



Courtesy Jim Duckworth



We Serve Together
Ka Mahi Tahī Tatou





dinner July 08
2017.docx



LT CDR
Macdonald.docx

NGAPONA EX MEMBERS ASSN – LONGCAST

8 July 17 – Ngapona Ex members Assn, Mid Year Dinner at Pt Chevalier RSA 1700

14 July 17 - Navy Club Lunch, Remuera

21 July 17 - Old Salts Lunch at Papatoetoe RSA

18 August 17 - Old Salts Lunch at Hobsonville RSA

15 September 17 - Old Salts Lunch at Birkenhead RSA

6 October 17 – RNZN Communicators 50th Anniversary, Navy Museum

20 October 17 – Trafalgar Day Lunch at Te Atatu RSA

20 October 17 - Old Salts Lunch at New Lynn RSA

17 November 17 - Old Salts Lunch at Titirangi RSA

15 December 17 - Old Salts Lunch at Orakei RSA

Hi Folks

HMNZS NGAPONA ASSN MID YEAR DINNER

The Assn is hold a mid year dinner at the Pt Chevalier RSA this Saturday at 1900. Come and enjoy a good meal and watch the All Blacks beat the Lions on the big screen. Members, parnters and friends are invited, you do not have to be a member of the Assn.

Please email Jill - jillt.nz49@gmail.com before 6 July so we can advise the caterer of numbers attending.

HMNZS NGAPONA - NEW COMMANDING OFFICER

Lt Cdr James Burt assumed command of HMNZS Ngapona on Friday 30 June 17. James joined Ngapoa as an Ordinary Seaman in 1997 and was susequently commisioned as a seaman officer.

Lt Cdr Gerard McGrath, who relinquished his command to Lt Cdr Burt, was appointed CO in 2014. Gerard was most supportive in in the forming of the Ngapona Association. We wish him all the best in his new venture.

NZDF MEDALLION

Families/whānau provide crucial support to Navy personnel but their role is typically private and “behind the scenes”, and their efforts often go unseen – officially, at least. To help change this, Force 4 Families has created a “NZDF Supporters Medallion”. The medallions were officially launched on 15 May, to coincide with the United Nations International Day of Families. This year focuses on the role of families in promoting the education and wellbeing of their members. Families Day is of special significance to Force 4 Families – not only does it promote family wellbeing, but this was the day it was launched back in 2015.

“The NZDF Supporters Medallion is a tangible recognition of the huge contribution that family members play in supporting you, and NZDF operations,” says Brenda Keating, the Chair of the Force 4 Families Project Team.

“Family” means something different to everyone, says Mrs Keating. “Family could be your best friend, your spouse or partner, children, a parent, an in-law – or anyone else in your life that you feel especially close to, who has supported and stood by you in the work that you do,” she says.

The medallions are available to purchase from the Navy Museum, <http://navymuseum.co.nz/shop>. They cost \$21.50, plus postage.

Personnel can gift them to their family members to recognise their continued, ongoing support, or to recognise, for example, the extra efforts and sacrifices required during a deployment. The medallions can be personalised, as they have space on the back for engraving.

The NZDF Supporters Medal recognises the NZDF values mirrored in Defence families/whānau: courage, or bravery; commitment: being proud of you and your job, even when it has been tough; and comradeship: being a good friend, or supporter. Wear your medallion on the right-hand side to show your support for NZDF.

Force 4 Families is dedicated to improving communication and welfare for the NZDF families/whānau, and to build a stronger sense of community.

AMAZING MEN OF THE RNZNVR

A/LT CDR George James (Mac) Macdonald DSO, DSC and Two Bars, MID (2), RNZNVR.

A/LT CDR Macdonald, born in 1921, joined the Wellington Division of the Naval Reserve in 1938. When he went to the United Kingdom in 1940 he was an Able Seaman who had already served as a Gunner in TRIENZA, a phosphate carrier trading to Nauru Island. In England he trained in HMS KING ALFRED, and as a Sub-Lieutenant became Second-in-Command of MTB31. When that ship was attacked by three German E-boats and set on fire, Macdonald not only fought the fires, but also dived overboard to save the life of the Chief Motor Mechanic. He helped in the salvage of the ship. For these actions he was awarded his first Distinguished Service Cross (DSC).

Later, in Command of MTB241, he fought nine actions in four months and was awarded a Bar to his DSC. In September 1943 he was promoted Lieutenant, and at the age of 22 became the youngest officer to command a flotilla of MTBs.

Macdonald was awarded a second Bar to his DSC in July 1944 for his performance in two actions, and in seven successful mine-laying operations. As Flotilla Leader, when his own ship was sunk he transferred to another and continued the action.

