

NAVY

TODAY

ISSUE 217 DECEMBER 2017



**SAILOR
OF THE YEAR**

**ENDEAVOUR
SAYS FAREWELL**

**CHRISTMAS
CHEER**

TE TAUA MOANA – WARRIORS OF THE SEA



DIRECTORY

Published to inform, inspire and entertain serving and former members of the RNZN, their families and friends and the wider Navy community.

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COVER IMAGE:
 HMNZS ENDEAVOUR TRAILS HER PAYING-OFF PENNANT AS IT ENTERS AUCKLAND HARBOUR FOR THE FINAL TIME.
 PHOTO: LAC CHAD CHARMAN
 TOP PHOTO COURTESY OF GRANT SQUIRES



CHIEF OF NAVY

Rear Admiral John Martin

As we ramp up to Christmas and the holidays that lie beyond, it's a good time to reflect on a busy and successful 2017. You can be proud of your Navy's efforts this year. Six months of operational deployments to south-east Asia and Fiji, multiple security and response patrols in the EEZ and MARSAR as well as operations in the Southern Ocean – all headlines that underscore a productive year. But it is far more than that. Within the Navy, we have continued to induct and train fantastic young and not-so-young New Zealanders for service at sea. Over 3000 naval personnel have received training, education and leadership coaching, our ships have been maintained to be ready for operations and our personnel support organisations have continued to make it possible for us to serve.

Those six months in south-east Asia, as well as demonstrating our country's commitment to security and stability, provided an opportunity for our people to become familiar with the region, to understand the cultures and people and to gain confidence and experience in operating in a challenging region where the international framework is under significant challenge and threat. To be successful in this region, you need prevail among a host of security competitors. Your defence forces need to be recognisable as being credible and adding value to our partners. TE KAHA's integration into the NIMITZ Carrier Strike Group demonstrated our capacity and capability to do this.

In the South Pacific, we had WELLINGTON, OTAGO and HAWEA to support MPI and the Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency. They provided highly competent boarding parties, surveillance skills and deep ocean experience. HAWEA in particular engaged in a novel deployment to Fiji to assist in the task of effectively managing their EEZ. Her six-month operation was extremely successful and offers a model for future support to the region. In September we hosted a forum of the heads of the Naval Forces of the South Pacific, with 12 countries participating. All of us have the same concerns about illegal fishing, transnational crime, people smuggling, climate change and pollution. These countries in the South Pacific depend on the sea for their livelihood and it is very satisfying to be able to assist them.

One area where we intimately connect with our families and community is through the training and development of New Zealanders. We have some of the finest New Zealanders serving in your Navy. Why do they lend their lives to the service of their country? From what I have seen, it is a mix of motivations. Our people are motivated by the training and personal development that we provide. Responsibility motivates – we give our young people responsibility, the mission and the tools early in their careers. But it is mainly about pride. In the recent Whakaaro – a conference run for the sailors by the sailors, we were privileged to hear that for many it is very much about pride – pride in their country and pride in their uniform. Our people want to and are proud to make a difference for their country – an intrinsic

motivation that is at the heart of Navy values and our success.

Next year offers more change as we sail towards a more combat capable and networked enabled Defence Force. RIMPAC beckons for our ships and command teams.

We will make the most of the opportunities to conduct border protection operations by creating great learning experiences for our ships. With the decommissioning of ENDEAVOUR, we have AOTEAROA being built in Korea. MANAWANUI will be decommissioned early in 2018, and we need to be ready to take on a replacement for her so that we can continue to do diving operations. The frigates will undergo the long-awaited FSU and hundreds of our sailors will get the chance to visit Canada as we modernise our combat capability.

We will recruit and train an increasingly diverse work force because we need to reflect society. To support this we are overhauling our training systems. Driven by feedback from within the Navy, we need to make sure they support our sailors who have different expectations and needs and be ready for new systems like the Sea Sceptor missile – a state of the art air defence system for the frigates, and new missions – particularly in surveillance, reconnaissance and cyber.

We must expect to deploy our ships and teams into increasingly complex, competitive and challenging mission areas. They are areas where we must prevail if we are to achieve our goals. We are being challenged at sea, in cyberspace, in a competition for influence, and where the threats to the international frameworks upon which we depend as a nation are being undermined. Increasingly, we will be measuring our Navy against the best in the world – and we will not be found wanting.

So as you prepare for Christmas and the summer holidays, raise a silent toast to those in our NZDF and most particularly the Navy, who are at sea, working with allies in mission areas around the globe and for those on duty for their country. For the rest of us – I wish you a safe and prosperous Christmas and New Year. 2018 promises to be another rewarding year in this exciting adventure called life!

Merry Christmas





MISSION COMPLETE ENDEAVOUR

By Andrew Bonallack

Mission complete, ENDEAVOUR – well done for your service.

On Friday 1 December replenishment tanker HMNZS ENDEAVOUR entered Auckland Harbour for the final time after 29 years of service.

Invites had gone out to former members of her crew to witness the last voyage of “the Big E” under the White Ensign. They gathered at the HMNZS PHILOMEL seminar centre, where Maritime Component Commander Commodore Jim Gilmour welcomed them with a pleasure tinged with sadness.

“29 years ago, I can remember the excitement when ENDEAVOUR arrived here in 1988. This new, shiny, massive ship that’s provided such amazing service for us, over 800,000 nautical miles.” He said “this old girl” was supposed to be retired in 2013, but has gone on another four years. In the four months since the decommissioning order was signed, the ship had not had a single priority one defect. “She’s trying to tell us something,” he said.

As ENDEAVOUR passed Torpedo Bay, her slim decommissioning pennant, 148 metres long, could just be seen trailing behind her. An Auckland tug saluted her with her fire hose, following her in. At exactly 9.40am, as arranged, the still was piped. With ENDEAVOUR possessing no saluting guns, 11 guns were fired on ENDEAVOUR’s behalf from the training wharf at HMNZS PHILOMEL, saluting CDRE Gilmour, then another seven guns were fired in return to salute ENDEAVOUR.

Above: A haka in Number One uniform, celebrating ENDEAVOUR’s service.
Right: HMNZS ENDEAVOUR’s paying-off pennant ploughs the water astern.



The size of the paying off pennant has a history since before the Napoleonic Wars, according to Navy regulations (NZBR 33). It was originally customary to make the pennant the length of the ship, plus extra yardage proportional to any extended commission time. However, the RNZN has since standardised the pennants to at least 122 metres for ships larger than an Offshore Patrol Vessel, and 12 metres for all other vessels. ENDEAVOUR’s pennant, at 148m, could be considered in homage to the older tradition, but it was simply the pennant made available. ■



Once secured alongside at Calliope Wharf, ENDEAVOUR was greeted with a haka, with crew on board adjoining vessel HMNZS CANTERBURY joining in from their decks. It had power, but the return haka from ENDEAVOUR, their last ever, echoed from hull to hull.

Former crew were invited on board for a tour. Kim Jamieson and Michelle Winiata said they were keen to see the cabin where they and four other women ratings lived in 1991. "I was a leading cook," said Ms Jamieson. "It was an amazing time, I remember the fun, the comradeship." Ms Winiata agreed. "You got to do everything, because it was such a small crew."

Petty Officer Seaman Combat Specialist Marty Plant was part of the original 35-strong commissioning crew who delivered ENDEAVOUR from South Korea in 1988. He attended the charter parade and was in ENDEAVOUR for her final entry. He asked if he could helm her into Auckland. "It was very emotional for myself to do that. It was a once-in-a-lifetime thing to do," he said. "I remember it was a wet day when we got back from Korea, we couldn't see Rangitoto." He stayed with ENDEAVOUR for three years. "It's always been a happy ship."

Crewmember Able Communications Warfare Specialist Makarios Eden said the command team on ENDEAVOUR are "phenomenal" to work with. "They know their jobs. There's great camaraderie here, people are always looking after you, morale is high, food is great." What he takes away from ENDEAVOUR is the sense of being on a ship that has a legacy. "I feel if you have not served on this ship, you've missed out."

Lieutenant Commander Dave Barr, ENDEAVOUR's Executive Officer, said ENDEAVOUR was his first ship when he emigrated to New Zealand 10 years ago. "It's been quite emotional today. She has a really special place in my heart and I'm chuffed we did her proud. When I left her in 2010, I said it would be awesome to come back as paying-off crew. It's always been brilliant on ENDEAVOUR. She does so much with so few people."

For Commanding Officer Commander Martin Doolan, it's been "a complete and utter adventure" for two-and-a-half years. "Huge job satisfaction and a whole barrel of fun, on a happy and efficient ship – in that order. The last month or so, we've been conscious of doing things for the last time, and today, we wanted to get it right. You don't get a second chance."

ENDEAVOUR was formally decommissioned on 15 December at Devonport. Chief of Navy Rear Admiral John Martin said ENDEAVOUR had influenced and shaped the Navy over three decades. "She introduced a whole new aspect of seamanship to our Navy, the ability to conduct Replenishment at Sea. Her capability added a credibility to our Navy, to not only deploy around the world, but to support our ships and the ships of other nations. She filled roles when we couldn't send a frigate and before we had CANTERBURY. Always welcome, always friendly, ENDEAVOUR has been ready, willing and able." ■

Clockwise from top: HMNZS PHILOMEL fires her salute to HMNZS ENDEAVOUR.

Former crew Michelle Winiata (left), Hawke's Bay and Kim Jamieson, Auckland, who served in 1991.

CPOCS Marty Plant helms ENDEAVOUR into Auckland.

A large white naval ship, HMNZS HAWEA, is docked at a wharf. Several crew members in white uniforms are standing on the deck. In the background, there are residential buildings and a crane.

HAWEA WELCOMED HOME

By Suzi Phillips

Families waited in eager anticipation at the wharf barrier as the Navy Band played some upbeat tunes when HMNZS HAWEA arrived back from seven months' duty in Fijian waters in November.

Both crew rotations were recognised, with sister ship HMNZS TAUPO shadowing HAWEA's entry into the inner Waitemata Harbour. Half of TAUPO's present crew had been part of the first HAWEA crew from April to August.

As they passed HMNZS PHILOMEL's tower, the Maritime Component Commander, Commodore Jim Gilmour, exchanged salutes and HAWEA piped the carry on.

Back on the wharf and standing among the families, the first rotation's Commanding Officer and now Lieutenant Commander Dave Luhrs watched HMNZS HAWEA arrive and berth under the command of Lieutenant Brock West.

LT West was first off HAWEA, greeting his wife and young daughter before Chief of Navy Rear Admiral John Martin and CDRE Gilmour welcomed him back. As the Ship's Company disembarked the barriers were opened and the crew were quickly enveloped in the happy hugs of waiting family.



