

Fact sheet: *Methodist chaplains and ministers during World War I*

Methodist Church of New Zealand Archives National Archive of the Methodist Church of New Zealand

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Hours: By appointment only. Closed weekends, public holidays, Christmas-New Year and Easter Tuesday

Sources of information in the Methodist Church of New Zealand Archives

Rolls of honour

A list of rolls of honour from Methodist churches and parishes is published on the Methodist Church website: <http://www.methodist.org.nz/archives>

Book

Allan K Davidson. *New Zealand Methodist chaplains and ministers at war*. Wesley Historical Society. 2016

Methodist Church of New Zealand Archives Personal Papers and Historical Records Collection

Check to see if any papers belonging to ministers or soldiers who served in World War I are held: www.methodist.org.nz/archives

Supernumerary Trust Fund records held in the Methodist Archives (restricted access).

Includes file *Military Camps Fund including World War I chaplains and applications for pensions*, 1921-1937. 1 file. Catalogue number 9358-78

People Information Files

Contain information about ministers, reference to obituaries and dates and places stationed

Digitised New Zealand Methodist newspapers

Can be searched for people or events.

<http://kinderlibrary.recollect.co.nz/>

Other sources

A guide on how to research World War I soldiers has been created by the National Library of New Zealand

<https://natlib.govt.nz/researchers/guides/first-world-war>

Digitised New Zealand newspapers include verbatim reports and photographs of those who served

<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>

Official website recording history and details of projects relating to World War I

<https://ww100.govt.nz/>

New Zealand Methodist ministers' and chaplains' sermons and addresses about war, 1916-1919

Compiled by the Methodist Church of New Zealand Archives, 2017

Introduction

Surprisingly, not many sermons given by Methodist ministers have been reproduced in print or gifted to the Methodist Archives from the World War I period. One explanation could be that ministers prided themselves on being able to preach freely without notes and it would only be on formal occasions a sermon or address would be written out. Consequently the main source of sermons or addresses has been *The New Zealand Methodist Times* newspaper.

While the following sermons have been copied from the original newspapers and can be viewed on our website. <http://www.methodist.org.nz/archives>

“Benefits of War” by Rev James T Pinfold. *The New Zealand Methodist Times*, 24 June 1916, page 4

“Methodism after the War. The new age” by Rev C H Laws. *The New Zealand Methodist Times*, 15 September 1917, page 4

“Methodism after the War. A doctrinal statement” by Rev C H Laws. *The New Zealand Methodist Times*, 29 September 1917, page 4

“Life’s higher value. A sermon preached by Rev J Dukes at a memorial service conducted at Te Aroha and Morrinsville on Sunday, November 4, in relation to the death of Lieutenant J C Allen”. *The New Zealand Methodist Times*, 24 November 1917, page 9

“The Church and the future. A sermon preached at the Auckland District Synod by Rev H Ranston”. *The New Zealand Methodist Times*, 22 December 1917, page 9 and page 12

“How to end war. Outline of a sermon preached by Chaplain H T Peat, at Taranaki Street Methodist Church, Wellington, on Sunday, December 23, 1917”. *The New Zealand Methodist Times*, 2 February 1918, page 9

“Destroy the accursed thing among you. A sermon by the Rev P I Cooke, late of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force”. *The New Zealand Methodist Times*, 29 March 1919

“Address delivered at the unveiling of the roll of honour and photographic shield in Mount Albert Methodist Schoolroom on Sunday December 14th 1919, by the Rev H E Bellhouse, President of the Conference”

Hamilton Methodist Circuit. Order of service for a thanksgiving service to mark the end of the Great War, 1919. Methodist Church of New Zealand Archives Personal Papers and Historical Records Collection MS-674

Names of Methodist ministers and chaplains who served during World War I:

More information about these ministers is in the book by Allan K Davidson. *New Zealand Methodist chaplains and ministers at war*. Wesley Historical Society. 2016.

Also included in this book is a list of Methodist ministers, Home Missionaries, probationers and students for the ministry who served in the ranks or in the YMCA during the First World War.

Allen, Alexander
Blamires, Henry Lawrence
Frost, Frederick Ledger
Grigg, William
Hopper, Arthur
Luxford, John Aldred
Mitchell, Arthur
Neale, Leslie Bourneman
Olds, Charles Henry
Peat, Harold Theodore
Rands, Frederick
Read, Frederick Thomas
Ready, William
Scott, William Bramwell
Seamer, Arthur John
Sullivan, Joseph Richard
Walker, William
Watson, William Adam