



Hauraki News

“Whaka tangata kia kaha”

August 2017 Issue No 86

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

Compiled & Edited by Des Anderson

Secretary: Mrs M Kareko, 91 Windsor Road, Tauranga

Registered with the Charities Services # CC35879

Website: **6haurakiassoc.org.nz**

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

[tauranga.kete.net.nz/remembering War](http://tauranga.kete.net.nz/remembering-war)

To review Hauraki News prior to 2008

<http://tauranga.kete.net.nz/remembering-war/topics/show/1287>

President's Report

The Hauraki News is still in production. I asked the Editor to skip a couple of issues so the members can catch up and then start receiving the latest news. Thus, the Editor has combined February & May into the August Hauraki News. The Editor has just completed a two-year term as President of the Lions Club of Mount Maunganui so hopefully will have more time to write the HAURAKI NEWS.

The Charities Services has made it more complicated to remain as a charity organization, but we will still be able to comply with all the new requirements.

As you will see from our AGM, the Association has an increased the number of members on the Committee and as Area Representatives. This gives the Association a larger spread thus continuing the spirit of the “Hauraki”. If YOU wish to join the Committee or become an Area Representative, please notify me. YOUR contribution will be welcome

With the event of computers, emails & Facebook the Association has been able to explained its network. In one week I received over 750 ‘Likes’ on Facebook. The down side has been the Association have lost a number of members who do not have access to a computer.

Unfortunately, it takes the Editor extra time to format the Hauraki News, print, create addresses & mail the out the Newsletter. One of the reasons the Editor places the Hauraki News on the Website is so those who don't have computer can ask those who have to print them out a copy. Important letters are still posted out.

Thanks to all of you who have sent me photos & articles from their area.

The 3 ANR Association has invited us to join in their events. It is our intention to co ordinate with 3ANR Association when ever we can.

It has been suggested the Hauraki News places a “where are they now” article. If you would like to find some one, drop me a line.

Kia Kaha

Des Anderson

OBITUARIES

WILLIAMS, Karl Takaha. Much loved husband of Rebecca. Father to Johnny, Charles, Thomas and Robert. Father in-law of Amy, Kim, Mandy and Evie. Koro of seven moko has sadly passed away doing what he loved. Will be missed for generations to come. Funeral service was held on Sunday 1st of January 2017, Waimapu Marae, Waimapu Pa Road, Tauranga.

George and Marion Kareko with Des Anderson represented the NZSAS and the Hauraki Association at the funeral. Des gave a short obituary on Karl's service to the 6th Battalion(Hauraki) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment & his assistance to the Cadets.

KT as everybody knows him, was NZSAS and then joined the Hauraki's in the Recon Pl, commanded by Plt Cmdr. Ted Dean and Pl Sgt, Des Anderson. KT left the Army and went to Probation Services.

When the Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit was formed KT volunteered as the Drill Instructor.

KT and his family then moved to Australia.

Q753057 Cpl Garry Apelu, Anti-Tank Platoon

Hi John

I unfortunately have some sad news to pass on, my Dad passed away yesterday 17.05 peacefully at home, surrounded by his girls, we are saddened by his passing but know he is out of pain and fought until the end like the soldier he is.

If you could please pass on the news to his friends, we have only managed to contact a few that he spoke of often.

His funeral was on Monday the 22nd May, at the Pyes Pa Cemetery and Crematorium, Tauranga, NZ,

Sincerely
Holly Apelu

Hi Des

It is with deep sadness that I have to inform you all of the passing of Garry Apelu in Tauranga / Mount Maunganui New Zealand, yesterday 17th May 2017 at 1705hrs. Garry was a former soldier / NCO of the 6th (HAURAKI) Battalion Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment. He was the finest example of a good hardworking and honest family man, a true and loyal friend, and the epitome of a good soldier. His funeral was on Monday the 22nd May, at the Pyes Pa Cemetery and Crematorium, Tauranga, NZ. His eldest daughter Hollie has requested that these details be passed on to those who new and served with him. RIP Garry.

Garry is shown in the picture as the driver of the vehicle on the left looking at the photo.

John Dick



In Loving Memory of



GARRY ALEC APELU



21 October 1959 - 17 May 2017

Dear Des

It is with much sadness that I advise you of the death of Cpl Garry Apelu after a long battle with cancer. (Aged 57 years). Garry was both gunner and driver with the platoon and well remembered for his cheeky grin.