Above: ACH Tia Rickards embraces her family.

DRUG RUNNERS FLUSHED OUT



HMNZS MANAWANUI fully embraced the role-playing spirit of Exercise SOUTHERN KATIPO 17, playing a vessel running guns and drugs into the troubled Pacific nation of Becara.

The "good guys" of Exercise SK17, fronting a 3000-strong Combined Joint Task Force, were facing more than just restoring law and order against armed militia. Woven into the exercise's scenario were car crashes, kidnappings and behind-the-scenes crime, which had to be reacted to – or preferably countered.

MANAWANUI took on the role of vessel STAR PERSEUS (MANAWANUI's original name as a North Sea dive tender), with an eyepatch-wearing captain and a disreputable crew with minimal national loyalty and a fondness for fast profit. STAR PERSEUS had organised a rendezvous in the Marlborough Sounds – Becaran



HAWEA's return home marked the end of Op WASAWASA, a successful maritime patrol operation based out of Fiji, conducting maritime surveillance and fisheries patrols alongside the Fijian Navy and the Fijian Department of Fisheries.

"The second half of OP WASAWASA was also a huge success," said LT West. "My team and I built on the hard work that rotation one had completed. We have enhanced our bilateral relations with all of Fiji and helped develop the capability to enhance and protect the maritime domain.

"I enjoyed my time in Fiji, meeting the people, embracing the culture, and working hard to make a difference," he said. "But I'm now looking forward to getting home and spending some time with my family as we head towards the Christmas period."

The combined maritime patrols between New Zealand and Fiji involving HAWEA ended on a high note with about 550 vessels boarded and 110 alleged infringements detected over the past seven months.

Fiji authorities said the combined patrols contributed to their country's maritime security and supported ongoing efforts to upskill Fijian Navy sailors.

"They have supported the protection, conservation and sustainable management of Fiji's vast oceans and its fishery resources," said Captain Humphrey Tawake, Fiji's Chief of Navy.

About 50 Fijian Navy sailors, 27 Customs Officers and 19 Fishery Officers also trained on HAWEA. "Learning is reciprocal, and I am



sure HAWEA's crew also learnt from their deployment to Fiji," CAPT Tawake said.

Personnel from Fiji's Ministry of Fisheries and Forest, Fiji Revenue and Customs Authority, and the Republic of Fiji Navy planned and led the patrols. New Zealand's Ministry for Primary Industries had compliance officers on HAWEA providing support.

In November, CDRE Gilmour and Rear Admiral Viliame Naupoto, the Commander of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces, signed an Arrangement of Cooperation that would facilitate future maritime patrols. CDRE Gilmour said "the patrols contributed to a wider multinational approach to enhance maritime surveillance in the south-west Pacific".

LT West said around 60 per cent of the total alleged infringements detected were considered major breaches. These included fishing without a licence, dumping rubbish at sea, lack of work permits and safety infringements such as not holding master's licences and life jackets.

Fiji authorities will investigate and follow up on all the alleged infringements and impose appropriate sanctions under their jurisdiction. These investigations have already resulted in further education, fines and the confiscation of fishing gear, catch and equipment. ■

Top left: AMT Jaedn Herbison is all smiles back in Devonport.

Top right: Families wait for their sailors to disembark HAWEA.

territorial waters - with another vessel to offload a large quantity of drugs and arms for a large quantity of cash.

With multiple hiding places in the Sounds, STAR PERSEUS managed to avoid the CJTF's interceptor, HMNZS WELLINGTON, for a time, but a roving P-3K2 Orion eventually spotted them and called the position in. By this time the illicit exchange had been made, but STAR PERSEUS was caught in Becaran waters with the money – and facing some awkward questions from WELLINGTON's boarding party. ■

Left: Boarding Party officer MID Anthony Hammond talks to the colourful master of the STAR PERSEUS.

Right: The crews make the exchange of "drugs" and "guns" for money.



TAUPO'S COVERT MISSION

By Andrew Bonallack

Mission successful – but only just.

HMNZS TAUPO managed to pull off a daring cloak-and-dagger extraction of a Special Forces team under the nose of a patrolling enemy warship.

The roleplay, carried out during Exercise SOUTHERN KATIPO 17 in October, involved the fictional south-west Pacific nation of Becara in the grip of a militia uprising, which a New Zealand-led Combined Joint Task Force was working hard to quell. Adding to the complications was a disputed maritime boundary between Becara and neighbouring nation Alpira, sparked by an Alpirian claim over a recently discovered oilfield.

HMNZS TAUPO was renamed as Alpiran navy ship RAMPART with an attitude to match. She was tasked with covertly entering Becaran waters to uplift a team of Alpirian Special Forces who had been conducting destabilisation operations inside Becara.

"We're the enemy," said TAUPO's Commanding Officer Lieutenant Ben Flight. "We're picking up bad guys doing bad things, and we needed to do it without being detected. We nearly got away with it."

A night-time extraction would have probably been 100 per cent successful, but the exercise controllers wanted more participation for the "friendly" forces. More to the point, they wanted TAUPO/RAMPART to get caught, said LT Flight.

It began well, somewhere north of Banks Peninsula, in calm waters and broad daylight. TAUPO's seaboat was on its way to shore to pick up the Special Forces team. "Ship's Company were getting pretty excited, we were looking like pulling it off." Then the call came: HMNZS CANTERBURY had been spotted, about 14 miles out. She had not seen TAUPO right away, but that didn't last long. "We watched her for about half an hour, then she hailed us, asking our intentions. But by then we had successfully extracted the



Top of page: Calm seas and a clear day off the coast of the South Island, and no opposition forces in sight.

Above: HMNZS TAUPO.

team. She tried to close with us, and she got to about seven miles." But it was too late for CANTERBURY, as TAUPO made a rapid escape to the south.

TAUPO had been scheduled for more SK17 involvement, including the harassment of CANTERBURY as she was trying to put troops on the ground. "We had even painted a massive flag, the Alpirian Navy battle ensign. We were going to be this big bad ship, getting in there, harassing CANTERBURY." However, TAUPO had to come into Wellington for repairs, and return to Devonport Naval Base for refit work.

LT Flight said the SK17 operation was the first extended time away for this particular Ship's Company, which involved TAUPO going as far south as Timaru. "We don't get that far south that often," he said. "It was good, a first time as a team. A lot of the crew were in Fiji on HAWEA, and we had half of that crew, and half new people." ■

SEASPRITE EXCITES IN PICTON

By Rebecca Quilliam

Students at Queen Charlotte College in Picton were treated to a visit from a Navy Seasprite helicopter during military exercises last month.

The helicopter, crew and Land Component Commander Brigadier Mike Shapland visited the school during SOUTHERN KATIPO.

“It’s pretty cool, I was talking with the pilot before and it was really good talking to him and seeing the helicopter is pretty awesome and seeing how it all works,” Year 13 student Alice Overend said.

The 17-year-old wants to join the Navy as a warfare officer.

“I did a programme through school and the police called Cactus, that’s run by the Air Force and the police, which is like a boot camp and I really enjoyed the discipline and the physical challenges.”

School Careers Advisor Megan Bruce was thrilled when she was contacted about a military helicopter landing at the school.

“I was really excited, we want to develop a close relationship with the New Zealand Defence Force and to have them in our school a lot more regularly. It’s been a while since we’ve had a helicopter at the school – so obviously everyone is excited about that.

“We’ve got quite a list of kids who are interested in this field and we want to make that bigger and really tap into the younger students as well. It’s really special – we’re really lucky.”

BRIG Shapland said it was beneficial to engage with the community.

“Part of our missions overseas are about engagements and mixing with the locals, getting their trust, understanding what we’re doing and why we’re here – and this is just part of it. The kids are excited and there might be an offshoot that some might want to join us at some stage.

“People are really interested in what we do and we need to meet them to give them opportunities to understand what we do and how we can help New Zealand and our allies.”

Seasprite pilot Lieutenant Commander George Hahn said it was “always amazing” to visit schools.



Above: LTCDR George Hahn showcases a Seasprite helicopter to students at Queen Charlotte College.

“It surprises you sometimes because you get so used to flying helicopters and doing this for a job, then when you come and see the absolute excitement on people’s faces and the chance to go and have a look around a helicopter, then it reminds you how cool your job is.” ■



SAILOR OF THE YEAR

The Sailor of the Year 2017 is a man who excels in a training environment – and wants to keep learning.

Leading Marine Technician (Electrician) Chris Lord, 26, the electrical systems maintainer in HMNZS WELLINGTON, was announced as the Navy's Sailor of the Year on 3 November.

LMT(L) Lord, who joined the Navy in 2009, is described in his citation as a highly competent electrician with exceptionally high performance, with an energetic and outgoing personality, making it easy for him to lead his subordinates and coach others. He obtained his Control Room Watchkeeping Certificate in six months, a qualification that can take three years to achieve. He is noted as a figurehead for the junior rates and the "go-to" person on board WELLINGTON, which he has served in for two years.

His former Commanding Officer has described him as an outstanding leader for tomorrow's Navy, a man with the courage to challenge himself, his subordinates and his superiors to perform at their best.

LMT(L) Lord said it was a shock when his name was announced, but it was a good feeling. "When I was nominated, I sat back and thought: it's kind of good getting rewarded for all the extra stuff." He says he was not the best student at his school in New Plymouth, describing it as the sort of school where you naturally followed into university.

"I wasn't interested in university. I was doing a pre-trade course a year after school, and I met an ex-navy guy, who told me about the Navy. I got really sold on it. I realised I would be doing more than



driving around in a white van fixing light switches. I'd be doing my trade through the Navy. It would be more than just going to work."

He says he enjoys the comradeship of the Navy.

"I don't know if there's any other job you can get, where you go to sea with a bunch of good people, and you don't get sick of them. You become closer."

He says the Navy has given him the passion to learn. "I really enjoy learning now, and you can do that in the Navy. I enjoy fault-finding in my job. It's always interesting things." He says he would like to go back to his old school and talk to students, telling them about options he got a chance to hear about. "I would tell them, the Navy is a good way to find out about yourself." ■

Above: LMT(L) Chris Lord, with A/WTR Jo Stewart at the Junior Rates Whakaaro.

TOP AWARD FOR CIVILIAN



In a first for the Navy, an award has been created to recognise exceptional performance by its civilian personnel, commensurate with the award for Sailor of the Year.



This year's RNZN Civilian of the Year award recipient is Elizabeth Grieve, the manager of Navy Performance and Risk within the Office of Strategy Management in Naval Staff.

The award, on 22 November, caught Ms Grieve completely by surprise. She had been told to attend a meeting at Freyberg Building and was grateful she had dressed formally for it. "Thank you

very much for this," she said. "It was incredibly unexpected, very humbling."

