

1932.

34d. Bands.

On February 20-27, 1932, an annual camp was duly held at the new venue of Tauranga.

(Thanks to Thames citizens (and their fund-raising), there was a band from Thames for the occasion.)

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1933.

March 3, 1933. "THE THAMES BAND. A ROTORUA TRIBUTE. TROOPING THE COLOUR."

"Referring to the ceremony of Trooping the Colour performed by the 6th Hauraki Regiment during the recent Camp at Rotorua, the 'Morning Post' states :- 'Perhaps the best display was given by the Band, which was responsible for a very fine bit of work and kept excellent time. To this the steadiness on parade was largely due.'"

(According to the 1930 pamphlet, an exacting item was a slow march across the parade ground, with the officers in front at intervals, so that it was difficult to keep alignment. Tradition was that the original idea was to test the sobriety of the officers "the morning after.")

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1934.

(A Camp again brought the Band to local newspaper notice, even if the headline had Territorials instead of Volunteers.)

Saturday, February 10, 1934. "THAMES TERRITORIAL MEN LEAVE FOR CAMP.

"About 15 members of the 6th Hauraki Regiment (Thames Volunteers) and 20 members of the Regimental Band left this morning by train for Tauranga, where the Regiment's annual camp will be held in the high school grounds. The men will be encamped for a week."

February 23, 1934. President W.B. McDonald and secretary H.W. Dovell issued a letter re a rumour that there would be ample funds from dances during the winter of 1933 to enable the Band to proceed to the Rotorua Contest next Easter. They wanted to place a true and correct record that there were 12 dances from June 14 to November 8, 1933, with gross £85-5-3, expenses £60-12-0, and a balance of only £24-13-3 to the Band for the Contest. Train fares and lodging would cost £60 to £70. They were short of about £40, and as a Queen Carnival was now in full swing in Thames, there was no chance for "the Band at present to collect on this shortage."

February 25, 1934. A correspondent wrote that the "Band deserves help. It is ever ready to give assistance and never refuses any reasonable request for its services." He asked why not a Thames Band Contest fund, and put in 10 shillings, to which the Thames Star immediately added a guinea. (£1-1-0). Next day the fund came to £2-6-6, after which further accessions could not be found.

March 23, 1934. The Queen Carnival had been continuing, and there was to be a Monster Procession on the 24th. "The Hauraki Band will lead the procession to the High School grounds."

March 26, 1934. The procession was led by Marshall T. Verran, and Assistant Marshall Sergeant-Major Patterson, with the Hauraki Regimental Band, which played martial airs along the route."

March 29, 1934. Re Coronation Ceremony on Wednesday the 28th, "in aid of the Distress Relief Fund," at King's Theatre. "Prior to the commencement of the programme the Hauraki Regimental Band played selections outside the theatre."

April 3, 1934. "The Hauraki Regimental Band returned from Rotorua this morning after participating in the South Auckland brass bands contest. The Thames players were not successful in any of the 3 sections in which they competed. They came 5th in the B grade test selection ("Undine"), 3rd in the H.M.M. test ("Be By My Side) and 4th in the quickstep contest."

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1935.

Such matters as "Territorial" or Volunteer camps continued.

November, 1935, saw a Queen Carnival for the Thames Volunteer Fire Brigade, with its close links to the Band.