OPERATION MAHI TAHI

SEA SAFETY TRAINING OFFICER

NEW CO FOR HMNZS PEGASUS







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"Completing Basic Common Training taught me the importance of seeking out and adding value to a team; this lesson has helped me find my place at work."

 Ordinary Musician Elijah Taula, vocalist and drummer with the RNZN Band.









NZDefenceForce





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Front Cover: ASCS Reuben Foote and ACH Taynian Smith aboard HMNZS WELLINGTON prepare the ship for departure from Suva, Fiji.

Photographer: CPL Naomi James







Tēnā koe,

I had the honour to write the Yours Aye article when I took over as the Maritime Component Commander in October 2021. I used that article to introduce areas of focus around what I call the 3Ps: People, Purpose, and Passion. I intend using this article to reflect upon what the Navy has achieved since then.

My tenure as MCC to date could be characterised as challenging, with a transition out of Operation Protect, conducting operations and training while managing (rather than avoiding) COVID-19 and responding to the impact high levels of attrition is having on the Fleet and the wider naval system. As we navigate these challenging times, I am constantly amazed at what our small Navy delivers on behalf of a large maritime nation.

Facing these challenges has required a sustained and focused effort in order to get our people and ships ready to get back to sea. The value of our shoreside support from the likes of the Fleet Personnel and Training Organisation, Marine Engineering Support Team and the Maritime **Operational Evaluation Team cannot** be understated. Our Fleet has had a busy year to date. Recently, HMNZS AOTEAROA displayed yet again its impressive capability this time at RIMPAC in Hawaii and is now bound for the South East Asia region. HMNZ Ships MANAWANUI, WELLINGTON and MATATAUA (after returning from RIMPAC) are deployed

"Culture is the glue that holds everything together. The ultimate aim for our Navy is to have a culture where everyone feels safe, respected, valued, and empowered in their work."

in the Pacific on Operation Mahi Tahi. HMNZS TAUPO continues to support valuable training activities and domestic taskings from other Government agencies. Finally, HMNZ Ships TE MANA and CANTERBURY are commencing their preparedness activities for upcoming operations.

While the ship's achievements are noteworthy, it is our people that are the key component enabling the delivery of those outputs. It is, therefore, at the forefront of my mind the need to continue to develop a culture that supports our people.

Our values contribute to determining the culture we need to achieve our mission and vision and attract and retain people. There is a difference between the culture we want and what we have; this difference will impact morale, job satisfaction, productivity, performance, retention and a host of other factors. Culture is about 'the way we do things around here' - how we interact with each other, what we believe is the 'right way', and what behaviours get rewarded or not. Culture is the glue that holds everything together. The ultimate aim for our Navy is to have a culture where everyone feels safe, respected, valued, and empowered in their work.

You will recall the Maritime Culture survey was completed in March; thank you to all who completed this. Navy engaged and partnered with Human Synergistics who provided this survey tool and through related modeling has captured our Navy's current culture.

We know that many parts of our culture, or 'ways of doing things' set us up for success. However, we now have awareness that there is room for improvement. The Navy's score from the survey when plotted against the three Human Synergistics culture styles (Passive/Defensive, Aggressive/ Defensive, and Constructive) provides an understanding of the starting point of Navy's culture journey. This outcome will be reported on in the next Navy Today, but in summary there are lots of opportunities for improvement. We have begun our voyage to move our organisation towards a more constructive style, and if we get this piece right, we are providing the right environment for our people to be successful in what they do.

Following on from this, but equally as important, is providing a purpose. Our shared purpose is implementing the Four Year Regeneration Plan that focuses on generating a sustainable workforce to ensure they have the training, qualifications and experience to deliver a modern combat capability.

I am confident we can rise to the challenge.

He heramana ahau

Commodore Garin Golding Maritime Component Commander

HMNZS WELLINGTON (left) and HMNZS MANAWANUI depart Auckland.

OPERATION MAHITAHI Teaming up in the Pacific

Since departing from New Zealand on July 25, HMNZ Ships MANAWANUI and WELLINGTON have been ranging across a variety of Pacific Islands, and there's plenty more to go as Operation Mahi Tahi runs into September. "We're always ready to support our Pacific neighbours and we always look forward to working with them. This reflects our commitment to and support for our Pacific partners, highlighted by our response earlier in the year to assist Tonga in the aftermath of the volcanic eruption."

- LT Nicole Ruddiman, HMNZS WELLINGTON Public Relations Officer



Clockwise from top: Watchkeeper SLT Taylor Wyatt-Logan takes bearings of WELLINGTON during Officer of the Watch manoeuvres.

Commanding Officer HMNZS MANAWANUI, CDR JJ McQueen, talks to One News in Tonga.

Compliments are exchanged with WELLINGTON as she arrives in Tonga.

WELLINGTON preparing to berth alongside MANAWANUI.





After collecting HMNZS MATATAUA's hydrographic detachment from Niue (see last month's *Navy Today*), Dive Hydrographic vessel MANAWANUI arrived in Nuku'alofa on August 3. Her principle task was to survey the approaches to Nuku'alofa Harbour following the Tonga-Hunga Ha'pai volcanic eruption and tsunami in January.

Offshore Patrol Vessel WELLINGTON arrived the following day and the combined Ship's Companies took part in multiple defence engagements with His Majesty's Armed Forces in Tonga (HMAF), including a cultural visit to a



high school, a sports day at the Naval Base and tours and workshops on the two ships to provide education in regards to boarding operations and the work Royal New Zealand Navy ships undertake at sea.

Over two weeks, MANAWANUI conducted hydrographic survey tasks in the approaches to the harbour. This included the establishment of a tidal station in the vicinity of the port to assist in the accuracy, and surveys within the approaches to and partly within Nuku'alofa harbour, from 50 metres depth out to 1,000+ metres.





During this time MANAWANUI hosted HMAF hydrographic personnel for engagement and training, and HMAF sailors for at-sea training.

LT Ruddiman says the work supports a number of Pacific Island priorities.

This month MANAWANUI will arrive in Fiji to conduct engagement with the Republic of Fiji Military Forces, before embarking Australian Defence Force and United States Marine Corps personnel and sailing to Tuvalu for Operation Render Safe, a reconnaissance to tag explosive remnants of war from World War II.



EXERCISE TROPIC TWILIGHT TONGA 2023

Foreign Minister Nanaia Mahuta, while on board HMNZS MANAWANUI last month, announced that Exercise Tropic Twilight, the New Zealand Defence Force's engineering and rebuilding humanitarian exercise, will take place in Tonga next year.