Since starting work for the Navy in 2015, her citation acknowledges Ms Grieve's outstanding performance in her primary role but also excelling in areas well beyond her position description. "Elizabeth has been instrumental in leading and driving the risk management function within the Royal New Zealand Navy to raise awareness, capability and the value of risk management in a complex environment," reads the citation.

Chief of Navy Rear Admiral John Martin, who established the award following a suggestion from HMNZS WAKEFIELD Commanding Officer Commander Jennie Hoadley, said the Navy's civilian employees were critical for the functioning of the organisation. "Although they don't wear a uniform, they serve beside us with pride, demonstrate their adherence to our core values and provide the subject matter expertise and corporate knowledge that enable operations and ensure we are able to be world-class."

"This year, when looking at the performance of our various civilian employees, it became clear we needed to establish an award in order to properly recognise the importance of the contribution of our civilian personnel."

Alongside the title, commendation and pin, the RNZN Civilian of the Year will represent the Navy at different events. They will also receive a prize that includes a period at sea and a specific development opportunity arranged in conjunction with their manager. ■

Top of page: The Civilian of the Year pin and award.

DIRECTED TO COMMAND



Above: CDR Jennie Hoadley receives her Command Directive for the Commanding Officer's role of HMNZS WAKEFIELD from Chief of Navy RADM John Martin.

Receiving a Command Directive should be a standard part of the ceremony for a new Commanding Officer. But Commander Jennie Hoadley has received a historic first.

On 3 November, for the first time in the history of HMNZS WAKEFIELD, a Command Directive was issued by the Chief of Navy to CDR Hoadley, who has held the Commanding Officer's position since January.

HMNZS WAKEFIELD is a shore-based naval establishment, effectively Navy Headquarters, based at New Zealand Defence Force Headquarters in Wellington.

Chief of Navy Rear Admiral John Martin says WAKEFIELD is a small, very effective group, describing it as the "fulcrum of strategic thought around the future Navy". The Commanding Officer has to bring them all together. "You are doing a fine job," he told her. CDR Hoadley said she accepted the Command Directive, noting the "amazing list of people who have been before me. I accept this on behalf of all those other Commanding Officers". ■



TARANAKI SAYS FAREWELL

By Suzi Phillips

Thousands of Taranaki locals took their last chance to go on board HMNZS ENDEAVOUR when she visited her home port for the final time in November.

Taranaki has a 30-year association with ENDEAVOUR and more than 4000 people used the Ship's Open Day in New Plymouth to have a final look around her main deck and Bridge before she was decommissioned on 15 December.

Families with young children, cadet groups from around the region, school pupils from nearby Motuora School, and locals with a connection to ENDEAVOUR made up some of the thousands who queued for a visit.

The previous day, a good crowd turned out to watch the Ship's Company exercise its Freedom of the City for the last time - marching from the Clocktower on Devon Street to Puke Ariki Landing where a Charter ceremony took place.

The parade was ceremonially challenged by the local police, before the RNZN band led the parade and entertained the public during the Charter ceremony.

For the Ship's lady patron based in New Plymouth, Lieutenant Commander Janet Wrightson-Lean, the Charter Parade and other ceremonial events marked the end of her 30-year association with

Above: ENDEAVOUR and Taranaki combine for an iconic farewell image. Photo: Grant Squires / The Electric Waka Photography

HMNZS ENDEAVOUR. As a former New Plymouth mayoress, she attended the official naming ceremony in Ulsan, South Korea, on 6 April 1988, pushing the button to release thousands of coloured streamers over the ship.

"I was absolutely thrilled with the community response to our charter parade and ceremony," she says.

"It was a perfect blue sky day in New Plymouth and the large crowd at Puke Ariki Landing and lining the parade route is a measure of the pride and respect the people of New Plymouth have for the Ship's Company of HMNZS ENDEAVOUR and the Royal New Zealand Navy."



Above: Locals enjoy the last Ship Open To View event for ENDEAVOUR.
Below: Visitors encircle the walkways on ENDEAVOUR.





She says she definitely shed some tears behind her dark glasses. "I just felt enormously proud and it was a privilege to be part of the event," she says.

"The entire journey as 'Lady Sponsor' from 1988 has been a highlight for me – it's about the people... successive Commanding Officers and Ship's Company who have worked so incredibly hard and delivered beyond expectations for 30 years. They deserve all the accolades."

LTCDR Wrightson-Lean says she is "forever grateful to the New Plymouth District Council and to the Chief of Navy of the day [in 1988] for giving an ordinary girl an extraordinary opportunity".

The Charter, conferred on HMNZS ENDEAVOUR when New Plymouth was selected as her home port in 1987, allowed her Ship's Company to exercise "the right and privilege of marching with drums beating, band playing, colours flying, bayonets fixed and swords drawn".

At the Ceremony on Saturday, the present Commanding Officer of ENDEAVOUR, Commander Martin Doolan, handed back the Charter of the City to New Plymouth Mayor, Neil Holdom.

An official reception for local dignitaries was held on board the ship's flight deck during her visit, including a ceremonial Beating the Retreat at sunset with support from the RNZN Band.

The final event on ENDEAVOUR's visit was a farewell at the wharf by members of Ngati Te Whiti, and a haka from pupils of Motuora School. Ngati Te Whiti holds a special connection to the ship, having provided ENDEAVOUR with her symbol of command, a carved command pole.

As ENDEAVOUR left Port Taranaki, there was a final display from the two tugboats guiding her out as they sprayed fountains of water towards her bow.

Her week-long visit to Taranaki followed a successful final deployment supporting the Royal Australian Navy, including her last fuel resupply to HMAS STUART – the last of 1464 refuellings at sea.

As she finished that assignment, she had sailed more than 800,000 nautical miles and will have had 14 commanding officers. Her farewell was completed in Auckland with her final ceremonial entry into the Waitemata Harbour and berthing at Devonport Naval Base. ■

Clockwise from top: ENDEAVOUR's Ship's Company stride forward during the Charter Parade in New Plymouth.

The Charter Parade ceremony at Puke Ariki Landing in New Plymouth. CDR Martin Doolan, ENDEAVOUR's Commanding Officer, holds his symbol of command as he sits beside New Plymouth mayor Neil Holdom.

CANADIAN EXCHANGE

Able Marine Technician Tobias Dalton shares his experiences during his exchange in the Royal Canadian Navy's Maritime Coastal Defence Vessel HMCS NANAIMO.

My deployment on HMCS NANAIMO has been very enjoyable and very exhausting so far. NANAIMO has just completed three weeks of work-ups with Sea Training on board (Canadian version of MOET), so I have had many sleepless nights fighting fires, flood exercises, man overboard exercises and incoming threat alerts.

When I was told we would be going through the operation readiness evaluation I expected it to begin when we left Esquimalt but that's where I was wrong. Ten days before the start of the deployment, the process started with a three-day refresher course at the Damage Control school. From then on we worked hard and late into the evenings to secure the ship for sea. As soon as NANAIMO left the inner harbour on 28 September, we were hit with a man overboard exercise, and that was where the two weeks of fun began.

Sailing into San Diego harbour on the afternoon of Friday 13 October marked the successful completion of work ups and Ship's Company had some well-earned rest and recovery. Once the ship was secured to the jetty we had a debrief from sea training where I was asked to step forward. The Commanding Officer of sea training wanted to commend me for having a "hard work ethic and showing a great deal of leadership during all exercises". Commander Hopkins presented me with his personal coin in front of all Ship's Company. I couldn't stop smiling as he shook my hand, this was a very proud moment for me.

Three weeks of work-ups has kept me extremely busy therefore

Below: HMCS NANAIMO



Above: AMT Tobias Dalton give the thumbs-up to the photographer. Like the RNZN in November, AMT Dalton grew a moustache for charity.

hasn't allowed me to spend a lot of time progressing through my second task book. However, the things I have learnt through work ups have been highly beneficial for me. We have now begun our transit south and it is time for me to turn my attention to my second lot of AMCs and tasks. I am also in charge of maintaining all Damage Control equipment on ship, it is a role that carries a lot of responsibility which I actually enjoy.

This week NANAIMO has embarked a team of seven heavily-armed American law enforcement coast guard members (LEDET). The LEDET team will act as our boarding party and as part of our Ship's force protection for the anti-narcotics operation. I'm hoping whilst we have some downtime they can train me up in the Ship's gym.

This exchange with the Canadian Navy has been a fantastic experience with so many opportunities to learn. It is something I am going to remember for life and hopefully by the end of it I will have a medal with my name on it. I would strongly recommend this deployment to any Kiwi sailors that get this opportunity in the future. ■



JUNIOR RATES ASK THE QUESTION

By Andrew Bonallack

When you're among the most senior ranks in the Navy, you get paid to answer the difficult questions – even from your own sailors.

That's one of the closing traditions of the Junior Rates' Whakaaro, a day-long leadership and core values session aimed at the Ordinary, Able and Leading Rates. This year's event, at the Harbourside Church in Devonport on 30 November, was themed on "The Future Sailor". 2016 Sailor of the Year Acting Petty Officer Writer Jo Stewart organised the event, which included her formally handing over her duties to the 2017 awardee, Leading Marine Technician Chris Lord.

LMT Lord said a particular highlight of the Whakaaro was the address by guest speaker Sir Peter Blake Trust director Shelley Campbell on leadership. He connected strongly with it, he said.

"She said leadership is not about what you wear or the colour of your skin, it's how you deliver, how you work with a team, encourage a team to be better."

With the Whakaaro itself, he liked the communication, saying that it was one of the Navy's biggest problems. "If you outline what our role is as a Navy, what our job is, what the whole Navy is about, it makes us do our job better."

Lining up for the "difficult" questions were Chief of Navy Rear Admiral John Martin, Deputy Chief of Navy Mat Williams, Maritime Component Commander Jim Gilmour and Warrant Officer of the Navy Wayne Dyke. Among the questions on whether physical training should be compulsory, pay scales, and lack of dentists, the senior leadership explored the "why" of the Navy with the Junior Rates. RADM Martin said the Navy is under pressure from different countries and people who didn't care about the sea. "We need a strong defence to deliver for the government and the future. What we are doing matters. But if you don't understand the why of what we do, we are not going to be able to argue why we have a Navy." A sailor wanted to know if the new government was going to change the Defence budget. RADM Martin said no, the \$20 billion put aside remained, but the Labour government had yet to agree on whether Defence would get to buy the items they had originally planned for. "The Government understands that, to look after our EEZ, our trade, we have to make a reasonable investment in the Navy. But



we need to sell the "why" to the New Zealand public, the credibility, the relevancy. So if you are ever asked to give your opinion on whether we have got enough resource, go for it. The Minister has said to me, if you do a job, do it properly. That's a good message."

