



THE CLAYMORE

HMNZS OTAGO ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



#67 March 2009

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PRESIDENTS CORNER

One kind word can warm three winter months

Since the last Claymore was sent out there have been some mighty events. A new US President, most of the Worlds Bank on the brink of going under, disastrous bush fires in Aussie, and a world wide recession. Fortunately we here in NZ have, so far, not been as badly affected by this as so any others, and hopefully, soon, we will see things start to improve under our new Government.

But as my old Chiefy used to say " Softly, Softly catchee Monkey

2009 Reunion. Elsewhere in this Claymore is an article about this reunion in Rotorua. A full program was given in the last Claymore. It is now only a matter of weeks away, and as usual, it is **NOW** time for you to make up your mind, do make your booking at the Four Canoes Motel so send in to Noel your Registration Form and Money.

Do it **NOW** Please don't leave it till the last minute as we have to give the Motel numbers for catering etc. The costs are very reasonable for this reunion. So come on, "lets be'avng yer" and support your Association, and as always, you can bring your "old Navy mates"(and partners) even if they did not serve in "Otago"

2010 Reunion. Plans for this, the "50th Anniversary" are well underway. It will be held in Dunedin over the weekend of 25/26/27 June. Our Otago/Southland coordinator has established a Committee to organise this reunion within the parameters we have given, and although it is still 18 months away they are laying the groundwork now...

So, start saving up your "bawbies," for this one, men.

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Get Togethers. These are really successful "local mini reunions" and we now plan to have one every second month in the Auckland area, so if you can do so, please come along and join us.

Provincial Coordinators might like to consider this activity in your own localities to keep in touch.

New HMNZS OTAGO. P148. Congratulations to newly promoted CDR John Butcher, who has been drafted off OTAGO and whose relief is Lt Cdr Simon Rooke, whom we hope to meet very soon, to continue the close relationship which has been established with the Ship... Go Well, John. Welcome aboard Simon.

Operational Service. The Review of Service in S E Asia and what is Operational Service is very very slowly progressing. The appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Review Committee and the Review Committee Members and Terms of Reference are now with Minister of Defence Medals. There is nothing to report other than that things are very very slowly progressing and the Review Committee has yet to be appointed. This is expected to be the same as that for Operational Service. However, the Governments pre-election Veterans Policy stated that they "would immediately proceed with a Medal for non-operational Service". I understand this is now being referred to as the "NZ Defence Medal" but we all know that NZDF have a lot more on their slop chit to worry about at the moment.

RSA Membership/Veterans Badge. Your attention is drawn to the article regarding the type of RSA Membership, for those who took part in certain Operations.

Veterans Affairs. Now that this Service, together with War Pensions has been put under the NZDF umbrella, hopefully the new Chief ...Brigadier (Rtd) Otaway will be able to revitalise the whole system and bring some rapidity and uniformity to their decisions.

Finally, AGAIN, a plea for your photos, dits, stories etc to be sent to us for publishing in YOUR Claymore.

Take care out there. See you in Rotorua.

Jim Blackburn. BM
President

Jokes courtesy of RNZN Association



What's happened to that slim, freckled-faced boy who left here twelve short weeks ago?

Rotorua Reunion 2009 – We Need You

We know it seems to be the practice to register as late as possible, however it would be great if you could send your registration form into the Secretary by the end of March.

The association has to commit to expenses in terms of venue hire, catering etc and as such, it would be extremely helpful if we knew how many of you were coming to the reunion. So please, fill in the form and send it off.

Thanks a lot.
The Organising Committee



Commander in Chief nothing, that's the Canteen Manager's car

RSA SERVICE Versus RETURNED Membership

It would appear there was a letter released in November 1996 which states that the RSA acknowledges personnel who took part in the following deployments are entitled to RSA RETURNED Membership vice the standard SERVICE Membership.

Navy Order 18/97 also refers.

These deployments include

a. The deployment of HMNZ Ships CANTERBURY and OTAGO to Mururoa Atoll in 1973 to protest French Nuclear testing for the Government

b. HMNZS MONOWAI deployments to the Pacific in May/June 1980 to monitor Peoples Republic of China missile tests

c. The deployments of HMNZ Ships CANTERBURY and WAIKATO to Armilla Patrols from May 1982 to May 1983

d. The deployment of HMNZ Ships CANTERBURY and WELLINGTON and MONOWAI for Operation Wells in 1987 and Operation Fargo in September/October 1987

e. The deployment of HMNZ Ships ENDEAVOUR, WAIKATO and WELLINGTON for Operation Bigtalk in July/August 1990

Information has now been received that all RSA's have now been advised of the above and that they should comply.

Information has been received from Veterans Affairs in relation to the above Deployments as regards the award of the Veterans badge etc

Deployments a and c will be awarded the Veterans Badge

Deployments b and f will NOT be awarded the Veterans Badge

Deployment d has been considered for Medallic award and but was not approved and will not be awarded the Veterans badge

Deployment e is still under consideration for Medallic award.