The 2022 exercise, which included a detachment of HMNZS MATATAUA hydrographers, was carried out in Niue in July. She said that Exercise Tropic Twilight will continue the humanitarian assistance delivered to Tonga in January in the wake of the Tonga-Hunga Ha'pai volcanic eruption and tsunami. "The exercise in 2023 will assist the ongoing recovery and rebuild and contribute to a stable, prosperous and resilient Pacific." Tropic Twilight was last held in Tonga in 2016.



HMNZS WELLINGTON pushes through some 'roughers' on its way to Tonga.



HMNZS WELLINGTON A Pacific Presence

By ENS Erika Lennon



As I write this, HMNZS WELLINGTON is almost one month into Operation Mahi Tahi.

This is an operation where our Navy shows its presence in the Pacific Islands, with a focus on engagement with the Pacific Island communities. Engagement is only one focus of the operation however; the others being maritime security and fisheries patrols. This involves intercepting, hailing, and boarding fishing vessels alongside personnel from the Ministry for Primary Industries. Additional to MPI, we have also embarked fisheries officers from the Pacific Islands.

The trip started off with WELLINGTON sailing in company with HMNZS MANAWANUI. The task group sailed into some heavy weather, colloquially dubbed 'The Great Storm'. This provided an interesting experience for a lot of our younger sailors, as it was the first time we had battled 'roughers'. We pushed through these rough seas for three days before having to detach from MANAWANUI and return to NZ for a casualty evacuation (CASEVAC). This meant we had to turn around and sail back through the bad weather that we had just come through!

Ministry for Primary Industries officer prepare to embark on to HMNZS WELLINGTON.



Clockwise from top:

HMNZS WELLINGTON in Fiji.

A friendly game of shipboard bucketball as WELLINGTON reaches warmer climates.

Crew push a 'killer tomato' over the side, the target for gunnery drills.



On completion of the CASEVAC, WELLINGTON continued on towards Tonga where more boarding operations were conducted with MPI officers. A highlight of this sea passage was being able to conduct a .50 calibre shoot for the crew. This was an exciting opportunity for people not usually involved with gunnery to see what it was all about. The ship then proceeded into Tonga, rafting up alongside MANAWANUI for a wellneeded weekend alongside.

Tonga was a bitter-sweet port visit for those of who had been there earlier in the year to assist after the tsunami. Ship's Company were taken on a tour to see first-hand the devastation still visible around the island. A highlight of the visit was being able to engage in a friendly 'sporties' with His Majesty's Armed Forces. The two sides engaged in touch rugby and volleyball, and that's where we quickly realised the sporting prowess of the Tongans.



Our next destination was Suva, Fiji where the ship sat at anchor in the harbour for a few days waiting for a berth to come available. This was a very busy port with the Royal Navy Offshore Patrol Vessel HMS SPEY and Japanese destroyer JS KIRISAME also coming into port. After a couple of days in Suva we left Fiji and proceeded north toward a group of fishing vessels. Unfortunately the weather wasn't on our side again and we were unable to conduct boardings, although hails were completed. This has been a very dynamic operation with a lot of serials that have been subject to change as the information picture slowly developed. The Ship's Company has done a remarkable job of working together and have once again proven that flexibility and adaptability are some of the greatest assets you can have in a military environment. The OPVs have a relatively small crew and as such the bond they form is strong, which is demonstrated both on ship and in port visits.

EXPERTS IN SEA SAFETY TRAINING



Navy Today meets up with Lieutenant Evan 'Mac' MacKay, Sea Safety Training Officer, at the Navy's Sea Safety Training Squadron (SSTS) in Ngataringa Bay. You've got to know where you're going to find the Sea Safety Training Squadron. It's out on its own, sandwiched between the Navy's Ngataringa Sports Grounds and the mudflats, a bit further on from Te Taua Moana Marae. This is where the Navy's sea survival, damage control and firefighting courses are run, and in charge of the setup is the Sea Safety Training Officer (SSTO), LT 'Mac' MacKay.

The SSTO role is traditionally a Royal Navy engineer exchange position, and LT MacKay is the 10th Royal Navy SSTO since the first, Lieutenant Commander Rob Metcalf, in 2001. Prior to that, it was an RNZN position and LT MacKay thinks it may have been run by US Navy exchange officers even further back, before the current SSTS opened in 1993.

There doesn't seem to be a particular reason for the tradition, other than capitalising on the expertise of the Royal Navy's subject matter experts. LT MacKay is definitely happy to be here; it's a highly-sought after exchange among Royal Navy engineer Lieutenants. "I was offered a threeyear posting and I didn't question it," he says. "There were probably 70 others gunning for the role, and I was really fortunate." His wife and two children are with him as well, until the posting concludes in July 2024.

He comes with good credentials. He's spent 25 years in the Royal Navy, joining as an engineer mechanic and

commissioning from the ranks. He was the Royal Navy's firefighter training officer for 12 months.

He is a specialist in CBRNDC, which stands for Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Damage Control. CBRN Defence refers to countermeasures against CBRN, something the RNZN has less emphasis on these days. Damage Control (DC) refers to the procedures for non-CBRN activities, such as firefighting, flooding and response to toxic gas.

He's done the courses in the UK that went on to shape the RNZN's training, and he later became an instructor. He's worked in six different classes of warship in the Royal Navy, including aircraft carrier HMS QUEEN ELIZABETH for three years.

The SSTS is a unique place with a unique output, he says. Sailors tackle real fires in full firefighting equipment. The recently refurbished **Damage Control Communication** Training Unit (CTU) is a simulator that mimics being on board control rooms in an Anzac frigate, where teams have to coordinate Damage Control responses. There is a Flood Simulation Unit with compartments that can be flooded with water, and rocked back and forth, as sailors learn techniques to prevent water getting in. Another section handles chemical defence training. Ultimately, SSTS provides personnel with the relevant amount of knowledge and experience to safely and effectively deal with any CBRNDC-related incident.



Sailors work as a team to slow water entering the Flood Unit.

Every member of the Royal New Zealand Navy will come through the SSTS at least twice. But people come back again and again, because SSTS courses – as well as being vital to seagoing sailors and officers – are linked to promotion. Ratings return to do Team Leaders courses, leading fire fighting and damage control teams. If someone is wanting to promote to a Chief Petty Officer, they'll need to come to the SSTS to do the CBRNDC Instructors course, qualifying them to run Damage Control training serials in ships while at sea.