WON Wayne Dyke talked about core values of a sailor versus a false sense of loyalty to "mates", and the closing of ranks when a shipmate gets into trouble. "You must speak up, you must act. Have the courage to stand up and do the right thing." He said in terms of the talent in the room, there was so much the junior rates would bring to the Navy these days. There would be different trades in future, such as a cyber warfare trade. "You are the people that are going to be doing this. I encourage you to get involved."

CDRE Gilmour said his job was about the "how" for the Navy. "We've got challenges in the fleet, but pretty exciting ones." He was questioned by a sailor on how the Navy was going to operate without ENDEAVOUR and MANAWANUI. "There's exciting developments regarding MANAWANUI's replacement, a lot sooner than people think. We're also bringing the IPv6s back on line." He noted the gap in frigate capability and hydrographic resource, owing to RESOLUTION decommissioning in 2011. "My role is to generate experiences to maintain competencies. TE MANA is going to an Op CRUCIBLE-style deployment and RIMPAC next year. Diving is using alternative means to achieve competency. With refuelling, key personnel will go to other navies to train, so we will be ready for AOTEAROA." He said people needed to treat every ship as a warship. "It's having that attitude that will make us ready for the new fleet." ■

Top of page: Sailor of the Year 2016 A/POWTR Jo Stewart hands over her taonga to the 2017 awardee, LMT Chris Lord.

Below: WON Wayne Dyke addresses the audience.

CDREs Mat William and Jim Gilmour, sporting their Movember moustaches for the final day, consult on a question.

Junior Rates crowd the Harbourside Church in Devonport for their Whakaaro.





MANAWANUI'S FINAL TOUR



HMNZS MANAWANUI has spent her final months saying farewell to New Zealand in a tour that will conclude with a colourful and lively farewell to her homeport, Whitianga, in February.

The 38-year-old dive tender is due to fly its 12-metre paying off pennant for her final entry into Auckland harbour on 9 February, before an actual decommissioning ceremony on 23 February.

The ship's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Commander Muzz Kennett, conducted a farewell tour of the North Island's east coast ports during November, while training midshipmen in their Officer of the Watch Bravo course. MANAWANUI called into Wellington at the start of November, allowing ship's engineer WOMT(P) Grant Muir to receive his 1st Clasp to his NZDF Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from the Chief of Navy (page 20).

Rear Admiral John Martin told the Ship's Company that it was sad to say goodbye to an old friend but goodbyes were important in the life of the Navy. "MANAWANUI has been an outstanding little ship," he said. "It's a sad event to decommission a ship, but it's an opportunity to give you something else that will be with you for another 30 years." He said the Navy was looking at replacement options. "We can't have a world-class diving organisation without a world-class diving rig."

MANAWANUI's Ship's Company attended Armistice Day services in Napier and conducted a port visit to Tauranga during November. But the special homecoming has been saved until last. In February

MANAWANUI will undertake a five-day voyage to Whitianga, her homeport, for a series of events before returning to Auckland for the final time.

The Ship's Company will receive a powhiri on their arrival in Whitianga and conduct a cocktail party. On 1 February Ship's Company will carry out a street parade in Whitianga, in the company of the Royal New Zealand Navy Band. The Whitianga Volunteer Fire Brigade, ambulance service, Sea Scouts and veterans will join in.

LTCDR Kennett says unlike ENDEAVOUR's street parade in New Plymouth last month, MANAWANUI doesn't have a charter with Whitianga to hand back. "The mayor will take the salute, and we'll finish at the RSA with a function." The following day the Ship's Company will carry out community work, then head over to neighbouring town Matarangi for another function.

The fun begins on Saturday 3 February, when the Ship's Company challenges the Whitianga Volunteer Fire Brigade to the Fire Brigade Challenge. "It's a trophy they won off us two Anzac Days ago," says LTCDR Kennett. "This will be the final challenge. We're challenging them, so we get to set the challenges. We're pretty sure they won't win it." These are fighting words, considering the brigade has a renowned six-person Road Crash Rescue Team that won this year's Australasian Road Rescue Organisation Challenge, and has placed in the top three for over a decade in national competitions.

But with Navy-style challenges, LTCDR Kennett reckons they'll have the edge. They will be doing challenges in Breathing Apparatus, swim to rope climb, a flag challenge (spelling out words using flags), hitting the target with a hose, and tug-of-war.

The ship will be open to the public on Sunday, then sail on Monday 5 February for Auckland, departing Whitianga for the last time. ■

Below: MANAWANUI's party and ceremony in Napier.





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1. LT Holly Swallow, guard commander for the Guard of Honour for Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach, Chief of Defence Staff, United Kingdom, at Pukeahu National War Memorial. 2. POCWS Karen Owens (left) holding her son Thomas, and POCWS Tameara Hill with her daughter Gracie, celebrate their Long Service and Good Conduct medals. 3. LTCDR Phil Rowe (right), beside CDR Jeff Williams RAN and LTCDR Mick Rigby RAN, at the Armistice Day service in Honiara. 4. Deputy Chief of Navy CDRE Mat Williams presents LTCDR Layamon Bakewell with his New Zealand Armed Forces Award medal. 5. At the New Plymouth Charter Parade for HMNZS ENDEAVOUR, LSTD Bonnie Allott (left), escort guard to the Ship's Charter, Ship's Medic LCPL Rebecca Tremain and A/LCWS Sarah Freeman. 6. LTCDR Lorna Gray, CO of HMNZS OTAGO, during filming for TV3's The Project. 7. Front from left, BCT 17/02 recruits OCH Miharo Sisley-Tihema, OCH Shania Messent Morehu, OEWS Jessica Quan, OCSS Elizabeth Thompson and OCH Nicole Mio



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Mihaere of MOA messdeck wait for inspection. **8.** HMNZS MANAWANUI's Engineering Department receives an MCC Commendation from CDRE Jim Gilmour. **9.** MID Anthony Hammond shows the bridge controls of HMNZS WELLINGTON to Opie Thornton, during WELLINGTON's open day. **10.** ACWS Makarios Eden with his nephew Shalom, 1, and niece Persia, 3. **11.** OCSS Morgan Knight offers a sticker to Grace, on the shoulders of Rhys Musson, during HMNZS WELLINGTON open day. **12.** Mayor of Messines, Sandy Evvard, stands with CAPT Shane Arndell, Defence Attaché to Belgium and France, in the Messines Town Square during Armistice Day. **13.** CDR Matt Wray, CO of HMNZS CANTERBURY, promotes OSCS Joanna Brown to Able Rate. **14.** LHLM Rick Gurnell, 6 Squadron, shows Picton's Queen Charlotte College students over a Navy Seasprite helicopter, during Exercise SOUTHERN KATIPO 17.

30 YEARS



WOMT(P) GRANT MUIR HMNZS MANAWANUI

Grant Muir has served on eight ships as an engineer in the Royal New Zealand Navy. Six of them don't exist any more.

Warrant Officer Marine Technician (Propulsion) "Jock" Muir received his first clasp to his Navy Long Service and Good Conduct medal last month, but he has been with the Navy for longer than the 30 years the clasp represents.

WOMT(P) Muir, originally from Scotland, joined the Royal Navy in 1980 as a Boy Entry at 16. His parents emigrated to New Zealand shortly after he left home, and he followed them when the refitted frigate HMNZS SOUTHLAND was delivered from Britain to New Zealand in 1984.

He describes Navy life in the eighties as "survival of the fittest" as he trained to be an engineer. He has served on HMNZ ships TUI, CANTERBURY (FFH), MONOWAI, WAIKATO, WELLINGTON (FFH), ENDEAVOUR and twice on MANAWANUI, his current posting.

"I left the Navy for a period of three years in 2013, figuring it was time to try something else. I stayed as a reserve." He said the work in civilian life did not have the challenges he enjoyed with the Navy, and he returned to MANAWANUI.

"I love the Navy, it's flexible, it's a small network, and they can take you back in." He says MANAWANUI has a tight-knit Ship's Company, and the ship "always presents you with an engineering challenge. And I like training and developing young people".

He says it will be sad to see MANAWANUI decommissioned next year. "But there is a time. She's starting to show her age, and she certainly requires a lot of work to keep her operational." He says much the same thing about ENDEAVOUR. "I'll never forget that old girl. She was also a challenge." However, he has not been beaten on an engineering challenge yet. "Undefeated. I always say that. And if I don't come up with a cunning plan, I throw it out to the lads." ■

Above: WOMT(P) Grant "Jock" Muir in MANAWANUI's wardroom with Ship's Company.

CAPT TONY HAYES

MARITIME REGULATOR

There are plenty of instances of people leaving the NZDF and coming back stronger for it. Captain Tony Hayes considers himself a good example of that.

CAPT Hayes, our Maritime Regulator and Chief Naval Engineer, joined the Navy straight from school in 1981 to a class of 34 midshipmen, including four women – the first intake of female officers back then. He left for two years in 1992, staying “on the books” without pay to finish an undergraduate engineering degree in mechanical engineering at Canterbury. He has been a Marine Engineering Officer on two ships, including frigate HMNZS WELLINGTON in 1994-96 for the Navy’s first frigate commitment to operations in the Persian Gulf. CAPT Hayes has been the inaugural J4 at Joint Headquarters, Commanding Officer of an East Timor peacekeeping contingent and a Defence Attache in Japan, mixed in with strategic engineering roles at Headquarters. His bio includes the interesting notation “Sabbatical – Vineyard Development” in 2003. Blairpatrick Estate, beside his Wairarapa family home, has produced five vintages of Pinot Noir. He then moved to England to work for a commercial engineering company contracted to the Royal Navy for two years.

“Then I got the phone call – can you come back?” he says. The NZDF relocated him and his family back to New Zealand in 2005, to a former role as Director of Marine Engineering, Naval Staff.

“I came back to New Zealand for many reasons. For one we had a vineyard that was growing, literally. And the calling for NZ and Navy was strong. I’ve had relatively little time working in the private sector. But I do know that in the Navy, there’s that sense of closeness, of being a really well-connected organisation. In the private sector, it’s not that evident or supportive.”



He says he “came back stronger” from his time in England, more confident of his skills as an engineering leader. And it is skills – combined with technology – that he wants the Navy to harness with the next generation. “We are trying to attract the highest calibre of engineers and technicians. Navy benefits hugely from sailors and officers who give continuous service; building continuously on their know-how. But given our future technological opportunities Navy needs to think much more diversely; attracting professionals and technicians from wider backgrounds and even more integrated models with industry and providers than we know now.” CAPT Hayes says that the private sector is often more hungry and motivated than the Services and it’s “time for Defence to get a piece of that, a new perspective”. ■

Above: Chief of Navy RADM John Martin congratulates CAPT Tony Hayes on his 1st clasp to his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, signifying 30 years of service.

