



# Hauraki News

“Whaka tangata kia kaha”

**May 2018 Issue No 89**

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>

**tauranga.kete.net.nz/ remembering War**

**To review Hauraki News prior to 2008**

[http://tauranga.kete.net.nz/rememering\\_war/topics/show/1287](http://tauranga.kete.net.nz/rememering_war/topics/show/1287)

## President's Report

I wish to thank everyone who has responded to my request to send articles for the May addition of the Hauraki News. Without your assistance there would be no Hauraki News. I have attempted to show the varies parts of the world that Hauraki members are celebrating ANZAC Day.

I am a little disappointed with the Editor? The News letter was nearly ready to go to press; when the Editor decided to experiment with the computer settings. This was on Queens Birthday weekend! Five days later I got the computer back from the Computer Repair. I have been to the Library and got the Editor “Windows 10 for Seniors & Dummies”. I told the Editor to read it? But I see the book is still sitting on the couch unopened.

I which to thank the Commanding Officer Lt Col Oliver Te Ua for sending his car down to Tauranga to pick me up and taking me to the 3/6 RNZIR Regimental Dinner at Whenuapai Officers Mess. A good evening was had by all: plus, a chance to mingle with the Officers/Solders of the Battalion and members of the 3 Auck North Regimental Association.

As you be aware this year is our 120<sup>th</sup> Birthday. I will send out the appropriate programme. You can be rest assured I want be using the Editor. Well not until he has read the book?

Kia Kaha

Des Anderson

# ANZAC DAY

## around the world as seen by Hauraki's



As dawn broke, families of soldiers, leaders and visitors gathered near former battlefields, honouring thousands of Australians and New Zealanders who fought in the Gallipoli campaign of World War I credit: EMRAH GUREL / AP

LTCOL OLIVER TE UA was the MC for the Parade in the Dawn Service ceremony at the Anzac Cove beach, the site of World War I landing of the ANZACs

## RABBIT'S ANZAC BRISBANE 2018

Giddy Mate!

A common theme to welcome those around you here and Anzac Day is no different as the celebration of freedom within the two countries and those on TOD overseas. New Zealanders & Australians march together with pride as thousands from different generations and races crawl out of bed, crowd the various dawn services and later services to acknowledge those veterans and ex soldiers and the efforts of those before us, honour the freedom.

On this day you're given the respect due, given the space to mix and enjoy the day with another fellow serviceman & woman.

Sure, enough you travel to your dawn service of choice or march in slow cadence as if you're riding a bike ...Parade Halt, Fall OUT!

Where to go is simple, find your kiwi Mates, laugh or cry, take some memorable photos including moving to the next RSL to extend those friendships or bump into another ex kiwi service person.

MY ANZAC started with a dawn Service supported by my Father in Law "Kim Harvey 2/1 Burnham @ North's RSL north of Brisbane, minus my medal (packed in storage while house building). A well-presented service and including the NZ anthem was being sung by a quartet. Quick couple of Rums, Big Breakfast and a duty driver its off on a 50min drive to Greenbank RSL Brisbane, powerwalk to arrive just in time for Parade. Young & Old lined the streets and clap as we march. Smartly dressed with pride and support those that are struggling, both nations marched as one.

The service was again taken with dignity as both anthems were sung, as future solders from the various schools and clubs start to understand what this day is about.

Of course, directly afterwards it's off to the bar and reunite those friendships from my Regular service & TF days. After a full day, our duty driver and my Fiancée head for the long drive home.

In short that was a summary above of the average Anzac Day here, perhaps those traditions of years before in NZ taught me to stand tall and even now say it's now time to head to Gallipoli and wave our flag in the next couple of years and take some of us with me.

In the going down of the sun, we will remember them...LEST WE FORGET.







# 8 ANZAC 2018

25 APRIL 1915 • GALLIPOLI

**CIVIC MEMORIAL SERVICE  
CENOTAPH – MEMORIAL PARK  
WEDNESDAY, 25 APRIL 2018, 9AM**

Parade Marshal: POSCS Chase  
Master of Ceremonies: LTCDR Dines, RNZNR  
Band in Attendance: Tauranga Brass Inc  
Choir: Tauranga Civic Choir  
Cenotaph Guard: New Zealand Cadet Forces



*Tauranga City*





Photographer George Novak captured the moments of Anzac Day dawn service commemorations held in Tauranga.



A soldier (SSGT CADET) stand strong and sombre at Tauranga's Anzac Day dawn service. Photo/George Novak

You might want to have a look at the Whangamata RSA Facebook Page. There are several photos posted and are very interesting.

