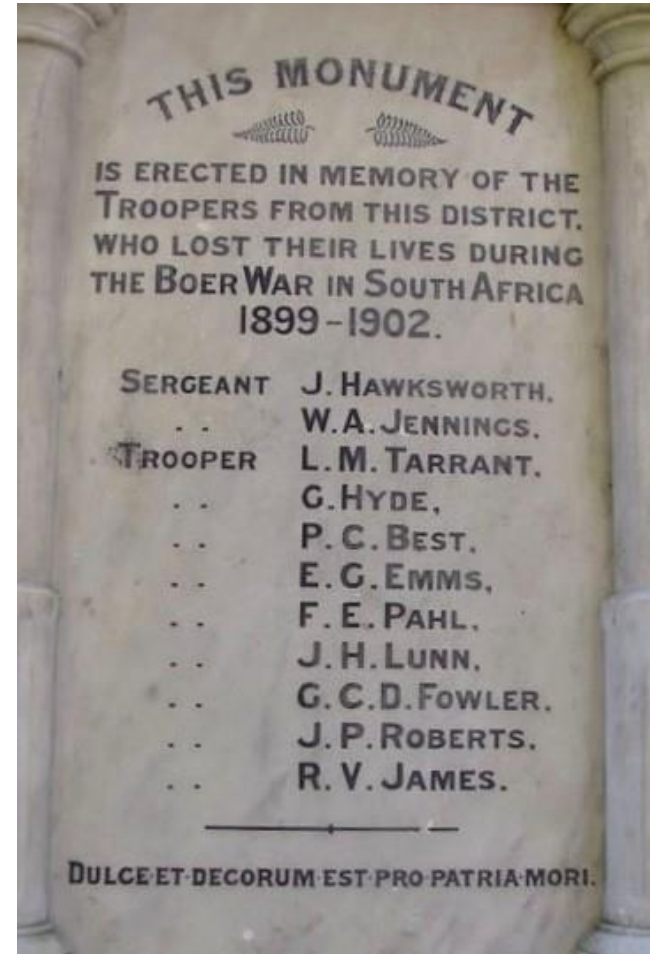


**NELSON DISTRICT,  
NEW ZEALAND**

**SOUTH AFRICAN WAR  
(ANGLO – BOER WAR)  
1899 – 1902**

**ROLL OF HONOUR  
QUEEN’S GARDENS,  
NELSON.**

*(N.B. The names are not in alphabetical order but are as listed on the memorial.  
The last 2 names are on a separate panel – late additions?)*



	NAME	FORCE No.	RANK	UNIT	WHERE WOUNDED / KILLED / DIED	WHERE BURIED / COMMEMORATED	DATE	AGE
1	<b>HAWKSWORTH, John</b> ( <i>born Nelson 21/7/1881</i> ) (His younger brother Frank died in WWI)	4713 & 9578	Private ( <i>Sergeant on memorial</i> )	7 <sup>th</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Rifles ( <i>10<sup>th</sup> on tombstone</i> )	Died of appendicitis following pneumonia after being repatriated to Auckland Hospital, New Zealand. ( <i>He enlisted with the 7<sup>th</sup> Contingent &amp; re-enlisted with the 10<sup>th</sup> )</i> )	Wakapuaka Cemetery, Nelson, New Zealand.	02/09/1902	21

