



# Hauraki News

“Whaka tangata kia kaha”

**August 2010 Issue No 60**

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

The AGM was given a different venue when it was held outside in the Kaimai Rangers. Many of you will know the area as it was a popular training venue as well as a rifle range.

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. They have published it & no black squares or censorship. I hope this will open the flood gates from your stories. You can send them on email or what ever as long as YOU send them.

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 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 celebrated the **112<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Battalion** on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2010**.

The letter from the Associate Minister of Defence was read by the President (see under) to the 60+ Hauraki Association Members gathered followed by the cutting of the cake by Secretary Marion & Patron Allan Coster.





## Office of Hon Heather Roy

Minister of Consumer Affairs  
Associate Minister of Defence  
Associate Minister of Education

9 July 2010

Mr Des Anderson  
President  
6 Hauraki Regimental Association  
Tauranga

*By email*

Dear Des,

Thank you for the invitation to attend your 112<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations this weekend. Unfortunately, I cannot be with you on this special occasion as I am engaged in other Defence Force activities. However, I would appreciate it if you could read this letter to your members at an appropriate moment in the programme.

May I begin by acknowledging past and present members of the unit who cannot be with you this weekend? I know that their wairua, their spirit, moves amongst you.

While it is 112 years since the Hauraki Regiment, as we now know it, was officially formed, your whakapapa goes back much further; to the very beginnings of the New Zealand Defence Force over 150 years ago. Yours is a proud history. It is a history that combines the very best of the Maori warrior ethos and the British maritime, regimental and aviator traditions.

Units such as 6 Hauraki represent the timeless bond between society and its protectors. When I look at the long-standing commitment to peace and achievements of units such as 6 Hauraki, I feel very privileged to be the Minister responsible for Reserve Forces. I am equally proud of being a Reserve Force soldier myself.

There is no group in the world that can be compared to the profession of arms. We hear frequent comment in society on the need for more leaders. In making the choice that you have, you have answered this call. You have chosen the path less travelled - one of personal sacrifice - of service to others - of putting their needs and the greater good before your own interest. For over 112 years, the nation has entrusted you with its safe-keeping and its reputation and you have always answered that call. I know that you will continue to do so.

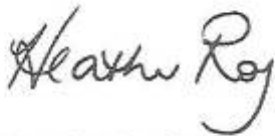
To the partners, children, parents and whanau of the Regiment, past and present, I also offer the heartfelt thanks of all New Zealanders for your contribution, service and sacrifice over 112 years so that the mothers, children and extended families of countries far from our shores, people that you never met, could live in safety. Your service to the country does not start and stop with deployments but goes on continually; through operations, courses, exercises and even beyond the retirement of your loved ones from our Armed Forces. I know that many of your families will now have new generations of servicemen and women in their midst, perhaps also in the Hauraki Regiment. For 112 years, your sacrifices have been the lifeblood of our armed forces. You are the ones that have given, and will go on giving in the future, the servicemen and women of the Haurakis the will to serve, strive, survive and return.

New Zealand salutes you all, past and present, for your honour and uniqueness as the very best of Kiwi citizens. By your service, you have demonstrated your understanding of the relationship between freedom, choice and personal responsibility. You know the price of citizenship. Pass on this knowledge and enjoy a safe and peaceful weekend of celebration – Lest we forget from where it came.

Kai a koe te kaha mo tēnei mahi.

Kia Kaha.

Yours sincerely,



Hon Heather Roy  
Associate Minister of Defence

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2010** the President presented the **Hauraki Association Sword** to the top cadet. The winner was Cpl C Hireme from Rotorua District Cadet Unit. I have lost the computer chip of the presentation so please accept a photo of Cpl C Hireme taken at Helwan Camp





On **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010** a church parade. This the **Holy Trinity Church** on Devonport Road, Tauranga. This is the Church were the **Hauraki Colours** are laid up.



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



We gave Marion a shot gun then we all “take cover”.

The AGM, (**Annual General Meeting**) was held at **Coster's Farm** near the farm house.



## Letters to the Editor

Thanks Des

We held an ANZAC day service here in Sorowako with a gunfire breakfast. Attached are the photos.

Stay well

Jeff Hughes

Jeff I tried to down load your photos but was unsuccessful

Thanks Des.

Sad to hear about Rip Ripaki. what did he die of? Do you have Neil Webb's email address by chance? I think that photo is "Barry" Davis, not Neil. I think Neil was actually Barry's son's name. Some interesting stuff in the magazine. I have recently joined the RSL over here. Nice group of people and the clubs in WA are very well supported. I belong to what is considered a small branch but it has a large membership nevertheless. Hope all is well. Regards to all.

John Dick

John you are correct

Hi Des,

I do remember you on an exercise in the Kaimai's in which you and I were on the same side and you were caught with a ANPRC 81 radio and apparently didn't have time to change the frequency. They needed a couple of guys to drag you of when our group were caught as you wouldn't get up. I got interrogated by Ted Dean of the enemy party after feeding some rather colourful stories as to where

the rest of my party was. I then got shot by a fake firing squad. What a great load of fun we had on this exercise in the Kaimai ranges.

Jeremy Compton

Yes we had fun & trained hard

Hi Des,

Thought you may be interested .I note that you have covered the exploits of our Hon Colonel and thought that I may add my two-pennyworth relating to one of your past CO's Stewart Foster. Not many know that he is still competing in Athletics and have just returned from the Oceania Masters Track and Field Championships. as part of the New Zealand Track and Field team, which were held in Papetee, Tahiti.

He gained first placing in the 400 metres, which was a defence of his Oceania title and runner up in the 300 metre hurdles as well as the 200 metres. Also currently the NZ masters 70 + title holder for the 100m,200m. 300 hurdles ( record holder) and the 400 metres. Still clocking under 70 sec for 400m

You may wish to sort this into your format but may be of interest. Oceania Track and Field Championships will be held in Tauranga, February.

Loloma Foster

Thanks I hope to feature Stew in an upcoming issue. Please send in some photos.