We had a Dawn Flag Raising Service at the Surf Club, the fourth year running now.

The Australian and New Zealand Flags were brought in by the Coastguard, picked up by the Surf Club IRBs and handed to the riders of horses coming down the beach.

They then passed them on to the Head Girl and Head Boy from the Whangamata Area School who held them while the Service took place.

We had Warrant Officer Joseph Gray from the RNZN as our Guest Speaker and had Chris Skinner live singing 'Sons of Gallipoli'.

This was all then followed by our usual ANZAC Day Parade led by the Bay of Plenty Pipes & Drums, followed by Civic Service and usual nibbles and entertainment back at the RSA.

Geoff March, our President, has been trying to get an Army Guest Speaker but they keep giving us Navy ones. Now that we have to go through RNZRSA and the Defence Force we don't seem to be able to arrange our own, otherwise we could deal with you direct.

Kind Regards

Kerry Bain  
Secretary/Manager  
Whangamata RSA



Hi Des, here's a few pictures from Anzac Day commemoration held at Cannock Chase England, they were posted to our Facebook page.  
Ted Rowley the Worcestershire Regiment







Ted Rowley the Worcestershire Regiment







The 5th (Reserve) Battalion of the New Zealand Rifle Brigade arrived at Brocton Camp on 27 September 1917, following the Battle of Messines, the scene of their greatest triumph on the Western Front, they joined men of the 27<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements, who had arrived ten days earlier. Brocton Camp became the New Zealand Rifle Brigade Reserve Depot.

The 'Dinks', as they were known were much loved by the people of Stafford and surrounding towns and villages, and when they departed Brocton camp in 1919 for the last time, they paraded in Market Square, Stafford, and handed to the Mayor and Corporation, the New Zealand Standard they used as a Battalion Flag, as a reminder of the close association and affection that had developed since they arrived.









## LEST WE FORGET

|                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Rfn Stewart Agnew            | 4 November 1918  |
| Rfn John Aiken               | 4 August 1918    |
| Serjt Jack Clive Allan       | 3 November 1918  |
| Rfn William Allan            | 10 May 1918      |
| Rfn Leslie Harold Allerby    | 31 October 1918  |
| Rfn William Anderson         | 31 October 1918  |
| Rfn Harry Angus              | 4 November 1918  |
| Rfn William John Armstrong   | 4 November 1918  |
| Rfn Edward Ernest Barlow     | 1 July 1918      |
| L/Cpl William David Barnett  | 2 November 1918  |
| Rfn Nathaniel Barron         | 2 November 1918  |
| Pte Aubert Benson            | 5 November 1918  |
| Rfn Thomas Alfred Berrett    | 1 January 1918   |
| Rfn Ernest Nelson Boddington | 12 November 1917 |
| Rfn John Brennan             | 31 October 1918  |
| Rfn Herbert Tudor Brewer     | 4 November 1918  |
| Rfn Albert Bridgewater       | 3 December 1918  |
| Rfn Arthur David Bryant      | 24 October 1917  |
| Rfn George Ferguson Burns    | 9 November 1918  |
| Rfn John Connell             | 25 May 1918      |
| Rfn Henry Cecil Critchfield  | 19 November 1918 |
| Rfn Peter Cunningham         | 19 November 1918 |
| Rfn Edmund Dron              | 10 November 1918 |
| Rfn Alexandra Elliot         | 7 November 1918  |
| Serjt Frank England          | 20 February 1919 |
| Rfn John Faro                | 12 November 1918 |
| Rfn Richard Fitzgerald       | 2 April 1918     |
| Rfn Eric Fleming             | 7 November 1918  |
| Rfn Leslie Frost             | 3 November 1918  |
| Rfn James Gallagher          | 2 February 1918  |
| Rfn Edward Gardner           | 10 November 1918 |
| Rfn Robert Gardner           | 4 November 1918  |
| Rfn James Grundy             | 6 November 1918  |
| Rfn Conrad Haar              | 7 November 1918  |
| Rfn Albert Hall              | 4 November 1918  |
| Rfn Charles Hansen           | 7 November 1918  |





