



Hauraki News

“Whaka tangata kia kaha”

May 2012 Issue No 67

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

Compiled & Edited by Des Anderson

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<http://www.facebook.com/pages/6th-Hauraki-Association/230175227024470>

President's Report

Since I have given the 6th Hauraki Association Website a face lift, I have received a number of replies. I have not been able to implement all your suggestions yet, due to lack of time on my part. But keep those ideas's coming in. The Reserves Reorganisation in particular the fate of the Hauraki's, has dominated a considerable amount of my free time

You will see a letter from the Minister of Defence Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman replying to the former Honorary Colonels, former Commanding Officers and myself. This is just a sample of the correspondence & meetings held on behalf of the Hauraki's. I have also included media reports from, Deputy Minister of Defence, Chief of Army and Deputy Chief of Army.

Individually, we have also held meetings with politicians', written letters to whoever we think we can influence and finally to the newspapers. A number of Hauraki's have a Facebook page "Do not amalgamate 6 Hauraki". Others have approached their local Member of Parliament and also written to their local papers. We were fortunate to have Dr Wayne Mapp, the then Minister of Defence, as guest speaker at a dinner, thus utilized the opportunity to advise him, and just as importantly the assembled (captured) audience, of the moves afoot to their Hauraki Regiment.

As of the writing of this report, the final signing of the formation change has not yet been activated. It is not too late for **YOU** to have a say. **YOU may be the person that makes the change.**

The Honorary Colonel and Commanding Officer of 6 Hau Bn Gp, as serving soldiers, use different channels to get their message across.

I have been in contact with the President of 3ANR in relation to Trusts and other affairs. I will keep you update by email when I can. Those who do not have computers (about 100 members); I will mail out important changes.

If you have received your New Zealand Defence Medal and would like to have it presented in a formal occasion. To date we have six who wish to have their medals presented. The intention is to hold a parade after the Annual General Meeting & Lunch on **Sunday 8th July 2012.**

I believe both the 6 Hau Bn Gp and the Association are in good heart, but are apprehensive about the future ahead. Remember the changes we have gone through before and emerged even stronger.

How many times have **YOU** said "I am not coming back next camp"? But you were there. Why ?????

Because we are **HAURAKI**

Kia Kaha
Des Anderson

Hauraki Regiment 114th Birthday & Annual General Meeting

To celebrate the 114th Birthday of the Hauraki Regiment the 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association will conduct the following events

Friday 6th July 2012

Garrison Club

- 1600hrs** Open
- 1830hrs** Read any messages received
- 1830hrs** Cut the Regimental Cake (Commanding Officer, 6 Hau Bn Gp)
- 1830hrs** Pizza - free to all participants

Continuation of fellowship

Note:

To assist with catering please advise of your attendance.

Saturday 7th July 2012

- 1000hrs** Hauraki Experience; Final Parade. Waiouru Military Camp.
Presentation of the "Hauraki Sword" to the top cadet, by the President.

Sunday 8th July 2012

- 0800hrs** Church parade at Holy Trinity Church (holder of the retired Colours)
- 1100hrs** AGM at 6th Hauraki Association Museum
- 1200hrs** Luncheon in the Lecture Room. "Chinese from Restaurant"

Note:

To assist with catering please advise of your attendance.

1300hrs Presentation of NZDSM medals

Presented by Chief of Army
Presented by Mayor of Tauranga. (6th Hau Bn Gp holds the Freedom of the City of Tauranga)
Requested presentation by Col Aubrey Balzer. (Brian Schinkel)
Honorary Colonel Judge Chris McGuire will read the citations.

Note:

You may have received your medal in the mail. Here is an opportunity to have it "presented" to you in a formal occasion, with your family, friends & peers.

- 1330hrs.** The Formation Change of 6 Hau Bn Gp.
Presentation by Chief of Army

- 1400hrs** The Community & Hauraki Regiment.

From the perspective of the local community
The Major of Tauranga.

From the perspective of the Hauraki Regiment
Commanding Officer 6 Hau Bn Gp; Lt Col Julian Sewell

Monday 9th July 2012

- 1600hrs** PMC Birthday Shout

Reserves Reorganisation



Office of Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman

Minister of Defence
Minister of State Services
Associate Minister of Finance
Member of Parliament for Northcote

MIN-984-2012
NZDF 1540/1

30 March 2012

Mr A P Coster, OBE, ED, JP
Mataiwhetu Station
Thorn Road
Lower Kaimai
RD1
TAURANGA

Dear Mr Coster

Thank you very much for bringing to the attention of my Ministerial colleagues your concerns regarding the future of the Territorial Force of the New Zealand Army. I acknowledge your submission is on behalf of a number of ex-Hauraki Battalion (The Haurakis) members, including six previous Commanding Officers and senior Non Commissioned Officers (NCOs). The purpose of this letter is to respond to the points you have raised and to explain what the proposed Territorial Force reorganisation aims to achieve.

I should firstly note that to reflect the current role of the Territorial Force, a recommendation is soon to be made to Cabinet to rename it "The Army Reserve." However, in this letter I will only use the current nomenclature.

The proposed reorganisation does not question the value of the Territorial Force. The utility demonstrated in New Zealand and overseas by the Haurakis and the Territorial Force overall has been well recognised within the New Zealand Defence Force for many years. A key driver behind the reorganisation is to align Territorial Force units with their Regular Force counterparts to deliver the operational outputs, required by Government, more efficiently. The reorganisation will better reflect the Territorial Force's role of providing well-trained personnel to round-out, or sustain, NZDF elements deploying on, or supporting, operations.

I understand your concern that a reduction in numbers would restrict the ability of the Territorial Force to produce high-calibre officers, NCOs and soldiers. Please be assured that there is no proposed reduction in Territorial Force numbers and you should also note that there is a personnel floor of 1,200 below which Territorial Force strength will not fall.

The number of Territorial Force personnel currently serving is 1,910. Of these, approximately 600 have not trained since 1 July 2011 and they will be transferred (on

paper) to what will be termed the Standby Reserve. This transfer keeps them 'on the books' and reflects their current circumstances and inability to train. The majority of these personnel are ex-Regular Force personnel or specialists in such fields such as medicine, law or technical professions.

The other Territorial Force personnel will be termed 'Active Reservists' and will continue to serve in their Territorial Force units or those integrated Regular Force units with a Territorial Force component.

I acknowledge your view that there would be merit in retaining the Haurakis as a separate unit. This is unlikely, however, under the proposed reorganisation. The proposed reorganisation has the Haurakis amalgamating with the 3rd Auckland and Northland Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (RNZIR), and maintaining a distinct Hauraki company as part of 3/6 Battalion RNZIR, (3/6 RNZIR). The new unit will retain both sets of battalion colours while the regional representative responsibilities will ensure the history of the Haurakis will be maintained. The 3/6 RNZIR amalgamation will reflect other Territorial Force amalgamations where each former unit will maintain a company sized element and where possible, geographical footprint in the new organisation.

The proposed Territorial Force reorganisation will enhance the New Zealand Army's ability to produce operational outputs efficiently. The reorganisation will also retain the Army's 'footprint' nationally and maximise the unique ability of the Territorial Force to engage New Zealand communities in a dynamic and effective manner. The Territorial Force will remain a key contributor in producing NZDF operational outputs and it remains a valued part of New Zealand society.

Yours sincerely



Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman
MINISTER OF DEFENCE

Copy to: Hon Tony Ryall, MP for Bay of Plenty

Hon Anne Tolley, MP for East Coast

Mr Lindsay Tisch, Assistant Speaker of the House,
MP for Waikato

Mr Te Ururoa Flavell, MP for Te Waiariki

NZ DEFENCE FORCE OUTLINES RESERVE FORCES PLAN

Reserve Forces will remain integral to the success of the New Zealand Defence Force in a plan for their future outlined by the Vice Chief of the Defence Force.

Speaking to Parliament's Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee, Rear Admiral Jack Steer, said the NZ Defence Force had chosen a 'Total Defence Workforce' solution, which extends how the NZ Defence Force has been using its Reserve Force in recent years.