Good morning, Des

I am attaching a photo taken by the 'Cambridge Edition' newspaper showing members of WMR, the WMR Regt Assn, and others (including the Deputy Comd Col Jon Broadley and the 6 Hau CO Lt Col Julian Sewell) in Cambridge to commemorate WMR's 141<sup>st</sup> birthday on Sat 24 Jul 10. The photo was taken at the Challenge Garage in Duke Street, and the attached notes on WMR's regimental birthday will explain why. I wrote these notes for the two local Cambridge papers, so please feel free to extract what you like. If you publish the photo in the Hauraki News, it should be credited to Ann Huston, 'Cambridge Edition'. Out of interest, I have also attached a scanned copy of the relevant page from the 1869 New Zealand Gazette showing the acceptance for service of the Cambridge Mounted Rangers Volunteers (at the bottom right of the page).

Best regards

Thanks for the invitation. Unfortunately, the Minister is visiting troops overseas and will not be able to attend. However, if you thought it appropriate, we would be pleased to send a letter to be read out at some point in the celebrations, expressing her best wishes to the Regiment as the Minister responsible for Reserve Forces. Let me know if you would like this and I can arrange one to be emailed through to you.  
All the best for your Regimental birthday celebrations.

Regards Simon

Hi Des,

As promised, please find attached the Minister's letter for reading to members this weekend.

I hope things all go smoothly.

Regards

Dr Simon Ewing-Jarvie  
Senior Ministerial Advisor  
Office of Hon Heather Roy, Associate Minister of Defence,

Hi Desmond,

Thank you for considering the Historical Society's request to come and look at the History Room on 1 August at 2:30pm. If you are happy to proceed we will advertise it amongst our members and let you know an idea of numbers closer to the time. Again thank you very much.

Fiona Kean Tauranga Historical Society

Hi Des,  
Lynn Chapman spoke to me regarding Mr Hudson's grave and upkeep is done by the Opotiki Council. They get funded to look after it. This I am assuming has come from Mr Chapman who works at council. They are also going to look at the RSA graves at the Opotiki Cemetery and see what state they are in. This is to report back to Trevor as a possible community project?

LT Lawson-Barrett  
OCCU

Hi Des  
Just a quick note to say "thanks" supporting us with our memorial to General Walls last evening. The fellowship and hospitality of the Hauraki's is always greatly appreciated by the Rhodesian Services Association.  
Kia Kaha

Cheers Hugh

G'day Des,  
Thanks for having me in the loop. Next meetings from our side include :-  
Victorian Scottish Regt Association (VSRA) - Thu 9 Sep 10 (I am the Pres).  
"ANZAC - 2015" - Wed 25 Sep 10 I shall soon relinquish my exalted position as Chairman to a younger, more up-to-date member - to be advised.  
Royal Victoria Regiment Association (RVRA) - Tonight 10 Aug 10. I have forwarded your email to John Hanlon (Pres), Vince Gatt (vice-Pres) and to Warren Block (Sec) of the RVRA.  
I have suggested to them that you should be placed on their newsletter distribution list. This should enable regular communication between our associations.  
With best wishes from OZ,

Ed Hawkes

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](mailto: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.

**Dean Mark** <[woodstock6b@hotmail.com](mailto:woodstock6b@hotmail.com)>

**The Royal Regiment of New Zealand Artillery WAIKATO, Centennial.**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Medium Regiment and 4<sup>th</sup> Medium Battery.**

Celebration: Friday 18, Saturday 19, Sunday 20 March 2011

Contact Robin Moore    [robin.moore@xtra.co.nz](mailto:robin.moore@xtra.co.nz)    027-6988009

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](mailto:medals.so@nzdf.mil.nz)

### Last Post

441576 Ronald (Ron) Burton

27 Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Hauraki Regiment, 9<sup>th</sup> Heavy Regiment & NZTS: 2NZE.

J Force (Japan)

6<sup>th</sup> Hauraki Battalion RNZIR

Passed away on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010. Aged 88 years.

For a more detailed article of the Military life of Ron read the "Hauraki News" issue number 56 dated August 2009. This can be found on our website [6haurakiassoc.org.nz](http://6haurakiassoc.org.nz)

### **Lieutenant-General George Peter Walls GLM, DCD, ESM, MBE.**

Lt. Gen. Peter Walls died of a heart attack on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2010 in George, South Africa aged 83. Peter Walls suffered a heart attack and died while boarding an aircraft in South Africa. He was on his way to a safari with his three daughters, Mary, Val and Paddy. His end was quick and without suffering.

Our sincere condolences to his family and friends

Lt. Gen Peter Walls was one of the driving forces in establishing the long standing association with the 6 Hauraki Association. At the invitation of the then Commanding Officer Lt Col John Dick, & the President of the 6 Hauraki Association Des Anderson: Lt Gen Peter Walls travelled from South Africa to officially open the Rhodesian Services Association display in the Hauraki Garrison

. A memorial will be held at the Garrison Club, Tauranga, New Zealand on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2010