Cpl C G Hendry  
Cpl Colin Grant  
Rfn John Higgins  
Rfn James Hogg  
Rfn William Holland  
Rfn Harry Hunt  
2nd Lieut. Evan Innes-Jones  
Rfn Arthur Johnson  
L/Cpl George Johnston  
Rfn Reginald Johnstone  
Rfn George Karalus  
Rfn Patrick Kennedy  
Rfn Harold Kite  
Rfn Trevor Knox  
Rfn William Le Fleming  
Rfn Alexander Macdonald  
Rfn John McKenzie  
Rfn Charles McMillan  
Rfn Keith Mason  
Rfn James Monteith  
Rfn Norman Mudford  
Rfn Patrick Murphy  
Rfn John Murray  
Rfn Harry Ormandy  
Rfn Thomas Parr  
Spr Thomas Peters  
Rfn Michael Quill  
Rfn Cecil Rawstorn  
Rfn William Seed  
Rfn Joseph Shanley  
Pte George Slade  
Rfn Gordon Stevenson  
Rfn Thomas Storey  
Rfn Richard Strickett  
Rfn James Trembath  
Rfn William Wilkins  
Rfn William Williams  
Rfn A.H. Wooster



16 February 1919  
16 February 1919  
10 November 1918  
5 July 1918  
17 January 1919  
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6 January 1919  
5 November 1918  
31 October 1918  
18 March 1918  
1 May 1919  
6 November 1918  
6 November 1918  
7 November 1918





Des,

Some time ago you asked me if I had a printed version of my Poppy book 'Why Do We Wear A Red Poppy?' Whilst selling well in Canada as a soft cover, I have only ever released it in NZ as a free eBook. Thanks to a huge subsidy now from the University of Canterbury, I can now get this book printed for only \$3 each. It's not worth posting just one copy away as postage is 5 bucks. It's just as cheap to send a supply north if you want to resell them for the 6ths. The book contains newly discovered research I've done and is written as a school resource but also now being used as a resource at several universities like Otago. If you are asked to explain WW1 to your grandchildren this book will be the perfect solution. It explains why we commemorate the way we do in NZ. Why do we commemorate on April 25th? Why do the Aussies wear the Rosemary twig for Anzac Day? Is NZ the only country that wears the Poppy? How did the symbol start? There is much variance in that story. I tell it all accurately and attribute it to the right people. The book was my response a few years ago when I was asked to judge a WW1 essay

competition. Sadly, all essays were returned with no winner awarded, as all contained basic inaccuracies. No, we didn't land at dawn. No, we didn't serve in the Dardanelles. No, we didn't leave Aotearoa to go to Gallipoli. etc. I note the big govt essay competition last year had the same results and consequently the govt balloted the winners to go overseas instead! Sad. This Anzac Day I received 4 speeches from eminent speakers wanting me to peer review their speeches beforehand. All needed changes. So, if you are asked to speak, this book will really help. By the way, whilst not a British ally in WW1, did you know that 140,000 Chinese fought alongside us? Was the Lemon Squeezer hat invented in NZ by Col Malone I am often asked? No. One of many myths. I leave you with a quote from my speech last week down south here . . .

" . . . I hear it said all too frequently that the Gallipoli battle "made NZ become a nation". There were three generations of European NZers before WW1. The current flag was thirteen years before. New Zealand became a Dominion eight year before. Our first All Blacks went to Britain a decade before. And nor was Gallipoli the first time we spilt our blood. That happened at the Boer war ending 13 years before. And I am not mentioning the New Zealand Land Wars. We became a nation when a chap from Paeroa, a proud member of the Hauraki Battalion, Trooper George Bradford became the first NZers killed in overseas combat. . . "

Gavin Marriott JP, Christchurch 3483224, Fairlie 0274483224.





At the outbreak of World War 1, William (Bill) Berridge was a clerk in the Bank of Australasia, the forerunner of the A.N.Z Bank. He was 21 years old. He already had military training from being in the Public-School Cadet Corps at Tauranga School for over five years reaching the rank of Lieutenant and then joined the Territorials where he reached the rank of Company Sergeant-Major. However, like many other young men at the time, he wanted to join up, and had to relinquish his rank back to Private. He was attested at Paeroa on the 17 August 1914 and went to Epsom Camp, Auckland, with the 6<sup>th</sup> Hauraki Regimental Company of the Auckland Infantry Battalion 1<sup>st</sup> N.Z. Expeditionary Force. The Company departed New Zealand in October 1914 and arrived in Egypt December 1914. Initially based at Zeitoun Camp, near Cairo, where they spent their time, training, checking out the sites of Egypt and more training. Anxious for some action they were delighted when they moved to Ismailia close to the Suez Canal and saw their first action in the battle for the Suez on the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Feb 1915. The following exert is taken from a letter he wrote to his father dated 10<sup>th</sup> March 1915

