close Dec 22. The following Branches are being recruited.

- Lawyers
- Psychologists
- Maritime Trade Operations
- Chaplains
- Doctors

Applications for Maritime Trade Operations Ratings are also being recruited. Applications close Apr 23.

If you, or the people you know who you think might be interested, have any queries feel free to contact the NZDF recruiters who will point you in the right direction.

PICKLE NIGHT FOR SENIOR RATES

A semi formal/fun mess function is being planned at Senior Rates Fleet Mess for Saturday evening, November 5th 2022. Senior Rates in RN and Commonwealth navies celebrate the anniversary of the battle of Trafalgar with a Pickle Night - A mess dinner with a difference. More information will follow in the upcoming weeks, save the date and watch for details to follow.

ARMISTICE DAY COMEMORATIONS

Cambridge – Split Over Two Weekends

The Lake Karapiro based activities are taking place from Friday 4 November to Sunday 6 November. All members and friends are welcome to attend in what has in the past been an enjoyable and rewarding weekend. This year the Civic Service in Cambridge is on the closest Sunday day to Armistice Day: 13 November from 0930.

RN TYPE 45 DESTROYERS

The UK Royal Navy's HMS *Dauntless* has completed three months of sea trials to assess its new engines. During the tests, the Type 45 Daring-class destroyer demonstrated "three more reliable, more powerful, cleaner generators" that replaced its two original diesel engines. A store cabin was also redesigned as a high-voltage switchboard to manage the additional power generation. After the tests, the vessel returned to its homeport of Portsmouth for additional maintenance and system upgrades. Once the preparations are complete, HMS *Dauntless* will return to the fleet for worldwide deployment in 2023.

Type 45 lead vessel HMS *Daring* is currently receiving upgrades in Birkenhead, while HMS *Dragon* is receiving new engines as part of broader refit work at BAE Systems' facility in Portsmouth.

Source: thedefensepost

ROYAL NAVY SHIP IN NORTH SEA

Britain has sent a Royal Navy ship to patrol the North Sea, as Western allies try to increase protection for undersea pipelines and cables after blasts ruptured two natural gas pipelines in the Baltic Sea, the defense ministry said Monday. The Ministry of Defense said a navy frigate is in the North Sea, working with the Norwegian navy "to reassure those working near the gas pipelines."

Source: apnews

12 NEW CHOPPERS FOR RAN

The U.S. Navy has awarded Lockheed Martin a contract to produce an additional 12 Sikorsky MH-60R Seahawk helicopters for the Royal Australian

Navy (RAN). Procured via the U.S. Government's Foreign Military Sales agreement, the new aircraft will add a third 'Romeo' squadron to the RAN's Fleet Air Arm. Sikorsky is a Lockheed Martin company.



US CARRIER TO DEPLOY

Following years of delays and problems with its new technology, the U.S. Navy's most advanced aircraft carrier embarks on its first deployment next week and will train with other NATO countries at a time of increasing Russian aggression in Ukraine. The USS *Gerald R Ford* left the world's largest Navy base in Norfolk, Virginia, Monday along with destroyers and other warships, the U.S. Navy said in a statement Thursday. The carrier strike group will join ships in the Atlantic Ocean from countries that include France, Germany and Sweden for various exercises, including anti-submarine warfare. "The Atlantic is an area of strategic interest," Vice Admiral Daniel Dwyer said in a statement. "Our primary goal is to contribute to a peaceful, stable and conflict-free Atlantic region through the combined naval power of our Allies and partners."



NEW RUSSIAN SUBMARINE

The whereabouts of a new Russian submarine, the *Belgorod*, has captured headlines around the world. With a degree of hysteria, there have been reports that it has been deployed with its nuclear ‘apocalypse’ and ‘doomsday’ weapons. Even that it has ‘disappeared’ (submarines do that) Naval News has been keeping an eye on the topic since before these stories broke. We can offer fresh information about her activities. Images obtained by Naval News show the submarine operating in the Barents Sea, north of Russia’s Kola Peninsula. The *Belgorod* (K-329) is a unique submarine. She is around 178 meters (583 ft) long, 15 meters (50 ft) wide and in the region of 30,000 tons. This makes it by far the largest built anywhere in the world since the famous Typhoon class. She is armed with the Poseidon strategic weapon which itself is unique. Described by the U.S. Navy as an ‘Intercontinental Nuclear-Powered Nuclear-Armed Autonomous Torpedo’, it combines incredible range with hard-to-kill performance. There is a concern that, with current weapons, it is

effectively unstoppable once launched. Launched in 2019, *Belgorod* was formally commissioned on July 8 2022, so this is one of her first longer-range trips. But she is still very close to home, in the Russian Navy's back yard. We noted the submarine leaving Severodvinsk in the White Sea a few weeks ago, and she was in the Barents Sea by September 22. She was still there on September 27. On both dates she was observed on the surface. This is not unusual for new submarines like this.

