



# GALLIPOLI

THE SCALE OF OUR

# WAR

## WORLD WAR I

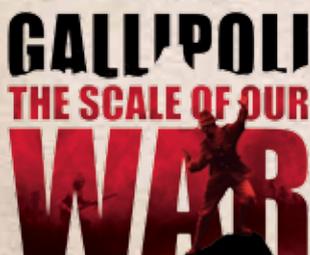
### Teachers' Resource Pack

Developed by the Museum of New Zealand  
Te Papa Tongarewa working closely with Weta Workshop



# Contents

1	World War I
3	About this resource
5	Inside the exhibition – what students will experience
5	Parental guidance recommended
6	<b>Section 1: The great adventure</b>
9	Spencer Westmacott OBE
11	<b>Section 2: Order from chaos</b>
13	Percival Fenwick
15	William Malone
17	<b>Section 3: Stalemate</b>
18	Jack Dunn
20	<b>Section 4: Chunuk Bair</b>
23	Rikihana Carkeek
25	<b>Section 5: Saying goodbye</b>
27	The <i>Maheno</i>
29	Lottie Le Gallais
30	<b>Section 6: Western Front</b>
32	Cecil Malthus
34	Learning activities
36	<b><i>Slice of Heaven</i> exhibition</b>
43	<b>Further resources</b>
43	<b>Explore World War I at Te Papa – a long-term approach</b>



Developed by the Museum of New Zealand  
Te Papa Tongarewa working closely with Weta Workshop



# About this resource

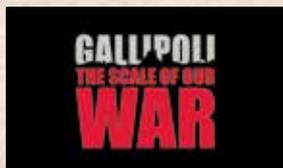
This resource supports learning about World War I (also known as the Great War), with a focus on the experiences of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (Anzac) on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey. It accompanies the exhibition *Gallipoli: The scale of our war* and is suitable for students in years 5–13.

The resource provides:

- exhibition text about the events that took place on Gallipoli, including soldiers' accounts
- learning activities to prompt discussion in the exhibition or afterwards in the classroom
- extension activities that connect with the Te Papa exhibition *Slice of Heaven: 20th Century Aotearoa*, which explores further aspects of the First World War.

The content draws from the exhibition text, which was written as if from the soldiers' perspective, and actual quotes from New Zealanders who were on Gallipoli.

You can find out more at



 [www.gallipoli.tepapa.govt.nz](http://www.gallipoli.tepapa.govt.nz)



 [www.tepapa.govt.nz/sliceofheaven](http://www.tepapa.govt.nz/sliceofheaven)



 [www.gallipoli.tepapa.govt.nz/watch](http://www.gallipoli.tepapa.govt.nz/watch)





**1 THE GREAT ADVENTURE**  
Lieutenant Spencer Westmacott

**2 ORDER FROM CHAOS**  
Lieutenant Colonel Percival Fenwick

**3 STALEMATE**  
Private Jack Dunn

**4 CHUNUK BAIR**  
Maori Contingent machine-gun section

**5 SAYING GOODBYE**  
Staff Nurse Lotrie Le Gallais

**6 WESTERN FRONT**  
Sergeant Cecil Malthus

# About the exhibition

## *Gallipoli: The scale of our war*

To mark the centenary of the First World War, Te Papa has joined forces with Weta Workshop to bring you *Gallipoli: The scale of our war*. This immersive exhibition explores the brutal 8-month campaign through the eyes and words of New Zealanders who were there.

‘Perhaps [Anzac Cove] will someday be known as Bloody Beach Bay. God knows we have paid heavily for it.’

Lieutenant Colonel Percival Fenwick

### Inside the exhibition

The exhibition allows students to:

- experience the scale of the Gallipoli campaign through large-scale replicas of New Zealanders who took part
- see objects brought home or associated with the battlefields of Gallipoli
- view photos taken by soldiers on the front line
- follow the campaign on 3-D maps and projections
- see the weapons used and explore the havoc they wrought
- discover the cramped, filthy conditions that the soldiers faced
- read extracts from letters and diaries written by soldiers, and hear from veterans many years after they served
- see inside a miniature of the *Maheno*, a steamship converted into a hospital ship to evacuate the sick and wounded.

### Parental guidance recommended

Contains graphic content and some language that may offend.

*Gallipoli: The scale of our war* contains content that may disturb some students (especially those who have experienced war), including weapons, sounds of gunfire, images of the dead, graphic depiction of wounds, and strong references to the Turkish enemy in the soldiers' own words.

Please appropriately prepare your students for the material they are going to see. We recommend that, before visiting with your class, you:

- attend the Gallipoli teacher preview or a professional-development workshop
- or explore the exhibition on your own
- or contact our Education Coordinator to discuss your visit: phone (04) 381 7443 or email: [reservations@tepapa.govt.nz](mailto:reservations@tepapa.govt.nz)

Please also ensure that you have enough parent helpers to attend on the day.

### Learning activities

Can be found throughout this resource





## SECTION **1**

# The great adventure

### In this section of the exhibition

- Why New Zealand soldiers were on Gallipoli
- Arrival on Gallipoli
- First 3 weeks on Gallipoli
- Compulsory military training

↑ Anzac Cove, 25 April 1915. Photographer unknown.  
Alexander Turnbull Library (PAColl-3604-1)

## Compulsory military training

Trouble was brewing in Europe, and the Brits wanted us ready to defend the 'mother country'. So in 1909, our government established compulsory military training and a Territorial Force to protect our own shores. Every able-bodied man aged between 18 and 25 had to serve in the force part-time.

Lads aged 14 to 18 were trained in drill and rifle practice as School Cadets. Boys aged 12 to 14 trained as Junior Cadets, but some parents thought them too young, so that stopped in 1912.

## Why we went to Gallipoli

War broke out in August 1914, and in October we sailed for France to fight the Germans. But then the Turks joined the war in support of Germany. We were stopped in Egypt to protect the Suez Canal, on the edge of the Ottoman Empire – the Turks' territory. Then we were sent to invade Gallipoli, with the ultimate aim of capturing the Turkish capital, Constantinople (Istanbul).

## Invading Gallipoli, Turkey

Gallipoli was our first campaign of the war. We landed at Anzac Cove on April 25th 1915, ready to back up the Aussies.

“The Turks welcomed us with shrapnel and sprayed up the sea all about us.”

Lieutenant Colonel William Malone

We were carrying close to 75lbs (34kg) in gear – nearly half our body weight in some cases.

“In getting out of the boats, many men got a saltwater bath all over. They had full packs, 200 rounds of ammunition, three days food etc, and so easily slipped and fell.”

Lieutenant Colonel William Malone

We carried portable entrenching tools, and so did the Turks. You slotted the wooden handle into the pick and shovel blade, and could scrape yourself a shallow hole to escape enemy fire.



New Zealand troops in narrow 'coffin' holes on the ridges above Anzac Cove, April 1915. Centre with pipe: Private Harold McCoy. Photographer unknown. Alexander Turnbull Library (PAColl-3604-03)

‘Hugging the ground in frantic terror, we began to dig blindly with our puny entrenching tools.’