*“Turks. I do not suppose that the papers in N.Z. told how hundreds of the dead had been buried by the Turks, simply with a few shovelfuls of sand? The wind and Kites*

*did the rest. Some of our chaps were on the scene souvenir hunting. Fatigue parties were out attempted to cover up the bodies, but some of the corpses were inapproachable.*

*It was sheer slaughter when the Turks attacked. They were mown down in thousands & our men – about 13 were killed. The warship in the canal steamed down a bit & enfiladed the Turks trenches. The Turks tried to dig themselves in, two hundred yards from our trenches, in the grey of morning. It was a sheer wastage of animal life, - the prisoners we took were very much like animals. The Turkish army composed of good soldiers, sent these dogs on ahead to the shambles. I don't think that we shall ever get a cut at the Turks for I believe that the army has had to return to defend its capital.*

They moved back to Zeitoun camp for more training but frustration was really starting to settle in amongst the men.

In another letter to his Brother Jack dated 10<sup>th</sup> Mar 1915.

*Everyone in camp is growling. Kitchenor does not want us at the front, so we are kept here – fighting Turks. We move shortly but possibly to the Dardanelles!! War might be alright & glorious & all that but this chocolate soldier existence is rotten. We are treated like kids and worked like horses. If we get to the Front I don't expect to see New Zee again & I am afraid that a lot of us feel like that.*

During the afternoon and evening of 2 April (Good Friday), an estimated 2500 New Zealand and Australian troops rioted in the Haret Al Wassir red-light district of Cairo's Ezbekieh Quarter. The so-called 'Battle of the Wazzir' supposedly began as a reprisal for the spread of venereal disease and was not helped by rumours that Egyptian pimps had stabbed soldiers. It became a milestone in the unofficial history of the Anzacs.

Many of those involved were drunk. The houses of prostitutes were ransacked and their furniture thrown into the streets and set alight. Local firefighters were prevented from putting out these fires when their hoses were attacked. The military authorities had to use mounted police, 'a squadron of yeomanry and picquets of Lancashire territorials' to restore order. The subsequent inquiry heard from few reliable witnesses; the Australians and New Zealanders blamed each other. As a consequence,

*6 Apr 1915 Letter to his brother Jack*

*We leave for the front tomorrow, but where it is I do not know! You will see by the papers where we are fighting.*

*For the last few days the whole army has been confined to Barracks & camp on account of a little smash up in Cairo. The boys threw all sorts of furniture into the street & burnt the lot. It all started in one of the Moll streets. The redcaps, regulars, tried to interfere & as usual only excited the boys. A few men were shot! I was one of the picquet sent down but when we arrived the disturbance was over. It lasted from 2 – 8 pm. We, of the picquet carried 50 rounds ball but I think it was more in case the natives rose. Had there been any firing I am afraid that the redcaps would have gone under. The town was full of picquets mounted, infantry and English*



*Territorials. The boys went down to Heliopolis & smashed up a drinking place there, and now all leave is stopped. We leave tomorrow so don't care.*

*Must now conclude with Love from*

*Yours Fraternally Will*

On the 9<sup>th</sup> April, they entrained to Alexandria and then embarked by ship to Mudros on the Island of Lemnos in preparation for the Gallipoli Campaign which occurred 25<sup>th</sup> April 1915.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Hauraki Company was made up of 4 Platoons (5,6,7 and 8) and William was in Section 14 of 8 Platoon.

In 1986, William gave an account of his time at Gallipoli.

*At 9am on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 1915, our unit made its landing on ANZAC Cove armed with Lee Enfield long rifles and maxim water-cooled machine guns which meant the sacrifice of water rations. All official signs of rank were removed from uniforms, to be replaced by pencil drawings of pips and stripes. Any soldier showing superiority or control brought special attention from the enemy and certain death.*

Prior to 4<sup>th</sup> May as it was reported in the paper under casualties

*I was shot through the neck by a Turkish sniper. Fortunately, the bullet continued through to the other side and came out of my shoulder. It took me three days crawling down a gully, (could be Monash Gully), wounded and trying to avoid the snipers, following a small stream to get back to the safety of our lines. I was moved aboard the battleship Triumph, which stood by in a rescue capacity. I lay on the ship's deck and did not receive any first aid treatment for another three days which I suspect was partly due to severe overcrowding and that they regarded us as "only Colonials and therefore expendable".*

After a period in Alexandria Military Hospital with 50 other men to one nurse he was transferred to a convalescent camp before returning back to his unit in June.

