

# NEW ZEALAND COMMUNICATION TRENCH

*Newsletter of the New Zealand Branch,  
Western Front Association*

1914-1918  
REMEMBERING

*No 50 - June 2017*



## **We remember The Battle of Messines 7 June 1917**

Thanks to careful planning, the capture of Messines Ridge was a great success and paved the way for the main attack later in the summer, by removing German forces from the dominating ground on the southern face of the Ypres Salient.



## **Notes from the editor**

**Thank you ... and a big request:** Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this newsletter. All the contributors have been very willing to share their knowledge, experiences and research and I thank you all most sincerely. But please note everyone ... I do need more contributions from you all for the October issue, with a deadline of early September. And if you are still thinking about that article you have been meaning to write for ages (perhaps something in connection with the Battle of Passchendaele), please do so, and keep your eyes peeled for interesting items or snippets that we can reproduce for the October issue.

**The Myriad Faces of War: 1917 and its legacy symposium:** The symposium opened in Wellington late in the afternoon on ANZAC Day 2017 and continued for three very full days. As the title of the symposium states, it concentrated mainly on the year 1917. We were treated to excellent speakers who came from overseas (England, France, Belgium, Australia, USA and Germany) and many from New Zealand. The knowledge of all the speakers was extremely impressive, as was the presentation of their talks on their

chosen specialty subjects. The 11 members of the organising committee worked very hard throughout the symposium and at the end of the three days, they all received a well-earned acknowledgement and thanks. The venue (The Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa) was ideal – and the caterers did a fantastic job too! Thank you to Delysse Storey for her report on the conference later in the newsletter and I can only endorse Delysse's note of thanks to Professor Kingsley Baird, Professor Glyn Harper and all the team for a superbly well-organised and very memorable few days.



**Commemoration of the Battle of Passchendaele, Zonnebeke, Belgium, 12 October 2017 at Tyne Cot Cemetery at 11.00am:** The 12 October 1917 attack by New Zealand forces on Bellevue Spur near Passchendaele was poorly prepared, partly because of the extreme weather conditions. The New Zealanders were exposed to German machine-gun fire along with being held back by barbed wire. Within the first few hours the New Zealand Division suffered 2,700 casualties, of which 845 were fatalities. These casualties amounted to six percent of New Zealand's total casualties in the entire First World War. The day will conclude with a **sunset ceremony in Buttes New British Cemetery in Polygon Wood.**

The **Menin Gate Ceremony** on 11 October will focus on New Zealand.

Details for a commemoration at the **New Zealand Memorial at 'sGravenstafel on 4 October 2017** are still being worked on by the New Zealand Embassy in Belgium and the New Zealand Defence Force in Wellington, although the event does not yet appear on ww100 website.

**New Zealand Memorial and Garden:** An update to the information in the *New Zealand Communication Trench* February 2017 - The New Zealand Memorial and Garden at the Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917 have been granted a Maori name: Ngā Pua Mahara - Petals of Remembrance. It is being created in remembrance of the more than 5,000 New Zealanders who were killed or wounded in the series of battles known as the Battle of Passchendaele. Most still lie in the surrounding Flanders Fields, and others who died later at a Field Dressing Station in France are buried in French soil. They are all remembered at the memorial and garden.

The Passchendaele Memorial Park at the museum includes seven poppy-shaped small gardens designed to represent each nation involved, including Australia, Canada, UK and Germany. The gardens are all in the shape of a poppy when seen from the air. Elements include three large "petals", delineated by red planks; a central area designed for seating containing black gravel; a smaller "petal" containing an information panel; and a flagpole. Plant species are typical for the represented nation.

The well-attended *Loading of the Containers* ceremony and blessing took place at dawn on 14 March 2017 at the Auckland War Memorial Museum. All the New Zealand-sourced items for the memorial and garden (bronze discs, basalt pavers etc), along with a bucket of freshly dug soil taken from the site of the new Belgian memorial to be built at Pukeahu National Memorial Park in Wellington, departed in five containers sealed with ribbons in the colours of New Zealand and/or Belgium.

The opening of the New Zealand Memorial and Garden will be held at 3.00pm on 12 October 2017.

**Wood of Peace, Belgium:** A tree will be planted for each fallen soldier with a known grave at the two British cemeteries of Polygon Wood: Buttes New British Cemetery and Polygon Wood Cemetery. In addition to this, a monument for all the missing soldiers will be erected in a central area in the new park. The Wood of Peace will keep the memory of those who lost their lives during the First World War alive for many generations to come.

There will be two planting days: 26 September (mainly for Australians) and 12 October at 4.00pm (mainly for New Zealanders). Everyone who wants to plant a tree for a fallen soldier can register online and can link up with the fallen soldier for whom they are planting a tree through his personal file. For further information and to register your interest: [www.passchendaele2017.org/en](http://www.passchendaele2017.org/en).

**Commemorating Passchendaele-Celebrating Compassion campaign:** WW100 will be launching this new campaign on 21 July 2017. It will finish in October 2017 and is about remembering that New Zealand's relationship with Belgium was not only forged on the battlefield but also through humanitarian efforts - remembering the support that New Zealand gave to Belgian refugees and Belgium's grateful recognition of this support. This theme is inspired by the 33 New Zealand women who received the Queen Elisabeth Medal for outstanding services to Belgian refugees and the military. Keep a look out at [www.ww100.govt.nz](http://www.ww100.govt.nz).



**Commemoration of the Battle of Beersheba, Be'er Sheva, Israel, 31 October 2017 at 9.00am (Australian and New Zealand ceremony):** Beersheba (Be'er Sheva) a southern town on the edge of the Negev Desert, 75km south-west of Jerusalem was considered the key to taking Gaza, due its strategically vital water wells. Allied divisions attacked the main Ottoman defences on the western and south-western outskirts of Beersheba on 31 October 1917. A **New Zealand ceremony** will be held at Tel el Saba at 2.00pm, approximately 5km east of Be'er Sheva. This elevated and uninhabited mound was New Zealand's objective in the Battle of Beersheba. The Australians supported the New Zealand Mounted Rifles attack in 1917,

and the Tel was captured by the Auckland Mounted Regiment. The Tel site is well preserved because it is a National Park with UNESCO World Heritage status due to the biblical wells and ruins located there. Rising 20 metres above the surrounding area, the site provides a clear view across farm land to the ANZAC approach route and the New Zealand Mounted Rifles attack onto Tel el Saba. Attendees must register for these commemorations.

**1917: The Darkest Hour commemorative stamps and coins:** Stamps and coins have been released by New Zealand Post to commemorate *1917: The Darkest Hour*, the fourth issue in its five year commemorative programme. One of the stamps features Ellen Knight from Dargaville whose three sons did not return: Herbert (killed by a sniper at Gallipoli 1915), George (killed at Passchendaele 1917) and William Douglas Knight (felled by a shell in France 1918). The ten commemorative stamps and two coins (one silver, showing two soldiers paying their respects to a fallen comrade at a makeshift grave, and the other gold, which features Sling Camp) were issued on 5 April 2017. Also issued by New Zealand Post is a miniature sheet booklet that expands on the story behind each stamp and follows the story of Ellen Knight and the paths of some of her children, as well as supplying a more detailed glimpse of life during the war in 1917. Kurt Bayer wrote a very good article in the *New Zealand Herald* on 3 April about Ellen and her sons.

