

# Our boys, our families

First World War research resources at  
Auckland Libraries and Auckland Council Archives



A family receiving the result of the ballot for Class B reservists under the NZ Military Service Act, 1918, 7-A14534, Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.

► Find out more: phone 09 301 0101  
or visit [www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz](http://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz)



# Welcome to this guide showcasing First World War research resources available at Auckland Libraries and Auckland Council Archives.

As part of the First World War centenary commemorations, this guide will enable you to carry out your own research into family members or people who took part in the war. This could be a soldier on the front line, a nurse on a hospital ship or the impact on those at home.

Revised editions of the guide are planned for release during the commemoration period to create a set of guides. This guide is the first in that series and has been produced in time for the 2013 Auckland Heritage Festival.

Auckland Libraries is also investigating the option of developing an online resource, which will allow you to digitally submit your research, so that it can be recorded and accessible to others. Email us at [OurBoysGuide@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:OurBoysGuide@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) for more information. You can also use this email address to request a print of any of the photographs in this guide.

Through the research process we will honour those who made sacrifices for New Zealand, expand our knowledge of these people, add to collective memory and put a human face to the experiences and tragedies of the 'Great War'.

The Our boys, our families research guide was developed by Auckland Libraries, the Auckland Council Heritage Unit and Auckland Council Archives and owes a debt of thanks to Councillor Sandra Coney, Chair of the WW1 Centenary Political Steering Group.

**2013 edition.**



Convalescent troops at Puhi Nui, c. 1917, photograph reproduced by courtesy of Howick Historical Society (from Lesley Kelliher), Footprints 02389. South Auckland Research Centre, Auckland Libraries.



NEW ZEALAND TROOPS FOR THE FRONT: ONE OF THE TROOPSHIPS LEAVING THE WHARF AT WELLINGTON WITH THE SEVENTH REINFORCEMENTS ON OCTOBER 9.

**Above:** The Seventh Reinforcements departing the wharves at Wellington, 9 October 1915, AWNS-19151028-42-4. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.



**Above:** Group portrait of 16 NZ nurses aboard the deck of the troopship R.M.S. 'Athenic', with one male army officer and a small boy, 1916, 7-A15887. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.



Two Privates of the NZ Māori Pioneer Battalion, one is Private Richard Abraham, Reg. No. 16/1397, of the 5th Māori Contingent, 1916, 31-A2. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.

# Introduction to the First World War



Portrait of the Leith brothers, Sapper David Alexander Leith, Reg. No. 4/1661, and Sapper James Charles Leith, Reg. No. 4/1290, both with the New Zealand Tunnelling Company, 1915, 31-L688. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.

# Lest we forget – remembering Our boys, our families

August 2014 marks the centenary of New Zealand's entry in the First World War. Commemorative activities will occur throughout the next five years, focused on the major milestones in the war, such as Gallipoli (2015), Somme (2016), Passchendaele (2017) and the Armistice (2018). The Auckland War Memorial Museum has identified a theme for each year of the commemorations to reflect the key events and these have been adopted by Auckland Council:

- **2014** Duty and adventure
- **2015** Death of innocence
- **2016** The forgotten
- **2017** Western killing fields
- **2018** Unprecedented trial
- **2019** War is over. If you want.

More than 100,000 New Zealanders served overseas during the war. 18,500 New Zealanders died as a result of the war, and almost 50,000 were wounded. The social impact of war is reflected in the whakatauki used by the museum and the council's official commemorations:

## He toa taumata rau / Courage has many resting places.

During the war, families parted from their loved ones and had to take on new challenges and contribute towards fund raising efforts, as well as maintaining as normal a home life as possible. Many women also took up the call to be nurses on hospital ships. There were also those who were opposed to the war and became conscientious objectors.

This guide contains numerous links to various information sources at Auckland Libraries and Auckland Council Archives useful for researching people who lived during this period. Use this guide as a starting point and ask for help at your local library and archives.

### **The Ministry for Culture and Heritage**

also provides a good overview of New Zealand's involvement in the war on their website: [www.nzhistory.net.nz/category/tid/215](http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/category/tid/215)

### **The ministry's WW100 website:**

[ww100.govt.nz/activities\\_and\\_projects](http://ww100.govt.nz/activities_and_projects) provides a national hub for all activities and many centenary projects are listed on this site.



# Good research practice

Remember to list the sources where you find information about the person you are researching. As a general rule of thumb, information should be verified from at least two to three sources, preferably primary sources such as original birth, marriage and death certificates and probate records (wills).

Not all the information you find (even from some primary sources) will be accurate. For example, men sometimes lied about their age when enlisting, and newspaper accounts sometimes exaggerated their reports for dramatic effect to increase sales.