However, two months later, like a lot of other men, he got severe dysentery and again was hospitalised, first in Alexandria and then in Cairo's Luna Park, one of many areas converted into military hospitals. He was invalided home before Christmas 1915 with the intention being that when fit would return to action in France. But medical tests precluded this and after leave re-joined the Bank in March 1916.

Bill Berridge passed away in 1990 in his 97<sup>th</sup> year in Mangonui which he referred to as "paradise".

12/316  
Private W Berridge  
6<sup>th</sup> Hauraki Company  
Auckland Battalion  
N.Z.E.F.



|                       |
|-----------------------|
| Letters to the Editor |
|-----------------------|

Des,

A VISIT.

In April of 2018 I visited Greece, Crete and Lemnos. The purpose of my visit was to look at the actions of the Anzac Divisions during World War Two, in Greece and Crete; but also, to take in the island of Lemnos where the Australian and New Zealand nurses worked in the field hospitals tending to our wounded as they came off the Gallipoli Peninsula during that ill-fated campaign. The tour route covered a great deal of Greece and Crete – all of the relevant locations. I was away from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> of April; approximately the time that our lads were in Greece and were evacuated to Crete.

It also covered the Anzac Landing period on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April.

The visit was conducted by an Australian Company, Battlefield History Tours. The organiser and guide were an Australian named Graham Fleeton, who had served in the Australian Reserve forces for forty-four years before retiring as a full colonel. He had trained as a commando. He has taken this tour to Greece for many years.

He was accompanied by a Greek guide who is a doctor PhD in Minoan history and is deeply knowledgeable about the mythology and history of Greece. She also has a deep Greek orthodox faith and has accompanied Graham on this tour since its inception in 2005.

Both of these people were personable and outgoing; ideal tour guides with an easy going and intimate familiarity with their respective subject matters.

Our group was initially eight people plus two guides but as two lefts for other business on day three we were mostly six plus two. Three individuals had a family connection with the campaign; one being a 73 y.o. son whose father had fought in Greece and Crete and had been evacuated from that island, and the other two had more distant relatives who were present in the campaign. The tour was filled with many 'moments'. I share three of those moments with readers.

## GREECE.

On a hill 1,000 metres high.

One of the military positions that we were lead to by Graham was in Veria Pass just beyond a small village called Polymyton with the Aliakmon River in the valley below us. The village itself was in a semi abandoned state as the road it sits on was made redundant (as the main route through the pass) by a newly constructed road.

We stopped and had coffee in a small cafe that had clearly seen more prosperous times.

Just up the road was the location of the blocking position of 16 (Australian) Brigade at which place it was intended to stop the Germans should they come this way. It was to this place we travelled.

The bus was parked off the road on a small spur. The height above sea level at this place is approximately 1,000 metres. In April of 1941 the area was covered in snow. Graham explained to us the brigade positions scattered in a sound defensive location covering perhaps two square kilometres and laid out to deny the use of the road to the Germans. The ground in this area is a mass of rocks and stunted vegetation typical of the ground conditions at this altitude. Moving across this terrain was difficult and required very great concentration on the day of our visit – a calm, fine and sunny day and we visitors without equipment, accoutrements, weapons, ammunition, a great weariness and the imminent threat of attack by an enemy upon us.

As we moved about the small grassed area just off the road, Graham explained the Brigade dispositions and described the subsequent withdrawal of the men and equipment off the location. Looking down the steep slope to the river below and then across the valley floor to the village of Velvendos and then up into Servia Pass two things were very obvious; firstly that the ground would have been impossibly difficult to descend and cross and then ascend, by men fully laden with equipment on a fine clear calm day, let alone at night in snow covered conditions, perhaps harassed by the enemy and all the time in a sleep deprived state, carrying all the military paraphernalia that men carry in war; and secondly, that the distance and steep terrain made the prospect of this withdrawal incomprehensible to us at the time of our visit.

But do it they did; the men of 16<sup>th</sup> (Australian) Brigade - in good order, retaining the unit cohesion, and without the loss of a single soldier or item of equipment.

Staggeringly, they withdrew a distance of 34 miles to their new position in Servia Pass, where they were soon ready, again, to face their enemy.



I reflected on the physical strength and endurance of these Australian soldiers, their tenacity and determination, their resolute commitment to each other and the power of military training and discipline upon a man's mind and bearing in adversity.

I wondered at my capacity as an infantry officer to emulate their achievements, knowing I suppose that, in the day, we New Zealanders had faced the same test and similarly passed, and that I, had I been there, would no doubt have met the standard to.

