

Hauraki News

"Whaka tangata kia kaha"

May 2010 Issue No 59

Official Newsletter of the 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association Incorporated
Compiled & Edited by Des Anderson
Secretary: Mrs M Kareko, 91 Windsor Road, Tauranga
Registered with the Charities Commission # CC35879
Website: **6haurakiassoc.org.nz**

President's Report

ANZAC Day was a great occasion all over New Zealand. Where were YOU on ANZAC Day? I have included a number of photos, newspaper clippings & a speech by Col Aubrey Balzer.

I have received a few replies from Hauraki's of their stories, but I am still waiting for YOU to send me your story. I tell you it is getting hard in the journalist world to get stories to publish. The Free Glance (The Official Journal of the NZSAS Assn Inc) has at long last received a story from me. If they publish it I will copy it in the Hauraki News next edition. Nothing special, just the Kaimai Crash in 1963 in which I had a small part. I am continuity upgrading up the web page. At present I have utilized only 25% of it capacity. When if is full I believe it will be able 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

Annual General Meeting & Hauraki Birthday

The Association will be celebrating the 112th Birthday of the Battalion on Friday 9th July 2010. The Garrison will open at 1600hrs for refreshments & socializing. Supper will be served at 1800 hrs (Pizza, Chinese & Subway) "the PMC said he would shout the supper" The Rhodesian Service Association will operate a movie for those who wish. We have been asking what movie you would like to see. If no replies they may show one of their South Africa movies, where the ALL BLACKS lose to SA

On **Saturday 10th July 2010** the President will present the **Hauraki Association Sword** to the top cadet. It is expected to be at Waiouru MC at 1100hrs.

On **Sunday 11th July 2010** their will be a church parade starting at **0800 hrs**. This the **Holy Trinity Church** on Devonport Road, Tauranga. This is the Church were the **Hauraki Colours** are laid up.

At **1000 hrs** their will be a **Shot Gun Shoot** held at **Coster's Farm**, Lower Kaimai. Transport (a 6 wheeler GMC) will be used to move members from the end of the farm road to the range & back again.

The AGM, (Annual General Meeting) will be held at 1200 hrs in at tent near the farm house.

At **1300 hrs** approximately we move to the Kaimai Wool Shed Restaurant for refreshments. Pay your own.

If you have any **remits** to present to the AGM please send them to the Secretary, by the **2nd July 2010.** If you wish to be **nominated or nominate** someone for the committee, please send to the Secretary, by **2nd July 2010**.

Hope to see you over the weekend.

Letters to the Editor

Hello Des

this L/Cpl Nikora if I can I would like to thru your Hauraki News Thank all the Friends mates, people I have met made friends with ova the last 21 years. It has truly been an orsum time with the regiment and something I will never forget, I will miss you all. Hopefully I will see you around on parade some where Anzac or who knows? , I could go on and on but I will leave it at that thank you very much Kia Kaha Once a Hauraki Always a Hauraki ps SECTION GUNNER, REGIMENT FREYBERG GUNNER now just a plan old civvies at cry Cpl Nuku it had to be.

Thank you all. Smurf

Hi Des.

I was given the Hau newsletter when I attended Gurr's battalion reunion in Rotorua recently. I have been on the road on a 6 week fishing and golfing holiday and found the newsletter when I unpacked. It's great to see you continuing or leading your association with the Hau and your involvement with cadets.

Your interests are similar to mind as I have established two cadet units in my area in Fielding and Palmerton North. Typical me now that they are up and running Ive stepped back and allowed the parents support committees access funds and manage the day to day running.

On sad note I lost Alura to cancer two years ago today and it gives me some comfort to contact our old friends.

Keep up the good work

Fond regards to you and your family Neil Webb

Hi Des.

I read one of your recent newsletters and I saw the profile of many former RF members from the 1980s whom I remember very well and I also met Ted Dean a couple of times at work a few times. It was certainly good to see him again.

Well, Kind regards

Jeremy Compton

Des, thank you for getting in touch. My co-author, Peter Cooke and I are after a whole range of material. The book is going to include a wide range of illustrations and we're keen to look at unofficial photographs, especially those that deal with incidents and activities that are not covered in the official photographs. We are keen to use

letters and diaries or other material to illustrate the experiences of Territorial Force personnel. One retired TF officer has sent us an interesting collection of material relating to the problems he had with his employer over getting leave to undertake his TF duties. The relationship between the TF and the community and between the TF and the RF are two of the major themes in the book.

I will talk to Peter, and will see if there are some specific points you might be able to help us with.

Regards JC

Des

I echo John Crawford's thanks to you for contacting us. We are also both aware of the fine history that 6 Battalion had published in the 1990s (Comrades Brave) and wonder whether there are any stories that did not make it into that book, or happened since, that you think are worth relating to us.

I am sure there will have been incidents or events, amusing or tragic, that can be documented with a photo or two. You would be surprised to hear from us that fleshing out a history such as this with 'human' stories is not as easy as it sounds. We rely on those who witnessed or heard those uplifting stories...

Peter Cooke
Defence of NZ Study Group, BA Hons
PO Box 9724, Wellington 6141, NZ
(04) 934 6817 0274 512312
petercooke@paradise.net.nz

1RNZIR Reunion

NEXT NEW ZEALAND REUNION

The next reunion to be held in New Zealand will be held in Mount Maunganui over Labour weekend (October) 2011.

A full weekend of activities will be planned for this weekend. Again it is up to everyone to get the word out and those who are unable to go to Singapore this is another great chance to catch up with Old friends rather than just through the Internet.

It is a great feeling when you see a mate again who you may have not seen for over 30 years.

Dean Mark < woodstock6b@hotmail.com

If you think that you – (or a deceased family member) may qualify for medals, please write to:
The Medals Office
Headquarters New Zealand Defence Force
Private Bag 905
UPPER HUTT 5140

Any questions can also be directed by e-mail to: medals.so@nzdf.mil.nz

Last Post

Emanuel "Rip" RIPAKI Passed away 19th May 2010. Service was held at Whakatane on 20th May 2010. Rip was a RF Cadre with Support Company 1982 – 1984

Museum



Take a look at this!
The new "sports cabinet".