"Officers come back and do the Incident Managers Damage Control course, which gives them a qualification towards becoming Officer of the Day on platforms and Shore Establishments. The last course for the officers is the Heads of Department damage control course, over three days, and that's delivered by myself."

It's not just Navy; anyone posted to a ship, such as Army personnel for HMNZS CANTERBURY'S SALT (Ship's Amphibious Load Team), or RNZAF air crew supporting flight deck operations, has to come to the SSTS. The Squadron has a strong relationship with Fire and Emergency New Zealand, who help deliver some aspects of the courses.

"And then there's refresher training, to make sure people know their jobs. The majority of RNZN platform Ship's Companies come through SSTS at least once a year in order to maintain and enhance their level of CBRNDC knowledge and experience."

It means SSTS provides some element of CBRNDC training to around 1,500 NZDF personnel each year. He has 19 staff, and when the classes are full, the place is buzzing. "There's 10 instructors, with eight senior rates and two civilians. There's a cohort of junior rates as support staff, helping the instructors set up the evolutions. And then there's Dave Murray, the Sea Safety Training Manager who was posted to SSTS twice as a serving member of the RNZN and now as a civilian."

It's run like clockwork for years. "A lot of which is down to Dave and the team," he says.

"But COVID was tough. With damage control and firefighting, you physically can't maintain social distancing. But since August 2021, we only cancelled four courses, and we've recovered two of them. We were lucky in that while some staff caught COVID, it was staggered. Overall, SSTS managed to continue delivering key outputs during a very challenging period, testament to the professionalism and versatility of the entire team."

Often three courses a day are being run. "It's a really nice atmosphere here and a really good team, a nice mix of experience and youth. Instructors would rather be busy, enjoying what they do, delivering safety-critical training in order to support the RNZN operating safely. " Sea Safety Training Squadron provides Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Damage Control training to around 1,500 NZDF personnel each year.



TE KAHA IS DOCKYARD'S BIGGEST PROJECT

For Babcock New Zealand, HMNZS TE KAHA's upgrade and refit is the largest project the Dockyard has undertaken for many years. *Navy Today* Editor Andrew Bonallack gets the tour.

The job is coded TEKD121, but visitors to the Calliope Dry Dock this month might easily wish it had a grander title for the scale of work required.

Where would you start for a project name? The last 'named' project, TE KAHA's Frigate Systems Upgrade in Canada, doesn't seem that long ago. The ship returned to New Zealand in December 2020, after her threeyear upgrade. It went on to have a worthwhile 2021 year that included a South East Asia deployment, joining the United Kingdom's Carrier Strike Group near the Philippines, and Exercise Bersama Gold in Singapore, partnered with HMNZS AOTEAROA.

But the modern capability installed in Canada doesn't stop the clock on essential maintenance overall, and in TE KAHA's case, that's over 640 jobs running from January to regeneration activity in the New Year.

I'm meeting with Babcock Project Manager Peter Helsby in TE KAHA, which is resting on blocks in the Dry Dock. With him is Lieutenant Commander Shaun Taylor, Weapons Engineering Officer, who is about to test the movement of the main gun, following a 10-year overhaul. LTCDR Taylor sounds like he'd rather have had a new gun cover to match HMNZS TE MANA's sharp-edged stealth version, but fortunately for ship-spotters, it's not to be. TE KAHA's rounded version, which stands out at a distance, remains a distinguishing feature.

Lieutenant Commander David Hellriegel, the ship's Marine Engineering Officer, is there. The Commanding Officer, Commander Kane Sutherland, freshly returned from RIMPAC, has called in by chance. There's definitely an air of 'go big or go home' among the team. A sense that a lot – A LOT – of really significant stuff is getting ticked off.

Perhaps most notable are the replacements of the ship's main engines and forward generators. "That was a big critical path," says LTCDR Hellriegel. "This is our third set of main engines in her life so far, and the second time we've replaced the forward generators. We're always learning something new about these ships, but I've never been in a package quite this deep before, involving the entire propulsion plant."

Engines are big clunky things, he says, and while the design of the ship has routes through the decks and bulkheads for replacements, it's not easy. Especially when the ship has new Sea Ceptor missile launch pads near the works. "It's never been done before," says Mr Helsby. "But we were able lift all launch pads out as a module. That was quite a relief when it came out."



Above: Welding contractors work on one of the ship's bilge keels.

Opposite page: From front to back, CDR Kane Sutherland, Commanding Officer; LTCDR Shaun Taylor, Weapon Engineer Office; Steve Lister, Babcock Fleet Manager ANZAC Frigates; LTCDR David Hellriegel, Marine Engineer Officer; Peter Helsby, Babcock Project Manager.





Then there's that most basic feature of an older ship - corrosion. The hull plate varies in thickness, from 6-7mm steel plate at the top, widening to 14mm at the keel. Corrosion can occur from the inside, and in fact ballast tanks are particularly prone to it. "We do a continuous survey of a ship's hull," says LTCDR Hellriegel. "It's not that it's rusty, and the hull integrity is fine. But after a time it won't meet international standards." The ship has over 40 tanks and all have to be emptied. Then 'hull inserts', replacement plates of steel are welded in, peppering the hull below the waterline.

The team is fabricating brand-new bilge keels, fin-like keels on the lower hull to ease rolling motion. But the biggest and most impressive piece of new fabrication is the ship's funnels. Rather than repair the old ones, now heavily corroded and carbon-scored, the team has created two bespoke 'jigs' as templates for the funnels, then fabricated the new funnels from scratch. It's an 'old-school' dockyard task that used to happen all the time. "It did result in some head-scratching by more experienced fabricators, and happily, led to new skills being learned by those with less experience," says Mr Helsby.

I remark to LTCDR Hellriegel that, considering the scale of the work needed, it's impressive the ship embarked on a South East Asia deployment in 2021.

"Well, we had AOTEAROA with us," says LTCDR Hellriegel. "So any systems we thought we would have issues with, we put spares on AOTEAROA."

But now the time has come to sort it all out, and it's really satisfying, says LTCDR Hellriegel. "The ship is going to be in a really good state, machinerywise, and with new engines. It's a long process, and we've been working really hard. It's been a big team effort. For us, this is a passion, a calling. These guys don't just turn up and punch a card. We're all committed to getting the best result, and getting everything sorted, to have TE KAHA in the best material state we can get."







Clockwise from top: Hull inserts; one of the old funnels is lifted off; a new engine waiting to be fitted; an old engine lifted through the ship and out of the dock.