Garry was also selected and travelled with the veterans to the Battle of Crete commemorations on behalf of the Huaraches (Crete being one of our Battle Honours).

Catherine Clarkson

News from 3/6 RNZIR

The Army's sole remaining Regular Force Vietnam War veteran, Major Gordon Benfell, is retiring after 52 years of service.

Major Benfell, from Tauranga, joined just before he turned 15, originally to be a radio technician, but then decided to do something weapons-related.

He spent three years as a Regular Force cadet, graduating as a Lance Corporal. At 18 he was a weapons instructor at the Training Wing of the nearby First Battalion Depot, then started training for deployment to Vietnam.

“I'd had several iconic infantry mentors and knew I was in the Army for the long haul and needed to be doing something that thrilled me. I made the change and have never regretted it,” he says.

He served in Phouc Touy Province of South Vietnam with V Coy 6RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Battalion of the 1st Australian Task Force as a Section Commander and was the youngest Anzac Section Commander of the Vietnam War.

“I believe the NZ Infantry companies were as well trained for their ANZAC role in Vietnam as they could be.

“In combat they performed admirably and with great courage. They were held in high esteem by our allies.”

He later served in East Timor and Afghanistan.



1PI V4 Coy ready for light order patrol - Gordon Benfell is standing sixth from left.

In Waiouru tomorrow night, there will be a dinner for 200 people, including members of Major Benfell's family, and other Vietnam veterans, including soldiers from his Vietnam platoon and section farewelling him.

The corps will be represented by members of the Army's infantry battalions - reflecting his enormous contribution to the infantry and the army.

Major Benfell holds the Queen's Medal as an Army Champion Shot and was made a member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 2007. Although he is leaving the Regular Force, he is becoming a reservist and will be advocating for former soldiers in a private capacity.

"I believe our soldiers have always been as good as any anywhere, and better than most," he says.

"New Zealand is so well served by its Defence Force and can be rightly proud of its Service people."

Hauraki Regiment 119th Birthday

Friday 7th July

Be at the bar for Birthday Cake and a light supper "PMC shout"

Saturday 8th July

Classic Flyers 1100 hrs. Tour of Museum followed by Lunch

Sunday 9th July

0800 hrs. at Holy Trinity Church

1100 hrs. AGM Hauraki Assn. in the Garrison Club

1200 hrs. Drinks and Lunch



Happy Birthday
119th
Hauraki Battalion
Kia Kaha.

At the Holy Trinity Church, Tauranga. 9th July 2017.



Lt Josh Bishop, Maj Richard Pinfold, Col Warren Banks, Col Oliver Te Ua, Mr Kenneth Brown, Mrs Robin Coster
Mr Eric Kristensen, Mr Des Anderson, Mrs Banks, Mrs Te Ua, Mrs Christen Dean

MINUTES OF THE 19th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
6TH HAURAKI REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC
HELD AT GARRISON CLUB
@ 1110hr SUNDAY 9TH JULY 2017

PRESENT:

Des Anderson, Ken Brown, Bob Mankelow, Janet Crafts, Ray Crafts, Warren Banks, Julia Banks, Richard Burgess, Penny Burgess, Dianne Myers-Kay, Mike Myers-Kay, Josh Bishop, Erik Kristensen and Marion Kareko.

APOLOGIES:

Karen Cross, Dave Cross, Te Kei Merito, Trevor Archer, Rueben Kelly, Steve Davies, Debbie Davis, Kim Webster, Tony Fraser, Lee Morgan, Oliver Te Ua, Richard Pinfold, John Harris and Kathryn Brown.

Moved
Carried

Ken Brown

Seconded: Dianne Myers-Kay

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed

Moved: Des Anderson

Seconded: Bob Mankelow

MATTERS ARISING

1. Tenby Powell has returned to the country and is believed to have re-joined the Regular Army. Des Anderson is to enquire who is to be the Honorary Colonel and to decide who is to become the Hauraki Association Patron.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

See attached:

The report presented by the President, Des Anderson, moved that the report be accepted.

Seconded: Warren Banks
Carried

FINANCIAL REPORT:

See attached

Financial Report presented by the Treasurer, Marion Kareko, who moved that the report be accepted.

Seconded: Bob Mankelow
Carried.

Profit/Loss Account of the Garrison Club presented.

Read by Des Anderson who then moved that the Profit/loss Account be accepted.

Seconded: Bob Mankelow
Carried.

