

October 4, 1901. The old colours of the Thames Navals were being deposited in St. George's Church. (Anglican). The Thames Naval Band would ~~soon~~ become the Battalion Band.

October 7. "It is stated that the full-dress scarlet uniform for the No. 2 (Hauraki) Battalion will be sanctioned as soon as the companies are uniformed alike in the undress khaki drill uniform (as laid down for the Colony) so that all the companies can appear on parade in drill order in the one uniform. The Paeroa corps has now adopted the undress uniform, and it will probably be brought up for consideration by the other companies of the Battalion."

October 12, 1901. A number of Coromandel people were coming to see the depositing of the colours of the No. 1 Thames Rifles in St. George's Church.

(No. 1 Thames Rifles had been the Navals.)

December 2. Thames was having a military fete and bazaar to help funds, naturally with Band music.

January 13, 1902. Control of school cadets was being transferred from Defence to Education Department. *January 24. The Thames Naval Band was attached to the Battalion*

March 6, 1902. The Battalion Band, formerly Thames Naval Band, was noted as having had a long history. The Hauraki Band had been established 3 years before, and was doing well in competitions. "If the local authorities provided a band rotunda in Victoria Reserve and arranged to have open air concerts, every alternate Thursday, general satisfaction would be expressed."

The Thames Borough had just been doing a great deal of work in that area, the name Victoria for the reserve being given in consequence of the death of Queen Victoria on January 22, 1901.

As noted on March 20, the Academy of Music, with its big band balcony, was due for removal, the building having become unsafe with wood rot.

Some were still going to the sputtering guerrilla war in South Africa, Sergeant-Major Walter Callaway returning there with the 9th Contingent, as noted on March 20. On March 25 it was reported that with so many men away in South Africa, and the local Volunteer corps throughout the "Hauraki Peninsula" somewhat disorganised in consequence, there was no Battalion camp that season, but Ohinemuri No. 1 Rifles unit was trying to arrange a camp at Thames.

This was duly arranged by March 27, to include Ohinemuri No. 1 Rifles. By March 31 there were in place: Thames No. 1 Rifles, Captain Shand and Lieuts. Battson and Bell; Hauraki Rifles, Captain Lucas and Lieuts. Swindley and Le Fevre; Ohinemuri No. 1 Rifles, Lieut. Nathan. Capt. Lucas in overall command.

On April 10, 1902, the Volunteer Hall at Paeroa was opened with a full military carnival. Thames wanted one too, and talked of organising. It complained that Paeroa with one company without a band could boast a splendid drill hall, while Thames with 2 strong companies with their two bands had no decent drill hall.

On April 19 had some elucidation of changes in the last few years. "The Hauraki Battalion was constituted on the 9th July, 1898, under the name of 'The 2nd Battalion Auckland Rifle Volunteers.'" On the 1st October ~~1901~~ 1901, the designation was changed to '2nd Battalion Auckland (Hauraki) Infantry Volunteers,' thus giving the Battalion the distinctive name of the district from which the majority of the corps was raised. The Battalion comprises the following companies in order of seniority, viz. Thames Rifle Volunteers (Thames), late Navals (*), No. 1 Company Ohinemuri Rifle Volunteers (Paeroa), Hauraki Rifle Volunteers (Thames), No. 3 Company Ohinemuri Rifle Volunteers (Waihi) (+), Coromandel Rifle Volunteers (Coromandel), Onehunga Rifle Volunteers (Onehunga), and Huntly Rifle Volunteers (Huntly)." "The Thames Rifles (late Navals) were originally formed on 8th October, 1869, (=), X and have in spite of adverse circumstances continued in existence to the present date. It is the senior company of the Battalion."

(*) Also known as No. 1 Thames Rifles, Naval Band now Battalion Band. (+) No. 2 was the disbanded Karangahake unit. (=) The 1902 Cyclopaedia quoted from the top of p. 17 has 1868, but that tome is not famous for accuracy of detail.

x 1930 source says June 10, 1869

(X) 1930 source says 12 September, 1901.