Verifying information from multiple sources can also lead to the discovery of additional information.

The research prompts at the back of this guide will be available online.



Sick and wounded soldiers disembarking at Wellington, 1915, AWNS-19150916-42-2. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.



Private Flanton of the Māori Contingent, New Zealand Māori Pioneer Battalion wearing an RSA badge, 1917, 31-F3350. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.



**Above:** 33 Returned Soldiers all in military uniforms, most are from the 15th North Auckland Regiment, c.1910-1919, 31-WP8123. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.



**Above:** Ryan, 1 Lance Corporal of the 17th (Ruahine) Regiment, Auckland Infantry Regiment, 1 Corporal of the New Zealand Engineers Signal Corps (and one man not in uniform but wearing an RSA badge), 31-R2466. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.

# Resources at Auckland Libraries



Normal School Basketball Team, 1916, 31-WP8110. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.

## Biographical resources for researching someone who served during the First World War

### Beginning your research

As a starting point, find the name of a soldier who fought in the First World War. This might be the name of a family member who fought in the war, or a name found on a local memorial, roll of honour, commemorative list, archive or cemetery.

Alternatively, find the name of a nurse or anyone who participated in the war effort or social movements during the First World War – whether they are local personalities, someone in your family, or someone whose name you found in a book or old newspapers.

Visit your local library, Royal New Zealand Returned and Services' Association (RSA), community hall, church, school, genealogical society or public park to see these lists and memorials.

Books about local histories can also contain this information. For example, this publication on the history of Swanson contains information about soldiers who fought in the First World War from the Swanson RSA and local families:

Jack Adam, Vivien Burgess and Dawn Ellis, *Rugged Determination: Historical Window on Swanson, 1854-2004* (Auckland: 2004). A copy of this book can be found at Auckland Libraries: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1596824~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1596824~S1)



**Above:** Unveiling of War Memorial on Lion Rock, 1919, JTD-04K-03812, West Auckland Research Centre, Auckland Libraries.



**Left:** World War One Memorial, Nell Fisher Reserve, Birkenhead, c.1980s, B0314, North Auckland Research Centre, Auckland Libraries.



Portrait of Private Rudolph Baeyertz, Reg. No. 3/3144, of the NZ Medical Corps, 1917, 31-B3037. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.

See page 28 of this research guide for a list of selected books and useful links about the First World War. These may contain names of soldiers, nurses, enemy aliens or conscientious objectors. Many of these publications are held by Auckland Libraries and links have been provided where a copy is held in the library catalogue [www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz](http://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz)

Use the research prompts included in the back cover of this guide to help with your research.

### **Published books**

Ask your local librarian about other sources of information such as published war diaries, war art or war poetry.

### **Photographs and visual items**

Other useful sources of information include photographs and ephemera (such as cards and orders of service). When searching for photographs, be sure to note down the names of people who appear in the photo with them. This can provide clues about their friends and family.

Photographs can be accessed from the Sir George Grey Special Collections at the Central City Library, your local research centre or digitally through the following Auckland Libraries databases:

**Heritage Images database** (covering images from NZ and abroad from the Sir George Grey Special Collections): [www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/heritageimages/index.htm](http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/heritageimages/index.htm)

**Footprints database** (covering images from the South Auckland Research Centre): <http://manukau.infospecs.co.nz/footprints/home.htm>

**Local History Online** (covering images from the North and West Auckland Research Centres and the former Rodney Libraries): [www.localhistoryonline.org.nz/cgi-bin/PU](http://www.localhistoryonline.org.nz/cgi-bin/PU)

**The Schmidt Collection** of glass plate negatives from the Sir George Grey Special Collections is a particularly valuable resource, which includes around 4,500 portraits of soldiers from the First World War. These portraits by Herman John Schmidt have been scanned and are available online on the Heritage Images database.



Wounded soldiers and nurses at the New Zealand Military Hospital at Brockenhurst, England, 1918. N0107002. North Auckland Research Centre, Auckland Libraries.



Corporal Clifford Edward George Ball of the 15th (North Auckland) Regiment, Auckland Infantry Battalion Reg. No. 12/515, 1914, 31-B1435. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.

Where possible, each has been identified by careful checking of Nominal Rolls and Schmidt's own registers. This is a magnificent collection showing soldiers and their families prior to leaving for the battlefield. Note that these include portraits of Pacific men, some of whom were in the Māori Battalion.

**For more information:**

[www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/EN/heritage/sirgeorgegrey/photographs/hermanjohnschmidt/Pages/hermanjohnschmidt.aspx](http://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/EN/heritage/sirgeorgegrey/photographs/hermanjohnschmidt/Pages/hermanjohnschmidt.aspx)

**If you can help identify any of the people, refer to:**

[www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/heritageimages/index.htm](http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/heritageimages/index.htm)

The *Supplements to the Auckland Weekly News* are a wonderful visual resource. Photos from these supplements including those from the war period have been digitised and are also available through the Heritage Images database.

