

Hauraki News

"Whaka tangata kia kaha"

August 2018 Issue No 90

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 Services # CC35879 Website: **6haurakiassoc.org.nz** <u>http://www.facebook.com/pages/6th-Hauraki-Association/230175227024470</u> **tauranga.kete**.net.nz/ **remembering War To review Hauraki News prior to 2008** <u>http://tauranga.kete.net.nz/remembering war/topics/show/1287</u>

President's Report

I wish to thank everyone for assisting the Editor to compile the August edition of the Hauraki News. Without your assistance there would be no Hauraki News. The Editor neither seems to be at home and when he is, he seems to on Facebook. In particular the 6 Hauraki 2020 ANZAC Reunion. I would recommend you also go to that Facebook if you are not already on it. I have noticed the Editor has taken photos off that Facebook and placed them in the Newsletter.

I which to thank the Commanding Officer Lt Col Oliver Te Ua for the assistance he has given to the 6th Hauraki Association over his term. In particular was the celebration of the 120th Anniversary of the 6th Hauraki Regiment. Without the participation of the HQ, 3/6 Battalion RNZIR and the Hauraki Company the celebration would have not have been a successful event it was. In particular the combined dinner and the Church parade on Sunday.

The Association is in good heart, as shown by the numbers of members who have volunteered to be on the Committee and Area Representatives.

Kia Kaha Des Anderson

Hauraki Regiment 120th Birthday



The 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Association & the Hauraki Company 3/6 RNZIR **celebrated the 120th Birthday of the Hauraki Regiment**, over the weekend. Starting on Friday 6th July 2018 at the Garrison Club.

Eric Kristensen, Committee Member from the 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association called for a toast to all Hauraki's that have "passed". **SSgt John Harris** CSM, Hauraki Company, 3/6 RNZIR called for a toast to the Regiment.

The President "shouted "all those present.

The President read the messages received from;

On behalf of the president and members of the **Royal Victoria Regiment Association**, we would like to wish the Hauraki Regiment a very happy 120th Birthday and congratulations on achieving this milestone.

Martin. Secretary RVRA

Many thanks again for keeping me up with the news of the Hauraki. By an unlucky coincidence I will be at a Judges 'continuing education' conference in Wellington at the time of the 120th birthday celebration. So, all I can usefully do is to tender my apologies and wish the battalion, members past and present and their families, a very happy 120th birthday. Whakatangata Kia Kaha! Cheers

Hon Col Chris McGuire Patron 6th Hauraki Association

Don McKenzie past President 3 Auck/North Association

John Dick former CO 6th Hauraki Battalion Group



The Cutting of the Regimental Cake was a joint occasion with Jill Conder (wife of the late Honorary Colonel Maurice Conder) representing 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Association, & SSgt John Harris, CSM, Hauraki Company.

Pizza - free to all participants

Continuation of fellowship

On **Saturday 7th July 2018**, we all assembled at the 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association Museum were many stories were told of individuals experiences within the Hauraki Regiment.

The President related his story: during his service with NZSAS in the 1960s, the SAS were enemy for the NZ Brigade Group. While planning the infiltration of the TF Battalions who were in the Area of Operation (Taupo Forest Area), it was decided not to infiltrate the 6 Hauraki Battalion as they were considered to be the most aggressive TF Battalion: due to belief that most of the soldiers came from a rural environment. Our Troop of 6 members decided upon the target Battalion to be 3 Auck/North as it was considered to be mainly solders from an urban area thus not at home in the forest. The infiltration and reconnaissance were conducted at night. Our troop were not observed/engaged at any time, and were able to pinpoint the HQ CP and most of the gun positions. Thus, the information gained was of great benefit to our Command Centre. I doubt if we would have been as successful if it was the Hauraki's. That was his first time he had any experience with the Hauraki Regiment. In 1975 he joined the 6th Hauraki Battalion, Recon Platoon, with the then newly commissioned Ted Dean as the Platoon Commander.

The members then moved to the Mount Maunganui RSA There was a UNIMOG & Landrover (NZ Historical Military Vehicles) to assist transport for who did not have their own transportation.

Dinner was severed to seventy-two solders, members & partners in the library/back room of the RSA, with the two-course buffet meal being collected from the Les Munro Restaurant. The after-dinner speech was by the Commanding Officer,3/6 Battalion, RNZIR. Lt Col Oliver Te Ua who spoke about his recent experience as the MC for ANZAC Day in Gallipoli this year.