CPOWT JEFF DYER

MAINTENANCE PLANNER

Chief Petty Officer Weapons Technician Jeff Dyer, Kaiwaka, joined the Navy in 1986. He says he had always thought he’d join the army but started off in the Sea Cadets while living in Nelson.

CPOWT Dyer, currently the Maintenance Planner alongside Babcock, received his clasp to his Royal New Zealand Navy Long Service and Good Conduct Medal in a ceremony at Devonport Navy Base on 2 November, from Deputy Chief of Navy Mat Williams.

He says every day is a new adventure in the Navy. “You are never doing the same thing day in and day out.” He says a particular high point in his career in terms of enjoyment has been his time in a training role at both the Sea Safety Training School and the Weapons Engineering School. He also enjoys the people. “It’s what they bring to the job, their flexibility, drive and enthusiasm.” ■



Above: CPOWT Jeff Dyer, with his first clasp to his LSGC Medal, indicating 30 years in the Navy.

NAVY CAREERS

SEARCH, DETECT, IDENTIFY

9 There's a contact on radar. It's not in visual range, but it's definitely there. It's the role of the Combat Systems Specialist to find out more about it.



Able Combat Systems Specialist Nicole Bancroft was attracted to the responsibility of her trade from the start. Her job is to seek, intercept and interpret information that flows into a ship's operation room, find answers and provide it upwards to Command. "We use the radars to search, detect and identify contacts outside of visual range and notify whoever needs to be notified of anything that may hinder our objective. The objectives change often, therefore the focus of our role changes."

Originally from Ruatahuna and Whakatane, ACSS Bancroft joined the Navy in July 2015, saying she had always wanted to be in the military. "My uncle served in the Navy and my brother wanted to join too. I joined late, aged 23. It was just about wanting to do more. You get to travel, you get paid to do it, and you get to do exciting things that only a handful of people get to do."

She did not know about Combat Systems Specialists initially. "You have to admit, though, the name sounds pretty cool." And working in Operations on a ship is special. "Without the Operations Department, a ship is like any other ship. Chefs feed us, the stores accountants make sure we have what we need, the stewards ensure the officers are cared for because the officers are so busy caring for the wellbeing of their departments, the physical training instructors try to maintain morale and physical wellbeing of the fleet, the stokers slave away on the engines and the "greenies" fix everything I break. But it's Operations that distinguishes the Navy ship from a civilian ship."

Above: ACSS Nicole Bancroft is surrounded by warfare technology using the Combat System Trainer at Devonport Naval Base.



She does not want to glorify the trade. "A typical day consists of our 0800 musters where we are briefed for the day's tasks or upcoming tasks; this is followed by cleaning stations, ship's husbandry and shift work up in the bridge either manning the helm or keeping a lookout, all this with Seaman Combat Specialists (SCS). CSS and SCS are referred to as Both Watches of the Hand. However, when we are in defence watches the routine is different, CSS close up to the ship's operations room in our own separate watch bill to the SCS and we do our actual jobs. We are continuously practising our drills so that if we are to ever go to war we are prepared."

Her advice to those who want to follow is to have a hard work ethic, because some days the work is hard. "I was a real active person before I joined so the physical side was easy for me. It all depends on how you prepare. If you're a couch potato before you join then it's going to be hard. If you're not prepared to work hard then you are going to make it hard for others and yourself."

Her friends are one of the biggest pluses about being in the Navy. "My mates are number one. Then just the fact that every day is a challenge, you can accomplish it with your mates and if you don't accomplish it then we always pick each other up and laugh about it later. At the end of the day travelling the world with a good bunch of mates and getting paid to do it makes the whole experience worth joining the Navy for as a CSS. You always have friends and always have stories to share." ■

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ANTARCTICA: THE GREAT WHITE CONTINENT

Petty Officer Marine Technician (Electrician) Craig Julian tells *Navy Today* about his five-month summer deployment to Antarctica.

Well, it's December already. How the time flies.

We've been down here on ice now for over two months, and already it feels like time is passing by way too fast.

When we stepped off the plane on 20 September, onto the Phoenix runway on the Ross Ice Shelf, the temperature was -41 degrees.

It was like stepping into a blast freezer on a sea of white. The winter-over team met us and drove us the short distance to Scott Base, our deployment base for five months. My job is the senior communications operator, in a more-than-capable team of four.

One of the many highlights I have had so far is flying to the continent (as Scott Base is located on Ross Island) and heading into the dry valleys to install radio repeaters on Mount Newall, Mount

Cerberus and Mount JJ Thomson. The trip timed nicely with my birthday, so it was a pretty mean birthday present.

It's also a treat to be able to walk over and see the pressure ridges, which are on the sea ice directly in front of Scott Base. You can see the seals come out of the water to rest in the sun and give birth. It's surprising how fast their pups grow.

We've had an opportunity to visit some of the huts built and lived in by some of the original Antarctic explorers. Human habitation in Antarctica only began around the turn of the last century, so to be able to go and visit the huts these guys built is quite an amazing experience. They are treated as museums, as they still contain artefacts such as bedding, tools and food the explorers used and needed to survive down here, in what can be a very hostile environment.

Everything down here is so big. The ice shelf, the glaciers, the mountains. The weather can change within minutes, from a beautiful clear sky and no wind to a howling gale and complete white-out. It makes you realise how small we really are in relation to the world.

It's not all play. We work a six-day week, rotating through eight-hour shifts over a 24-hour period. It can get extremely busy and a little stressful at times in our little office, but the view, the location and the experiences make it all worthwhile. ■

Above: POMT(L) Craig Julian poised on the side of a dry valley on the Antarctic continent.

OUT OF RHYTHM

Living with an irregular heart rhythm is often a case of medication and management. That was initially the case for Captain Rodger Ward, who was diagnosed in 2004 with atrial fibrillation (AF) and spent years with it having little to no impact on his life.

That changed in 2016 when his medication was no longer controlling his AF. Following surgery last year and this year, CAPT Ward volunteered to tell his story for a New Zealand Heart Foundation media promotion on AF, noting how he continues to have a valuable and rewarding career in the NZDF.

In 2004 CAPT Ward went to a medical centre, puzzled about sensations he was experiencing. "It was like a constant adrenalin buzz or butterflies in the stomach. That is how I describe it. I didn't think I should be feeling like this and took myself off to the medical centre." Staff called an ambulance to take him to hospital, where it was confirmed he had AF.

AF causes an irregular heart rhythm and increases risk of stroke. It affects about one per cent of the population.

After a few months of medication adjustments, his AF was effectively managed and it presented no impact on his life for the next 12 years.

However, towards the middle of 2016, he started to experience AF "breakthrough", where the medication was no longer controlling the AF. It began to impact everything.

"I was getting puffed just from walking up a flight of stairs and walking up a hill made me gasp for air, which just didn't happen normally. When I wasn't in AF I could pass a military fitness test," said CAPT Ward. "My father has AF and a friend of mine also has it but our experiences of it are completely different."

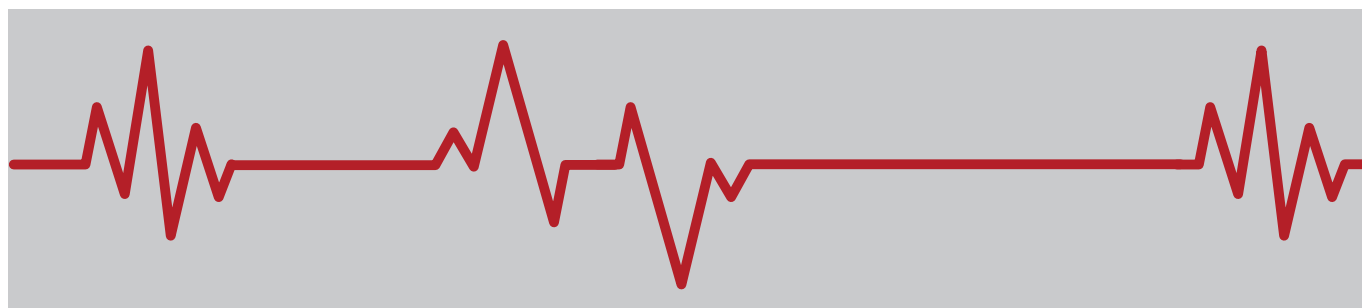


Above: CAPT Rodger Ward with wife CDR Karen Ward and daughter Amelia.

In February this year, aged 49, he had ablation surgery on his heart and has more recently had a second surgery to manage the symptoms.

CAPT Ward said while his diagnosis meant he couldn't continue to serve at sea on a Navy warship, the Defence Force provided an alternative career path that worked well with his condition. "Although I haven't been able to continue with a traditional sea-going career, I have been able to specialise in other areas and continue with a rewarding career." CAPT Ward has been based at HQJFNZ for over two years, and has now been posted to Malaysia as the Defence Advisor. "In some ways it has enabled me to do things I wouldn't have previously had a chance to do." ■

For more information on AF, see www.heartfoundation.org.nz





ALL-WOMAN CREW CIRCLES THE GLOBE

By Andrew Bonallack

The Navy welcomed the six officers of the Indian Navy's historic all-women crew as they sailed into Lyttelton in sailing vessel INSV TARINI last month.

Their arrival was the end of the 17-metre sloop TARINI's second leg of a 40,000km circumnavigation voyage that started in Goa, India on 10 September and reached Fremantle on 23 October. Leaving Australia on 5 November, they arrived a day late into Lyttelton on 29 November, with Commanding Officer Lieutenant Commander Vartika Joshi describing unusually calm seas with little wind as they crossed the Tasman Sea.

"We were told to expect rough seas, but somehow that didn't happen," she said. The lack of wind was the most challenging aspect of the journey so far. "It can get really frustrating, when the sails start flapping, and you don't make good headway."

The project Navika Sagar Parikrama is the first time in India's history that an all-women crew is circumnavigating the globe. The Government of India says the voyage raises visibility of women's participation in challenging environments and is aligned with India's national policy to empower women to attain their full potential.

Welcoming INSV Tarini to New Zealand on behalf of the Royal New Zealand Navy, Captain Corina Bruce was in admiration of the significant undertaking the female crew had embarked on. "These ladies are not only representative of their country and their service but also as a high-performing team of ocean sailors. This round-the-world voyage is definitely not for the faint-hearted but these sailors have clearly shown that they have what it takes."

Ahead of them will be the challenge of the longest – and likely

rougher – leg, from Lyttelton to the Falkland Islands, which involves passing Cape Horn. In the meantime, the crew – Lieutenant Commanders Pratibha Jamwal and P Swathi, and Lieutenants S Vijaya Devi, B Aishwarya and Payal Gupta – will spend around two weeks in New Zealand. "Our main focus will be to get the boat ready for the next leg. We would like to look around. This is a beautiful place."

