



# Russian Convoy Club of New Zealand

**Newsletter**  
May/June 2021

Dear shipmates, families and friends

## Arctic Convoy commemoration held at Wellington

Wellington lived up to its reputation by turning on a blustery wind for the annual Arctic Convoy commemoration on Sunday 9 May 2021.

Despite the weather, there was a good turnout for the service, commemorating those who lost their lives taking supplies to North Russia and to celebrate the end of WW2, at our plaque site on the Wellington waterfront.



We were well guarded by a platoon of the military historical group 10th Stalingrad Division who had come down from Hamilton to take part in the weekend's events.



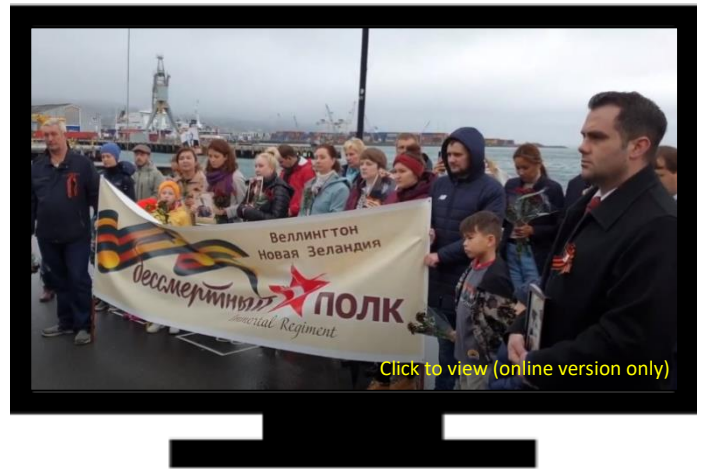
Wreaths were laid by H.E. Georgii Zouev, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to New Zealand and Captain Shane Arndell, Chief of Staff (Navy) representing the Chief of Navy.

These were followed by Wing Commander Andy Bryant representing the UK High Commissioner and the people of the United Kingdom, Victor Gaiduch representing the Wellington Russian Club and

Cameron Taylor representing the Russian Convoy Club of New Zealand. Other floral tributes followed.



It was noted with pleasure how many young children came forth to lay their bouquets under the plaque. After the commemoration 13 participants enjoyed a convivial lunch at a nearby restaurant.



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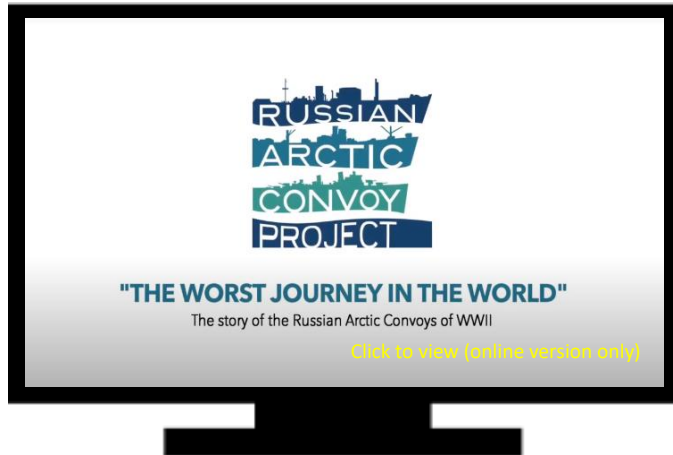
## Images of ANZAC Day 2021



## RACP produces Arctic Convoy documentary

The Arctic Convoy Museum Project has produced a documentary as a tribute to those involved in the Russian Arctic Convoys which left Loch Ewe during World War Two.

It includes interviews with Arctic Convoy veterans, one in New Zealand and a Canadian. Prince Michael of Kent, the Russian Consul General in Edinburgh, Celia Sandys, Sir Winston Churchill's granddaughter also making interesting contributions, with archive footage from British Pathe and thanks to the BBC, a visit to Loch Ewe.



In the absence of a formal commemoration being held at Loch Ewe to mark the 75th-anniversary and the last Arctic Convoy to leave Loch Ewe in 2020, deferred many times due to Covid until May 2022, it is hoped this programme will be a fitting tribute to those involved in what Winston Churchill called the 'worst journey in the world'.

## Russia holds victory parade in Moscow

Russia has held a grand military parade in central Moscow's Red Square to commemorate the 76th anniversary of the Soviet victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945.

In an address to troops and guests ahead of the annual event, Russian President Vladimir Putin praised Soviet contributions to the defeat of fascism during World War II and warned against attempts to rewrite history.



Putin said Russia consistently defends international law, firmly protects its national interests, and ensures the security of its people.

The Russian leader led a minute of silence to commemorate the numerous Soviet soldiers who fell during the war fighting and ultimately defeating the Nazis.

About 12,000 military personnel in 37 formations marched across Red Square, followed by a mechanized convoy of more than 190 pieces of military equipment.

The parade ended with 76 aircraft and helicopters roaring past in the cloudy skies of Moscow.

Tajiki President Emomali Rahmon watched the celebrations alongside Putin. After the parade, both laid wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Alexander Garden outside the Kremlin wall.

The Great Patriotic War against Nazi Germany was an integral part of World War II. The Soviet Union lost roughly 27 million people, both soldiers and civilians, according to official statistics.



Single crewed!

G. R.  
**ROYAL NAVY  
WANTED  
SEAMEN**  
FOR THE PERIOD OF HOSTILITIES  
(Continuous Service Rate of Pay)  
**Age - - 19 to 30**  
**NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NECESSARY—**  
but men with previous sea experience will be accepted up to the age of 35  
**Height - 5 ft. 4 ins.**  
**Chest - - 35 ins.**  
**Separation Allowance at Naval Rates**  
Men wishing to join should apply to the nearest R.N. and R.M. Recruiter  
**APPLY:**



Thursday 26 Aug  
2021

RCCNZ meeting  
Lower Hutt RSA

Thursday 25 Nov  
2021

To be advised

*Further details will be  
advised as they come  
to hand*

*Up Spirits!*



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