We all moved back to the Hauraki Garrison were celebrations were continued.

On Sunday 8th July 2018 the Church Parade was held at Holy Trinity Church (holder of the retired 1972 Hauraki Regimental colours)

The newly appointed Officer Commanding, Hauraki Company, Captain Barry Samu was given the honour of speaking on behalf of the Hauraki Regiment.





Members of 3/6 Bn - Hau Coy, Association members and Cadets of WBOPCU. Commemorating the milestone of 120 years from the date we recognize as the forming of the Hauraki's. 9 July 1898.



Members of 3/6 Battalion RNZIR HQ & Hauraki Company



A Medal parade was conducted by Lt Col Warren Banks where he presented the NZDFM to Doug Ashford.

This was followed by presentations to Leslie Hayes & Renee Douglas; by Capt Barry Samu, OC Hauraki Company.

NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE SERVICE MEDAL

The New Zealand Defence Service Medal was instituted by Royal Warrant in April 2011 to recognise attested military service since 3 September 1945.

The Royal Warrant for the NZDSM allows for one or more clasps to be awarded with the medal. The number of clasps awarded to an individual will be determined by the type(s) of military service undertaken by the individual. There are four clasps which can be awarded with the NZDSM: REGULAR, TERRITORIAL, C.M.T. and NATIONAL SERVICE.

The New Zealand Defence Force service medal with clasp *RF / TF / CMT / NS's clasps* is award to:

Ser:	Regi:	Rank	First name:	Surname /Corp
1	H1051406	Pte	Leslie	Hayes / RNZIR
2	X1051466	Pte	Renee	Douglas / RNZIR

The Annual General Meeting of the at 6th Hauraki Regimental Association Museum was followed by Luncheon at Garrison Club. "Delightful Cuisine from Local Establishments" There were no outstanding issues at the AGM.



Hauraki Company at Leadership Training Course in Tauranga

Letters to the Editor

YATES, Paa, NZ 727069, Victor 6 & 6th Battalion (Hauraki) RNZIR

After a short illness, Paa peacefully passed away on July 18th 2018. Paa was laid at the homestead, 27 Whittaker Road, Koutu until his funeral service which was held at the Rotorua Crematorium Chapel, Sala Street on Saturday July 21st 2018.

2nd Battalion, The Hauraki Regiment

RUGBY REPS. - 1943

WINNERS-Challenge Match and Gilby Cup, 1942



BACK ROW—Privates L. F. Freeman, C. Caddy, K. P. Aukaha, J. Ngaheu, W. Poha.
THIRD ROW—Privates U. Gage, U. Maunsell, L/C. R. Meihana, Sergt. G. R. Ormsby, Pvte. J. Lingman, L/Corporals S. V. Anderson, R. Kingi, P. Ratahi.
SECOND ROW-L/Corporals T. Timutimu, S. Dawson; 2nd Lieut. J. W. Barrow (Manager), Corporal R. K. Thompson (Coach-Selector), Corporal G. Gregory.
FRONT ROW—Pvte. J. D. Goldsmith (Vice-Capt.), Corporal C. O. Stewart.
ABSENTEES—Sergt. H. Delemere, Corporal U. Grey, L/Corporal W. Duff. [INSET—Corporal J. J. Steevens (Capt.)]

I AM PROUD TO HAVE SERVED IN THE SAME UNIT AS MY FATHER, JOSEPH TEUA NGAHEU Barry Ngaheu taken from the 6 Hauraki 2020 ANZAC Reunion Website

The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers 50th Gala Dinner

A warm and sunny Saturday 07th July saw a number of NZ Army Reserve personnel, now working in Europe, attend the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner at HM Tower of London, home of the RRF's Regimental Headquarters. The purpose of the event was to celebrate 50 years since the formation of the RRF in their present form, despite the fact the Fusiliers can trace their origins to 1674. Famous names make up the Fusiliers pedigree such as the Royal Northumberland (5th of Foot), Lancashire (XX of Foot) and the Royal Warwickshire (6th of Foot). These Fusilier Regiments contributed an impressive 196 Battalions between them during the First World War. All regiments were amalgamated in 1968 under the present name and fall within the Queen's Division. Many from EX LONGLOOK will recall the distinctive red and white Hackle, worn by all ranks at the top of the cap badge on the beret, which was handed down from the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers. The Hackle was awarded in recognition for the defeat of the French at the Battle of St Lucia in 1778.