**Newspapers**

Newspapers (available on Papers Past or at your local research centre) are a rich source of information. For example, through the library you can access copies on microfilm of the *Auckland Star* and the *New Zealand Herald*. You can also search online through Papers Past from the National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa: <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>

**Oral histories**

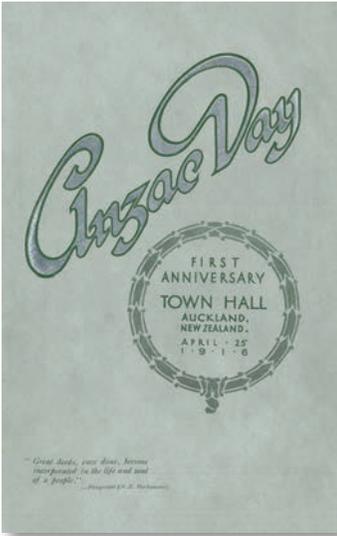
The North and West Auckland Research Centres, and the Sir George Grey Special Collections at the Central City Library have a collection of oral histories which might contain information about the person you are researching. For example, you can search [www.localhistoryonline.co.nz](http://www.localhistoryonline.co.nz) for North or West Auckland oral histories.

Relatives of the person you are researching might still live in Auckland and be able to provide you with information about them. Ask a librarian at your local research centre or Sir George Grey Special Collections to assist you with this. You can also borrow oral history recording equipment from several research centres and the Sir George Grey Special Collections.



POPPY DAY IN AUCKLAND: SNAPSHOTS IN QUEEN STREET ON APRIL 24 DURING A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL APPEAL FOR FUNDS IN AID OF THE VETERANS' HOMES AND DISABLED SOLDIERS. —Staff Photographer.

Poppy appeal in Queen Street, Auckland, 1925, AWNS-19250430-47-6. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.



Cover of a programme for the first Anniversary of Anzac Day. Part of a Citizens' Commemoration and Memorial Service held at the Auckland Town Hall. 25 April 1916 original programme held in the Ephemera Collection, Eph.War.AnzacDay1916. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.

## Manuscripts

Unpublished resources such as diaries and letters can give revealing insights into the lives of people who lived through the war, e.g. NZMS 1766, a collection of 56 letters that Gilbert Martin Hames sent home to his parents in Takapuna. Hames was injured in Egypt in 1915 and was given the option of being invalided home but chose instead to continue as a medic at Brockenhurst, a hospital for wounded soldiers in The New Forest, Hampshire.

### Refer to:

- **Manuscripts Online** (for holdings from Sir George Grey Special Collections including NZMS 1766) [www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/msonline/](http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/msonline/)
- Other manuscripts can be accessed at the research centres around the region. You can also check the **Community Archive** for local holdings <http://thecommunityarchive.org.nz/>
- **The Auckland War Memorial Museum Library** has significant collections of war diaries and letters. Ask the librarians and archivists for research assistance with the museum's extensive war resources including the recently digitised troopship magazines <http://muse.aucklandmuseum.com/databases/LibraryCatalogue/BasicSearch.aspx>

## Memorials including Rolls of Honour

There are many types of First World War memorials, with different designs and details. These include soldier figures, symbolic figures, obelisks and cupolas, gates and arches, towers, practical memorials (e.g. bridges or library buildings), windows of buildings (e.g. churches or schools) and natural features (e.g. Lion Rock at Piha Beach).

The Ministry for Culture & Heritage (MCH) provides a list of many public memorials on their website: [www.nzhistory.net.nz/culture/nz-memorials-register](http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/culture/nz-memorials-register)



NEVER WE FORGET

ABBOTT F.W.  
ARMSTRONG A.M.L.  
ARMSTRONG L.J.  
ARMSTRONG S.A.  
ARMOUR A.  
ARMOUR W.  
ATKINSON H.G.  
ATKINSON P.  
BISHOP J.J.  
BISHOP T.A.  
BISHOP W.N.C.  
BROWN W.A.  
BRYAN C.B.  
COULTER J.J.  
DERRICK H.  
ELLIS L.  
ELLIS R.F.  
GODLEY F.  
GREEN C.  
HENDERSON E.  
HILL S.A.  
HOOD O.  
HOOD H.A.  
HEATH A.  
JONES E.  
KILGOUR J.  
LAING G.G.  
LAING L.A.B.  
LAWRENCE G.  
MALONEY C.L.  
MATHEWSON H.  
MCZDOWNNEY J.A.  
MCZDOWNNEY T.J.  
MCQUOID R.L.  
PHILCOX A.D.  
PITCHER C.  
RANKIN J.

