



Hauraki News

“Whaka tangata kia kaha”

November 2009 Issue No 57

Official Newsletter of the 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association Incorporated

Compiled & Edited by Des Anderson

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Registered with the Charities Commission # CC35879

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President's Report

This has been a busy quarter since the last Hauraki News. The change of command at the 6 Hau Bn Gp, the Rhodesian Services Assoc annual RV, the Patriots having their first event involving the Association, our social wine tasting and luncheon at Kati Kati, plus the high utilization of the Garrison.

Our Patron, Allan Coster has generously offered the use of his farm on Sunday 24th January 2010, for a **shoot**. This has been highly popular over the years. See below for details.

Over the years I have tried to keep up with technology in particular the compiling & editing the **Hauraki News**. When we first launched the Hauraki News in 1995, it was never envisioned I would now have a commuter base for the entire current edition. The base is edited; then down loaded to a hard copy to be printed & mailed out to members. A copy from the base is converted to a HTML document & emailed out to members who have broad band. Another copy is converted to JPG File & placed onto the web site.

The biggest upgrade to produce a home based “newsletter” for me has been the digital camera & the scanner systems. The question is I now producing a “newsletter or a journal”?

The Defence Review was submitted on your behalf, plus an oral representation.

I am continuity upgrading up the web page. At present I have utilized only 25% of it capacity. When it is full I believe it will be able to give you a view of our Regiment, To get on the web site “google” **6haurakiassoc.org.nz** & look for 6 Hauraki Association. A number of people do not have computers or are on the military net, I suggest you make friends of someone who has a computer or try the library.

Kia Kaha
Des Anderson

Letters to the Editor

Des,

Please see below a brief item of news that you might like to include in the next Hauraki News. As you know, the Waikato Mounted Rifles form part of the 6th (Hauraki) Battalion Group and so by chance it is convenient to share the same month as the Hauraki's for our birthday.

Best regards

Simon

Good morning everyone,

I am very pleased to announce that the Chief of Army has approved the 24th of July as the official birthday for the Waikato Mounted Rifles, RNZAC.

This date marks the day in 1869 that the Cambridge Mounted Rangers Volunteers were accepted for service by the Governor of New Zealand.

The Cambridge Mounted Rangers Volunteers (also known as the Cambridge Mounted Rifles) was the first cavalry unit actually raised in the Waikato. Disbanded in 1870, the unit re-formed as the Cambridge Cavalry Volunteers in 1872. Together with the Te Awamutu Cavalry Volunteers and the Hamilton Cavalry Volunteers, the Cambridge Cavalry Volunteers formed the Waikato Mounted Rifles Volunteers in 1897, which became the 4th (Waikato) Mounted Rifles Regiment in 1911.

***T.J. KINLOCH, MNZM
Lt Col
Regt Col RNZAC***

Hi Des,

I wonder if you can help me out as I am in the process of noting down my experiences in the Military. Could you please confirm the date and where the following took place?

Receiving the new Colours? Lying up of the old Colours?

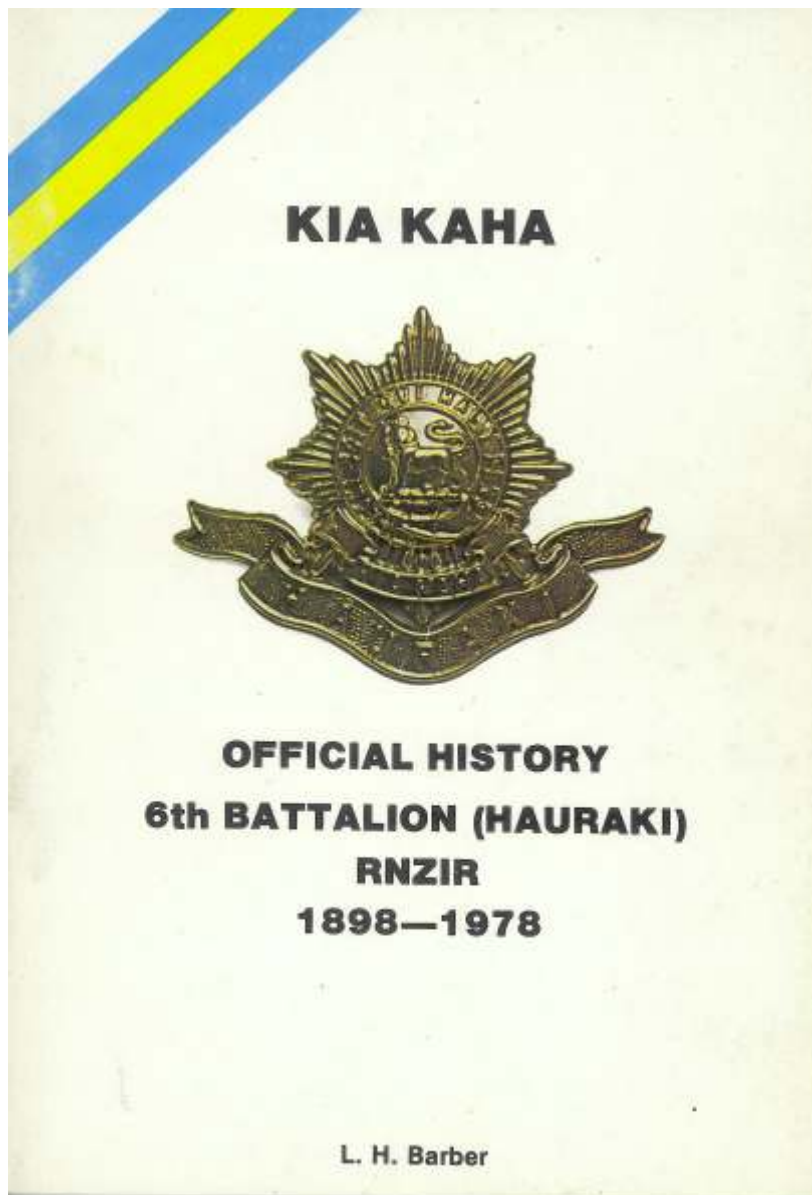
All my own records were destroyed while in storage when I was posted to Portsea Victoria Australia.

**Kindest Regards
Graham Nash.**

Graham

I have forwarded a PDF copy of the Kia Kaha, Official History 6th Battalion (Hauraki) RNZIR 1898 – 1978, L. H. Barber. That will answer all your questions.