The evening was held within the Moat of the Tower of London and began with canapés and champagne being served as the 560 guests awaited the arrival of The Colonel in Chief, Field Marshall HRH The Duke of Kent KG and The Colonel of the Regiment, MAJGEN Paul Nanson CBE, presently Commandant of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Proceedings then officially kicked off with the Beating Retreat ceremony conducted by the Queen's Division band and Regimental Corps of Drums who put on a magnificent display.

An excellent three course meal was served and was interspersed with some words from MAJGEN Nanson who made a point of thanking those in attendance from the New Zealand, Australian and Canadian Armies who had affiliations to them. A point was made to keep these relationships strong and invitations have been issued to attend exercises and continue this friendship. This point was underlined by the number of Australians, New Zealanders, Fijians, Ghanaians, West Indians and Canadians presently serving with the RRF in the British Army. Music from the divisional band continued and was finished off by a rousing sing-a-long for all to partake in with old regimental songs and historical county ballads. Extra gusto was added by the audience for the benefit of the musicians as we learned on the evening that the Queen's Division band was being disbanded, along with eight other Regular Force bands, as the British Army continues to try to balance the books between growing numbers of operational tours (Kurdistan being added most recently) and expenses that can be dropped. A familiar problem across the ABCANZ nations it would seem.

As well as celebrating the Regiment, the event was a tribute to those who have served and are presently serving and it was pointed out that the last remaining RRF regular Battalion was not present as they were away on a final exercise in Canada prior to their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan, of which they have had many. Mention was also made of Drummer Lee Rigby, a drummer and machine gunner with the 2nd Battalion RRF, who was mercilessly beheaded outside the Royal Artillery Barracks in Woolwich, London in 2013 during a terrorist attack aimed at British soldiers.

The NZ Army is allied to the Fusiliers via the Hauraki Regiment. This affiliation goes back to the formation of the Hauraki's in 1898, as the 2nd Battalion Auckland Rifle Volunteers, with Headquarters at Paeroa. Their first CO, Major Thomas Kenny, had previously served with the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers where he had acted as Adjutant in operations against Te Kooti in the Waikato in 1870. Likewise, an alliance with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment was formed in 1925

as a result of close associations during the 1914-18 war, both Regiments having fought alongside each other at Gallipoli in a number of engagements. The Fusiliers continue to cherish this affiliation and it is there wish to keep this connection refreshed and strong.



From Left – Right: LT Dan Schmid (5/7 BN, RNZIR); LT Tim Haden & MAJ Richard Pinfold (both from 3/6 BN, RNZIR) at the Cavalry & Guards Club



The arrival of Field Marshall HRH The Duke of Kent KG & MAJGEN Paul Nanson CBE at HM Tower of London



Beating Retreat ceremony by the Band of the Queen's Division and the RRF Corps of Drums

From the 3 Auck/North Association curtesy of Don McKenzie Past President.



Includes Alan Coster as a "tanky" and Ron Brown with the Northland cap badge.



Officers of the Hauraki Regiment.

Top Soldier 2017

I have been lucky to be a part of the Hauraki Regiment for 4 years now. A high point of this time has been to honour to receive the top soldier award at the end of last year.

The award has been in and out of service the past few years. It was last received by LCpl Albert Craig in 2015. 'Alby', now an RF Sapper, is a top soldier and would always give me a run for my money during the regular fitness level (RFL) test. He was my section commander during the first few years after joining and I learnt a lot from his leadership style. Having been the recipient of the same award he previously received made receiving the award extra special. The physical award itself was significantly upgraded last year. A previous trophy featuring a full-sized mounted taiaha has been repurposed for the award.

Some of the highlights of my time as a Hauraki include competing in the Twin Peaks Battle Tab down in Otago. Twin Peaks is a 26km run over 2 mountains and then back again while wearing patrol order. Other highlights include the multiple accounts of laughs and comradeship with my fellow Hauraki's both in a tactical and social situation. The comradeship within the unit is a huge motivation. While rehearsing at a recent charter parade, in good old army fashion it decided to rain as we stood in formation. It was the kind of rain that makes your beret droop onto your face. But as it continued to rain and the water soaked through my uniform. I reminded myself of the mates beside me going through the exact same thing which made the rain seem not as cold.