2	<b>JENNINGS,</b> William Aubrey <i>(Bridge Street, School Nelson 1888- 1890)</i>	394	Trooper	2 <sup>nd</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Infantry	Killed in action at Rhenosterkop near Rietfontein, Transvaal. Initially buried near battlefield; exhumed & reburied after the war.	Diamond Hill Cemetery, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa. <i>(also on Christ Church, Nelson &amp; Wanganui ABW Memorials)</i>	29/11/1900	
3	<b>TARRANT,</b> Leonard Mathew(s) <i>(Lower Moutere School)</i>	71	Sergeant <i>(trooper on memorial)</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Infantry	Member of the Coromandel Rifle Volunteer Corps; captured at Doornspruit 31/3/1900; died of enteric fever at the Racecourse Hospital, Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa. <i>(He was the first New Zealander to die whilst being a P.O.W.)</i>	Old Cemetery, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa. <i>(also on Moutere ABW Memorial.)</i>	20/04/1900	29
4.	<b>HYDE,</b> George <i>(from Rangitikei) (born 14/8/1878)</i>	734	Trooper	3 <sup>rd</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Infantry	Killed in action at Rhenosterkop near Rietfontein, Transvaal. Initially buried at Rhenosterkop; exhumed and reburied after the war.	Diamond Hill Cemetery, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa. <i>(also on Marton, Canterbury &amp; Wanganui ABW Memorials)</i>	29/11/1900	22
5.	<b>BEST,</b> Philip Coster <i>(born 1876)</i>	1163	Trooper	4 <sup>th</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Rifles	Died of disease; enteric fever in Potchefstroom, Transvaal, South Africa.	Olien Park Cemetery, Potchefstroom, North West Province, South Arica.	26/03/1901	24
6.	<b>EMMS,</b> Ernest George	2589	Trooper	5 <sup>th</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Rifles	Enlisted with the 14 <sup>th</sup> (Canterbury) Company; died of pernicious fever (malaria) in Bulawayo, Rhodesia.	Bulawayo Cemetery, Zimbabwe.	22/12/1900	20 or 21
7.	<b>PAHL,</b> Francis Edward "Frank" <i>(born 26/9/1876)</i>	3536	Trooper	8 <sup>th</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Rifles	Died of disease; enteric fever in Charlestown, Natal, South Africa.	Newcastle Cemetery, Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa.	06/02/1902	25
8.	<b>LUNN,</b> John Neighoff <i>(born 21/9/1878)</i>	5806	Trooper	8 <sup>th</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Rifles	Died of measles & pneumonia / bronchitis on Somes Island, Wellington, New Zealand. <i>(John Neihoft Lunn on gravestone)</i>	Karori Cemetery, Wellington, New Zealand.	17/08/1902	21
9.	<b>FOWLER,</b> George Clarke Dunbar <i>(born 3/6/1880)</i>	8025	Trooper	9 <sup>th</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Rifles	Died of pneumonia in Takaka, Nelson, New Zealand.	Takaka East Cemetery, Nelson, New Zealand.	02/09/1902	22
10.	<b>ROBERTS,</b> Joseph Preecy <i>(Precey / Percy?)</i>	2734	Trooper	3 <sup>rd</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Infantry	Died of disease; enteric fever in Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa. <i>(His brother Thomas Edmund also served in the ABW)</i>	Old Cemetery, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa.	25/02/1901	
11.	<b>JAMES,</b> Ralph Vincent <i>(born 12/10/1878)</i>	2483	Trooper	5 <sup>th</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Rifles	Died of enteric fever in Zeerust, Transvaal, South Africa.	Zeerust Cemetery, North West Province, South Africa.	20/11/1900	22

					<b>The following names appear on another panel on the memorial (late additions?):</b>	<b>The following names are also on a memorial tablet in Nelson Cathedral:</b>		
12.	<b>ANSLOW,</b> Robert Ernest <i>(born 24/2/1871)</i>	7992	Trooper	9 <sup>th</sup> Contingent New Zealand Mounted Rifles	Enlisted in B Squadron, South Island Regiment; died of dysentery in Newcastle, Natal, South Africa.	Newcastle Cemetery, Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa.	03/05/1902	31
13.	<b>HARFORD,</b> Sydney Christopher. <i>(born 1876)</i>	248?	Gunner (Seaman)	Natal Naval Volunteers	Died of enteric fever in Durban.	West Street Cemetery, Durban, KZN. <i>(also on Durban ABW Memorial Panel 4, Francis Farewell Square, Durban, NNV ABW Memorial, St. Cyprian's Anglican Church, Durban, KZN, SA.&amp; family gravestone in Wakapuaka Cemetery, Nelson, N.Z.)</i>	16/10/1900	24

The memorial tablet reads:

*"This monument is erected in memory of the troopers from this district who lost their lives in the South African War 1899-1902:  
Leonard Matthews Tarrant, Philip Coster Best, Francis Pahl, John Neighoff Lunn, John Hawksworth, Ralph Vincent James, William Aubrey Jennings, George Hyde, Ernest George Emms, George C.D. Fowler, Joseph Precey Roberts, Robert Ernest Anslow, Sydney C. Harford.*