TE KAHA – A JUNIOR OFFICER PERSPECTIVE

By LT Tayla Richards and SLT Shannen McErlain

What's it like working on a ship stationed in dry dock for over nine months?

If you look closely, what you'll see is a mix of Babcock contractors and our own Ship's Company. While the technical trades work closely with Babcock to execute the maintenance package, keeping TE KAHA in safe working order is a whole of ship effort. Surplus to the daily grind, all of the crew are required to be part of the Ship's Duty Watch Fire and Emergency Party (DWEP) - a 24-hour duty rotation where members are responsible for executing daily routines and responding to emergency incidents such as fire or floods, all to ensure the safety and security of the Ship.

As you can imagine, working on a ship that's off the water and out of its normal routine for such a long period presents many challenges for Ship's Company. For example, many of the works occurring are based down on 4 deck. In order to do repairs and replacements on this equipment a lot of thought and planning needs to go in just to design a transit route. Currently, there is a hole going all the way from 02 deck down to 4 deck (cutting through four decks!) just to get the engines on and off the Ship. This creates an interesting environment for the duty watch on board, who need to be aware of the many extra hazards additional to the normal state of the Ship.

Due to the scale of maintenance going on, limitations have also had to be made to the Ship's normal power and water supplies. With no running water on board, Ship's Company and Babcock contractors have to utilise portaloos that have been set up ashore. Duty watch keep the crew hydrated by regularly filling up water tanks and bringing them back to the Ship. The galley is out of action, so duty watch collects hot meals prepared at Vince McGlone Galley and brings them back for their oppos on TE KAHA. While having to step ashore to use the heads during the working day is not much more than a minor inconvenience, you could imagine that it's a little more pain when it's pouring with rain in the middle of the night -

a reality that some Ship's Company face when staying on-board overnight for duties.

Some become frustrated that they're not at sea doing what they're trained to do, and morale can still take a significant hit. The Ship's command team recognises the challenges and frustrations felt by many of the crew and have instigated directives to reward and encourage their continued hard work. Some examples of this include enabling personnel to take one hour of PT a day, a 'stand down' day after completing a duty, sporties and a 'morale feed' (BBQ) for all of Ship's Company on alternate Wednesdays.

During our time in dry dock, TE KAHA has undertaken some wider initiatives. We've looked at bringing the Navy Marae into the TE KAHA culture and making the Marae more prominent in supporting our people. Some of the ships' crew made a visit to TE KAHA's homeport in Napier for the Art Deco Weekend. We also celebrated the ship's 25th birthday recently, inviting some of the original commissioning crew coming back on board to share some dits and some cake in celebration.



Bell Buoy back in business

Navy Reservists made the best use of the international flavour of Exercise RIMPAC in July, taking part in a five-day Maritime Trade Operations exercise in Pearl Harbor and online throughout the world. Exercise Bell Buoy fosters capability and operability between partner nations around Maritime Trade Operations (MTO), covering merchant shipping, cargo, fishing, energy and port infrastructure. As a reservist capability in New Zealand, the Navy's Maritime Trade Operators provide the interface between maritime industries and the New Zealand Defence Force ashore and at sea.

Hosted on Ford Island by Commander US 3rd Fleet, Exercise Bell Buoy involved 11 nations and 44 participants from the United Kingdom to Brazil. Hawaii was the Operations and Exercises Shipping Coordination Centre, while outlying countries provided Shipping Coordination Teams, working remotely. The major training themes included harassment of shipping and piracy.



Lieutenant Commander Zoe Brangwin, HMNZS PEGASUS (front, third from right), was in Hawaii with Chief Petty Officer Maritime Trade Operator Wayne Smith (middle row, fifth from left) from HMNZS NGAPONA (Tauranga). She says the five-day exercise refreshed their reason for being: supporting maritime trade and how the interface works between maritime shipping and the defence forces.

"We've come a long way from naval control of shipping," she says. "Today it is very much about providing advice. The master of a ship is always in control, but we provide advice to help with decision-making."

Information is a two-way street, she says. "No-one knows shipping better than the shipping industry. They know what is normal and what's not normal, and can provide information to us." New Zealand's online Shipping Coordination Team was made up of personnel from reserve units PEGASUS (Christchurch) and HMNZS TOROA (Dunedin), based out of an operations room in PEGASUS.

Lieutenant Commander Kerry Driver, Executive Officer of TOROA, says Brazil, Chile, Singapore, UK and New Zealand all participated with Shipping Coordination Teams. "We're quite lucky because of the time zone difference – it's the previous day in Hawaii but in real time only two hours different."

A Shipping Coordination Team provides a direct conduit to ship masters, using Navy briefing officers, and they in turn may bring information back. "If the merchant fleet see something unusual, they can contact the team initially, and we relay the information back to the Coordination Centre. The Coordination Centre will provide the big-picture information, which the SCT can pass on."

It was a small team, but they worked long days to gain as much experience as they could.

"It was a really good opportunity to bring together two different units and combine into one team," says LTCDR Driver. "It continues the strong relationship between TOROA and PEGASUS."

For LTCDR Brangwin in Hawaii, it was a chance to rebuild relationships after a long gap between exercises.

"MTO is one of those areas where you provide really great service, from a multi-national perspective," she says. "And stationed at Ford Island, with ships of every nation coming past us – you really got the full experience."











OUR PEOPLE

1. The Ship's Company of HMNZS PEGASUS, mustered for Change of Command.

2. WOCSS Ray Jensen, CWO of HMNZS CANTERBURY, with his 5th clasp to his Royal New Zealand Navy Long Service and Good Conduct medal, indicating 49 years of service. Pictured with his CO, CDR Bron Heslop.

3. LTCDR Zoe Brangwin receives her pennant from RADM David Proctor following her departure as Commanding Officer of HMNZS PEGASUS.

4. WOSCS Ngahiwi Walker, the Navy's Māori Culture Adviser, stands with the NZDF contingent at Pukeahu National War Memorial to welcome ADM John C Aquilino, Commander United States Indo Pacific Command.

5. Members of the Royal New Zealand Navy Pasifika Culture Group perform at Mt Smart Stadium prior to a Warriors Rugby League match.

6. RADM Jim Gilmour, Commander Joint Forces, chats to a colleague after the Bloody Ridge Service at the 80th anniversary of the Guadalcanal Landings in the Solomon Islands.

7. Members of the Royal New Zealand Navy Band and Pasifika Culture Group perform at Mt Smart Stadium prior to a Warriors Rugby League match.

8. In celebration of Tongan Language Week (4-10 September). From left, ACH Susana Sili, ACH Paul 'Ake, AWTR Mele 'Ake and CPOSTD Maria Pahulu Junior.