Na Mihi

Pte E.L. Bonk Tauranga Platoon



6 Hauraki Association Museum



Hi David.

Thank you for your reply.

A little irony that cropped up on the weekend whilst idly surfing the web.

I don't know if you are aware that Jeff did his national service with the 1st Armoured Car NZ Scottish regiment. According to what I have read, the Scottish Regiment was very strict on its troops being of Scottish descent. The family joked that the only Scotch in Jeff was what he had been drinking. He proved later when he did the Family Tree. Definitely No scots blood.

I discovered that our fathers 3rd Auckland Mounted Rifles was re named the 3rd New Zealand Mounted Rifles in 1921. Then again renamed the Auckland (East Coast) Mounted Rifles which then became the 1st armoured Regiment in 1944 (Info from Wikipedia history 3rd Auckland Mounted rifles.) Now I believe the 6 Th Hauraki Regt where the Mannequin has found a home.

Interesting that 34 years after our father had retired Jeff ended up in the modern version of the regiment. I wonder if Jeff realised this association. We will never know now but poses some interesting thoughts. I am uncertain exactly what years Jeff served but it was the early 1950's. I have his National Service Medal

Thanks again for your reply. John Ellingham

Hi David

I am John Ellingham Jeff's brother living in Australia.

My sister Nelma phoned me and indicated that you wanted some background on Jeff's WW1 Uniform.

Possibly also a bit of a background on our father who retired as a Captain in the Auckland Mounted Rifles. Attached is a brief summary of dad's military history.

The only changes that have taken place is the gaiters that I mention in my notes. Jeff replaced these with the boots that form part of the uniform. These are authentic and were in better condition than the gaiters which in any case did not have the boots to match. I now have the gaiters back here in Australia.

Jeff was pedantic that every item had to be the real ww1 issue. Over the years I found the Braces which were standard issue to both Australian and NZ troops and some leather webbing items and a bayonet.

I will send you a photo of the badges I took from the uniform in another E Mail

I hope this is what you requested.

John Ellingham.

Hi

Is this what you think is wanted.

If further research is wanted from Dads Military Records, They are available on line the reference is Archives New Zealand

NZ defence Force Army General Staff

Record Title Nelson Jeffrey Ellingham

Archives reference AABK 7291 W5614 D 2/1028.

This short history I compiled was taken from Dads Military File, Family stories, and papers Past NZ. In Papers Past NZ is a lot more articles mentioning Dad with his shooting competitions.

I have several photos that I can E Mail copies if wanted.

John.

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John.ohn.

N.J. Ellingham Regimental Number 61943



Te Kaahu Mataara (Be like a hawk)

A little background history of the Auckland Mounted Rifles.

The Auckland and Northland regiments can trace their origins back to the early colonial days of New Zealand. The oldest unit traces its roots back to the Fencibles which was a defence unit of Auckland in 1846. Now known (2015) as the 1st infantry Battalion (Countess of Ranfurly's Own)

The Countess of Ranfurly's Regiment is still in existence today and has over many years earned great renown. Three Victoria Crosses were earned by members of the Auckland Regiment in the First World War.

The Regiment was formed from the amalgamation of the Victoria Rifles, New Zealand Native Rifles, Auckland Rifles, Gordon Rifles, Avondale rifles and Newtown Rifles.

The 3rd Auckland Mounted Rifles was officially raised on 17 march 1911. It was one of twelve regionally based Mounted Rifle Regiments formed as part of the new Territorial Force (TF)

In the immediate build up to the First World War, instead of mobilising the T.F the Government decided to raise a separate force to send overseas to fight – The New Zealand Expeditionary Force (NZEF) was formed.

In 1914 the new mounted regiments were given provincial names corresponding to the military district in which they were raised. This gave them some sense of regional identity.

The pre-war Territorial Senior N.C.O"s and selected officers were retained in New Zealand as Training Staff who as the war progressed a lot of these gradually volunteered for regular Army service abroad.

Upon its establishment the Regiment comprised twenty- six officers and 523 other ranks who were mounted on 528 riding horses, seventy four draught horses and six pack horses. Each squadron of 158 men had a field headquarters and four troops.

