

George Hall



"He died for his country"

Call to arms...

PROVINCIAL VOLUNTEERS. New Zealand Herald, Volume LII, Issue 16005,
25 August 1915

PROVINCIAL VOLUNTEERS. AUCKLAND CITY AREA.

DRAFT OF 481 MEN.

The following is a list of the 481 men from No. 1 group area (Auckland city and suburbs) who left yesterday afternoon :—

Infantry.

George Hall, Birkenhead.



KIA-ORA: AUCKLANDERS FAREWELLING THE VOLUNTEERS AT THE RAILWAY STATION ON AUGUST 19



'Til we meet again...

GLENFIELD RECRUITS. Auckland Star, Volume XLVI, Issue 188, 9 August 1915

A social and dance were held in the Glenfield schoolroom on Friday night in honour of Messrs. Lionel Malcolm, Tom Forrest, and George Hall, who have been accepted for service at the front. The room and anteroom were crowded, and the proceedings were most enthusiastic. During the evening Mr. Andrew Geddes, on behalf of the residents, presented each of the departing recruits with a safety razor outfit as a memento of the occasion, and of the good wishes of their numerous friends, and said they felt proud to have them going forward to do their duty. A roll of honour, containing the names of 16 "old boys" of the school, who had gone or were going, to the front, was unveiled by Mr. R. P. Kilham amid musical honours and cheering. The illuminated text was tastefully executed by Mr. F. Wheeler, sen., and the frame was made by Mr. W. Chappell, both local residents, whose handiwork was much admired. Musical items were contributed by Misses Hetty Sim and Geddes (2), Muriel Hogan, and Dolly Macey, and Messrs. Culpitt, Fred Reynolds, and W. Edmonds, and a recitation by Mr. C. Wilson.



Mates...

Auckland Star, Volume XLVI, Issue 189, 10 August 1915

In the report of the farewēll social to the Glenfield volunteers for the front, the names of four of the guests of honour who received presentations were inadvertently omitted. They were H. Marshall, Eric Monteith, F. Wheeler and Harry Gracie. The former goes with the Eight Reinforcements, while the remainder anticipate getting away with the Ninth Reinforcements.



Photo courtesy of Ian HALL, copy of picture located on Glenfield Memorial Hall's wall

Fred Wheeler Eric Monteith
George Hall Tom Forrest



Roll of Honour...

STAR, ISSUE 11749, 13 JULY 1916

DIED OF WOUNDS.
The following are reported to have died of wounds:—

July 4:—

Private G. Hall (John Hall, Onewa Road, Birkenhead, Auckland, father).

MEN WHO HAVE FALLEN. New Zealand Herald, Volume LIII, Issue 16281, 14 July 1916

PRIVATE GEORGE HALL.

Mr. John Hall, of Birkenhead, has received notification from the Defence authorities that his youngest son, Private George Hall, died from wounds sustained in action on the 4th inst. He was educated at the Mayfield and Northcote schools, and at the time of enlistment was learning the trade of an ironworker at the firm of Hall Bros., Drake Street, Auckland.



New Zealand Medical Corps moving their quarters, Armentières, 9 June 1916.



"He died for his country"

In Memory Of...

DOMINION HEROES. Auckland Star, Volume XLVII, Issue 167, 14 July 1916

ROLL OF HONOUR.

CAREERS OF THE FALLEN.

PRIVATE GEORGE HALL.

Private George Hall, who died on the 4th inst. from wounds received recently in action, was the youngest son of Mr. John Hall, of Onewa Road, Birkenhead. He left with the Eighth Reinforcements in the Third Auckland Infantry Battalion. He was 20 years of age, was educated at the Glenfield and Northcote schools, and followed the vocation of an ironworker under his father in the firm of Hall Bros., of Drake Street, Freeman's Bay. After arriving at Egypt, he was at Ismailia for a while, and served temporarily in the transport service, subsequently being returned to the infantry, and leaving for the firing-line. In a recent letter he stated that after reaching Marseilles, they were conveyed by train for about sixty hours through France before reaching their destination. They then billeted at a farm some fifteen to twenty miles from the firing-line, to which he expected to be sent a few days afterwards. Several Birkenhead "boys" were together with him.



In Memory of

Private

George Hall

12/3341, 1st Bn., Auckland Regiment, N.Z.E.F. who died on 04 July 1916

Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Hall, of Onewa Rd., Birkenhead, Auckland, New Zealand.

Remembered with Honour

Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

We will remember them...



CORP. R. J. McARTNEY, of Blenheim, Killed in action. PTE. ROBT. MARET, of Stratford, Killed in action. RFLMN. W. T. OVEREND, of Hastings, Died of wounds. CORP. E. D. SNELL, of Morrville, Died of wounds. PTE. W. BROWN, of Henderson, Killed in action. PTE. CYRIL DAKING, of Hamilton, Died of wounds. PTE. L. V. KING, of Southland, Died of wounds. PTE. G. HALL, of Birkhead, Died of wounds.



