

**Pattern: HMS Dunedin & Diomede, D Class Light Cruiser;** Introduced in to NZ Service: 1924; Withdrawn: 1937  
**Dunedin** Builder: W G Armstron Whitworth & Co, Newcastle; Launched: 19/11/1918; Commissioned in RN: 10/1919.  
**Diomede** Builder: Vickers Ltd, Barrow in Furness; Launched 24/4/1919: Commissioned in RN 24/4/1922.  
Tonnage: Dunedin 4650; Diomede 4765: Dimensions: 472.5 x 445 x 46.5 x 16.5 ft (144 x 135.6 x 14.2 x 5 m).  
Machinery: 2 shaft, oil fired steam turbines, 40,000 shp; Speed: 29 knots.  
Armament: Guns – 6 x 6 in, 2 x 3 in AA gun, 4 x 3 Pdr, MGs, Torpedo Tubes - 12 x 21 in; In 1929-32 3 x 4 in AA guns replaced the 3 in, 2 x 2 Pdrs and 10 MGs were fitted.  
Complement: 450.



HMS Dunedin



HMS Diomede

### NZ Service

**HMS Dunedin** arrived in New Zealand in April 1924 as part of the RN Special Service Squadron which included two battle cruisers and four D class light cruisers. HMS Chatham relinquished duty as flag ship of the NZ Station and Dunedin took on the role from 11/5/24. **Diomede** was offered on loan in January 1925 and after being refitted in Portsmouth arrived in NZ in January 1926. Both ships continued the role established by HMS Chatham of sea training for the NZ Division and a naval presence in the South Pacific.

Refits were carried out on both ships alternately in the UK with Diomede having a major refit at Chatham in 1929-30 and Dunedin 1931-32. Diomede also undertook a refit at Auckland to test the capabilities of the Devonport Dockyard in 1933. Both ships provided assistance following the Napier earthquake in on 3 February 1931, bringing supplies from Auckland.

Diomede departed NZ in October 1935 for the East Indies Station following the Italian invasion of Abyssinia, then returning to the UK and paying off in March 1936. She was replaced by HMS Achilles. Dunedin left NZ in February 1937 and was paid off in April 1937 to be replaced by HMZ Leander.

Both ships saw active service in WWII, Dunedin was torpedoed by U 124 off the coast of Brazil on 24/11/41, there were only 67 survivors. Diomede was taken out of service as obsolete in 1943 and converted to a training ship and then sold for scrap in April 1946.

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