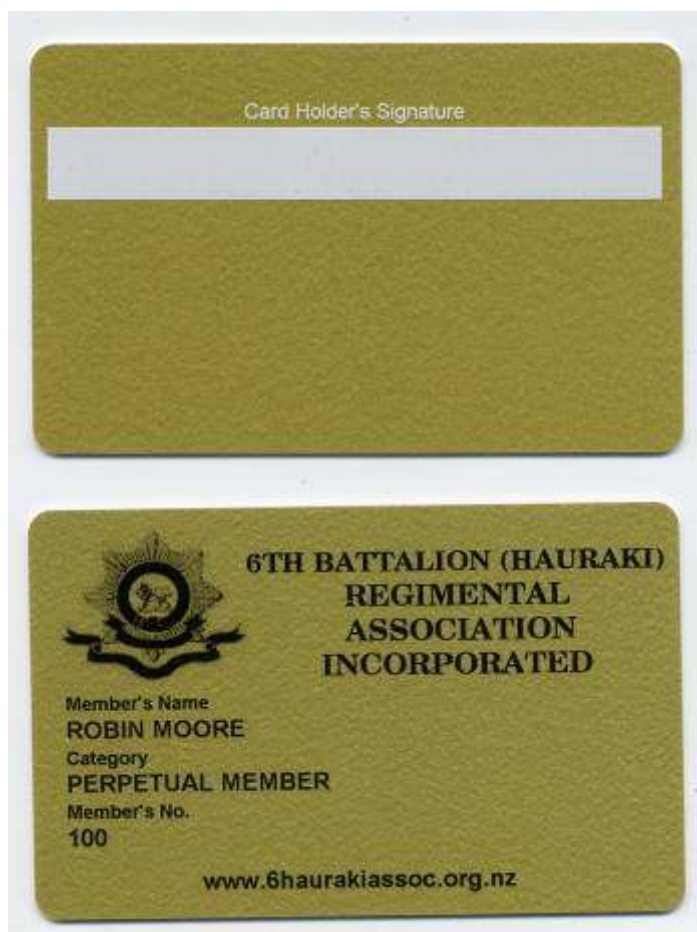
### **Museum**

Tony Frasier is the curator & will continue in that role. The amount of time Tony freely gives is immeasurable. We are indeed lucky to have a person of his skill & knowledge to give his time for the betterment of the association.

The members at the Annual General Meeting endorsed your committee in recommending Tony Frasier to be a **LIFE MEMBER** of the association

### **Membership Cards**

You committee has launched a new membership card. This will give reciprocal entry rights to the Mount Maunganui RSA & Opotiki RSA. It is our intention to increase theses rights to all RSA. To date Perpetual members & Life members have been issued the new cards. The next group will be those members who are financial. If you wish to join our Association I have attached a Membership form.



## Garrison Club.

The Garrison Club as had increased utilization due to our Association members, Associate Members, friends & serving solders. The last ANZAC day was our biggest ever.

Open Friday Saturday Sunday Week days

Bar staff are Bob Mankelow, Marion Kareko, Kevin Hayden & myself.

The annual hours of running the bar are in excess of **660** hrs. This includes running the bar on Fridays, week days & weekends, plus the stock acquisition & administration. All this is done on a volunteer basis. On minimum labour rates the bar would run at a loss. Therefore any **conceived profit** is actually from the labour of the bar staff. We will continue to volunteer our services to the Association, and look for more bar staff to assistance us.

Costs have climbed but prices remained the same. The cheapest place in town.

As part of our Host Responsibility more snacks & food is available for our friends.

The Movie night organized by Hugh Bomford, has been working, thanks to our associate members

The profits from the Garrison in the form of grants will be distributed between the Regimental UPF, Regiment sponsored cadets, the Museum and the Association Welfare & Administration.

## 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

Due to time preparing the curry the meals will be changing to “pea, pie & pud”. (Rhodesian style) this will take effect in about two months.

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.

## History

● Award



Major MacLeod

Major G. MacLeod, Rotorua, a senior officer of the 6th N.Z.I.R. (Hauraki) Battalion, has been awarded the Efficiency Decoration, and will receive the award from the Governor-General, Sir Bernard Fergusson, at an investiture at Government House, Auckland, on Friday.

Major MacLeod is commander of the battalion's A Company, and has served in the Haurakis for 10 years.

He has served in the armed forces for 24 years continuously, enlisting in the Royal Marines as a boy aged 15. He transferred to the New Zealand forces in 1943 and served on the New Zealand cruisers Gambia and Bellona as a marine.



April 21<sup>st</sup> 1965

On 1<sup>st</sup> April 1966, Lt Col George McLeod, ED, a real estate agent took over as CO. George had served with the Royal Marines (1941 – 49) & the Auckland Regiment (1951 – 54), before transferring to the Hauraki Regiment in 1955. George is remembered for his flamboyant leadership, he brought a



humorous approach to exercise planning & play. He was earnest about training hard: soon after assuming command, he noted" it is my intention to treat the next three years on the basis that I am the last peace time CO of the Battalion"

All the Annual Camps were brigade exercises held around Waikouaiti & in 1969 a Regular Force British Army, Burma Company of the Hong Kong based Duke of Wellington's Regiment was placed under operational command of the Hauraki Regiment.

On 20<sup>th</sup> September 1969, the Hauraki Battalion was granted the Freedom of the City of Tauranga. In addition to his command duties George was heavily involved in a campaign to raise funding for new Colours. An off shoot of this activity was it provided a boost to recruiting.

George can be found most Friday afternoons at the Garrison & has many experiences to share with you. George likes a light ale to go along with his conversation.

Extracts taken from "Comrades Brave".

## Scrap book





**ETHAL WEAPONS:** Loading supplies are (clockwise from left) Staff Sergeant P. McFarlane, Lance Corporal W. Hrmsby, Lance Corporal Fay Beets and Master Sergeant Cook R. Montgomery.

PICTURE / 140710FP01BQ1

# Troops load up small arms for practice on peninsula

About 80 members of 6 Hauraki RNZIR Battalion will hold their annual small-arms practice on the Whangaparaoa Peninsula north of Auckland on the weekend.

All their standard small arms, M16 and self-loading rifles, nine-

millimetre pistols, Bren guns and Sterling submachine guns, will be used, the regiment's second in command, Major Don Thomson, said.

The soldiers might do a night navigation exercise using the underground fortifications on the

tip of the peninsula, he said.

Some Tauranga members of the Air Training Corps would accompany the battalion on the peninsula.

■ — First appeared in the Bay of Plenty Times July 19, 1985

## Social Events

### Past events

The Luncheon at Merhaba was postponed to the Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> 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 Waihi Beach RSA on the hill



Sunday 05 September 2010

Time 1130hrs hrs start assembling in the bar area & be amassed by the view start Luncheon buffet style @ 1230hrs

Cost \$9.50



Please advise Marion or me if you intend coming. We may do car pooling from Tauranga.