"Our Reserve Forces are able to provide well-integrated, part-time military personnel that help round-out or sustain NZ Defence Force elements deploying on and supporting operations," he said.

Rear Admiral Steer said the bulk of the NZ Defence Force's 'Reserve' personnel were attached to the NZ Army. He outlined a plan for an 'Active Component' Reserve that will not go below a strength of 1200 Army reservists, who will train for an average of 24 days a year. In addition, there will be a 'Standby Reserve' component of personnel who have specialist and other skills, but who do not require the same level of annual military training.

"This is really about changing the Reserve model to better match the 21st Century needs of our Defence Force," he said. "Current Territorial Force members, who are not in the Active Component, will be retained in the Standby Reserve, ensuring overall numbers of Army Reserves are similar to what we have today. The significant change is in how we target training to the Active Component."

The Defence Force is also changing the organisational lines of

A year at the helm of tough, dedicated Army units, but keeping Reserves in provincial locations.

By the end of the year the NZDF would have consolidated the Headquarters components of its Army Reserves into three regional units, with affiliation to our regular force operational units," he said.

"However, the important historical and representational links, and the ability to provide local assistance, particularly disaster relief, will be maintained with the plan to retain Reserve elements in provincial locations."

Rear Admiral Steer said the New Zealand Defence Force was not creating a 'high readiness' Reserve Force to replace Regular Force soldiers, as had been suggested by some media.

The idea of creating a high readiness Reserve was mooted in an independent report prepared as part of the 2010 Defence White Paper process. "It was considered but has not been taken up as the option the New Zealand Defence Force is pursuing," he said.

Media Report

CHIEF OF ARMY OUTLINES PLAN

It has been a rough 12 months for the Army, and Major General Tim Keating is the first to admit it.

But while he has been stung at times during his first year at the Army's helm, he is, he says, facing his second year with a confident sense of what must be done, and how it must be done right.

"It was like stepping onto a treadmill," he says of his first few months in the top job.

"I began this job when there seemed to be unprecedented confluences of issues affecting our Army."

Within days of him being sworn in on a sunny Trentham afternoon the disastrous Christchurch earthquake struck. Helping clear the aftermath was to be just one of the Army's major humanitarian efforts for the year. The recession was continuing to bite in New Zealand, and it was imperative Army played its part in achieving the Chief of Defence Force's vision to fully operationalise the New Zealand Defence Force.

"We had to work out a plan that enabled us to manage that environment but keep producing our outputs. As an Army we couldn't just stop..."

So continue it did. It had been established the Army needed to place greater emphasis on being operational, and needed people to be fit and able to deliver on those operations, whether they be in Afghanistan, Christchurch, Tauranga or Timor. While the churn and swirl of operations both here and overseas continued to one side, decisions the Army had been deliberating on for a number of years were brought to fruition.

A new brigade was formed, with its Burnham headquarters becoming a deployable task group, TRADOC was formed, and the move out of Waiouru began.

This was all to sharpen the front of the Army, and adhere to CDF's vision of a greater joint force.

As the year progressed it was not an option to stand back, take a deep breath, wait and watch.

"There was never going to be a right time to do everything we had to do," says MAJGEN Keating. "Things don't happen in a linear fashion in the Army. I couldn't wait until Value for Money stopped and operations slowed down because if we did we would not be in the right place for the next round of adjustments that had to be made throughout the whole of the Defence Force."

He is not saying that the speed with which developments happened is his excuse for the hurt he acknowledges some people felt when their jobs were civilianised in order to reallocate saved funds into operationalising the Army.

"But we could have communicated better on what we were doing. I am sure our plan is solid and sound, but we have learned we must communicate better with our people and paint a much clearer picture of why we are doing things."

To that end he and his Sergeant Major of the Army Warrant Officer Class One Danny Broughton took a travelling road show around the country where the pair fronted up to troops at every level and explained what was going on. Soldiers and officers were blunt, opinionated and honest. The pair took it on the chin, and were satisfied they had done all they could to explain what had happened and what the future held. "When people know what is going on and why, and they know where we are trying to get to they can accept things easier than if they had no idea. I'm not saying it's easy—that would be glib—as some very hard decisions had to be made."

"People might agree to buy into a long and deep vision but they need a few wins along the way. I think we are proving those wins with the kit we are now buying. We are delivering on our promise and we have been able to reprioritise some of our resources into the delivery of the soldier modernisation system."

So what does 2012 hold?

"We won't be stepping away from the commitments we have made to Army 2015 – which is largely a rebalancing and reinforcing of 1 Brigade, TRADOC and the Deployable Joint Task Force."

Some of his main focus this year will be on leadership, re-establishing trust, wide communication and encouraging free and frank discussion about what is happening within Army and throughout the rest of the Defence Force.

He will be encouraging everyone in Army to think about how we can do a whole lot better by working together as a Defence Force. "We need to live and breathe jointness, not only on operations but how we raise, train and prepare ourselves for operations. That is CDF's vision for the future and we in Army want to be right at the forefront of those changes."

The General says he is heartened by what he sees and hears as he travels around his bases.

His frequent visits to camps and bases will continue. "I really enjoy that part of my role. I talk to our soldiers and young officers and hear some amazing ideas. A Private in 1 MI Coy came up with a brilliant idea recently about how we can improve things, and so did a Staff Sergeant in 5 Movements Coy—I'm seeing examples of innovation all over the place."

Sometimes having fewer resources is the key to unlocking innovation, and our personnel are thinking about how to make things better for our Army."

People, he says, are the crux of a highly successful, operational Army.

"We now realise we must communicate in the best possible way with our people, and tell them exactly what and why we are doing things. Army people have always put self behind service and sacrifice and I really believe they will continue to do so."

"There will always be challenges for us to meet in our profession and it therefore requires tough dedicated people who can continue to perform in conditions of adversity. I know our Army is made up of people of this character so I remain very confident we will continue to meet our Army mission."

Army News

A COMMENT FROM DEPUTY CHIEF OF ARMY BRIGADIER CHARLIE LOTT

Recent comment in the media that we servicemen and women need to get away from thinking that service in the Defence Force is "a job for life" got me thinking (probably dangerous I know, but bear with me).

To me, "service" is not so much a job for life as a profession. We are actually no different from the medical profession or the legal profession in that the knowledge, skills and experience we need to train, fight and win can only be gained over a long period of time and with a not inconsiderable investment in each and every one of us. The difference is that unlike the medical profession or the legal profession, we can't go anywhere else to gain and enhance our knowledge, skills and experience. There is only one NZDF so we can't exit our organisation to enhance our professional experience and go somewhere else, like another hospital or another legal practice.

Now for the biggie— nor can we refuse to do stuff— up to and including putting our life in harm's way! Therein lies my point— we are all in what we can loosely call "The Profession of Arms". This is epitomised by the old saying "you can take the man (or woman) out of the Service...but you can't take the Service out of the man or woman". We do not have a job, we have a profession.

So apart from laying one's life and limb down for our country, what does membership of this profession actually mean?

This got me thinking even more deeply (even more dangerous than

the original thought but again bear with me). To me, membership of this rather exclusive club, no matter for how long or how high we go in it, entitles us to investment by Army and the NZDF to give us the very best skill sets and equipment to enable us to survive and win when called upon to do so. In return we expect that our interests will be looked after as we serve, we expect that we will be looked after if we are hurt or maimed and that our families' interests will be looked after if we are killed or seriously incapacitated. We commit to serving at the behest of the NZDF, wherever and whenever, be that on warlike operations, less warlike operations or simply serving the community. In return we expect that the NZDF will recognise the sacrifices we make over those in everyday professions such as being cold, wet, hungry, tired, dirty, at times bored and at other times frightened witless and so on.