9. POMED Caitlin King receives a Chief of Navy Commendation for her work with HMNZS TE KAHA during the Frigate Systems Upgrade in Canada. Pictured with RADM David Proctor, Chief of Navy, and CDR Kane Sutherland, CO of HMNZS TE KAHA.

10. Sporties in Samoa for members of HMNZS MANAWANUI. From left, ALSS Amra Simek, ACWS Paruhi Peters, ACH Tamea Te Rauna and SLT Kate Williams (posted to HMNZS WELLINGTON).

11. From left, newly promoted LWT Connor Robertson - Maritime Support Team, with CDR Matt Penny, RNZN -Strategic Asset Manager - Naval Patrol and Littoral Warfare Force and LWT Jon Axtens - Maritime Support Team. Both LWT Robertson and LWT Axtens (promoted in May) were awarded their first Good Conduct Badge.

12. WOMT(P) Rewi Waaka receives his 4th clasp to his Royal New Zealand Navy Long Service and Good Conduct medal from Chief of Navy RADM David Proctor.

Reconnecting for Mental Health Awareness Week

By LTCOL Stephen Kearney

It's been a long couple of years for the Navy whānau. Lockdowns and Force Protection Measures, while keeping us safer, have made it harder to feel connected to shipmates – and time on MIF duties sometimes impacted connections with whānau. Fittingly, the theme of this year's Mental Health Awareness Week (MHAW) is "Reconnect with the people and places that lift you up".

Human beings were not made to be alone. Without claws, teeth or armour, we rely on the ability to work together and look out for each other to thrive. We know loneliness can increase the likelihood of developing depression, anxiety, physical conditions such as heart disease and stroke, and living shorter lives.

The Navy is fundamentally a teambased organisation, but evidence suggests a surprisingly high proportion of NZDF people report feeling lonely. It's the nature of the job that sailors live in close-knit communities at sea and ashore. But if we feel like we don't fit in, we can feel even more alone.

We know when life is busy and days are full, it can be hard to know how to reconnect, or where to find the energy for it, so here are some "top tips" from Navy folk:

"Big ears, small lips" It can be easy to fall into the trap of feeling like you have to be entertaining, providing advice, or "contributing" to the conversation. But sometimes making the effort to really listen, see the world through someone else's eyes, and get curious about their perspective is one of the best ways to feel connected. As one commander put it, "I remind myself – big ears, small lips". **"Do something new"** Doing something new is invigorating, and sharing this experience with someone else tends to also boost that relationship. Whether it's trying a new activity for date night or going on a weekend adventure with your mates, getting out of your comfort zone with people who are important to you is a great step toward deeper connections.

"Be a little imperfect" Having high expectations of yourself and others is one of the reasons the RNZN has such a good reputation. But sometimes these expectations can prevent people from acknowledging the very human stressors everyone feels at times. We tell ourselves we're the only ones struggling, or that others will think less of us for our imperfections. But in my conversations with people in the NZDF going through difficult times, there's often a moment where someone else has shared their own struggles - and it's led to a really helpful connection. This MHAW, be a little more open about your professional self-doubts, parenting frustrations or career uncertainties.

"Start small" There is a time and place for Big Hairy Audacious Goals, but maybe this week isn't it. The best way to make meaningful and lasting changes in your connections is to start small and build. You could reach out to someone you've drifted away from and get together for a beverage, take a few minutes to get to know someone at work, or pick a time of day to focus on connections. One leader I spoke to made sure they were engaging and positive for the first



15 minutes of the working day, while another focused on being positive and interested in her whānau in the first 10 minutes after arriving home – setting a better tone for the evening.

When things are really hard, connections are fundamental to getting back on track. This sailor shared with me how the people around them made a difference:

"I found myself in a really dark place a few years ago due to family challenges, and my mental health hit an all-time low. The RNZN social workers were great - they sat and listened when I needed that, and helped me find ways to address my challenges. One of the best things my friends did was call me out on my unhelpful behaviours - in a caring way. And they stood by me... checking in with me, sometimes just to ask how my day was, as I had isolated myself from pretty much everyone. It made me feel much less alone. One of my colleagues would ask me to go for walks with them at lunchtime and we would just chat about life - it got me outside, moving and made me feel connected at work too."

This MHAW week have a think about who's important to you, and some small ways you can reconnect with them. "Start small" There is a time and place for Big Hairy Audacious Goals, but maybe this week isn't it. The best way to make meaningful and lasting changes in your connections is to start small and build. You could reach out to someone you've drifted away from and get together for a beverage, take a few minutes to get to know someone at work, or pick a time of day to focus on connections.



A Voice in Music and Culture

Ordinary Musician Elijah Taula has plenty to say as a vocalist in the Royal New Zealand Navy Band. But he's keen to say it in Samoan as well.

OMUS Taula, brought up in Tauranga's Samoan community, has been gradually immersing himself in Auckland's Samoan culture since becoming a full-time Navy musician in 2020. "I am afakasi Samoan/NZ European and identify strongly with my Samoan roots."

He's steadily learning the language and prior to joining the Navy visited his father's village, Taga, as regularly as he could. He's looking forward to the time when he can make the trip after a long stretch of COVID lockdowns.

"I became a reservist musician in 2019 and came on full-time a year later. I joined because it was an awesome opportunity to pursue a career in music while being immersed in an intriguing and prestigious organisation. Fulltime musician jobs are very scarce, especially ones where you can travel and make a difference on a national and international level." He is primarily a vocalist but plays bass drum and side drum for ceremonies and marches. "I am part of the RNZN Pasifika Performance Leadership Group and am also on the marketing team for my unit. Day-to-day for me largely consists of rehearsals for Concert Band and Marching, as well as individual practice and small ensemble meetings. In less busy periods I enjoy jamming Eagles songs with the other vocalists in the band. Outside of the band's primary ensembles I am a part of the Jazz Combo, Covers Band, Pasifika Group and the Vocal Trio."

He came with a Bachelor of Music / Bachelor of Arts, majoring in jazz performance and communication at the University of Auckland, with the communications and marketing skills coming in handy. "I have been able to find areas where they are useful and valued. Completing Basic Common Training also taught me the importance of seeking out and adding value to a team, and I feel that this lesson has helped me find my place at work and make it more worthwhile. I've learned to always look for places where you feel you can add value because it could end up helping your team in the long run."

His tatau (Samoan tattoo) was done in 2018 and is based on his father's. "This is something special to me that keeps me connected to my culture and people.