First World War Memorial in Titirangi, 1920, 4-7755. Sir George Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.



Spragg's Monument, Kaitarakihi Park, Cornwallis, J.T. Diamond Collection, JTD-07A-00342-3. West Auckland Research Centre, Auckland Libraries.

Auckland Council Archives have some memorials listed on this database:

<http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/CityArchives/FamilyHistory/HonourBoards/searchwarmemorials.htm>

Rolls of Honour can often be found in RSAs, schools and churches. Many memorials contain inscriptions or icons. These are sometimes biblical passages or poetry, or icons such as a Union Jack or fern leaf. Memorials also usually have the names of soldiers who died inscribed on them. This may include all the men who served from a particular district including those who survived the war.

Some RSAs and libraries are engaged in ongoing projects to research names on memorials. For example, since 2007 the Howick RSA has been researching one name a year from the Howick and Pakuranga memorial. Similarly, the Glenfield Library has been researching names from their local memorial – information about this can be found in the “Local History” section of the Glenfield Library.

Find out about these local projects by contacting your nearest RSA or research centre.

### **Selected resources**

**Ancestry.com** <http://search.ancestry.com.au/search/> is freely available at Auckland Libraries locations. Ancestry includes access to public family trees, NZ electoral rolls, NZ Army WW1 Nominal Rolls, Reserve Rolls and Casualty Lists.

**Electoral rolls:** available in microfiche in some libraries, or online through Ancestry.com. The NZ Society of Genealogists has the 1911 New Zealand Electoral Roll available on a CD-Rom at their library in Panmure (159 Queens Rd, Panmure).

The *NZ Gazette* is the official newspaper of the NZ Government. It is available as bound copies. The Central Auckland Research Centre has an online subscription for this resource.

The New Zealand WW1 Service Personnel and Reserves Index is an index to records obtained from Nominal Rolls and is held at Auckland Libraries:

[www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2176315~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2176315~S1)

# Resources

## at Auckland Council Archives

Auckland Council Archives holds the records of permanent value from the local authorities which, over the years, have amalgamated to become Auckland Council.

Records include historical property information, building permits and plans, and information on swimming pools, water supply and drainage, electricity, health, housing, libraries, the arts, zoo, parks, reserves, refuse disposal, roads, district schemes and plans, resource management, licensing, transport, by-laws, and much more.



Christmas 1914 – Christmas Card from The Mayor, Councillors and staff of the City of Auckland 1914, ACC 275 Box 27 Record No: 18-518 pt1. Auckland Council Archives.



Unveiling of the Onehunga War Memorial Arch of Remembrance 1914-1918 Jellicoe Park 20 October 1929, OHB 026 Item 2. Auckland Council Archives.

Archives also hold plans and original burial plot and administrative records for council-operated cemeteries in Auckland, including Waikumete cemetery which is the largest cemetery in New Zealand and has areas set aside exclusively for service people: [www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/parksfacilities/cemeteries/Pages/cemeterysearch.aspx](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/parksfacilities/cemeteries/Pages/cemeterysearch.aspx)

### **Beginning your research**

To start your research, visit [www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/councilarchives](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/councilarchives) and click on 'Search the archives'. Use the online database to search descriptions of the records held by the Archives, then visit the reading room to view the records. Alternatively, contact us via email, phone or mail and Archives staff will help identify the records most relevant to your enquiry.

You can also use the index databases to search the content of a selection of archives with particular relevance to genealogical, social and local history research online. These records have been transcribed by volunteers and include valuation, rates and related rolls (e.g. burgess), registers of employees, publicans and other licences, and cemetery burial registers. Many of these indexes may prove useful when researching soldiers that served in the war and their families.

### **The Family History Index Search:**

[www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/CityArchives/FamilyHistory/ACC333/searchindexes.htm](http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/CityArchives/FamilyHistory/ACC333/searchindexes.htm) can be used to search across all indexes by name.

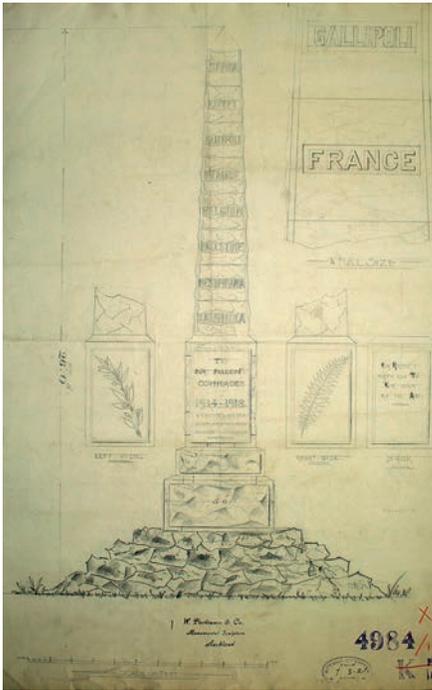
### **The World War I Index Search:**

<http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/CityArchives/FamilyHistory/ACC391/searchwarindexes.htm> permits searching across all First World War-related indexes, including the Auckland City Council Wage Book for Men in Service in World War I 1916-1919 <http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/CityArchives/FamilyHistory/ACC391/searchwagebook.htm>, which records the wages paid to Auckland City Council employees who served in First World War.

