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FROM THE DIRECTOR

With summer just around the corner it is a good time to shake off the last of winter and reflect on the past year. When I look at the results from the 2011 – 12 Annual Report and the efforts that went into their achievement it is no wonder that none of us know where the year went. I for one think it is clear that the Navy Museum is increasingly becoming a key component of New Zealand's culture and heritage landscape. For those interested the Annual Report will soon be on our website.

Another highlight during the year was our support to the Royal New Zealand Navy Women's Association's

70th anniversary of the establishment of the WRNZNS. The collaboration between the Museum and the Association in developing the "Breaking Down the Barriers" exhibition was fantastic and the result tremendous.

A great initiative coming out of the collaboration was the production of a video showcasing the WRNZNS Exhibition. The video has been very well received with lots of positive comments on our blog site.

What is also great about this video is that it moves the website significantly towards our goal of the web site being the Navy Museum's virtual 2nd venue. It certainly enables our friends who couldn't make it to the Museum to share in the exhibition.

A very special addition to our collections during the year was the HMNZS MOA nameplates. During a recent deployment by HMNZS RESOLUTION to the Solomon Islands private divers presented the salvaged nameplates from MOA to the ship.

MOA was sunk in Tulagi harbour after having been struck by two Japanese bombs during the afternoon of 7 April 1943. Since that day MOA has sat on the bottom of Tulagi Harbour in the Solomon Islands. After many months of discussion the plates were recently repatriated to New Zealand and placed in the care of the Navy Museum.



Moa Ship's name board letters: The nameplates from HMNZS MOA will be conserved over the next 12 months.



Breaking Down the Barriers:

Have a look at the Breaking Down the Barriers video and spread the word about the [Navy Museum's new blog space](#).

The story of HMNZS MOA is a major part of the Navy's story. From the famous battle between Kiwi, Moa and the much bigger and more heavily armed Japanese submarine I -1, to being the only RNZN ship to be sunk by enemy action overseas; the story of MOA is one of grit, determination and punching well above her weight.

It is therefore critical, particularly now that they are no longer with the ship, that the nameplates are preserved as an important part of the Navy's history. As a result we have engaged a specialist conservator to conserve, clean and stabilise the MOA nameplates and associated wood work. This work is likely to take 12 months to complete.

On display now at the Museum is a display by local calligraphy artist Margaret Woollett. We are very excited about the work. The exhibition is definitely be worth a look. You can follow the development of the exhibition in [Margaret's blog](#).

Finally we welcome Midshipman James Gittoes and Jacquie Reich

to the Museum team.

Midshipman Gittoes has been loaned to the Museum to help build the Navy Museum WWI Centenary Commemorations website. James has already made excellent progress in populating the site.

Jacque has joined us as part of the Canadian Internship programme. Jacque who hails from Toronto, Canada has joined the collections team for six months and will be working with the team to reduce the backlog of objects needing to be accessioned and stored.

We are delighted to have James and Jacque join us. We especially wish Jacque well for her time in New Zealand.

In closing, I am sure you are tired of winter and are looking forward to the sun and hopefully no rain over the coming months. But for now enjoy this issue of Te Waka and I look forward to welcoming you back to your Museum.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR

- **105,097 Visitors**
- **207 Guided Tours**
- **95 % Visitor Satisfaction**
- **26 % Repeat Visitation**
- **97 % Visitor Recommendation**
- **8 Exhibitions / Displays delivered**
- **30 VIP visits**
- **1,450 children in School Holiday programmes**
- **5,119 child visitors during the School Holidays**
- **3,252 individuals in organised educational programmes**
- **1,716 new Collection Objects**
- **846 Research enquiries**
- **116 Events**

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

7 October 1950 – HMNZS ROTOITI departs Auckland for Korea on the ship's first deployment there. It was during this deployment, in August 1951, that Able Seaman Bob Marchioni was killed. He was the only member of the New Zealand Naval Forces to be killed in action in Korea.

21 October 1805 – Battle of Trafalgar. Vice Admiral Viscount Nelson defeated a combined French and Spanish Fleet. When asked about a single act by the British Fleet that made the largest impression during the battle, a French captain later answered,

The act that astonished me the most was when the action was over. It came on to blow a gale of wind, and the English immediately set to work to shorten sail and reef the topsails, with as much regularity and order as if their ships had not been fighting a dreadful battle. We were all amazement, wondering what the English seamen could be made of. All our seamen were either drunk or disabled, and we, the officers, could not get any work out of them. We never witnessed such clever manoeuvres before, and I shall never forget them.

Late October 1805 – HMS PICKLE returned to England with news that Nelson had died at Trafalgar.

8 November 1942 – Allied landings in North Africa. A large number of New Zealanders are involved in the landings as part of the Fleet Air Arm, landing craft and supporting ships.

21 November 1951 – HMNZS ROTOITI returned from the ship's first deployment to Korea. During the over 13 month deployment the ship travelled 51,000 miles.

27 November 1940 – RANGITANE was sunk by the German raider ORION.



FROM THE COLLECTIONS

Just before 4 a.m. the German raider ORION fires on the New Zealand Shipping Company's cargo vessel RANGITANE 300 nautical miles off East Cape. RANGITANE was carrying a full cargo of dairy, meat and wool bound for the U.K. HMS ACHILLES sailed in response to the distress call, but all that was left of RANGITANE was a nine mile oil slick and some floating debris. Ten passengers and crew died as a result of the attack, with a further two missing and presumed dead. The rest of the crew and passengers were taken onboard ORION before RANGITANE was torpedoed and sunk.

One of RANGITANE's life buoys was among the debris found and is now held in the Navy Museum collections.

DEVONPORT DETAILS AND DESIGN

From now until the end of November we are hosting long-time Devonport resident and calligrapher Margaret Woollett in her first solo exhibition *Devonport Details and Design*, an exhibition of lettering art, that combines naval, nautical and local Devonport characteristics. Her large scale installations incorporate our unique community with her years of experience and talent as a calligrapher.

Usually Margaret's work is defined by the beautiful art of the letter and confined to a paper or canvas. In *Devonport Details*

and Design, the letters take on new dimensions and in some cases the canvases themselves are the elements defining our affinity with the sea.

"Devonport is unique in its layers of time, people, places & development, we still have this history all around us, but so used to it that complacency abounds. Devonport's peculiar characteristics are forgotten. I seek to reawaken our awareness and bring the beauty back.

The sea and Navy make Devonport what it is. The designs, symbol and traditions of the Navy, along with their nautical language, make for bold and colourful design elements.

We are surrounded and influenced by the sea, my chosen words not only speak of now and our affinity with it, but also our ancestors who voyaged here on her."

- Margaret Woollett

Devonport Details and Design | October 12th - November 30th 2012

Entry is free | 10a.m. - 5 p.m. daily

Navy Museum at Torpedo Bay | 64 King Edward Parade



LOOKING FOR A CHRISTMAS FUNCTION VENUE?

Surrounded by relics of New Zealand's naval past, the Torpedo Bay Navy Museum is the perfect place to have your Christmas function. Set on the shores of the beautiful Waitemata Harbour with stunning views across to the city; where you can watch the activity on the water, there is always something happening. Enjoy the sun setting behind Mt Victoria, over the long and lazy Auckland summer nights.

For more information or bookings call (09) 446 1821 or email info@navymuseum.co.nz