What we are seeing here is not so much 'a job for life' as 'a way of life'. It is a way of life that is very difficult to explain if you haven't actually experienced what it is like to serve. That's the hard bit...how do we explain to our external audience just what it is that makes us want to serve? How do we explain to those who think in these economic times that we can't justify a Defence Force that we can't not justify one? How do we explain that our response in Christchurch is just one part of the Profession of Arms? How do we explain that we are a group of special people, with a whole lot of special— and very expensive— stuff, doing a whole bunch of special things for New Zealand? How do we explain that the Profession of Arms demands that we live by a unique code 24/7 and how do we explain our disappointment in some members who transgress that code when wearing the uniform of our profession? How do we explain that there is no-one else in Godzone that is paid

to do what we do?... to train, fight and win.

Here's how I do it.

My • first point to my, in some cases, very cynical audience, is that we are an insurance policy. We all hate paying for insurance until we need it and then we certainly appreciate it. You don't have to look too far or too far back to see the devastating effect on your life if you don't have it and you suffer a catastrophic event – just ask someone who was uninsured in Christchurch!

That said, we are not waiting around for something to happen. We are actively contributing to New Zealand, the region and beyond on a daily basis.

• My second point is that the knowledge, skill and experience given by and gained during service is fully transferable outside. In this regard the NZDF adds value to where NZ is trying to go. I use the example of our Reserves – they have a day job but I'll bet you that the skills we impart as part of military service are used day-to-day in their jobs. I have never heard of any military professional being unsuccessful on departing our organisation. One could actually argue that the knowledge, skills and experience gained by service in the Profession of Arms, make us NZ Inc's largest training organisation.

• My third point is that we are unique. We are not a business in the true sense of the word. True we are responsible and accountable for spending the taxpayer's money wisely but we are not required to turn a profit or break even...yet. Our people in New Zealand are captive. They cannot simply leave and go and work for another NZDF to gain advancement or top up their skills. This being said they are only captive for as long as they want to be and it therefore behoves us to look after them as best we can.

• Fourth, I don't know of anyone who wants to do a bad or mediocre job. As I've said our people (you guys and gals) are very special because what you do does make a difference and you enjoy feeling involved in meaningful and challenging work. We all like to be involved in creating the look and feel of our section, platoon, company, battalion or formation. Even

in Wellington we like to be involved in creating our new environment – its look and feel, what it will have and what it will do. Yes that's right, even the Wellington team 'get it' in terms of making sure we are shaped for and relevant to the future! Just look at the air of excitement around Chief of Army's Army 2015 and CDF's Force 35.

• Last, (and this is aimed at those who are critical of the various 'incidents' that happen from time to time), like members of any profession, there will always be those who transgress a professional code, either intentionally or unintentionally. We are nothing more than a vertical slice of New Zealand society and some of our members, for whatever reason, may not measure up from time to time. It is up to us as professionals to lead the appropriate actions or deeds to make sure that the transgressions are few, and that transgressors are reminded of their obligations to the Profession of Arms - 24/7. In summary, I think we can be justifiably proud of our profession – The Profession of Arms. It is not so much a job for life as a way of life where we can't jump from organisation to organisation to improve our knowledge and skill like other professions throughout New Zealand and worldwide.

Perhaps we should understand that and try and explain it better to those who ask, or even better explain it to those who don't ask. Stay safe and well.

Army News

HERO'S BATTALION UNDER THREAT



Government cost-cutting threatens one of the world's few army territorial units to have never been amalgamated - the Tauranga-based Hauraki Battalion. Famous ex-Hauraki recruits include Lt General Lord Bernard Freyberg, VC, and Corporal Willie Apiata, VC.

The proud 114-year history of the 6th Hauraki Battalion as a stand-alone army unit was under threat if the Ministry of Defence carried out its plan to amalgamate the Hauraki's with the 3rd Auckland and Northland Battalion. The Hauraki's would be trimmed down to a 130-strong company of soldiers within a new battalion called the 3/6 Battalion of the Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment.

The plan sparked widespread concern in Tauranga because, even though the Hauraki Battalion would retain its Colours and identity, an Auckland-based command structure would lead to a decline in people joining the territorial's and defence force cadets.

Tony Young, of the New Zealand Cadet Forces, said an amalgamation, with the loss of command and control, would leave the Bay of Plenty and Waikato regions without any major military establishment.

Mr. Young said he was speaking as a civilian rather than as a squadron leader with the Air Training Crop, which uses the Army Hall in 11th Ave. He said the loss of a strong and established base risked a slower response time in civil defence emergencies, such as when Hauraki soldiers "hit the ground running" within two hours of an emergency being declared for Tauranga's devastating 2005 storm. The Hauraki Battalion also supplied headquarters and logistical support for the Rena disaster.

Hauraki Association president Des Anderson put it bluntly: "We don't like the idea." The Hauraki Battalion is ours and it is what we are proud of. The uniqueness of the battalion is what we treasure the most. Lieutenant Colonel Warren Banks, former Hauraki Battalion commanding officer Experience had shown where the army closed its halls and reduced its

presence, territorial soldiers no longer related to the new environment and recruitment dropped, Mr Anderson said. "Slowly the Hauraki's will start losing out."

A former commanding officer of the battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Warren Banks, said the Hauraki battalion was unique among New Zealand's territorial units for having never amalgamated, tracing its history directly back to its formation in 1898.

It was one of the few army units in the world to have never amalgamated.

He said the Hauraki's was all about family, both in the regimental sense and in the way that generations of Bay families had served as territorial's.

"It is ours and it is what we are proud of.

"The uniqueness of the battalion is what we treasure the most."

Lt Col Banks estimated the number of full-time regular force soldiers with the battalion could drop by a third to about three personnel while the three or four civilian staff at the Army Hall could lose their jobs.

He was optimistic that the Minister of Defence, Dr Jonathan Coleman, would not close the hall because of its importance to the Hauraki's and as a venue for many other uniformed organizations.

A letter to Mr. Coleman from six former commanding officers and senior NCOs said the future of the Territorial Force was being placed in jeopardy by the army reorganisation - including halving the number of territorial force units to three.

The letter said the Hauraki's were not only a good recruitment avenue to the regular force but sponsored a number of cadet units that were an integral part of the community.

"The future of these units is also being jeopardized," the letter said.

Mr. Coleman replied that retaining the Hauraki's as a separate unit would be unlikely under the proposed reorganisation which was intended to more efficiently align territorial units with their regular force counterparts.

"I understand your concern that a reduction in numbers would restrict the ability of the Territorial Force to produce high-calibre officers, NCOs and soldiers. Please be assured that there is no proposed reduction in Territorial Force numbers."

Mr Coleman said "regional representative responsibilities" would help ensure the history of the Hauraki Battalion was maintained.

John Cousins

UNUSUAL ROLES

Some unusual roles come the way of Cranleigh directors. Managing Partner Paul Bayly was asked by former Defence Minister Wayne Mapp and former Chief of Defence Lieutenant General Jerry Mateparae to use his combined skills as a merchant banker and Army Colonel to carry out an external review of New Zealand's reserve forces. Along with former Chief of Army Major-General Lou Gardiner, and international security specialist Dr Beth Greener, Paul consulted with defence representatives and read widely on the path New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) counterparts are taking in the UK, USA, Canada and Australia before preparing the report. Written nearly a year ago and released only recently by NZDF, the report contains 43 recommendations on reconfiguring the reserve forces, also known as territorial forces, as Defence works out how to save \$400m by 2015. Paul says one of the recommendations is establishing a new high-readiness force to be deployed alongside regular army troops, sailors and air force crews on operations at the lower end of conflict. The report advocates replacing 500 regular force soldiers with an additional 3000 reserves, saving \$49 million in four years. "A high readiness reserve can be ready with 40-50 days training," says Paul, "and could spend 40 days a year in service and be deployed on a military operation with regular forces once every four years." Employers will be paid \$5000 a year by Defence if they employ a reserve force member. A second and third tier of reserves are also recommended in the review – an active reserve working in local communities and providing services including civil emergency response and a standby reserve for former regular force or reserves. "The report is about leveraging the total defence workforce and this is one way to make significant cost savings without losing operational military capability," says Paul. Another recommendation is to dispose of oversized defence real estate in Auckland, Tauranga and Dunedin and consolidate into defence locations where regular forces and reservists are accommodated.

