

Freedom's Call

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At your fingertips, you now have a massive, comprehensive spreadsheet of 2nd N.Z.E.F. personnel listed in the Nominal Rolls, deployed overseas during World War II and with J-Force; having identity in some way with Northland, New Zealand.

‘Northland’ refers “to that area, extending from the North Cape down to Port Albert and across to Wellsford and Great Barrier Island”.

On the [Freedom's Call website](#) itself, interesting and useful, supporting information, with links to relevant websites, where a wealth of further information is available.

* ‘Having identity in some way with,’ means meeting any ***one or more*** of the following criteria as regards the region:

- born there
- enlisted there
- lived there when enlisting
- had next of kin residing there
- died post-war there
- laid to rest there
- memorialised there
- worked or studied there before enlisting

A few who were known to have lived in Northland post-war are also listed.

[Start Here](#)

If you have not done so already download the [Freedom's Call Roll of Honour](#)

This comprises **8,091 lines of data** pertaining to **6,727 personnel**, (including 6 at the foot of the spreadsheet) spread over **37 columns**. It is the result of many thousands of hours work over a **14 year period**. **601** of those cited did not survive the war.

The following additional spreadsheets are also available for download. Each is for an embarkation.

[To March 1940](#)

[April 1940 to June 1940](#)

[July 1940 to March 1941](#)

[April 1941 to June 1941](#)

[July 1941 to September 1941](#)

[October 1941 to December 1941](#)

[January 1942 to March 1942](#)

[April 1942 to June 1942](#)

[July 1942 to December 1942](#)

[January 1943 to March 1943](#)

[April 1943 to June 1943](#)

[July 1943 to December 1943](#)

[January 1944 to March 1944](#)

[April 1944 to December 1944](#)

[January 1945 to December 1945](#)

[January 1946 to June 1948](#)

Each listing for a roll, displays surname and Christian name (including **extra entries for widely disparate aliases and married names**) in alphabetical order, regimental number, unit and rank.

Yet another spreadsheet has been produced for those who did not return.

This is titled [Lest We Forget](#).

Names are again in alphabetical order, with a **separate column for aliases**, and also display regimental number, date of death and age.

Finally, for those of you who may be interested I have produced a '**smaller**' **Roll** of just **some** who served with [Other Arms of the Forces](#). This currently has **1247 entries**, and follows along similar, if less detailed lines, but is not dealt with in this pdf.

Here too, names are in alphabetical order. Whether service was in the navy, air force, or other overseas armed force, is denoted by an "A" an "N," or the word "Army". Other columns show whether on the Cenotaph database, the service number, any aliases, rank, arm of the service, place of death, dates of birth and death, cemetery, whether a POW, whether the person appears on the Find a Grave and Billiongraves websites and next of kin and other information.

All of the above are complimented by the information found on the **Freedom's Call website**.

IMPORTANT: Before moving on to the next set of notes, download the 2nd N.Z.E.F Roll and upon finding the person you think you are searching for, **immediately check Column K (the alias shown may be the person's correct name) and see if there are any supporting notes in Column AK. These may help you zero in on the person you are looking for.**

If time permits, then review all of the information on the website as it contains so much more than what I have written here.

Latest Update:

As at 28 January, 2021, the following additional rolls and lists have also been produced.

Extrapolated rolls and lists for:

[28 Maori Battalion](#)

[N.Z.A.N.S. and W.A.A.C. personnel](#)

[Immediate Family Members who also served in WWII, whether in NZ, or overseas](#)

[Prisoners of War](#)

[Gallantry and Meritorious Service Awards Roll](#)

Further information about these rolls and lists are to be found on the

Freedom's Call website.

The following indexes can help you zero in on a name.

[2 N.Z.E.F Index](#)

Gallantry Service Index

The following notes relate to the [Freedom's Call 2nd N.Z.E.F. Roll of Honour](#).

The 2nd N.Z.E.F. Nominal Rolls

If there has been *more than one embarkation listed on the Nominal Rolls for a person, then each such embarkation has also been listed on the Freedom's Call roll*. It is not uncommon to find two or three embarkations for the one individual.

Explanatory notes on the columns: (Note; Data for **Columns A to G** have been drawn from other sources, not the nominal rolls themselves).

Column A: *The letter "C" shows whether at time the entry was made this person was listed on the Auckland War Museum's Cenotaph database.*
"Y" = Yes; "N" = No.