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 Plague, 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

ANZAC DAY



BAY SERVICE: The Anzac Day memorial service at Tauranga RSA.

PICTURE / MARK McKeown

Strength of human spirit seen at service

by John Cousins news@bayofplentytimes.co.nz

The frailty of the human body and power of the human spirit hit home during yesterday's emotionally charged Anzac Day dawn service at the Tauranga RSA's new cenotaph.

As the fingers of a chilly dawn started to lighten the sky and a bugler played the haunting Last Post, a loud thrump was heard when a member of the uniformed services, standing at attention, fainted. The 18-year-old firefighter from the Greerton station fell so heavily he smashed his mouth and nose, knocking out a tooth and bled heavily.

But in true services style, the discipline never faltered. The ceremony continued with scarcely a pause as a small group huddled to assist the fireman who was carried to an ambulance.

A little earlier, he had been among the ranks of ex-servicemen and representatives of the armed services and emergency services who had marched the short distance to the cenotaph.

The occasion was especially poignant because it was the first time a dawn service had been held at the RSA's new home and cenotaph — formerly Fahy's Motor Inn.

Cascades of red poppies, representing the ultimate sacrifice made by Anzac forces, were cleverly illuminated on to the memorial using a frontal projector. It set the scene for a moving ceremony that drew on the history of all New Zealand's wars and peace-keeping efforts.

The address by Major Roger Earp, of



the 6th Hauraki Battalion, reminded the hundreds attending that they were standing on part of a battlefield that pre-

dated Gallipoli by 50 years.

He described how Maori warriors were entrenched on a low hill at Gate Pa, where St George's Anglican Church now stands: "On the night of 28th April, 1864, 650 men of the British Army's 65th Regiment waded through tidal swamps and spread out through manuka and fern, just where we are now, and lay down for the night in the rain."

As dawn broke, the British guns opened fire from the vicinity of where the hospital is now, and the enormous bombardment of the pa continued all day. "Shells that overshot the pa exploded in and around this area, and the 65th and Maori warriors exchanged musket fire. By nightfall, the Maori had repulsed the British and won a victory. Over 60 men from both sides had been killed and about 150 wounded. Two Victoria Crosses were won," Major Earp said.

He linked the setting of the RSA's dawn service with both races, European and Maori, who gave their lives in wars.

"Anzac Day reinforces a sense of identity, belonging and pride ... it is important that we remember all those New Zealanders who have fought and died for us."

The following is a version of the Last Post quoted at Anzac Day by Maj Roger Earp.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the American Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment.

When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician.

The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform.

This wish was granted. The haunting melody, we now know as 'The Last Post' used at military funerals was born.

The words are:

Day is done. Gone the sun. From the lakes From the hills. From the sky. All is well. Safely rest. God is nigh. Fading light. Dims the sight. And a star. Gems the sky. Gleaming bright. From afar. Drawing nigh. Falls the night. Thanks and praise. For our days. Neath the sun Neath the stars. Neath the sky As we go. This we know. God is nigh

ANZAC DAY – AND AS THE DAWN HERALDS THE BIRTH OF THIS SPECIAL DAY – A DAY FOREVER ENSHRINED IN THE HISTORY OF OUR NATION, NEW ZEALANDERS WHEREVER THEY MAY BE, GATHER TOGETHER TO PAY HOMAGE TO, AND TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND REMEMBER THE TREMENDOUS SACRIFICES OUR YOUNG MEN MADE, SO THAT WE MAY LIVE IN FREEDOM AND PEACE IN THIS BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY OF OURS.

TODAY, WE MOURN FOR THE MANY THOUSANDS OF OUR SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND AIRMEN WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE, THEY PAID FOR OUR FREEDOM WITH THEIR LIVES. THEIR REWARD, A SMALL PLOT, MARKED WITH A WHITE CROSS IN A FAR OFF FOREIGN LAND. WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY TO THEIR FAMILIES, WHOSE LIVES WERE SHATTERED BY THE LOSS OF THEIR BELOVED SONS, HUSBANDS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS. THEY TOO PAID DEARLY FOR OUR FREEDOM, AND SACRIFICED MUCH.

WE TURN OUR THOUGHTS TO THOSE WHO ARRIVED HOME ON THE HOSPITAL SHIPS, ALL BEARING HORRIFIC WOUNDS. MANY SPENT THEIR LIVES IN CONSTANT PAIN AND WERE NEVER AGAIN ABLE TO LIVE A NORMAL LIFE, OR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITIES THEY ONCE ENJOYED PRIOR TO THE WAR. THEY TOO PAID A VERY HIGH PRICE FOR OUR FREEDOM.

LASTLY WE REMEMBER THE WAR WEARY SOLDIERS WHO RETURNED HOME ON THE TROOP SHIPS. MANY HAD BEEN TRAUMATIZED BY THE HORRORS AND STRESS OF WAR, MEMORIES OF WHICH INVADED THEIR THOUGHTS BY DAY, WHILE NIGHTMARES PLAGUED THEIR SLEEP BY NIGHT. AFTER HAVING SERVED MANY YEARS IN THE SERVICES, SOME HAD DIFFICULTY READJUSTING TO CIVILIAN LIFE. THEY HAD LITTLE, IF ANY MONEY, AND NEEDED TO FIND WORK URGENTLY. MANY HAD GONE STRAIGHT FROM SCHOOL INTO THE FORCES, AND SO HAD NO TRADE OR WORK EXPERIENCE TO OFFER AN EMPLOYER. JOB SEEKERS WERE PLENTIFUL, WORK WAS NOT! MANY OF THOSE WHO FAILED TO MAKE THE TRANSITION FROM WAR TO PEACE, AND UNABLE TO CLEAR THEIR MINDS OF THE RECURRING IMAGES OF WAR TIME EXPERIENCES, SOUGHT FORGETFULNESS IN ALCOHOL. DO NOT CONDEMN THEM, BUT TRY TO UNDERSTAND THEIR PROBLEM AND BE COMPASSIONATE. UNLIKE TODAY, THERE WAS NO COUNSELLING AVAILABLE FOR TROUBLED SOLDIERS AFTER THE WAR.