Graham Nash was Hauraki RSM from 1970 - 1974



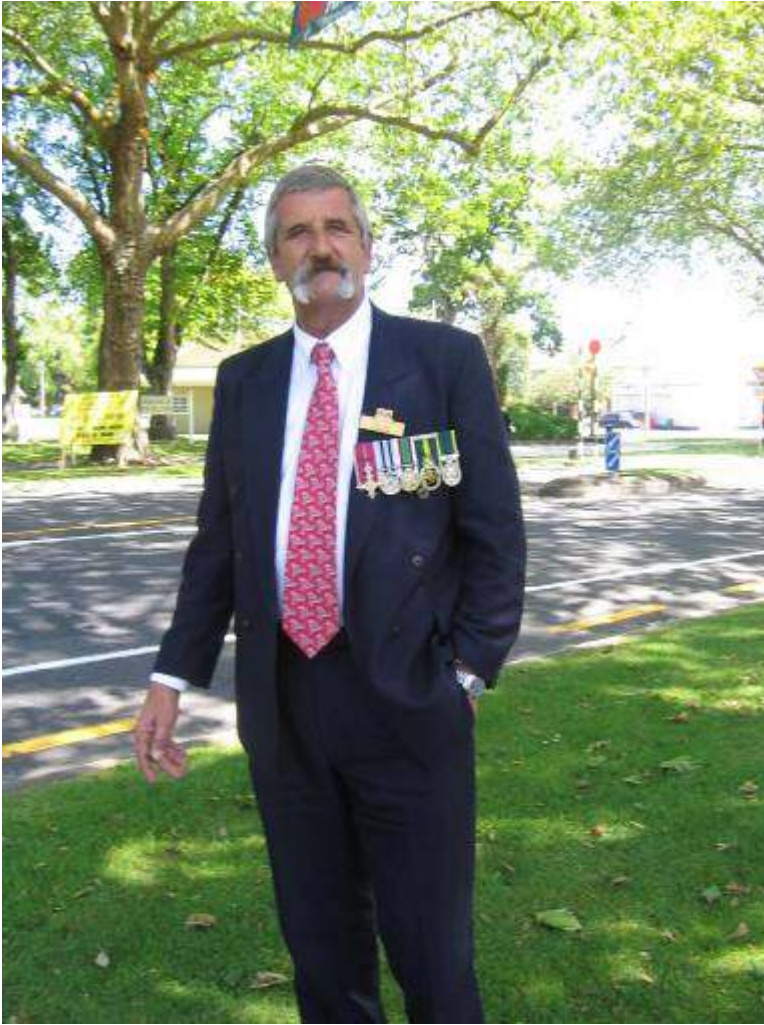
If you want a copy of the Kia Kaha, I can email you a jpg version.
Kia Kaha can also be found on the web site.



Kina Lawrence was a Hauraki RF Cadre



Graham Brighouse was a Hauraki RF Cadre



Peter Boss at Armistice day – Cambridge

Des

We have had some really interesting material come in and we welcome more

Another gem gives us the details we had been seeking that link the Rhodesia Regiment to the **6th Hauraki Battalion Group** via through a common alliance with various British regiments which today form The Rifles. The **Hauraki Regiment** and Rhodesia Regiment share the same year of formation – 1898. In simple terms the regimental family tree runs like this:

In 1914 Capt. J.B. Brady set out with a number of Rhodesians from Cape Town bound for South Hampton. A fellow passenger asked them where they were going. “To France” was the prompt and spirited reply to which the passenger identified himself as the Marquis of Winchester and explained to the keen Rhodesian warriors that it was not as simple as they imagined joining the war effort against Germany and that they must first join a British regiment. He invited them to join his regiment, the King’s Royal Rifle Corps (60th Rifles). On a more sober note, of that platoon that joined The King’s Royal Rifle Corps only twelve were still alive on the 11th November 1918. Thus began the association between the Rhodesia Regiment and The King’s Royal Rifle Corps which can be seen through various parts of the Rhodesia regiment uniform.

The **Hauraki Regiment’s** first Regimental Alliance began in 1913 with the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. In 1958 the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry were brigaded with The King’s Royal Rifle Corps.

The King’s Royal Rifle Corps titles are thus:
1755 The 62nd (Royal American) Foot

1757 *renumbered* the 60th (Royal American) Foot
1824 The 60th Duke of York's Own Rifle Corps
1830 The 60th King's Royal Rifle Corps
1881 The King's Royal Rifle Corps
1958 *redesigned* 2nd Green Jackets (The King's Royal Rifle Corps)
1966 *redesigned* 2nd Battalion The Royal Green Jackets (The King's Royal Rifle Corps)
1968 *redesigned* 2nd Battalion The Royal Green Jackets
2007 The Rifles

The current Colonel-in-Chief of The Rifles is HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Other material concerns the 1937 Coronation where we learned that that the Rhodesians were the second contingent of Empire troops to land in England behind the Australians. The Rhodesians, wearing their knee length shorts, together with the Australians had the place to themselves and it appears they had a hectic round of social engagements which they bravely endured and were injected with renewed vigour upon the arrival of the **New Zealanders** followed by the other Empire troops from Canada, West, East and South Africa, India, Malaya, Hong Kong, Somaliland, Aden, Fiji and Mauritius. It seems like they had one hell of a party but to get the full story you will have wait until this book is released!

Hugh Bomford
Rhodesian Service Association

Des & Russell!

Long time to see!

Hope you are doing well.

As you may know, I'm following my suddenly and recently renewed contact with the Battalion through your brilliant efforts with the News Letter, Bn Journal, etc.

I appreciate you both re –connecting me after many years.

All those old familiar names and faces!! Very nostalgic indeed.

Anyway, I see you are asking if any old members have any stories or photographs, - blasts from the past type thing – well, I have plenty, and, as promised – but a bit late, here is a small selection of what I have. Most of my good pics are still back in NZ.

You may need to use your discretion in publishing some of these photos. ☺

If you get me started on stories and pictures, we could be here all day, so initially here is only a few that I found that covers a wide & various spread, and may be of interest.

Let me know if you can see they come out ok, and you can read the subtitles.

Regards
Kerry Just



Annual Camp at Rotoma . before the earthquake. 1987



ANZAC Day 1989



Australia March 1981



Hauraki SNCO at Paeroa 13th March 1987



Tekapo 1985



University Company -Staff -Hamilton -ANZAC Day



Live firing platoon - Coromandel



Malaysia 1985



Singapore 1985

Hi Des

I have just returned back to NZ now after serving for a number of years as an International Civilian Officer for the United Nations Safety and Security Dept in North Africa and the Middle East, *I have settled in Sunny Nelson, and started my own security consultancy..*

Craig Bidois



Hostage rescue



Normal transport



Junyawed - Darfur



Rwandan – UN Army - Khartoun



International risk management

Submission to the Defence Review 2009.

Question 1: What should the role of the Defence Force be in responding to threats to New Zealand's security?

We agree with the role as set out in the review document. We support an increase in defence spending in order to meet our wider obligations to our traditional partnerships in the Asia and Pacific region.