### **New resources**

To commemorate the centenary of First World War, Auckland Council Archives is developing an online exhibition [www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/councilarchives](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/councilarchives). The exhibition will predominantly feature images and descriptions of records held in the Council Archives collections and will focus on council activities during the war, including involvement in relief funds, provisions for returned soldiers and commemorative events.

In addition, further content will be added to our existing War Memorials and Honour Boards Database <http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/CityArchives/FamilyHistory/HonourBoards/searchwarmemorials.htm> from other memorials throughout the Auckland region. Where possible, names of soldiers from the memorials will then be linked to the Auckland Museum's Cenotaph database, records within Archives New Zealand's Archway database and to images in Auckland Libraries online image databases.



All images from Auckland Council Archives.

**Top left:** Plan of Soldiers' Memorial Waikumete by W. Parkinson & Co. Monumental Sculptors Auckland, 7 March 1921, ACC 015 Record No: 4984-1.

**Top right:** Ticket (11A) for Anzac Day Commemorative Service Auckland Town Hall, 25 April 1918, ACC 275 Box 24 Record No: 18-244 pt3.

**Below:** Borough of Newmarket WWI Roll of Honour Board, unveiled on 8 June 1924, AKC 2004 024.





First World War Roll of Honour of the Auckland Mounted Rifles Club, Permission for the club to mount its Roll of Honour in the Auckland Town Hall was granted on 8 March 1917 by Auckland City Council, AKC 2008 019. Auckland Council Archives.

# Duty and adventure

## Waiuku soldiers, case study 1



Group portrait of military personnel from the Waiuku area in camp at Zeitoun Camp, Egypt, September 1915. Photograph reproduced by courtesy of Waiuku Museum Society, 3976, Footprints 04720. South Auckland Research Centre, Auckland Libraries.



**Above:** The first five volunteers from Waiuku line up outside the Kentish Hotel on the morning they leave for camp in August 1914, left to right Captain J.H. Herrold, Frank Knight, Bob Hammond, Alex Glass, Henry Eisenhut, Photograph reproduced by courtesy of Waiuku Museum Society, 2556, Footprints 04686. South Auckland Research Centre, Auckland Libraries.



**Above:** Returned soldiers parade through Waiuku on foot and horseback in heavy rain, 19 July 1919. Photograph reproduced by courtesy of Waiuku Museum Society, 442, Footprints 04579. South Auckland Research Centre, Auckland Libraries.



**Above:** The Waiuku and Districts First World War roll of honour. This lists a total of 297 men from Waiuku, Otaua, Aka Aka, Pukeoware, Glenbrook, Waipipi, Karioitahi, Kohekohe, Te Toro and Awhitu who saw active service during the war. Photograph reproduced by courtesy of Waiuku Museum Society, 766, Footprints 04688. South Auckland Research Centre, Auckland Libraries.

At the outbreak of the First World War, the young men of Waiuku and surrounding districts responded to the call for volunteers with great enthusiasm. Many of them were farmers or sons of farmers, well used to riding horses, and some had served in the Waiuku Mounted Rifles.

Men from Waiuku served in all theatres of the war, including Gallipoli, France and Palestine. A total of 297 names are recorded on the Waiuku and Districts roll of honour in the Waiuku War Memorial Town Hall, 40 of whom gave their lives. Besides the roll of honour, Waiuku has two other memorials to the war: the First World War memorial cenotaph, unveiled in June 1921, and Franklin Memorial Hospital, first opened in April 1923.

Refer to the prompt cards in the back pocket of this guide for key resources.

**Right:** First World War memorial, Waiuku, 1921. Photograph reproduced by courtesy of Waiuku Museum Society, 5191c, Footprints 04672. South Auckland Research Centre, Auckland Libraries.



# Honour and dignity

## Niuean soldiers, case study 2

Ko e lilifu he maaga ha ha he tau aloalo lima ha mutolu. (Niuean proverb).  
The honour and dignity of the village rests on the palms of your hands.

Christine Liava'a's 2001 booklet *Niue Islanders in World War I*, (see Reading List at the end for details), which is held by Auckland Libraries, contains some of the listings of the 150 Niuean soldiers who fought for New Zealand in the First World War.