"I feel proud to be Samoan because of the people we are and the reputation we have around the world. We are a kind, humble, happy and strong people who are deeply rooted in our community and family oriented. We look out for each other and are always happy to help and support our friends and oppos. To be a part of such a rich cultural history is a privilege that I try not to take for granted. It gives me something to identify with and belong to.

"One of my special sayings is from Romans 12:16, la gatasitasi o outou manatu; aua le manatu i mea silisili, a ia feoai ma e ua faamaulalo; aua le faafiapopoto. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with the humble. Do not be conceited."

A PASSION FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES



Ordinary Seaman Combat Specialist Tayla Taupaki No two days are the same and there's so much to get involved with, says Royal New Zealand Navy sailor Tayla Taupaki, from Whangamatā.

The 19-year-old graduated from Basic Common Training intake 22/1 on 25 June, joining the Navy's ranks as an Ordinary Seaman Combat Specialist.

She passed the 18-week course (normally 16, extended with COVID) with 64 other trainees (43 men and 22 women) and is now tackling her 14-week Basic Branch Training. Seaman Combat Specialists are experts in the control and conduct of all seamanship operations, including gunnery, boarding of other vessels, security, weapons and sea boat handling.

"I wanted to join the Royal New Zealand Navy because I wanted a career that involves traveling around the world, helping people and having lots of interesting opportunities," she says.

She attended Whangamatā Area School and was working in a café for a year before she joined.

"A highlight of the training was making so many new friends and getting to know them so well that I can call them family." She says the first month of training is hard, but it does get easier. "Definitely all that running that's involved! And having to eat fast so you can move on to the next task." Recruits are put under controlled stress throughout Basic Common Training, and coping with fatigue is a factor, she says.

"You need to keep a positive mindset always, and go for it, it's so much fun."

With her move into Branch Training she's now enjoying a bit more independence and free time, which she intends to use for sports. "I love playing sports and there's so many opportunities to play sport in the Navy."

She says it was a hard change moving from civilian life to the New Zealand Defence Force. "But everything we do in the NZDF we do for a purpose. You never know what to expect the following day, which is the exciting thing about the Service."

CLIMBING THAT MOUNTAIN

There were moments during Basic Common Training when Kaniera Jones would think: "I could have been fishing right now."

Ordinary Marine Technician Jones, 24, from Rotorua, graduated as a sailor at Devonport Naval Base on 25 June and is now embarked on his engineering trade training. He will be focussed on the propulsion trade, working on the mechanical side of a ship's systems. "The electric side is interesting, and there's a lot of good science. But I'm sticking to my roots. There's no place I would rather be."

He credits his uncle, Commander Zia Jones, and a cousin currently serving, as pointers for him towards the Defence Force, plus his love for the sea and the mechanical side of life, "be it building a home, fixing some plumbing, welding some metal or mucking about in an engine bay of a boat", he says. "I wanted to further all these passions and make a career out of them."

As a recruit under training he found the close living quarters a challenge, and he says there were days in the field, with long hours, lots of work and lots of running, that felt like they would never end. "There were times when I was thinking, is this what I want to do? There was a voice in the back of my head saying, man, you could be fishing right now." What kept him going was thinking about his family in the Navy, and his partner. "I wanted to do something good for my partner and I. It's having that backing, that kaupapa, that kept me going. And you know it's not forever." He says overcoming that and climbing that 'mountain' has been the best moment of his time so far.

Trade training as a Marine Technician (Propulsion) takes around two years. "There will be lots of challenges, and lots of study, but I want to be the best qualified and knowledgeable marine technician I can be for the Navy."

His advice to others is to be ready to be pushed to your boundaries. "You'll have all your buttons pushed. You'll find yourself getting frustrated, but you learn to deal with stress in a positive way. Just keep going forward. I'm looking forward to finishing my training and getting on a ship, no matter what ship it may be."



Ordinary Marine Technician Kaniera Jones





The Junior Officers Common Training Reserves and Basic Common Training Reserves 22–01 course achieved another milestone over the weekend of 23–24 July, with all participants passing the annual weapons qualification (AWQ) on the MARS-L rifle and Glock pistol. The weekend, held at Burnham Military Camp and its Aylesbury Range, was the first time the JOCTR/ BCTR group had been together since its first residential training at the Tamaki Leadership Centre (TLC) at Whangaparāoa in May.

Deputy Naval Reserve Training Squadron Officer Warrant Officer Roger Sheehan said that while the attendance of some of the HMNZS NGAPONA cohort was thwarted by inclement weather and airline rescheduling, the majority of the course was able to make it, with no safety issues and some very good scores being achieved.

"A number of trainees shot maximum scores or very close to it with the Glock, which was pleasing given only a few had ever shot pistols before. The MARS-L was particularly competitive, with most scores in the mid-200s out of a possible 250. Of the group, Midshipman Peter Campbell was the top shot, with a combined score of 413, with two second-placed shooters only a point behind.

"This was the first time the trainees had been together in a few months and they were, quite literally, immediately back in step. It was great to see the camaraderie that was apparent at TLC immediately back in action as well.







"This is a fantastic group of people working hard to attain the same training standards as the Regular Force, and the weekend was well-supported by large contingents from each Reserve Unit absolutely committed to helping them in that ambition.

"This effort is very dependent on the skills and drive of both the trainees and their units, ultimately for the benefit of our Navy. We are very fortunate to have a large group of experienced senior rates and officers in each Reserve Unit keen to be involved and to pass forward their collective years of knowledge, alongside a solid training programme," WO Sheehan said. Trainees spent Sunday morning at HMNZS PEGASUS cleaning weapons before an awards ceremony based on the Navy core values, with certificates presented by Assistant Chief of Navy (Reserves), Acting Captain Chris Stevens.

The ceremony culminated with the presentation of the White Ensign flown at TLC on Anzac Day, now retired and framed, to WO Sheehan in acknowledgement of his efforts to establish and run the Reserves JOCTR/BCTR training programme.

Training will continue in units at weekly parade nights and at weekends, with further residential training still on the agenda. The BCTR class will graduate in December, while the JOCTR class will graduate in early 2023. This training effort, which has included ab initio reserve officers and ratings for the first time in several years, aims to boost the Reserves by at least 100, with capabilities including Maritime Trade, Medical, Legal and Public Affairs, with the intent they will slot seamlessly into the fleet when required. Further recruitment will be undertaken this year.

Clockwise from top: MID Iain Martin fires a Glock 17 pistol on range.