Although the regiment used horses they were not cavalry regiment, but mounted infantry and were expected to ride to the battlefield, dismount and fight as traditional infantry.

Dad officially Enrolled with the Gordon Rifles on 30.October. 1903

Yet! I found an article Auckland Star 2 April 1903 (Some eight months before his official enlatment) The Gardon Adles will fire a match against the Seddon Horse at the latter's range at Lake Takapuno on Saturday next. The conditions are to be seven shots and a sighter at 200 and 300 yards. 8 men aside. The Gordon's representatives will be selected from the following: -Sergeont's, Saunders, Graham, and Cakin. Corporals:-Martin, Woods, Morey. Gillingham, Ellingham, Corp. Sherrott and Colour. Sergeont Cuniming.

Dad was transferred to the 3rd Auckland Mounted rifles on 1 March 1904

Later promotion records confirm that he officially joined the Territorial Army on the 30th October 1903. He climbed the N.C.O ranks to Sergeant Major.

6th April 1908 Promotion from sergeant to Sergeant Major

Was commissioned to acting Lieutenant on the 14th February 1910.

He attained the rank of Captain. (Territorial) on 2th December 1915.

His progress was not all smooth sailing. He was obviously "A very capable" officer but did not like sitting the required exams.

According to his Military records. His appointment to 2rd Lieutenant, (12 August 1918) under the heading "If passed the necessary examination for rank to which recommended and date of Passing". The response by his commanding officer is in large black letters. "NO"

It was not until March the following year that he finally passed the required examinations after having failed the preceding December...

In fact I find the following two documents rather amusing.

To; - Head quarters New Zealand defence forces Wellington

Dated at Auckland 21" August 1912

Sir.

I have the honour to forward Form V- No. 4 for the appointment of Mr N. J. Ellingham, 3rdRegiment M.R as 2rd Lieut.

Mr Ellingham held at acting – appointment as Liautenant in this Regiment which lapsed in December last through his failing to qualify at the written examination for this rank.

Mr Ellingham is a very smart and efficient young man in practical work in the field and although a few months over 25 years of age, I specially recommend the appointment be approved.

I have the honour to be Sir Your Obedient Servant Signed (indecipherable) Colonel Commanding Auckland District.

5

The second.

District Headquarters Auckland Military District.

CONFIDENTIAL

To: -

Lieutenant N.J. Ellingham 3rd (Auckland) Mounted Rifles Auckland

Subject: - CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

I am directed by the officer commanding the District to communicate to you the following remarks made by your Officer Commanding in your Confidential Report for 1915. "A Good Officer spoilt by evidence of slackness"

Acknowledged & Signed by N.J. Ellingham O.C Machine Gun. 3rd Auckland Mounted Rifles.

Please sign the original copy and return. Duplicate may be retained Seen: - 12th September 1915 Date: - 13TH September 1915 Signed "Potter" Major, General staff.



Territorial Service Medal

Dad mounted on his horse "Coal "



The horses used by the 3rd Auckland Mounted rifles were privately owned and not the usual military horses. They were individually valued by the Defence Department, registered on lists, and fully examined by a veterinary surgeon so that, in case of an accident the owner could receive due compensation for the worth of the animal. There is no mention in his military records of his horse(s) so I presume that he provided and paid for the upkeep of his mounts himself.

Most of the territorial mounts were not the usual sturdy breed more commonly used for Military purposes. Jeff made a very valid observation "Look at the horses ankles above the hooves They are very fine and more in keeping with private horse than a sturdy regular military mount which has much more robust build" As a result of this comment I did have a look at some of the old Photos of the regimental mounts that served abroad. Considerab heavier build.

A little anecdote passed to me from Jeff is a story about Dad returning home to Ponsonby Road from Military Dutie and going upstairs to his room. He changed out of his uniform. Folded up his "Sam Brown Belt" attached to which was his army issue holster & pistol. He placed these in a drawer. Sometime later his younger siblings were playing Hide and seek and one of them opened the drawer, found the belt with pistol holder. The pistol was drawn from th holster and the trigger pulled.

There was a round in the chamber and obviously the pistol did not have the safety engaged. The resounding gunshot apparently caused Grandmother Ellingham to have a miscarriage.

No one else was hurt in this incident. I bet Dads firearm safety procedures were upgraded from then on.