Private Cecil Malthus

---

The first day of fighting was brutal: 3,100 of us landed and 650 were killed or wounded.

### The Turkish enemy

Johnny Turk, Abdul, Jacko ... whatever we called the Turks, they were bloody tough opponents. We'd been told they were poor fighters, but they were battle hardened, well trained, and well led. This was their home, and they defended it by holding the high ground and trying to drive us back to the sea.

---

‘I don't order you to attack. I order you to die. By the time we are dead, other units and commanders will have come up to take our place.’

Lieutenant Colonel Mustafa Kemal (Atatürk),  
commander of the Turkish 19th Division on Gallipoli



### Learning activities

- How do you think compulsory School Cadets at secondary school would be received today?
- Discuss with a friend the statement: 'Entrenching tools were as valuable as your rifle.'

Which do you think would have been more valuable and why?

Which tools might today's soldiers describe as valuable?

---

‘Without a pang, without doubt or hesitation, we dropped the life that had absorbed us ... the great adventure began.’

Private Cecil Malthus

---

- What evidence indicates that many soldiers shared this view?
- Would you have shared it? Do you think New Zealanders today would respond in the same way if they were sent overseas to fight? What makes you say that?



# Spencer Westmacott OBE

**Born:** Christchurch, 1885

**Died:** Wellington, 1960

## Before the war

- Worked on his father's farm and enjoyed landscape painting
- Supervised School Cadets at Trentham, Wellington – his only break from farming

## In the war

- Officer with the Auckland Infantry Battalion in the Main Body of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, which departed for Europe on 16 October 1914



*Auckland Infantry Battalion landing at Anzac Cove on 25 April 1915, by Spencer Westmacott. Courtesy of Yvonne Riddiford.*

“When war came, I must go ... I had the chance to lead men. I could show what I was made of, in the greatest test of all.”

Lieutenant Spencer Westmacott was one of the first men to land on Gallipoli on April 25th. He reinforced the Australian line, but his right arm was smashed by a bullet while holding off a Turkish attack.

“Raised on my elbows, I continued to examine the landscape in front through the binoculars ... when I received a blow on my right arm ... which turned me right over ... I gave some groans, and was very ashamed of them.”

He was stretchered to the beach and evacuated that night to a military hospital in Alexandria, Egypt. There, his right arm was amputated. While recuperating, he wrote:

‘I shall become a rigorous penman with my left hand. I shall be able to accomplish all sorts of things.’

### After the war

In 1917, Westmacott married Jean Campbell, whom he'd known since childhood and had met again during his convalescence. After the war, he attended art school. He and Jean had a son and two daughters. They eventually returned to his farm near Te Kuiti.

During World War II (1939–45), Westmacott commanded the Otorohanga Battalion of the Home Guard. He died in Wellington in 1960.



Spencer Westmacott and his wife, Jean, on their farm near Te Kuiti, 1929. Photographer unknown, Courtesy of Yvonne Riddiford



Lieutenant Spencer Westmacott, August 1914 (detail). Photographer unknown. Courtesy of Yvonne Riddiford



### Learning activities

- What do you think Westmacott may have been thinking and feeling:
  - before landing on Gallipoli?
  - while on Gallipoli?
  - on returning to New Zealand?
- Do you think his attitudes to war would have changed as a result of his experiences on Gallipoli? Why do you say that?



## SECTION 2

# Order from chaos

### In this section of the exhibition

- Truce: Burying our dead
- Ammunition and its effects
- Role of the sniper
- Quinn's Post: Shambles to shelter

↑ New Zealand dressing station on the beach where the New Zealand Medical Corps tended the wounded. Photograph by Percival Fenwick. Tamaki Paenga Hira Auckland War Memorial Museum (PH-NEG-C54328)



Burying dead soldiers during the truce, 24 May 1915. Photograph by Lieutenant Colonel William Malone. Malone Family Collection

## Chaos

Our landing on April 25th had been a bloody shambles. The Turks weren't about to let up, and we hung on by our fingernails.

Our commanders had to rapidly improve the defences and organise frightened men to fight. The wounded flooded in, and our medical officers tried desperately to bring some order to the chaos.

## Truce: Burying our dead

The Turks fought back hard on May 19th, and we met them with a million rounds of rifle and machine-gun fire. The battlefield was covered in their dead – around 3,500 – and hundreds of our own men from the landing. The stench was unbearable.

The Turks requested a ceasefire so both sides could lay their dead to rest. On May 24th, the guns fell silent.

.....

“The Turkish dead lay so thick that it was almost impossible to pass without treading on the bodies ... swollen, black, hideous, and over all a nauseating stench that nearly made one vomit ... I pray God I may never see such an awful sight again.”

Lieutenant Colonel Percival Fenwick

“At this spectacle, even the most gentle must feel savage, and the most savage must weep.”

Attributed to Turkish Captain Nazim



## Learning activities

- Lieutenant Colonel Percival Fenwick said this about the first 24 hours on Gallipoli:
  - ‘A more hellish Sunday one could not conceive.’
  - Why do you think he felt like this?
  - What evidence can you find that others shared his perspective? Do you share it?
- Why do you think both sides agreed to a truce to bury the dead?
- The Turks and Anzacs swapped smokes (cigarettes) during the truce.
  - Do you think the truce would have changed the perspectives of any of the soldiers about the enemy?
  - Would it have changed your perspective? Why or why not?



# Percival Fenwick

**Born:** London, 1870

**Died:** 1958

## Before the war

- Trained as a doctor and worked in several London hospitals
- Appointed ship's surgeon,
- Appointed to the staff of Christchurch Hospital in 1895
- Left for the South African War in January 1900 as a surgeon captain
- Married Nona Wright in 1903. Their daughter Gwendolen was born in 1905, in Wanganui, and their son Christopher in 1908.

## In the war

Lieutenant Colonel Percival Fenwick was an early volunteer. He went with the Main Body to Egypt and landed on Gallipoli on 25 April. He was one of the first New Zealand doctors ashore. In 24 hours, he treated hundreds of Anzacs on the beach, later recalling: 'Every minute, the number increased ... the chaos became appalling ... I dressed as many as I could, but it was a dreadful time ... Men were hit

constantly ...'

‘Total to date: 5,000 casualties, about three men per yard of ground gained. An order came out naming this bay Anzac Bay ... Perhaps it will someday be known as Bloody Beach Bay. God knows we have paid heavily for it.’

Endless hours treating the sick and wounded took their toll. Illness forced a reluctant Fenwick off the peninsula after two months – in Gallipoli terms, a lifetime.

‘It is not the danger dirt and misery – it is the ghastly waiting to be killed that wears us all to shreds.’

After a brief spell in New Zealand, Fenwick spent the rest of the war in Britain, where he commanded two New Zealand military hospitals.



Percival Fenwick in his dugout. Photographer unknown. Tāmaki Paenga Hira Auckland War Memorial Museum (PH-NEG-C54342)

### After the war

After the war, Fenwick resumed his medical career in Christchurch. In the 1920s, he combined this with military and civic duties. In 1924, he set up Christchurch Hospital's radiotherapy department, which he headed until 1943.