Question 2: How should the Defence Force prioritise its effort across each of its strategic environments?

The priority of NZDF should be keeping forces at a highest possible level of readiness with the capability of protecting NZ and deploying on strategic overseas activities. It is also important to be able to do this concurrently. There should be a strong reserve force maintained in support.

Question 3: How should the Defence Force cooperate with other international security partners in each strategic environment?

By playing a support or leadership role dependent on the strategic environment with the priority to be regionally based.

Question 4: How should the Defence Force operate with other New Zealand government agencies in each strategic environment?

NZDF should provide support to other agencies particularly in times of natural disasters and humanitarian deployments. These roles are important to the country as a whole.

Question 5: What military capabilities does the Defence Force need to carry out its roles effectively, now and in the future?

1. A naval force with off shore and blue water capability preferably with a three frigate configuration.
2. An air force transport component, surveillance for fisheries protection and search and rescue, with helicopter support for the ground forces.
3. Ground forces at Brigade level with a strong reserve element capable of simultaneous deployment and protection of NZ.

Question 6: When and how should military capabilities be used for non-military purposes to support the work of other (civilian) government agencies?

Natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes etc.

Assistance to NZ Police

Fisheries protection.

Hydrographics.

Counter terrorist role.

Search and rescue.

Question 7: What is the best organisational structure for the Ministry of Defence and the New Zealand Defence Force?

All service activities should be under the command and leadership of NZDF.

Question 8: How can the Defence Force best manage recruitment, retention, training, and the role of Reserves to ensure that Defence Force personnel can carry out their roles effectively?

1. Make better use of cadets and reserves to build the regular forces.
2. Have a focus on leadership.
3. To have better recruitment procedures and processes to speed up enlistment.
4. Use the reserves as the link with the community.
5. Recognition of civilian skills without having to retrain.
6. Introduce a form of compulsory military or community based training including ambulance or fire service.
7. All training should be recognised with educational qualifications.
8. All courses should be open to both reserve and regular forces.
9. Have training for reserves integrated with the regular force.
10. The role of the reserves should be to support deployments through augmentation.

Question 9: What is the best way of managing Defence business, especially in respect of procurement, real estate, infrastructure and finance?

The best practise would be to use civilian specialists in each area with additional expertise provided by military officers in their own specialist roles.

There should be a military facility in all cities to ensure the military is close to the community.

Question 10: What are the best financial management procedures to meet long-term defence funding requirements?

NZDF needs to have the full support of the community to ensure there is political will to maintain a strong defence force with the budget to meet all contingencies.

Additional comments

In addition to the above questions, New Zealanders are also invited to comment on any other defence-related issues they regard as significant. Please feel free to attach additional pages as required.

The Association strongly supports community and youth initiatives particularly Cadet forces. There should be specific funding for the support of cadets in order to promote service in the military and to the community. Today's Cadets are tomorrow's leaders and better citizens.

The funding should be for the parent organisations to ensure they are able to attract and retain Cadets through providing exciting and interesting military based activities.

Reserve units should also receive specific funding to enable them to support Cadet activities and should include this in their annual plans.

The Association has 300 members and has been in existence for 15 years. While the focus is the Hauraki Regiment and the Cadet units in the area the Association maintains a strong interest in defence matters.

This submission was prepared by the executive of the Association on behalf of the membership.

Des Anderson, (President) Ted Dean, (Vice President):& Bruce Beckett, (Committee Member) presented oral submissions to the Defence Review Committee at a public meeting held on 15th September 2009.

From the questions asked by the committee, I believe we were given a good hearing.

Over 30 people were at the meeting. There were six other submissions from the public forum.

You must have many reflections, stories & photos of this era. Please send them in for the next Hauraki News.

Merchandise

There are still some items for sale. I.e. 4 sets of cuff links, brought for the 100th Hauraki Ties a limited number have been purchased selling at \$40.00
Hauraki Plaque, This is a special "mothers of pearl" a limited number of 20 has been purchased. Cost Association members \$40.00, and to others \$60.00.
Baseball cap, (a cap with a Hauraki Badge on the front) a limited number have been purchased \$20.00, selling fast.

There are a limited number of Hauraki coins left. Cost \$15.00 for association members. \$20.00 for non members Plus postage

Garrison Club

With the help of the associate members the people using the bar has increased. Or is because "Bob is back"!

Donations

As the Association is now registered as a charity you can have a one third of any donations deducted off your taxes. The Secretary will send you a registered receipt for any donations. It is suggested a donation be no less than an annual membership.

If you wish to direct credit to our bank account:

Westpac 03-0435-0509893-001. Reference – (Your name)

Social Events

Past events

Now you can see why Bob was looking for SOBER DRIVERS, and that was only at the wine tasting! the Forte Liza near Katikati, preceded by a visit to the Morton Wine Estate, for wine tasting.



Up coming events

Luncheon at Lava East

Sunday 29th November 2009.

Time 1300hrs

Under new management & a new menu with Asian & European cuisine.



Please advise Marion or me if you intend coming.

Shoot at Coster's Farm

Sunday 24th January 2009.

Time: 0900hrs Start

Cost:

Bring your own weapon & ammunition
and / or

Weapons supplied. Packets of ammunition for \$20.00 per packet.

Luncheon at the Kaimai Restaurant

Sunday 24th January 2009.

Time 1300hrs Start.

Pay for yourself

Movies at the Garrison

The second Friday of the month.

Rice & curry available at a small cost

Remember show starts at 7pm sharp. Bring a mate. Gold coin donation goes to the Hauraki Museum.

Hugh has not given the movie schedule but will send it a week or two before viewing.

The movie & curry night donates about \$100.00 a month towards the museum. Thanks to all attend.

Not only do you have a hot meal, enjoyed with great company, watch a "great" movie and wash it down with cheep drinks, but help our museum.

News from the Regiment



Displaying the colours



SSgt Bob Mankelow has received his award. WO1 Dave Galvin is receiving his award. Presented by the Minister of Defence, Dr Mapp.



Participants who received awards & campaign medals

Lieutenant Colonel Julian Sewell, RNZIR



Lieutenant Colonel Sewell joined the Regular Force of the NZ Army in January 1982, as an officer cadet, and was commissioned into the Royal New Zealand Armoured Corps at the end of that year.

Lt Col Sewell held troop command appointments within Queen Alexandra's Squadron and 1st Squadron NZ Scottish, staff appointments within the Plans and Development Branch of Army General Staff, and training appointments at the Army Schools. He was Aide-de-Camp to two Governors General, Chief Instructor at the School of Armour, Squadron Commander at Queen Alexandra's Mounted Rifles, Team Leader at the Australian Army Battle Simulation Group, General Staff Officer Grade 2 Doctrine, Army General Staff, and Director of the NZ Army Simulation Centre.