**Pou Maumahara Memorial Discovery Centre:** A new gallery has been opened at the Auckland War Memorial Museum – a research centre where visitors can delve into the stories of New Zealanders and their country at war. I visited the new research centre earlier in the year and I was very impressed. It is a large room, very light and airy with plenty of space for tables and computers and comfortable seating areas. Books, photos, diaries and other research aids (including Cenotaph Online) are available. You can use the museum's computers or your own laptop. The research centre is located off the First World War Hall of Memories and the room has been repaired with original heritages features restored. Congratulations to the museum for this first gallery project to be completed under their Future Museum 20 year strategic vision plan.

***The Belgians Have Not Forgotten:*** This exhibition, created by the Memorial Museum Passchendaele with funding and support from the Federal Government of Belgium, has returned to New Zealand, and will be touring the country in 2017. Its purpose is to show New Zealanders, many of whom had relatives who fought in Flanders Fields a century ago, that Belgians have not forgotten our traumatic common history. Photographs, movies, artwork and artefacts from the battlefields illustrate the war experience while highlighting the commemorative events and memories of war which live on in Belgium.

The exhibition was opened in Hamilton in April but closed before this newsletter was distributed. The other venues are:

**Auckland:** 8 June to 10 July at the Navy League, 19 Tamaki Drive, Orakei

**Wellington:** July/August at the National War Memorial, Taranaki Street

**Christchurch:** August/September at the Air Force Museum, 45 Harvard Avenue, Wigram

**Dunedin:** 22 September to November in the Toitu Otago Settlers Museum

**“Going Underground: Tunnellers of WWI”:** This is the title of a new exhibition at the National Army Museum NZ which opened on 22 April 2017 and will run for a 12 month period, closing at the end of April 2018. This photographic exhibition by Brett Killington (a New Zealander based in the UK) explores the tunnels under Arras in France, and sheds light on the lives of the Kiwi tunnellers who worked to assist a major offence, the Battle of Arras, on 9 April 1917. Killington worked closely with the French government to gain access to many of the quarries and tunnels not seen by the general public and his photographs reveal a subterranean “New Zealand” in the form of street and place names, graffiti and objects left behind by the New Zealand tunnellers. The exhibition is complemented by artefacts from the museum’s own collection.

**HMS *Caroline*, the last surviving First World War warship:** A follow-up to the notes about the HMS *Caroline* in the June 2015 and February 2016 *New Zealand Communication Trench* (with thanks to Tim Keenan in Kent for the update) – The 102 year old cruiser that survived the Battle of Jutland is being preserved for public display in Belfast. It has undergone extensive restoration and was officially opened to the public on 1 June 2016 at Alexander Dock. The cruiser attracted 17,000 visitors before being closed at the end of October, when she was moved to dry dock for hull inspection, cleaning and painting. She will return to Alexander Dock in the early UK summer 2017 and visitors can discover a range of historic spaces including the restored Captain Crookes Cabin, Royal Marines Mess and Seamen’s Wash as well as the very important engine room, sick bay and galley kitchen. These spaces have been restored to look as they did in 1916. Visitors can explore the importance of the Battle of Jutland and discover what life was like at sea for over three hundred crew who served on board.

*Elizabeth*





## The Myriad Faces of War: 1917 and its Legacy

Delysse Storey

This excellent symposium began its journey on ANZAC Day 25 April 2017 at The Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa in Wellington. I would first like to acknowledge and thank Professor Kinglsey Baird and the committee members who encouraged eminent national and international scholars to come and present a large range of invaluable papers evaluating the timeframe of 1917. Thank you to the generous sponsors who were not visible, but through their support, enabled keynote speakers to attend the symposium, and also contributed to the hospitality for the enjoyment of all attendees.

All the speakers, especially the keynote speakers, touched a nerve of reality with their cases of men and women who became the Myriad Faces of War. I felt these speakers bound us together with their knowledge and research, which encompassed a historical responsibility.

I noted some memorable quotes from a few of the speakers:

- “It is what writers, poets, and artists put into their stories that bring back to life that which is invisible.”
- A quote by Karen Blixen: “All sorrows can be borne if you tell the story about them.”
- A photographer said, “I must falsify the truth to tell the truth.”
- Otto Dix, 1915, artist and frontline soldier: “War was a terrible thing, I was obliged not to miss it, you have to have seen people in an untamed state to know anything about them.”
- The question was asked: “What can we make of what we learn?”

Many thought-provoking questions were asked and historical truths and untruths were revealed.

With the changing dynamics of the war, a speaker gave us a snapshot of the food crisis in Germany and another of the German strategy in 1917 - within the context of the paper, the line of sensitivity people had crossed. Another spoke of America: America could lose the war by doing nothing. Years of neutrality had not made them safe.

A wide range of speakers evaluated myths, dotted the eye of time and framed sacredness. I was one of the privileged to be able to attend this symposium, and indeed these incredible passionate speakers from around the globe touched a nerve.



*WFA Australian and New Zealand Branches at the conference*

*From left: Delysse Storey, Paul Simadas (Chairman of the Australian Branch of the WFA) and Elizabeth Morey*

*Image: Howard Chamberlain*

## **Australian Branch, Western Front Association**

Paul Simadas RFD Lieutenant Colonel, Chairman, Australian Branch

Recently, the chairpersons of the Australian and New Zealand Branches of the Western Front Association were able to meet in Wellington at the four-day Myriad Faces of War 1917 conference. Elizabeth and I have met twice before, at other conferences held on both sides of the Tasman. It was interesting to exchange viewpoints on the WFA and the activities of both branches.

The Australian WFA has three branches. The Australian branch maintains contact with the 73 local financial members (which reside in each of the States) and many more "friends" that attend our branch meetings. There are two other local branches, one in central Victoria and another in Canberra. The success of these branches reflects the heightened interest in the Great War, as a result of the centenary commemorations. The Australian Branch meets twice a year, with lectures around ANZAC Day and then Remembrance Day. We attract audiences of around 30 to 40 members and friends. Our website is <https://sites.google.com/site/australiawfa>

Our most recent meeting was a visit to the Art Gallery of New South Wales to visit the conservation department. Here, three conservators are working on restoring a battlefield landscape painting on the Western Front. Painted by Sir Arthur Streeton in 1918, it shows the scene at Villers Bretonneux in the immediate aftermath of the 25 April 1918 battle there, in which Australians with British tanks repulsed the final stages of one of the great German advances of that year. It was in this area that the Australian National Memorial was later built. Around 15 members attended this extremely interesting afternoon. Unlike New Zealand, the Australian government created an Official War Artists scheme in 1917 to record in paintings the experiences of the Australian Imperial Force. Sir Arthur was part of this scheme. The "Villers" painting was one of several that he painted at the time for later private sale. The Art Gallery purchased it for its collection during the 1920s. Now it is to be prepared for display in 2018, as it would have looked in its original condition a hundred years ago.

