



THE CLAYMORE

HMNZS Otago Association Newsletter #53 March 2004

HMNZS Otago Association

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Nothing on the clock but the maker's name. Otago on full speed trials

2004 REUNION AND 2004 AGM

Dear Shipmate.

This is the first Claymore for 2004, and in it you will find all the information regarding the Annual General Meeting. In response to your requests it has been rescheduled to 1130 Saturday 27th March in the Otago Lounge, Ngataranga Sports Complex. The Association will provide a light lunch.

There is a remit to amend the Constitution to allow members, if they so desire, to pay a "one off, life subscription", also to be voted on at the AGM, (by financial members only) is the level of the annual Sub, and the election of your Officers and Committee for the coming year.

As always, there are still some of you who have not yet paid your 2003/4 Sub in spite of reminders, and regretfully, unless we hear from you, this will be the last Claymore you will receive. An Association is only as strong as its members and like most things in life you only get out in proportion to what you put in... so come on then and let us have some dits, stories, anecdotes about Otago, and the men that you served with...and you that are dragging the chain with your Subs...let's be 'aving yer"

At this point, I would remind you that Subs are now due on the 1st of April each year. A number of you have paid in advance and will of course stay "financial"...you others...pay up.

On the subject of medals, we as an association, as we have done for many years, continue to make representation through the appropriate channels regarding what are perceived to be anomalies. I have been assured the definition of exactly what constitutes "Operational Service" is now under urgent discussion by Defence

This is a very complicated and contentious

thing to interpret and can be different for the three Services.

Until this review is completed, no decisions can be made regarding the deployments of Ships to the Far East that did not qualify for a Campaign Medal and so were not awarded the NZ Operational Service Medal, although every ship did similar duties, and were considered to be "Operational"

The reunion over Anzac Weekend, based on Currumbin RSL is now only a few weeks away. About 50 are going over from here and we will be joined by about the same number of Ex - Otago's now living in OZ.

A very brief summation of events is..

Friday 23rd we will gather in the RSL for an informal get together, Saturday 24th Free day until about 1830 when there will be a talk on Welfare matters and problems by RNZRSA and RSL Welfare Officers. Followed by the official "Meet & Greet" by the President of the RSL and "mix and mingle" get together. Sunday Anzac Day, 0445 fall in for Dawn Service at Elephant Rock, followed by Breakfast in the RSL. At 1055 fall in and a 10 minute march to the Cenotaph for the Service of Remembrance. After this, those who have registered and paid will have luncheon and entertainment in the Function Room at the RSL. We Otago's have been granted the privilege of marching as our own Platoon, with our White Ensign and we will lay a wreath. More details will be sent to those in NZ who have registered. Evan Jones will keep all "Aussie Otago's" informed direct.

Our website is undergoing a refit and will emerge even better than before, in a new format, and easier to access and use. It will be regularly

Committee Meeting

22 February 2004

At the Adams Residence Riverhead.

Present: Jim Blackburn, President, Humphrey Ewens, Vice President., Richard Scriviner, Bruce Lineham., Maurice Mitchell, Mike Kirk., Jock Duff, Hon Sec/Treasurer, Dave Robertson (ex officio, Webmaster)

Apologies: Fred Wilson.

The meeting opened at 1125.

Previous Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2003 were presented and confirmed as a true and accurate record. Humphrey/Mike.

Matters arising from the Previous Minutes:

3. Resiting of the Honours Board.

The President informed the Committee that he had discussed the re-siting of the Honours Board with Ron Sheenan the Navy Sports Complex Manager. Ron indicated there was still no suitable alternative site. He suggested that perhaps in some way the inscription on the board could be highlighted. The committee accepted this. Highlighting would be investigated and undertaken after the AGM on 27 March. Action President.

2004 A.G.M.

The President informed the committee that he had had many representations from Association members who usually attended the AGM, to say that a Friday night was inconvenient. The AGM has now been changed to 1130 Saturday 27 March 2004 at the Navy Sports Complex. .

Currently there is no caterer at the Sports Complex or the Senior Ratings Fleet Mess. The McGarveys who catered so successfully for the last AGM have moved to Australia. Catering arrangements of the usual kind will be made by the AGM date. Recommendations on caterers have been received from Humphrey and other organisations that host this type of function the President has undertaken to engage a suitable person or persons. The committee agreed on a sum of up to \$500 for catering costs Bruce/Maurice. Action: President.