Lt Col Sewell saw operational service with the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group and the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor. He transferred to the Territorial Force on completion of 20 years service and held the appointment of Officer Commanding, Training Evaluation Team, 2nd Land Force Group, prior to posting to 6th (Hauraki) Battalion Group. He was the Officer Commanding Alpha Company before assuming command of the Battalion.

Lt Col Sewell was born in Rotorua and is of Te Arawa and Ngāti Porou descent. He was educated at Hato Petera College, Massey University and Victoria University of Wellington. He is married to Maria and they have two young daughters. The Sewells live in Rotorua where Lt Col Sewell is employed as the Policing Development Manager for the Bay of Plenty Police.

Former Governors-General aide takes over battalion

by John Cousins
john.cousins@bopp.co.nz

A former Aide-de-Camp to two Governors-General takes command of the 6th (Hauraki) Battalion in Tauranga tomorrow.

The parade at the cenotaph in Memorial Park will see Lieutenant Colonel Julian Sewell, of Rotorua, handed command of the battalion from the current Commanding Officer, Lt Col Warren Banks of Tauranga.

VIP guests at the 2.30pm handover parade will include the Minister of Defence Dr Wayne Mapp, the Chief of Army Major General Rhys Jones, Tauranga MP Simon Bridges, and the battalion's Honorary Colonel, Rotorua judge Chris McGuire.

The end of Lt Col Banks' three-year term as battalion commander coincides with his appointment as a United Nations military observer to East Timor for six months, starting November.

Lt Col Sewell was promoted from the rank of major on September 5, ahead of taking command of the battalion. He will continue his Rotorua-based civilian job as policing development manager for the Bay of Plenty Police.

He commanded the 6th Battalion's A Company before assuming command of the battalion.

The Hauraki's public relations officer Captain Russell Skeet said the battalion had very strong partnerships with Maori, and Lt Col Sewell's lineage to Te Arawa and Ngati Porou was very important to

the battalion.

Lt Col Sewell was born in Rotorua and educated at Hato Petera College, Massey University and Victoria University. He joined the Army's Regular Force in 1982 as an officer cadet and was commissioned into the Royal NZ Armoured Corps.

He held the rank of captain when he served as Aide-de-



PROMOTED: Lieutenant Colonel Julian Sewell will take command of the 6th (Hauraki) battalion tomorrow. PICTURE / SUPPLIED

Camp for 14 months to two Governors-General, Sir Paul Reeves and Dame Catherine Tizard. His service overlapped with the end of Sir Paul's term (1985-90) and the start of Dame Catherine's term (1990-95).

Defence force Aide-de-Camps always accompany Governors-General when they are out on public duties.

In a family coincidence, his cousin Brian Tunui became the first Maori Aide-de-Camp to a Governor-General when he was

in the Royal New Zealand Navy. His two-year service overlapped with Sir David Beattie (1980-85) and New Zealand's first Governor-General of Maori descent, Sir Paul Reeves.

Both officers also found their wives at Government House. Lieutenant Tunui married Sarah Reeves, the daughter of Sir Paul and Lady Reeves, and Captain Sewell married Maria Moreno, the Government House property manager.

His Army service also includes commanding troops with the Queen Alexandra's Squadron and 1st Squadron NZ Scottish, the Plans and Development Branch of Army General Staff, and training at the Army Schools.

He was chief instructor at the School of Armour, Squadron Commander at Queen Alexandra's Mounted Rifles, team leader at the Australian Army Battle Simulation Group and and director of the NZ Army Simulation Centre.

Lt Col Sewell saw operational service with the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group and the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor.

He transferred to the Territorial Force on completion of 20 years' service and commanded the Training Evaluation Team and 2nd Land Force Group — prior to posting to the Hauraki Battalion.

The battalion, attached to the Army's Territorial Force, is based in Tauranga with sub-units in Rotorua and Hamilton.



Warren and Julia with the Hauraki's colours.

Former Haurakis commanding officer Warren Banks leaves for Timor in November to take up a new post as a UN observer in Timor Este.

Warren has been the Haurakis CO for three and a half years.

"I have been here 26 years in this battalion," says Warren.

"For 17 years this has been Julia's battalion as well."

Julia and the family are staying in Tauranga during the six months Warren will be in Timor Este.

They have organised breaks and leave in Cairns, Australia.

Warren resigned from Bulk Storage Terminals in May and has taken six months leave from his

position as director of Tauranga City Aquatics Ltd.

Warren's task in Timor is about nation building. He's to assess the state of the infrastructure; to look at the capacities of roads, power supply, ports and airports in relation to the needs of the people there and prioritise where replacements and rebuilds are most required.

The command changeover at the Hauraki Battlegroup took place last weekend.

Warren handed over the CO's sword, and the colours, to Lieutenant Julian Sewell.

"I would normally be rotating out anyway," says Warren. "The system depends on giving continuing opportunities for majors to be promoted to lieutenant colonel

and take over as C.O.

"I've had three and a half years, so it was time to step into another job somewhere else."

Julian was promoted to lieutenant colonel a couple of weeks ago at an inter-battalion sports tournament in Auckland.

"We had an opportune time in front of all the North Island battalions," says Warren. "We chose to promote him when we could make a big deal of it. We got a really good turn out for that, the families were there as well."

The command changeover was attended by defence minister Wayne Mapp, the chief of the army, major general Rhys Jones, the commander of the second land force group colonel Howard Duffy and family and friends.



Ex Commanding Officers welcome the new Commanding Officer to their ranks.
Hauraki CO's – Alan Coster ,Julian Sewell, Alistair Mc Caw, George McLeod, Ted Dean,
Ken Brown, Warren Banks & Aubrey Balzer



Gifted to the 6 Hau Bn Gp from Lt Col Warren Banks.



Bob Mankelow is congratulated for receiving his bar to his Efficiency Medal by Gary Ellis & Des Anderson.

Where have you been?





Hauraki's on Deployment

August 2009

Op Ariki Crib 14

Afghanistan

Capt A.D. Arrowsmith

Op Gyro 7

Timor – Leste

WO2 C. Savage

Op Rata Rot 10

Solomon Islands

Pte Z.H. Burdett

Pte D.R. Morgan

Pte J.G. Goodwin



TERRITORIAL FORCE: THE ARMY RESERVE

The Territorial Force (TF), the Army's Reserve, continues to play a valuable role in allowing NZDF to meet its operational commitments domestically and internationally.

The TF have contributed to security and stability in the Solomon Islands as part of the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI) since July 2003 and a TF platoon has supported the mission in Timor-Leste for six-month periods, as part of the company group stationed there. TF unit training and exercises, continue to prepare them for future deployments around the world.