### Learning activities

“It would worry my wife dreadfully if she knew the inferno we were living in, and my weekly letters are very milk-and-watery. The censor is a good excuse for not mentioning anything except we are in garrison and enjoying sea-bathing.”

- Based on this quote, how do you think Lieutenant Colonel Percival Fenwick felt about writing home?
- Why do you think the soldiers' letters were censored? Do you agree with censors editing soldiers' personal letters? Explain your perspective to a friend.
- Do you think the government should be able to censor our personal emails today? Why or why not?



# William Malone

**Born:** England, 1859

**Died:** Chunuk Bair, August 1915

## Before the war

- Arrived in Taranaki in 1880
- Joined the Armed Constabulary
- Took up farming
- Ultimately became a lawyer
- Commanded the 11th Regiment in 1911

## In the war

- Appointed to command Wellington Infantry Battalion of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force
- Sailed for Europe in October 1914
- Trained troops in Egypt
- On 25 April 1915, invaded Gallipoli with the Wellington Infantry Battalion as part of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force

‘The might and cohesion of the British Empire was made evident. It was an inspiring sight, and I felt proud to be an actor in the action.’

‘The beach was crowded with all sorts of beings, men, mules, donkeys, horses, ammunition, supplies, naval beach parties.’

- Died in the battle for Chunuk Bair, August 1915

## Quinn’s Post: Shambles to shelter

‘Dirty, dilapidated, unorganised ... This post has been a source of anxiety to the whole army, so I was honoured by being ... put in charge.’

Quinn’s Post was only 6 to 10 feet from the Turkish trenches and totally exposed. Thanks to Lieutenant Colonel William Malone, the Anzacs managed to hold it. When he took over on 9 June, he reorganised the defences and had his men return Turkish fire twofold. Within a week, they’d transformed the post from the most dangerous and dirty position to one of the safest and strongest on Gallipoli.

## Learning activities

- Find evidence that supports the statement ‘Malone was a highly skilled and dedicated soldier as well as a loving husband.’ Do you agree with this description? Why or why not?
- How would you describe Malone’s attitude to war? Is it one that you think other soldiers at the time agreed with? Do you think most people in New Zealand today share that attitude? Please explain your answers.





## SECTION **3**

# Stalemate

### In this section of the exhibition

- Jack Dunn sentenced to death
- No. 1 Outpost/Maori Pah
- Planning the August offensive

↑ Soldiers in a trench, Gallipoli, 1915. Photographer unknown. Alexander Turnbull Library (1/2-103903)

## Stalemate: No way forward

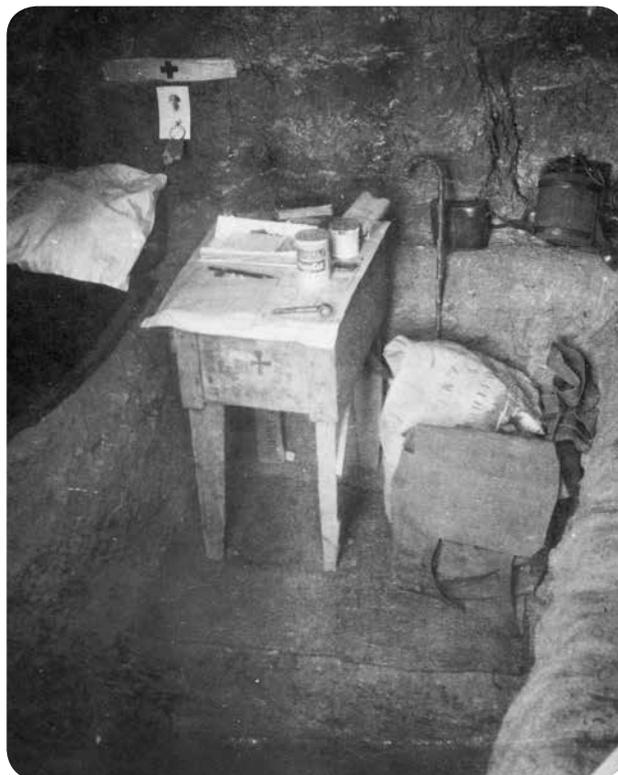
In June and July, the Turks tried to drive us back to the sea. They'd hemmed us in, but we improved our defences and held them off. Stalemate.

Day in, day out, our tucker was the same: salty, stringy bully-beef and rock-hard biscuits, and sometimes cheese and jam. In the heat, the corned beef and cheese turned to liquid and buzzed black with flies. Some of us got skinny as crows. Water had to be brought in by boat, and we carried our meagre daily ration in bottles.

In rare moments to ourselves, we'd smoke, write home, mend our uniforms, or pick off lice. Some blokes carved or sketched.



Picking lice from clothing, Gallipoli, November/December 1915. Photograph by Norman Prior. Wairarapa Archives (11-72/4-2-30)



The dugout of George Gordon Denniston and Robert Lanktree Withers, Gallipoli, 1915. Photographer unknown. Alexander Turnbull Library (PA1-o-863-07-8)

## Maori Pah

After being sidelined on Malta, us Maoris finally got to Anzac Cove on July 3rd 1915. No. 1 Outpost became known as the Maori Pah. It was good to hear rifles going off in the hills – real war at last!

We were put to work digging the Great Sap, a supply and communication trench allowing daylight travel to the outposts without being shot. We also lugged heavy water tanks up to Plugge's Plateau. We were fresh and fit – in far better nick than the chaps already here.

## Planning the August offensive

The stalemate with the Turks had to be broken. Our Anzac commanders devised a plan.

We would attack the Sari Bair range in early August and take the high ground, including Chunuk Bair – the big step towards the Dardanelles Strait and then the capital, Constantinople (Istanbul). The Aussies would distract the Turks to the south, and a fresh lot of Tommies (British) would reinforce us from the beaches further north. If everything went to plan, victory would be ours.



# Jack Dunn

**Born:** Wairarapa, 1889

**Died:** Chunuk Bair, August 1915

## Before the war

- Keen athlete
- Journalist

## In the war

- Enlisted with his brother
- Came down with pneumonia after one month of fighting
- Returned from hospital very quickly
- Fell asleep at his post and was sentenced to death as per the *Manual of Military Law*:  
'A sentinel found asleep or drunk at his post while on active service would, if the character and the circumstances of the offence were sufficiently grave, be liable to suffer death.'



John (Jack) Dunn (right), before 1915 (detail). Photographer unknown. Wairarapa Archive (05-39/P-J-34-2.R14B9S4)

## Jack's death sentence

One of Jack Dunn's comrades remembered him as being 'game to the core' – he 'never flinched in the face of the most deadly fire'. Even so, he was sentenced to death for falling asleep at his post and endangering the lives of his comrades. He was imprisoned at Quinn's Post for 17 days, but the General eventually took his illness and reputation into account and overturned the ruling.

This photo shows the moment Jack heard he'd got off his death sentence. You can see him in the lower left of the image – bareheaded, arms to his side, back to the camera.

On August 4th, Jack was sent back to the front line. A few days later, he was killed on Chunuk Bair during the big offensive to break the stalemate.