Bruce raised the question of whether a raffle would be held at the AGM. It was decided that it was traditional and raised a bit of cash to offset the catering costs, so there will have one. Bruce undertook to take charge of this event.

Action: Bruce.

President's Report continued.

Updated by Dave Robertson, the Webmaster and again I ask, if you have any photos etc or stories, let us have them...all photos will be copied and returned to you if requested.

Your Secretary (and his good lady wife) has done a marvellous job and achieved the near impossible by getting all our data files sorted in to one system. It is an enormous task trying to keep the postal addresses and email addresses up to scratch..so if you change either, please let him know

We hope to send "area lists" to the co-ordinators by mid year and again I say, do keep in touch with each other as much as you can even a brief phone call can cheer up someone who is under the weather and especially to any of our "Otago Family" that have suffered the ravages of the recent storms and floods

Take care out there men

Every Kind Wish

Look on the world as a big fruit cake It wouldn't be complete without a few nuts in it

Jim Blackburn BEM

President.



STAND BY PARTY

The first 86 ratings, many of whom had not flown before prepare to leave for the UK. This was May 1960 nearly 44 years ago!!!! Were you one of them? Can you tell us any stories about the trip and the standby time in the UK?

Financial/membership

4. The Treasurer reported that the Associations Finances as of 3 December 2003 were:

Investment deposit \$5368.33

(due for repayment 5 April 2004.)

Cheque Account Balance \$6185.25

Total \$11553.58

Included in the cheque account balance was the sum of \$880.73, the balance of the registration fees, held in-custody for the Currumbin Reunion in April 2004. (\$1939.27 from the Currumbin Funds has already been remitted to Evan Jones to pay for the RSL Lunch on Anzac Day) The Committee agreed that the Currumbin funds should be used to offset the cost (\$37.60) of the Otago Association plaque to be presented our hosts at the Currumbin RSL.

Mike Kirk reported slop sales from May 2003 to February 2004 of \$412.50. Stock in-hand is valued at \$1518.00 since the last reporting period in December 2003.

Membership Numbers are: 284

Financial 198.

Non Financial 86.

An additional five members have joined the Association in recent months.

The President moved acceptance of the financial statement. Seconded Bruce.

5. Correspondence.

Outwards correspondence:

a. R.S.A. Review seeking a listing of the Currumbin Reunion. (Details have been published in the February 2004 Review)

b. The Editor of the Navy Today requesting details of the Currumbin Reunion be published. (Displayed in the February 2004 issue.)

Inwards correspondence:

a. Naval Support Command dated 14 January 2004, concerning the Navy Website.

b. Naval Chaplain - Significant Chapel Services in 2004.

c. Auckland Maritime Museum - Hobson's Choice For January 2004.

Inward correspondence was accepted and Outwards endorsed. Maurice/Dick.

6. General Business.

Introduction of an association life subscription.

a. This subject was discussed at the previous 21 September and 14 December 2003 meetings.

Maurice spoke to this subject. Firstly he welcomed that the new subscription should be called a Life Subscription. That title would not clash when the association bestowed the honour of Life Membership. The cost of a Life Subscription should be as previously suggested - \$100.

If adopted, it was envisaged that the subscriptions of members who opted for the voluntary Life Subscription would be invested in a Special Investment Account (SIA) at the best bank interest rate. An amount would be deducted annually from the SIA, equal to the numbers who paid the one off subscription. This sum would be paid into the association bank account annually, at the appropriate annual subscription rate, as defined by the association committee. Any subscriber who lives more than 10 years will be a winner.

Tangible recognition of a member's \$100 subscription will be in the form of a suitably designed Otago Life Subscription Certificate.

Association members will have the opportunity to vote on this remit in the next issue of Claymore, either by post, email or at the AGM.

In general discussion the committee agreed with Maurice's proposal for an AGM Remit.

Action: Humphrey/Maurice and Secretary for subscription certificate.

b. 2004 Reunion at Currumbin, Friday 23 to Sunday 25 April 2004.

The President updated the committee on the Currumbin arrangements.

The only routine firmly fixed was the Anzac Day Parade and associated activity. This is published in the next Claymore.