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The Master at Arms noticed a new seaman one day... and barked at him, "Get over here!"

"What is your name?" was the first thing the M.A.A. asked the new guy.

"Paul," the new guy replied.

The Jaunty scowled, "Look, I don't know what kind of bleeding-heart, liberal pansy stuff they're teaching Sailors in the Training Base today, but I don't call anyone by their first name. It breeds familiarity and that leads to a breakdown in authority. I refer to my sailors by their last name only: Smith, Jones, Baker - that's all. I am to be referred to only as MASTER! Do I make myself clear?"

"Aye, aye, MASTER!"

"Good! Now that we got that straight, what is your last name?"

The new guy sighed.... and said, "Darling. My name is Paul Darling, Master!"

"Okay..... Paul,..... here's what I want you to do..."



Buzz off Jack – We don't do requests



It makes no difference - you're still not suitable for promotion

OTAGO PARK



Saturday, November 8th. at 12pm, the weather was perfect. Otago Park Children's play ground official opening fell short of the promised Mayoral presence, but a good day was had by the children and all who attended enjoyed the display by the cadet forces. Otago Park is in Dunedin, as far as I know has no connection with the Ship, other than the "Name" although the Funding for the Park is believed to have been raised by the ex Naval Men's Assn, however this is not confirmed. However the sentiment and fact it has eventuated is a credit to those behind the project. Photos and comment contributed by Bill Lucas – Dunedin Branch.



A photo received from Gordon Cattermole, which was taken of Otago going up to Portland, Oregon 2nd August 1980. Info provided by CPOS (Rtd) D.J. KEANE ex Ngapona.



HMS Daring recently arrived in Portsmouth. Notice that even doing a "hard a Port" 180 turn at speed, she has only listed about 5 degrees.

The British Military writes officer fitness reports. The form used for Royal Navy and Marines fitness reports is the S206. The following are actual excerpts taken from people's "206's"....

His men would follow him anywhere, but only out of curiosity.

This Officer is really not so much of a has-been, but more of a definitely won't-be.

When she opens her mouth, it seems that this is only to change whichever foot was previously in there.

He has carried out each and every one of his duties to his entire satisfaction.

This Officer reminds me very much of a gyroscope - always spinning around at a frantic pace, but not really going anywhere.

This young lady has delusions of adequacy.

When he joined my ship, this Officer was something of a granny; since then he has aged considerably.

Since my last report he has reached rock bottom, and has started to dig.

He has the wisdom of youth, and the energy of old age.

Muster thy Kit.

Now it came to pass that there was one bearing upon his sleeve three rings ,known as the Commander or the creator of BULL and he bellowed in a loud voice saying, "Come unto me Master at Arms " !. And there came one bearing upon his lapel a badge showing him greatly to be feared. He, of the three rings did say:-"On the morrow at the ninth hour the trumpet shall sound and thou shalt parade before me one hundred men and all that is theirs shall be laid on a hammock before them.

And on the morrow the trumpet did sound and one hundred each stood to his appointed slinging space and all that was his was laid on a hammock before him., according to the Acts. Then at the eleventh hour , he of the three rings did appear and moved among his men saying:- "Where is this thing and where is that thing" and some trembled and said "Sir, it came to pass that we sent this thing to the House of Tearing, known as the dhobi shack from whence it did not return. ". And so he moved among his men until he came to one known as Spuddus Murphii and looking at Spuddus he did say "O man of little kit Spuddus Murphii did tremble and say "Sir, on the fourth day at the eleventh hour I had a thirst and not having the wherewithal to slake my thirst then did I take my Boots Ankle Mk1 Prs 1 and my Dung-Hampers Mk1 Prs 1 to my Uncle of the tribe of Levi and said ' Give me I pray eight pieces of silver for these '. Levi replied "Six pieces". Then did I take my six pieces of silver and so to the den of thieves known as the Canteen where I did eat and drink and slake my thirst.

And Spuddus was placed on a carpet and taken before one bearing upon his sleeve, four rings known as Captain, or the creator of WIND. And he said, "Spuddus Murphii in making away with thy Naval Necessities, i.e. thy Boots Ankle Mk1 Prs 1 and thy Dung-Hampers Woollen Mk1 Prs 1, thou hast done evil before us and shall be banished from amongst us for a period of seven and twenty one days, thus earning no remission". And outside, the tribe of the Regulatus Lessai did pounce upon Spuddus Murphii and bore him away to the Detento Quartum

The moral of this my friends is :- Flog not that which is not to be flogged, for it is better to have thy name entered upon the slate until the day of reckoning whence the good Nabob Saint Paybob smiles upon you , .unless thou hast been banished to the North East Philistines.

(According to the Gospel of Cissaro)