If that person's name **only** shows up on that database for an earlier conflict, e.g. WWI or for a deployment only to another arm of the forces, e.g. air force, it will not be on the spreadsheet.

Here you can access the [Cenotaph database](#).

Column B: *I have ascertained from sources listed whether this person served with the Maori Battalion (term interchangeable with 28 Maori).*
"Y" = Yes.

That service may not necessarily relate to this particular embarkation. It may relate to prior or subsequent service. As an example, **Column B** may show "Y"= Yes, which means the soldier served, but the unit showing against the embarkation may have been other than the Maori Battalion.

Column C: Shows whether the person said to have served with the Maori Battalion is on the [28 Maori Battalion main roll](#) or either of the [two lists](#) on the Maori Battalion website.

"Y" = Yes (is on the main roll)

"15th" = Yes (but on the 15th Reinforcements list only)

"J.F." = Yes (but on the J-Force list only)

"N" = No (not all who served with the Maori Battalion are listed)

Column D: Shows if this person was a member of **"A" Company**, 28 Maori Battalion.

Column E: Shows whether those known to have served with the **New Zealand Army Nursing Service (N.Z.A.N.S.)** or the **Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (W.A.A.C.)** feature on the rolls on the [New Zealand Military Nursing website](#).

Note: There are separate WWII and J-Force rolls for each.

"N.Z.A.N.S." = is on one of the two N.Z.A.N.S. rolls

"W.A.A.C." = is on one of the two W.A.A.C. rolls

"Not on" = has not been found on either roll.

Note: Some who served do not feature on a roll.

Column F: Records if taken **Prisoner of War, (POW)**.

Column G: Records the **Place of Capture**. Sometimes further information, e.g. **Names of prison camps, POW serial number etc. may be found in Column AK.**

Columns H and I: Surname and Christian name(s). As regards the Surname (**Column H**) where that person **is known** to have subsequently married or remarried, then **an entry or entries will also appear under the married name(s).**

Where it has been found that someone listed on the roll also had **an alias which markedly differs from the name on the roll entry then this alias along with all other relevant data has also been re-entered.**

This has been done to assist a researcher who may know the married name or the alias, but not the name displayed on the roll.

If the alias closely matches the roll entry, or if a nickname has been found, then I have not bothered to re-list it, although it does feature in **Column K**. This includes obviously misspelt names.

Hyphenated surnames have only the stem in *Column H*, with that part of the surname preceding the hyphen being shown in ***Column I*** (i.e. as a second or subsequent Christian name).

Sometimes ***variations of a name*** are to be found on a subsequent roll.

Column J: Shows the ***unit to which the listed person was attached at time of embarkation***. In other words this is as listed on the **nominal roll** in question, and may not necessarily be the same unit to be found recorded elsewhere in other records which may be researched.

Here is a [Listing of all Units](#).

Column K: Lists known aliases, nicknames and married names ***derived from sources other than the Nominal rolls themselves***.

Column L: *Army or Regimental number*. Most numbers on the roles were clearly legible, but many microfiche entries were nearly illegible. ***Sometimes a 'best guess' had to be applied.***

Column M: The ***rank at time of embarkation***. This is shown in abbreviated form. These abbreviated ranks (and a few more) are to be found [here](#).

Column N: Shows the respective ***embarkation***. A listing of these is to be found at the top of the Roll. Each embarkation has a ***colour code***. This has been done to assist researchers seeking to know who else in the way of family or friends may have accompanied the subject when he/she embarked.

Column O: *Marital status*. A key to the entries is [here](#).

Column P: *Place of enlistment*. This was not always the same as regards subsequent embarkations. In the odd rare instance this was recorded 'Not Stated'.

Column Q: *Occupation*. A given occupation may be slightly different in its description. in a subsequent embarkation entry.

Column R: *Last address*. This is at time of embarkation. This can vary from embarkation to embarkation. If for whatever reason the last known address was not recorded, the roll has been duly noted. Even where an address is not changed, it may not be exactly displayed as per an earlier roll.

Column S: *Next of kin*. Sometimes initials of Christian names of next of kin differ from one embarkation to the next; no doubt in some instances due to transcription errors. In other instances we see next of kin changing entirely, e.g. one roll may record father and mother, the next spouse, or a sibling or relative.

Alphabetical letters used to denote next of kin are expanded upon [here](#). They are pretty much self-explanatory.