Battle to preserve battalion



Former 6th Hauraki Battalion commanding officer Kenneth Brown is among a group of former leaders of the Tauranga-based unit that are calling for its preservation.

Photo by Tracy Hanks

Plans to merge the 6th Hauraki Battalion with Auckland forces is being strongly opposed by former commanding officers from the Tauranga-based territorial forces.

Under the proposal, part of a cost-cutting military review, the Tauranga-based Hauraki's will be merged into the 3rd Auckland and Northland Battalion, with the Hauraki's to remain as a distinct company within the regiment.

But six commanding officers are urging Defence Minister Jonathan Coleman to reconsider the plan as it will end the area's link to the forces and delay responses to disasters in the Bay. Former bat-

talion commanding officer Allen Coster OBE ED JP, led the call to preserve the battalion, writing to the minister that the proposed reduction of six territorial forces to three will reduce its effectiveness.

The minister's response has assured him the forces won't be weakened by the restructuring, but the group is asking for assurance the Army Hall, at the corner of 11th Ave and Devonport, will be retained.

The minister wrote to the group, confirming the proposal, but is overseas and unable to respond to the Weekend Sun's questions. It is understood a decision will be made by November.

Former CO Kenneth Brown is opposed to any changes, and says if the merger goes ahead there will be an inevitable local drop-off in the territorials because few will

want to travel to train.

"It's the precursor to the territorial forces in this area basically disappearing – we have seen that in other areas where units have merged...we have closed depots in Opotiki or Tokoroa, then in a short time there is no one coming along."

Kenneth is encouraging people to lobby their MPs on the changes.

Hauraki Association president Des Anderson says the battalion's proud history should be maintained, as it produced top leaders like Lieutenant General Lord Bernard Freyberg, VC, and Corporal Willie Apiata, VC. The Hauraki's are the only battalion which has not been amalgamated since it was formed in 1898.

"We definitely don't like it."

By Hamish Carter

Defence Force Medal



Over 24,800 NZDSMs issued

16 March 2012

Since April 2011 more than 24,800 [New Zealand Defence Service Medals](#) (NZDSM) have been issued. Between April 2011 and December 2011 more than 18,000 NZDSMs were distributed, as discussed in detail in our [21 December 2011 update](#).

Between 1 January 2012 and mid-March 2012 more than 6,800 NZDSMs have been issued. Over 5,500 have been sent to ex-Service persons and more than 1,250 to current NZDF military personnel. Of the ex-Service persons, over 1,980 have been issued with the CMT clasp, over 480 with the National Service clasp, more than 2,250 with the Regular Force clasp, and over 500 issued the Territorial clasp for Territorial / Reserve service. In addition, over 300 ex-Service persons have been issued the NZDSM with two clasps because they completed the service requirements for two or more clasps, e.g. three years in the Regular Force and three efficient years in the Territorial / Reserve Forces. Seven ex-service persons have been awarded three clasps.

NZDF is currently accepting [applications for the NZDSM](#) from ex-Service persons age 50 or over.

It is expected that applications will be opened to all applicants in early May. Further information will be posted on this website in about early May.

Letters to the Editor

Des

Below is the text of an email I have sent to Bridges, Coleman and Simpson – note that I have not yet received a reply.....

For some years I was an officer in the Territorial Force battalion, 6th (Hauraki) Battalion Group (6 Hau).

I understand that as a result of Government directives to Army regarding cost savings, three of the six Territorial Force battalions are to be amalgamated, this number to include 6 Hau, which is to be reduced to a company sized group and incorporated into the 3 Battalion group.

I have emailed the Defence Department requesting specific detail of this plan, but received the generic 'yes there may be a plan, please wait and see' response.

I have enquired of the 6th Hauraki Battalion Regimental Association based in Tauranga and have received some information that confirms the intention to amalgamate with 3 bn.

On making further enquiries, I find that the situation is confused. For example, I am told that the battalion will keep the Colours, it's Honorary Colonel and the four Charters (listed below); I would not expect a company group that is within another battalion structure to such retain such things, especially the Colours?

My question to you is this; can you ascertain if the 6th (Hauraki) Battalion Group is to be disestablished as a unit on the Army establishment, and if so, when does the change take place.

The reason for my enquiry is simple. The battalion is 114 years old and holds four Charters within it area; specifically; Paeroa, Tokoroa, Tauranga and Rotorua.

The four Charters recognise the battalions very long-standing and intimate connection with the citizen communities from which the battalion is drawn. Each of these communities has, over the years, including two world wars and several other significant regional conflicts, offered up a citizen contributions to these conflicts, and suffered casualties and death as a result.

6 Hau has been a vital and proud contributor to the Armies many operational deployments; not least, in recent years, in 6 Hau personnel deploying in support of operations in the Pacific and Afghanistan.

As a part of the disestablishment process I would hope that there is to be some formal and dignified process by which these four Charters are 'handed back' so-to-speak, to the communities that granted them.

The disestablishment of a Battalion can evokes strong emotion and sentiment from ex members and communities alike. Such emotion is entirely to be expected, and is not, I dare say, unusual is a situation where a unit such as 6 Hau has had enduring and intimate associations with tight-knit and typical smaller, communities. You need only look at the angst caused by the reduction in Defence Force band numbers in recent times (from ten to seven) to see an example.

I would like to think the Commanding Officer is made fully aware of the operational changes being planned by Army in respect of these amalgamations, specifically 6 Hau, so that he can properly brief the Regimental Association. It would appear, on the basis of feedback from the Regimental Association that this may not be the case. If you are able to facilitate some clarity and better and more timely communication around this issue of amalgamation, that would be helpful.

Many thanks for any clarity you may be able to provide.

Whakatangata kia kaha

Russel

Hi Des,

I am a Trustee on the WAIMAKARIRI/ PASSCHENDAELE Trust and would be happy to furnish any of your members going anytime to the area with a introduction to those "that matter" there. Our Waimakariri Dist Council has twinned with that region with the town council in Zonnebeke.

Kevin Brown, President , Canterbury Regimental Assn CMT Assoc Me on ANZAC Day as President Kaiapoi RSA and President Canterbury Regtl. Assn

Ake ake kia kaha



Hi Des,

I hope all is well and I have been enjoying recieving the Hauraki news.

I am now deployed in Cyprus serving with UNFICYP.

The Australian Contigent here are again responsible for organising the ANZAC Day service.

I was hoping you could provide me with a prayer to read during the service that represents New Zealands involvement.

I have been given the responsibility and honour of sourcing and reading this.

Any assistance would be appreciated.

Kind regards Jon lautrec

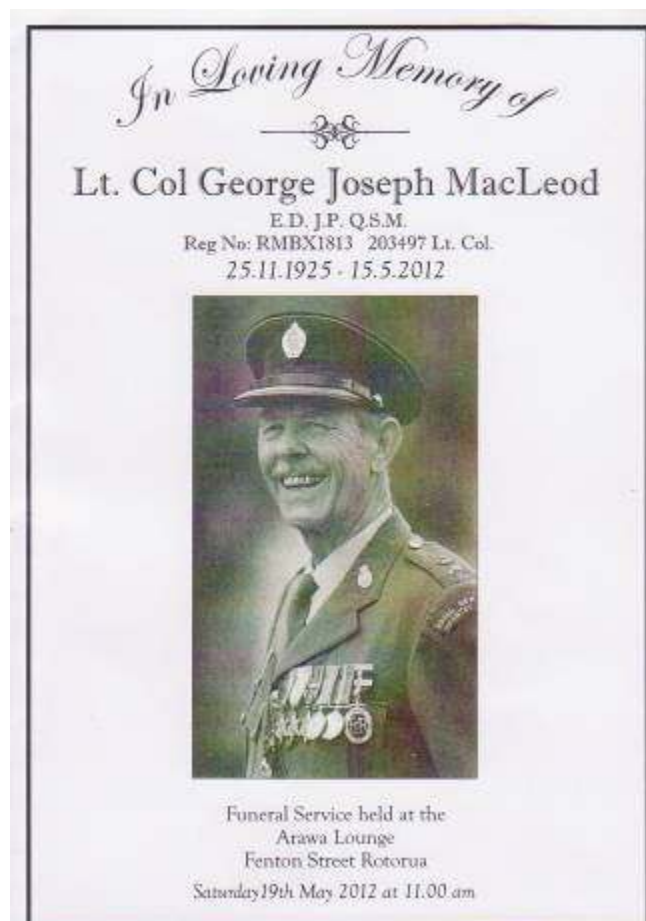
Jon,

I send you letter to my Data base of Hauraki members

I hope you receive a reply before ANZAC Day.