## News from the Regiment

### Medal presentation to 6 Hauraki Battalion Group

**7 April 2010**

**Hon Heather Roy address to 6 Hauraki Battalion Group medal presentation; Tauranga Army Hall, Corner 11th Avenue and Devonport Road, Tauranga; Wednesday, 7 April 2010.**

Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel Julian Sewell, Officers and Soldiers of 6 Hauraki Battalion Group, award recipients, families and friends.

Tena koutou katoa.

It is always a pleasure to attend Territorial Force activities and an honour to be asked to present medals. The pride and sense of belonging one feels from wearing a Defence force uniform is hard to explain to those who haven't. Even greater is the pride experienced at the recognition of what you have achieved, and are being awarded for tonight.

For 112 years, 6 Hauraki Battalion has been preparing soldiers to serve on operations. Today, as I look around it is easy to see that this legacy continues as we recognise officers and soldiers who have returned from service in the Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, and Afghanistan, or have completed 12 years continuous service in the Territorial Force.

Many people face the daily challenge of balancing work, family and leisure; you have the added challenge of balancing all of these with Army time as Reserve Officers and Soldiers. This is a significant ask for families and employers, and it is important to acknowledge this support at home and in the workplace. It is this that enables you to train and deploy on operations.

It takes a huge commitment from you as Territorial soldiers to take months out of everyday life, to deploy on operations such as Rata, Crib and Gyro. I note that, with 16 personnel deploying from 6 Hauraki during the last year, this is a significant commitment from your local community too. The three-part team - reservists, families and employers - is critical to the development and success of the NZDF.

There are many parallels between the Defence Force and sports teams. A sports team is more than just a group of players you see on the field. Regardless of how good they are they won't complete a game, let alone a season, on their own. They need to be supported by a dynamic, high utility reserve bench - often with your specialist performers and impact players. In the Defence Force, as in sport, full time versus part-time is not a choice. It's not a case of either/or, but both/and. We need both to achieve success.

Working as you do with a foot in both camps - the military and civilian worlds - I know that the Defence Force appreciates the skills and enthusiasm you bring to the uniform. Speaking with employers I know that they are grateful for the leadership, vision, and technical skills you bring back to the workplace after an exercise, or an operational deployment.

Recently, local employer Moana Pacific Fisheries Ltd was recognised with a Territorial Force Employer Support Award here in Tauranga, and they will go on to represent the Bay of Plenty in the national awards I am presenting at Parliament next week. I commend Mr Eddie Dodd and other employers of this region supporting our Reservists. Without your support and generosity of spirit in willingly releasing your employees, Reserve deployments would be very difficult to achieve.

The profession of arms is a unique vocation and one we've joined for many reasons, but the common among them is supporting peace and freedom. However announcing intent is not the same as carrying out an action. To win on operations, or in any endeavour we must all be prepared to take the field, to win and not to leave until



our work is done. Tonight I'm delighted to honour and congratulate those who have done just this. You join many others in furthering the proud history of your unit with your contribution to peace and freedom.

And, lest we forget, the price of peace and freedom is eternal vigilance.

Kia Kaha

### Medal Recipients:

Major Grant Arrowsmith, Royal New Zealand Armed Corps: [New Zealand General Service Medal \(Afghanistan\) primary operational area](#) and [New Zealand Operational Service Medal](#)

Warrant Officer Class Two Clint Savage, Royal New Zealand Army Logistics Regiment: [New Zealand General Service Medal \(Timor-Leste\)](#) and [Timor-Leste Solidarity Medal](#)

Private Damien Morgan, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment: [New Zealand General Service Medal \(Solomon Islands\)](#), New Zealand Operational Service Medal

Private Justin Goodwin, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment: New Zealand General Service Medal (Solomon Islands), New Zealand Operational Service Medal

Captain F. Grieve, Royal New Zealand Armed Corps: [Efficiency Decoration](#)

ED: I missed this parade thus did not publish in the May 2010 Hauraki News

# Battle of Crete well-remembered

By DAVE BLANSHARD

DESPERATE days in the Mediterranean will be commemorated in Tauranga on Sunday during a memorial service marking the 69th anniversary of the Battle of Crete.

The battle, in which ill-equipped New Zealand troops earlier evacuated from Greece, tried to hold off an airborne invasion of the island by elite German paratroops, can be viewed in two ways.

It was a valiant effort by the defenders against overwhelming odds, or a military fiasco.

The Germans now admit the

invasion came very close to failing and victory was only achieved at huge cost. The New Zealanders on the other hand suffered a large number of casualties, with troops who could not be evacuated taken prisoner of war.

Germany never again attempted a major airborne invasion.

While nowhere near the scale of Anzac Day commemorations, Battle of Crete anniversaries are these days attracting growing numbers, thanks largely to the efforts of the locally-based NZ Battle of Crete Association which caters to both battle veterans and

their descendants.

Sunday's service will take place at 10.30am at the Tauranga RSA, Greerton, with a service conducted by NZ Defence Force chaplain Rev Mark Subritsky. Addresses will be given by the Commanding officer of 6 Battalion Hauraki Regiment, Lt. Colonel Julian Sewell, and Auckland's Terry Koumakis, who was aged seven at the time and whose parents were among many Cretans who subsequently gave help, at great personal risk, to stranded New Zealanders trying to evade capture.

General Sir Bernard Freyberg, who commanded the NZ Division

during the battle, served with the Haurakis early in his military career.

A special feature of the programme, that will include wreath laying at the cenotaph and the *Ode* and *Last Post*, will be performance of a newly released song *Freedom to Live* composed by singer/musician Jayson Norris in honour of his 28th Maori Battalion grandfather and the Anzac troops.

Crete Association president Deirdre Hauschild says anybody with family links to soldiers involved in the battle, and members of the general public, are welcome to attend.



This was sent from Sgt Mike Halliday to be included in the Assn. News Letter Kia Kaha. Can you forward to Des Anderson pse.