MID Jackson Hagen, MID Nic Shearer and MID Nikhilesh Todkari receive instruction in the MARS-L rifle.

MID Nikhilesh Todkari assesses his target.



Basic Common Training journey recorded for YouTube

If you haven't already seen it, tune in.

Last month Defence Public Affairs, in partnership with the Leadership Development Group, began a YouTube video log - 'vlog' - called 'Navy Made' to showcase the journey of Basic Common Training (BCT) intake 22/02 from their arrival date at Devonport Naval Base on 21 August.

Every fortnight, the official NZDF YouTube channel will present a portion of the intake's training, intended as a fly-on-the-wall look at the dynamics of BCT life as over 70 recruits progress across 15-16 weeks to graduation.

There will be voice overs, and instructors will present to the camera, explaining what is going on and the reasons why it's happening. Ten recruits have been selected who can engage with the camera, talking candidly about what they are doing and how they are going as the rigours of sailor training progress.



Check out our NZDF YouTube channel to see their progress on 'Navy Made'.





In 2023, the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) will send a team of 22 athletes to the Invictus Games in Düsseldorf, Germany. The team will consist of both current serving and ex-serving men and women of the NZDF. Major General John Boswell, DSD, has been appointed as Head of Mission for the 2023 team.

"The Invictus Games is an inspiring event and it is an absolute honour to be appointed the NZDF Head of Mission.

"I am really looking forward to getting together with the team and supporting them in any way I can, to get the most out of this very special event," he said.

The NZDF did not sent a team to the 2022 Games in The Hague. In mid-2021 the NZDF Adaptive Sport Committee made the decision not to participate in The Hague Games and instead concentrate efforts on Dusseldorf.

There were a number of factors that came into the decision at the time including the continued uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 and the borders. They were also extremely conscious of the health and wellbeing of the athletes and their families so needed to provide them certainty.

It was decided at the time, those athletes who had been selected to participate in the original 2020 Games (which were deferred to 2022 due to COVID-19) would be afforded preferential selection, so long as there's been no substantive change in their health status. "The men and women who have been selected for the 2023 Games have already overcome significant challenges.

"How cool is it that they are now stepping up to the challenge that is Invictus. It is humbling to be in a position to support them as they prepare for the Games," said MAJGEN Boswell.

Under the motto "A home for respect" the city of Düsseldorf, together with the German Armed Forces, will welcome around 500 competitors from more than 20 nations to compete in ten disciplines in September 2023.

Our team's journey can be followed on

f NZInvictusTeam

RNZN gifts Ship's Bell to mark bonds forged in Christchurch earthquake

A reproduction of HMNZS CANTERBURY's ship's bell has been specially cast and gifted to the city of Ōtautahi Christchurch as a symbol of the close connection with the Royal New Zealand Navy, forged after the deadly 2011 earthquake.



HMNZS CANTERBURY was berthed in Lyttelton on 22 February when the 6.3-magnitude earthquake struck.

During the immediate aftermath, the ship played a critical role in helping transport emergency equipment and supplies into the city.

"HMNZS CANTERBURY was there for Christchurch in our time of need and we are very grateful for the help they provided in transporting much needed disaster relief equipment and supplies in the days immediately after the earthquake," says Mayor Lianne Dalziel.

"Crew from HMNZS CANTERBURY also helped with security patrols around the Lyttelton town centre and fed local residents whose homes were badly damaged and who had no power – they were providing upwards of 700 meals a night," she said.

"Their assistance, and the empathy and kindness they showed for people who were going through an incredibly tough and traumatic time, is something Christchurch will never forget."

It was an honour to receive the HMNZS CANTERBURY bell on behalf of the city and it would be a symbol of the enduring bond that was forged after the earthquake, Mayor Dalziel said.

The bell will be kept at the city council offices.

Presenting the bell to the mayor, Chief of Navy, Rear Admiral David Proctor, spoke of the long-standing relationship between the city and the Navy.

"Our presence in Christchurch dates back to 1928 when a Reserve Unit was established," he said.

"But well before then, proud Cantabrians were crewing Navy ships just as they do today.

"Having HMNZS CANTERBURY alongside in her home port and able to assist the province and its people in the immediate aftermath of the tragic 2011 earthquake, is something the Navy will always take immense pride in as a part of the whole-of-New Zealand effort."

The bell carries the inscription: HMNZS CANTERBURY L421. Presented to the City of Ōtautahi Christchurch by the Sailors of Te Taua Moana o Aotearoa, in commemoration of the whanaungatanga between the Navy and the City following the earthquake of 22 February 2011.

Chief of Navy RADM David Proctor tests the donated replica bell, beside Christchurch Mayor Lianne Dalziel.

New Naval Command at HMNZS Pegasus



By Charlene Williamson

With a military career spanning almost 40 years Lieutenant Commander Grant Boore is relishing the opportunity as he takes over command of HMNZS PEGASUS in Christchurch.

LTCDR Boore said he is looking forward to the challenge of leading the Naval Reserves in Christchurch, which he took over in late July from Lieutenant Commander Zoe Brangwin.

"I feel very honoured to be appointed to the role, and whilst it will be challenging, I am certain it will put the icing on the cake of a dedicated and enjoyable military career.

"My personal leadership style is focused on the wellbeing of my team. I am a firm believer that as a leader, if you surround yourself with good people and look after them accordingly you will be rewarded with dedication and success," said LTCDR Boore.

LTCDR Boore joined the Royal New Zealand Navy in January 1979 at the age of 15 as an apprentice radio fitter. He rose through the ranks, receiving his officer's commission in 1993.

LTCDR Boore served aboard HMNZ Ships OTAGO, TAUPO, WELLINGTON, WAIKATO and TE MANA, as well as on shore at TAMAKI, PHILOMEL and IRIRANGI before leaving the Navy in 2005 to work for the Australian Department of Defence. After returning to New Zealand in 2011 following the Christchurch earthquakes, he joined the Naval Reserves in 2012, accepting a short-term Regular Force engagement in 2015 with the Youth Development Unit (South), before taking up his current civilian role in 2018 with the Department of Corrections.

LTCDR Boore said he hopes to continue the great results that have been achieved with the recent round of recruiting and training of the first batch of Naval Reserves.

"I also want to ensure that the specialist Maritime Trade Operations team at PEGASUS remain as engaged as they have been over many recent exercises and training activities.

"The Reserves have a lot more to offer than one might realise, and should be considered as a centre of excellence for many niche services and wider skills that are at the ready to provide support to a wide range of operations in the wider New Zealand Defence Force," he said.