WE WHO SERVED IN WORLD WAR 2 BELIEVED THAT WE HAD FOUGHT AND WON THE WAR TO END ALL WARS. WE NOW KNOW THAT FREEDOM ALSO HAS TO BE

DEFENDED. HENCE WE ONCE AGAIN HAVE OUR YOUNG MEN PUTTING THEIR LIVES, THEIR HEALTH AND FUTURE AT RISK. MANY HAVE ONCE AGAIN MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE.

WE THEREFORE THIS DAY, REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED IN KOREA, VIETNAM, MALAYSIA, EAST TIMOR, AFGANISTAN AND THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

WE MUST SUPPORT THESE VETERANS IN GAINING RECOGNITION FOR THE HEALTH PROBLEMS THEY, AND THEIR CHILDREN SUFFER AS A RESULT OF THEIR SERVICE IN VIETNAM OR ANY OTHER THEATRE OF WAR. THEY AND ALL OTHER RETURNED SOLDIERS DESERVE NOTHING LESS THAN OUR TOTAL SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE. SO LET US GIVE THEM WHATEVER HELP THEY NEED. THEY HAVE PAID FOR AND EARNED IT. LET US ALL EXTEND TO THEM OUR HEARTFUL THANKS FOR THE PART THEY ARE PLAYING IN ENSURING THAT WE MAY CONTINUE TO LIVE IN PEACE AND LIBERTY.

IN CONCLUSION, TO MY PEOPLE, THE MAORI, THE TANGATA WHENUA OF NEW ZEALAND, I SAY BE PROUD, STAND TALL, OUR YOUNG WARRIORS EARNED US THE RIGHT TO STAND SHOULDER TO SHOULDER WITH THE OTHER FREEDOM LOVING PEOPLES OF THE WORLD. IN THE FOREWORD OF THE BOOK ENTITLED '28 MAORI BATTALION', GENERAL FREYBERG WROTE THAT WHEN THE HISTORY OF THE BATTALION IS WRITTEN AND PUBLISHED, IT WILL BE RECOGNISED THAT NO OTHER INFANTRY BATTALION HAD A MORE DISTINGUISHED RECORD OR SAW MORE FIGHTING, OR ALAS, HAD SUCH HEAVY CASUALTIES AS THE MAORI BATTALION. THIS IS BORN OUT IN THE OFFICIAL STATISTICS WHICH APPLY ONLY TO THE BATTALION AND DOES NOT INCLUDE MAORI CASUALTIES SUFFERED IN OTHER UNITS OR FORCES, OR SERVICES.

KILLED IN ACTION OR DIED OF WOUNDS: 640 OFFICERS AND MEN. A RATIO OF 1 IN EVERY 6 WHO SERVED IN THE BATTALION.

CASUALTIES: 2598 MAORI CASUALTIES. 2 IN EVERY 3 THAT SERVED.

WE AS A SMALL RACE, PAID DEARLY WITH THE LIVES AND BLOOD OF THE FINEST YOUNG MEN OF OUR PEOPLE. THEY DID SO FOR THE LOVE OF THEIR COUNTRY – AOTEAROA – AND SO THAT WE HERE IN NEW ZEALAND COULD CONTINUE TO LIVE IN FREEDOM, PEACE, AND HARMONY, ALL OF WHICH ARE SO PRECIOUS TO US ALL.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM





Lt Col Aubrey Balzer

Aubrey Balzer gave the speech at Makatu, his home town. Aubrey is a long serving Hauraki. Aubrey served with the Battalion prior to World War Two and during the War had seen overseas service with 28(Maori) Battalion. After returning from the War Aubrey left the service. Aubrey then later rejoined the Hauraki Battalion. Aubrey became Commanding Officer in 1959 – 1962. Aubrey became Honorary Colonel 1974 – 1978. Aubrey was a foundation member of the 6 Hauraki Association, and a strong supporter.

Aubrey attends the Garrison on Fridays from 1630hrs – 1730hrs, and then joins the Bay of Plenty Officers Club. I would recommend you take the opportunity to talk to him. He has vast knowledge of the Hauraki

Battalion and did much to shape its unique personality. I can not do justice to him in the format. For background information read "Comrades Brave" A history of the Hauraki Regiment.

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)

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.

Projects



The Royal Victoria Regiment plaque that had been presented to 6th Hauraki Battalion.



ROYAL VICTORIA REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC

C/- Regimental HQ, 202 Burwood Rd, Hawthorn 3122 www.rvr.asn.au rvrassoc@hotmail.com

HONORARY COLONEL, His Excellency The Governor of Victoria Professor Dipold de Kretser AC PATRON: Major General Gree Clunte AO RED QC (Rend)

/#/ February 2010

Mrs M Kareko

Secretary

6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regtl Assocn

Miled

91 Windsor Road

TAURANGA NEW ZEALAND

ESH Arres

Dear Mrs Kareko,

32mt Bu Javoc

Re: ANZAC - 2015

Auth Rite Biotoc

I am writing to you and other unit associations around Australia and New Zealand to identify those that have links to the original ANZACs.

22 RFR Throc

TRUE 2 RUN Long A committee has been raised under the auspices of the Royal Victoria Regiment Association (RVRA) with representatives of others who have these historical links. The Regiment carries the ANZAC Battle Honours won by their antecedent battalions of the 2nd Brigade of the Australian 1st Division in 1915.

The committee aims to arrive at a scheme to have a representative contingent attend Gallipoli as part of any Government planned centenary remembrance ceremony for the Landing at ANZAC. We would like this to be planned in concert with other likeminded Australian and New Zealand associations.