Jeff has collected a complete authentic full uniform that would have been worn by officers of Dads era. I had found Dads leather Gaiters in a pile of bits and pieces that mum was about to throw out I kept them for many years and then when I heard that Jeff was collecting a complete authentic Mounted Officers uniform I returned them to NZ. They now form part of the uniform as displayed. In fact they are the only items of Dads uniform that exist.

He now has a manikin that he has dressed as an officer of the Auckland Mounted rifles... These gaiters are the only items that are from Dads original uniform. The uniform is authentic. Jeff was most pedantic about the authenticity. I managed to locate a pair of genuine WW1 Issue "Braces" unused complete with the Broad arrow stamp still in original packaging paper..

These were in an antique shop I stumbled on in a small country town in Western Australia called Donnybrook. I also found a couple of other webbing items of Dads era.

Our brother George has Dads Officers Dress Sword

On one of my return visits to NZ my sister Nelma gave me Dads "Warrant of Commission as an Officer". A beautiful document written in a style we do not see today. Sadly very faded and becoming quite faint.

George the **Fifth by** the grace of god of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas. King Defender of the Faith, Empire of India etc.

Signed: -**"Islington**" Governor

To our Trusty and Well Beloved Nelson Jeffery Ellingham, Gentleman Greeting

(The document concludes)

"Our trusty and well beloved, The Right Honourable John Poynder Dickson – Poynder. Baron Islington. Governor and Commander in chief in and over His Majesty's Dominion of New Zealand and its dependencies This First Day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twelve.

By his Excellency's Command (signature) "Islington"

Again Signed. Nelson Jeffery Ellingham Esq Second Lieutenant Land Forces. New Zealand

500/5/11/+++7477

I have this document framed and hung in my study in subdued light in the hope that it does not deteriorate any further.

Record of Service of Captain Nelson Jeffery Ellingham 3rd Auckland Mounted Rifles (As per his military records)

Enrolled Auckland M.R. 3.4.03 Efficient in same to (Territorials) 28.2.11 7 years 334 days Certified by C.O of Corps as efficient to (Regular Army)

TOTAL CONTINUOUS EFFICIENT SERVICE TO

26. 7. 16 5 years 150 days

26. 7. 16 = 13 YEARS 119 DAYS

AWARD OF THE NEW ZEALND SERVICE MEDAL APPROVED

Signed R. W. Tate Colonel ADJUTANT GENERAL 18TH OCTOBER 1916.

Scanning through various news items referring to "Ellingham" in Papers Past I found an entry.

Local and General News Evening Post 3rd May 1917.

"The Governor visited the 3rd Auckland Mounted Rifles camp at Avondale, on Monday and presented to Colonel G.A Wynyard, Captain N.J. Ellingham and Captain R.W. Woods, the New Zealand Territorial Medal for long and efficient service with the Territorials"

This would have been the Right Honourable the Earl of Liverpool

Throughout his military career Dad competed in many Rifle Shooting competitions. He was an excellent shot winnin a Gold Medal and featured regularly in the newspapers for his skills.

He travelled throughout NZ competing in National competitions. He is mentioned in many News Paper articles I hav found in "Papers Past"

His Military Career was quite distinguished. Apart from being a bit "slack" he was often reported in the papers of the day.

He is referred to as being the Officer in Charge of the Machine Gun Section "with 22 troops under his control" Obviously he was involved in the training of new recruits as mention of his being the officer in charge of the rail movement of troops from Auckland to the various training camps at Trentham and Featherstone.

The New Zealand Herald 21st may 1910 reports

PARADE OF TROOPS

AN IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY

MARCHING TO THE MEMORIAL SERVICES.

A very lengthy report and I can only assume it was to solemnize the Death of the King.

Over 1200 officers and men on Parade. The assembly of troops was on the corner of Bowen St adjacent to the Northern Club

They marched down Shortland Street. Along Queen St and up Wellesley street to St Mathews Church. "At ten minutes to two the order "Officers Fall in" and shortly after the strains were heard of the Kings favourite Hymn". Nearer My God to Thee" played by the Garrison Band.