Des

Obituaries



Last Post for soldier who led parade for 50 years

By Abigail Hartvelt
 abbey.hartvelt@waipost.co.nz

Lieutenant Colonel George MacLeod led Rotorua's Anzac Day parade for 50 years as a mark of respect for his fellow servicemen and women.

The 86-year-old, who served in World War II, died last Tuesday and was farewelled by more than 200 people at Arawa Park Racecourse on Saturday.

Mr MacLeod moved to Tauranga four years ago and was diagnosed with lung cancer in 2010.

Family members spoke of a man with a strong sense of humour — a man who helped organise his own funeral and on finding out it was to be semi-military, said he would "quite enjoy attending that".

After seeing a pamphlet about who he should choose to speak at his funeral, Mr MacLeod mentioned that he would quite like to.

"That was just typical," daughter Jeannie MacLeod Crawford said.



HUMOROUS ALWAYS: Lt Col George MacLeod said he'd quite like to see his own funeral. *A—TIM WARD*

Son Duncan said his father had two philosophies — to be 100 per cent honest and to always have a sense of humour.

"A lot of those who spoke at the

service spoke of his ability to give advice, in other words his opinion, and his sense of humour. He was my hero, role model. He was intelligent, wise, quick of mind and had a great sense of humour," Duncan said.

Mr MacLeod spent more than 30 years in Rotorua.

Born in London, he moved to New Zealand after World War II after meeting his wife-to-be Shirley Williams in Auckland.

The couple married in 1949 and in 1956 moved to Rotorua where Mr MacLeod sold real estate and insurance.

They had three children and the MacLeods moved to Auckland in the early 1970s but Mr MacLeod continued to travel to Rotorua each year to lead the Anzac Day parade. They moved back to Rotorua in 1989 and Mrs MacLeod died in 2003.

During his time in Rotorua, Mr MacLeod served voluntarily on Whare Aroha's board of trustees for 17 years.

In 2007 Mr MacLeod led his 50th and final Anzac Day parade in Rotorua and was awarded a

Queen's Service Medal for services to returned services personnel and the community.

Jeannie said her father led the parade for 50 many years as a mark of respect for his fellow servicemen and women.

"That was something he could contribute, to honour his comrades."

Mr MacLeod was just 15 when he went to war and during World War II he served with the British Royal Marines, eventually transferring to the Royal New Zealand Navy in May 1944.

From 1946 to 1949, Mr MacLeod served with J Force in Japan. He reverted to the British Royal Marines in September 1949. In August 1951 he enlisted in the Territorial Force of the New Zealand Army, and in 1955 joined 1 Hauraki Regiment (as it was then known).

In 1966, he was appointed Commanding Officer of the 6th Battalion of the Hauraki Regiment.

In 1970, he was appointed Military Secretary in Headquarters Field Force Command, and that was where he remained until his

retirement in June 1973.

Jeannie said she would always remember her father as a quietly spoken man.

"He was always gentle with us. Despite being a soldier he was a big softie with us kids."

She recalled being at the Anzac Day service where her father first led the parade and hearing him give the instructions.

"I couldn't believe that it was my father. That was the first time I heard him raise his voice."

She said her father was always positive and cheerful and found the good in everything.

He told his children only about the humorous moments of war until his final years when he felt he needed to get his story out.

Rick Thame, who spoke at Mr MacLeod's funeral on behalf of the Rotorua Returned Services Association and the Rotorua branch of the King's Empire Veterans, said Mr MacLeod was a proud member of both organisations.

Mr MacLeod is survived by his three children, five grandchildren and one great granddaughter.



HISTORY of Hauraki Regiment

6TH HAURAKIS EARLY HISTORY

[Ohinemuri Regional History Journal 31, September 1987](#)

By Captain C W Vennell, Retired List, formerly Hauraki Regiment

The Hauraki Regiment, which has its headquarters in Tauranga, can look back on a distinguished record of 88 years including participation in four overseas wars. It grew out of a tradition of voluntary service established during the Maori Wars of last century

The earliest volunteer infantry unit in what is now the Hauraki area was the Opotiki Rangers Rifle Volunteers, formed on 29 August 1867. It followed the formation of the Bay of Plenty Volunteer Cavalry on 23 December 1866. Each was composed largely of men who had served in the 1st Waikato Regiment of Militia and who first settled the Tauranga and Opotiki districts. Each distinguished itself in the Hau Hau wars.

In the next 25 years, no fewer than 20 volunteer units (not including cadets) were formed - and all but one disbanded - nine at Thames, three at Tauranga, four at Opotiki and one each at Coromandel, Tapu, Puriri and Katikati. The first of the Tauranga units was the Tauranga Cavalry formed on 30 December 1868 and disbanded on 9 August 1870.

The Hauraki Regiment, formed on 9 July 1896 as the 2nd Battalion Auckland Rifle Volunteers, with headquarters at Paeroa, included the following independent companies:

Te Aroha Rifle Volunteer Company, formed September 15, 1892.

No. 1 Company Ohinemuri R.V., formed June 16, 1897.

No. 2 Company Ohinemuri R.V., Karangahake, formed July 26, 1897.

Hauraki Rifle Volunteers, Thames, formed October 11, 1897.

No. 3 Company Ohinemuri R.V., Waihi, formed November 29, 1897

Coromandel Rifle Volunteers, formed February 28 1898.

Onehunga Rifle Volunteers, formed July 9, 1898.

The commanding officer of the new battalion was Major Thomas Nepean Edward Kenny, surveyor and county clerk, of Paeroa, formerly of the 73rd (Perthshire) Highlanders, better known as the Black Watch, and of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers. He had acted as adjutant in the operations against Te Kooti in the Waikato in 1870 and was afterwards a sub-inspector in the Armed Constabulary.

Only 15 months after the battalion was formed the first New Zealand Contingent sailed for South Africa. Among the eight men from the Hauraki area in its ranks was the battalion's first Regimental Sergeant-Major, Sgt.-Major G R Bradford, formerly of the Coldstream Guards.

Bradford, who went overseas as a private (farrier), died of wounds received in the contingent's first action at Jansfontein Farm. He was the first man from New Zealand and the first of any colonial contingent in the South African war to give his life for the Empire. In all, more than 200 men from the Hauraki area landed in Africa as members of the 10 contingents sent from New Zealand.

At home the South African war [war? – E] period was one of change. On February 9 1900 Major E W Porritt, formerly battalion adjutant, succeeded Major Kenny in command. On March 10 the services of the Huntly Rifles were accepted and, on April 5 the Te Aroha Rifles were transferred to mounted infantry. On November 15 the Thames Naval Artillery (formed in 1869 as the Thames Naval Volunteers) changed its identity to become part of the battalion as No. 1 Company Thames Rifle Volunteers.

On October 1 1901 the designation of the battalion was changed to "2nd Battalion, Auckland (Hauraki) Infantry Volunteers". On January 17 following, the services of the Thames Naval Artillery band were accepted as the battalion's first band. On April 18 1902 the Rotorua Rifle Volunteers and the Waihi Rifle Volunteers (both formed two years before) were attached to the battalion. The Rotorua company was disbanded on 6 December 1905.

The years following the war were comparatively uneventful and then, in 1907, the regiment's first battle honours, "South Africa 1900-1902" were conferred by King Edward VII. On September 28 the same year, at a battalion parade held at Thames, the King's Colour (presented by the New Zealand Government) was consecrated, presented and trooped.