The 2017 conference in Wellington considered 1917 as a pivotal year in both the war and world history. For both New Zealand and Australia, it was to be the year of maximum effort and sacrifice. In 1917 the AIF and NZEF reached their maximum size. Attempts to raise a sixth Australian Division and a fourth New Zealand Brigade in that year were unsuccessful and both were disestablished. Huge casualties, and the referenda votes in the case of Australia that prohibited the introduction of conscription in that country, made any further increases in forces impossible.

In 1917, both countries fought a global campaign with forces fighting in both Europe and the Middle East side-by-side. In November 1917, the Australian Corps was raised with all Australian divisions serving together. Because of this, the I and II ANZAC Corps were removed from the order of battle. The II ANZAC became XXII Corps and with this change the New Zealand Division left its Antipodean counterparts for ever. Two squadrons of the 4th Australian Light Horse remained with the new Corps to form, with the Otago Mounted Rifles, the Cavalry Regiment of that formation.

The members and friends of the Australian Branch send the best of ANZAC greetings to our friends in the New Zealand Branch.

***Lest we forget***

## Unveiling *Victory Medal*, Arras, 9 April 2017

Helen Pollock

After touring provincial museums throughout New Zealand, early this year *Victory Medal* left New Zealand by sea for Europe. After disembarking at L'Havre it was unceremoniously loaded into trucks and transported across the French countryside to the battlefield town of Arras. The sculpture honours the tunnellers of New Zealand who, six months before the battle, dug and laid out 20 km of underground tunnels to link and extend the existing quarries under an area to the east of Arras. It became a vast encampment, used to give safe passage to the troops to the German front line. The tunnels sheltered 24,000 soldiers before the assault, begun on the early morning of 9 April. Four hundred and forty six men of the New Zealand Tunnelling Company served in Arras and 41 never came home.

The welcome of *Victory Medal* in Arras was incredible. It was installed in the Place des Heroes in front of the famous Arras belfry. Described as a participatory work, *Victory Medal* was eventually surrounded by red steel discs representing poppies bearing personal handwritten messages of remembrance for loved ones lost, for the losses of war, and messages of hope for peace, written by the thousands of visitors of all nationalities who stopped to look at the work. Over ten days the red steel discs became Le Coquelicot de Paix (The Poppy of Peace).

*Victory Medal*-Le Coquelicot de Paix, was unveiled on 9 April, as part of the commemorations for the centenary of the Battle of Arras. Unlike the bitterly cold weather of a hundred years ago, it was a beautiful still and warm spring day. The unveiling was attended by the then President of France, President Hollande, and Canada's Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, the Premier of the Cook Islands, Sir Tom Marshall, New Zealand Attorney General, Christopher Finlayson, the Mayor of Arras, M. Leturque, the New Zealand and French Ambassadors and many more dignitaries. As the Arras children's choirs sang and a cello trio from the Arras Conservatory played, the red silk veil was gently lifted off the work.



As *Victory Medal* sculptor, I stood alongside with Tony McNeight, the poppy designer, both of us from Devonport, New Zealand.

I was especially honoured that three generations of my family had travelled from New Zealand and the UK to be there on this most exciting and eventful day, to remember my father, their grandfather and great grandfather, Bill Young, who served as a signaller with the New Zealand Division throughout 1918. He was also part of the Occupation Force that marched into Cologne after the Armistice was signed.

*Victory Medal* will continue on its journey, next stop will be Messines in Belgium to mark the centenary of the Battle of Messines, 7 June 2017.

[For further information about Helen's sculpture, see *New Zealand Communication Trench*, February 2014 and February 2016.]

*Victory Medal and the Poppy of Peace in front of the beautiful town hall and belfry in Arras, April 2017.*  
Image: Helen Pollock



## Unveiling *The Earth Remembers*, Arras, 9 April 2017

Elizabeth Morey

*The Earth Remembers* memorial was designed and created by Marian Fountain - for further information about the memorial see the *New Zealand Communication Trench*, February 2017.

At a dawn ceremony on 9 April 2017, the Mayor of Arras, Frédéric Leturque, and New Zealand's Attorney General, Christopher Finlayson, unveiled *The Earth Remembers* at the Wellington Quarry Museum, Arras, along with more than 100 descendants of the New Zealand tunnellers.

The ceremony, part of the international commemorations for the Battle of Arras, took place in the presence of representatives from the France, UK, Australia, India, South Africa, Canada and Germany, and the people of Arras.

Readings, many of them by local schoolchildren, charted the story of Arras in the Great War, from the destruction wrought by the first German bombardments in 1914, to the arrival of British troops in 1916 as the French Army pulled out to reinforce Verdun, and the opening of the 1917 offensive.

As the wreaths were laid, a day of brilliant sunshine dawned, so very different from the snow and ice that marked the opening of the battle on Easter Monday 1917.



The Earth Remembers

Image: Helen Pollock

## New Zealanders in England

Contributed by Richard Pursehouse

First published in *The Times* 26 September 1916 and reprinted 13 April 2017

*Since our sick and wounded first began to arrive from Gallipoli last year,  
it is the proud boast of the ladies connected with our War Contingent Association  
that not one New Zealand soldier known to be in hospital was left unvisited.*

To the Editor of *The Times*

Sir,

Seeing that there has been some correspondence in your columns on the treatment of British soldiers, a short statement of what has been done for our New Zealanders may prove of interest.

In the first place, our men who come from the trenches are invariably met at the railway stations on arrival by New Zealand gentlemen residing in London and conducted to the New Zealand Soldiers' Club, which is carried on by the New Zealand War Contingent Association in four large houses in Russell-square, in one of which, I might mention that, by a rather curious coincidence, the daughter of Captain Hobson, RN, the first Governor of New Zealand, lived until the time of her death, which happened only a few months ago. Her husband, Sir Alexander Rendel, the well-known engineer, most generously placed the house at our disposal, free of rent, for the period of the war. The club, which has become most popular, has accommodation for more than 200, and is used, not only by our men on leave from the front, but by those who get short leave



from our large training camp on Salisbury Plain and from other camps in England, and also by the men who have passed through hospital and wish to spend part of their short furlough in seeing London.

Since our sick and wounded first began to arrive from Gallipoli last year, it is the proud boast of the ladies connected with our War Contingent Association that, although our men were scattered about in almost every military hospital in the United Kingdom, not one New Zealand soldier known to be in hospital was left unvisited. In this work our ladies were greatly assisted at Liverpool and elsewhere by the Victoria League. While in hospital, and during convalescence, our men's requirements are ascertained by the official visitors of the New Zealand War Contingent Association, and each patient gets his weekly supply of tobacco and other comforts. The executive offices of the association are situated opposite to the headquarters of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in Southampton-row, and a splendid clubroom is maintained there. Light refreshments in the morning and afternoon, the latest New Zealand illustrated newspapers, and writing materials are provided, whilst frequent parties are held for patients in hospital.

The efforts of the association are directed towards keeping the men in a healthy and cheerful atmosphere, and they have shown the greatest appreciation of what has been done for them. Theatre parties and concerts, drives and other outings are organized, and the home people have been the soul of hospitality and kindness and have done an enormous amount for our men. It is, perhaps, invidious to mention individual cases, but the names of Mr and Mrs Charles Knight will always be remembered with gratitude and affection by the many New Zealand officers who have been nursed back to health in their home at Brighton, which Mr and Mrs Knight have maintained for more than a year as a convalescent home for New Zealanders. Mr and Mrs Waldorf Astor have also given to us their house at Sandwich as a convalescent home for New Zealand nurses, and this has already proved most acceptable and valuable, as our nurses have been greatly overworked, and a short change at the seaside works wonders for them in a very short while.