In **July 1944**, he attempted to sink a heavily armed German transport with three MTBs until it made safety of harbour. Whilst returning to his base, he discovered a second convoy and pressed home a successful attack. Remarkably, he sank two ships, despite the risk of enemy air attack during an action fought in broad daylight. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Order for this action.

He was twice mentioned in despatches and as one of the most highly decorated New Zealanders, Macdonald was regarded as an 'Ace' of coastal forces.

A/LT CDR Macdonald was employed by Wellington City Council, where he became City Engineer.

CNS #2

COMMODORE Sir Atwell Lake CB, OBE, RN – CNS 1942 – July 1945 Jul Royal New Zealand Navy - Chief of Naval Staff & First Naval Member

Commodore Sir Atwell Henry Lake, 9th Bt. was born on 13 February 1891. He is the son of Admiral Atwell Peregrine Macleod Lake and Constance Mary Turner. He married Kathleen Marion Turner, daughter of Alfred Morrison Turner, on 20 July 1922. He died on 27 November 1972 at age 81.

He was educated at Cheltenham College, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England. He fought in the Battle of Jutland on 31 May 1916, in H.M.S. Lion. He was appointed Officer, Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) in 1919. He succeeded as the 9th Baronet Lake, of Edmonton, Middlesex [G.B., 1711] on 10 November 1924. He gained the rank of Commodore in the Royal Navy. He fought in the Second World War. He was Chief of Staff to Commander-in-Chief of Portsmouth between 1939 and 1942. He held the office of Aide-de-Camp to HM George VI in 1942. He was Chief of New Zealand Naval Staff between 1942 and 1945. He was decorated with the award of the Commander, U.S. Legion of Merit. He was appointed Companion, Order of the Bath (C.B.) in 1945.

Born

13 February 1891
Greenwich, London

Died

27 November 1972 (aged 81)
Rudgwick, West Sussex

Decorations

Companion of the Order of the Bath

Officer of the Order of the British Empire

Commander of the Legion of Merit (United States)

EXTRACT TAKEN FROM THE REPORT TO THE NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT BY THE NEW ZEALAND NAVAL BOARD 1ST APRIL 1945 TO 31ST MARCH 1946.

1. The Navy Department is controlled by the New Zealand Naval Board, set up in terms of the Naval Defence Amendment Act 1936. The New Zealand Naval Board consist of:
 - a The Minister of the Defence (Chairman of the Board)
 - b. A Captain Royal Navy with the rank of Commodore (as First Naval Member and Chief of Naval Staff
 - c. A Commander, Royal Navy, with the acting rank of Captain (as Second Naval Member)
 - d. A Commander (S), Royal Navy, with the acting rank of Captain (S) (as Naval Secretary and Member)
2. The Naval Board implements its instructions through Navy Office, Wellington which directs the administration of the Royal New Zealand Navy.
3. The staff of Navy Department prior to the outbreak of hostilities was comparatively small, but the organization was so devised that it was capable of expanding along the lines of its peacetime organization. Many new problems were faced, brought about by the very considerable increase in administrative responsibilities, but in every instance satisfactory solutions were found. All branches of the Department functioned efficiently and successfully and the staff at all times gave of their best in an ungrudging manner.
4. On the 13th July, 1945 Commodore G.H. Faulkner DSC assumed duties as First Naval Member of the New Zealand Naval Board and Chief of Naval Staff, in succession to Commodore Sir Atwell Lake, Bart, CB, OBE.
5. On 1st April 1945 the Royal New Zealand Navy consisted of HMNZ Ships ACHILLES, GAMBIA, ARABIS, ARBUTUS and HMNZ minesweepers and auxiliary craft, in addition shore and training establishments were in operation consisting: HMNZS PHILOMEL and HMNZS TAMAKI at Auckland. HMNZS COOK at Wellington (then RNZAF Shelley Bay) HMMZS TASMAN at Lyttleton Naval W/T Station Waiouru and Navy Office, Dunedin.
6. Units of the Royal New Zealand Navy, comprising the 25th A/S M/S Flotilla and twelve Fairmile launches, continued to operate under the command of Commander South Pacific Area until July 1945, when they were released and returned to Auckland under the control of the New Zealand Naval Board for refit and disposal, with the exception of HMNZS ARBUTUS which from June 1945 until October 1945, served under the control of the Commander-in-Chief, British Pacific Fleet.

Take care

Jerry Payne

021 486 013

President

Ngapona Ex Members Assn

"There are good ships, and there are wood ships, the ships that sail the sea."

"But the best ships are friendships, and may they always be."