Baggage storage has been arranged at the Rocks for those travelling to Currumbin on Friday 23rd while they await rooms becoming available - probably around 1400.

A Welfare Meeting will be held at the RSL on Friday 23rd, run by John Stables, who is Welfare Officer with Hastings RSA. In attendance will be the Currumbin RSL Welfare Officer. These gentlemen will talk about RSA/RSL welfare matters as they apply to Association Members in Australia and be of interest to those living in NZ.

The delay in answering the other questions about Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th has been caused through the RSL involvement in a series of AGM and Election of Officers.

The outstanding questions are:

RSL Meal hours over the period.

Payment for the Saturday Meet and Greet: drinks/finger food etc

Transportation from the RSL, in their bus, to the Rocks, or our need to provide this, depending on the general feelings of those present of the requirement, to when the contingent arrives in Currumbin.

The President showed the committee the HMNZS Otago Plaque with suitable presentation plate that will be presented to the Currumbin RSL. This will be charged to the Currumbin Reunion Funds (\$37.60)

The Committee discussed whether a presentation should be made to the RSL President, Ron Workman, for his part in the reunion arrangements. Dick thought it might be time for a change from the historical ship's crest and suggested the Association might move to a mounted line drawing sketch of Otago. The line drawing would be the one used for the association reunion dinner tablemat. The suggestion found favour and the President undertook to investigate the costs.

Mike brought up the issue of slops for Currumbin. He advised that sales of slops at the AGM which proceeds the reunion can be quite heavy and sought guidance on whether he should keep the proposed agreed slops for Currumbin aside and only bring the remainder to the AGM. If items run out he will back order them.

In general discussion the Committee agreed we should make the Currumbin slops top priority

and the AGM the lesser sales opportunity - back ordering as necessary. Action: President/Mike Medals.

The President briefed the committee on continuing medal problems. He had been informed some of the qualification rules would be up for review again. Although additional staff had been allocated to the Medal Committee, the results of the review were unlikely to be released until mid 2004. It was hoped some of the initial anomalies in qualifying for the award of the Operational Service Medal would be changed. The main point of ex naval dissatisfaction centres round the definition of "operational service". The applicable definition appears to be the same for all services and it may be that the Navy operates outside the framework without it being recognised. There is a feeling by many ex RNZN personnel that some ship commissions receive the Operational Service Medal and others denied for apparently fulfilling similar duties.

There is also an ex RNZN fringe group at work, seeking support for more medal awards, such as CMT service, service down the ice etc, Operation Grapple/Muroroa (other than the Special Service Medal) and service in Motor Launches.

The President is deeply involved in this subject and will keep the Association updated.

Action: President.

Website.

In the last minutes the President informed the committee that changes and additions to the Otago website and the errors in emails and telephone numbers in Claymore had been delayed because the Webmaster some serious work commitments. This has now been completed.

Dave Robertson our Webmaster addressed the Committee members and opened by thanking them for the \$100 services rendered donation, approved at the 14 December meeting.

Dave said the new RNZN supported website, which would act, as a portal for all associations, had not received official blessing yet as Commodore David Anson. Deputy Chief Navy was moving to a Defence posting and his replacement Capt Jack Steer did not arrive until April. Dave has had meetings with Jo Bunce, Navy Corporate Affairs Manager and was confident that there was light at the end of the tunnel and the site would be approved. The Otago site had been on the back burner while this was sorted out but had now been rebuilt and would be up and running within a few days.

Maurice asked Dave if he could provide some aids for the not so computer literate, to enable them to obtain the best value from the site. Dave agreed and would include information for those who have not yet made the plunge and got onto the net. (next issue of Claymore and on the website). It is hoped that members will find a significant improvement in the newly designed website next time they "log on"

Dave suggested to manage Otago's historic resources to best advantage, there was a need for the Committee to have an Editorial Sub Committee to collate information submitted for publication. On the site the idea would be to have a series of photographs of Otago throughout the years of her life, rather than multi shots of any one activity although these would be retained. It maybe that the Editorial Committee could vet the website and photo library and advertise in Claymore or the website for photographs covering specific activities or missing periods of the ships life.

Whilst on the subject of communication, Mike informed the Committee he had a video in slops of the building and first commission voyage of

Otago to NZ. The cost of video is \$45.