TF personnel continue to see service in Afghanistan, the Middle East, Sudan, Timor-Leste, and the Solomon Islands with almost 150 TF soldiers deploying on operations in the last 12 months.

Health professionals in the TF also regularly deploy on humanitarian assistance missions. In June 2009, TF personnel as part of a medical team provided assistance to the people of Pukapuka, a remote island of 530 people in the Cook Islands.

Along with the high level of operational commitments, the TF also provide effective initial support to local authorities such as providing transport in civil defence emergencies. They are a vital link in maintaining good local government, community and employer relations.

The future could not be better for our TF personnel with commitments abroad, improved conditions of service with the implementation of the new Military Remuneration System, improved career management for TF soldiers, and training incentives that ensure that leadership skills gained in the NZ Army can be recognised as value added skills to employers and TF individuals.

Highlights:

- ▶ On 11 November 2008, Chief of Army approved the establishment of an Office of the Director Army Reserve (ODAR), Directorate of Army Reserve (DirARes) and new staff appointments to provide strategic staff planning and support policy and advisory roles to TF.
- ▶ NZ's employers of our TF play a major role in the NZDF's ability to sustain operational commitments. In recognition of this Ex Boss Lift saw employers from Rotorua through to Timaru travel to the Solomon Islands to see how their employees ate, slept, trained and worked on operations.
- ▶ TF personnel continue to receive professional development incentives in the form of leadership courses aligned to NZQA qualifications. This continues to be reinforced to personnel and employers. Work has commenced to identify opportunities to align the Army Leadership Framework (ALF) to recognised civilian and tertiary qualifications to reinforce the value that service provides to TF personnel and their employers.
- ▶ The Territorial Force Employer Support Council (TFESC) holds a nationwide awards programme to recognise employers who are particularly supportive of their Reserve Force employees. The Waitemata Police District was named as 2009 Employer of the Year in acknowledgment of their support of Lt Col Chris Powell. Silver Fern Farms won the Private Sector Category in support of their employee Pte Siobhán Tulaki, and the Public and Wider State Sector award went to the Ministry of Health, for supporting employees Maj Simon Strombom and WO2 Nick Hewer-Hewitt.
- ▶ Northern and Southern TF Battalion Groups conducted Annual Field Exercises in February 2009 ('Mono Island' and 'Southern Kiwi' respectively) supporting the TF's focus on delivering trained personnel.
- ▶ Work continues on improving communication delivery using the revamped TF internet site on army.mil.nz.



143 TF deployed in 2008/09 up **14%**
on **2007/08**



"the ability for Full-time and TF soldiers to

INTERCHANGE between professions and
follow a seamless career in the Army"



TERRITORIAL DEPLOYMENT

A deployment to Solomon Islands provided a unique experience and was well worth the effort, says Territorial Force soldier Trooper Eric Skipworth of the Waikato Mounted Rifles unit, part of 6 Hauraki Battalion Group.

Trooper Skipworth deployed to the Solomon Islands as a lead scout in an infantry platoon. He says the daily tasks and duties he performed in the Solomons were unique compared to any work he had done in the past.

"I learnt that on operations it is important to be flexible as a soldier.

"Everyday duties varied from serving up food at the Army camp, to patrolling the streets in downtown Honiara on a Saturday night with the police."

Having previously worked for a carpenter, Tpr Skipworth says a highlight of the tour was staying in a village called Tetere where they stayed with the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force in an abandoned house behind the police station.

"Being typical DIY Kiwis we repaired the house with any materials we could acquire. I put my skills to use by building stairs for the house and repairing some of the floors."

The majority of locals are appreciative of the NZ Army's presence in their country, approaching us and happily answering any questions we might have for them, Tpr Skipworth says.

"We were able to work through the language barrier fairly easily. Most locals speak English but we would try out phrases we learnt in Pidjin when we could.

"Working with the Australian and Papa New Guinean soldiers added to the experience of learning and working with new cultures," he says.





THE TERRITORIAL FORCE

THE WAY AHEAD

The role and capability of the Territorial Force continues to be shaped as New Zealand, along with its Defence allies, fully realise the value that our Reservists play in our Defence Forces.

The TF provides an opportunity for NZ Army personnel to concurrently hold a civilian career in life as well as the chance to take on a full-time armed forces role be it on operations or as a professional change. Capitalising on the ability for Regular Force and TF soldiers to interchange between professions and follow a seamless career in the Army can only be a benefit for one Army meeting its organisational goals.

Work continues in a number of areas to ensure that the TF are poised to initiate the outcomes of the Defence White Paper and to allow Reservists and the wider Army to fully appreciate the benefits of a Territorial Force.

This includes:

Growth: Despite the global recession there is still an expectation that the TF needs to grow its capability. Over the forthcoming years, Army will continue to grow the TF to allow it to meet ongoing NZDF operational demands, and future needs of the Defence White Paper.

Training: Individual effectiveness standards will be introduced by the Land Component Commander in July 2010 aimed at providing a consistent training framework for the individual, unit and commander. The Mission Essential Task List (METL) for TF continues to be developed and will provide improved guidance to TF unit training requirements.



"there is still an expectation that the TF needs

TO GROW ITS CAPABILITY."

Remuneration: Work continues to refine TF pay as part of overall remuneration. Army has approved new trade progression models that better align TF progression and course requirements with their Regular Force counterparts and this work will now inform TF pay progression.

Reserve Categories: Work on establishing Reserve Employment Categories that will ensure service in the TF takes into consideration levels of experience, specialist skills, and an individual's ability to attend to training given their commitment to their primary civilian employment.

TF Name Change and TF Centenary: Legislative work continues to formally change the Territorial Force name to 'the Army Reserve' by the end of 2009.

Cadets

The Cadet Units in the Hauraki Area attended Hauraki Experience XI in Waikouaiti from 4th to 11th July 2009. This involves about 120 officers & cadets, with supporting staff from 6 Hauraki Battalion Group.

The Association awarded the Association Sword to the top cadet. Trophies & presented the book "Comrades Brave" to other cadets who have distinguished themselves or their unit.

Over the eleven years of Hauraki Experience, over a thousand cadets have been through Waikouaiti had their first Army experience. Many have gone on to join & serve with the NZ Army.

Hauraki Experience 11

5 July 2009 our local Cadet Unit and other Units from the Northern Region went to Waikouaiti to represent the Hauraki Battalion.

We were introduced to the life of an Army soldier on Base.

Taught to use and load Firearms safely as well as participate in team work activities.

Being introduced to the different environment took us a while to adjust in the higher altitude and colder climate temperature.

We had many different body types that came with us; Pacemakers, heart defects, Asthmatics and other serious injured Cadets, even though these cadets had the difficulties they all came and managed to achieve all set activities.