Our advice suggests for such a scheme to succeed it should be supported by New Zealand and all states of Australia. It should be driven through contact with both politicians and with other parties and organizations that may be helpful to our cause.

During the first half of 2010 it is proposed to liaise with all interested unit associations who are prepared to support and help devise a plan to bring the proposal to fruition. A co-ordinated launch would then be made later in 2010.

ANZAC Day 2015 is five years away but now is the time to prepare to launch the scheme.

Our aim is to ensure that the history of ANZAC is maintained. It is about soldiers and the units they came from and about their histories. Our scheme is to be based on the descendants of these original ANZACs. It is about having 'down-the-line' soldiers from the units that landed on that day in 1915 being a representative group 100 years later.

I look forward to your favourable reply in the hope that we can work together to see some serving soldiers experience the celebration of the centenary of ANZAC. Any suggestions, advice or comments will be welcome. Also we would appreciate advice of any other New Zealand associations with similar links.

Contact points for 'ANZAC - 2015' at this stage are either through the RVRA Email - rvrassoc@hotmail.com or as shown below.

Respectfully Yours,

Ed Hawkes RFD ED

Chairman, 'ANZAC - 2015'

10 Caroline Crescent

BLACKBURN

VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA 3130

Tel 03 9898 4107

Email: hawkesec@tpg.com.au

(Ex - CO 5/6 RVR)



6th BATTALION (HAURAKI) REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Ed Hawkes RFD ED Chairman "ANZAC – 2015" 10 Caroline Crescent BLACKBURN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA 3130

Dear Sir,

The 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association Incorporated welcomes your initiative in planning a centenary remembrance ceremony for the Landing at ANZAC.

The 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association Incorporated whole heartedly supports you in your endeavors. We are the only Regiment that has not amalgamated thus our lineage can easily be traced. The other New Zealand Regiments may not have Associations such as ours.

ABRIDGED BY ED

TERRITORIAL FORCE CENTENARY

The last weekend of February sees two significant anniversaries celebrated by the Territorial Force. The 4 Otago Southland Battalion Group 150th anniversary and perhaps lesser known, the centenary of the Territorial Force.

The 28 February 2010 marks one hundred years of the Defence Act 1909 coming into force, establishing the Territorial Force (TF) as we know of it today.

The 52 year-old volunteer system that preceded the TF was disbanded and organised into geographical groups that created a standardised national force along the lines of the British Territorial Army.

The 56 areas where volunteer forces were conducting activities around New Zealand at the time were shifted into 16 area groups and named after their locality.

The need for change arose during the Imperial Defence Conference in 1909. Prime Minister Joseph Ward accepted the need to reform the NZ military forces, at that stage a miscellany of voluntary groups and militias, and raise a force capable of providing home security and assistance in imperial defence.

From 17 February to 3 March 1910, visiting Field Marshal Lord Kitchener endorsed the proposal. He also recommended some slight changes to the age of liability of service and subdivided the territories into a larger number of areas.

Major General Alexander Godley, who was tasked with implementing the scheme, had all males between 14 and 30 compulsorily enrolled, and by 1914, the commander had 26,000 young Kiwis ready for war.

As a result of the 1909 Act, NZ was well-placed when World War I arrived. A significant force was well trained and ready for deployment, the TF providing the backbone to New Zealand's contribution.

Territorials praise employers

By DAVE BLANSHARD

WITHOUT the co-operation of employers of Territorial Force soldiers the New Zealand Army would be hard pressed to fulfil its obligations.

After 10 years' of continuous deployments on various peacekeeping and policing operations round the world, territorials have an important role to play, says Hauraki Battalion Commanding Officer Lt Colonel Julian Sewell. If they were not available the army would be hard pressed to sustain those deployments.

He was speaking at the

He was speaking at the presentation of the 2010 Bay of Plenty — Walketo Territorial Employer of the Year award in Tauranga to Moana Pacific Fisharies

"It can't happen without employers prepared to release employees for training and on deployments, and we greatly appreciate those who support their staff in that way," Colonel Sewell said. "Our volunteer soldiers frequently bring with them a whole range of civilian specialist skills and knowledge that can be extremely useful."

Chairman of the Bay of Plenty-Waikato Territorial Force Support Committee, Ted Dean, said his group existed to support soldiers and their employers in various ways, including advocacy on behalf of both groups.

Military training of staff members had many potential benefits for employers, but could also cause inconvenience at times, which was why the Employer of the Year awards had been instituted, with soldiers invited to nominate employers who gave them the necessary backing. In the case of Moana Pacific Fisheries long standing factory hand Corporal Henry Gillies had nominated the commany.

company.

He had been with
the firm for 15 years,
and he had always
been supported when
needing time off for
military activities
that included a recent
tour to the Solomon
Islands.

Moana's manager, Eddie Dodd, said Corporal Gillies carried a number of responsibilities within the company and was a particularly reliable and punctual employee. The company was pleased to support his military absences.

Moane Pacific now goes forward to the National Territorial Employer of the Year finals in Wellington.

In a separate
ceremony on Monday
the Bay of Plenty
Polytechnic was also
presented with a
certificate of appreciation from

the support committee.
It had been nominated for the



MOANA Pacific Fisheries Manager Eddie Dodd with Bay of Pienty/Walkato Territorial Support Council Chairman Ted Dean (left) and Hauraki Battalion Commanding Officer Lt Colonel Julian Sewell, at Monday's presentation.

> Employer of the Year Award by a staff member from its marine studies faculty who serves with

Tauranga's HMNZS Ngapona Navy Reserve unit based at the port.

EDDIE DODD HAS SUPPORTED ME FOR THE 14 YEARS THAT I HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED BY MOANA FISHERIES. I HAVE BEEN CONSISTENTLY ALLOWED TIME OFF TO ATTEND COURSES AND ALSO TO INSTRUCT ON VARIOUS RIT'S. I HAVE ALSO BEEN FORTUNATE TO HAVE BEEN GIVEN TIME FOR AN OPERATIONAL DEPLOYMENT ON OP RATA. MR DODD IS SUPPORTIVE OF THE BENEFITS OF TF SERVICE AND THIS HAS HELPED WITH MY CONTINUED SERVICE IN HIS EMPLOY.