General Notes - Nominal Roll Entries

By and large all of the information in these columns stems from the Nominal Rolls. There have been a few instances where roll details have been taken from Cenotaph entries. I have since found with **some** of those entries that information did not always tie up. This may have occurred through transposition error or through entries from family and /or independent researchers not matching. **Where I have found this to have occurred**, I have wherever possible corrected that data to have it fall in line with that shown on the rolls.

Errata as separately listed with the rolls, have been taken account of.

Should you feel the need at any time to review the rolls yourself, there are various ways you can do that. The 2nd N.Z.E.F. Nominal Rolls are held on microfiche at the [Auckland Central Public Library](#), along with the original paper copies which you can sight. Viewing of the latter requires that you make an appointment. They are also available freely through the digital library on the [Ancestry](#) site through the Auckland Library and the **Wellington Public Library**, and to members of the [NZ Society of Genealogists](#).

Sadly, the microfiche data has deteriorated over the years and it is the fiches which appear to have been used by Ancestry. I had some real issues trying to decipher some of the regimental numbers and some initials of Christian names. 1's and 4's presented some problems also, as did I's and L's.

It is to be hoped that the original entries may once again be accessed to refresh the site and replace the microfiches currently held at the Auckland library.

Information Found from Other Sources.

This includes, but is not limited to the following:

Auckland War Memorial Cenotaph Database

[Commonwealth War Graves Commission](#)

28 Maori Battalion website

[NZ War Graves Project](#)

NZ Military Nursing website

[Births Deaths and Marriages Online](#)

[NZ Defence Force](#)

[National Library of NZ](#) (to whom I offer my thanks for photographs)

Various online cemetery databases also yielded up a lot of information. Those used most frequently were:

[Whangarei District Council Cemetery Database](#) (Maunu, Kamo (Ketenikau), Onerahi, Kioreroa and Ngunguru (Cape Horn))

[Far North District Council Cemetery Record](#) (Kaitaia, Totara North, Kaeo, Kerikeri, Paihia, Russell, Kaikohe, Okaihau, Rawene, Kohukohu and Kawakawa)

Most of my research of cemeteries in the Auckland region was done when four separate databases were up and searchable. The North database made it very easy to zero in on those cemeteries in 'Northland', e.g. Wellsford. Not so now, where all those listed below are searchable (but by name, not cemetery) through [Auckland Council Cemeteries](#).

Auckland Council North (covering **North Shore**, i.e. Albany Village, Birkenhead/Glenfield, Mt Victoria, **North Shore Memorial Park**, O'Neills Point, Pioneer and Pompallier Cemeteries), and **Rodney**, i.e. Hoteo North, Kaipara Flats, Kaukapakapa, Leigh, Matakana, Parkhurst, **Port Albert**, Puhoi, Stanmore Bay, Te Arai, Te Kapa, Wainui Public, Wainui Settlers. **Warkworth**, **Wellsford**, Whangateau)

Auckland Council Central (Hillsborough, Onetangi - Waiheke Island, Otahuhu Public, Waikaraka and others)

Manukau Memorial Gardens (Manukau Memorial Gardens, Papakura, Papakura South, Paparoa-Howick, **Pukekohe**, Waiau Pa, **Waiuku** and others)

Auckland Council West (Waikumete Cemetery)

[Purewa Cemetery and Crematorium](#)

Hamilton City Council (Hamilton East, Hamilton West and Hamilton Park, Newstead)

Many **other databases throughout New Zealand** were also searched, where there were indications that the deceased had connections with that area.

The **Find a Grave** and **Billiongraves** websites often enhanced the information I had gleaned from the above sources, but also provided a wealth of information on graves and memorials in cemeteries in the Northland area, lacking an online database. I was even able to add a few more entries to the roll as a result of this exercise.

This is by no means an exclusive list: Ahipara (Ahipara Maori), Arapohue, Broadwood, Awanui (St. Joseph's Anglican Church), **Dargaville (New and Old RSA Mount Wesley)**, Herekino, Horeke (Uta Te Whanga Te Rao Rao), **Houhora**, Hukerenui, Kaihu, Kaitaia (St. Saviour Churchyard), **Kaiwaka**, Kaurihohore, Kerikeri (St. David's Anglican Church); **Mangawhai, Mangonui**, Mangungu, Marua, Matakohē, Maungakaramēa, **Maungaturoto (Congregational and Anglican)**, Motatau (Takapuna), Otonga, Pakaraka (Holy Trinity Church), Ngawha (St. Michael's Anglican), Paparoa (St. Mark's Church Anglican), Parua Bay, Peria, Ruakaka (Urupa Takahiwai Marae), Takahue, **Te Kopuru (Redhill)**, Waiharara, Waimamaku, Waimate North (St. John the Baptist churchyard), Waipapakauri, **Waipu**, Whangaroa (Matangirau), Whareora and Wharehine (Minniesdale). Many other very small cemeteries and urupa also pop up.