Reading of findings of court martial of Private Jack Dunn, Quinn's Post, 4 August 1915. Photographer unknown. Australian War Memorial (P04250.003)

### Learning activities

- Do you think the decision to sentence Dunn to death was fair? Why or why not? How do you think he would have felt about it?
- In New Zealand, the last person sentenced to death died in 1957. In 1989, the Abolition of the Death Penalty Act came into force and now no one in New Zealand can be sentenced to death for a crime.
  - What might have led to society changing its view on this issue?
  - Do you think the death penalty should apply in the military? Should the military have its own rules and punishments? Why or why not?



## SECTION **4** Chunuk Bair

### In this section of the exhibition

- The battle for Chunuk Bair
- Maori Contingent in action
- Field telephone

↑ Soldiers on Table Top in a captured Turkish trench, Gallipoli, 7 August 1915. Photograph by James Read. Alexander Turnbull Library (1/4-058131-F)

## The August offensive

The attack on Chunuk Bair got off to a brilliant start on the night of August 6th. By 10pm, the Auckland Mounted Rifles had taken Old No. 3 Outpost. Then the Wellington, Otago, and Canterbury Mounted moved up and seized other vital positions. Everyone on foot, all silent, just bayonets.

The Turks defended ferociously and we lost many men, but we secured all the foothills. The door to Chunuk Bair was wide open.



Two New Zealand soldiers in a trench, one using a field telephone, Gallipoli, 1915. Photographer unknown. Alexander Turnbull Library (PA1-o-863-10-4)

“The night air was broken vigorously by the Maori war cry of “Ka Mate, Ka Mate! Ka Ora, Ka Ora!”  
We may die, we may die!  
We may live! We may live!”

Captain Peter Buck (Te Rangi Hīroa)

As our infantry moved up, Turks waylaid the Otagos, and the Canterburys got lost. Only two of four battalions were ready to take the summit.

Lieutenant Colonel Malone’s Wellingtons were poised to attack before dawn, but the brigade commander hesitated. The Aucklanders were ordered to go in daylight and were mown down. Malone refused to follow and demanded an attack that night.



Members of the Canterbury Mounted Rifles with their Maxim machine gun, 10 August 1915. The man standing is Gordon Harper, the team commander. Anthony Hanmer, the gunner, was killed later that day. Photographer unknown. Courtesy of the Harper family.

Before dawn the next day, Malone's men grabbed the summit of Chunuk Bair. But their success was short lived, and the Turks soon retook the position. Malone was killed by artillery fire from our own side. About 700 of his men also lost their lives.

If it hadn't been for Jesse Wallingford – 'the human machine gun' – we could have been beaten back entirely. On August 10th, his carefully placed guns helped stop a massive Turkish counter-attack just below the summit.

Our last gasp on Gallipoli came on August 21st, when the generals decided we'd attack Hill 60 – in daylight with no artillery support. It was pointless, and we lost many men. The next attack a week later destroyed what was left of us.

“**Jack Bendon, a very young chap ... was as white as a sheet. Jack said, “I'm going to be killed this afternoon.” I said, “A lot of us will be killed.” Just as we went over, he fell behind me dead.**”

Trooper James Rudd



### Learning activities

- William Malone had a collection of military textbooks, which he studied carefully. How might this have helped him in the attack on Chunuk Bair?
- Do you think information on killing and military strategy should be available to everyone? Why/why not? How could access to such information be managed?
- Do you think the attack on Chunuk Bair was a wasted effort? What evidence supports your opinion?



Stretcher-bearers from the Otago Mounted Rifles, Gallipoli, 1915. Photographer unknown. Alexander Turnbull Library (PA1-o-863-01-6)



# Rikihana Carkeek

**Born:** Ōtaki, 1890

## Before the war

- Studied at Te Aute College in Hawke's Bay, where he excelled at sports
- Worked for a time as a clerk in Wellington for Parata & Company, a firm of land agents and interpreters

## In the war

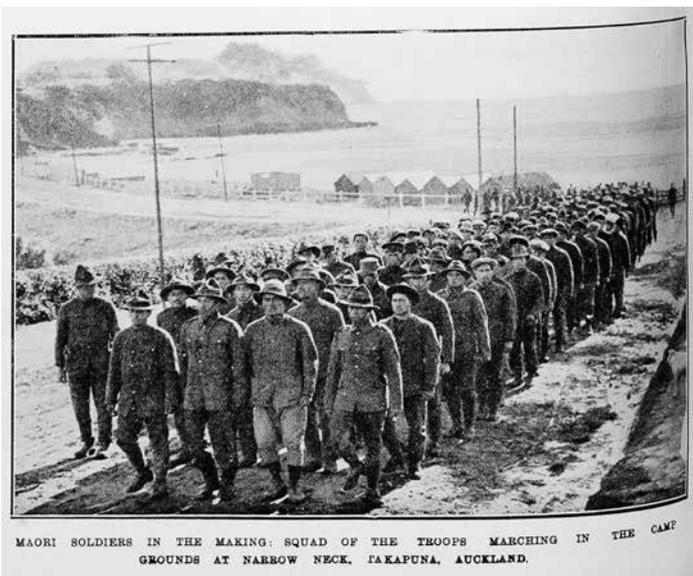
Rikihana Carkeek was quick to sign up for the Maori Contingent as soon as the government allowed Maori to enlist in their own unit.

He began his military training at Auckland's Avondale Camp, where the Maori Contingent was based.

“The men selected to instruct the Maoris were first-class soldiers ... possessing unlimited energy and patience ... to make the Maori Contingent an efficient and up-to-date fighting machine.”



Corporal Rikihana Carkeek, between March 1916 and July 1917. Carkeek family collection.



MAORI SOLDIERS IN THE MAKING: SQUAD OF THE TROOPS MARCHING IN THE CAMP GROUNDS AT NARROW NECK, TAKAPUNA, AUCKLAND.

Maori Contingent soldiers march at Narrow Neck Military Camp, Auckland. Photographer unknown, *Auckland Weekly News*, 22 July 1915. Auckland Libraries (Sir George Grey Special Collections, AWNS-19150722-48-5)

According to Carkeek, 75 percent of the men at Avondale Camp had never been through military training before.

“It is remarkable to note that for the first time in New Zealand history did all the tribes unite to fight one common enemy.”

The Maori Contingent landed on Gallipoli on 3 July 1915. They were put to work building trenches at No. 1 Outpost, soon to be nicknamed ‘Maori Pah’.

Carkeek usually cooked for his mates, sometimes managing to supplement the standard fare of biscuits, bully beef, and tea with steak, bread, and raisins.

On 8 August 1915, Carkeek was in a machine-gun team on Rhododendron Ridge, covering the infantry’s advance on Chunuk Bair. After his commander and two others were shot, he took the gun, but was hit through the neck. He dragged himself almost 5 kilometres down to the beach and was eventually evacuated by hospital ship. Just six weeks after being wounded, he returned to Gallipoli.

Allied troops were withdrawn three months later, and Carkeek served on the Western Front in the New Zealand (Maori) Pioneer Battalion – a recently formed labour unit. He spent part of 1918 in England, training to be an officer.