7.Closure There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 1405.

8. The Committee rendered their thanks to Anne for making her home available at short notice and for a pleasant Afternoon.

9. Next Meeting and venue to be arranged.

Jim Black President

Jock Duff

Hon/Secretary

p.s. I think I have found Otago's 3 in 1 whaler up at Tramcar Bay DJR.

Committee Report

14th December 2003

As space is at a premium this contains selected items only. A full copy of the minutes can be obtained from the Secretary.

At the residence of Maurice Mitchell.

Present: Jim Blackburn, President. Humphrey Ewens, Vice President. Richard Scriviner. Bruce Lineham. Maurice Mitchell. Mike Kirk. Jock Duff, Hon Sec/Treasurer.

Apologies: Fred Wilson and Dave Robertson.

5. Correspondence.

Outwards correspondence:

HMNZS Toroa and TS Leander declining their requests for Donations.

Inwards correspondence:

a. Sol Whaanga MBE, BEM forwarding his sub and information that the heart attack was not fatal and he awaited a hip replacement and best wishes

b.Reg Corbett and John Bass supporting the life subscription proposal.

e.Resignations George Cust and Karl Sankey

6. General business.

Introduction of an association Life Subscription.

a. This subject was discussed at the previous 21 September meeting. Dick suggested that the proposed sub of \$100 might be too light. In general discussion, the consensus was it depended on the age of the member and what paying a one off sub would do for him - relieve him of trying to remember to make a payment or get a good deal but the amount should probably remain at \$100.

The President reminded those tasked with presenting a remit at the AGM that the back-up administration details had to be in place, :

Accounting - as suggested by Maurice and Dick. Invest the Life Subs in a special Investment Account. Deduct the annual subscription amount applicable to normal members, for those names in the account and transfer the amount to the income account of the Assn. Refunds to the estate of paid up Life Subscription members?

What tangible recognition would a member receive for his \$100? The Secretary suggested issuing a certificate similar to that previously printed as a membership certificate of the HMNZS Otago Assoc but apparently not issued.

The Secretary also drew the attention of the committee to a possible loss of revenue over the longer period, as even invested at 5% a \$100 life subscription would only bring in \$5, half the current subscription.

Whatever the proposal it had to be simple and cover all the aspects of the deal.

Action: Humphrey and Maurice.

HMNZS Otago Website..

The President proposed that the committee should vote a \$100 one-time gratuity to Dave Robertson for the work he has done to date on the Otago website. There was unanimous agreement. Action: Secretary.

The President suggested regularising the publication of Claymore. The committee should determine the number of issues - 3 or 4 and designate the months of publication. The committee thought the suggestion good but thought 3 would be adequate. Because of the March AGM and need to publish a Claymore before it, the publication dates should be March, July and November. Contributions should be received by 10 of the month. Association members should be encouraged to contribute.

On that note, my cup actually runneth over and there is a backlog. I simply need more hours in the day at the moment. What does concern me is that we do not have any organisation to record our history. One thing you can do right now is go and put all your old Otago memories in a box and address it to the association so when you eventually do shuffle off the mortal coil it gets handed on to us. Morbid but it's a reality that sometimes our heritage ends up on the local tip. DJR



Dave; I noticed some gaps in the accompanying names on your photo of the Aft C.P.O. Mess, taken in 1982. I am in that photo [unnamed!] and can fill in the gaps: L. to R: C.P.O.M[E] Dick Hiini; C.P.O.G.I. Pat O'Leary; Lady Beattie; Sir David Beattie; C.P.O.R.P. Terry Mills; C.P.O.M.A. Chuck Turnbull; Aft CPOs Mess President W.O.M.E.A. Knocker White [me!!]; W.O. Brian Harper; C.P.O. Ck. Pete Elbourne; C.P.O. W/Mech. Dennis Turner; C.P.O.S.A. Barry Norman. Front row: M.A.A. Stu Keith; W.O.C.E.A. Sam Popata. Regards Knocker White

New Members to the Association.

CPO MEA1 John BOYD
PSG Dusty MILLER
Lt Tony FRASER
ASG Stanley FOSTER
L/Cook Colin KENNEDY
Master-at-Arms Charles THOMPSON
Lt Cdr John TROTT
Sub. Lt Wes ten HOVE
MEA2 Frederick NAISH
POEL Jack McMULLEN
M(E)1 Graham WALKER
CPO(GI) Bruce ALLAN

Claymore Publishing Dates.

