

HMNZS NGAPONA ASSOCIATION INC

LONGCAST

11 March 22 – Navy Club Lunch at Remuera
18 March 22 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Waiheke RSA
8 April 22 - Navy Club Lunch at Remuera
15 – 18 April 22 – Easter
22 April 22 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Henderson RSA
25 April 22 – ANZAC Day

Hi Folks

DEATH NOTICE

O'BRIEN, Brian Roderick. Passed away on 23 February 2022 at home, after a short battle with cancer, aged 79. Dearly beloved husband of Lyn. Much loved father and father-in-law of Gary and Sue, Kelly and Craig, Nick, Heather and Steve. Caring and fun Grandad of Samantha, Kyle, Ronan, Aidan, Flynn, Deklan, Laura, Erin and Holly, Great-Grandad of Cyrus. Much loved brother to Dennis, Carna, Bruce and Roger. A service for Brian will be held in the Chapel of Morris and Morris Funerals (entrance 17 Western Hills Drive) Whau Valley Whangarei at 10:30am on Wednesday 2 March 2022, followed by interment at the Waipu Cemetery at 1pm. For this service attendees will have to be fully vaccinated, and, due to the present covid restrictions numbers are limited. Please email the family on lyn.obrien@xtra.co.nz with regard to attendance or to receive the livestreaming link. All Communications to the O'Brien family, C/- PO Box 8043 Kensington Whangarei 0145.

Brian was very well known at Ngapona as he worked for the company that supplied liquor to not only Ngapona and the Naval Base but also most other Defence Force bases in New Zealand. Brian and Lyn were staunch supporters of Ngapona and he was the first Associate Member to join the Ngapona Assn. Our sincere condolences go to Lyn and Family.

RIP Brian

DISRUPTIONS IN GLOBAL TRADE

Disruptions in global trade are about to go from bad to worse. With Russia's invasion of Ukraine early Thursday, energy costs are soaring, stocks are plunging, Western sanctions are being sharpened, and central bankers already worried about inflation face additional drags from weaker consumer confidence and bigger potential shocks to fragile European economies. "This will not be good for energy prices, production, or trade," said Joseph Francois, managing director at the World Trade Institute.

“Certainly, we will have, and are already seeing, a spike in energy prices. This will have knock on effects on production, especially in Europe, which will dent the recovery of trade from the Covid recession.” Russia is the world’s 16th-largest goods exporter, with petroleum, coal and gas being the biggest categories. Ukraine ranks 48th, led by shipments of grain and iron ore, according to 2020 data from the World Trade Organization.

FOR AUSTRALIA READ 'NEW ZEALAND'

With most of Australia's goods arriving by sea, the Maritime Union of Australia is calling on the federal government to safeguard the domestic shipping fleet. With shipping being the connection between Australia and the rest of the world, there are concerns about the dwindling number of Australian-crewed vessels. According to the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) the fleet of Australian registered and Australian crewed vessels has fallen to just 12 ships over the last eight years. That shortage saw Norwegian-flagged supply ship the *Far Saracen* being called on to deliver supplies to isolated South Coast communities during the Black Summer bushfires. With a looming federal election, the MUA has launched a campaign to focus attention on the weakening domestic shipping sector, which places Australia at the end of a long supply chain. "Australia is an island nation, and 99 per cent of our imports arrive by sea," MUA South Coast branch secretary Mick Cross said. "We manufacture and produce less and less of what we consume locally, so our dependence on international shipping has only grown and grown."

LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES

Firefighters are struggling to put out a fire that broke out last week Wednesday on a vessel carrying thousands of luxury cars, which is adrift off the coast of Portugal's Azores islands, a port official said, adding it was unclear when they would succeed. The *Felicity Ace*, carrying around 4,000 vehicles including Porsches, Audis and Bentleys, some electric with lithium-ion batteries, caught fire in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean on Wednesday. The 22 crew members on board were evacuated on the same day. "The intervention (to put out the blaze) has to be done very slowly," João Mendes Cabeças, captain of the nearest port in the Azorean Island of Faial, told Reuters late on Saturday. "It will take a while." Lithium-ion batteries in the electric vehicles on board are "keeping the fire alive," Cabeças said, adding that specialist equipment to extinguish it was on the way. It was not clear whether the batteries sparked the fire. They also cannot use water because adding weight to the ship could make it more unstable, and traditional water extinguishers do not stop lithium-ion batteries from burning, Cabeças said. The Panama-flagged ship will be towed to a country in Europe or to the Bahamas but it is unclear when that will happen.



RAN's NEW REGIONAL MAINTENANCE CENTRE

The Regional Maintenance Centre North is expected to commence operations next year. Australia Prime Minister Scott Morrison has provided an update on the Royal Australian Navy's (RAN) new regional maintenance centre (RMC) in Darwin. A tender has been released to look for an industry partner to manage the RMC. This new regional maintenance centre will offer new capabilities, such as the evolved Cape-class patrol boats and Arafura-class offshore patrol vessels. The Australian Government has plans to establish four RMCs around the four major naval homeports or support facilities in Cairns, Darwin, Henderson and Sydney. The centres will support the ongoing naval shipbuilding programme.

CAPT BLYTH R.N.