LTCDR Joshi says the crew, including herself, were selected from a pool of volunteers. "I like the fact that it gets me out into the ocean. I'm from the hills in India. I immediately took up the opportunity, thinking it would be a great adventure." Women in the Indian Navy do not serve on combat vessels, she says, so sea-going opportunities do not come up.

She says sailing is a great activity and everyone should do it. "I think the sea has plenty of things to teach us. When we started sailing, we didn't have an idea of what it would be like to be away from land, spending days together. You have a sense of freedom, and it makes you more humble. It teaches you to take things one day at a time. It teaches you patience."

She works a three-watch system, with three to four hours rotation. "It depends on the weather. Two people outside on watch, the rest can relax, do the cooking, maintain the equipment."

The overall voyage is expected to take seven months. The crew follow in the footsteps of retired Indian Navy Captain Dilip Donde, who circumnavigated the globe solo in 2009 in INSV MHADEI, and Commander Abhilash Tomy, who did the feat solo and non-stop in 2013. TARINI, commissioned into the Indian Navy in February, is a sister vessel to INSV MHADEI. ■

Above: CAPT Corina Bruce poses with the TARINI sailors at Lyttelton.



GRADUATES COMMIT TO NAVY VALUES



Eighty-six new sailors committed to the Navy creed of 'Courage, Commitment and Comradeship' at Devonport Naval Base in December.

At the graduation parade attended by more than 1200 people, 71 new basic training course graduates and 15 junior officer course graduates pledged to serve the Navy.

The parade divisions were reviewed by the Mayor of Auckland, Phil Goff, who also presented the graduation awards.

"This is the day your determination and success is recognised and I'm sure you will look back on those 18 weeks as the hardest part of your life in the Defence Force and as a member of the Navy," said Mr Goff. "Today you are joining an institution of proud traditions... and people who have gone before you and those who remain and the sacrifices they made to uphold the safety and security of our nation.

"Be proud of what you have achieved and the uniform that you have earned the privilege to wear," he said. The graduation included a

Top: OMT Quinn Harris shows the passion during the haka.

Right: OMT Matthew Breen with his grandfather, Brian Breen, who served in the RNZN during World War 2.

AWARD WINNERS:

Basic Common Training 2/17

Spencer Tewsley Cup and Award – Top all round trainee – OMT Ofa-Ki-Muli Vala

Stoker First Class William Dale Cup – Most improved trainee – OEWS Jessica Quan

ACN (P and T) BCT Academic Prize – Highest Academic marks – OCSS Sean Byers-Cook

Spedding Cup and Award – Highest marks parade training – OCSS Callum McKean

Guard Right Hand Guide Award – OCWS Tomcris Ozaki

RTS Mariner Skills Excellence Award – Mariner skills excellence – OET Jayden Gibson

Donnelly/BEM Top Gun Trophy – Best Shot – OCH Oziah Duff-Feu'u

Wayne (Buck) Shelford Trophy – Physical training excellence – OEWS Euan Sapwell

George Gair Cup – Best BCT Cross Country male – OMT Benjamin Ruddiman

George Gair Cup – Best BCT Cross Country female – OMA Tasmyn Benny

Duchess Cup – Best Kit during BCT – OMT Benjamin Ruddiman





DETERMINATION AND HARD WORK HELP ACHIEVE PASSION

AWARD WINNERS:

Junior Officer Common Training 2/17

Efficiency Shield, Kempster Teagle Inter-Divisional Challenge Cup, and NZ WWII Cruiser Association Trophy – to Bellona Division

ACN (P&T) JOCT Academic Prize – Highest Academic Marks – MID Brittany Glanfield

Minister of Defence Sword of Honour – Best results during JOCT – MID Brittany Glanfield

Vice Admiral Sir Neil Anderson, KBE, Sextant Award – highest level of mariner skills during training, MID Jamie Morris-Slack

Leadership Award – Excellence in Leadership skills – MID Shaun O'Halloran

Captain Palmer Parade Commander Award – MID Morgan Puru

Surgeon Captain Tom Logan MBE, RNZN Sports Trophy – PT Excellence – MID Thomas Nobes

Commodore Davis-Goff CBE, DSC* Trophy – Top Overall CFR Officer – MID Shaun Heaslip

display of the skills they had gained during the course, including fire fighting, weapons safety and handling, leadership, damage control and physical training.

At the graduation ceremony was 92-year-old HMNZS LEANDER veteran, Brian Breen, who was watching his grandson Matthew graduate as a marine technician from Basic Common Training. Mr Breen had served in both HMNZS LEANDER and ACHILLES in WW2, as a marine electrician.

“Grandad definitely had a lot of influence over my choice of career,” said OMT Breen (from Whangarei). “I was looking for a career out of the ordinary and I’m proud to be serving my country. I’ve made lots of new friends along the way.”

His grandfather said he was very proud of Matthew’s accomplishment in completing the course. “I know what he has gone through. It’s a lot more difficult than we enlisted during the war.” ■

A career in the Defence Forces and engineering were a passion for 12 year old Brittany Glanfield and she’s worked hard for the past five years to achieve these.

Brittany was inspired by her school teacher when she lived in Kerikeri for a year. “My social sciences teacher was ex-Army and sparked the idea that I could have a career in the Defence Force – then I discovered the Navy and that sealed it for me,” says Brittany. “Our family is involved in water sports and I love sailing and boating.”

“What appealed most was the whole lifestyle – the Navy as family and community and the special bonds you have that you don’t have in the civilian world.”

This month at Devonport, Brittany graduated as the top junior officer and will train as a marine engineer. She took three awards at graduation. These were; the Minister of Defence Sword of Honour (for overall best results during JOCT); the Assistant Chief of Navy (Personnel and training) Academic Prize for highest academic marks; and the Vice Admiral Sir Peter Phipps Trophy for the most deserving graduate, of recognition for perseverance and positive attitude to training.

“Along the way, I did a Defence Careers Experience in Year 12 when I was at Rangitoto College and it was fantastic,” says Brittany. “It’s an introduction to the forces with visits to the Tamaki Leadership Centre at Whangaparaoa and the Devonport Naval Base. That confirmed for me that this was what I wanted to do and I became more determined to become a marine engineer with the Navy.”

Engineering was an interest through her school years and she took subjects like Calculus, Physics, Electronics, and Hard Materials (Design Innovation) at high school. She was also a trained lifeguard, taking part in IRB racing and rescues, and this allowed her time to be involved in maintaining the engines they use for the boats. “My family are thrilled that I’ve chosen this career and they are very supportive,” says Brittany. “That’s made the whole journey a lot easier.” ■

Above: Auckland Mayor Phil Goff with MID Brittany Glanfield.



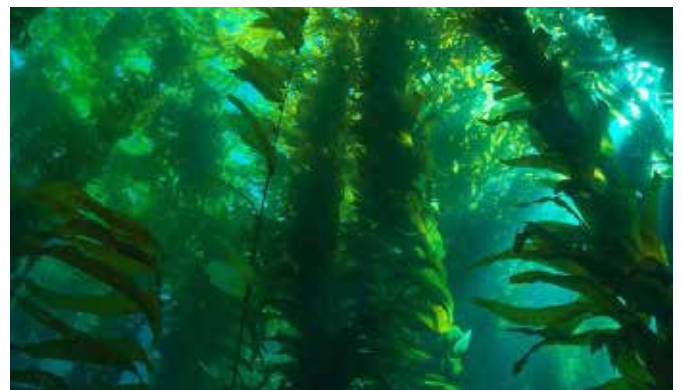
KEEPING US MEAN AND GREEN... IN GREY

By Sandy Munro, Regulatory Naval Architect

The NZDF's environmental protection responsibilities have always been an important aspect of our daily work and priorities. To help the NZDF maintain a high standard the new NZBR 2001 – NZDF Maritime Environmental Protection has been recently released.

With our challenges of patrolling Antarctic waters, supporting conservation in New Zealand's Marine Reserves and the remote and pristine Antarctic Islands, we need a set of environmental standards that help us achieve our goals and protect our maritime environment. There are also new challenges for how we manage the hulls of our ships to keep them clean of Auckland Harbour's marine pests and how we prevent their spread around New Zealand and to international locations, or indeed bring new ones home when we are overseas.

NZBR2001 applies a full range of these international best-practice standards, collated into one NZBR, and offers supportive information on both international locations and the regional standards applied around New Zealand's shores, ports and harbours. The "Active Country Annex" is intended to support our planning internationally and the "Active NZ Regional Annex" tries to collate the same information on specific Regional Council variations around New Zealand's regions. We will need your help in keeping those Annexes up-to-date and our NZDF Environmental Services team will be helping us keep the information correct and useful.



Top of page: Fanworm investigation on the hull of a boat. Mediterranean fanworm is an acknowledged pest species in New Zealand.

There will be greater focus on training and the reporting of environmental incidents, and you will notice ongoing improvements to the tools we use to manage our environmental risks. We already have and use many plans and log books for record keeping and work processes covering operations in Devonport Naval Base and in each of the RNZN Ships. You may already be aware of updates and coming changes to these plans and log books, and how we use them to manage our risks. This will continue over the next period as the refinement and improvements continue, as will our Classification Society technical support to these tools.

Protecting our environment is and always will be part of what we do, and actively looking after the seas and coastlines we love will continue to be something we can all take pride in. ■



OUT OF AFRICA

By CDR Karen Ward

I was fortunate to be selected for the United Nations Female Military Officers Course (FMOC 8), conducted through UN Women, in collaboration with the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) in Nairobi, Kenya over the period 6 – 17 November. I had been very keen to do the course and the fact that it was in Africa was an added bonus.

Women's participation in the military component of peace operations has been recognized as a critical factor contributing to mission success, both in the UN normative frameworks on peacekeeping and Women, Peace and Security, including several Security Council resolutions, as well as by commanders on the ground themselves. There has been an increased focus in the UN's Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) to incorporate a gender perspective in peacekeeping.

In 2015, UN Women piloted a two-week technical course in India exclusively for female military officers. This was an innovative and unprecedented activity aimed at providing a space for exposure, visibility, and opportunities for professional advancement, to military women from all over the world; encouraging the preparation and deployment of female military officers for UN peacekeeping operations and provide them with the technical skills demanded by commanders on the ground, and increasing the pool of female military officers that could be made available to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO).

My course was like a mini-United Nations itself as there were 41 female officers representing 31 member states of the United Nations. We had a great group of "sisters", which did not go



Above: CDR Karen Ward, RNZN with MAJ GEN (Rtd) Patrick Cammaert. Left: Meeting a local.

unnoticed by the course instructors. This definitely aided active engagement in syndicate activities as well as robust group discussions.