Very many of our men - one might almost say all of them - spend part at least of their furlough in Scotland, and there the people are most lavish in kindness and hospitality. Moreover, the War Contingent Association has established lately several clubs for our men. This department does all it can to help as occasion arises, and sends out to New Zealand each month a report to relatives. Also, as soon as one of our soldiers is reported to be in hospital, he is now communicated with immediately by myself and asked to state what his wants are; and in this and other ways sympathetic touch is kept with all our men.

Those who are unfortunately unfit for further service are sent home as soon as possible. Comforts of all kinds are placed on board the ship which takes them back to New Zealand, and on their arrival they are well taken care of by the various patriotic committees and other institutions established in the Dominion for their comfort and welfare, whilst the Government out there provides for them under a generous pension scheme.

Let us hope that the services of these brave men, disabled in fighting for the freedom of the British Empire, will not be forgotten as long as they live.

I am, &c, Thomas Mackenzie

[In 1912, Thomas Mackenzie was appointed High Commissioner for New Zealand in the United Kingdom and served in this role until 1920. The outbreak of war in August 1914 demanded energy and supreme diplomatic skills in this role. Mackenzie was particularly concerned with the treatment of New Zealand soldiers, a concern made more poignant when his own son, Clutha, was seriously wounded and blinded during the Gallipoli campaign. He was sympathetic to Ettie Rout's campaign against venereal disease among the troops.

Mackenzie was the New Zealand delegate at the peace conferences with Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey in 1919, a member of the Dardanelles Commission and the Imperial War Graves Commission (later the Commonwealth War Graves Commission). He was rewarded for his efforts by being knighted in 1916 and

in 1920 became the first New Zealander to be appointed a Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George. He was also made a Grand Officer of the Crown of Belgium and was granted an honorary doctorate of law from the University of Edinburgh.]

## **King George V changes royal surname**

Contributed by Robert Mann from *This Day in History* website

On 19 June 1917, during the third year of the First World War, Britain's King George V ordered the British royal family to dispense with the use of German titles and surnames, changing the surname of his own family, the decidedly Germanic Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, to Windsor.

The second son of Prince Edward of Wales (later King Edward VII) and Alexandra of Denmark, and the grandson of Queen Victoria, George was born in 1865 and embarked on a naval career before becoming heir to the throne in 1892 when his older brother, Edward, died of pneumonia. The following year, George married the German princess Mary of Teck (his cousin, a granddaughter of King George III), who had previously been intended for Edward. The couple had six children, including the future Edward VIII and George VI (who took the throne in 1936 after his brother abdicated to marry the American divorcee Wallis Simpson). As the new Duke of York, George was made to abandon his career in the navy; he became a member of the House of Lords and received a political education. When his father died in 1910, George ascended to the British throne as King George V.

With the outbreak of the First World War in the summer of 1914, strong anti-German feeling within Britain caused sensitivity among the royal family about its German roots. Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany, also a grandson of Queen Victoria, was the king's cousin; the queen herself was German. As a result, on 19 June 1917, the king decreed that the royal surname was thereby changed from Saxe-Coburg-Gotha to Windsor.

In order to demonstrate further solidarity with the British war effort, George made several visits to survey the troops at the Western Front. During one visit to France in 1915, he fell off a horse and broke his pelvis, an injury that plagued him for the rest of his life. Also in 1917, he made the controversial decision to deny asylum in Britain to another of his cousins, Czar Nicholas II of Russia, and his family, after the czar abdicated during the Russian Revolution. Czar Nicholas, his wife Alexandra and their children were subsequently arrested and later murdered by the Bolsheviks.

**[Dr Mann comments:** The theme of embarrassing German-looking names during the First World War extended to other levels of Allied society. Some Kiwis with names such as Schmidt or Schmitt changed them, eg to Smythe. My own family, settled in Devon for many centuries and not actually suspected of German connections, saw fit to take up mention of what had been a “final Christian name” for several generations, calling themselves Butland Mann.

The much-respected Austrian professor at Victoria College, Wellington (now Victoria University), von Zedlitz, was purged from that academic position by an Act of Parliament! And of course the First Sea Lord, who had been running the Royal Navy rather well, was forced clear out by “public opinion”. His reply (for anyone that deserved one) was along the lines: I was Prince Louis of Battenburg, which is *not* Prussian. I came over to Britain as a refugee from those plummy Prussians who had taken over my principality and all others, and have been working hard to stop the Prussians' further expansion.

During the Second World War, we were less paranoid. Early in that war, a whispering campaign began against a senior Health Department administrator who gloried in the “ultimate German surname” von Kaisenberg. This slander got nowhere as other staff, including my stepmother, head typewriter (that was her job title), insisted vigorously that “Mr Von” was a respected loyal New Zealander. Two friends of mine, German citizens, were allowed to live at large in Avondale and Karaka (reporting weekly) because they

were accomplished farmers, food production being an important contribution of this country to the Allied war effort. One of them applied to join the Karaka Home Guard; upon refusal, he applied next to the Drury Home Guard and was accepted.]

## Bookmarks

*Sapper Moore-Jones: The Line of Fire* by Margaret Evans, published by the Theatre of the Impossible Charitable Trust (TOTI), Hamilton, 2016, 115p, ISBN 978-0-473-35663-7. Notes on the book by Elizabeth Morey.

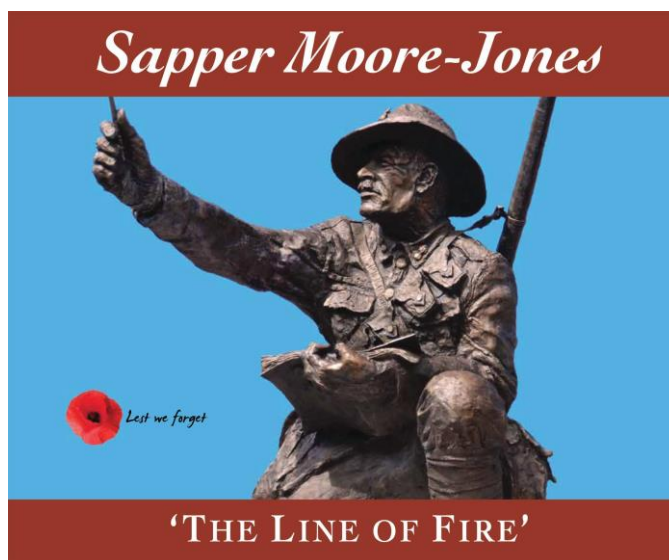
A small group from Hamilton have fought to have Horace Moore-Jones, a man of national First World War historical importance, publicly remembered. The publication of this book has completed a three-stage heritage project by Hamilton's TOTI Trust to recognise and honour the ANZAC soldier and artist.

In 2012, a Hamilton city street was renamed Sapper Moore-Jones Place (where he died saving people in a Hamilton fire in 1922), and a wonderful bronze statue by Matt Gauldie was unveiled in Victoria Street South End Heritage Precinct, Hamilton, in 2015.