### After the war

Carkeek married Pareraukawa Atkinson (Aunty Polly) soon after arriving home in April 1919. They farmed and raised a family in Picton and the Manawatu, before returning to Carkeek’s birthplace of Otaki in the late 1920s. They lived there until his death aged 73.



The Maori Contingent cleared earth from the mine tunnels at Quinn’s Post. Photograph by James C Read. Alexander Turnbull Library (1/4-058066-F)



**SECTION 5**  
**Saying goodbye**

**In this section of the exhibition**

- Decision to evacuate
- Evacuation: The big bluff
- *Maheno*: Mercy ship

## Bad shape

Things got more desperate after Chunuk Bair. We'd lost countless mates, the cold was setting in, supplies weren't getting through, and the boys were in bad shape. There were rumours of evacuation, but no one really believed them. The top brass kept us in the dark.

Field Marshal Lord Kitchener, Britain's Secretary of State for War, visited the peninsula in November. He came to sort out whether we should stay or withdraw. The August offensive had failed miserably, and Johnny Turk now had the upper hand. We were cold and spent, but prepared to hang on.

## Evacuation: The big bluff

On November 22nd 1915, Lord Kitchener recommended a withdrawal. Everything was top secret, but rumours were rife. Entire battalions left through early December. Officially, we were just cutting numbers for winter.

Officers weren't told about the evacuation until December 14th. We began to move out the next day, disbelieving, sad, and angry. What if the Turks got wind of things and launched an outright slaughter? To outfox them, we cooked up cunning plans.

For five days, we fooled them that Anzac Cove was fully occupied – while 46,000 men secretly withdrew. Self-firing rifles were just one of our bluffs.

‘Devices ... were rigged up to fire old and broken rifles hours after the last man had left the trenches.’

Private Douglas McLean to his father

Our numbers were so shrunken that if the Turks had known the truth about us sneaking off, they could've wiped us all out.

## Ghost army

Army officials retrieved whatever they could of dead soldiers' belongings. Some of us salvaged our mates' things too. We knew how much they'd mean to loved ones.

By 4am on December 20th, the beach was calm, deserted – no more bustle for Anzac Cove, only the silent graves of our mates.

‘About 4am, we reached the [troopship] *Osmanieh* and ... watched the dark loom of Anzac with its twinkling rifle flashes and bomb bursts ... fainter and fainter they grew. We felt a sense of relief and ... great sadness ... and failure.’

Major Charles Guy Powles



Dr Duncan Stout with one of the self-firing rifles designed to disguise the evacuation of troops, December 1915. Photographer unknown. Alexander Turnbull Library (PAColl-4173-09)

## Learning activities

‘We did not get many callers, so the visit of Lord Kitchener ... started us speculating afresh and making wild conjectures. His visit, needless to say, was very secret.’

Captain Fred Waite

- Why do you think Kitchener's visit was kept so secret?
- What did you think were the main emotions the soldiers felt about the evacuation? Why would they have felt this way?
- If you had been on Gallipoli during the visit of Field Marshal Lord Kitchener, Britain's Secretary of State for War, would you have recommended an evacuation? Explain your reasoning.

# The *Maheno*

## Before the war

A passenger and cargo liner owned by The Union Steam Ship Company.

## In the war

EARLY MAY 1915: First Gallipoli casualty lists published in New Zealand

18 MAY: Governor Lord Liverpool appeals to nation to help outfit a ship to evacuate wounded

“New Zealand’s sons, wounded in the great fight for the Empire, need a hospital ship ... Now is the time for the people ... to translate their words of admiration ... into a grateful recognition of that self-sacrifice.”

*The Evening Post*

26 MAY: Announcement of required equipment, including 1,200 feather pillows and 500 combs

JUNE: Passenger liner *Maheno* converted into hospital ship

“The ship is beautiful ... An errand of mercy for all you men – and very proud I am to be one of the staff.”

Staff Nurse Lottie Le Gallais

11 JULY: *Maheno* departs Wellington with 80 nurses on board

20 AUGUST: *Maheno* drops off most of her nurses in Egypt

25 AUGUST: *Maheno* anchors off Anzac Cove as the Battle of Hill 60 rages

30 AUGUST: *Maheno* delivers first patients to Greek island of Lemnos



A ward on the *Maheno* before its departure in July 1915. Photographer unknown. Alexander Turnbull Library (1/1-002216-F)



Wounded soldiers are transferred to a hospital ship, about 1915. Photographer unknown. Alexander Turnbull Library (PA1-o-026-34-9)

- 24 SEPTEMBER: *Maheno* firemen strike; Maltese crew take their place
- 17 OCTOBER: *Maheno* delivers soldiers to hospitals in Southampton – Jock the bulldog (*Maheno*'s mascot) jumps ship
- 11 NOVEMBER: *Maheno* visits Anzac Cove for final time
- 24 NOVEMBER: *Maheno* leaves Egypt for New Zealand
- 5 DECEMBER: *Marama*, a second hospital ship, departs New Zealand
- 1 JANUARY 1916: *Maheno* arrives in Auckland with 319 patients

“On the wharf was many a father and mother eagerly scanning the faces on deck, eager to clasp hands with their heroes.”

*The Press*



The *Maheno* drops off patients at Lyttelton, Christchurch, date unknown. Photographer unknown. Courtesy of the Carrington family



## Learning activities

“After the announcement of what was needed for the hospital ship, money and goods streamed in, and the sewing machines started whirring from Whangarei to Bluff. All New Zealand was behind the war effort.”

- Do you think this is true or not? What evidence can you find to support your opinion?
- In September, the firemen who shovelled coal into the boilers on the *Maheno* went on strike because of poor working conditions.
  - Do you think their conditions would have been worse than the soldiers' conditions on Gallipoli?
  - Do you think the strike was justified? Why do you say that?
  - Should soldiers be allowed to protest against their conditions? Explain your viewpoint.
- How do you think the people waiting on the wharf would have felt upon seeing the ship coming into port?
  - Do you think their emotions would have been the same as the soldiers'?
  - Would all of the emotions have been positive?



# Lottie Le Gallais

**Born:** Auckland, 1881

**Died:** 1956

## Before the war

- Attended country schools around Auckland
- Graduated as a registered nurse in 1911
- Joined nursing staff at Auckland Public Hospital

## In the war

- Selected as an army nurse in June 1915.
- Was one of 79 in the Second Contingent of New Zealand nurses chosen to serve overseas, and one of 10 *Maheno* nurses
- Received her memo to report for duty on 6 July, a few days before the departure on 11 July
- Wrote to her future husband, Charles 'Sonnie' Gardner the day before the ship left

‘Things are rapidly getting shipshape. My bunk is looking better now ... I got your photo, [with] the silver frame, hung up with string – top end of the bed.’

- After arriving in Egypt, Lottie wrote to Sonnie about visiting hospitals and seeing the effects of the fighting on Gallipoli.

‘Terrible, terrible wounds. The bullets aren’t so bad, but the shrapnel from exploding shells is ghastly. It cuts great gashes, ripping muscles and bones to shreds.’

- Two of Lottie’s three brothers also volunteered. Leddie departed in April 1915 and was killed in July.