The solemn tolling of the bell in St Andrews tower which was marking off the minutes of the still afternoon etc. ... Then the Battalion Band most feelingly played Queen Alexandra's favourite "Abide with me" etc.etc. Then just after two o'clock had stuck the parade moved off to the notes of a solemn funeral dirge' the article then goes on to list the units making up the parade and the officers leading those units. A dismounted detachment of the Auckland Mounted Rifles under Captain Potter and Lieutenants Atkinson and Ellingham"

N.J. Ellingham Regimental Number 61943



Te Kaahu Mataara (Be like a hawk)

A little background history of the Auckland Mounted Rifles.

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The New Zealand Herald 31 May 1911 reports

"The escort for His Excellency the Governor on King's Birthday will be provided by "A" Squadron and will be under Lieutenant Ellingham. Under the new regulations the escort will consist of one officer, one sergeant, one trumpeter and twelve rank and file"



Gold Shooting Medal Inscribed "Presented by Sergt W.J Morgan To "A" Squadron 1st Regiment Auckland Mounte Rifles. Won by Sergt Major N. J. Ellingham 130pts." This would have to be c 1908/09

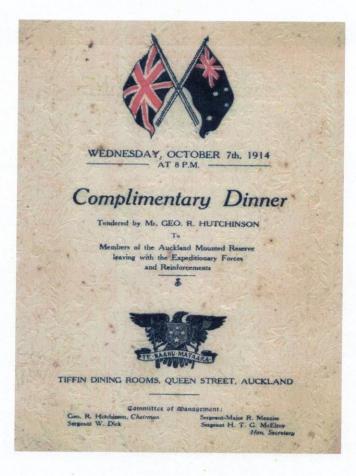


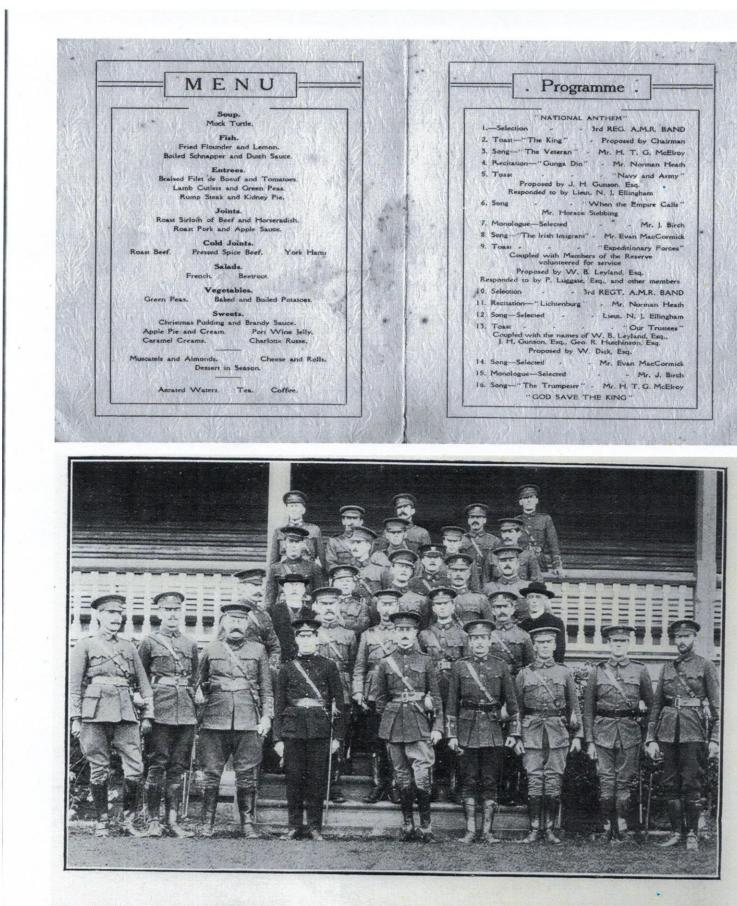
Dad's progress through the ranks: - (As per his Military records)

TERRITORIAL ARMY

Enlisted 3rdApril 1903 Promoted to sergeant: Promoted to Sergeant Major: - April 1908 To Acting Lieutenant 22nd January 1910 To 2ndLieutenant 4th august 1911 Promoted to full Lieutenant (Territorial) 7thSeptember 1912 Promoted to Captain 1st November 1915 Enlisted for General Service (Regular army) January 1917 Fronted Medical Board (Auckland Star 16th March 1917) 8 were examined 5 passed Special Officers Training Course 22 July 1917 Reduced in rank on transfer from Territorial to General Service from Captain Territorial to 2nd Lieutenant Permane Force Resigned Commission 27th August 1919(Retired) As Captain