CPL HENRY GILLIES

The Legendary Blackwater Rafting Co

Van Watson has been a totally supportive employer from the time I applied to join the TF in 2007. When I was accepted in June 2008, Van made time available to me to attend all RIT Training in Nov – Dec 2008, and Jan 2009. I was also given time to attend AFE following RIT 4, despite these being during some of the busiest times for the Tourism Industry. When I put my name forward for a deployment, he was most supportive and unhesitant gave me the time for PDT and to deploy on Op Rata, despite my role as a senior guide and operational manager. My job has been guaranteed on my return, and there has been no impact on my seniority or standing within the company. Van is the sort of employer who always looks beyond the immediate concerns of his business requirements, and sees the picture of supporting people's personal growth and development, and the benefits of people following their passion. He is an incredibly positive person who believes in making things happen. I believe he appreciates the benefits of my service in the TF, and the value of an Operational Deployment, and what it means I can offer back to the business.

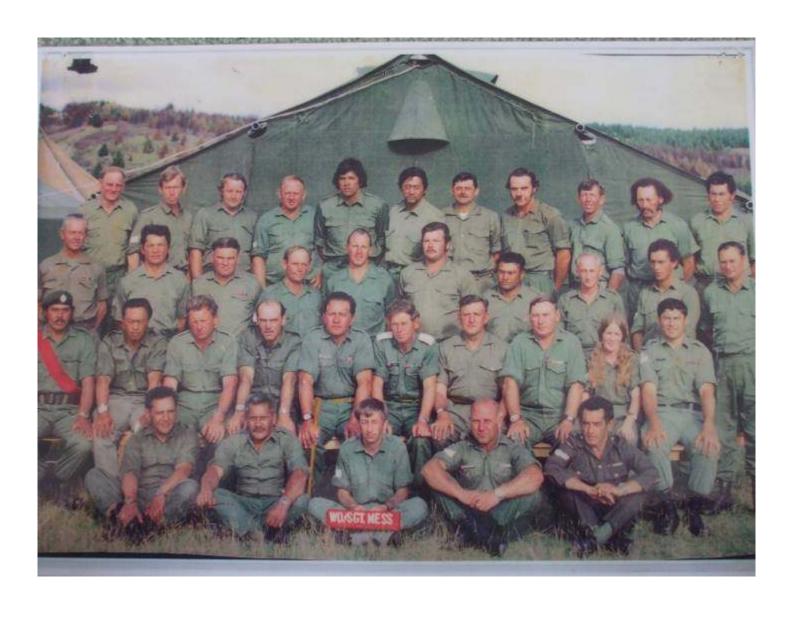
PTE ZANE BURDETT



Scrap book



Neil Davis, John Briscoe, Des Smith, Methven Sparks 1975 Medal Parade Presented by Mayor Bob Owen of Tauranga



6th BATTALION ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INFANTRY REGIMENT (HAURAKI)

SERGEANTS' MESS COLOURS PRESENTATION, CAMP ARAWA PARK, ROTORUA 24th FEBRUARY - 12th MARCH, 1973



- Direct Colour by FENWICK

Back Row: Sgt A. R. REDDING

Sgt D. G. McGOWEN Sgt D. J. COOK Sgt K. W. JAMIESON Sgt R. J. MANKELOW Sgt R. C. MEAD Sgt P. F. MALONE Sgt J. P. COUCH Sgt D. I. MILLIKEN

Sgt R. A. CRAFTS Sgt W. S. BRADEY W.O.2 M. A. PETERS Sgt P. A. FORWARD Sgt W. MAXWELL Sgt A. A. HINI Sgt P. J. CROUCHER Sgt M. P. KIPPENBERGER Sgt R. J. YOUNG Sgt R. L. M. RANKIN Third Row: Sgt R. N. GOODWIN Sgt R. E. KENNEDY

Second Row: Sgt E. P. DEAN Sgt W. HILLMAN Sgt A. R. EADES Sgt T. M. W. HETA Sgt M. McGREGOR Sgt R. CARTER Sgt T. MOKOMOKO Sgt N. G. W. SPRATT Sgt C. P. BENDALL Sgt L. R. MURTON Sgt I. G. BARTLETT Sgt B. T. SCHINKEL

Social Events

Past events

The Luncheon at Merhaba was postponed to the Sunday 30th May 2010. This was due as the Bay of Plenty Officers Club had booked their Luncheon at the Lodge on the same day. We agreed to

postpone & join the Officers. A great day was had by everyone.



Up coming events

Luncheon at Merhaba, the Strand, Tauranga

Sunday 30th May 2010 Time 1230hrs Join us for a Mediterranean Cuisine and a wine.

Look in February 2010 Hauraki News for the Menu

Please advise Marion or me if you intend coming.

News from the Regiment

ANZAC Day at Rotorua





TAURANGA'S Warrant Officer Clint Savage with Heather Roy after last week's medals presentation.

Service medals for volunteer soldiers

By DAVE BLANSHARD

TALK is cheap when it comes to peace keeping, but action is what counts, says Associate Defence Minister Heather Roy.

She was commenting in Tauranga last week as she presented service medals to five members of the Tauranga-based 6 Hauraki Group Territorial Army unit who have variously served recently with NZ units in Afghanistan, the Solomon Islands and Timor Leste.

The Act Party MP has the distinction of being one of only two current New Zealand MPs to have served in the military.

She said the Haurakis had a proud tradition. It is the only remaining Territorial Army unit in the country to have retained its original identity, without amalgamation. It had now been preparing volunteer soldiers for

action, if required, for 114 years.

Volunteer soldiering was a "big ask" for those involved, the Associate Minister said. It required real commitment by those involved, who had to hold down civilian jobs as well as complete military training, and

6 During the past 12 months the Haurakis, and the communities from which they were drawn, had made a significant commitment to the country's peacekeeping efforts with 16 members involved in various overseas deployments.