## After the war

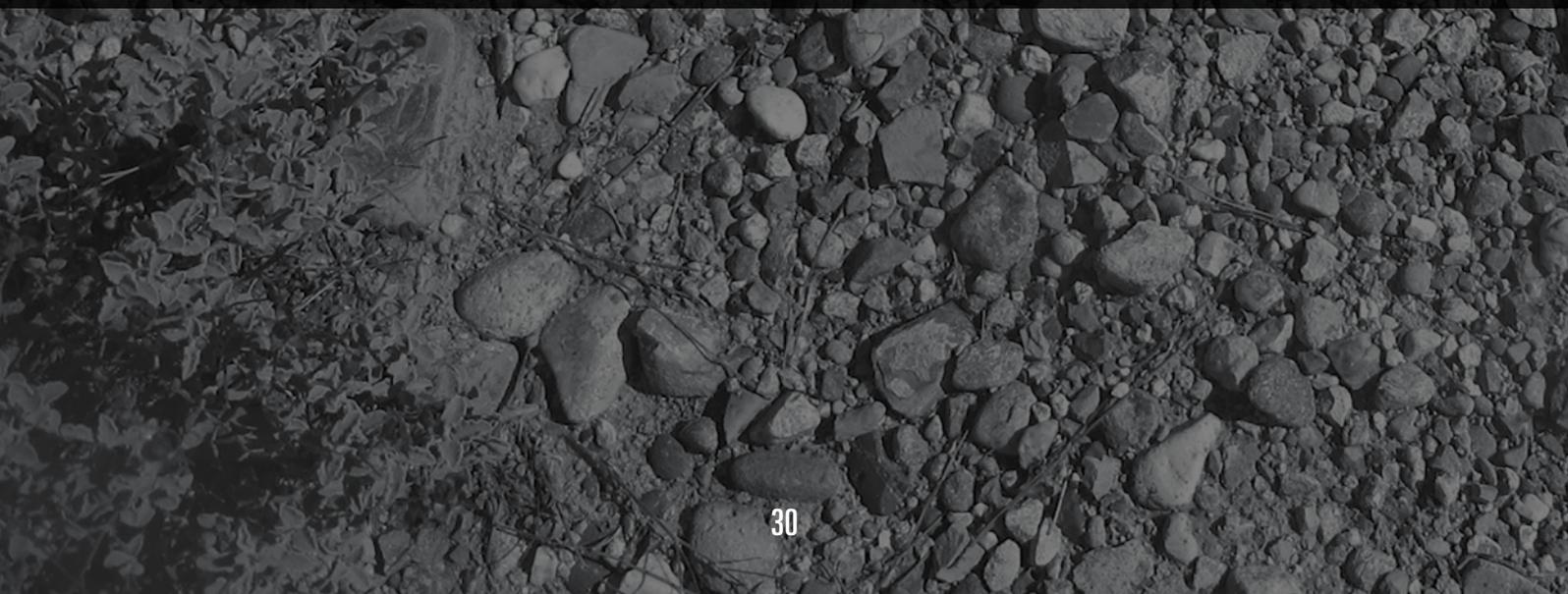
- Arrived home on 1 January 1916
- Returned to work at Auckland Public Hospital
- Looked after her father
- Married Charles Gardner and had two children

Lottie Le Gallais, probably at the time she became a registered nurse in 1913 (detail). Photographer unknown. Tāmaki Paenga Hira Auckland War Memorial Museum (PH-95-02)





**SECTION** **6**  
**Western Front**



## After Gallipoli

After evacuating Gallipoli, the few of us still fit were reorganised into the New Zealand Division. We had more training in Egypt before heading to France where we were instructed in Western Front trench warfare.

On April 25th 1916, our first Anzac Day, we played footy in a village and drank to dead mates.

## On the Somme

The Battle of the Somme, fought from July to November 1916, was our first experience of large-scale action in France. We were on the front line during September and October. Casualty numbers came in at over 8,000.

.....  
“We just staggered on through the mud and muddle, the bloodshed and destruction, with no more than a grim hope of survival and an ever more bitter disillusion.”

Sergeant Cecil Malthus

.....  
Almost 3,000 of our men had been killed on Gallipoli. But that was just the beginning. Nearly five times that number would die on the Western Front. The losses would be felt by New Zealanders for generations. The full scale of our war was immense.



## Learning activities

- Using evidence in the exhibition, compare the experience of a soldier on Gallipoli with that of a soldier on the Somme.
  - Which do you think soldiers would have preferred and why?
  - Which environment would have been the hardest?
- How might soldiers have felt going directly from Gallipoli to France without returning home to see their families?
  - What impact might this have had on families?
  - How has modern technology helped soldiers keep in touch with their families while on long tours of duty?
- Do you think the soldiers marked the first Anzac Day in an appropriate way?
  - How did their commemoration compare with the way Anzac Day is marked now?
  - Do you agree with how it is recognised today? Should we do anything differently? Why do you say that?



# Cecil Malthus

**Born:** Timaru, 1890

**Died:** 1976

## Before the war

- Attended Canterbury College (now University) in Christchurch. In 1912, he was awarded an MA (Master of Arts) in French and English
- Worked as a teacher at Nelson College

## In the war

Private Cecil Malthus volunteered 10 days after war was declared. He departed with the Main Body in October 1914.

“It was the duty of every able-bodied man to consider the question of enlisting, and that self-interest would be no excuse for staying at home.”

Malthus landed on Gallipoli on 25 April 1915. His campaign included three stints at Quinn’s Post, one of the most exposed spots on the Anzac front line. Hospitalised twice due to illness, he was still on the peninsula when troops were withdrawn in December.



The Australian trenches at Quinn’s Post, July 1915. Photograph by Charles Bean. Australian War Memorial Museum (G01027)

Malthus was sent to Egypt and then on to France. Shortly before he went into battle, he prepared his sweetheart, Hazel Watters for the worst.

.....

‘If I am knocked out, don’t worry about it, dear. It is a good life and a good death here.’

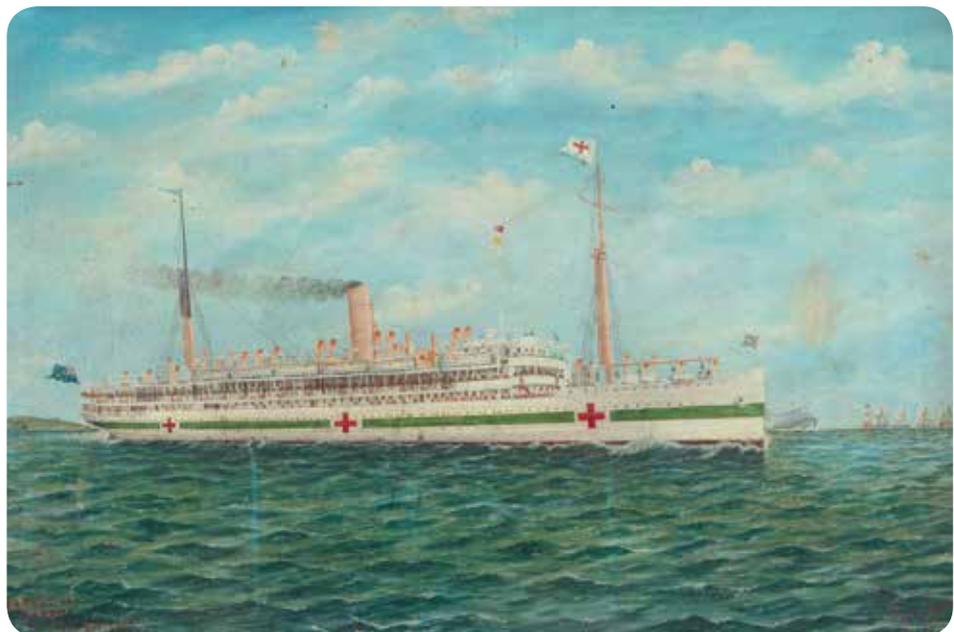
.....