The book contains many excellent photos of these two events and the life of Moore-Jones: his family, his Great War service, his art, his death. During the Gallipoli campaign he served as a war artist and map maker. While recuperating in England after being wounded and discharged, he held several very successful exhibitions, including one at Buckingham Palace. On his return to New Zealand he painted the iconic and much-loved watercolour *The Man with the Donkey*. Moore-Jones took his paintings on a two-year lecture tour of New Zealand to raise funds for returned servicemen, using his paintings to illustrate the conditions on Gallipoli. He was the founding art master at Hamilton High School before his tragic death.

The street name, the statue of Moore-Jones kneeling on Gallipoli stone gifted from the Turkish people, and the book published 99 years after he gave an illustrated lecture on the Gallipoli campaign in Hamilton, mean that Sapper Moore-Jones will never be forgotten.

The book is available from the TOTI Trust [info@toti.co.nz](mailto:info@toti.co.nz) or [www.toti.co.nz](http://www.toti.co.nz) at a cost of \$30.00 which includes courier post in New Zealand. There is much more information about Moore-Jones and the heritage project on the TOTI Trust website.



## The Nurses' Memorial Chapel to be restored

Elizabeth Morey

*The Nurses' Memorial Chapel: It was New Zealand's first hospital chapel, and remains the only one in the country dedicated to nurses killed in war.*

The Nurses' Memorial Chapel in Christchurch was built during 1927 and 1928 and is located on the Christchurch Hospital site fronting Riccarton Avenue. The chapel has twice been threatened with demolition, in the early 1970s and late 1980s. However, on both occasions campaigners saved it from demolition and the building was registered as a Category I Heritage Building in July 1989. The building and its memorial garden came under Christchurch City Council ownership in a land swap deal in 2009.



*The Nurses' Memorial Chapel after the February 2011 earthquake  
Image: Wikipedia*

Although it was left badly damaged by the earthquakes in 2010 and 2011 and has been propped up and closed since, the building's future has been secured. Christchurch City Council will spend an estimated \$1.8 million to repair, strengthen and restore it. The work is expected to be finished in time for an early 2018 reopening.

The chapel was originally built to commemorate the loss of ten New Zealand nurses who died in the sinking of the *Marquette* on 23 October 1915 in the Aegean after it was torpedoed by a German submarine. Three of the nurses who died were trained at Christchurch Hospital. The chapel now serves as a tribute to all New Zealand nurses who died in the First World War, the Second World War and in the influenza epidemic in 1918.

The brick building has timber panelling and carved Oamaru stone detailing and a parquet floor. Adding to the chapel's significance are its beautiful stained glass windows, some of which commemorate important peacetime nursing pioneers, including Sibylla Maude, the visionary pioneer of district nursing.



## Unique memorial restored

Elizabeth Morey

The memorial fountain at Awapuni Racecourse in Palmerston North is dedicated to members of the New Zealand Medical Corps. A stone plaque on the memorial begins with the Latin motto of the Medical Corps, meaning “faithful in adversity”:

*In Arduis Fidelis  
In Proud Memory  
of the Officers and Men of the  
New Zealand Medical Corps  
who were trained on the grounds 1914-1918  
and who sacrificed their lives for the Empire*

The only known monument in New Zealand solely dedicated to commemorating military medics was recently granted Category 1 listing with Heritage New Zealand.



*The distinctive New Zealand Medical Corps Memorial is shaped like a pyramid, with cascading water that falls into a cross-shaped pool.*

*Image: Heritage This Month e-newsletter, Heritage New Zealand, February 2017*

Governor General Sir Charles Fergusson unveiled the memorial on 3 December 1929 in front of a large crowd. It is the only physical reminder of the important role Awapuni Camp played during the First World War. The memorial is part of Awapuni Racecourse and on 20 October 2016 was rededicated following a major restoration that saw the memorial restored, the removal of a chain-link fence that had previously enclosed the memorial, the surrounding area landscaped and improved interpretation installed. The two-year restoration project was led by the Royal New Zealand Army Medical Corps, together with Palmerston North City Council and the Awapuni Racing Centre.

During the First World War, the racecourse was home to one of New Zealand's largest training camps, including the Awapuni medical camp which operated from October 1915 to February 1919. A medical programme was initially run at Trentham camp in Upper Hutt but this was swiftly replaced by Awapuni, which would remain the sole medical camp until the end of the war. Recruits took part in a 16-week programme which included four weeks of hands-on hospital experience, and adopted the unusual but practical arrangement of sleeping in the racecourse grandstands. At any given time there were 350-400 army medical personnel in training for a variety of roles, such as stretcher-bearers and hospital ship staff.

## MEMORIAL AT AWAPUNI.

### UNVEILING NEXT MONTH.

(By Telegraph.—Press Association.)

PALMERSTON NORTH, this day.

During the farewell visit of the Governor-General, Sir Charles Fergusson, and Lady Alice Fergusson to Palmerston North on December 3 and 4, Sir Charles will unveil the soldiers' memorial at Awapuni racecourse.

After the unveiling of the memorial there will be a reunion of ex-members of the New Zealand Medical Corps, who, during the war, were trained at Awapuni. It is anticipated that ex-members will be present from all over New Zealand. The reunion will be held in co-operation with the Wellington and Auckland committee.

*Auckland Star*, 19 November 1929

Sources:

Awapuni NZMC War Memorial: [www.nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/awapuni-war-memorial](http://www.nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/awapuni-war-memorial)  
Heritage This Month e-newsletter, *Heritage New Zealand*, February 2017

## Knitting, Knitting, Knitting

Elizabeth Morey

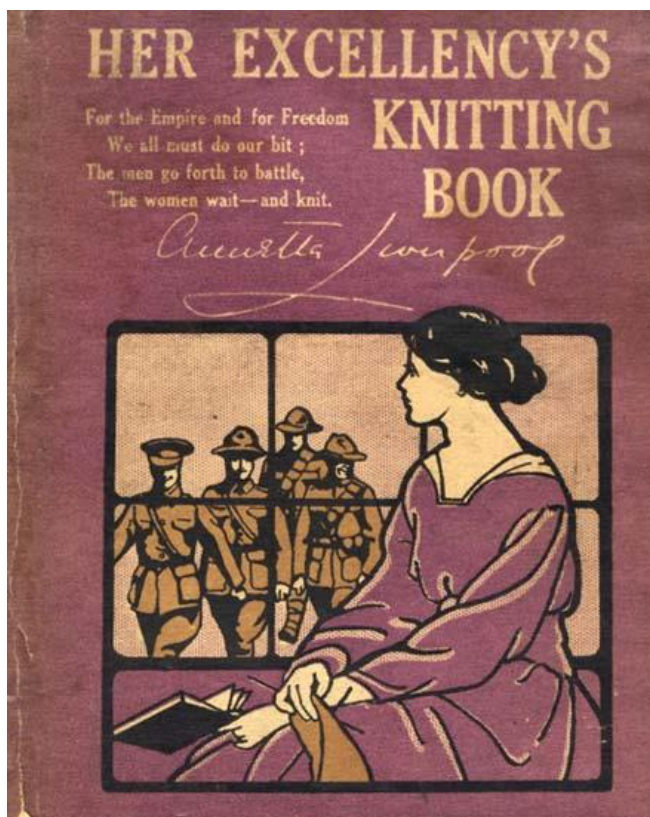
I have recently been editing a little diary of a young man's sea voyage to war in January and February 1916. In the diary, during the time of his training at Featherston Military Training Camp, he refers to a song that he called *Knitting, Knitting, Knitting*, which he said was a very popular song. Coincidentally, I have just been lent a British book by Joyce Meander about military knitting, which included a couple of pages about New Zealand women knitting for the soldiers during the First World War.