Pack walks were one challenge that we had to overcome and though they were hard we all passed the finish line, another obstacle was to complete four Required Fitness Levels, (RFL), and many swimming tests.

There was an Assault Course that everyone thought was a Concourse but it wasn't. It was an Assault Course to build our team work. It was very difficult but we were all highly excited to achieve it.

The wets was also a great experience, they were computerized Styrers. Turrets were confusing but we had to pass in order to shoot with the .22 Norinco.

The food in the mess was delicious and filling but the only bummer was we only had a certain time to eat it and straight after eating we had to march.

Our unit travelled back late Saturday night on the 11th July 2009 overwhelmed of our accomplishments.

Opotiki College Cadet Unit

Our Associated Groups



121009BNDB01

PATRIOT riders prepare for their memorial ride on Saturday. The miniature muzzle-loading Civil War mountain gun, owned by Tauranga's Dave Cross, produced a satisfying "bang" and large cloud of white smoke to send the group off.

Passchendaele patriots

THE anniversary of the World War I bloodbath known as the Battle of Passchendaele was marked locally on Saturday by members of the Patriots Defence Force Motorcycle Club with a triangular ride round the region.

It was the first organised outing for the club — formed last Anzac Day. Membership is open exclusively to motorcycle enthusiasts who are past or serving members of the New

Zealand military.

The Patriots were founded in Auckland 13 years ago and local (6 Hauraki) chapter is the fourth branch in the country.

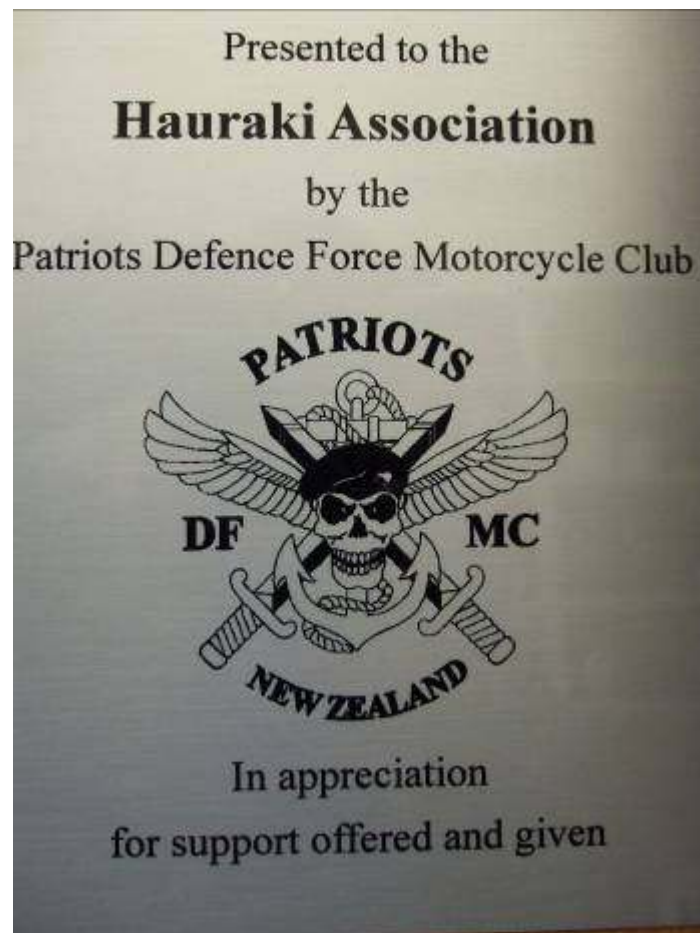
From an initial eight members the club has grown to more than 30.

Saturday's ride started from the Mt Maunganui RSA where a specially carved commemorative wooden Passchendaele plaque, featuring a clip of .303 machine

gun bullets, was presented to the RSA and a prayer was said in memory of the thousands who died on the Western Front in a hail of German machine gun fire, with little achieved, in a few hours on the first day of the battle.

From there the riders visited the Whakatane and Rotorua RSAs before returning to Tauranga for a special function at the Hauraki regimental museum in 11th Avenue.





After prayers for the fallen; our Patron, Allen Coster gave a presentation on Passchendaele taking the form of letters sent by his Uncle Stewart, to his cousin Amy. The letters were so poignant; I asked Allen if we could share them.

**France,
10/7/17**

My dear Amy,

Just a line or two to let you know I am still in the land of the living but at present not in the line. At present we are having a few days spell and it was needed too, but long ere this reaches you we will all be where the whizz bangs fly.

Just before we left England we had four days leave. I went to London and in those four days there was not much of London that I did not see. I was through the Tower of London, St. Pauls Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and Parliament buildings. I saw Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Palace, Buckingham Palace, Chrystal Palace, Hyde Park. Went for a row in the Serpentine in Hyde Park, walked down Rotten Row on Sunday morning. I saw Richmond Park, Hampton Court, Dulwich Gardens, Kensington Museum, the London Zoo, the Royal Exchange, Leicester Square, Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly, the Strand, Pall Mall, the Tower Bridge, Waterloo Bridge, London Bridge. I was out in the slums of London in the East End near White Chapel and

Poplar. The conditions were horrible and poverty everywhere. I was up the River Thames on a lovely Sunday afternoon, the trip was magnificent.

I have not time to describe all but tis sufficient to say I saw just all that was possible to see in that time. London was of course crowded with soldiers, some back from the trenches and some going to the trenches, some on leave from the various English Camps.

However about the 4th or 5th of June we crossed the Channel and arrived in France and we could plainly see that we were drawing near to the seat of war.

The country here at present is magnificent. There is nothing in N.Z. to equal it I don't care where one goes and judging by the harvest this year France will not starve and I think that England might learn a lesson from her. There are no fences, or very few, the country right up to three miles from the front line is in either wheat, oats, beans, peas, potatoes, clover, marigold, hops and there is not a waste piece of land.

As I passed through the country on the way up to the line I could not blame Germany for wanting it for it was perfect but when for the first time I stood on a modern battlefield and saw the ruin and havoc and desolation caused and still being caused by German and our shells that flew overhead, some of them landing in crops of wheat and mangolas (?) I realised for the first time the awfulness of war.

I could not describe Messines Battlefield to you if I tried for the havoc and ruin baffles all description. Just imagine all those Aspen trees around your place torn, smashed and uprooted not a branch on any one of them and of those that stood only a portion of the trunk remaining. Imagine those paddocks around your house for a mile or more on either side so smashed up with shell fire that not a blade of grass is to be seen. Imagine the shell holes to be so close together that it would be impossible for one to stand on a portion of the ground that was not broken by shells. Imagine broken barbed wire entanglements, broken trenches and smashed dug-outs and here and there a small wooden cross marking the grave of a soldier perhaps or I saw in one or two cases those crosses broken and the grave smashed by shell fire. It seems horrible to think that not even the dead can rest and be untouched by those damnable (pardon the expression) shells.