All photos Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.



Niue Island recruits who arrived last week in Auckland and are now in training for the front at Narrow Neck Camp, 1915, 7-A14272.

STURDY NIUE ISLAND RECRUITS WHO ARRIVED LAST WEEK IN AUCKLAND: SOME OF THE MEN WHO ARE NOW IN TRAINING



Māori and Niue Islanders swimming off Narrow Neck, 7-A14559.

MERRY MĀORI AND NIUE ISLANDERS: TROOPS DISPORT THEMSELVES IN THE WATERS AT NARROW NECK BEACH



Some of the Niue Island recruits who are now in training at Narrow Neck camp. 1915, 7-A14556

Refer to the prompt cards in the back pocket of this guide for key resources.



Full length portrait of the Nurse Nobbs soldiers group, arranged in four rows in front of the Auckland Trained Nurses Club in Mountain Road, Epsom. Showing seven women in nurses uniform, nine other women, twenty-two Niuean soldiers in World War 1 military uniform, and a young girl seated in the front row. The Mayoress, Mrs J H Gunson, is the lady in the hat in the centre of the group. 1916, 31-WP8025.

# Reading list and helpful links

Below is a list of selected published books and booklets about the history of the First World War. New publications will be released over the course of the centenary and will include new selections with each edition of this guide.

Many of these resources are held by Auckland Libraries (AL) as indicated in the details given below:

**Baxter, Archibald**, with foreword by Michael King, *We will not cease* (Auckland [N.Z.]: Cape Catley, 2003) Held by AL: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1587163~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1587163~S1)

**Beattie, Philip Jeffery**, *Onward: portraits of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force / P. J. Beattie and M. J. Pomeroy* (Auckland, N.Z.: Fair Dinkum Publications, 2013). Held at AL: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2757928~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2757928~S1)

**Crawford, John and I McGibbon**, Ian (eds.) *New Zealand's great war : New Zealand, the Allies and the First World War* (Auckland, N.Z.: Exisle Pub., 2007). Held by AL: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2201877~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2201877~S1) and also available as an e-resource: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2772168~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2772168~S1)

**Francis, Andrew**, *"To be truly British we must be anti-German": New Zealand, Enemy Aliens and the Great War Experience, 1914-1919* (Peter Lang AG International Academic Publishers, Bern: 2012). Held by AL: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2669966~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2669966~S1)

**Harper, Glyn** (ed.), *Letters from the Battlefield: New Zealand Soldiers Write Home, 1914-18* (HarperCollins Publishers, Auckland: 2001). Held by AL: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1425797~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1425797~S1)

**Liava'a, Christine**, *Niue Islanders in World War I* (Auckland: C. Liava'a, 2001). Held by AL: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1491644~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1491644~S1)

**McDonald, Wayne**, *Honours and Awards to the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in the Great War 1914-1918* (Hamilton, New Zealand: Richard Stowers, 2013.). Held by AL: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2791462~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2791462~S1)

**McGibbon, Ian** (ed.), *The Oxford Companion to New Zealand Military History* (Melbourne; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000). Held by AL: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1383420~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1383420~S1)

**Pugsley, Christopher**, *On the fringe of hell: New Zealanders and military discipline in the First World War* (Hodder & Stoughton, Auckland: 1991). Held by AL: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1201251~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1201251~S1)

**Rawstron, R.E.**, *A Unique Nursing Group: New Zealand Army Nurse Anaesthetists of WW1* (Rawston Publishing Company, Christchurch: 2005). Held by AL:  
[www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2164855~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2164855~S1)

**Smart, Judith and Tony Wood** (eds.), *An ANZAC Muster: War and Society in Australia and New Zealand 1914-18 and 1939-45 – Selected Papers* (Layton, Vic.: Dept. of History, Monash University, 1992). Held by AL:  
[www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1239599~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1239599~S1)

**Strachan, Hew** (ed.), *The Oxford illustrated history of the First World War* (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2000). Held by AL:  
[www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2502060~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2502060~S1)

**Tolerton, Jane, and Boyack, Nicholas** (eds.), *In the shadow of war: New Zealand soldiers talk about World War One and their lives* (Auckland, N.Z.: Penguin, 1990). Held by AL:  
[www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1328308~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1328308~S1)

**Tolerton, Jane** (ed.) *An awfully big adventure: New Zealand World War One veterans tell their stories* (Auckland, N.Z.: Penguin Books, 2013.). Held by AL:  
[www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2727888~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b2727888~S1)

### **Essential information sources including website links:**

A selection of volumes which make up the campaign histories and the regimental histories covering New Zealand's involvement in the First World War have been digitised and are available through the New Zealand Electronic Text Collection (NZETC) – Te Pūhikotuhi o Aotearoa, which is part of Victoria University of Wellington Library.