When soldiers reported that the life of a pair of socks was less than a fortnight, in March 1915 Lady Liverpool appealed to the women of New Zealand for sufficient socks to be knitted to provide each member of the NZEF with two pairs. "Sock Days" were held around the country in May 1915 to raise funds and produce socks for New Zealand soldiers at training camps and serving overseas.

A Red Cross Guild has been formed at Sandon, and the members have arranged to hold a sock afternoon on the 28<sup>th</sup> inst. They intend to collect as many socks as they can for the troops at Trentham, and ask for donations. A musical programme and afternoon tea will be dispensed, and a "hard-up" ball is to be held in the evening. All proceeds are in aid of the Red Cross fund.

*Fielding Star* 14 May 1915

By 6 August 1915, the great national sock appeal had resulted in 30,000 pairs of socks being sent as gifts to the soldiers. It was said that more socks were knitted in New Zealand than in any other country.



IN AID OF ST. JOHN'S  
AMBULANCE BASE HOS-  
PITAL.

## Her Excellency's Knitting Book.

Every penny made by the sale of this book will go to St. John's Ambulance Base Hospital.

This volume has been designed as a useful friend of the Knitters and Workers in New Zealand who are working on behalf of our Soldiers. Every pattern has been thoroughly tested and is the everyday work of the people who have kindly supplied them. Price 2/-.

On sale from



*Taranaki Daily News*, 21 September 1915

Lady Liverpool produced a book *Her Excellency's Knitting Book* in August 1915. This 193-page book was New Zealand's first locally published knitting book and it contained patterns for socks, balaclavas and gloves and was designed to fit snugly into a woman's knitting bag. It was paid for by sponsorship: the left page carried an advertisement and the right page had the printed pattern. Socks and gloves were the first patterns in the book, followed by balaclavas.

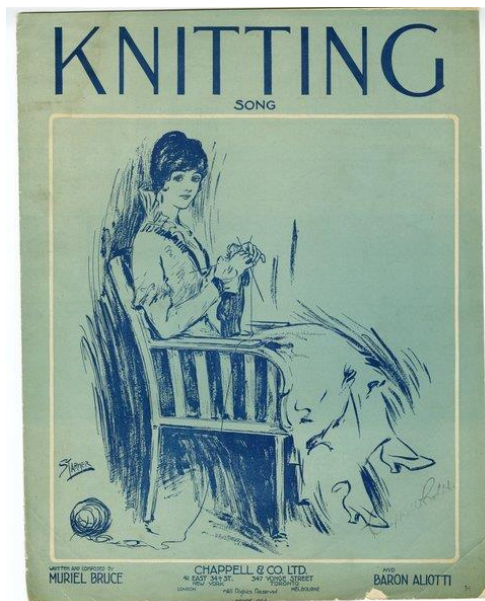
A rousing song, *The Knitting Song*, written by a Canadian woman, Muriel Bruce, and Baron Aliotti, was very popular in New Zealand at the time. It is the song that had been performed at a camp concert at Featherston in November 1915, and mentioned in the young soldier's diary as *Knitting, Knitting, Knitting*, a few weeks before he boarded HMNZT No 37 *Maunganui* bound for Egypt as part of the 9<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements.

### *The Knitting Song*

Marching, marching thro' the misty night,  
Peering thro' the dark, longing for a fight.  
Tramping, stumbling, on the broken ground,  
With tang of battle all around  
While at home the busy needles fly,  
Knitting with a smile, knitting with a sigh,  
For their sons, and brothers, fathers, lovers too;  
They're knitting for the soldiers brave and true

Knitting, knitting, knitting, with the khaki wool and grey,  
Mufflers, socks and balaclava caps, they are knitting day by day;  
Knitting, knitting, knitting, with a pray'r in every row,  
That the ones they hold in their hearts so dear  
May be guarded as they go.

Clang and clamour, smoke and dust death,  
Blindly fighting on, catching ev'ry breath.  
Comrades dropping down on ev'ry side,  
Holding back the seething hostile tide.  
But at home the loving hands are still knitting with their hearts,  
Knitting with a will, knitting for their country, flag, and soldiers too.  
They're knitting for the ones so brave and true.



#### **Sources and further reading:**

Else, Anne (ed): *Women together: A History of Women's Organisations in New Zealand Nga Ropu Wahine o te Mot*, co-published by Daphne Brasell Associates Press and Historical Branch, Department of Internal Affairs, Wellington, 1993.

Meander, Joyce: *Knitskrieg: A Call to Yarns! A History of Military Knitting from the 1800s to the present day*, published by Unicorn Publishing Group, London, 2016

Nicholson, Heather: *The Loving Stitch: A History of Knitting and Spinning in New Zealand*, published by Auckland University Press, Auckland, 1998



## **Nga Tapuwae New Zealand First World War Interpretive Board at Cannock Chase: a “crowdfunding” appeal**

Richard Pursehouse and Lee Dent

Readers of *New Zealand Communication Trench* will be familiar with contributions from The Chase Project who has been researching (with the help of NZ WFA member Geoff McMillan) the time the New Zealand Rifle Brigade (NZRB) was based on Cannock Chase in Staffordshire, England (see p17 in this issue for the story on the Stafford Perpetual Challenge Shield for Musketry).

Having seen one of the impressive Nga Tapuwae information boards at Messines, Richard and Lee of The Chase Project in conjunction with Staffordshire County Council, are launching a “crowdfunding” appeal to raise funds for a similar board on Cannock Chase, which will be positioned outside the County Great War Hut (an original hut from the Great War camps on Cannock Chase).



*Richard's impression of a Nga Tapuwae information board outside the Great War Hut at Cannock Chase.*

*Image: Richard Pursehouse*

The board will cover the training undertaken by the New Zealand troops, and will include information on the terrain model of the Belgian village of Messines constructed in 1918 by the NZRB and “rediscovered” in 2007 by Lee and Richard (the remains were excavated in 2013), Freda, the mascot of the NZRB, and the close ties created with the people from nearby towns by the men who came from so far away: a bond which has remained unbroken to the present day.

The annual ANZAC ceremony that first took place in 1918 (there are 73 New Zealanders buried in Cannock Chase War Cemetery, including Geoff's uncle) and a flags exchange ceremony in 1919 - which marked the departure of the NZRB from the area - will also be covered.

Already the idea has the support of local politicians, historical societies, the New Zealand High Commission, members of the New Zealand Defence Force and The Dolores Cross Project. The aim is to launch the appeal for help in June, with the information board being installed at the end of September 2017, the centenary of the arrival on Cannock Chase of the New Zealand Rifle Brigade.