> huge sacrifices by families and employers, especially when they were required to spend extended periods serving overseas.

New Zealand needed both Regular Force and Territorial troops to fulfil its obligations. Good intentions were not the same as successfully achieving goals and both types of soldiers were needed to maintain unit strengths.

During the past 12 months the Haurakis, and the communities from which they were drawn, had made a significant commitment to the country's

peacekeeping efforts with 16 members involved in various overseas deployments.

"The Defence Force greatly appreciates their availability and the many skills volunteers bring with them," she said. "We also thank employers for their support, and believe they are in turn rewarded by other

skills their staff bring back from their military experience.'

W.O.2 Clint Savage was the only Tauranga resident among the five Haurakis to receive awards. He was presented with the General Service Medal for service in Timor Leste and Solidarity Medal awarded by the President of East Timor. A Department of Conservation officer, he previously served as a Regular Force soldier in both Afghanistan and Timor Leste prior to his latest deployment as a Hauraki.

Other recipients came from Whakatane, Putaruru and Auckland.

A small group of New Zealand Army personnel from Trentham, Linton and 6 Hauraki Battalion tackled one of the most challenging sporting events of the year recently —Ironman New Zealand (IMNZ).

Ironman is a 3.8 km swim, 180 km cycle and 42.2 km run, in that order. Each of these distances is impressive on its own and collectively they make up a pretty intimidating day. IMNZ is now always held in Taupo and this year it took place on Saturday 6 March.

Warrant Officer Class Two Kevin Fee, Captain Soren Hall, Mr Tom Hirst, Sergeant Jase Houia, CAPT Nicola Martin and Bombadier Jamie Tolhopf made up the Ironman (IM) 'first-timers' from Linton and Trentham. However, they were rounded out by a few IM veterans from 6 Hauraki Battalion—Colonel Chris McGuire (Hon Col) completed his second full IM distance race; it was Lieutenant John Molloy's fifth (but fourth consecutive) IMNZ; and a very special mention must go to Staff Sergeant Ron Skelton who bagged his 23rd IMNZ finish, missing only three years since the inaugural IMNZ in 1985. What is even more impressive is that he did his fastest time since 1999!

Race day dawned beautifully (although everyone was up well before dawn) and conditions for the swim couldn't have been better. This was a stark contrast from the previous days where the lake could have been mistaken for a surf beach! At 0700 Prime Minister John Key fired the gun to signal the start of the race and in particular the 3.8 km out and back swim course that runs parallel to the main shore front. With a sea of arms and legs all heading in the same direction the next hour can be described like being tossed around in a washing machine.

The 180 km bike course is two 90 km loops

out to Reporoa and back. The calm conditions remained through the first lap of the bike for most contestants, but the wind picked up quite significantly in the second lap. To make matters worse it was a cross-wind with little relief in either direction. With most contestants from Linton and Trentham, riding in the wind was nothing new ... but not what is wanted on race day! For the 'first-timers' it was difficult to know how hard they could push it in the wind with the unknown beast (marathon) to follow.

The 42.2 km run is two laps out to 5-Mile Bay and back into Taupo, with a few dog-legs thrown in for good measure. With the strong south-easterly wind continuing to hammer riders on the out of town leg, the run had its environmental challenges on top of the physical and mental challenges expected. But the run is the time when contestants really get to feed off the positive atmosphere of the event, from the amazing volunteers and marshals at every aid station and street corner; to the spectators and supporters who line the course and provide positive and encouraging messages to every athlete.

Although only nine individuals from Army crossed the IMNZ 2010 finish line; there are many people that assisted in getting each of them to the start line. Contestants extend a huge thank to their partners (the Iron Widows and one Iron Widower), families, friends and colleagues for their ongoing support and 'putting up' when Iron Man became all-consuming and contestants were hungry, tired and grumpy people to be around. They would like to thank all of the Army IM veterans, especially Lieutenant Colonel Rob Hoult, Warrant Officer Class One Roddy Hickling and Sergeant Ray Boardman for their valuable insight, advice, support and encouragement along the way.



COL CHRIS MCGUIRE (HON COL, 6TH HAURAKI BATTALION)

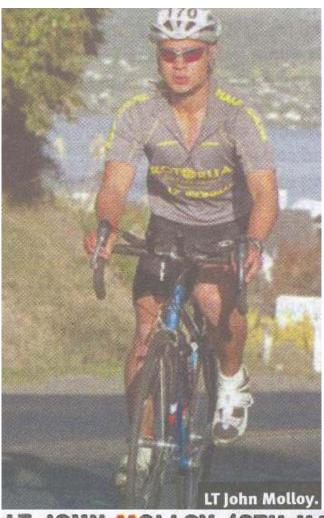
"Blame the Army! Whilst waiting for my wife to finish walking the Rotorua Marathon in 2005 I ran into Bob Lowe, an ex-SAS colleague whom I hadn't seen for 30 years. "What have you been up to Bob?" I asked. "Well, for my 65th birthday I've just completed my first Ironman". "Mmmm" I thought....

I was lucky to stumble upon Jon Ackland of Performancelab to train me. I had my first crack in 2006. That was the year of the great storm at Taupo and the event was reduced to half distances for the bike and run only. Despite this I qualified for Kona. Unfortunately, two days out from Kona I got sick and finished 11th in my age group.

With a bit of unfinished business, Jon was surprised when I rang him again last July saying I wanted to do it all again. Again though he did a superlative job training me, and I got to meet and train with his somewhat younger stars, including Terenzo Bozzone. Despite being knocked off my bike during training I was good to go by race day.

I had a brilliant swim in a calm lake. On the bike the wind got up and I crashed during the second lap after misjudging the force on a corner. Fortunately, the road cones came between me and the gravel. After starting the run dehydrated I managed to get back on track and ran the second half of the marathon faster than the first.

Now, to all you servicemen and women out there, believe me, all of you are capable of doing Ironman. It's just another RFL ... that goes for a bit longer!