Malthus was one of New Zealand’s 6,000 Somme casualties. On 24 September 1916, he was deepening a trench when his shovel set off a bomb. The explosion shattered several toes on his right foot.

In December 1916, Malthus was declared unfit for active service. He travelled home on the hospital ship *Marama*, arriving in Timaru in March 1917. His missing toes tingled for the rest of his life.

### After the war

Malthus and Hazel married in 1918. They lived in France for two years, then Tasmania for a decade, raising five children. The family settled in Christchurch in 1934 when Malthus became Professor of Modern Languages at Canterbury College. He died in 1976.



*Marama: New Zealand hospital ship off the Needles, Isle of Wight, English Channel, 1918, by Frank Barnes. Te Papa (1992-0035-1933)*

# Learning activities

1 Compare the Anzacs' arrival on Gallipoli in April 1915 with their evacuation in December 1915. Possible points to consider:

- Casualty rates
- Organisation
- Feelings of the soldiers

2 At first, Britain's leaders saw World War I as a 'white man's war'. The idea of 'natives' fighting together against Europeans made some of them nervous. But Maori parliamentarian Peter Buck (Ngati Mutunga tribe) urged the New Zealand government:

**'We are old New Zealanders. No division can be truly called a New Zealand division unless it numbers Maoris across its ranks.'**

- Did all Maori want to fight? What evidence supports or contradicts this idea?

3 We got woollens from home too. Fred Crum was chuffed with his balaclava:

**'I can't believe Nan made it. It's A1 and fits like a glove. There's very little face showing ... I've got Mrs Ashton's socks on and they're lovely.'**

- What do you think it meant to the soldiers to receive things from home?
- Discuss the statement 'Letters from home are as important as ammunition in fighting the war.' Explain your point of view.

4 **'I always try to get a photo of each of my "homes" and myself with it. I always ... make it comfortable.' Lieutenant Colonel William Malone to his wife, Ida'**

- Why do you think Malone wanted to make his dugouts homely? What is it about your home that makes it homely?
- Which do you think the army should prioritise – the transport of letters or ammunition? Why do you think this?

5 This was the only member of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force to win a Victoria Cross for their actions on Gallipoli.

- Discover what he did to receive the Victoria Cross and how he felt about this recognition. Was his view shared by others?



Sergeant Cyril Bassett, VC, England, 1916.  
Photographer unknown. Archives New Zealand  
Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga (AALZ 25044/6 F721)

**6** ‘Our soldiers have fallen far from home, fighting gallantly ... and deserve that a gallant foe, such as we have found the Turkish soldiers to be, should take care of their last resting place.’

A plea written by the Anzac commander, Lieutenant General Godley, to the Turkish commander and left in his dugout on evacuation, 1915

- If you were the Turkish commander, how would you have felt on finding this message? How would its tone have affected your decisions?

**7** Nearly 20 years later, Kemal Atatürk (who had by then founded the Turkish republic) spoke these words:

‘Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives ... are now lying in the soil of a friendly country ... and are in peace ... They have become our sons as well.’

- What do you think Gallipoli veterans and their families would have felt about this statement?
- How were the Turks involved in World War II? Do you think their decisions were influenced by World War I?

**How are you connected to a person affected by Gallipoli?  
They could be a soldier, a mother, or a child whose father went off to war. Consider what connections you have with this person.**

**You** ↔ **Person in 1915 affected by Gallipoli**

1  
.....

2  
.....

3  
.....

4  
.....

5  
.....

**Values**

**Place**

**Family**

**Family**

# Slice of Heaven exhibition

*Slice of Heaven* tells the big stories from New Zealand's 20th-century history, including the role the nation played in World War I.

Explore the exhibition's online resources, including images, and video clips

 [www.tepapa.govt.nz/sliceofheaven](http://www.tepapa.govt.nz/sliceofheaven)

## Loyal colony

As the 20th century dawned, New Zealand was a loyal colony of the British Empire – the most powerful in the world. Most Pākehā still considered England 'home'.

## New Zealand's growing sense of identity

Despite New Zealanders' loyalty to the Queen and Empire, they were beginning to see themselves as distinct from the British – and from Australians. In 1901, New Zealand chose to remain separate from Australia.



Jack Langley Braddock, 1917. Photograph by Berry & Co. Te Papa (B.044363)

## HMS *New Zealand* – a costly gift

The battlecruiser HMS *New Zealand* was the Dominion's costly gift to Britain, delivered in 1912. The ship demonstrated New Zealand's continuing commitment to the Empire. Without its own navy, New Zealand depended on Britain's. The new ship's 'thank you' visit to New Zealand in 1913 inspired patriotic fervour – and more expensive gifts.



Model of the battlecruiser HMS *New Zealand*, 1955–59, made by T M Devitt. Gift of the Wellington Marine Model Club, 1959. Te Papa (NS000038)

## World War I

World War I began for New Zealand when Britain's King George V declared war on Germany and Austria-Hungary in 1914. A faithful British dominion, New Zealand responded when duty called.

Most New Zealanders eagerly supported 'mother country' Britain, but not without a cost. Some 18,000 New Zealanders were killed – about two thirds on the Western Front and 2,700 at Gallipoli, Turkey.

## Failed Gallipoli campaign

As the conflict developed and Turkey entered the war, the horrendous cost of World War I started to hit home. Conditions on the front lines were hellish. The failed Gallipoli campaign in Turkey claimed about 2,700 New Zealand lives.

## Conscription

By 1916, two years into the war, the numbers of volunteers were no longer keeping pace with the losses. As a result, the government introduced conscription (compulsory military service).



Ballot box, 1916, maker unknown. Gift of the New Zealand Immigration Service, 1989. Te Papa (GH003641)

## Lottery of death

Conscription became known as 'the lottery of death'. This ballot box was filled with numbered marbles, matching numbers on men's enrolment cards. If your numbers came up and you were judged medically fit, you were in the army.

## Maori participation

Maori were initially excluded from volunteering because the government considered the conflict a 'white man's war' and not for 'natives'. When Maori were permitted to join, large numbers did so.

But some iwi (tribes) did not support the war. Tainui, whose fertile Waikato land the Crown had confiscated in the 1860s, refused to take part. In 1917, Tainui men were singled out for conscription. Other iwi had 'done their bit' voluntarily, the government argued.