The Course consisted of a number of formal presentations that were supplemented by scenario-based and role-playing exercises in syndicate groups. The range of skills and knowledge the participants were trained on included gaining an understanding the role of the United Nations Security Council, UN Mandates and Rules of Engagement as they apply to UN missions and the construct of UN Missions. Practical learning opportunities included techniques to interact with victims of Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV), which at times involved some very confronting material. The Course Director/Chief Instructor, Major General (Rtd) Patrick Cammaert from the Netherlands, who is something of a living legend in Peacekeeping, also shared a number of his first-hand experiences in peacekeeping operations.

What was great about the course? The ability to learn alongside 40 other amazing military women and the ability to freely share our experiences in a way that might have been different if there were male officers on the course, particularly for those nations where the standing of women is a bit different to that in New Zealand. While the course reinforced the fact that being a female peacekeeper will be no walk in the park, it has not reduced my desire to deploy and it is obvious by the current state of the world that the UN really need more female peacekeepers.

It was not all hard work, though. There were great facilities nearby for a spot of shopping and sightseeing, including a visit to Nairobi national park to get up close to lions, leopards and giraffes to name a few of the usual suspects. I would thoroughly recommend the FMOC for any female officer who has a desire to deploy with the UN as well as having the opportunity to be empowered by the other military women who attend the course. We now have a social network that includes all of the course participants, with an undertaking to keep in contact so we can also support each other when we are deployed. ■



RESERVISTS ADD VALUE

Ordinary Seaman Combat Specialist Zac Goodsir competed in the Reservist of the Year competition in Devonport, winning the Speech category of the competition with a clear discourse on why he trains as a Navy reservist. His abridged speech is below.

The idea of challenging myself both mentally and physically was the primary reason for joining the Navy. I believe growth exists in this area of discomfort and the Navy would provide me plenty of opportunities to experience this.

Outside of the Navy I love what I do. I work in the Technology industry, primarily working on software projects, but I am also finishing my undergraduate studies at university.

I'm the kind of person that needs to get out and do something physical to balance my life out. So it's great, not only for myself, but for the people I live with, at the end of the week when I can get away and do some training with the Navy.

Beyond the benefit the Navy has on my lifestyle, it has taught me a lot of valuable life lessons. By design everything we do in the Navy is very team- focused. A ship doesn't get to sea with just one sailor. The training and experiences I've had are about building not only strong individuals, but strong teams. And this has transcended across everything I've done in the Navy to date.

Whether it has been weekends on board Inshore Patrol Vessels, learning the value of good communications within a team, or training to fight fires at the Damage Control school, where I've learnt to trust my team and not only rely on them to do their role, but to also have my back if something goes wrong.

But I think the most important thing I've learnt is when working in a team you quickly identify your own strengths and weaknesses. And if you don't pick up on your own weakness, especially during training, you are very quickly informed about them by someone else. And often quite frankly.

I've learnt how to identify my weaknesses, embrace them and improve upon them. As a result I've been able to take what I've learnt from the Navy and apply it to all aspects of my life.

It's pretty clear how the reserve service is valuable to me. But it also gives me and other reservists a sense of service and the ability to give back to their communities and ultimately their country.

When I think about what communities I have in my life, I firstly think about my community of friends and family. I think about my work community, my university community. But also my Navy

community. Where I see the value of reserve service is the overlap in these communities. As reservists we promote the Navy to our friends and families. We are advocates for what the Navy does and for what it stands for. We also bring our skills from what we have experienced in other areas of our life into the Navy and Defence Force community.

During my first year in the reserves, we had the Deputy Chief of Navy at the time visiting our unit. He asked me... So what do you do? I told him I was studying a Bachelors Degree in Creative Technology.

Once I had explained what that was... he said that's great, but how can that add value to the Navy, what could he use me for? At the time I didn't really know. I was fairly fresh out of basic training. I just thought, I wanted to be the best sailor I could. But looking back now, I see the reserves are a diverse group of people that each add value to the Defence Force in their own way.

I believe the value of reserve service to the Defence Force sits outside of just additional personnel ready to be deployed. We bring diversity, skills and capabilities that often don't exist in the same capacity in the regular force. But we come together to operate towards the same mission, bringing significant value to the wider Navy community.

And through this as reservists we are able to link two key stakeholders in the NZDF mission, the military community and our civilian communities, which ultimately adds value to New Zealand as a nation.

As a reservist, we may not always be in the field or on ships on a daily basis, and it could be said we are not impacting this mission directly. But I believe, in the same way that a logistics officer or a signals operator may not be on the front line of the battlefield, we can add value through the diversity of knowledge and skills, the diversity of thinking and creativity and the expertise we bring to the service.

In order to succeed and be effective as a Navy, as a Defence Force and as a country, we need to embrace diverse thinking and different perspectives.

That includes diversity from reservists coming into the military environment to contribute towards the greater mission by sharing their skills, thinking and experiences. ■

Above: OCS Zac Goodsir keeps a steady eye on his Army teammates during the Reservist of the Year competition in Devonport.

WAKEFIELD STAFF COMMENDED

HMNZS WAKEFIELD's staff at Defence Headquarters have been recognised for their hard work in two recent Chief of Navy commendations, as well as RNZN Civilian of the Year (page 32).



LIEUTENANT JOANNE ROSS

LT Ross says she had “absolutely no idea” that the gathering in Freyberg Building’s breakout room on 3 November was, in part, to acknowledge her efforts.

She received a Chief of Navy commendation for her work in “reconnecting” finance across the Navy, a project she tackled during 2015 and 2016. In essence, she developed the Navy’s internal financial reporting system. “We had procedures, but information wasn’t being communicated across the whole Navy. We had lost people with expertise, they had moved on or were posted, and we had become disconnected. So we needed to identify the right support people, get them assigned, and create the relationships.”

Her citation says she performed with “determination and precision” to ensure that Navy had the clarity of the budget to enable Navy Leadership to make informed operating expenditure decisions. The system was introduced throughout the RNZN in 2016.

“Now we have a reporting process across the whole Navy. It means the Chief of Navy can see the state of the Navy financially, and he’s better able to make the decisions he needs to make.”

Her husband and two daughters came to see her receive the commendation. “My daughters knew I was getting it and didn’t say a thing. My youngest daughter had changed clothes after I had left the house.” She says it was nice to be recognised. “It was a lot of effort, a lot of hours, and a lot of brain power.” ■

Top left: LT Joanne Ross (centre) and her daughters, Sophie (left) and Isabelle.

Top right: Denise Bates poses with her family and friends after receiving her Chief of Navy commendation.



MRS DENISE BATES

Mrs Bates says it was a “lovely surprise” to be honoured with a CN commendation on 3 November for her work in Naval officer career management.

In one form or another, she has been doing it for 34 years, starting as a NZDF Reserves Forces Clerk in Freyberg Building, today’s temporary headquarters for NZDF Wellington.

“I handle the Naval officer career management process and compliance, for all officers in regular and reserve. I look at officer transfer between specifications, and promotions up to Lieutenant Commander.”

One of her biggest roles is Officer selection for the Junior Officer intakes, which was what her commendation was focused on. “I coordinate the recruiting targets, consult with the careers managers, look at the vacancies, and what our capacity is for training.”

Mrs Bates handles the technical side of bringing in new people to officer training. “We look at which people are graduates, who are school leavers, and we work out what training scale we need to put someone through. There are entries for specialists, or the Chatham Scholarship, or non-university schemes. The selection board selects the people, then I take over, and get their offers out. I have to put people on standby, if someone doesn’t pass their medical or gets downgraded.”

Her citation compliments her “faultless integrity, honesty and self-discipline”, noting how her positive approach to customer service during the officer selection process has enhanced the reputation of the Navy when dealing with recruits. She is described as a key subject matter expert and a master of a niche skill for NZDF. ■



TOROJA ON HERITAGE MARCH

Dunedin-based reserve unit HMNZS TOROJA carried the pride of Otago up to Oamaru to participate in the annual Oamaru Victorian Heritage Celebrations on 18 to 19 November, and take on the Oamaru Rowing Club once again in their annual rowing competition. Occupying a prime spot behind the band in spotless whites, the reservists enjoyed being the subject of audience photography during the parade, as well as plenty of poses for selfies with locals. TOROJA went on to win the rowing competition, retaining the Heritage Rowing Cup - not bad considering their rowing boat is named "Terra Nova". ■



Top of page: HMNZS TOROJA represents in Oamaru.

Above: Holders of the Heritage Rowing Cup. LMT0 Brent Gallagher, ENS Barry Harwood (NZCF), CPOWEF Neil Leonard, CPMO Kim Leonard, LS Brendon Tilleysort, POET John Laughton and CPOWEF Laurence Ashworth.

REMEMBRANCE: TS LEANDER Sea Cadets march behind Devonport RSA members in a Remembrance Day parade on 11 November, at 11am. Sea Cadet Officer Sub Lieutenant Sonia Porter, LEANDER's Executive Officer, said the parade went from Victoria Road to the Devonport War Memorial. She said it was an honour to follow behind veterans and pay respect for those who lost their lives during the First World War. The service marks 99 years since the signing of the Armistice in 1918. ■

RUGBY LEAGUE PATRON

By CPOMT (L) Peter Furjes

The Royal New Zealand Navy Rugby League (RNZN RL) has appointed Paul Rauhihi as the Patron of rugby league for the Navy. This role is aligned to support and foster the sport within the RNZN. Paul is a retired RNZN sailor and joined the Navy from Wellington as a Radio Fitter (RF) apprentice and served on frigates HMNZS CANTERBURY, WELLINGTON, SOUTHLAND, the hydrographic ship HMNZS MONOWAI, and support ship HMNZS CHARLES UPHAM. While in the Navy, Paul played for the Northcote Tigers and North Harbour Sea Eagles before becoming a Junior Warrior in 1994. Paul decided to pursue a professional rugby league career and left the Navy to sign for the Melbourne Storm in 1998. Paul went on to have a very successful career where he represented the NZ Kiwi's, New Zealand Maori, and played in the Australian Rugby League (ARL) for the Newcastle Knights, Canterbury Bulldogs, and the North Queensland Cowboys. In 2005 Paul signed for the Warrington Wolves in the UK Super League before injury forced his retirement in 2009.

Paul became a leader on the field and captained the Kiwis in the 2004 Tri Nations in the absence of Ruben Wiki, and played in the successful NZ Kiwi side that won the Tri Nations for the first time in 2005. Paul was also Queensland Cowboys' Player of the year and played in the 2005 Grand Final.