LT JOHN MOLLOY (6TH HAURAKI BATTALION)

"The 26th anniversary of IMNZ marked my fourth consecutive Ironman. Every year I find the hardest part of Ironman is getting to the start line. It takes a lot of courage and is an achievement in itself. Each year the right index finger nervously caresses the mouse, with the pointer delicately poised over the submit button. The dreaded left click signifies the cataclysmic cycle of early morning swims, long weekend bike rides, and late evening runs; and before you know it, you are treading water at the swim start, wondering if you're going to finish. The 'no guarantee' that you will finish is part of the attraction of Ironman.

Quite fittingly, the majority of my January Ironman training was conducted in Waiouru during the Grade 3 Extramural residential phase. Three weeks of early morning swims, runs along Waitangi and Widow maker, and squeezing bike rides to National Park and back when opportunity permitted, got me closer to that start line. I was amusingly accused of conducting TEWTs on my long bike rides. How one can safely navigate the road whilst balancing a TEWT folder and TEWT stand on the handle bars remains beyond me.

Like passing the Grade 3, getting to the Iron Man start line involves a lot of uncertainty and is definitely the hardest part. But, if you can get to the start line and swim smart, ride strong, and run tough, you will almost certainly finish."



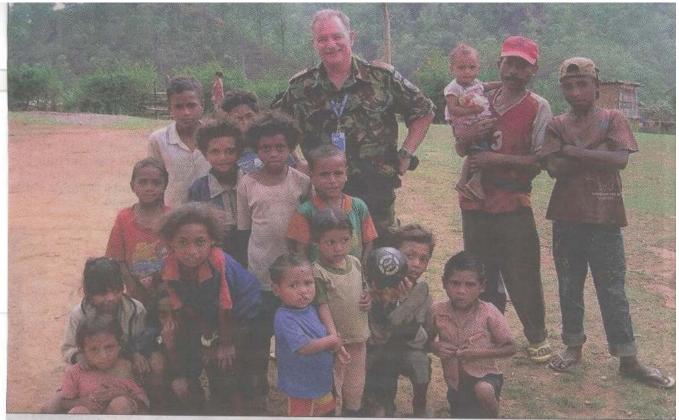
SSGT RON SKELTON (6TH HAURAKI BATTALION)

"2010 was my 23rd finish in Ironman NZ and my fastest time in the last 10 years, which is a great result. I have had a steady build up since Oct 09. In Nov I finished 3rd in the 640 km Maxi-Enduro cycle race around Lake Taupo, which was a boost, and wearing out the rear wheel of my training bike confirmed I was doing enough riding.

It's a challenge to squeeze 15–20 hours of training around my civilian job as a truck driver, working up to 65 hours per week, but the long days prepared me for what to expect on race day. Weekends were spent working, training and having power naps while neglecting the home front and once again relegating my long suffering partner, Frances, to the realms of Iron Widow.

Despite pushing hard against a strong south-easterly on the bike I managed a personal best. Once off the bike it was into the run and I focused on keeping an even pace as it's a long day with only one tank of fuel to burn. Heading down the finishing chute I remembered to smile for the cameras, with another successful IM in the bag in 14 hrs 31 mins 32 sec. For some it's a race, but for me it's a destination to journey too. I am looking forward to next year already and recommend IM to anyone seeking a challenge that is very achievable if you put in the miles."





COLONEL Banks with a group of children in a mountain village on East Timor.

PHOTO SUPPLIE

UN makes a difference

By DAVE BLANSHARD

HALFWAY through his posting to East Timor former commanding officer of Tauranga-based 6 Battalion (Hauraki) RNZIR Lieutenant Colonel Warren Banks says he remains under no illusions why UN peacekeeping forces are still required there.

"Early in my tour I took the opportunity to visit the Chega museum in Dili, an imposing representation of the history of this country," he says. "After two hours of shocked reflection on the events that have shaped the people, I knew why I was here. It is to create an environment to allow the people from Timor Leste to develop their country, their way."

Colonel Banks, just fully recovered from an attack of potentially serious dengue fever, has now spent more than 13 weeks in the "tropical, smoke filled, rocky roaded, rugged country".

He has been promoted to Deputy Chief Military Liaison Officer of the UN force.

"The liaison staff here are from a range of countries including New Zealand, China, Pakistan, India, Brazil, Portugal, Australia, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Fiji, Sierra Leone," he says. "My new role involves deputising for the chief liaison officer, and specifically managing the careers of the 33 MLOs's who are here for 12 months. I have responsibilities in working groups liaising with the ambassadors, Ministers, Head of the UN Mission sections and the like."

He has spent a good deal of time working in back country areas liaising with village chiefs about security, food, health, projects, education, electricity, and other topical subjects.

Colonel Banks' own children collected boxes of small toys for him to give away to the local children.

In the first month he distributed them all and says the joy on the faces of recipients was unforgettable.

"These children have nothing and on a daily basis can spend up to four hours walking to get water in 5 litre jerry cans which they carry on their heads or in their hands," he says.
"Two meals a day is normal. Many have malaria, and asthma not helped by cooking on wood

"The nurse comes once a

month, to a clinic and road conditions are so bad that in one case she walks for four hours and brings the supplies on horse back — the only way to get in.

"When it rains, the roads, many of which are just clay tracks, wash away, isolating villages for the duration of the rainy season — up to half the year.

"I have been operating at altitudes up to 6500ft and treat rural roads with the greatest respect. Even in Dili the streets flood after about an hour of rain. It is also very warm at about 37C in the daytime dropping to 27C at night."

Colonel Banks says his work in Timor-Leste with the UN Mission, is proving a fascination opportunity to see a nation developing. Every day is different and always interesting, and he is impressed with the openness of the people—especially children.

"I also admire the courage of the people who have put the past aside and continue to work to build their young nation.

"As a lone Kiwi in a small team, I have limited ability to make change however, I each day I try to make a positive difference."

Mark Anderson investiga war crimes with UN mission

by Sandra Conchie

NZAC day has taken on a whole new meaning for Sergeant Mark Anderson since he joined the NZ Defence Force and served in East Timor.