PTE. A. E. JOHNSTONE, of Hawera, Killed in action. L-CORP. W. L. COLLEY, of Hawke's Bay, Killed in action. SERGT. S. E. P. VERNON, of Rosburgh, Killed in action. PTE. G. FARQUHARSON, of Stirling, Died of wounds. CORP. F. W. HUNTER, of Cambridge, Killed in action. PTE. W. J. PHILLIPS, of Taumarunui, Killed in action. L-CORP. EDWIN E. UDY, of Wyndham, Killed in action. L-CORP. M. McARTHUR, of Blenheim, Died of wounds.



PTE. H. HOWARTH, of Ponsonby, Wounded. CORP. G. B. KNIGHT, of Dannevirke, Wounded. PTE. WHIRO WIKI, of Kawakawa, Wounded. THOOPER JOCK ROBB, of Ongaonga, Wounded. SAPPER V. J. MADDEN, of Ashburton, Wounded. CORP. ALLEN SCHMIDT, of Christchurch, Wounded. PTE. C. J. MATSON, of Carterton, Wounded. PTE. JOHN BREEN, of Auckland, Wounded.



PTE. A. W. WILLIAMS, of Whangarei, Wounded. PTE. F. J. BRADY, of Te Kopuru, Wounded. CORP. H. L. SIMPSON, of New Plymouth, Wounded. PTE. G. E. JOHNSON, of Devonport, Wounded. PTE. T. J. CARROLL, of Auckland, Wounded. PTE. REG. C. DONALDSON, of Auckland, Wounded. PTE. WM. H. BONNAR, of Ponsonby, Wounded. PTE. G. F. ELLIS, of Carterton, Wounded.



PTE. L. H. WILLS, of Hawera, Wounded. PTE. BERT. HEATLEY, of Lyttelton, Wounded. L-CP. W. A. JOHNSTON, of South Dunedin, Wounded. L-CORP. H. H. DAVISON, of Whangarei, Wounded. RFLMN. WM. READ, of Christchurch, Wounded. PTE. J. J. RANKIN, of Mosgiel, Died of wounds. PTT. JAMES HARRE, of Otahuhu, Wounded. PTE. F. D. WALLIS, of Masterton, Wounded.



PTE. E. J. HOLT, of Otahuhu, Wounded. SERGT. F. W. WILSON, of Lyttelton, Wounded. PTE. J. TAYLFORTH, of Masterton, Wounded. DVE. ALF. BUCKINGHAM, of Hamilton East, Wounded. PTE. H. H. HENDRY, of Mount Eden, Wounded. PTE. W. H. IRVING, of Stirling, Wounded. PTE. F. A. CATLEY, of Wellington, Wounded. CORP. E. F. SULLIVAN, of Dannevirke, Wounded.

NEW ZEALAND'S ROLL OF HONOUR: NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN KILLED IN ACTION, WOUNDED, OR DIED OF WOUNDS IN FRANCE.



George Hall was born on 11th April 1895, the youngest son of John and Annie Hall who lived in Onewa Road, Birkenhead.

He was educated at the Mayfield and Northcote schools and followed the vocation of an ironworker and blacksmith under his father in the firm of Hall Bros, who were Bolt and Nut manufacturers in Drake Street Freeman's Bay.

George and his mates Tom Forrest, Fred Wheeler and Eric Monteith signed themselves up in 1915, and George was deemed fit for service on 25th May. He is described in his medical examination as *5'9" tall, 11 stone 4 lb (72kg), of dark complexion, with grey eyes and brown hair. His teeth are in a fair condition, he has no illnesses, no fits.*

In early August a social and dance were held in the Glenfield schoolroom (just along the road from GCC) in honour of George, Tom Forrest, Harry Marshall, Eric Monteith, Lionel Malcolm, Fred Wheeler and Harry Gracie.

The newspaper report states *"the room and anteroom were crowded and the proceedings were most enthusiastic. During the evening Mr Andrew Geddes, on behalf of the residents, presented each of the departing recruits with a safety razor outfit as a memento of the occasion and of the good wishes of their numerous friends and said they felt proud to have them going forward to do their duty"*.

George left Auckland with 480 other men and was enlisted at Trentham on 24th August 1915. We know he was admitted to hospital at Trentham Camp at 9.30am on 13th September where he spent the week, but no ailment was recorded.

George departed our shores with the 8th Reinforcements in the 3rd Auckland Infantry Battalion. He was 20 years of age.

Arriving at Suez in December he served temporarily with the transport service before being returned to the infantry and embarking for France.

We are told he "forfeits 1 days ordinary pay for Breaking from Battalion" and the following day he was admitted to hospital at Armentiers listed simply as "Sick".

The Auckland Star reports:

"In a recent letter he stated that after reaching Marseilles they were conveyed by train for about 60 hours through France before reaching their destination. They then billeted at a farm some 15 to 20 miles from the firing line, to which he expected to be sent a few days afterwards. Several Birkenhead "boys" were together with him."

At some time between 3rd and 4th July George was admitted to hospital in the field, suffering a gunshot wound of right leg and a fractured femur.

Not even a year since leaving New Zealand, he died at 2.35pm on 4th July 1916 at the casualty clearing station.

George Hall is buried at the Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, in Nord, France (which is near the Belgium boarder).