ELECTION OF PATRON

1. Des Anderson moved that the Honorary Colonel, Tenby Powell be asked if he would be the Patron of the Association. Warren Banks commented that we wait until such time that it is confirmed that Tenby Powell is to be the Honorary Colonel. Des Anderson in the meantime has asked Chris McGuire if he would become the Patron. A letter from Tenby Powell has been received that he is happy with Chris McGuire to be the Patron.

Moved: Des Anderson
Carried

Seconded: Warren Banks

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

<u>President:</u>	Des Anderson	Marion Kareko/Bob Mankelow
<u>Vice President:</u>	Ken Brown	Kevin Hayden/Marion Kareko
<u>Secretary/Treasurer:</u>	Marion Kareko	Des Anderson/Bob Mankelow

Committee:

Bob Mankelow	Marion Kareko/Des Anderson
Erik Kristensen	Bob Mankelow/Karen Cross
Kevin Hayden	Des Anderson/Bob Mankelow
Warren Banks	Des Anderson/Ken Brown
Karen Cross	Erik Kristensen/Des Anderson
Mike Myers-Kay	Karen Cross/Dianne Myers-Kay

Debbie Davis	Karen Cross/Rueben Kelly
Stephen Davis	Erik Kristensen/Kevin Hayden
Dianne Myers-Kay	Karen Cross/Mike Myers-Kay
Boof Richardson	Des Anderson/Bob Mankelow
Kim Webster	Kevin Hayden/Des Anderson
Rueben Kelly	Bob Mankelow/Marion Kareko
Tony Daw	Dave Cross/Karen Cross
Joshua Bishop	Karen Cross/Marion Kareko
Charlie Harrison	Des Anderson/Bob Mankelow
Lee Morgan	Des Anderson/Bob Mankelow
John Harris	Des Anderson/Bob Mankelow
Mike Purcell	Des Anderson/Bob Mankelow
Mike Halliday	Des Anderson/Bob Mankelow
Tony Brooke (Patriot representative) Mike Myers-Kay/Dave Cross	
Dave Cross, Curator of the Museum Marion Kareko/Bob Mankelow	
Penny Burgess, Welfare representative.	

Dave Greaves,	Area representative of Gisborne.
Barry Ngaheu	Area representative of Hamilton.
Dave Galvin,	Area representative of Rotorua.
Te Rei Merito,	Area representative of Rotorua.
Russell Skeet,	Area representative of Coromandel.
Paul Couch,	Area representative of Auckland.

Moved by Bob Mankelow that all nominated committee members be elected as a whole and have the right to co-opt members to join the committee or any members who wish to join the committee in the future.

Seconded: Janet Crafts
Carried

ELECTION OF HONORARY MEMBER

President of Paeroa RSA

Moved: Des Anderson	Seconded: Warren Banks
Carried	

ELECTION OF HONORARY AUDITOR

Ken Brown, auditor, for the Association and the Garrison Club.

Moved: Des Anderson	Seconded: Richard Burgess
Carried	

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

The subscriptions for membership are to remain the same and be reviewed again at the next AGM. Members cost is \$15.00 and Serving soldiers \$10.00

Moved: Des Anderson	Seconded: Mike Myers-Kay
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Carried

PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP

It was moved by Des Anderson that the perpetual membership remain in place for another year.

Seconded: Penny Burgess
Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS:

❖ SILVER TRUST

Des Anderson, Ken Brown and Warren Banks are to work on the silver trust so that the silver belonging to the Hauraki Company will stay in Tauranga. The present Commanding Officer is happy for the Association to go ahead with the Trust. A copy of the Trust from Auckland North was sent to the Association and it has been retyped. No further action has been taken but in the near future members will start working on the Trust.

❖ COLOURS

3/6 RNZIR is moving the colours of Hauraki Company to the HQ 3/6 RNZIR to Arch Hill, Great North Rd, Auckland. The proposed date 3/6 RNZIR is moving the colours of Hauraki Company to the HQ 3/6 RNZIR to Arch Hill, Great North Rd, Auckland. The proposed date will be late August.

❖ FACE BOOK

Josh Bishop has volunteered to be an administrator for the Hauraki Association face book page.

❖ STATUETTES

It was asked if the statuettes are in the silver cabinets in the Hauraki Company Headquarters.

A committee member has checked the silver cabinet and both statuettes are there.

There being no further business the meeting finished @ 1140hrs.

Next AGM Meeting: Sunday 8th July 2018 @ 1100hrs at the Garrison Club.