Your Committee decided at its 14 December 2003 meeting that CLAYMORE will be published thrice yearly. The months will be March - before the AGM, July and November/ December. Contributions should be forwarded to the Secretary by the 10th of the month of publishing. Members are encouraged to contribute to make the magazine informative and interesting.

2004 Reunion - Currumbin.

In the Presidents Corner he has outlined the details of the routine for the RSL ANZAC Day Parade at Currumbin. You will all note there is no wet weather routine!!

As yet, our host RSL have not been able to answer all of our questions because of holidays, and AGMs. To ease the minds of those members going to Currumbin the areas of our inquires are:

- Availability of Bus transport from RSL to Rocks or other journeys
- Payment for the catering arrangements at the Meet and Greet on Saturday the 24th - RSL or Otago or combination.
- PAYMENT FOR DRINKS at the Meet and Greet - RSL Shout/ Happy Hour or User pays Otago reciprocal Shout?
- The intention is that the Otago contingent should have an informal muster at the RSL on Friday night 23rd April. to meet their mates Australian and Kiwi. It is intended this will be User pays.
- The RSL meal hours to enable members to eat - if they wish - meals to on Friday 23rd after the get-together, or breakfast in the mornings, which is apparently very good.
- Arrangements have been made to stow luggage at the Rocks for the NZ Reunion contingent arriving on Freedom Air at Coolingata, on Friday 23 April, while they sort themselves out and await their rooms. These are unlikely to be available until 1400.

LIFE SUBSCRIPTION.

Again in the Presidents Corner he raised the issue of a Remit at the AGM introducing a voluntary Life Subscription of \$100.

The Life Subscriptions will be invested in a special account, at best bank interest rate. The appropriate subscription amount, at present \$10, will be paid annually to the association for the members subscribing to the scheme. Anyone subscribing to a Life Subscription will be a winner after ten years if the money is invested at 5%.

If the introduction of a Life Subscription is agreed at the AGM, the Otago Association Constitution will have to be suitably amended.

In accordance with the Association Constitution Rule A (ii) only financial members may vote on the introduction of the Life Subscription. The realities of this are that only people who have paid their subscription to 31 March/04 can vote.

A voting form has been prepared for this issue of Claymore.

SLOP ITEMS FOR SALE.	
Lapel Badges	\$07.
Polo Shirts	\$29.
Caps low Crown	\$20
Ties	\$25
Badges small	\$10
Badges lge	\$14
Plaques	\$45
Video Otago 1st commission voyage	\$45
Otago Crest Name Badges (three weeks lead time)	\$15
Requests for items to Mike Kirk	

NOTICE OF MEETING

In accordance with the constitution Rule 3a (ii) be informed that the Annual General Meeting of the HMNZS Otago Association will be held at the Otago Room, RNZN Sports Complex, Ngataringa Bay, Devonport at 1130 hours on Saturday 27th March 2003.

- Rule 3A(i) Any Remits, Notices of Motion, Nominations etc. must be received by Saturday 20 March.
- Nominations for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee must be signed by the Nominee, Proposer and Seconder.
- Postal address for all AGM Correspondence is:

The Secretary
HMNZS OTAGO Association Inc
96 Sunrise Ave, Murrays Bay
North Shore City
secretary@hmnzsotago.co.nz

Remit to amend constitution.

That the Constitution Rule 5 Membership Fees be amended by adding a new Sub Para as follows.

- Members may voluntarily pay a "one off" Lifetime Subscription of \$ 100.00. Proposed. Maurice Mitchell.
Seconded Humphrey Ewens

ADMINISTRATION FORM.

To be counted this vote must reach the Secretary by Friday 26th March by post or e-mail:

The Secretary
Otago Assn
96 Sunrise Ave
Murrays Bay
Auckland. or
E-mail - secretary@hmnzsotago.co.nz

The present subscription is \$10 (subscriptions are set at the AGM).

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN PAID TO 31 March or

WAS OVERDUE AS OF 1 April

My address/phone/email has changed

I vote for the introduction of a voluntary Life Subscription

YES - NO