- NZETC and can be accessed online:  
<http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-corpus-WH1.html>
- This includes James Cowan's book *The Maoris in the Great War: A History of The New Zealand Native Contingent and Pioneer Battalion: Gallipoli, 1915, France and Flanders, 1916-1918* (1926) which includes names of Māori and Rarotongans in the First World War. See:  
<http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-CowMaor.html>. Also note that Auckland Libraries holds several different versions of this book including the 1995 reprint: [www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1310246~S1](http://www.elgar.govt.nz:80/record=b1310246~S1)

### **Birth, Marriage or Death Certificates:**

<https://bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/search/> This website lets you search for births that occurred at least 100 years ago, marriages that occurred at least 80 years ago, and deaths that occurred at least 50 years ago. Note that you can order certificates or printouts through this website for a fee.

If the person you are researching was born outside of New Zealand, these records will be held in different countries. For example, Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates in the UK: [www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/](http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/) and for NSW, Australia: [www.bdm.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au/)

### **Auckland War Memorial Museum Cenotaph Database:**

<http://muse.aucklandmuseum.com/databases/cenotaph/locations.aspx>

Cenotaph is an important resource about New Zealand servicemen and women. For example, you can search for the service number of your service person and include this in your research.

- The Cenotaph Database is being updated in time for the commemoration of the First World War - the vision for this project is to provide the country with an authentic repository for the facts, stories, celebrations and history of our service people. At a later stage your research on First World War soldiers may be included in the Cenotaph database.

**The Community Archive** has listings of diverse manuscripts, photos and oral history collections held privately or by local historical societies, museums and other organisations in NZ: <http://thecommunityarchive.org.nz/>

**National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga O Aotearoa:**  
<http://natlib.govt.nz/>

**Archives New Zealand Te Rua Maharao Te Kāwanatanga:**

<http://archives.govt.nz/about> holds a wealth of information including:

- a war guide <http://archives.govt.nz/research/guides/war> which has holdings of the First World War Military Files – including records of casualties, conscientious objectors, deserters, embarkation rolls and the NZ Army Nursing Service.
- NZ Education Research guide <http://archives.govt.nz/research/guides/education> which contains information about schools, such as class lists or registers of admission relating to their local area.
- There are also other research guides available <http://archives.govt.nz/research/guides> including the Education and Personal Identity guide.
- Archives New Zealand holdings can be searched online through the Archway database [www.archway.archives.govt.nz/](http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/)

**New Zealand Defence Force guide to abbreviations used in First World War Army Service Records:** [www.nzdf.mil.nz/personnel-records/nzdf-archives/resources/ww1-army-service-records.htm](http://www.nzdf.mil.nz/personnel-records/nzdf-archives/resources/ww1-army-service-records.htm)

**New Zealand History online guide to Interpreting First World War memorials:**  
[www.nzhistory.net.nz/war/interpreting-first-world-war-memorials](http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/war/interpreting-first-world-war-memorials).

**New Zealand History online guide Researching New Zealand soldiers in the First World War:** [www.nzhistory.net.nz/war/researching-first-world-war-soldiers](http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/war/researching-first-world-war-soldiers)

**New Zealand Society of Genealogists:** [www.genealogy.org.nz](http://www.genealogy.org.nz) which includes details on the society's library. Please note there may be costs involved with obtaining records from this society.

**New Zealand War Graves project:** with searchable sections on Casualties and Cemeteries [www.nzwargraves.org.nz/new-zealand-war-graves-project](http://www.nzwargraves.org.nz/new-zealand-war-graves-project). Other useful sites are the Commonwealth War Graves Commission [www.cwgc.org/](http://www.cwgc.org/) and the War Graves Photographic Project (in association with the CWGC [www.twgpp.org/](http://www.twgpp.org/))

**RSA (Royal New Zealand Returned and Services' Association):** [www.rsa.org.nz/](http://www.rsa.org.nz/)

**School records** (e.g. yearbooks) can also be a useful resource. Note that not all schools have published yearbooks for this period. Check the library catalogue or contact schools to find out what they hold and to arrange an appointment to view records.

**Notes:**

**Notes:**

# Research locations for First World War resources near you:

Contact us with your research queries and comments. We will update the guide with new content and case studies during the commemorations.

[OurBoysGuide@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:OurBoysGuide@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

[www.heritageetal.blogspot.co.nz/](http://www.heritageetal.blogspot.co.nz/)

[www.kintalkfamilyhistory.blogspot.co.nz](http://www.kintalkfamilyhistory.blogspot.co.nz)



<http://ww100.govt.nz/>

Digital Library go to [www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz](http://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz)



Auckland Research Centre



Akld Research Centre @ Kintalk

Visit your local library or research centre to search for local histories, family histories, or institutional histories which may assist your research.

