

JAMES BENJAMIN MORTEN POYNTER



8 Sept 1874 – James Benjamin Morton **POYNTER** was born in Poverty Bay. His is the son of James Benjamin Poynter and Maraea Morete.

Maraea Morete, also known as Maria Morris, is said to have been born on 24 July 1844 at Whakaari, near Tangoio, Hawke's Bay, although she may have been born at Waikokopu, Mahia. She was the eldest child of Puihi and William Morris. Puihi was a woman of mana of Te Aitanga-a-Mahaki, the people of the Turanga plain, inland from Poverty Bay



Maraea Morete of Te Aitanga-a-Mahaki is seen with her son James Benjamin Poynter

15 Feb 1900 - James B Poynter enlisted for the SA War's 3rd Contingent at Napier aged 26 yrs

25 June 1901 – J B Poynter returned to NZ on the SS Whakatane.

1901 – Married Mary Harlicone Forsythe in Napier. They had 1 son & 3 daughters

1903 – Joined the 9th Regt of the Wellington EC Mounted Rifles

3 Aug 1911 INSTRUCTIONAL CAMP

The following is the list of officers and non-commissioned officers who leave by the s.s. Ripple to-morrow night to attend the Instructional Camp at Palmerston North, from the 5th to 11th of August:—

A Squadron Ninth (Wellington, E.C.) Mounted Rifles: Captain C. Hellier Evans, Lieutenants C. J. Hamilton, J. B. Poynter, and C. R. Spragg; Squadron-Sergt.-Major H. McLernon; Quarter-master-Sergt. J. W. Fairlie; Sergeants W. McCullough, F. J. Crimmin, W. L. Coleman, J. A. McLean, J. F. Lloyd, and A. J. McCreedy; Corporals D. G. S. MacDonald, B. Malone, W. R. Graham, L. R. Bright, A. Booth, T. J. Muldoon, G. A. Cameron, A. C. de Lautour, J. P. St. Clair, and Trumpeter C. Fairlie (22).

H Company Ninth Regiment (Wellington E.C. Rifles): Sergeants Hay, Hunter, Catton, A. Beere, and Hansen; Corporals A. Trafford, Aitken, Mellor, Andrew, Marr, and Winter (11).

1903 – 1915 – Active service in the Wellington East Coast Mounted Rifles

1915 - Awarded the NZ Territorial Service Medal for Long & Efficient Service (12 Years & 193 Days)

24 June 1916 – James B Poynter # 28044 - enlisted in England for the NZ Pioneer Battalion

19 July 1916

Mr JAMES B POYNTER of Gisborne, who was unable to get into the R.F.C., is going to join the NZ forces in France, and hopes to be with the Pioneers on service within a fortnight..

1916 – Saw service in France with the NZ Pioneer Battalion & the 3rd Wellington Infantry 9th Coy – promoted to Lance Corporal during this time

5 January 1917 – J B Poynter is reported to be wounded and has been admitted to hospital

5 Dec 1917

(Special to the Herald.)

WELLINGTON, this day.

Killed in action, November 17: Robert Kingsley Walker (Mrs N. L. Walker, Gisborne, mother). November 20, Corporal Melville Sim Edwards (Mrs E. H. Edwards, Gisborne, wife).

Wounded: Wm. Greig (J. W. Thomas, Frasertown); Harry Seal (Mrs J. O'Connor, Gisborne, mother).

Wounded, admitted to hospital: James Benjamin Poynter (Mrs M. H. Poynter, Gisborne, wife).

Hospital report: Not severe case: Lt. P. D. Russell, E. T. Stone, A. W. Merritt, A. Scott, K. Para, H. Rawhira, T.-Cpl. E. J. Sherwood (Gisborne), W. S. Griffin (Poverty Bay), O. Savage (Matata), J. Wood (Wairoa).

18 Mar 1918 – BACK FROM THE WAR

As indicated in our Saturday's issue quite a large draft of Gisbornites are included in the names of the returning soldiers who reached Auckland on Friday last. About twenty-four local men returned home by the Arahura last evening, the men being formally welcomed back by Messrs G. W. Humphreys, G. B. Oman, and C. G. Munns on behalf of the Citizens' Defence Committee, and by Mr. Lange, secretary of the Returned Soldiers' Association. The names of the returned men, as far as can be ascertained, are as follows:—

Sergeant James Benjamin Poynter, Sergeant F. N. Lunken, Sergeant S. O. Pascoe, Corporal John A. Hunt, Private Reginald Edward Clarke, Private Thomas Hyde, Private Rua Kainuku, Private Clarence R. McKay, Private William R. Morell, Private Te Puni Taitema, Private John Smoke, Private Albert Stark, Private Matthew D. Mullooly, Private Para Kohn, Private Robert Pethridge, Private Ronald Graham, Private James Arthur Hill, Private Albert Charles Williams, Private Henry Williams, Private Thomas Harding, Sapper Cecil Cameron, Sapper Malcolm McDonald, Rifleman John Kape, Rifleman E. Cranney, Rifleman F. Hunter.

1918 – 1919 – Joined the 7th Regt of the Wellington E C Mounted Rifles

10 January 1919

PROMOTIONS, RESIGNATIONS AND

TRANSFERS. N.Z. Staff Corps

Lieutenant James B Poynter to be Captain, under the provisions of paragraph 111. General Regulations, 1913: (October 1, 1918).

1919 – 1927 a member of the Reserve of Officers

1926 - Awarded the NZ Territorial Service Medal for Long & Efficient Service

10 Oct 1932 – Captain J B Poynter was awarded the Colonial Auxiliary Long Services Medal

4 Feb 1937 – Captain James B Poynter retired from the NZ Military Forces due to his death.

JAS.B.POYNTER, beloved husband of Mary H.POYNTER, died 4 February 1937. He was a South African & Great War Veteran. He is buried in the Ormond Cemetery near Gisborne