Further details can be obtained by anyone considering helping in this centenary commemoration, via e-mail [thechaseproject@gmail.com](mailto:thechaseproject@gmail.com) (or by telephoning the NZ WFA Chairperson Elizabeth Morey 09 626 7099) and the link to the crowdfunding website will be forwarded.

### **For further information**

The Great War Hut: see *New Zealand Communication Trench*, October 2016, p17.

Nga Tapuwae New Zealand First World War Trails: see [www.ngatapuwa.govt.nz](http://www.ngatapuwa.govt.nz).

Freda and her headstones: see *New Zealand Communication Trench*, February 2017, p25.

The Dolores Cross Project: see [www.dolorescrossproject.org](http://www.dolorescrossproject.org).

## **The Stafford Perpetual Challenge Shield for Musketry**

Richard Pursehouse

While researching the Messines terrain model on Cannock Chase in Staffordshire, England, Lee Dent and Richard Pursehouse of The Chase Project also came across several interesting stories of the time spent at the camp by the New Zealand soldiers.

One of these stories sheds light on the close bond between the people of Staffordshire and the New Zealand Rifle Brigade (NZRB) - the “Dinks” - training on Cannock Chase (“Dinks” is a word, the origin of which is not fully known, believed to derive either from the phrase “fair dinkum” meaning honest or “square dinkum” denoting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, whose black arm patch was a double triangle, ie square).

The Chase Project discovered a shooting shield had been presented to the NZRB and asked if Dolores Ho, the archivist at the National Army Museum in New Zealand, could help find out more. She learnt that not only did the shield still exist, but it is competed for annually in New Zealand. The Stafford Perpetual Challenge Shield for Musketry incorporates several Staffordshire Knots as well as an inscription from the townsfolk, and the flags of both countries. The Staffordshire knot was the cap badge of the county’s two regiments during the Great War.

The decision to present the shooting shield reinforces the fact that Cannock Chase Reserve Centre was a “centre of excellence” for training and why the NZRB was sent there - with nine indoor ranges and shooting butts, including the longest in Europe (which still exists today), plus the Scout and Sniping School (set up in 1915, the first in Britain), the camp was the perfect fillip for the crack shots of the NZRB.



*The longest shooting butts in Europe when constructed in 1915.*

*Image: Richard Pursehouse, 2016*

Research in the local archives unearthed a long article about the presentation of the shield. Under the headline “Stafford’s Gift to New Zealand Troops” the *Staffordshire Advertiser* dated 6 December 1919 explained:

Pleasant memories of the stay of the New Zealand Rifle Brigade at Brocton Camp were revived when a handsome Challenge Shield for musketry was presented to Sir Thomas Mackenzie, High Commissioner, and representatives of the New Zealand military authorities, to be competed for by the Dominion troops. The former Mayor Councillor J. Rushton had exchanged flags at a farewell ceremony in Stafford Market Square with the NZRB in May 1919 when it departed for home, and had organised funds to be raised by public subscription for the Challenge Shield, which had been hand crafted by Messrs Mummery and Sons (1 Market Square, Stafford). Due to the complexity of the work, a formal ceremony was organised for early December 1919.

The shield was hand-made from “massive sterling silver with a matt oxidised finish”. In the centre is the Stafford borough arms, in silver gilt and richly enamelled “in true heraldic colours”, enclosed in scroll-work featuring the Staffordshire knot and British oak leaves. On either side stand two New Zealand soldiers with rifles in full service dress, the dexter (right) holding the Union Jack and the sinister (left) the New Zealand flag, both in enamel. Above the shield are fern leaves (representing New Zealand) and below it a shooting match scene. Below the centrepiece is the inscription *Stafford Perpetual Challenge Shield for Musketry* and below that the crest of the NZRB with its motto *Soye Ferme* (Stand Fast) and *Presented to the New Zealand Rifle Brigade by the townspeople of Stafford, England, June 1919, J. Rushton Mayor*. The shield itself was mounted on polished old English oak.



*The Stafford Perpetual Challenge Shield for Musketry, 2017*  
Image: Dolores Ho





*Detail of the Stafford Perpetual Challenge Shield for Musketry, 2017*  
*Image: Dolores Ho*



*Detail of the Stafford Perpetual Challenge Shield for Musketry, 2017*  
*Image: Dolores Ho*

At a formal ceremony in December 1919, the new Mayor (Dr F. Milnes Blumer) and Mayoress, the local M.P Captain the Honourable W. G. Ormsby-Gore and other Council members (as well as former mayor, Alderman Rushton) entertained the visiting party in the Guildhall at a civic reception. On display above the gathering was the silk New Zealand Ensign given to the town in May. The New Zealand representatives included Sir Thomas Noble Mackenzie (born in Edinburgh), and his secretary Mr C. Knowles, Colonel G. T. Hall A.Q.M.G and Colonel James Taylor Watson (born in Glasgow) of the New Zealand Headquarters, London (Watson was an active member of the Wellington RSA for eight years). The mayor explained that as the NZRB did not have regimental colours, the challenge shield was suggested: "We hope it will tend to cement still further the comradeship already existing between New Zealand Forces and our own, and keep green in the mind of the New Zealand Rifle Brigade pleasant memories of their sojourn amongst us."



Sir Thomas Mackenzie accepted the shield on behalf of Colonel G. T. Hall (representing the New Zealand military authorities) and replied:

The kindness which had been bestowed upon those of their citizens who came to take part in common with others in the great fight for freedom would never be forgotten by those men, their relations, or descendants. It required such a war as the one just ended to give their country an opportunity of realising the hearty good feeling and fellowship which existed between the older land and people of the younger generation. They were proud to think that their country was peopled almost exclusively either by inhabitants of the old country or by their descendants, and that over 100,000 men left the shores of New Zealand to take part in the war.

He went on to comment how much materiel support had been forthcoming from New Zealand from 1914 onwards - meat from the finest bullocks, butter, wool and mutton, all of which they hoped to continue to export.

Captain Sir Ormsby-Gore MP replied that New Zealand was: "Situated further from the Mother Country and from the scenes of the recent great struggle for liberty than any of the territories which were proud to acknowledge the sovereignty of the King, her men voluntarily came forward in the cause of civilization." Ormsby-Gore had been in Egypt in 1915 and seen New Zealand troops such as the New Zealand Mounted Brigade. He concluded that Sir Thomas Mackenzie "... would be able to tell the New Zealanders that this gift came with the hearty goodwill of the citizens of one of the most ancient towns of the old Motherland and that the shield will form a remembrance and a bond between us."

New Zealander Colonel Hall then responded: "May we always stand as a force of civilization and as a force for freedom and defence. The shield would cement those good feelings which he knew from experience had always been evidenced by the people of Stafford towards the New Zealand troops," adding that the shield would form a link which would bind New Zealand to Staffordshire. In his administrative capacity at the headquarters of the New Zealand Forces, he had had a great deal to do with what had taken place at Brocton. He was proud to say that it was one of the best camps they had in the United Kingdom, and no town had extended to the Dominion troops more courtesy and kindness than had been shown to them by the people of Stafford.