## South Auckland Research Centre

Level 1, 3 Osterley Way  
Manukau  
Tel: 09 261 8637  
Mon-Wed 9am-5pm  
Thur 9am-8.30pm  
Fri 9am-5pm  
Sat 9.30am-4pm  
Sun 10am-4pm

## Central Auckland Research Centre

Level 2, Central City Library  
44-46 Lorne Street  
Auckland Central  
Tel: 09 307 7771  
Mon-Fri 9am-8pm  
Sat-Sun 10am-4pm

## Sir George Grey Special Collections

Level 2, Central City Library  
44-46 Lorne Street  
Auckland Central  
Tel: 09 377 0209  
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm  
Sat 10am-4pm  
Sun closed

## West Auckland Research Centre

Level 2,  
Waitakere Central Library  
3 Ratanui Street  
Henderson  
Tel: 09 440 7003  
Mon, Thur 9am-8pm  
Tues, Wed, Fri 9am-5pm  
Sat-Sun 10am-4pm

## North Auckland Research Centre

Level 1, Takapuna Library  
9 The Strand, Takapuna  
Tel: 09 486 8466  
Mon 9am-8.30pm  
Tues-Wed 9am-5.30pm  
Thur 9am-8.30pm  
Fri 9am-5.30pm  
Sat-Sun 9.30am-4pm

## Auckland Council Archives

**Central:** Basement, Central City Library, 44-46 Lorne Street  
**North:** 6-10 The Strand, Takapuna  
**West:** GPT Building, 4 Waipareira Avenue, Henderson  
Tel: 09 307 7792  
[archives@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:archives@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)  
[www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/councilarchives](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/councilarchives)  
Mon-Fri 2pm-5pm by appointment



Browse our treasures at [www.historypin.com](http://www.historypin.com)  
click on channels then search for **Auckland Libraries**.

# 1. Introduction

Our boys, our families  
research prompt

Gender

Date of birth

Place of birth

Nationality/ethnicity

Marital status

Name of wife (if applicable)

Name of child(ren) (if applicable)

Occupation before the war

Place of work (name of company and location)

Next of kin and relationship

Enlistment address

Physical address

Sources and general notes:

- Auckland War Memorial Cenotaph Database, pages 20, 29-30.

Sources and general notes continued:

## 2. Biographical information

Our boys, our families  
research prompt

Gender

Date of birth

Place of birth

Nationality/ethnicity

Marital status

Name of wife (if applicable)

Name of child(ren) (if applicable)

Occupation before the war

Place of work (name of company and location)

Next of kin and relationship

Enlistment address

Physical address

Sources and general notes:

- Try Archway – personnel files, pages 20, 30.

Sources and general notes continued:

# 3. Immediate family

Our boys, our families  
research prompt

Father's name

Father's date and place of birth

Father's occupation

Mother's name

Mother's name and place of birth

Mother's occupation

Date and location of parent's marriage

Siblings – name(s) and date(s) of birth

Other details about family background, for example when did parents come to New Zealand

Sources and general notes:

- Try Ancestry.com at your local library.

Sources and general notes continued:

## 4. Education

Our boys, our families  
research prompt

School(s) attended and years attended at each school

Qualifications

Teachers, parents, friends, or siblings and other relations who were also involved in the war

Sources and general notes:

- Try the *NZ Herald* and the *Auckland Star* on Papers Past for local families, page 14.

Sources and general notes continued:

# 5. Involvement in the war

Our boys, our families  
research prompt

Enlistment date

Age on enlistment

Provide age if this differs from age given when enlisted

What part of the army they were in/their role during the war?

Rank

Service no.

Embarkation unit/date

Vessel

Campaigns/where they fought

Military awards

Hospitalisations/injuries

Discharge date

Place and date of death and cause if known

Age at death

Cemetery where buried

Sources and general notes:

- Check the Archives New Zealand research guides, pages 20, 30.

Sources and general notes continued:

## 6. Non-military

### Our boys, our families research prompt

If you are researching someone who was not a soldier, use this research prompt to help you fill in the details about them during the war (eg how old they were, dates they were involved) and how they were involved (eg medical service, conscientious objectors, fundraisers etc.)

**Sources and general notes:**

- Try The Archives NZ War Guide which includes the NZ Army Nursing Service, page 30.

# 7. After the war

## Our boys, our families research prompt

### Recovery

### Employment after the war

### Location of their grave

### Marriage and family

#### Sources and general notes:

- NZ War Graves Project, page 30
- War Graves Photographic Project, page 30

Sources and general notes continued: