

Royal New Zealand Navy

Communicator of the Year 2020

Citation

LCWS Biddle’s leadership skills have thrived not only within the Communications Department, but throughout the Junior Rates Division. She has been an integral link between the Command and the Junior Rates by advocating on behalf of the all Junior Rates to Ships Management and the Junior Rates accommodation shore services by attending meetings ensuring their concerns were heard. During HMNZS TE KAHA FSU she took the lead in the management of the Junior Rates transport routine, as well as publishing and distributing the ship’s daily orders to all Junior Ratings accommodation ashore ensuring the necessary day to day information was provided. She also volunteered as the Secretary of the Ships Welfare Committee. Her passion, interest and enthusiasm as a committee member excelled providing her input to discussions which involved her and her ship mates.

LCWS Biddle aligns herself with the Leadership Framework at the Lead Teams level she excels at ‘Influence Others’ and ‘Mission Focus’ by continually maintaining collaborative relationships between her Senior Communications Ratings when they were both back in New Zealand. LCWS Biddle had to develop plans and coordinate the WGS Trial from Canada. The trial was a first for the RNZN as HMNZS TE KAHA is the first ship to have dual antenna capabilities on board. The planning and coordination exceeds the level of a LCWS, she was instrumental to the success and set to work of this new capability. She has provided a high level of service despite the large distances and time zone difficulties. She kept her senior rates well informed on progress of the ship and was relied upon to complete any work or information request she was tasked with. She proactively seeks out opportunities to advance the knowledge of the department on the newly installed systems. LCWS Biddle has established a substantial and effective relationship with RCN COMCEN. Thus allowing inter navy training opportunities that provided valuable equipment familiarisation and experience for RNZN CWS.

LCWS Biddle has maintained her Physical fitness throughout her career. She is an avid and keen gym goer. As an experienced boxing instructor she has helped her fellow Junior Ratings by providing boxing and gym programs since being in Canada. LCWS Biddle is a highly competent, well liked Leading Hand, who has taken every opportunity to ensure that the ship is prepared for trials and sailing, while also ensuring the welfare for her shipmates is taken care of. She is effective in all areas, and grown exponentially as a Leading Hand.

LCWS Biddle has exceeded well above the expectations of her rank and takes on all challenges presented with her usual positive attitude and outstanding work ethic. This high level performance has been noted by Command and wider Ships Company when she was awarded Sailor of the Quarter.

LCWS Biddle is a very worthy recipient for Communicator of the Year for 2020.