As we individually wondered at this feat of achievement Graham went to the bus and retrieved a bottle of whiskey from which he poured a 'wee dram' into plastic cups for each of us.

He proposed a toast "to the men of the 16<sup>th</sup> Brigade."

Our cups were raised and without hesitation and exception the toast was consumed.

At this moment my opportunity to commune with the soldiers of 1941 was consummated.

## CRETE:

21<sup>st</sup> May 1941 Square – Galatas; an attack.

Our first day on Crete took us to the very place where the Crete Campaign was lost; Maleme airstrip. Standing amongst the German dead atop the cemetery on Point 107 offered the opportunity of sobering reflection about that battle and the repercussions of its loss.

From this place we bussed to a small village called Galatas to which our men withdrew, held, lost and regained after the Maleme fight.

The fighting so far had been severe against overwhelming odds.

The Germans kept coming.

The fighting withdrawal of the Anzacs continued placing great strain on individuals, resources, command and nerves.

Withdrawal is a harrowing operation with the insidious germ of defeat never far away from a man's mind.

With the thought of defeat hope may diminish and perhaps perish.

Without hope all may be lost.

Galatas is a small village of narrow streets with many two-storey dwellings and business buildings whose frontages define the street width. The New Zealanders defending this place had their positions torn open by German attacks so that we were vulnerable to defeat and further losses in men. Kippenberger decided that rather than restore those gaps that had appeared in the defence he would attack and drive the Germans from the village completely.

This he did with his 23<sup>rd</sup> Battalion. The lads attacked through the town. Grenades were thrown out second-storey windows by the Germans onto the advancing 23<sup>rd</sup> Battalion men. The New Zealanders kicked in doors, threw in grenades and mopped up with the bayonet.

It was an intense and ferocious affair. The Germans were pushed out of the town.

Standing in 21<sup>st</sup> May 1941 square, in the centre of the village looking down the streets that our men had attacked up, it was immediately evident to me, as an infantry Captain, why the fight was so difficult.

I could only imagine that it was blood-lust and adrenaline that created our success. The words intensity and ferocity stayed in my mind.

As I wandered up a narrow street I imagined accountants and salesmen, farm labourers and factory workers charging along handing out defeat to the Germans.

Ordinary blokes, in extraordinary circumstances, contributing to our reputation as fighting men amongst the best of fighting men.

There is a memorial in 21<sup>st</sup>. May 1941 square - to the New Zealanders who fought at Galatas. The memorial is flanked by two pohutukawa trees. We have pohutukawa trees in profusion on the Coromandel coast.

We had a little service in the square with a prayer, the ode, the last post, a minute's silence and reveille; just like an Anzac Day service.

We laid poppies on the memorial.

I put a piece of greenstone, a Maori taonga, in the dirt around the roots of one of the pohutukawa trees.

We remembered. Lest we forget.

## LEMNOS

The nurses.

On the island of Lemnos, we stayed at the Varos Village Hotel. On the second evening we were leaving the hotel to walk to the village of Varos for a beer at a local taberna.

Walking through the gates of the hotel, James, one of the group members, turned to me and asked why I was so keen to walk the ground upon which the nurses had worked.

My answer was easy to find.

I spoke of the unspeakable horror that these young nurses witnessed. Young men fresh from their training in New Zealand, with a little extra in Egypt, and less on the island of Lemnos, were thrust into the whirlpool of terror that was the landing on Gallipoli on the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup> of April. Men were killed and mutilated by the score on that first day and every day thereafter.

Many of these wounded men found their way to Lemnos or Egypt via hospital or troopships for treatment – supposing they did not die on the way there.

Men arrived for treatment who had their guts eviscerated by shrapnel pieces; or their mind and their futures torn off when a rifle round crashed into their face or skull; or their victories as athletes or successes as workers denied them when a hail of machine gun bullets tore at the flesh of their limbs.

The carnage was unheralded.

Into such scenes as these came our nurses, quite unprepared for all that they would witness; blood on their hands and guts and brains on their uniforms: not trained to treat or comfort this cascade of wreckage of young men; not confident (they thought) to work outside the strict discipline of their profession; not experienced to give comfort, compassion and love to the many of these young men whose lives would end under their care, or for whom, those who survived, life could never be the same.