***"Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori."***

**PAHL,** Francis Edward "Frank"

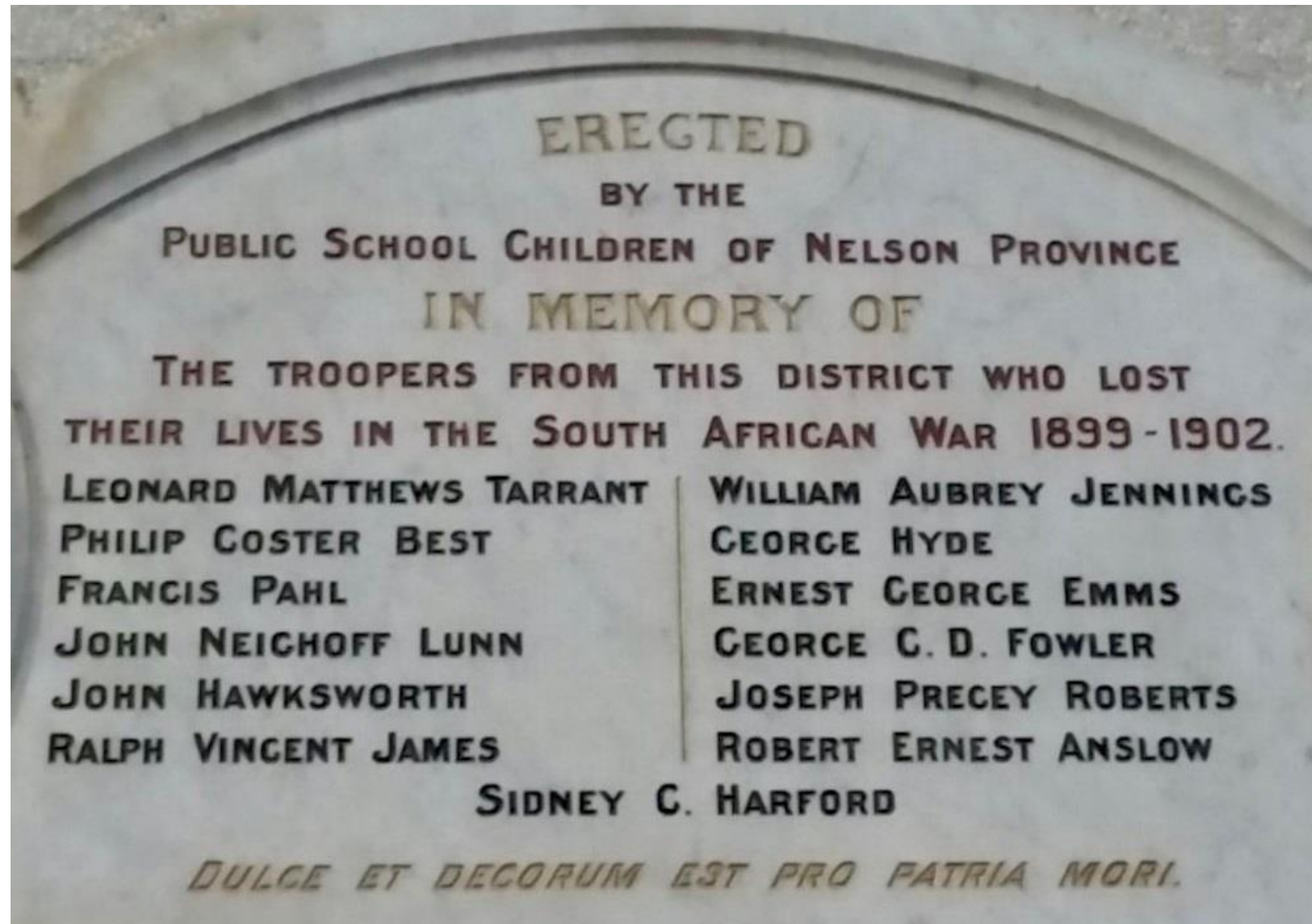
Frank wrote to his mother from Charlestown, South Africa, on 25 January 1902, telling her of his successful convalescence and his impending departure for New Zealand. His brother Arthur, who was also in the same campaign wrote on 26 May 1902 having just learnt from another trooper that his brother had died and was in fact buried nearby as they passed through Charlestown. He was not allowed to visit his grave.

*(These and other letters from the brothers are lodged in the Auckland War Memorial Museum Manuscript Collection, Reference No. MS99/86).*

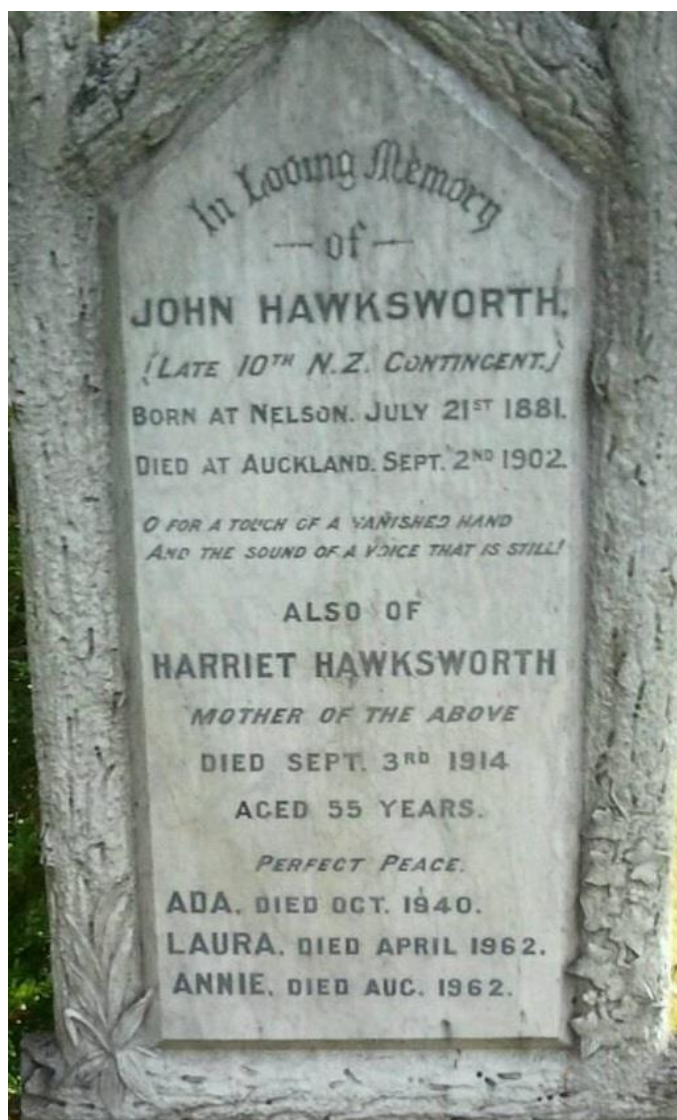
**REFERENCES:**

*In Memoriam ROH of Imperial Forces ABW 1899-1902 by Steve Watt (2000)  
Angloboerwar.com  
www.eggsa.org (Gravestones in South Africa)  
<https://nzhistory.govt.nz/search/media/south%20Africa%20war%20memorial>  
<https://www.sooty.nz/southafricaROH.html>  
<https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph>  
<https://www.nzwargraves.org.nz/casualties>  
<https://kura.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/digital/collection/photos/id/34862/>  
<http://www.theprow.org.nz/yourstory/anzac-old-boys-boer-war/#.YEC6kVUzbiU>  
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/161942778/john-hawksworth>  
<https://billiongraves.com/grave/Sydney-Christopher-Harford/20558011>*

*Compiled by  
K.M. Jordan  
March 2021*



Located inside Christ Church Cathedral in Nelson, this memorial tablet is commonly called the '**Children's Boer War memorial**' as it was paid for by a penny subscription from local school children.



WAKAPUAKA CEMETERY,  
Nelson, New Zealand.

HAWKSWORTH, John

Relatives of Private Frank Hawksworth, who left New Zealand with the Ninth Reinforcements, were informed yesterday afternoon that he was killed in action on May 22nd. The deceased, who was farming in the Sounds district when he enlisted, was the second surviving son of the late Mr J. Hawksworth, and a brother of the Misses Hawksworth, of Nelson. He was 25 years of age, and a fine manly young fellow. Telegrams of sympathy have been received from the Governor, the Prime Minister, and the Minister of Defence. The deceased's eldest brother, Sergeant John Hawksworth, also gave his life for his country, dying from sickness contracted during the South African campaign.