Source: NavalNews



NEW ZEALAND VICTORIA CROSS RECIPIENTS

John Daniel Hinton, VC (17 September 1909 – 28 June 1997)



John Hinton, known as Jack, was born in Colac Bay in Southland, New Zealand, on 17 September 1909, one of seven children of Harry Hinton, a railway man, and Elizabeth Mary. He was educated at local schools and on most days, before starting lessons, would milk a herd of 40 cows. When he was 12, he ran away from home after an argument with his father. He found a job at a grocers in a nearby town but after a year signed on as a galley hand aboard a Norwegian whaling ship, which spent the 1921/1922 whaling season in the Southern Ocean. On his return, and after reconciling with his parents, he started working as a shepherd. He soon tired of this and began the life of a swagman, working from town to town as he travelled around the South Island. Hinton spent most of the next several years on the West Coast working in railroad construction, mining for gold, picking fruit, hauling coal, and saw milling. Sport was a passion; he boxed as a lightweight and also ran foot races and played rugby for Hokitika.

In the 1930s, Hinton found regular employment in the Public Works Department, which was building bridges and roads throughout the West Coast.

He gained respect for his honesty and hard-working nature and became a foreman in the department. In 1937, he invested his earnings into a pub for which his future wife, Eunice Henriksen, had the lease.

At the outbreak of war, Hinton enlisted in the 2nd New Zealand Expeditionary Force (2NZEF), which was being raised for service abroad. He was posted to the 20th Battalion, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Howard Kippenberger, and based at Burnham Military Camp. One of the older volunteers of the battalion, he was soon promoted to the rank of corporal, and not long after was made a sergeant. The battalion embarked for the Middle East as part of the 4th Infantry Brigade, 2nd New Zealand Division, in January 1940. Hinton was not always respectful of military authority. Shortly after the New Zealanders arrived in Egypt, he was commanding a squad practising on a rifle range when visited by the division's commander, Major General Bernard Freyberg, who asked him how the men were shooting. "How would you expect them to bloody well shoot?", replied Hinton, "not enough bloody rations, stinking heat and sand". Freyberg asked him to repeat the comment, which he did word for word. Freyberg took note of Hinton's name and instructed him to carry on. There was a subsequent increase in rations, while Hinton was advised by his company commander on how best to speak to senior officers.

In March 1941, the 2nd New Zealand Division was one of several Allied units deployed to Greece to help prepare for an expected invasion by Italian and German troops. When the invasion began on 6 April 1941, the 20th Battalion briefly saw action at Thermopylae before being withdrawn, but Hinton missed this fighting as he was with the division's reinforcement battalion, which was initially based in Athens before it moved to the port of Kalamata. It had been decided that the Allied forces would abandon Greece; at Kalamata, the reinforcement battalion, along with several thousand other, mainly Australian, troops, was awaiting evacuation. On 28 April, the New Zealanders were waiting for transport when advance units of the German 5th Panzer Division began to attack the town with machine-gun fire and self-propelled 6-inch guns.

Hearing gunfire in the distance, Hinton, wanting to assist in the defence of the

Allied positions, went to the headquarters of Brigadier Leonard Parrington, the officer in command of the evacuation. Hinton vehemently protested, in strong language, an order from Parrington to surrender. On being threatened with a court-martial for speaking to a senior officer in such a manner, he issued his own threat of proceedings against Parrington for defeatist talk and then left to determine for himself the situation. Other men of the reinforcement battalion were making preparations to move into the town and face the Germans. In the meantime, Hinton had collected his own party of 12 soldiers and led them into the town but came under fire. Ignoring an order from a nearby officer to retreat, he rushed forward to the nearest enemy gun and, hurling two grenades, killed the crew. He continued towards the town's waterfront, clearing out two light machine-gun nests and a mortar with grenades, then dealt with the garrison of a house where some of the enemy were sheltering. He then assisted in the capture of an artillery piece, but shortly after was shot in the stomach, immobilised and captured, one of about 6,000 Allied soldiers made a prisoner of war (POW).

Officially listed as missing in action until August 1941, Hinton spent several weeks in a hospital near Athens until he was well enough to be transferred to a POW camp in Germany. In the meantime, a recommendation for the Victoria Cross (VC) for Hinton was dispatched by Major George Thomson, a medical officer who had witnessed his actions in Kalamata. After an investigation, a decision was made to award Hinton the VC, which was duly gazetted on 14 October 1941.