But for all that they may have had doubts the reality of their situation, the imperative war gives us, saw them step into the cauldron of spilled blood and shredded flesh to perform heroic duties; to minister to young men, many of whom may have never loved, in the last dying breaths of their

young lives; or to comfort those for whom the realization of life without limbs or sight slowly dawned; or for those who recovered and were to be returned to hell previously unimagined. It was this that our nurses did.

And it was this that I called to mind as I explained to James why I wanted to walk upon the ground that our nurses had trod, or to be in the vicinity of those places where they took leave.

And it was this that caused me to choke with emotion and to turn from James in mid-sentence.

Russell Skeet

Thames



Caption: a view of the Suda Bay Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in Crete.



Caption. The German Cemetery on Point 107 overlooking Maleme airstrip – Crete

Readers may recall that I canvassed for any person who wanted a token of remembrance placed at a relative's grave in Greece or Crete.

Our tour group visited and performed Remembrance ceremonies at the following locations at which New Zealand and Australian servicemen are noted or buried:

British War Cemetery (CWGC), Xinon Neron (memorial), Vevi (memorial), Molos (memorial), Suda Bay CWGC, 21st May Square 1941 (memorial), Rethymno (memorial) Olympia (private memorial), Athens - Phaleron CWGC Dawn Service (our group only), Athens - Phaleron CWGC (Anzac Day 11 a.m. service), Kalamata (memorial), East Mudros CWGC, and Portianos CWGC.

At these places (other than the Athens Anzac Day service hosted by the Australian Ambassador) the following order of service was conducted: introduction, prayer, laying of wreath or poppies, reciting of the Ode, playing of the Last Post, one minutes silence, playing of Reveille.

Where possible I place a piece of greenstone or jasper at the foot of a New Zealand soldiers grave marker or on a memorial cairn to recognise our groups visit to the place and our remembrance of those New Zealand soldiers who fought and died in Greece and Crete.

Russell Skeet

Des

In April, I am visiting Greece and Crete to follow the activities of the NZ and Australian Divisions during WW2.



Are there any Association members who have a relative buried in either of those places whose grave they may like me to visit?

Being a programmed tour there is only a little flexibility to alter visiting arrangements but if chance permits I will attempt to locate specific graves especially if there is a Hauraki connection.

The tour is being led by Lt Col Graham Featon (rtd), an Australian Reserve soldier of 44 years' service. He has conducted this tour many times in the past.

Russell Skeet

Thames

Des

Everyone in this photo (except my beautiful wife) served with me in the army (except Uncle Neil who served before my time.) — with Michael and Rosemary MacPherson, Quintin Ihei-Kiripa, Geoffrey Dick, Raymond Alesana, Alan Patterson, John Furey, Samantha Jaschke, Warren Banks, Major John O'Reilly, Bruce Chave, Steve Williamson, Neil Hindrup, Robin Moore and Rahiri WiHongi.

John





CADETS

WBOPCU Charter Parade 2018









# City of Tauranga Charter



Tauranga City

## Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit

To the Officer Commanding  
the officers and other ranks

Western Bay of Plenty cadet Unit New Zealand Cadet Forces

### Greetings

**Whereas** The Mayor, Councillors, and Citizens of the City of Tauranga being sensible of the honourable record and traditions of the Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit New Zealand Cadet Forces and being desirous of recognising, cementing and fostering the intimate association which has for so long been enjoyed between the Tauranga City Council and the Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit New Zealand Cadet Forces in which so many of its sons and daughters have been proud to serve.

**AND** Do By These Presents the Mayor and Councillors of the Tauranga City Council do hereby confer upon the Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit New Zealand Cadet Forces the right and privilege without further permission being obtained of marching (when such processions are approved) with drums beating, band playing, colours flying, and swords drawn, through the streets of the city.

**AND** Do By These Presents accept the honour of viewing the Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit New Zealand Cadet Forces once in each year for the purpose of an inspection by His Worship the Mayor.

**AND** Do By These Presents accept the further honour of having two officers of the said Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit New Zealand Cadet Forces in uniform in attendance upon His Worship the Mayor on important official occasions.

The Common Seal of the Mayor, Councillors and Citizens of the City of Tauranga was hereto affixed at the offices of and pursuant to a resolution of the Tauranga City Council dated 29 April 2008

12/5/2008

Date

*S. A. Crosby*

Mayor Stuart Crosby



Office of the Mayor

*Stephen Town*  
CEO - Stephen Town



**With colours flying and swords drawn, the Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit, New Zealand's largest Cadet Corps unit, celebrated its 20th birthday by marching the streets.**

**The Charter Parade, comprised of 13-18-year-old boys and girls in Sea Cadet Corps, the New Zealand Cadet Corps and the Air Training Corps, saw crowds of people come together to reflect.**

The march began on Second Avenue at 11.45am, continued down Devonport Road, The Strand and finished at the Tauranga Waterfront.