A Coy pers on TF JNCO CSE 01/10

Lcpl W. Smallman, Pte D. Morgan, Pte L Morgan, Pte Z Burdett.

Lcpl Smallman was awarded the Fieldcraft award.

## Waikato Mounted Rifles



**INSPECTION DUTIES:** Hamilton Mayor Bob Simcock inspects the soldiers of New Zealand Army's 6 Hauraki Battalion Group. He is accompanied by Waikato Mounted Rifles unit commander Major Grant Arrowsmith, left, and former commander Major Simon Marriott.

Hamilton Mayor Bob Simcock inspected the soldiers of New Zealand Army's 6 Hauraki Battalion Group at the opening of a new extension to their facilities on Rostrevor St in Hamilton on Saturday.

The Mounted Rifles celebrated its 141st birthday over the weekend with the opening of the extension and the unveiling of two memorial plaques in Te Awamutu. The unit is the army's only reserve armoured formation.

Waikato Times





## Defence Personnel named in Queen's Birthday Honours

4 June 2010

To be awarded **the Distinguished Service Decoration (DSD)**.

Major Simon Montague MARRIOTT, Royal New Zealand Armoured Corps (Territorial Force)



## REGIMENTAL BIRTHDAY OF THE WAIKATO MOUNTED RIFLES - 24<sup>th</sup> JULY 1869

The Waikato Mounted Rifles will be visiting Cambridge on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July to celebrate the unit's birthday. This date marks the day in 1869 when the Waikato Mounted Rifles' direct military forebears, the Cambridge Mounted Rangers Volunteers, were officially accepted for service. This was the first cavalry unit to be raised within the Waikato. Although disbanded a year later in 1870, it was effectively re-formed shortly afterwards as the Cambridge Cavalry Volunteers.

The formation of the Cambridge Cavalry Volunteers, together with the Te Awamutu Cavalry Volunteers (1871) and the Hamilton Cavalry Volunteers (1880) later led to the creation of the Waikato Mounted Rifle Volunteers (1897) and then to the 4<sup>th</sup> (Waikato) Mounted Rifles when the Territorial Force was established in 1911.

Today the Waikato Mounted Rifles continues this tradition of voluntary military service from its base in Hamilton. Now reduced to squadron strength (currently about 65 personnel) they have a mounted reconnaissance role and are equipped with the armoured version of the Army's Pinzgauer Light Operational Vehicle.

As part of the Territorial Force (Army Reserves) the Squadron is committed to supporting the full-time Regular Force on operations overseas, and since 2000 some 36 officers and other ranks have served on missions in East Timor, the Solomon Islands, South Korea and Afghanistan.

The Waikato Mounted Rifles is the only Reserve unit in the Royal New Zealand Armoured Corps, and is commanded by Major Grant Arrowsmith.

On Saturday they will joined by Colonel Jon Broadley, Deputy Commander 2<sup>nd</sup> Land Force Group, and Lieutenant Colonel Julian Sewell, Commanding officer of the 6<sup>th</sup> (Hauraki) Battalion Group. The Squadron will first open a new building in Hamilton, unveil two memorial plaques in Te Awamutu, and then return to their birth place in Cambridge.

Before a celebratory drink and toast to the Regiment in the Prince Albert Pub, members of the Waikato Mounted Rifles will gather with their vehicles at the Challenge Garage in Duke Street. This was once the site of the Duke of Cambridge Hotel where in late 1867 a series of meetings took place that led to the formation of a local cavalry unit: the Cambridge Mounted Rangers Volunteers.



Ann Huston, 'Cambridge Edition'.





## 6<sup>th</sup> HAURAKI BATTALION GROUP



*This is to certify that*

*Participated in  
Exercise Hauraki Experience XII over the period 4 – 10 July 2010  
And during this exercise Cadets gained knowledge in  
.22 Nerineo JW – ISA Shoot  
Introduction to Weapon Training System  
Introduction to the IW Steyr  
Completed the Assault Course  
Basic Drill and  
visited the Museum and the Waiwera Marae*

**T. Ransfield**

**Major**

**Unit Commander**

**Opotiki College Cadet Unit**

**NZCF**

**J. SEWELL**

**Lieutenant Colonel**

**Commanding Officer**

**6<sup>th</sup> Hauraki Battalion Group**

**RNZIR**



Hauraki Experience XII was held at Waiouru over the school holidays.

The photo is taken after the cadets have received their awards from the Commanding Officer of the 6 Hauraki Battalion Group. Lt Col Julian Sewell.

Over 100 cadets, officers & support members along with members of the 6 Hauraki Battalion Group participated in the week long experience. Cadets came from Opotiki College Cadet Unit, Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit, Te Awamutu Community Cadet Unit, Taupo Cadet Unit & Rotorua District Cadet Unit.

Each participate received a certificate from the Officer Commanding, Major Trevor Ransfield & the Commanding Officer Lt Col Julian Sewell.

A great time was had by everyone, with the most common expression was' " When is the next Hauraki Experience".

#### HAURAKI EXPERIENCE XII , Awards

Top Platoon	Ngarimu	
Top Cadet each Platoon	Cdt J Ngamotu	TpoCU
Upham	Cdt J Te Whaiti	WBOP
Bassett	Cdt E Hattingh	RDCU
Hinton	Cdt A Williamson	TACU
JNCO	Lcpl R Werahiko	RDCU
SNCO	Ssgt T Wikohika	TpoCU
SWORD	Cpl C Hireme	RDCU
TOP SHOT	WOII A Kurei	OCCU
SOLDIERS CHOICE 3CI		
Cdt	Cdt V Broderick	WBOP
JNCO	Cpl W McCormack	OCCU
SNCO	WOII A Kurei	OCCU

## Warm homecoming for frozen Waiouru cadets

By DAVE BLANSHARD

LOCAL residents may have been shivering on Saturday evening but 20 teenage members of the Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit were revelling in the "warmth" after returning from a week in the Waiouru snow.