When the Defence Act 1909 came into force the volunteer units became merged in the new Territorial organisation in which the Hauraki Battalion - the sixth in order of seniority in New Zealand - became the VI (Hauraki) Regiment. It was made up of the following companies:

A Company, Thames (formerly No. 1 Thames Rifles)

B Company, Paeroa (formerly No. 1 Ohinemuri Rifles)

C Company, Thames (formerly Hauraki and Coromandel Rifles)

D Company, Waihi (formerly No. 3 Ohinemuri and Waihi Rifles)

E Company, Te Aroha

F Company, Morrinsville

G Company, Tauranga and Opotiki (half-company each)

H Company, Rotorua and Matamata (Half-company each)

Regimental Band, Thames (the former battalion band)

Lieutenant-Colonel Porritt, who had been promoted to that rank in 1902, remained in command.

On July 10 1911 the regimental badge was approved and the present motto, "Whaka tangata Kia Kaha" adopted as from April 4 1912.

It is worthy of record even in this brief summary that, on November 20 1911, Bernard Cyril Freyberg, of Morrinsville, then aged 23, was appointed 2nd Lieutenant in the Hauraki Regiment. He joined the Haurakis just in time to attend its first annual camp.

This was held at Morrinsville on the property of the second-in-command, Major R C Allen, from February 17 to 20, 1912, and is claimed to have been the first infantry camp in the Dominion. It was attended by 23 officers (among whom was Lieut. S S Allen - the late Colonel Sir Stephen Allen - Major Allen's brother) and 373 other ranks out of a total strength of 28 officers and 961 other ranks.

In February 1913, the Hauraki Regiment was allied to the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry which, as the 43rd Monmouthshire Regiment, fought at Maketu, Gate Pa and Te Ranga in the Tauranga district in 1864 and helped to garrison that district for two years afterwards.

In the same year new colours were presented to the Regiment by the officers and men of the former volunteer Battalion. The ceremony was performed by the Governor, Lord Liverpool, at Hautapu Camp, Cambridge, on May 3 1914.

With the outbreak of World War 1 on the following August 4, the calibre of the Regiment was soon to be sternly tested. The first draft of Hauraki volunteers left Paeroa for Epsom Camp nine days later. They were to form part of the 6th Hauraki Company of the Auckland Infantry Battalion, 1st N Z Expeditionary Force. The Battalion first saw action on the Suez Canal against the Turks in February 1915 and took part in the landing at Gaba Tepe, Gallipoli on April 25 1915.

Following the Gallipoli campaign the Haurakis went to France and took part in many of the major campaigns until the end of the conflict.

Maintaining interest in military affairs after any big war is a difficult task but, in the hands of such men as the two Allens referred to, Lieut.-Colonel (later Colonel) F Prideaux of Whakatane, and many others including Captain J M Allen, the Haurakis were kept in being, between the wars, when there was no longer the spur of compulsory training to keep them together.

On February 20 1930 at Paeroa, Colours presented to the regiment by the Paeroa Returned Servicemen's Association were formally handed over by the G O C New Zealand Forces, Major-General R Young, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

In World War II the identity of the Haurakis, as well as that of other New Zealand Regiments, was partly lost. It was retained as far as possible in the three companies, one in each of the first three echelons of the 2nd N Z E F. In each of the 18th, 21st and 24th Battalions, B Company was originally composed mostly of men from the Hauraki Regiment.

HAURAKI BATTALION - FREEDOM OF THE TOWN

In March 1990 Paeroa honoured the Hauraki Battalion with the Freedom of the Town. The Borough of Paeroa had previously conferred the Freedom of the Borough on the Battalion, but with the demise of the Borough the Charter was amended and ratified to the Freedom of the Town. The event was celebrated with a parade of over 300 Officers and other Ranks who marched down Normanby Road with Colours flying and Swords drawn.

The presentation of such a Charter recognises a tradition going back many centuries to the times when the Monarch required the Earl or senior nobleman of the district to raise and train a military unit for the service of the country.

It was customary that the town in which the unit had its base would honour this unit by permitting them to march through the town with their unit banners flying and with their full equipment. An honoured liaison was thus created between the "army" and the citizens.

The 6th Battalion of the RNZIR has been known as the Hauraki Battalion since 1898 when it was formed from various volunteer units including the Ohinemuri Rifles and the Karangahake Rifles. While the unit base has moved from town to town as the N Z Army structure demanded, the Battalion has continued to use the name The Haurakis".

Their third set of "Colours" (banners) are housed just inside the main doors of the Paeroa Library.

ANZAC Day – Tauranga Civic Parade









ANZAC DAY - TAURANGA

In the 12 years I've been involved with Cadets, this year's ANZAC Day was marvellous, with great weather and a huge turn out and our Cadets looked amazing. This year WBOPCU were responsible for doing the morning tea as well as the breakfast – and we did a good job, even if I do say so myself. - Lisa Crawshaw

Breakfast:

This was our third year doing breakfast in conjunction with the Hauraki Association.

A big "Thank you to Sue and her incredible team – Alison, Lisa, Jill & Delwynne, who started there day at 3am to provide breakfast for our soldiers (RF & TF) based at 6th Hauraki, who were attending various Services around the Waikato/ Bay of Plenty / Coromandel area as well as for the Patriots motorcycle club (ex-servicemen and women), other ex-servicemen & women who support our Unit and of course our Cadets, their parents / caregivers and families who had been at the Dawn Services.

We also left a supply of sausages and sandwiches, in the Garrison Club ready for toasting when the soldiers returned through the day.

The Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit & the Hauraki Association would like to acknowledge the support and help given by: New World Gate Pa, Gilmours Tauranga , Dave Greaves, Gisborne (Hauraki Assn), Dion Abrahams, Woodlands Management Mt Maunganui (Hauraki Assn) and Vertical Horizonz Industry Training Group Tauranga whose assistance made this event / service possible and successful.

"Thank- You"

ANZAC Day Morning Tea

Thank you to Lisa and her team of parent helpers and Cadets who brought home made ANZAC biscuits or helped with serving the huge crowd or with the tidying up afterwards.





News from the Regiment



Troops from 6 Hau Bn Gp deployed to Waiouru over the period 16-18 March 2012 to conduct live firing training activities including an AWQ and pairs fire and movement. Platoon level patrolling and harbouring Warrior Tasks were completed between the live firing activities.



The exercise was preceded by extensive planning, reconnaissance and preparation by the 6 Hau Training Wing (overseen by RF Cadres).

On 16 March an advance party (including CSS Coy elements) was deployed to Waiouru to establish an FOB at Jamieson Shed. Upon arrival, troops were briefed on the weekend's activities and immediately began preparations of weapons and equipment.

Early on the morning of Sat 17 Mar the entire 6 Hau contingent concentrated at Old Class range and conducted LFTT's, application of fire and an AWQ shoot. The overall pass rate for the AWQ resulted in **90%** of soldiers becoming qualified.



At the conclusion of the AWQ, troops from Waikato Mounted Rifles began separate training activities with their Armoured LOV troop. A training highlight for WMR was the live firing of C9's from the gun platforms of their LOV's on the SART range. A Coy pers were issued orders by Platoon Commander Lt Dan Waugh and they immediately began battle preparation prior to deploying to Mitchell Bush to practice patrolling and harbouring techniques.



The infantry platoon was deployed by TCV to a drop off point on Home Valley Road, before making their final approach to Mitchell's Bush on foot. This phase of the exercise enabled the troops to practice patrolling techniques in open and close country. After conducting a recce for a suitable night harbour location, the platoon executed the occupation sequence of the harbour drill, conducted clearing/listening patrols, deployed security and began work routine. The position was occupied overnight while security was maintained with sentries

manning machine guns.

The platoon withdrew from the harbour after first light the following morning and patrolled to a pre-designated assembly area in Home Valley. After being debriefed on their previous activities the troops received safety briefs for the live firing (pairs) fire and manoeuvre SART shoot which was to follow.