Scattered over the field I saw .303ammo, hand grenades, old broken rifles. German equipment of all description, unexploded shells, dead Germans and half buried bodies.

However, tis all in the game but it seems that nothing can stand against the terrific fire of the artillery. I saw an Aspen tree the size of one of those near the Old House at your place completely uprooted and lifted in the air by a big shell so you can imagine what chance a trench would have. However many live through it but I sometimes wonder how they manage it.

But however, enough of the war. I received eight newspapers and fourteen letters in the last mail from New Zealand so I am not doing so bad. Your letter was one of them. It was good of you to write, Amy, because letters from home are worth a lot.

In a recent casualty list I saw that A. L. Vickers had lost his left hand. I suppose it is Laurie. If tis so then back to N.Z. he will go and in spite of the loss of his left hand he is lucky.

Well, Amy, I am lying in the shade of an ash tree on the edge of a crop of wheat. Tis a warm sunny evening and not a sound disturbs the stillness. Tis hard to imagine there is a war on. In the sky overhead are sailing four of our planes. The wonderful control they have over these machines now. Tis beautiful to see an aeroplane high up suddenly spiral dive to right near the ground then glide along and up and off again.

They come down head first at a terrific speed spinning round like a cork-screw. Tis truly wonderful. However Amy I must close now for I have other letters to write and the chance does not always present itself.

Remember me to all at Home and to Uncle Neil and Auntie Grace. Tell Uncle Neil I want turkey for Christmas dinner 1918. I can live on anything now and do not much care what I eat and can sleep anywhere and anyhow but when old N.Z. sees me again I'm afraid I will be a bit too particular.

How is . Does he still persist and have you squashed him. Poor fellow he must, like all of us learn by bitter experience but his intentions were good and who can blame him if his aspirations were high. "He who aimeth at the sky etc."

I must close now, Amy,
Goodbye Cousin mine,
Best wishes and fondest thoughts,
From Stewart.

France

My Dear Amy,

While the opportunity is here I am writing in answer to your letter to me which I got by the mail about ten days ago. Tis needless for me to tell you how pleased I was to hear from you but I am afraid this letter will not be a very interesting reply. However I will do my best but if I ramble from one thing to another just please excuse. Though the pen may be mightier than the sword, to my hand tis less familiar.

At present we are well back from the line but it is the usual calm before the storm may be a local one like the cyclone in Huntly, short, sharp and terrific. However the country here is very quiet and beautiful, the quiet shady roads, the quaint old-fashioned French farm houses, the trees and the hedges and the harvest in stook all over the countryside makes a scene that makes one think that war is a nightmare of the worst form.

I am sitting in a stook of wheat this lovely Sunday evening. The day has been warm and beautiful and this is a perfect end of a perfect day. In a harvest field close by two girls and one old man are working, a few soldiers are strolling down the road in their usual careless manner. A French farmer is driving a big load of sheaves along the road and sitting on top of the load are three little kiddies. A girl is leading two cows home to be milked and stalled for the night. A motor ambulance rushes past and disappears in a cloud of dust and the warm evening sun shines over the harvest fields and the quiet countryside making as perfect and as beautiful a scene as I have ever seen. Tis hard to think that a few miles away the awful destruction and desolation of war is going on, that the guns are growling and shells are disturbing the quiet of this Sunday evening with their long drawn scream and angry explosion, that hourly human lives are being destroyed or maimed and all because a few men decided that it should be so.

The magnitude of the war, the awful sacrifices and sufferings that it brings in its path you cannot realise but France is a land of suffering and sorrow truly drenched in blood and tears. As one walks along the smooth metalled roads under the shady trees in the quiet of the evening he for a time forgets war and all its horrors. Wherever one goes in France and at every cross roads and quiet corner can be seen an image of the crucifixion of Christ. These images placed there long ago are truly symbolical of the suffering of France now.

I can see nothing pleasing in the sight of an image of a human being pinned to a cross, a look of anguish on his face and a crown of thorns on his brow. Surely one sees enough crucifixion of life and happiness here without seeing it symbolised at every corner. However it shows the intensely religious spirit of France which has probably never been greater than now. Every Sunday morning whether wet or fine the people old and young go to Mass and then come home and work in the harvest field doing their duty to God and their country. One cannot help but admire the cheerful courage with which they carry on with their work right up to and even in front of our lines. In many cases the girls work in the harvest fields while overhead scream British and German shells. I will relate the case that I saw myself. We were returning from the line one morning and on our way we crossed over a paddock of wheat lying in sheaves on the ground. Our batteries were hidden along the edge of the field and the Germans were doing their best to whack them out and the girls in the field between our guns and the Germans which were, of course, several miles away, were stooking this wheat heedless of the fact that shells were bursting in among the stooks. I was amazed, but still if that wheat was not harvested those people starved during the winter. It was a choice of two evils one a certainty and the other a possibility of escape. All houses here are of brick and tiled roofs and to see some of these houses which are under gunfire is to realize to a slight degree the sufferings of some of the French people here. Their houses smashed to pieces, a mere heap of broken bricks, their nearest and dearest on earth killed what have they to live for? Is it any wonder that their moral life is lowered. Tis impossible for some people to rise above the circumstances and when all that makes life sweet has gone they go down - down - deep down.

However the old world will turn right side up someday I hope. As far as the end of the war is concerned it will not be this winter that is certain and I think the less said about it the better. As Lloyd George says, "Let us cease jabbering and get on with the war" but again as he rather poetically puts it "The sun still shines bright on the banners of the Allied Armies on the Western

Front." So cheerio and lets hope that it will soon shine bright on the Homecoming. A young man proposing to girl said,
"I will love you till the stars fall."
She said, "Longer."
He said, "I will love you till time and eternity are no more."
She said, "Longer."
He said, "I will love you till the end of the war."
And she said, "Oh my darling."

So we all have different opinions on the matter and no one is sure.

Well Amy, there is a lot that I could tell you and no doubt if I was at home I would do so but out here with thousands of miles of rolling ocean between us it is, to say the least, chilling. Of my experiences in the line, few though they are, I do not feel like writing. Probably you know that poor old McKinnon is killed. A better fellow I have never met and all who knew him felt his loss as only a soldier here can feel the loss of a good comrade. Of the company that I came over with forty are now killed or wounded out of one hundred and twenty. The strain on ones nerves during a hot time in the line is heavy but one does not feel it until after he comes out and then the reaction sets in and he feels a peculiar depressed feeling as though he does not care what happens and many lads to drive away that feeling go to an Estaminet (?) and get drunk and some people cry out about the immorality of a soldiers life. Tis a great pity some would not come out here and live under circumstances that are neither pleasant or congenial and certainly not conducive to the growth of all that is noblest in ones nature and then perhaps they would remain silent or wonder at the morality of a soldiers life.