The Navy Reserves that operate out of HMNZS PEGASUS are one of two Reserve units in the South Island and support activities from all over Canterbury to the West Coast, and up to Nelson and Marlborough.

"We are proud to support a number of Regular Force activities throughout the region including the regular provision of shift-working staff to the Services Correctional Establishment at Burnham, the recent Managed Isolation and Quarantine facilities across New Zealand, and we can even offer specialist skills beyond those normally found in the NZDF.

"We also enjoy close relationships with local Government agencies including Civil Defence and local councils, and are always keen to support our stakeholders with personnel as required," LTCDR Boore said. In his day job LTCDR Boore is the Assistant Prison Director for the Department of Corrections and said that the skills he learnt during his service have been valuable for his current role.

"Corrections has a strong and enthusiastic veterans network and is very supportive to any member who has served in the armed forces, of any country.

"In turn I try to offer back some skills that I have picked up during my NZDF service, particularly in regards to networking and the extensive leadership training I have received in my Navy career."

He said he would like to acknowledge his managers and the Department of Corrections for their ongoing support of his continued service in the Naval Reserves.

"They understand that my service is of benefit to both the broader community, as well as Corrections and enjoy the benefits that many of the skills and experience I gain from the Reserves are of mutual benefit to both organisations."

There are over 600 Naval Reservists who provide a valued, flexible workforce of skilled professionals. They serve to support the Navy's operational capability in its maritime defence and security roles, as well as in times of natural and other disaster events both within New Zealand and overseas. Modern Reservists are a blended mix of personnel who have signed up for paid part-time service as an adjunct to their civilian careers or home life.



NAVY MUSEUM

Threads Through Time

As part of the Auckland Heritage Festival, the Navy Museum will showcase a new exhibition, *Threads Through Time*, on October 1.



Twelve retired and serving female Navy personnel, ranging in age from their thirties through to 80plus, have created a quilt using old deconstructed Navy uniforms, braid and buttons.

Each woman has created squares using the uniform fabrics which tell a story about their service in the navy. There are 49 squares in total, making up the quilt, which will be the centrepiece of the exhibition along with a video of the women, and photographs of the various workshops the Museum has held over the last 21 months.

Stitch with a Sailor

On the first three Saturdays in October the women will work with members of the public (any age) to stitch felt squares which will also be exhibited as part of Threads Through Time. This is called Stitch with a Sailor.

School holidays workshop

A children's workshop with a local master embroiderer will also be held during the school holidays and the childrens' work will also be displayed.



HISTORY: SNAPSHOT

WHAT ROCK IS THIS?

On 3 October 1960, Amphion-class submarine HMS ANCHORITE, a member of the 4^{th} Submarine Squadron based at Sydney, hit an uncharted rock in the Hauraki Gulf off Auckland at a depth of 110 feet (34 m). No-one was injured in the incident.

The damaged submarine was later drydocked at Devonport Naval Base and debris from the rock was found in the dents in the hull. Commodore Auckland, Commodore John O'Connell Ross, forwarded the scrapings to the New Zealand Geological Survey for identification. When the Navy undertook a bathymetric survey of the area, it was discovered the rock's peak was 33 feet (10 m) below low water spring tide – well beyond the draft of the larger ships in New Zealand waters.

Navy divers collected several hand specimens from the pinnacle, and the resulting specimens resulted in a geological paper on the trending direction of eroded andesitic volcanic rocks in the North Island.

This was probably of little interest to the submarine's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Commander W. L. Owen RN, who was court-martialled over the incident but cleared of any blame. The rock is now known as Anchorite Rock, and remains safely clear of shipping – unless you're a submarine.







HMNZS TAMAKI

Fort Cautley Reunion

Ahoy Shipmates! Did you join the Navy between 1963 and 1993? If you'd like to meet up with your old shipmates from HMNZS TAMAKI at Fort Cautley, come to our reunion 12–14 May 2023.

Registrations are now open! Register now until 11 Dec 22, and pay \$75. Register between 12 Dec 22 and 12 Mar 22, and pay \$100. This deposit is non-refundable, but secures your place for the weekend. You also get an awesome t-shirt!

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 12 MARCH 2023.

You can email the Secretary at tamakicautleyreunion@gmail.com to request an electronic link for registration, or request a paper-based registration form to be posted to you.

Return completed forms to:

The Registration Manager, Tamaki-Cautley Reunion 2023, PO Box 87 Silverdale 0944.



ARE YOU A MOTIVATED LEADER, LOOKING FOR YOUR NEXT DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY?

Join the Youth Development Unit and help our rangatahi/young people thrive

Sign up now for our next basic course - **14 to 24 Feb 2023, Trentham**. **Open to personnel qualified for CPL(E)**. Section Commander (Tri-Service) positions are currently available in Whenuapai and Trentham, with potential future openings in Ohakea and Burnham.

Email: YDSBasicCourse@nzdf.mil.nz



15 ROUNDS

WITH CAPTAIN MARK WORSFOLD





Job title and description:

Logistics Commander (Maritime). Responsible for long term stewardship of the materiel aspects of the Fleet. The LC(M) commands the Defence Logistics Command (Maritime), and co-leads the Maritime Engineering Support Team (MEST), a collaboration with Babcock Australasia.



27 January 1987.

Best deployment(s):

Date joined:



First ship posted to: HMNZS SOUTHLAND (The model of the ship is outside my office).



Persian Gulf (Operation Enduring Freedom), in 2004.



Hometown: Auckland.



High school Takapuna Grammar School.



Favourite book:

Colin Powell – It worked for Me: In Life and Leadership.





Favourite song: *The Load-Out* and *Stay* (You have to listen to both of them).

Jackson Browne - Running on Empty.

aircraft that operates from a ship.

Anything with a submarine in it....or a ship....or an

Favourite movie:

Favourite album:



Favourite holiday destination: Taupō.



Outside of work, what's something you enjoy doing? Heading to the farm.



Heading to the farm. What's something about you that not many

people know? I have visited more countries than my age.



A valuable life/Navy lesson for me is? There is plenty of opportunity in the Navy but you have to be smart enough to recognise it and brave enough to take it.

13

How would you describe the Navy in 10 words or less: 35 years of Naval Service, no dull days experienced (yet).



Back Cover: The 'Run Deep' campaign

Defence Recruiting are running a recruitment campaign based on codewords, showing that codewords between mates unlock something much more, and may open authentic, emotive, unexpected or funny shared stories and experiences. Scan the QR code and read the story.