They had been taking part in Hauraki Experience 2010, sponsored by the 6 Hauraki Battalion Territorial Army Group.

The annual event is open to both male and female cadets from units throughout the Hauraki's region and this year involved 97 from Tauranga, Whakatane, Opotiki and Taupo. Now in its 12th

year, the Hauraki Experience week is more about leadership training and providing a challenge to cadets than recruiting and seen by the battalion as a way to give something back to the community from which it draws its members.

While the teenagers wear uniform and undertake a variety of military-style activities, they remain apart from adult troops during the camp. Activities included shooting training, fitness and endurance tests, obstacle courses, fieldcraft lessons, parade drills and marching everywhere along the way. There was snow on the ground throughout

The cadets were snowed on at one stage and had to cope with iced puddles as they crawled through the obstacle course, and crossed a freezing river.

"My hands were so cold I couldn't feel anything," said one cadet, who remarked about how much warmer it had become as the group's van descended to sea level from the centre of the North Island.

Notwithstanding the cold the group were all enthusiastic about their experience.

For some, firearms training had been a highpoint. For others it was friendships formed, or simply

lasting the distance. Army food also impressed several.

"It was a real challenge for a lot of them," says 2nd Lieutenant Alex Wright. "They all achieved well, in many cases successfully conquering fears and surprising themselves as they rose to new challenges."

"It was certainly a full-on programme with a military flavour, although the focus was not really on life in

the Army."

The week ended with a parade for the Haurakis' Commanding Officer, Lt Colonel Julian Sewell and presentation of various awards.



# AGED BETWEEN 15 AND 17

## What does the Army offer you?

**Plenty!** The Army has something for most boys leaving school who are eager to make a go of life.



New Zealand Army is an efficient, well-trained force engaged in a wide variety of essential military tasks both

at home and overseas. The soldier trades of infantry, artillery, and armour must be backed up with the apprentice trades of electronics, carpentry, plumbing, electricity, and catering.

A flying start to a full and satisfying career as a soldier in the New Zealand Army is provided by the first-class trade and military training and academic opportunities offered by the Regular Force Cadet School. Situated at Waiouru, at the base of Mount Ruapehu, this military college for boys aged between 15 and 17½ years aims at producing soldier tradesmen and junior leaders of a high standard, thereby providing the Army with its main source of long-term warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and a number of its commissioned officers. Many former cadets have continued their training in Australia at the Royal Military College, Duntroon, or the Officer Cadet School at Portsea.

Others have attended the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst in England.

Still others have become highly trained instructors and technicians serving at home and overseas.



*Am I eligible?*

## Our Associated Groups

### Patriots Defence Force Motorcycle Club



### RHODESIAN SERVICES ASSOCIATION

I met Gen. Walls in 2003 when he and his wife Eunice, were visiting family in New Zealand. He came to open our original museum display at the Garrison Club, 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Hauraki) Group H.Q. in Tauranga. Like everyone there awaiting his arrival, I did not know what was to be expected of such high ranking visitors. What took place that evening will always be one of my more pleasant memories. General and Mrs Walls were the most down to earth people you could ever meet - we were simply among friends - Rhodesian friends who had all shared the sorrow and hardship of losing our country and having to begin new lives in new countries. It was definitely not a case of 'us and them'. Gen. Walls had familiarised himself with the history of the Hauraki Regiment and was well regarded by our Hauraki hosts for his knowledge of local history, considering that he had only been in the country for a short while and the opening of the museum display had been arranged at very short notice. Gen. Walls was made a member of the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association that night. I believe he was the highest ranking member and he always spoke warmly of the Haurakis in subsequent years.

Gen. Walls was clearly impressed with all he saw in New Zealand and it was unfortunate that his flight back to South Africa could not have been changed to enable him to turn out at Hobsonville for the ANZAC Day parade. He saw the support and comradeship extended to Rhodesians from the service establishments in New Zealand and this had a marked effect on him. He was also able to experience the high regard in which he was held by Rhodesians.

In subsequent years Gen. Walls always sent through email and SMS messages of support and encouragement for our ANZAC Day parades and our October RV reunions. At one RV a few years ago Wally Insch had come over from Australia and in typical Insch fashion decided that it would be a good idea to phone up Gen. Walls. It was about 10pm in NZ and goodness knows what time in



South Africa - no one stopped to figure that out. A number of calls were made around NZ until the Walls' phone number was found. Wally borrowed a cell phone (you didn't expect Wally to have a cell phone did you?) and dialled up the number. A gruff Gen. Walls answered the call (he was in the middle of watching rugby on TV and unhappy at being disturbed) after a number of exchanges that ran along the lines of "Who is this?", "It's Wally - Wally Insch calling from New Zealand, sir" comms were established and the penny dropped for Gen. Walls who said "Hang on while I turn the bloody TV off" (clearly the rugby was not so important now!) The phone was passed around the Garrison Club with a great number of people being able to have a quick chat.

All this was being watched by a number of bemused Hauraki Regiment members who asked the President, Des Anderson, what was going on with this phone being passed around and the speaker, in most instances standing to attention. "They are talking to their General" said Des. Smiles and shaking heads indicated the disbelief of the scene of a bunch of ordinary ex soldiers who had rung up their highest ranking general from over thirty years previously, who was half way across the world and were having a chat with him - and clearly in respect of the man.