The Castaways Pt 2

19 May 1789, Bligh and his crew continue to sail toward the Great Barrier Reef, however, conditions remain terrible. Bligh's log indicates that they were half-dead and suffering extreme hunger. They did not lack for water as it was almost constantly raining. Bligh does manage to get a noon sight which placed them about 500 miles away from the Gt Barrier Reef.

24 May. Sunshine! But the amount of bread remaining was sufficient for 29 days only. Rations were then reduced each man receiving one 24th of a pound of bread for breakfast and dinner, none for supper.

25 May. A small bird is caught and divided up between the crew. Then two larger birds. Again, these were divided up and eaten. The weather had changed to fair which brought with it the heat of the sun.

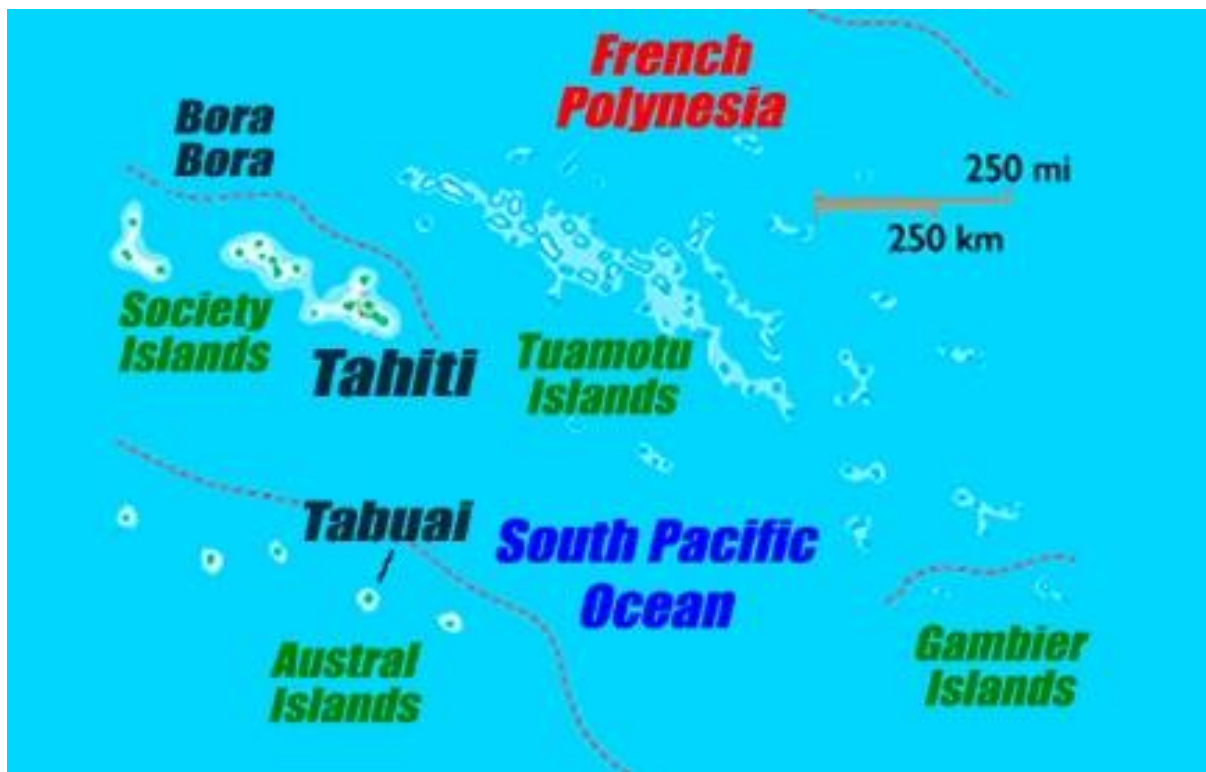
27 May. Land was sighted which proved to be New Holland (Australia). The launch was about 300 miles south of the northern-most point of the eastern edge of the continent. Bligh now needed to find a way through the reef to the mainland.

28 May. A way through the reef is found, the gap becoming known as 'Bligh's Boat Entrance'. HMAV *Bounty* meanwhile makes landfall on this day at Tubuai, about 400 miles south of Tahiti. This island forms part of the Austral Island group and

which now form the southern-most group of islands in French Polynesia. Cook sailing in the *Endeavour*, discovered the island of Rurutu of the Austral Island Group in 1769. He discovered the island of Tubuai in March 1777 while in *Resolution*. Lieutenant Bligh was also on board as Sailing Master.

It is suspected that Fletcher Christian would have known of this which may have caused him to sail there. In any event, *Bounty* sailed for Tahiti one week later. The *Bounty* returned to Tubuai later with provisions. The crew was accompanied by 6 Tahitian men and 12 Tahitian women. It was the intent of the mutineers to settle there, perhaps because Christian thought that if there were to be a search for them by the British, that they would be more inclined to look about Tahiti rather than further south, however, within three months, internal disputes and bloody clashes with Tubuai islanders resulting in 66 natives being killed forced the *Bounty* to depart. It is of note that 16 crewmembers had decided to remain in Tahiti. These were subsequently captured by the English authorities and returned to England. Three were hanged. In January 1790, the *Bounty* reached Pitcairn Island, more than 1000 miles east of Tahiti.

(to be continued)



Regards

Jerry Payne

Editor

HMNZS Ngapona Assn

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