By the way just about five minutes Sir Thomas McKenzie paid a visit to our sleeping quarters in this old French Barn just here, passed a few remarks about our comfortable quarters asked a few of the boys the same old questions "How long have you been here?" "What draft did you arrive with?" "Were you in the Messines Battle?" smiled indulgently but cheerfully and strolled out of the gate and out to his car and departed. Of course it will be in the paper probably in a couple of days about Sir Thomas' visit to N.Z. troops on France etc. etc. However he came - he goes - he forgets and we forget and the world wags on and the guns growl as much as ever.

Last night, Amy, another young fellow and myself decided that we would combine the gentle arts of peace with the sterner work of war so we helped two French girls stook the wheat. They could not speak English nor we French so it was rather a dumb show. However we enjoyed the work. It recalled other days when life was more congenial. I do not know whether our efforts were appreciated or not but I have not yet forgotten how to stook wheat.

This a.m. I helped a French girl milk and found out also that I could still milk cows. I got a big bowl of milk for my trouble so I will repeat the performance some other time. The old French farmer here and his daughter were carting in wheat this afternoon and about a dozen of us decided to help. We had just the one horse and cart but we took charge and in true colonial style carted in his wheat for him. It looked more like a picnic party than anything else but it was good fun. Enjoyment can be found here if one looks for it and after all, Amy, no matter how bad the circumstances are tis a poor heart that never rejoices.

Last night we had a concert in a big YMCA Marquee under the trees. It was good and I for one enjoyed it very much. The YMCA has done more for us out here than any other institution and they deserve all the support one can give them. I've seen their huts smashed by shell fire often. They follow up as close as possible to the line and to get a hot cup of tea and a packet of biscuits just after leaving the line has, I have sometimes felt, almost saved my life. They are good, real good. You will never hear a N.Z. soldier speak other than well of them.

Well Amy I think I had better close now. I hope you are all well out there and I also hope that it will not be long before this cursed war is over and we are all home again. That I hope, more than ever for my peoples sake for I know only too well how they must worry. A few years of this life would turn a man into a morbid pessimist a curse to himself and to all others. However I should not complain, I am content to take life as it comes and live each day by itself. There are times when one is almost afraid to think of the future.

Au Revoir Amy, remember me to all at home. Gladden your own little corner of the world even if the road is rough and stony; though the way of life seems long, still smile on and all will be well

And I will still be

Your affectionate cousin,
Stewart.

The four days before I left the line for leave it rained and heavy too.

The conditions were awful I was wet to the skin for four days. The trench was wet and up to the knees in mud. The ground was loosened by bursting shells and the trenches kept falling in in places. Men were lying in the mud trying to get sleep. Shell fire smashed the trench and in every little hollow men were lying trying to get as much cover as possible from bursting shells.

One wet misty morning at 4.45 we attacked Fritz. In the early dawn our bombardment was magnificent to watch. A sigh of relief when it was over. The shell fire was the worst of it all. To get to work on the Hun with rifle, bayonet and bomb is not so bad but to sit crouched day and night in a wet muddy trench and hear nothing but the scream of shells is not pleasant and to see your comrades boys you have associated with in N.Z. blown to pieces dying of wounds in the mud and to realise that it may be your turn next is also not pleasant. One of the boys in my section was hit in the face with a piece of shell and half his face taken off. Two other boys in the same section trying to get some sleep in a hollow they had scooped out in the trench - a shell landed between them. The sight was awful. Torn flesh and blood and mud all mixed up and that was all. It produces a queer feeling in those who see it.

The guns I knew were there by the hundreds but they were ominously silent but the men were by them and the ammunition was there and Fritz was to get it soon, very soon. At 5.55 the word came "Get ready". Just once I looked at my loaded rifle, just once I thought of home, just once I wondered how the day would go and with a terrific roar that was appalling our massed guns broke out. The scene as we moved forward was awful but magnificent. I shall never forget it. Of all that happened then I have only a hazy recollection but I was mad and out to kill. More than one German paid the price of poor old Willie's life that day and it was with a feeling of fiendish joy that I used that rifle and bayonet. All primitive instincts were on top but I thought it was a glorious morning.

There was one incident I saw that I shall never forget. A Hun of about 18 years of age lay on the ground and one of our boys stood over him with his bayonet on the Huns stomach and he was saying, "I'm going to kill you you..." The look of terror on that boys face was awful and he was screaming for mercy. I could not see him killed. It was too much like murder. I knocked the bayonet aside and dragged the Hun to his feet. That incident, I will never to my dying day forget but I suppose it is one of many in this land where human life is so cheap.

But enough of war. It is bad enough at times to see it without writing about it so I will ring off.

The Patriots Defence Force Motorcycle Club would like to thank the Hauraki Association for the support given during our recent Passchendaele Memorial Ride. The ride and service was very successful and we were extremely lucky with the weather on the day. Although a shocking storm over the night preceeding the event kept our numbers down, those that made it had a great day. A special thanks to the Hauraki Assn Patron Alan Coster, who was our guest speaker, relating the tragedy at Passchendaele in personal terms by reading extracts from his uncle, written to his cousin, from the front lines and from the rear. I can honestly say I don't believe there were many dry eyes in the place.

Another big thank you to Dave and Karen who started the ride, from the Mount RSA, with the firing of their miniature civil war cannon.

The Hauraki Associate members who were present made us feel very welcome and a special thanks to those that managed the bar during the evening.

We are currently planning next years event. We intend to move the service to a different venue each year so as to bring more awareness to Passchendaele. Your members can be assured they will receive a special invitation and be made most welcome.

I would like to close by again thanking the Hauraki Association and leave you with words from the Iron Maiden song 'Passchendaele' (can be searched on Youtube),

*In a foreign field he lay
lonely soldier unknown grave
on his dying words he prays
Tell the world of Passchendaele*

Patriots DFMC,
Hauraki Chapter

Thanks Des
Best Regards

Wrestler
Secretary
Patriots DFMC Hauraki Chapter



The Commanding Officer Lt Col Julian Sewell welcomes the **Rhodesian Services Association** to **6 Hau Bn Gp**. Flanked by the **6 Hauraki Battalion Association**, Kevin Hayden, Tony Frasier & Des Anderson.

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This newsletter is compiled by Des Anderson, President, of the 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association Incorporated. It contains many personal views and comments which may not always be the views of the Association or Committee.

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