I challenge anyone to tell me of any other general who has maintained this sort of contact with his troopies. You will not be surprised then to read these following anecdotes that were sent through to me

Hugh Bomford

Photo of Lt General Peter Walls, President Des Anderson. CO John Dick on the occasion of the opening of the Rhodesian Services Association Museum



# Kaimai Crash Project

## NEWSLETTER

May 2003

### National Memorial for New Zealand's worst internal air disaster

**New Zealand's worst internal air disaster is soon to be commemorated with an official memorial and history book.**

On 3 July 1963 National Airways Corporation DC-3 ZK-AYZ, while operating Flight 441 on the early morning Auckland to Tauranga service, crashed into the Kaimai Range, killing all 3 crew and 20 passengers. The tragedy was a disaster of national significance and the public of New Zealand responded with a huge outpouring of sympathy with hundreds of

special commemorations for early July 2003. Rev Waugh comments, "One of the key aspects has been the unanimous affirmation by relatives of those on board Flight 441 that it is well overdue to have such a commemoration. This support has been really appreciated and we have been encouraged

**FROM THE HONOURABLE  
DAME SYLVIA CARTWRIGHT,  
PCNZL, DBE, GOVERNOR-  
GENERAL OF NEW ZEALAND**

"In the prosperous days of the early 1950s, the Kaimai crash came as a huge shock and made a deep impression. The crash dominated front page coverage in newspapers for days and prompted an outpouring of 'first helplessness'. Today, the crash has largely been forgotten, mostly because there is no permanent memorial. This will change on 3 July 2003 when a major rectitude memorial will be unveiled at Gordon, near Matamata. The memorial has a direct line of sight to the approximate area of the crash."



by the high level of interest and help from so many people. Involved in the search, many volunteers providing meals and shelter while others cared for those who had lost loved ones. In recent years the Kaimai Crash has been mostly forgotten. This is soon to be rectified as the Kaimai Crash Project Committee of volunteers has been working to mark the 40th anniversary. Led by well known aviation historian Rev Richard Waugh, a team of experts has been busy for the past twelve months. Bruce Gavin (Matamata), Peter Layne (Wellington) and Graeme McConnell (Nelson) have been working with Richard to organise

by the high level of interest and help from so many people.

Above: ZK-AYZ, newly converted to DC-3 'Skyliner' standard, flying near Rotorua, Pentecost, photographed by Pat Deane at Rotorua & Dunedin, December 1952.

Right: The remains of NAC DC-3 ZK-AYZ which crashed into the Kaimai Range on 3 July 1963 with the loss of 23 lives - still 40 years on New Zealand's worst internal air disaster. (1963-1964)



**ALL INVOLVED IN THE NEW ZEALAND AVIATION INDUSTRY, AND AVIATION ENTHUSIASTS, ARE INVITED TO SUPPORT THE KAIMAI CRASH PROJECT - SEE MORE DETAILS IN THIS NEWSLETTER.**

March 15, 2005

### Kaimai Crash Project

In reference to your letter regarding the DC3 that crashed in the Kaimai Ranges in 1963. I have given you some back ground into my & the SAS involvement

My first involvement with the DC3 was on the day of the crash. I was part of the New Zealand SAS (Special Air Service). We were on exercise in the field in the Hunia Ranges, near Auckland. We were ordered to move to the Kaimai Ranges and report to our HQ, which was moving from Papakura Military Camp to establish a forward base, to set up a search for a missing aircraft.

Within a couple of hours our troop arrived at the HQ, which had established itself at the base of the Kaimai on the Matamata side, near Thompsons Track. The Base HQ had established direct communication with the Squadron HQ in Papakura and with Army HQ in Wellington.

We were briefed as to our mission, "find the missing aircraft". The Troop Commanders planned the search pattern. Our troop was given an area to search, and we were further broken down into our two man teams. This is SOP (Standard Operational Procedures) for a search such as this. Something we had done many times. Normally our target is live and ready to fight back. To us, this is our standard "bread & butter".

At that period of time the SAS had the best equipment the Army could give us. We were all professional soldiers, and most had seen service overseas. We were experienced and had

conducted many searches previously. Each sub group was self-contained. We carried one weeks rations & water, carried equipment for staying out overnight, had our own independent communication equipment and were trained to search in all types of terrain, in all weather. We were I believe the ideal group to search for the missing aircraft.

However we were never used! We sat in our base camp for two days near the Search & Rescue HQ while the argument went on as to who was in command of us. As I was not in the Command Element, I cannot comment as to what exactly happened. The briefing given to us by our OC (Officer Commanding) Maj Velvin (who has recently died) was, in my words.

1. "The Search & Rescue (Police?), wanted command of our unit". After many calls to and from Army HQ, the OC refused to relinquish command to the civil authorities.
2. "The civil authorities believed the weather and conditions were too bad for us, they did not want to later have to mount a search for us"? This I believe was an insult to our professionalism and experience. Our group was the best the NZ Army had to offer. We had some of the best trackers in the Army. Our SOP's had been tried and tested in combat against a live enemy who did not want to be found.

As foot note to the command & control problem. Later the SAS established excellent working relations with the Police. We conducted many searches, including escaped prisoners such as the notorious George Wilder, as well as search & rescues exercises together. There was a Joint Command HQ establish and the SAS remained under the direct control of the OC at all times.

My second involvement with the DC3 was some months later, when I was selected to bury the aircraft and the remains. As not all the bodies had been recovered it was classified as a burial site by the then Internal Affairs. To prevent souvenir hunters from taking parts of the aircraft and at the same time desecrating the site. It was requested to bury the aircraft. The Army was asked to do the job. The SAS were given the task.

I was selected as part of a four-man team. The team was commandeered by Sgt Ken Schmanskiky, the others being Tpr Nat Cooper, Tpr Tom Te Uru (T Boss) and myself. I believe I had been selected as I had just completed the demolitions course, all of us are required to pass the demolition course, I had scored top marks in particular in the calculations side. My first task was the calculations of the explosive & equipment required for the mission. The remainder of the Squadron was used as porters to carry the explosives & equipment to the site. We used gelignite, cortex fuse, detonators and safety fuse. We drilled holes with a "Atlas Copra", petrol driven portable drill.

The trek to the site with all the equipment took the Squadron two days. The drilling of the holes for the explosive took four days. The rock was harder than expected, plus the difficulty of having to rope the drill and the driller up and down the cliff face. The setting and firing the explosive took only one day.