Des Anderson
President

Marion Kareko
Secretary

Queens Birthday Honour citation for a former RSM of 6th Battalion (Hauraki) RNZIR is below:

To be a Member of **The New Zealand Order of Merit**

MERITO, MR TE KEI O TE WAKA WILSON (TE KEI)

For services to Māori and conservation

Mr Te Kei Merito has contributed to conservation for more than 30 years, most notably as the inaugural and current Chair of Te Tapatoru-a-Toi, a joint management committee which manages three iconic conservation sites in the Whakatāne area, one being an off-shore pest-free island.

Mr Merito was the driving force in developing and implementing the committee's 'Kawa me Nga Tikanga – Protocol and Procedure Guidelines' to assist the committee in fulfilling its role under the Ngati Awa Claims Settlement Act 2005. He played a key role in designing and implementing Te Tapui Tokotoru Conservation Management Plan. He is a current member of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Environmental Risk Management Authority. He is a member of the Ohiwa Harbour Implementation Forum. He is a Board member for Te Runanga O Ngati Awa and has served periods as Chairman and has been Chairman of Te Komiti Taiao O Ngati Awa. He is a Trustee member for Rurima Islands, off-shore islands owned by Ngati Awa and maintained in partnership with the Department of Conservation. He was instrumental in establishing the nationwide Te Pukenga Atawahi Cultural Competency training programme for DOC. Mr Merito also established and implemented the Department's Māori language policy.

WOI Te Kei MERITO was RSM of 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment from 1979 -1982.

Letters to the Editor

Des

I penned this anecdote while on the way to Wellington recently – for publication in Hauraki News if you feel it worthy.

Regards

Russell

“In the April edition of the Air New Zealand magazine “Kia Ora” in a 3 Wisemen Menswear advertisement, a bloke called Mike Pirrit, when asked about the person who had most influenced him, answered ‘A grumpy bugger called Pene Reuben’ The advice, incidentally, was do your 100% best at work and switch off at home. The point of this narrative is not so much the advice, as the person – no, not Perrit, whom I do not know, but Pene Reuben, who, for the sake of this story I will concede to knowing, assuming of course that it is the same Pene Reuben who was a sergeant in the 6th (Hauraki) Battalion mortar platoon in 1982. I joined 6 Hau in 1978 as a private in the

Mortar Platoon (rising to the exulted position of number one on the mortar) and was commissioned into the same platoon in 1982, having served four years with the platoon. Pene (from Thames) and Dennis Baker (from Tauranga) were Sergeants, as was John Royal from Paeroa. Our Cadre NCO was the redoubtable Trevor Sexton. Pene worked in a local timber mill, Dennis was a panelbeater and John Royal worked for a bank, while I was (in 1982) a clerk for Dalgety NZ in Thames, a stock and station company. At that time the platoon was quartered in Paeroa and had an outpost (so-to-speak) at the drill hall in Thames where I maintained an office as platoon commander. The hall at that time was primarily used by No. 37 Squadron Air Training Corps and we T.F. used the premises monthly, alternating with the Paeroa Hall. I have often recalled the extreme good fortune I had, as a newly commissioned officer, to have men of the calibre of Pene, Dennis and John as my instructors – and Trevor Sexton also, although it was some years before I grew to fully appreciate the value of an excellent Cadre NCO. One other outstanding personality of my junior officer years was RSM Merito. It has come to me, on many occasions to tell a story that involved Kei Merito and Pene Reuben.