It is recorded in the Auckland Star 4th November 1914 *MOUNTED RIFLE CLUB UNIFORMS TO BE PURCHSED. STRONG FINANCIAL SUPPORT.* 2ndParagraph "Captain Ellingham elected as one of the Honorary Vice Presidents. The last paragraph reads "and it was resolved that the services of Captain Ellingham kindly offered to the club more particularly in connection with musketry instruction be accepted with thanks"





THE COMMANDANT VISITS THE AVONDALE CAMP: GENERAL GODLEY, WITH OFFICERS OF THE 3RD (AUCKLAND) MOUNTED RIFLES AND OF THE DISTRICT STAFF.

N.J Ellingham Top Right

This photo accompanied an article written in 1912 headed

A CANVAS CITY

The 3rd (Auckland) Mounted Rifles Camp, Avondale Racecourse 1912.

The 1909 Defence Act and 1910 amendment.

In December 1909 in response to both domestic and imperial concerns regarding the defensive capability of the British dominions and colonies, the New Zealand Government instituted the Defence act.

"Subject to the provisions of this Act all male inhabitants of New Zealand who have resided therein for six months and are British subjects shall be liable to be trained as prescribed as follows:-

From twelve years to fourteen years of age or to date of leaving school, whichever is the later, in junior cadets: and From fourteen years of age or the date of leaving school as the case may be, to eighteen years of age, in the senior cadets:-and

From eighteen years of age to twenty-one years of age, in the general training section; and From twenty-one to thirty years of age in the reserve.

They started training them young back then.

The report goes on for pages.

It lays out the amount of training each person has to undertake. Fourteen days in Camp and twenty half days or equivalent.

The employer's duty to release the person for training but no employer is to compel to pay for that time. No liquor to be sold at Military Canteens.

It then goes on to describe the big Training Camp at Avondale Racecourse. It describes the lay out of the "Bell tents" The Horse Picket Lines and the servicing of these with water pipes with taps throughout the camp for use by the men and the watering of horses.

The camps schedule was said to have been basic, due to the number attending the camp:

6.15am to 6.45 in the morning was physical drill; 6.45 to 7.45 stables, followed after breakfast by drill without arms, saluting etc. from 9.30 to 10.35am. Musketry, care of arms and semaphore work was from 10.15am to 11.45, then stables from noon to 12.45. After lunch, there was mounted drill (including mounting and dismounting), stand to horses, saluting, fitting of saddlery etc., from 2.15 to 4.00pm. More stables from 4.15pm to 5.00pm. The men were divided into 4 Squadrons.

Lieutenant Ellingham was in charge of the machine gun with 22 men under him. They even had a 25 member band.

Many comforts and necessities as could be provided were available for those attending the camp. A complete kitchen staff cooked all the meals for the men for as the "Star" put it. "as most people are aware mounted men do not cook, having quite enough to do for their horses" The YMCA assisted but in finding there was a shortage of large marquee tents the set up premises in a "Large Shed" (ironically for the morally-oriented organisation, the shed was that which usually housed the totalisators). There they provided "Reading and writing Tables, Piano and music, Gramophone, two rifle ranges and many indoor games. A lantern is provided and a choice selection of lantern views has been collected.

It lists all the sponsors such as the local newspapers, magazine suppliers but I do like the clause that the games came from the Girls Grammar School.

The men had to rough it as described by one of the Herald reporters.

" A bag of bran for a pillow, sweet smelling hay as a mattress, a waterproof sheet and two military greatcoats as bed clothes – and a Herald reporter settled down for his first night in a camp at Avondale. ------At a seemingly unearthly hour in the morning the bugle sounded the reveille and awoke the camp. The morning was raw and cold and it was difficult to leave the warm tent, but coffee brought by a friendly orderly made the task easier. Outside the men were hard at work grooming their horses and all was bustle and confusion --- etc And so on."

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COMMITTEE 2018- 2019

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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 the views of the Association or Committee may not always be.

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

6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association Incorporated

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New Membership Full Renewal Membership Associate

Regimental Number

Full Name

Partners name (if applicable)

Full Postal Address

Telephone Number (home) Mobile

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

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