

February 27, 1914. Bandmaster Arthur Clarke had for years also been a choir-master, with such activities as training Sunday School children for anniversaries

August 4, 1914. "England Has Declared War Against Germany."

By August 11 more Thames volunteers were going to Auckland and the Thames Star was practically all War.

August 13, 1914. The second section of volunteers left Thames from the Shortland railway station, being of 15 men, with the "Regimental Band" playing under Lieutenant Clarke. (There was now a Hauraki Regiment.)

In 1915 the War continued to bulk large in the Thames Star. Thames got its new Drill Hall.

February 2, 1915. The 6th Hauraki Regimental Band was under conductor Clark or Clarke. The Star was using Clark.

February 17, 1915. There was a "Novel Entertainment" by the 6th Hauraki Regimental Band under conductor Clarke at the Victoria Reserve, the park being lit by electricity, with a 400 candlepower light for the Rotunda, and one of 100 on each side, and altogether 2,000 candlepower.

August 5, 1915. On the afternoon of the 4th (anniversary of the declaration of War) there was the biggest Thames gathering in years at Victoria Park. On the dais were Thames Mayor Henry Lowe, County Chairman R.W. Bagnall, with returned soldiers and trainees and representatives of the local bodies and churches. The Band of the 6th Hauraki Regiment was there under lieutenant A. Clarke, having marched to the reserve, where there was a large and representative gathering. The arrangements were under the care of Alfred Chapman, Town Clerk.

Oct. 6, 1915. Thames station having recently been changed to Thames North, it was noted that when the Miners' Battalion left Thames, there was a crowd of Thames South station, the confusing Shortland having been dropped.

Oct. 25. W.S. Clark was noted as Officer Commanding of A Company, 6th Hauraki Regiment, being farewelled on way to Auckland. (It may be taken that the band continued to play for departures for "the Front," with crowds to see the trains off.

In 1916 men continued to leave, with crowds and the band playing. By April 3, New Zealand had reached the 15th Reinforcement. There was also Anzac Day of the 25th of April, with a memorial service at the Central Hall in Thames, with an "impressive memorial service" in the evening.

June 14, conscription was to go to the Legislative Council (Upper House) to finalise. By July 29 there was a long Thames Roll of Honour, and on August 1 it was noted that the 20th Reinforcements were recruiting satisfactorily (still voluntary) and on August 4 there was a service held for second year of War.

On September 4, 1916, an obituary of James Cornwell Williams noted he was one of a guard of Honour to the Duke of Edinburgh on a visit to Auckland, which would mean 1869, and was on the strength of the Thames Volunteer Engineers, given as 1868. However, this was a newspaper obituary long after the events.

By December 12, 1916, there was a dual ballot and volunteer system, which was being kept secret. (The send-offs at the railway station would be the same.

On February 13, 1917, there was a long list of names for the Hauraki Recruiting District Fourth Ballot, under a straight out compulsory scheme. (Usual sendoffs). By February 24, 24th Reinforcement members were leaving Thames. By March 6 it was the 27th Reinforcements that were leaving Thames.

April 20, 1917. The 6th Hauraki Regimental Band played on the Victoria Reserve April 25, Anzac Day, saw a big crowd at a consecration service at the Central Hall.

By June 7 there was the 8th Ballot, and June 28 reported the departure of 31st Reinforcement members from Thames.

On August 1, 1917, there was a big gala day for the Golden Jubilee of Thames, 1867-1917. Patron was T.W. Rhodes M.P., President Thames Mayor Henry Lower, Vice Presidents Thames County Chairman R.W. Bagnall and W. Blomfield, who was also President of the Old Thames Boys Association.