Western Bay of Plenty unit commander Eli Crawshaw says it is an honour to have led the parade today.

"This month marks the unit's 20th birthday since the unit was formed back in 1998," he says, "Only 10 years ago I remember myself as a former cadet marching down the streets and today the cadets did me proud and the cadet forces proud."

"Our mission has always been to develop and enable self-discipline, confident and responsible young New Zealanders and support the Tauranga community if and where possible.

The WBOP Cadet Unit over the last 20 years has won the Regional Skill and Arts competition, NZ Cadet corps most efficient unit in 2017, and also a commemoration for its outstanding work during the flooding in 2005.

"We as a unit try to get out and support the community as best as possible from the floods to the Rena disaster and we promise to continue to support the people of Tauranga."

One of the speakers, Tauranga's Deputy Mayor Kelvin Clout acknowledged the work that the cadet unit have done for the community.

"The Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit plays an important part in Tauranga and has done so for the last 20 years."

"Tauranga as we know it is thriving- it's the fastest growing city in New Zealand- the demographics are changing, and I can see the growth and the diversity reflected in this unit," says Kelvin.

"I want to thank all the cadets and their supporters for their community service, this includes assistance with poppy day selling, the Rena disaster, the 2005 Tauranga floods and all the support they offer to the RSA."

Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit is now recruiting for 2018. The Unit parades Thursday nights, 6pm-9.15pm at the Tauranga Army Hall, Corner of 11th ave and Devonport road, Tauranga.

## 6 Hauraki Association Museum



### **ARATAKI COASTAL CLUB**

**Mt Maunganui**

THANK YOU

To Des and Bob

We would like to  
say a big Thank you  
to you both for your  
welcoming and you're  
sharing of knowledge  
about the army museum  
on Wednesday 6th June  
2018. We really appreciated  
the time you spent with us  
Many Thanks from the  
Arataki Coastal Club  
Mt Maunganui

Events Group Margaret Mangan



## **COMMITTEE 2017- 2018**

**Patron:** Judge Chris McGuire  
**President:** Des Anderson, tel. 07 571 1951 Home 0274 764 073 Mobile  
[des.anderson@actrix.co.nz](mailto:des.anderson@actrix.co.nz)  
**Vice President:** Kenneth Brown  
**Secretary & Treasurer:** Marion Kareko, tel. 07-576 0277 Home  
[mkareko@hotmail.com](mailto:mkareko@hotmail.com)

### **Committee:**

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Bob Mankelow                           | Mike Purcell     |
| Kevin Hayden                           | Erik Kristensen  |
| Warren Banks                           | Kim Webster      |
| Karen Cross                            | David Cross      |
| Rueben Kelly                           | Paul Couch       |
| Tony Brooke                            | Mike Halliday    |
| Lee Morgan                             | Charlie Harrison |
| Mike Myers-Kay                         | Steve Davis      |
| Boof Richardson                        | Debbie Davis     |
| Diane Myers-Kay                        | Mike Purcell     |
| John Harris                            | Tony Daw         |
| Joshua Bishop                          |                  |
| Penny Burgess (Welfare Representative) |                  |

### **Area Representatives:**

|             |                                  |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Auckland:   | Paul Couch,                      |
| Coromandel: | Russel Skeet                     |
| Tauranga:   | See Committee                    |
| Whakatane   | Bazz Porter                      |
| Rotorua:    | Te Kei Merito                    |
| Rotorua:    | Dave Galvin                      |
| Rotorua:    | Mike Purcell                     |
| Hamilton:   | Stu Foster                       |
| Hamilton:   | Barry Ngaheu                     |
| Te Aroha:   | Gordon Eagleson, tel. 07-8846675 |
| Gisborne    | Dave Greaves                     |
| Linton:     | Charlie Harrison                 |
| Waiouru:    | Mike Halliday                    |

**Museum Curator:** David Cross

This newsletter is compiled by Des Anderson, President, of the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association Incorporated. It contains many personal views and comments which 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 [des.anderson@actrix.co.nz](mailto: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

|                                 |                  |          |
|---------------------------------|------------------|----------|
| <b><i>Subscription Rate</i></b> | New Member       | \$20.00  |
|                                 | Renewal          | \$15.00  |
|                                 | Perpetual Member | \$150.00 |