The mortar platoon was in Waiouru conducting a weekend shoot, way out the back of the training area. It was early to mid-afternoon and we had just conducted an excellent shoot and were thoroughly pleased with ourselves, and were parked up on the side of a track out back enjoying one of those pauses that just seem to happen at the conclusion of training. But we didn't move off in any great hurry, rather the column remained parked up with the guys chatting and brewing up. Anyway, time was passing and we had to get on the road to Tauranga and then Paeroa and clean up the kit and vehicles and get everyone away to their respective home locations. Not quite understanding the pause and eager to start, I stood at the head of the column and barked out some sort of order to get going. Predictably, for those who have experienced such situations, nothing much happened - so I repeated the yelling. From out of no-where, seriously – nowhere – the R.S.M., Mr Merito appeared, marching in parade ground fashion (no easy thing in the field), pace stick tucked under his arm and perfectly parallel with the ground, and stopped, facing me, mere inches away. He said to me, quietly, "Sir, you do not have a dog and bark", turned on his heel and marched back to the skippy (landrover). Who knew he was even there? It ought to be known that new junior officers are not necessarily the first to recognise Warrant Officers Class One or senior battalion officers. Anyway, after an awkward moment, Sgt Reuben appeared at my side and said, equally quietly, "Sir, if you want something to happen give some orders, don't bellow at the crowd like some old cow in season", or words to that effect. To which I feel sure I replied, "very good sergeant, carry on" or something similar (ha ha ha - not). It did not immediately occur to me that the scene may have been a set up and that Pene was positioned by the R.S.M. deliberately rather than conveniently. Maybe not. Whatever. In any event the lesson was learned and the column, shortly thereafter, moved off. Whatever may have been my skill in leadership and command, it was not for the want of example and guidance from such men as Kei Merito, Pene Reuben and Dennis Baker, that I developed. Perhaps the first lesson a junior officer might usefully learn is humility – especially in the presence of skill, knowledge, experience and competence possessed by such men as I have referred to above. I do not know of the career achievements of John, Dennis and Mr Merito, but Pene rose to the highest level of saw-milling management in New Zealand, and demonstrates the inestimable value of Territorial Force service, especially when coupled with individual ability and drive.

It's funny what you read on board an aircraft eh?

Whakatangata kia kaha.

Russell Skeet

Hi Des.

Major Richard Fox ED. Richard did CMT and was posted to 2 Armoured Regiment based on Ngaruawahia (Hopu Hopu) as far as I can remember he lived out Raglan way. When I was posted to the Battalion as CO we had a real shortfall in the officer appointments. Richard came in as 2IC. He did about two years and then shifted to Turangi. Major Danny Mateer OC company. ,Major Ted Brooker as Ops Officer. Paul Dangerfield(ex Ordnance) as QM and Maj John Marsh OC A company. Maj George Nai Nai, Maj Jim Taia (Ex SAS) OC Support Company. Hope this helps with Richard.

Stewart Foster

Hauraki History









New Zealand Battle Of Crete Association Inc.

76th COMMEMORATION MEMORIAL SERVICE
Sunday 21st May 2017 1030hrs

**Held at the Mount Maunganui Returned & Services
Association (Inc.)**

Welcome: Colin Henderson, NZBOC

One minute silence

Opening Prayer: Officiating Chaplain, the Reverend Marie Gilpin

Master of Ceremonies: Peter Moss – President NZBOC

New Zealand National Anthem: Tauranga City Brass – Cliff Whyte

Reflection: the Reverend Marie Gilpin

Keynote Speaker: Lieutenant Colonel Warren Banks

Wreath Laying: Veterans present with assistance of NZCF
Personnel.

Benediction: the Reverend Marie Gilpin

The Last Post: Bugler - Peter Cranson

The Ode: Peter Moss

Reveille: Peter Cranson

**The Service will be followed by a demonstration of Greek Dancing by the
Athena Dance Group. After the dancing, light refreshments will be served.
Some of you may wish to join others for lunch in Munro' Restaurant &
Café at the RSA.**



...they would like











New Zealand Cadet Forces



Over the 18-20 August 2017, more than 120 NZCF personnel converged on the Kaimai Ranges for Exercise MASH.

Ex MASH is hosted by Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit and is designed to train cadets in first aid while also providing the opportunity for cadets to interact with personnel from other units. Cadets participate in varying scenarios such as a car crash, a fire in a camp site, a fallen tramper which required the SNCO to manage the scene, whilst the cadets administered basic first aid. Some scenarios involve creating temporary shelters and stretchers to assist the casualties.

The exercise has been running for over ten years and is based off the TV show 'MASH'. The units in attendance this year were: Western Bay of Plenty Cadet Unit, Waikakere

Cadet Unit, Opotiki College Cadet Unit, Hamilton City Cadet Unit, Southern Cross Cadet Unit, Training Ship Chatham (Tauranga), No 31 (Morrinsville) Squadron ATC, No 34 (Tokoroa) Squadron ATC and No 75 (Arawa) Squadron ATC.













COMMITTEE 2017- 2018

Patron: Judge Chris McGuire
President: Des Anderson, tel. 07 571 1951 Home 0274 764 073 Mobile
des.anderson@actrix.co.nz
Vice President: Kenneth Brown
Secretary & Treasurer: Marion Kareko, tel. 07-576 0277 Home
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 Ngaheue
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 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

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