The citation read as follows:

On the night of 28th–29th April, 1941, during the fighting in Greece, a column of German armoured forces entered Kalamata; this column, which contained several armoured cars, 2" guns, and 3" mortars, and two 6" guns, rapidly converged on a large force of British and New Zealand troops awaiting embarkation on the beach. When the order to retreat to cover was given, Serjeant Hinton, shouting "to Hell with this, who'll come with me," ran to within several yards of the nearest gun; the gun fired, missing him, and he hurled two

grenades which completely wiped out the crew. He then came on with the bayonet followed by a crowd of New Zealanders. German troops abandoned the first 6" gun and retreated into two houses. Serjeant Hinton smashed the window and then the door of the first house and dealt with the garrison with the bayonet. He repeated the performance in the second house and as a result, until overwhelming German forces arrived, the New Zealanders held the guns. Serjeant Hinton then fell with a bullet wound through the lower abdomen and was taken prisoner.

— *London Gazette, No. 35311, 14 October 1941.*

The announcement of Hinton's VC was made within a week of Lieutenant Charles Upham, another member of the 20th Battalion, being awarded a VC for his actions during the fighting in the Battle of Crete. This prompted a joke that circulated within the battalion: "Join the 20th and get a VC." While a prisoner of war at Stalag IX-C, Hinton made several escape attempts. He was being punished with solitary confinement for one such attempt when his VC was gazetted. He was paraded before his fellow prisoners and presented with a VC ribbon by the camp's commandant before being returned to his cell to complete his punishment.

In 1944, even though a prisoner of war, Hinton was contacted by the International Red Cross to pass on a request from the Labour Party. It asked him to consider standing as their candidate in a by-election in Awarua. He had previously signalled his interest in pursuing a career in politics. However, he was unable to confirm his candidacy in time.

By April 1945, the Allied advance into Germany threatened Hinton's POW camp. The Germans evacuated the camp but Hinton, feigning sickness, remained behind. Once the guards had left, he was able to find keys to the gates and let himself out. He soon made contact with soldiers of the United States 6th Armoured Division. Dressed in civilian clothes, he was initially treated with suspicion but soon convinced the Americans of his identity. He borrowed an American uniform and went forward to the frontline with the 44th Infantry Division and assisted in the capture of three villages and rounding up of

German POWs. Senior American officers soon found out about Hinton's presence with their troops and sent him to England, where he arrived on 12 April 1945.

Hinton remained in England for over three months, awaiting repatriation to New Zealand. During this time, on 11 May 1945, he received his VC from King George VI at an investiture held at Buckingham Palace. Charles Upham, his comrade from the 20th Battalion, received a bar to his VC at the same ceremony. Transport finally available, Hinton departed for New Zealand in early July and arrived on 4 August 1945.

After returning home, Hinton initially was indecisive about what to do with his life. Like many of his fellow soldiers who had returned home, he struggled to adapt to civilian life. He was also extremely uncomfortable with the public attention he received because of his status as a VC recipient. He eventually found work managing hotels on behalf of Dominion Breweries. He was initially based at the Thistle Hotel, a notorious drinking establishment in Auckland, for three years, during which he received a belated mention in despatches for his escape attempts while a POW. In December 1949 he moved to Hamilton to manage the Hamilton East Hotel. This was the first of many moves up and down the country to manage hotels.

During his time as a hotelier, Hinton made several overseas trips, the first of which was to attend the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. He also regularly attended VC and George Cross celebrations, including the VC centenary in 1956. In 1963, Eunice, who Jack had married following the death of her first husband in the 1950s, died from a heart attack. In 1968, he was married again, to Molly Schumacher, a barmaid at the Onehunga Hotel in Auckland, which Hinton was running at the time. While in Auckland, he was heavily involved in the horse racing industry and acted as a steward at the Auckland Trotting Club.

Hinton retired in 1980 and he and Molly moved to Ashburton in the South Island. He spent much of his retirement fishing and in 1990 shifted to Christchurch to be nearer to Molly's relatives. He died on 28 June 1997 and was honoured with a military funeral, attended by 800 people. The Chief of

General Staff, Major General Piers Reid, delivered a eulogy. The New Zealand Parliament honoured him with a minute's silence at a sitting on 1 July 1997. He was survived by his second wife; he had no children from either of his marriages. He is buried in Christchurch, in the Returned Servicemen's League Section of the Ruru Lawn Cemetery. He is remembered with a plaque in his birthplace of Colac Bay, and the restaurant at the Christchurch Returned Servicemen's Association is named for him.

Hinton's VC was loaned by his family to the Army Museum New Zealand at Waiouru, where it is on display. On 2 December 2007, it was one of nine VCs 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.