The Remaining Columns:

Person Killed or who Otherwise Died While on Active Service (Columns T to Z and Column AK)

This includes those who died on active service subsequent to serving overseas but before the end of the war, but **not** those who died here in NZ in preparation for service overseas and who are not on the Nominal roll.

Column T: Shows *where they were killed or otherwise died*.

Column U: *The name of the cemetery where buried or where the soldier has been memorialised.*

Column V: *The grave reference, or the monument or column where the name is inscribed.*

Column W: *the soldier's last known rank* (although there are also some entries in this column for those who survived the war).

Column X: *Date of birth* (where known). See my note later on about this.

Column Y: *Date of death* (highlighted in **yellow**)

Column Z: *Age at death*

Column AK: Lots of snippets of information are to be found in this column, such as biographical information, gallantry medals as listed on the Cenotaph database page, or from other sources such as the Maori Battalion website. This should be one of your first ports of call.

Much of the above information stems from either the Cenotaph website or the CWGC site.

Persons Who Survived the War (**Columns W to Z, and Columns AA and AK**)

Column X: *Date of birth* (where known). Most of these entries here are validated by searching through the **BDM Index**, but some births referenced elsewhere could not be found here. They may not have been registered (many Maori names could not be found), or been born overseas.

Obviously, for births overseas, dates could not be checked.

In some instances I have hesitated to put in a birth date where there is a lack of certainty as to whether it refers to the person listed; rather, I have chosen to put in the entry '**See note**' directing you to check out what is mentioned about this in **Column AK**.

As **the BDM only allows a search back 100 years**, so dates of birth of many of the service personnel will only be able to be accessed in years to come. That includes those entries marked with a **coloured alphabetical letter** (placed there solely to assist me with future tracking).

If you wish to undertake **your own check on a birth date**, you are shown how to do this [here](#).

Column Y: *Date of death*. Most of the entries have been tracked through the **BDM Index**.

It must not be forgotten that there are still a number of people on the database, alive.

For those others not found, likely causes are that the death was registered under a different name to that found to be on the spreadsheet, or the person died overseas. Possibly the death was not registered? In those instances I have had to rely on any date of death recorded elsewhere.

In some instances I have hesitated to put in a death date where there is a lack of certainty whether it refers to the person listed; rather, I have chosen to put in the entry 'See note' directing you to check out what is mentioned about this in **Column AK**.

With regards both **Columns X and Y**, *where I have found dates of birth and death conflicting between different sources, I have taken the date of birth or death as displayed in the birth or death index.*

Examples: Family or a gravestone display a date of birth which differs from that in the index; I have taken the date in the index. Date of **birth** showing in the Death Index differs with the Birth Index entry? I have taken the date in the Birth Index.

Similarly, with a date of death shown on a gravestone, or in a newspaper clipping, or on the Cenotaph database, or on a cemetery record; if this does not tie up with the entry on the Death Index, I have taken the date recorded on the index.

If you wish to undertake your own check on a death date, you are shown how to do this [here](#).

I acknowledge that the information showing up in the birth or death index may not be correct, but it is the best I have got to work with. Do bear in mind that these are just indices and dates and other details may have been transcribed incorrectly. If you wish to be absolutely sure as to a date of birth or death, then you need to call up a [birth or death certificate](#) There is a charge for this.

Column Z: Often **ages** just didn't tie up. For example, where age at death is shown on a cemetery record, on a gravestone, in a newspaper clipping, on the Cenotaph site, on the Death Index, on the CWGC site or elsewhere and this does not match with the age calculated by reference to a person's known date of birth and death, then I have fallen back on applying the calculation, and have used the age which this has produced.

Column AA: *Whether a cremation of burial.* Not all cemetery records show this.

Column AB: If a **cremation**, **either** the date of cremation **or** the date of interment or sprinkling of ashes.

Column AC: The ***name of the cemetery and plot number***. Most of these entries have been gleaned from the ***online council cemetery databases***, some from the ***other sources***, mentioned above.