Currently serving as senior medic in command of the Royal New Zealand Army Medical Corps in Timor-Leste — as the country is officially known - the former Tauranga man told the Bay of Plenty Times that Anzac day was a very important day to him and his colleagues.

"It is a very special day to us

for very good reasons."

Sergeant Anderson, 37, was a territorial with the 6th Hauraki [Tauranga] regiment from 1989 to 1991 before joining the Army in 1991. He transferred to the Royal NZ Army Medical Corps in 2001.

Anzac day was not just about remembering those who fought and died for their countries.

"It is a very special way to celebrate the meaning of what we are doing today and remembering those who went before us and what they have done.

"To me it's also the way to make sure we remember what happened so we don't make the

same mistakes."

This is not the first time Sergeant Anderson will celebrate Anzac day in East Timor, having began another six months rotation in November after being posted from Burnham Camp, in Christchurch, to Dili.

In 1999 and 2000, the then Corporal Anderson, with the Corps of Royal NZ Military Police, spent nine months working as a war-crimes investigator, first as a member of an international team and then with UN forces.

He was part of a team that investigated a report of bodies found in a village 9km west of Liquica. Most of the 11 bodies found in a well were victims of brutal machete slayings by the Besi Merah Putih militia that laid



waste to Liquica.

More bodies may have been in the well but were not able to be

It was his work as a war-crimes investigator that saw him decorated as Member of the NZ Order of Merit in the 2001 Queen's

Birthday Honours.

Sergeant Anderson said every day he leaves the Kiwi camp in East Timor to go to work, he drives past the area where bodies and gravesites were found, something which reminds him why Anzac Day was so important.

"It was hard work but at the same time very rewarding and coming back after 10 years absence it's overwhelming to see the changes and the progress this country has made with the help of our ground forces."

He said it was on Anzac Day 2000 that the New Zealand Defence Force contingent also lost one of its own in East Timor, when Linton-based Staff Sergeant Billy White died after the Unimog utility truck i he was in rolled down a 30m bank.

He hoped to be able to attend a special Anzac Day memorial celebration in Sergeant White's honour.

This Anzac Day Sergeant Anderson's thoughts will also be with his family in New Zealand. His wife Marian, who is also a senior medic with the NZ Army Medical Corps based in Burnham, served in East Timor in 2008.

"Half of my family still lives in Tauranga," he said.

His parents, Jim and Helen Anderson, live in Otumoetai, while his sister, Lisa, and her husband,



REWARDING: Former Tauranga Sergeant Mark Anderson says Anzac Day is all the more important to him while he is serving in Timor-Leste.



ANZAC DAY: Mount Maunganui memorial service.

PICTURE / MARK MCKEOWN 250410MM62BOP



PATRIOTS DEFENCE FORCE MOTORCYCLE CLUB

Motorbike riders salute fallen

by John Cousins news@bayofplentytimes.co.nz

The Patriots look staunch in their motorcycle leathers, but their bearing is military.

They are members of a little-known motorcycle club which joined other organisations in laying wreaths at the Anzac Day memorial service at the Mount Maunganui ceno-. taph yesterday.
The leather-clad members of

the Hauraki chapter of the

Patriots Defence Force Motorcycle Club made an incongruous sight, marching to and from the cenotaph. Many of the estimated 1000 people at the service must have wondered who they were - toughlooking guys marching with conventionally dressed exservicemen.

A New Zealand Army member of the motorcycle club, Warrant Officer Des Ratima, and civilian member Jim Grey, of Papamoa, laid the Hauraki

chapter's wreath on the Marine Parade cenotaph.

The Patriots started in New Zealand about 12 years ago, drawing membership from serving and former armed service defence forces. Chapters operate throughout the US, the United Kingdom and Australia.

Mr Ratima said the club's bottom line was comradeship: "They enjoy life and like having a good time."

The Patriots were embedded into the RSA last month.



RHODESIAN SERVICES ASSOCIATION

The Rhodesia Regiment is linked 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

A different version on the Last Post

Below is a short summary of the background to the Last Post. If you desire, you will be able to search the internet for more details – legitimate details.

"Last Post" is a bugle call used at Commonwealth military funerals and ceremonies commemorating those who have fallen in war. "The Last Post" is also the name of a poem by Robert Graves describing a soldier's funeral during World War I.

"Last Post" was originally a bugle call used in British Army camps to signal the end of the day. The name derives from the practice of inspecting all the sentry posts around such a camp at the end of the day, and playing a bugle call at each of them. The "last post" was thus the last point of this inspection, and the bugle call signalling that this post had been

inspected marked the end of the military day. This custom dates from at least the 17th Century, and originated with British troops stationed in The Netherlands, where it drew on an older Dutch custom, called Taptoe. The Taptoe was also used to signal the end of the day, but has a more prosaic origin. Taptoe originated with signalling the moment that beer barrels had to be shut, hence that the day had ended. It comes from the Dutch phrase Doe den tap toe, meaning "Turn the tap off": However the Dutch "Taptoe" bugle call, Taptoesignaal, now used for remembrance events, is not the same tune as the Last Post. Neither Last Post nor Taptoesignaal should be confused with the US call "Taps", which has a similar function but a different tune and origin."

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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.

If for any reason you would like to be removed from the mailing list, please send an email to des.anderson@actrix.co.nz with the word 'remove' in the subject line or body

UPCOMING EVENTS <u>2010</u>

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7th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
11th	Tuesday	1900 hrs	Garrison Club	Committee Meeting
14th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
14th	Friday	1900 hrs	Hauraki Museum	MOVIES Curry & Rice
20th	-	Newslette	r printed & posted	
21st	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
28th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
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30th	Sunday	1230 hrs	Strand	Luncheon
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		Julie		
4th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
8th	Tuesday	1900 hrs	Garrison Club	Committee Meeting
11th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
11th	Friday	1900 hrs	Hauraki Museum	MOVIES Curry & Rice
18th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
25th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Finger Food
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