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# WWI Centenary Programme

2014



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TAMAKI PAENGA HIRA

AUCKLAND WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Auckland Museum upholds its civic function as a war memorial by leading a wide-ranging and original programme to commemorate the centenary of the First World War. Launched with the overarching theme ‘He toa taumata rau: Courage has many resting places’, the Museum will commemorate the multiple faces of bravery and commitment shown by New Zealanders at home and abroad.

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### TALK SERIES

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#### THE GREAT WAR: A GLOBAL HISTORY, 1914 – 1918

WEDNESDAYS 14 MAY – 11 JUNE, 7PM – 9.30PM, AUDITORIUM OR TE KOROWAI ROOM. ADULTS \$10, INSTITUTE MEMBERS \$7.50, CHILDREN AND STUDENTS \$5 - SEASON PASS FOR THE 5 LECTURES (BUY 5 AND GET 2 FREE) ADULTS \$30, INSTITUTE MEMBERS \$22.50, STUDENTS \$15

Join Dr Maartje Abbenhuis, Senior Lecturer in History at The University of Auckland, for an insight into the First World War. Dr Abbenhuis will be connecting with the Museum’s collections through a series of talks, integrating images of the Museum’s buildings, commemorative spaces and displays. There will be Q&A sessions after the talks.

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### EXHIBITION

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#### ENTANGLED ISLANDS: SAMOA, NEW ZEALAND AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR

THURSDAY 19 JUNE 2014 – SUNDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2015, SAINSBURY HORROCKS AUGUST

‘Entangled Islands: Samoa, New Zealand and the First World War’ is the first in a series of exhibitions at the Museum during the centenary. New Zealand’s first action in the war was to occupy German Samoa, which it accomplished on 29 August 1914. The exhibition will tell this lesser-known story of the First World War using the many perspectives and experiences of those involved. The exhibition will also be the first in a series of ‘chapters’ about the New Zealand war experience over the coming years.

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### OFFICIAL LAUNCH – A MONTH OF CENTENARY

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Launching in August 2014, the Museum’s Centenary Programme will engage audiences, create awareness and broaden knowledge about the First World War and New Zealand’s involvement in the conflict. Under the banner of He toa taumata rau: Courage has many resting places, the programme will take a different thematic focus each year. Our theme for the 2014 programme is ‘Duty and Adventure’.

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### WAR BEGINS - A COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

TUESDAY 5 AUGUST

At 3pm on 5 August 1914, the New Zealand Governor, Lord Liverpool, read a telegram from His Majesty King George V to a crowd of 15,000 people gathered at Parliament in Wellington. The telegram expressed the King’s appreciation for the solidarity from his overseas dominions after Britain declared war with Germany. Eager to support the Empire in its time of need, Lord Liverpool responded with New Zealand’s own commitment to make any sacrifice necessary to maintain its heritage and birthright. With that commitment, New Zealand officially entered the First World War, forever changing our society.

Remembering the sacrifice that New Zealand would make during the First World War, the Museum will host a special commemorative service on the evening of this historic occasion. The service will feature a re-enactment of the Governor’s telegram-reading, a ceremonial wreath-laying and the singing of the national anthems.

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### ENLIST NOW - CENTENARY LAUNCH WEEKEND

SATURDAY 9 AND SUNDAY 10 AUGUST

Following the commemorative service of ‘War Begins’, the Museum will showcase its Centenary Programme with a weekend packed full of activities on-site, off-site and online. Through music, film, poetry, theatre and talks visitors will have the space to reflect and remember, as well as be challenged and informed. In addition, visitors can choose to step back in time to consider enlisting in the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces.



Below: Panorama of the Anzac Day crowd gathered around the Cenotaph, adjacent to Auckland War Memorial Museum. Wreath laying is taking place at the foot of the monument. The Waitemata Harbour, North Head and Rangitoto can be seen in the background (1930s). Auckland War Memorial Museum call no. AM93 A891(2)

**NEW ZEALAND GOES TO WAR - A COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE**

FRIDAY 29 AUGUST

Working with multiple partners, the Museum will host a national commemorative service marking New Zealand's first overseas action in the war — the occupation of German Samoa. The service will recognise the duty and sacrifice of those involved, as well as acknowledge and demonstrate the close personal and political connections between New Zealand and Samoa today.

**WWI SAMOA - VOICES FROM THE PACIFIC**

SATURDAY 30 AND SUNDAY 31 AUGUST

In the weekend following the national commemoration, the Museum will present a range of rich and vibrant programmes exploring New Zealand's presence in Samoa during the First World War. Through Samoan music and theatre performances, expert speakers and film screenings, we will examine historic and contemporary Samoan perspectives on the First World War.

**DR MONTY SOUTAR - WWI HISTORIAN IN RESIDENCE**

Throughout the centenary period, historian Dr Monty Soutar (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Awa) will act as the Museum's WWI spokesperson with the official title of 'WWI Historian in Residence'. For the past few years, Dr Soutar has been the co-ordinator of the 28th Māori Battalion website. From 2009-10 he was the Chief Executive of the tribal authority Te Runanga o Ngāti Porou and was previously director of Tairāwhiti Museum in Gisborne. He is also an ex-serviceman.

Following the success of *Nga Tama Toa*, about the Māori Battalion, Dr Soutar is writing a further book for the Ministry for Culture and Heritage on the Māori contribution to the First World War effort. Dr Soutar's engagement with the Museum has been reached in co-operation with the Ministry.

**ONLINE CENOTAPH**

The Museum's legacy for the centenary is the redevelopment of our Cenotaph database into the online gathering point for the personal and official memory of people who served for New Zealand Aotearoa. To coincide with the start of the commemorations, this rich biographical database of New Zealand service personnel — for which the Museum is both owner and kaitiaki (guardian) on behalf of the people of Aotearoa — is being redeveloped into a comprehensive online hub for New Zealand soldiers' stories. The vision for Online Cenotaph is that the enhanced site becomes a vital online social space where enthusiasts, family and researchers alike, can share their information and knowledge of New Zealand servicemen and women. While facts and figures will remain an important part of Online Cenotaph it will increasingly feature the recording of personal stories.

The enhanced Online Cenotaph will launch in late 2014.

**GALLIPOLI IN MINECRAFT®**

Auckland Museum has teamed up with the Media Design School and their 'Pick & Shovel' community to recreate the landscape of Gallipoli in Minecraft®. Selling over 35 million copies worldwide, Minecraft® is an award-winning game that encourages creativity and adventure, allowing users to create a virtual world. The respectful and historically accurate landscape created by our team of participants will be launched on Anzac Day 2014 and continue to develop until complete for the Anzac Day commemorations in 2015.

An educational version will also be developed for use in classrooms around New Zealand, with resources and support provided by staff at Auckland Museum.



Photographer unknown. Date unknown. Auckland War Memorial Museum call no. D538 H531