When we first arrived at the crash site, one of the Maori Corporals said a prayer in Maori, "to lift the tapu". I said my own silent prayer. At first we were apprehensive about walking onto the site, as we knew there was still remains of someone's loved one buried within the wreckage. With apprehension we slowly walked onto the site and had our first look at the wreckage. From where we were standing we able to summarize that had the SAS being allowed to enter the search, we would of found the crash quite quickly by utilizing our search pattern. The DC 3 had hit the ranges about 100 yards below the crest.

My first job was to analyze the site in particular the rock face that I intended to use to cover the wreckage. The aircraft appeared to have been traveling at full speed; thus the tail section had compressed into the main fuselage. This gave a smaller surface, to cover with the rocks, that I had intended to "blow", onto the wreckage.

After measuring & marking the entire wall that required drilling, we took it in pairs, with one holding the rope and one handling the drill, to drill holes.

During the time not drilling, I experimented with explosives on the aircraft. This was the first opportunity I had had with a "live aircraft", to test my explosive theories. I was able to discover how much explosive, were & how to place it, to blow off a wing. Blowing open the fuselage of an aircraft. I hope that some of the data I was able to obtain was used by the SAS at a later date by the anti terrorist group.

As I had stated, the drilling took four days due to the unexpected difficulties. The packing of the charges only one day and the firing, the regulation 3 minutes. The resulting explosion covered the aircraft wreckage by about 95%, with only the tips of the wings and the tail plane remaining

uncovered. We were quite please with the success of the mission, as we had achieved what was intended. That being, to bury the aircraft, so as to prevent the further desecration of the site.

As we left I said a small prayer for those whom had perished on that tragic day. I have never been back to the site. I do wonder if the small stream, over the years, which the plane had crashed into, caused any erosion to the rocks that covered the site.

PS

I understand on the search for the DC3, the RNZAF, dispatched Bristol Freighters to the search area. Bob Davidson (who now lives in Tauranga) piloted the first. The cloud cover was too great and the mission was aborted.

The second Bristol was piloted by FI Lt. Woods, who sighted the wreckage?

News clippings from the NZ Herald.

### ***Air Wreck To Be Covered***

Led by a demolitions expert 14 members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Squadron, New Zealand Special Air Service, left Auckland yesterday for the Kaimai Ranges where they will cover the wreckage of the NAC Skyliner which crashed there last July.

An explosive expert, Warrant Officer C.R. Parker, will direct the blasting of a cliff face over the wreckage. The party will probably spend a few days in the ranges.

The commanding Officer, Maj. M.N. Velvin said the wreckage will probably not be completely covered because of the steepness of the position

It would be sufficiently covered to discourage people from going up to look at it.

### ***Kaimai Crash Wreckage Now Covered***

After two days preparing charges, a party of soldiers yesterday exploded a cliff face over the wreckage of the NAC Skyliner in the Kaimai Ranges. Twenty-three people lost their lives when the aircraft crashed on July 3 last year.

The demolition party of 14 from the 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Squadron, New Zealand Special Air Service, sent a radio signal, " Operation complete success", to their headquarters at Papakura. The soldiers are expected to come out of the bush today.

COVERING CRASH REMAINS: Members of the SAS Squadron preparing to blast part of the cliff face down over the wreckage of the NAC airliner which crashed in the Kaimai Ranges last year.

Note. I took the photo. It shows 2 of the team drilling the holes in preparation for the charges. In the foreground is part of the wreckage.







Jim Taia (at rear) was a Hauraki before joining RF NZSAS & later became the OC Support Company 6<sup>th</sup> Hauraki Battalion

Des Anderson (wearing a black oil skin jacket) became a Hauraki in 1975

### **COMMITTEE 2010- 2011**

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Thames:	Nil
Tauranga:	See Committee
Matamata:	Doug Mc Glashen tel. 07- 888 6314
Whakatane	Nil
Hamilton:	Stu Foster tel. 07-843 6121
	Malcolm Hinton
Te Aroha:	Gordon Eagleson, tel. 07-8846675
Gisborne	Dave Greaves

**Museum Curator:** Tony Fraser

This newsletter is compiled by Des Anderson, President, of the 6<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:des.anderson@actrix.co.nz) with the word 'remove' in the subject line or body

# UPCOMING EVENTS

2010

## August

6th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
10th	Tuesday	1900 hrs	Garrison Club	Committee Meeting
13th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles/Birthday Cake
			Hauraki	
13th	Friday	1900 hrs	Museum	MOVIES Curry & Rice
19th			Newsletter printed & posted	
20th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
27th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Finger Food

## September

3rd	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
			Waihi Beach	
5th	Sunday	1130 hrs	RSA	Luncheon
10th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
			Hauraki	
10th	Friday	1900 hrs	Museum	MOVIES Curry & Rice
14th	Tuesday	1900 hrs	Garrison Club	Committee Meeting
17th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
24th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Finger Food

## October

1st	Friday	1800 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
8th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
			Hauraki	
8th	Friday	1900 hrs	Museum	MOVIES Pea Pie & Pud
12th	Tuesday	1900 hrs	Garrison Club	Committee Meeting
15th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
22nd	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
29th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Finger Food

## November

5th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
9th	Tuesday	1900 hrs	Garrison Club	Committee Meeting
12th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
			Hauraki	
12th	Friday	1900 hrs	Museum	MOVIES Pea Pie & Pud
18th			Newsletter printed & posted	
19th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
26th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Finger Food



# 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association Incorporated

## Application Form

New Membership

Full

Renewal Membership

Associate

Regimental Number

Date of birth

Full Name

Partners name (if applicable)

Full Postal Address

Telephone Number (home)  
Mobile

Business  
Email

Brief resume of service with 6 Hauraki  
(Include dates & appointments)

Highest Rank Held

Service in other Units

(If Associate member - your association to 6 Hauraki Assoc.)

## OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Joined

Receipt Number

Membership Number

This information is collected for the purpose of the 6 Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association Incorporated and is strictly Confidential. It will not be supplied to any other person or organisation in compliance with the Privacy Act.

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**Secretary M Kareko**

**91 Windsor Road  
Tauranga**

Electronic payment to 6th Battalion Hauraki Regimental Assn:

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