Where some doubt exists as to where the deceased lies, there may simply be a '**See note**' in this column.

Note: You may see not only gravestone details recorded. Sometimes there is just a memorial stone or plaque and thus no grave reference exists.

Column AD: Name of *funeral director*. This has been entered as an aid to tracking down the deceased's last known address and possibly other useful information, through this source. Funeral directors are not always displayed on the cemetery record.

Column AE: Shows whether an entry for this person was found when a search of the BDM **Birth Index** was undertaken. 'N' indicates 'No'. Otherwise, it can be assumed an entry was found.

Column AF: Shows whether an entry for this person was found when a search of the BDM **Death Index** was undertaken. 'N' indicates 'No'. Otherwise, it can be assumed an entry was found.

Column AG: Denotes whether a *profile* exists on the [Find a Grave](#) website.

Column AH: Shows if a *photo* is on the Find a Grave website. Where a photo was taken, this is assumed to be a gravestone (not memorial stone) unless stated otherwise.

Column AI: Records whether there is an entry on the **Billiongraves website**. This will **always be accompanied by a photo** of the headstone/memorial unless otherwise stipulated in **Column AK**.

Column AJ: Records whether there is an entry on the **Familial Roll**. Note: The name showing on the Familial Roll will only be that as listed on the Nominal Rolls though.

Column AK: Expect to find here things such as place of birth, place of death, name of parents, name of wife, names of other kin (including those who served and did not return), including some from the genealogical websites, such as Ancestry.com and Geni.com etc., where killed and how killed, reference to notes or biographies on other websites, e.g. Maori Battalion and Cenotaph, last known address, whether known to have been a Prisoner of War (**POW**), if cremated, where and information pertaining to same, any conflict of names, if mentioned on an N.Z.E.F. casualty list, possibilities as regards alternative names and respective cemeteries, details of [gallantry medals](#) and citations, details of [military long service and good conduct medals](#), other service medals, details of misspellings on the Nominal roll, details of irregularities elsewhere, notes re territorial service and regular military service both pre and post war, rank attained post war, if not on the **W.A.A.C. and N.Z.A.N.S. rolls** .. and much more.

If the person was a **POW** or if they were in receipt of ***gallantry medals and citations, military long service and good conduct medals, other service medals, civic awards and honours***, etc. this has been highlighted in **blue**, immediately at the beginning of the entry.

Where a ***spouse also served*** this has been highlighted in [blue](#).

Where ***other immediate family*** have served, whether in NZ, or overseas, their names have been highlighted in [blue](#).

Abbreviations for some of the entries in **Column AK** are at the foot of the page [here](#).

Further useful notes:

Regarding Column AK: When you see these comments (or similar) ..
'believed to be this person' this is informing you that details regarding birth, death and burial/cremation as shown are believed to relate to that person appearing on the roll; 'no other information available' relates ONLY to the comment regarding cremation preceding it.

'Credit: -----'; this denotes that the person named has contributed SOME, even if only a snippet, of the information shown in the column, on that row.

If you can't find the person you're looking for on the Cenotaph database, it may be that a record has not been created for this individual yet. [Contact Auckland Museum](#) to request a new record. Virtually all 2nd N.Z.E.F. personnel are on the Cenotaph roll as of today's date.

You will be asked to submit a biography of the person, along with a copy of their military service record which you can obtain from the [NZ Defence Force](#).

If you find a connection with someone listed in Online Cenotaph you could help the museum enhance their record by submitting any further information, which you have.

If you wish to apply for medals or miniatures, or seek replacements, go [here](#).

[A breakdown is available](#) for the 601 army personnel who did not return.

If you are conducting a search of cemeteries, and have not found what you are looking for on the Roll it may be because:

The name is too generic

The person does not feature on NZ council cemetery records

The person is on a council cemetery record, but the council records are not online. There are quite a few in this category, including unfortunately those in the Northern Wairoa district. **Update:** Quite a few of these have been mopped up though as a result of trawling through the Find a Grave and Billiongraves websites.

The person lies in a private or Maori (not council) cemetery/urupa. Small online databases have sometimes been privately produced for those buried in these smaller cemeteries. Further notes about urupa are to be found on the website.

The name on the death record does not match that on the council cemetery record.

If you haven't found what you are looking for, it is a good idea to visit the council offices concerned, or check to see if small databases exist online for some of the smaller cemeteries which may be in the area you are exploring.

Good luck with your research! I am certain that this publication will go a long way to assisting you with it.

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