His professional career spans over thirteen years where he played nineteen times for the NZ Kiwi, one hundred and thirty one games in the ARL and ninety five games in the English Super League. Paul attended the recent Navy Rugby League Challenge Cup series held in Devonport in October against the Royal Australian Navy, where the RNZN triumphed in both games 38 – 12 and 18 – 14. He presented the Rugby League Challenge Cup to the RNZN Captain ACSS Epoki Sakisi and the Player of the series award to OET Andre Singh.

Paul mirrors the RNZN Core Values and he resides on the North Shore with his wife and family and remains an active supporter of Navy Rugby League. Welcome On-board! ■



HMNZS WAKEFIELD CORPORATE CHALLENGE

Wellington's sun shone on HMNZS WAKEFIELD on 15 November when a group of members and family of the WAKEFIELD Mess donned their Navy PT T-Shirts, laced up their running shoes and joined in with 1296 other Wellingtonians for the Fidelity Life Wellington Corporate Challenge.

The run saw participants embark on a five-kilometre course around the picturesque Wellington waterfront passing key landmarks, lagoons, sculptures, fountains and pedestrian bridges.

Lieutenant Amanda Green said when entering events such as this in Wellington you did so with caution noting Wellington's weather. "Wellington, however, could not have delivered better weather for the event – you can't beat Wellington on a good day. It was a still and balmy evening and perfect running conditions.

"The official event warm-up was conducted by NZ Army PTI's who did a fantastic job and kept the crowd entertained. The warm-up moves required a bit too much coordination for some team members and were a highlight as was the Irish MC of the event."

No awards came WAKEFIELD's way, but standout performances included Lieutenant Shaun Taylor (18:52) and Commander Murray Tuffin (20:47).

Top right: HMNZS WAKEFIELD takes on Wellington's Corporate Challenge.



"Everyone had an enjoyable evening and it would be great to see a team entered again next year and TEAM WAKEFIELD pushing for a podium finish in the team category." ■



CHRISTMAS CHEER

Making Christmas a big more special for a family of five was the unanimous vote of the HMNZS WAKEFIELD mess this month.

The WAKEFIELD mess decided to Adopt a Family, helping a solo mother and her four children in Wellington via the Salvation Army's Adopt a Family for Christmas programme.

The programme matches recipient families with donor groups like HMNZS WAKEFIELD. There is no contact, but the donors are told first names, gender and ages to assist with shopping for gifts. The Salvation Army takes the gifts and delivers them to the families.

Armed with a budget, Lieutenant Amanda Green and Lieutenant Commander Kelly Begg went shopping in Wellington for gifts. "We knew the ages of the children – from 16 to nine, three boys and one girl – and it was really challenging. We wanted to give them a good Christmas, not just necessities." The pair bought backpacks for the children, not only as a present but also to provide the fun of opening them up and discovering more wrapped presents inside. Everyone also got a \$50 Warehouse voucher.

She says WAKEFIELD mess members enjoyed the experience



Above: LT Amanda Green, with Tan Turner and LTCDR Bronwyn Heslop, pack presents for a Wellington family "adopted" by the HMNZS WAKEFIELD mess.

and gained a real sense of purpose in making one family's Christmas a little bit brighter, while sharing the meaning of Christmas with their local community.

"We wish the wider Navy community a happy and enjoyable Christmas with their own families and friends." ■

FROM THE EDITOR

By Andrew Bonallack

After over a year of editing the *Navy Today* magazine, and speaking as a journalist and storyteller, I am rewarded every day by the vigour, energy, pride and enjoyment that exemplifies the atmosphere and activity of the Royal New Zealand Navy. Obviously, work is work, and Navy personnel will have their good days and bad days, but underlying it all is an ethic, friendliness, professionalism and camaraderie – qualities particularly visible when our officers and ratings interact with those outside the RNZN. US Navy sailors remarked on it when visiting TE KAHA during its deployment with the 7th Fleet. It is something I experience every time I visit a ship or Devonport Naval Base. Everyone I meet, even recruits, seem like they are over six feet tall. I am humbled every day by the generosity of the various commanding officers, staff, sailors and recruits who let me in to their world, help me with information, and allow me the privilege of telling amazing and inspiring stories.

In my time as a newspaper reporter and editor, I firmly believed it was the role and responsibility of newspapers to praise the behaviour we wanted to see in society. In doing so, newspapers could effect societal change. New Zealand has its share of social problems. Our communities are eager for heroes, for role models, and when we feel the lack we become focused on high-end sporting personalities – far too much, in my opinion. My belief is a person who pushes themselves that bit further, just goes a bit beyond their personal norm, is a hero, a role model for our society. It could be a child who wins bronze in a swimming competition. It can also be the sailor being awarded his or her good conduct badge. In the Royal New Zealand Navy we will never lack for heroes and role



models. But our achievements need to be visible, in media and in stories, so that people say to themselves: that could be my son, my daughter providing that service. That could be me.

Defence Public Affairs, through *Navy Today*, our social media platforms and mainstream media, provides this visibility. Publishing for the record is a powerful form of praise. Your managers and commanding officers are invested in your success. They will praise you for good work and positive behaviour. But being published is independent endorsement. Your family will read it. They will cut it out and place it in an album, to be looked at with pride, again and again. It might stay in that album for 30 years, as a family taonga. That is the power of a single story.

As we progress our vision to be a world-class Navy for a large maritime nation, we will have many stories to tell. Our Public Perception surveys tell us the public likes what the NZDF does, and that the more the public know about our work and our people, the more likely they are to be positive about the NZDF. So as well as inspiring New Zealand with stories of the sea, *Navy Today* – and the team at Defence Public Affairs – will continue to inspire New Zealanders with stories about you. ■

OUR NEW DEFENCE MINISTER

Ron Mark is a former soldier mechanic and mechanical engineering officer (Captain) with the New Zealand Defence Force, and has also served with the Sultan of Oman's Special Force in the Dhofar, retiring as a major in 1990. He became involved in politics in the nineties, first entering Parliament in 1996 as a New Zealand First List MP and remaining so until the 2008 general election.

Mr Mark was mayor of Carterton from 2010. He retained his mayoralty in the 2013 local elections, as well as becoming a board member on the Hutt Valley and Wairarapa DHBs, then resigned in 2014 to campaign for NZ First and seek a return to Parliament as a list MP. He succeeded, and became deputy leader of New Zealand First the following year. After the 2017 general election, Mr Mark became Minister of Defence.

Mr Mark and his partner Christine live on a small block on the

Right: CDR Lisa Hunn, CO of HMNZS TE MANA, shows Defence Minister Ron Mark the workings of her ship.



outskirts of Carterton. He is of Maori and Irish descent. His iwi affiliations are Ngati Raukawa, Te Arawa, Tuwharetoa, Ati Awa, Ngati Porou, Whakatohea and Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa. Mr Mark is a father of five and a grandfather of 11.

His honours and decorations include the New Zealand Operational Service Medal, the New Zealand General Service Medal (Sinai), the Multinational Force and Observers Medal with bar, plus the Royal Order of Oman and the Oman Peace Medal. ■

HOW TO SURVIVE CHRISTMAS – SANITY INTACT!

Christmas can be a wonderful time – it can also be a time of great stress, for you and your family. By the time you run around getting ready for the holiday season, there often isn't a lot of energy left to enjoy your family and friends... and Christmas!

Here are some tips to help make the silly season a little easier to navigate:

- **SIMPLIFY YOUR PLANS:** remember you really don't have to do everything
- **TAKE TIME FOR YOURSELF:** watch a movie, read a book or have a massage
- **ENJOY THE LITTLE THINGS:** playing games with your children, taking a walk on a balmy summer's evening, or cuddling up with your partner after everyone's in bed
- **GO WITH THE FLOW:** accept that not everyone is on the same schedule as you. Take a breath and relax
- **EMBRACE THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAYS:** remember, it's Christmas! A time of peace and love for everyone

Yes, there will be those stressful moments when the kids start squabbling or the in-laws get a bit too merry. How you respond is up to you. If you change how you view these events, you can change your experience, and you may even end up enjoying the silly season! ■

For more tips, check out health.nzdf.mil.nz

HMNZS CANTERBURY F421 REUNION (ALL COMMISSIONS) (1971-2005)

Open invitation to ALL Ships Company and Ships Flight Members

FRIDAY 31 AUGUST TO SUNDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2018

Tauranga and Mount Maunganui Areas

Visit www.hmnzscanterbury.com for details of Registration, Events, Functions and Venues etc. (Regularly updated).

CORRECTION

Des Price was not the last LEANDER survivor, as described in Navy Today November edition.

Our apologies to LEANDER crewman Brian Breen, who saw his grandson, OMT Matthew Breen, graduate from BCT 17/02 this month. Apologies also to LEANDER crewmember Bill Morland. ■



CHRISTMAS ON ICE

Christmas at Scott Base, Antarctica, is celebrated on 23 December. With most of the scientists home for Christmas, Scott Base personnel drops to around 50, so it is much more a family affair, says Communications Operator Corporal Nikki Galpin. "The whole base pauses for the holiday, allowing our big family two days off together (except our critical services and 24/7 comms centre team in their Christmas outfits). The dining hall is decorated in full trim, with candles, sparkly decorations and Christmas tree glittering.

"Christmas lunch is a fancy affair with all the trimmings, ham, turkey, roasties, fresh bread, pavlova, brandy snaps and maybe fresh strawberries if flights allow. We may be in an isolated land, but our amazing chefs certainly do their best to over-feed us on treats so it feels just like a real Christmas.

"After lunch a Santa is nominated to distribute the base-wide Secret Santa gifts that everyone hand-makes. The eight NZDF personnel will also get to open their NZDF deployment treat packages! Christmas in Antarctica is just like a family Christmas, with a huge family, champagne, gifts and delicious foods."

Navy personnel ACWS Daniel Moore and POMT(P) Craig Julian will stay in Antarctica until mid-February. LTCDR Ross Hickey, having spent Christmas in Antarctica three times before, will be with his family this Christmas, returning mid-January. ■

Above: A cheerful wave from NZDF personnel in Antarctica. Representing the Navy are ACWS Daniel Moore (left back), who featured in November's Navy Today; POMT(L) Craig Julian beside him, and drawing the short straw with the pixie outfit is LTCDR Ross Hickey (right), NZDF Senior National Officer with Antarctica New Zealand.

HMNZS AOTEAROA BADGE DESIGNS THE FIRST CUT



MIA KORDIC



ERIN MEKEREI TIOKE



KEVIN WILSON



JAMES O'CONNOR



JAMES O'CONNOR



STEVEN HOLDEN



CASEY DAVIES



LAUREN ROBERTS



RAWIRI BARRIBALL



STEVEN KNIGHT

Congratulations

TO THESE BADGE SUBMITTERS WHOSE
DESIGN HAS MADE THE TOP 10.

The winning design will be selected by the
Chief of Navy and announced in February 2018.