The 6 Hau Training Team had established the stand alone SART range in Home Valley to enable troops to engage automated targets during (live firing) pairs fire and manoeuvre drills. The range had been templated with two live firing lanes, with both lanes being visible by a SART operator from a safe elevated position. Troops were initially rotated through dry (then blank) pairs fire and movement drills in the none-live zone of the range. Troops were then deployed to an assembly area in the live firing zone, where they drew live ammunition, donned Kevlar helmets and body armour before being moved to the FUP just short of the start line. At the FUP, each group of soldiers received confirmatory safety briefs by the RCO. Each pair was then formed up at the start line which was marked with mine tape at 90° to the axis of advance.

After the command "LOAD, ACTION INSTANT" was given by the RCO each pair was ordered to "ADVANCE. WATCH MOVE and SHOOT" on the indicated axis observing allocated arcs of responsibility.

Each pair was followed closely and supervised by safety NCO's and the RCO.

After crossing the brow of the mound at the start line, the assault area came into full view of the troops. At a signal from the RCO to the SART computer operator, targets emerged from hidden locations and were immediately and aggressively engaged by troops in pairs with emphasis on the safe application of the principles of fire and manoeuvre. After each target was "destroyed", each pair of soldiers was ordered to advance on their axis to engage additional hidden enemy targets in the assault area.

At the conclusion of each assault, weapons were cleared and each pair was debriefed by safety staff before being sent back to the assembly area to await another live firing rotation through the assault area.

The exercise activities presented the 87 attending soldiers with another opportunity to experience challenging and rewarding training in a live firing environment. The 6 Hau training team also gained valuable experience in planning and executing live firing and field training activities for the troops. And as the Command Team pointed out at the final debrief, the whole activity was conducted solely by TF staff and was a positive indicator of the battalion's current training capability.





Cpl H Gillies and John Campbell: March 2011 at the Bridge of Remembrance during the 2nd Christchurch Quake while on Duty on the Cordon

3/6 Battalion – Two Battalions Working as One

Army News

If you did not know better, you would think they were from the same unit - such is the ease with which 3 Auckland Northland 6 Hauraki Battalion soldiers, NCOs' and officers work and train together. No where and time was that more evident than in February when the two Battalions conducted combined field training in Waiouru.

3 Auckland North took the lead in planning the combined training. The organisation was simple – every component from the command post (CP), trainers and coaches, exercise sub-units, through to logistics support, was staffed with personnel from both Battalions. And whilst it was by no means the first time the battalions have trained together, that occasion was particularly significant because it demonstrated just how ready the two units are to adopt a combined 3/6 battalion organisation under proposed restructuring of the Territorial Force/Army Reserve.

The combined training programme conducted out of Helwan Camp was noteworthy for its many exciting, and for a lot of soldiers, new experiences.

There was time spent undertaking weapons effect training (WETS) in the Waiouru Simulation Centre where shooting skills were tested with the aid of computer generated scenario's.

WETS is valuable in providing direct feedback on individual weapon handling and marksmanship and also provided excellent preparation for the next activity – live fire.

Speaking of which, any opportunity to fire live rounds even if it is an Annual Weapons Qualification (AWQ) shoot, is always a welcomed one. The AWQ shoot was not just about gaining a qualification. The shooting coaches used the three days allocated and took every opportunity to provide quality individual coaching. Eighty five percent of those who attempted the qualification shoot passed. This confirmed the benefit of having shooting coaching and the value of WETS training before an AWQ. For soldiers who at best may only

fire once in 18 months or so, that was a very good result and is testimony to time well spent by the coaches and a keen desire by the shooters to do well. Congratulations to Private McLeod (6 Hau) who scored the highest points.

The opportunity to also conduct an RFL fitness test could not be let go. Seventy-eight percent of those who attempted the 2.4 km run, press up and sit up test achieved a qualification. The youngest qualifier was Pte Tuui and the oldest was WO2 Andy Peters, both of 3 ANR. The RFL pass rate while not as good as that for the AWQ nevertheless provided another set of pleasing results.

These two tests and qualifications are sought out, particularly by Army Reserve soldiers who seek to be, or remain, eligible to deploy on operations.

Light Armoured Vehicle (LAV) familiarisation training courtesy of Whisky Company, 1 RNZIR, was another popular activity. Army Reserve soldiers know of the LAV but few have the opportunity to scramble over, let alone train with them. The mounted route reconnaissance patrol of the training area provided the soldiers a good appreciation of what it is like to

travel in and work with these vehicles and weapon systems. Exciting as the LAV is, it struggled to out do an opportunity to fly. Two UH1H helicopters from 3 Squadron RNZAF swooped in low and fast. Against the backdrop of a cloud shrouded Mount Ruapehu, 3/6 soldiers were familiarised with seating arrangements, safety procedures and then practised their 10 and 2 o'clock approach and exit drills. Upon receiving thumbs up from the crew, the CP gave the command for the patrols to mount and be airmobiled to the start of the field exercise. The rapid deployment to the start line was assisted by the soldiers having received their orders and completed battle preparation the night before.

A rendezvous with the well camouflaged logistics element provided a welcomed if not too brief respite as the patrols took shelter under the cam net umbrellas to complete battlefield administration. It was not long before they were off again in search of militia elements. And they found them.

They were hiding in a village (better known as the UTF, the urban training facility) south of Ngamatea Swamp. The next day a slow search of the village and awkward interaction with

'village people' was soon replaced by screams and shouts as the patrol came under fire from a small militia element hiding in two of the houses. The excitement of fire and movement soon replaced any lingering discomfort from having

been wet and cold. Hasty orders, regrouping, target indication (some good, some not so good) and by sheer weight of numbers and firepower eventually saw the ‘enemy’ resistance crushed.

The composition of an Army Reserve contingent is interesting for many reasons not least of which is the variety of backgrounds from which these soldiers come. The 3/6 battalion group was no exception – there were students, lawyers, truck drivers, self-employed, fisheries officers, NZ police, farmers, crop harvesting operators, contractors, Customs employees, and many others. The ease with which these soldiers come together and focus on the military task at hand says much of the training they have received, the benefit of shared values, and the importance of good leadership. What is often forgotten is these Army Reserve soldiers have to seek employer agreement to get time off. There are also families who often give up precious family time so their dad, mum, or partners attend military training. For those reasons alone it is pleasing to hear soldiers leaving these training activities with comments such as ‘that was a good exercise’, and ‘I really enjoyed that’. This is key to keeping them interested, engaged, and trained for their role in the NZ Army. And on that note the 3/6 Battalion staff are congratulated for a job well done.

In addition to Whiskey Company, 1 RNZIR, and 3 Squadron RNZAF, special mention must also be made of the enthusiastic support of 1 Signals Squadron who provided excellent radio communication support and familiarisation training, and also 1 Health Support Company who provided essential medical coverage especially during the AWQ.



PTE Gamin (6 Hau), followed by PTE Joung (3 ANR) and PTE Bowmar (3 ANR) emerge from the mist after completing a reconnaissance patrol.



LT Hollis (3 ANR) a university student and SSGT McKie (6 Hau) a private contractor, man the exercise CP.

Association News



Former Cpl Billy Gilchrist of the Royal Regiment of the Fusiliers & the President exchange belt & badges along with a Tee Shirt from the Fusiliers of North Humberland at visit to the Museum in May 2012.

ARMY NEWS



An Army Pocket was presented to Marion Kareko in recognition of her administrative services to softball.

The New Zealand Army Women's softball team has won the Chief of Army's Supreme Award. Members of the team were presented with their trophy at an awards ceremony in Trentham on 8 March.

The Chief of Army, Major General Tim Keating said the New Zealand Army encouraged participation in sport because it makes a valuable contribution to the operational effectiveness of soldiers.

“Whether as a player, a coach, an organiser or a supporter, participation in sport requires a focus on teamwork, competition and fitness – all of which are highly desirable characteristics of soldiers on today’s battlefields. The benefits of sport also build on the values that are important to us as an organisation (Courage, Comradeship, Commitment and Integrity) so it is fitting that those who have demonstrated these values, within the Army community, are recognised for doing so.”