Many Tainui who resisted were imprisoned.

## Western Front

The slaughter on the Western Front was much greater than that on Gallipoli. This battle line between the German and Allied armies stretched across Belgium and France for about 750 kilometres. More than 12,000 New Zealanders died there – more than 800 in a single day at Passchendaele, Belgium, on 12 October 1917.

## End of World War I (the Great War)

The war with Germany officially ended on 28 June 1919, when the Treaty of Versailles was signed.

About 18,000 New Zealanders had been killed – two thirds on the Western Front. More than 100,000 New Zealanders (a tenth of the population) had served overseas, including 2,227 Maori and 458 Pacific men in the Maori Pioneer Battalion. Maori had also served in other battalions.

The government offered rehabilitation programmes and cheap land to help returned servicemen. Maori groups that had fundraised for their men during the war continued to assist them when they returned.

## 1918 influenza pandemic

New Zealand was reeling from the effects of the 1918 influenza pandemic when the war's survivors returned. The pandemic claimed about 8,000 New Zealand lives, on top of those lost in the war.

# Learning activities to use in *Slice of Heaven*

These activities are designed to be printed out and used in the exhibitions.

## ACTIVITY 1: Quick quiz

Students could do this quiz before they come to the exhibition, or use it as a starting point when they arrive.

- 1 When did World War I start?
- 2 When did World War I end?
- 3 Name two countries that were allies of New Zealand.
- 4 Name two countries that were enemies of New Zealand.
- 5 True or false? World War I was also known as the 'Great War'.

## ACTIVITY 2: Facts and figures

Give your students cards (copy page 39) with the following numbers on them and ask them to discover, by exploring *Slice of Heaven*, what the numbers represent.

- 800
- 100,000+
- 31,538
- 2,700
- 458
- 8,000
- 2,227
- 750

## ACTIVITY 3: Quotes

Give your students cards (copy page 40) featuring quotes from *Slice of Heaven*. Have them work individually or in small groups to:

- find out who said the quote, or who the quote refers to
- discuss whether that quoted person was for or against World War I
- discuss whether the quote is still relevant today. Could it be applied to any recent conflicts?

'The British flag is our protection; without belonging to the Empire where would New Zealand be?'

'Blood was shed, spilt, and scattered in a distant land.'

'Let those who come after see to it that his name be not forgotten.'

'We distant sons desire to prove to the world how dear to us is Britain's name and greatness.'

'I wonder that any sane person who knows the destruction, the degradation, the misery, and the sorrow caused by the war can regard it as anything else than diabolical in the extreme.'

After the visit, students can use the quotes as inspiration for:

- a descriptive piece of writing that expresses their feelings about World War I
- an art work that expresses their feelings about World War I

## ACTIVITY 4: Evidence

Give your students cards with this statement: 'New Zealand was very loyal to Britain.' Have them explore the exhibition and provide three pieces of evidence to support it.

800

458

100,000+

8,000

31,538

2,227

2,700

750

“The British flag is our protection;  
without belonging to the Empire  
where would New Zealand be?”

“Blood was shed, spilt, and  
scattered in a distant land.”

“Let those who come after see to it  
that his name be not forgotten.”

“We distant sons desire to prove to the world how dear to us is Britain’s name and greatness.”

“I wonder that any sane person who knows the destruction, the degradation, the misery, and the sorrow caused by the war can regard it as anything else than diabolical in the extreme.”

Provide three pieces of evidence to support the statement: ‘New Zealand was very loyal to Britain.’

# Answers

## Quick quiz

1. When did the war start? 4 August 1914
2. When did the war end? 11 November 1918  
World War I officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on 28 June 1919. The Armistice (truce) that brought the fighting to an end was signed on 11 November 1918.
3. Name two countries that were allies of New Zealand.  
France, Britain, Ireland, Australia, Italy
4. Name two countries that were enemies of New Zealand.  
Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey, Bulgaria
5. True or False? World War I was also known as the 'Great War'. True

## Facts and figures

- 31,538: ID number of Private Herman Rolfes from Kaikōura, who died just before the end of the war
- 2,700: Number of New Zealand soldiers who died on Gallipoli
- 800: Number of New Zealand soldiers who died in a single day at Passchendaele, Belgium, on 12 October 1917
- 2,227: Number of Maori soldiers who fought in World War I
- 458: Number of Pacific men who fought in World War I
- 750: Length in kilometres of the Western Front battle line
- 8,000: Number of New Zealanders who died in the global influenza outbreak at the end of 1918
- 10,000+: Number of New Zealanders sent overseas during World War I

## Quotes:

- 'I wonder that ...' Archibald Baxter
- 'Let those who come after ...' Private Herman John Rolfes
- 'Blood was shed ...' Sir Āpirana Ngata
- 'We distant sons ...' Sir Joseph Ward
- 'The British flag ...' Sir Richard Seddon

## Evidence

Provide three pieces of evidence that support the statement:

'New Zealand was very loyal to Britain.'

Any of the following:

- Quotes
- *HMS New Zealand*
- Kettle drum
- Mourning in response to Queen Victoria's death
- Response to the Prince of Wales' visit to New Zealand in 1920
- War fundraising efforts

# Further resources

## Online

- **The National Library's WWI resources for schools**  
<http://schools.natlib.govt.nz/multimedia/new-zealand-involvement-first-world-war>
- **Berry Boys photographic portraits of WWI soldiers**  
<http://sites.tepapa.govt.nz/berryboys>
- **WW100 – New Zealand's WWI centenary events and resources**  
<http://ww100.govt.nz/>
- **WWI on nzhistory.net**  
<http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/war/first-world-war>
- **Rehabilitation of returned WWI soldiers, Te Papa**  
<http://collections.tepapa.govt.nz/Topic/818>
- **WWI posters at Te Papa**  
<http://www.tepapa.govt.nz/SiteCollectionDocuments/TePapaPress/Tuhinga23Gibson.pdf>
- **Life 100 years ago – Twitter feed**  
<https://twitter.com/life100yearsago>
- **All That Remains – WWI objects from New Zealand museums**  
<http://allthatremains.net.nz/>
- **WWI-related videos on Tales From Te Papa**  
<http://collections.tepapa.govt.nz/topic/2299>
- **History-related media on Te Papa's Channel**  
<http://channel.tepapa.govt.nz/category/history/>

## Books

Holding on to Home: New Zealand Stories and Objects of the First World War

Berry Boys: Portraits of First World War Soldiers and Families

## Explore World War I – a long-term approach

*Gallipoli: The scale of our war* is part of a wider programme called Conflict and Identity. This is a 4-year, multi-disciplinary programme of research, discussion, and reflection on the dynamics of conflict and its impact on identity in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The programme includes exhibitions, publications (print and online), blogs and discussions, community activities, education programmes, and events for teachers. It reflects four key themes:

- New Zealand at war
- Negotiation and reconciliation
- Protest and reform
- Conflict and the everyday

Developed by the Museum of New Zealand  
Te Papa Tongarewa working closely with Weta Workshop



Made possible by generous support of