Captain Magnay, who had been the handler of the NZRB's Great Dane mascot Freda, had been the adjutant at Brocton camp and had remained in Stafford after the departure of the NZRB, rose to speak and reinforced the reciprocal feelings between the Brigade and the people of Staffordshire, acknowledging that: "They had come for one sole purpose - to fight the Hun and to help the Mother Country." He stated that he had been advised of an offer from Major-General Johnston, General Officer Commanding New Zealand troops to present the borough with a German artillery gun captured by New Zealand troops (in 1920, Captain Magnay was the conduit concerning the supply of the gun to Stafford).

A vote of thanks was motioned by Alderman Young, seconded by Alderman Bostock, to the High Commissioner, Colonel Hall and Captain Magnay, and accepted by Sir Thomas Mackenzie who said he would take back with him the happiest of recollection of the gathering.

The party then visited the boot factory of Lotus Ltd, Messrs W. H. Dorman and Company's engineering works in Foregate Street, and other places of interest in the town, followed by a tea in the committee room of the Borough Hall. The Committee was wound up the following week, having raised £95 and 5 shillings by public subscription. After costs (including £60 10 shillings - about £6,000, or nearly \$11,000 today - for the Challenge Shield) the residual funds (12 shillings, or around £60 today) was forwarded to the Dr Barnardo's Home (presumably the £35 - or £3,500, over \$6,000 today - difference had been used for the civic reception).



*Presentation of the shield to Sir Thomas Mackenzie, High Commissioner (in bowler hat), and representatives of the New Zealand military authorities, by the Mayor and councillors of Stafford, June 1919. Captain Magnay is seated on the left.  
Image: Staffordshire Advertiser, 6 December 1919.*

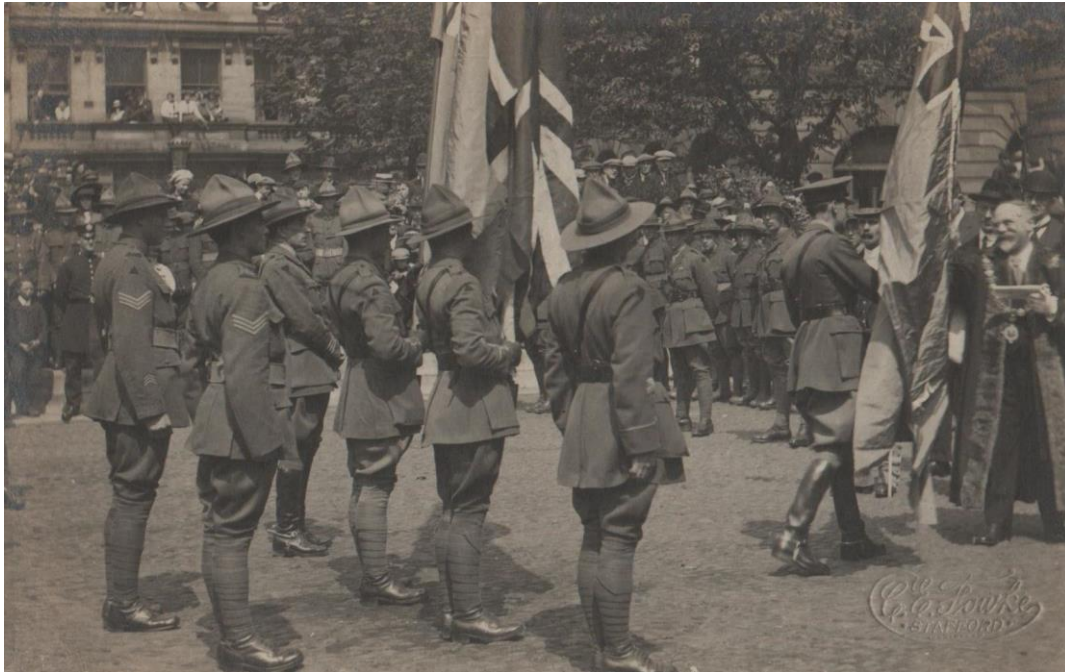
In the 1920s, with the NZRB having been disbanded, the shield was eventually donated by the Trustees of the NZRB to the New Zealand Army Rifle Association for competition among New Zealand infantry battalions. Over the decades the origin of the shield became obfuscated in New Zealand, until Dolores tracked it down and sent a photograph to Lee and Richard.

In 2008, Lieutenant Colonel John Boswell of the New Zealand Defence Force was invited to Cannock Chase by The Chase Project to discuss the Messines model and the time spent at the camp by his fellow countrymen. When he saw a recent photograph of those competing for the shield he commented: “Hey, some of these guys were under my command.” Lee and Richard explained that Stafford was only four miles away. John reinforced Dolores’ information that the shield was competed for annually in New Zealand.

When the Messines model was excavated in 2013, another New Zealand Defence Force officer, Lieutenant Colonel Mike Beale, visited the site. At the end of his visit he placed a wreath on behalf of the people of New Zealand on an area that was a German strongpoint on the model and took the opportunity to reinforce the close bonds between the two countries that still exist nearly a century after his fellow “Dinks” had left Staffordshire, and the hope that the link would remain as strong going forward.

Eagle-eyed WFA New Zealand Branch member Geoff McMillan, who has been helping Lee and Richard with their research of the NZRB since 2015 when he came to the ANZAC Ceremony at Cannock Chase War Cemetery (his uncle is buried there), noticed that the wooden base has at some point been replaced.

Encouraged by the fact the shield still exists, Geoff is also helping the Chase Project in its search for the silk flags from the 1919 exchange ceremony in New Zealand (and yes, he and Dolores have tried the National War Memorial).



*The flags exchange ceremony in May 1919 in Stafford Market Square,  
Lt-Colonel N. F. Shepherd and Mayor Rushton shaking hands.  
Image: The Chase Project*

If any reader knows what happened to the two flags (a Union Jack and a silk New Zealand Ensign), or has further information about the NZRBs time on Cannock Chase, please contact Lee and Richard by email: [thechaseproject@gmail.com](mailto:thechaseproject@gmail.com).

County Archaeologist Stephen Dean, Brigadier Evan Williams and Lt-Colonel Kate Lee of the New Zealand Defence Force, and The Chase Project are discussing several ideas for Staffordshire's commemorations of the "Dinks" and their time here in the Great War.

**Emailed newsletters:** With the more frequent use of photos in the newsletter, if you would like to have your newsletter emailed to you so that you can see the photos in colour, please let me know. I am happy to either a) email the newsletter to you; or b) email *and* post it to you. Your choice – just let me know ([elizabeth6@xtra.co.nz](mailto:elizabeth6@xtra.co.nz)). If you want to stay with the status quo (remaining on the posting list only), then you don't need to do anything.

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**To join the New Zealand Branch of the Western Front Association,** please contact Elizabeth Morey (address details below). The current subscription for membership is \$15.00 per year per household (January to December). All new members are very welcome – you certainly don't have to be an "expert".

**The views expressed in articles in this newsletter** are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect or represent those of the editor or members of the New Zealand Branch of the Western Front Association.

**All contributions to the next newsletter would be very welcome:** The next newsletter is due for publication in October 2017. The deadline for articles, snippets of information, poetry, book reviews etc is first week in September. Please post to Elizabeth Morey, 89/1381 Dominion Road, Mt Roskill, Auckland 1041, or email to [elizabeth6@xtra.co.nz](mailto:elizabeth6@xtra.co.nz).