Major General Keating said sport was a combat multiplier that enabled core traits such as a competitive spirit, willingness to engage and the physical fitness to enable an appropriate response.

“In addition, the mental agility to make snap decisions and the determination to succeed can not be underestimated.

There is only one thing more important than winning and that is wanting to win.”

New Zealand Army Womens Softball team

The Army Women’s Team were the winner’s of the annual NZDF Inter-Service Tournament 21– 25 February 2011 that also included a team from the Police. Army beat Air, Navy and Police with convincing wins proving too strong for their opponents. Throughout the tournament the women were undefeated and scored a mass total of 103 runs for and 12 runs against them. In the final against the Air Force, the Army team completely destroyed their opposition, with solid team hitting

throughout the team and tight pitching, making it very difficult for Air Force to get into the game. The crushing performance by the team in the final will go down as one of the most devastating team performances in NZDF women’s softball history. As a result of the teams outstanding performance, the Army women took the following tournament trophies; Most Stolen Bases, Top Runs-Battered-In, Top Batter, Top Pitcher, Women’s Rookie of Tournament, Women’s Most Valued Player, Most Home Runs (Men and Women), Most Runs scored by any Service and the Prendergast Trophy as NZDF women’s champions. An exceptional performance and high standard both on and off the field.

Later in the year, the Army Softball Contingent, embarked on a tour to Melbourne, Australia from 29 October – 5 November 2011. The Army accompanied by the Navy and Air Force teams attended the ADF Softball Carnival. The tournament featured teams from individual or combined States of Australia, and also marked the 25th Anniversary of ADF Softball. During tournament play, the Army convincingly beat the NZDF Services teams and showed the Australian State teams the power and depth of this talented group. With sound coaching, team spirit and the utmost discipline, the women’s team dominated.

Yet again, the Army Women’s Team were rewarded for their performance, by collecting the Most Stolen Bases, Top Runs- Batted-In, Top Pitcher, Women’s Rookie of the Tournament, Women’s Most Valued Player, Most Runs Scored by any Service, Prendergast trophy – Women’s Champions and the Dale Tamehana Trophy, which is shared with the Army Men.

Throughout the 2011 season, the Army women have consistently maintained a high standard of play by both individuals and as a team. This is testament to the time and effort from all who were involved with Army women’s softball, combined with experienced management and NZ qualified

coaching staff. The Army women’s softball team have arguably the best Service record over the past decade.



Projects under construction:

The 6 Hau Bn Gp **Lecture Room** is being upgrade with the assistance of the 6 Hauraki Assoc. When complete I will place photos in the next Hauraki News.

Other projects are: upgrade the **former Commanding Officers Photos**; by digital enhancement & framed with ultra light glass.

Create & upgrade the **book/ video library**.

Create & upgrade a **digital unit history**.

Upgrade the **museum data base computer system**. This now for consideration at the next committee meeting.

All **unit photographs** (about 5,000) are now at the Tauranga Public Library being converted into the digital form, as part of the project of recording unit history.

If you have some photos we can use to record unit history, they will be returned without damage: please contact Bob Mankelow.

Without the donation of items, money & voluntary time your museum would not be the show case it is,

Thank you everyone

Des Anderson

President

Membership Cards

The Membership cards for all members have been distributed; if you have not received yours please advice Marion.

These who have paid their annual "donation" have also had their new cards mailed out.

I have enclosed a membership application card if you would like to become a member.

Movies at the Garrison

Curry and Movie Evenings' are held on the 2nd Friday of every month with proceeds being donated to the Hauraki Museum

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

From the Scrap book



Exercise Tropic Wind- Fiji - 1976



Farewell to Lt Col Walls. By the Hauraki Sgts Mess 1966

Territorial Forces Employer Support Council

Vision: All business and community leaders in New Zealand actively support NZDF service.

Mission: Increase the effectiveness of the NZDF through engagement with organisations in the economy and wider community.

The Directorate of Reserve Forces and Youth Development (D RFYD) and the Territorial Forces Employer Support Council (TFESC) will be visiting the regions throughout NZ to engage in and deliver a series of Tri Service Q&A briefings.

Brigadier Sean Trengrove will be visiting the Bay of Plenty on **Wednesday 30 May 2012:**

Venue: 6 HAURAKI Museum, 6 HAURAKI, corner 11 Ave & Devonport Rd

Timings:

1200: Session 1: Chairman (RESC) briefing

1220: Session 2: RESC member briefing

1250: Public Forum for interested parties

CADETS

The Cadets will be attending Hauraki Experience from 30th June – 7th July 2012.



WARNING – Uncle Bob is still in charge?

Our Associated Groups

Patriots Defence Force Motorcycle Club

The Patriots are still very active. I have not received a update this quarter.



RHODESIAN SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Greetings

We have undergone a number of changes since the last issue of *Contact! Contact!*

Should you be unable to access from the link above then go on line to

<http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Newsletters.php> and scroll down to the link identifying the required issue.



Rhodesian Service Association members preparing to parade.

We plan to hold our reunion in the Garrison Club once again the venue for Saturday 20th October 2012

Cheers Hugh Bomford

Editor for Rhodesian Services Association
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New Zealand Military Vehicle Collectors Club Inc (BOP Branch)



Your Committee has invited & they have accepted to join our Association as associate members. We hear more from them.

COMMITTEE 2010- 2011

Patron: Honorary Colonel Judge Chris McGuire
President: Des Anderson, tel. 07 571 1951 H 07 571 7403 W 0274 764 073 M
des.anderson@actrix.co.nz
Vice President: Kenneth Brown
Secretary & Treasurer: Marion Kareko, tel. 07-576 0277 H 07 578 8139 W
Committee:
Allan Coster
Kevin Hayden
Bruce Beckett
Ray Crafts
Penny Burgess (Welfare Representative)
Bob Mankelow
Erik Kristensen
Kim Webster

AREA REPS:

Auckland:	Nil
Coromandel:	Russel Skeet
Tauranga:	See Committee
Matamata:	Nil
Whakatane	Bazz Porter
Rotorua	Te Kei Merito
Hamilton:	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 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



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.

Post Subscription to

Secretary M Kareko

**91 Windsor Road
Tauranga**

Electronic payment to 6th Battalion Hauraki Regimental Assn:

Westpac: Number: 03 0435 0509893 001

Reference: Your name

***Subscription
Rate***

New Member	\$20.00
Renewal	\$15.00
Perpetual Member	\$150.00
Service Member	\$10.00

UPCOMING EVENTS

2012

May

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
18th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
24th			Newsletter printed & posted	
25th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Finger Food

June

1st	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
8th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
8th	Friday	1900 hrs	Hauraki Museum	MOVIES Curry
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

July

6th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
6th	Friday	1830 hrs	Garrison Club	Pizza & Birthday Cake
6th	Friday	1900 hrs	Hauraki Museum	MOVIES
7th	Saturday	1000 hrs	Waiouru Cadets	Presentation of Hauraki Sword
8th	Sunday	0800 hrs	Holy Trinity Church	Church Parade
8th	Sunday	1100 hrs	Museum	AGM
8th	Sunday	1200 hrs	Garrison	Luncheon
8th	Sunday	1300 hrs	Lecture Room	Presentation of Medals
8th	Sunday	1330 hrs	Lecture Room	Formation Change
9th	Monday	1600 hrs	Garrison PMC SHOUT	Battalion 114th Birthday
10th	Tuesday	1900 hrs	Garrison Club	Committee Meeting
13th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
20th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
27th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Finger Food

August

3rd	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
10th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
10th	Friday	1900 hrs	Hauraki Museum	MOVIES Curry
14th	Tuesday	1900 hrs	Garrison Club	Committee Meeting
17th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
23rd		Newsletter printed & posted		
24th	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Nibbles
31st	Friday	1600 hrs	Garrison Club	Finger Food