NELSON EVENING MAIL

7 June 1916

**William Aubrey JENNINGS (2 May 1877 - 29 November 1900)**

William Aubrey "Aub" the son of James and Susan Emma Jennings nee Worster, was born in Nelson on 2 May 1877. 'Aub' attended **Bridge Street School** from 1888 to 1890. Before joining up for the Boer War, Aubrey was a labourer, employed by Mr. C.J. Harley a lawyer of Nelson. He also worked as a labourer in Wanganui. He joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Contingent Units three and four as a private. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Contingent consisted mainly of men already trained in volunteer units. 'Aub' and his horse were both regimental number 394 and his gun a carbine number 349 and 1175. He was drafted from the Nelson Rifles; of which he had been a member for 2½ years.

Aub departed on the SS *Waiwera*, from Wellington 20 January 1900 bound for South Africa, via Albany, Australia.<sup>1</sup> The Contingent disembarked at Cape Town on 27 February 1900. They then entrained to Victoria Road in Northern Cape Colony and trekked in a column under Colonel Sir Charles Parsons for one month, before moving onto Bloemfontein. They were the first troops to enter Brandfort on 3 April after contact with the Boers. On 4 May they helped dislodge the Boers from Constantia Hill, their rifle fire proving too much for the enemy on. There was shooting on 5 and 12 May, when the contingent came under fire at the crossing of the Zand River, before entering Kroonstad.

On 26 May they had a sharp engagement at Rietspruit. On 28 May the New Zealanders were sent forward to hold a hill (Van Wyk's Vlei) coming under fire for most of the next two days.

On 29 November, the Second and Third Contingents formed part of the Force that attacked 1,000 Boers under the command of General Ben Viljoen at Rhenoster Kop in the northern Transvaal. The New Zealanders suffered particularly badly in this battle. William Jennings was killed in an engagement at Rietfontein, 29 November 1900, during this battle. He was buried on Rietfontein farm about 20 miles north of Balmoral.

A stone tablet bearing his name and those killed in the South African war is in the Nelson Cathedral. His name is also on a statue of remembrance in the Queen's Gardens Nelson.

**Reference:**

<http://www.theprow.org.nz/yourstory/anzac-old-boys-boer-war>

*[His brother Sergeant **Albert ('Bert') Charles Jennings** (1879-1917) also served in the South African War (NZ service # 4246, 7<sup>th</sup> Contingent).*

*He was killed in action in WWI at Messines Ridge, Ypres, Belgium. on 7 June 1917. (NZEf Service # 6/1887, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Canterbury Infantry Regiment, NZEF)]*



William Aubrey Jennings  
Buisewitz Photo Nelson Camahan Collection



**RHENOSTERKOP MEMORIAL**  
 Diamond Hill Cemetery, Pretoria,  
 Gauteng, South Africa.



**RHENOSTERKOP MEMORIAL**  
 Diamond Hill Cemetery, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa.

**JENNINGS, William Aubrey**  
**HYDE, George**



TARRANT, Leonard Mathews

**Len Tarrant** was born 8 February 1871 in Lower Moutere, Motueka, Nelson to Henry and Katherine Tarrant. He attended Lower Moutere School.

In the late 1890s, Len moved to the Coromandel where he was a gold miner at the Kapanga Mine. He was also a well-regarded member of the Coromandel Rifle Corps where he rose to the position of sergeant and was considered a "crack shot". During 1899, Len joined the 1st New Zealand Mounted Rifles, 1<sup>st</sup> Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Contingent and on 21 October left Wellington on the *Waiwera* for Cape Town. He took part in the action that was later named as New Zealand Hill and was part of the force that relieved the siege of Kimberley and released Cecil Rhodes. He was captured in an ambush along with 16 other New Zealanders at Sannah's Post. Len was taken to Pretoria as a prisoner of war. He was sent to a makeshift prison hospital where he died of enteric fever. He was buried in the Pretoria Old Cemetery. Len Tarrant was one of the first deployment of New Zealand troops overseas and was the only Motueka born and raised soldier to die in the Anglo-Boer War. **He was also the first New Zealand soldier to die in a prisoner of war camp in a foreign war.**

A memorial was built on the then Motueka wharf in 1903 and unveiled on 8 July 1903. At 2pm on 8 July 1917, the monument was re-dedicated as it has been refurbished. The ceremony included songs by the current students of Lower Moutere School and an address by the Chief of Army, Major General P.T.A.E. Kelly. Wreaths were laid by descendants of the Tarrant family, Harry Moffat, the Harbourmaster who raised funds for the original memorial, and the 1903 Motueka mayor, Mr. J.S. Wratt. Leonard's campaign medal, the Queen's South Africa Medal, held by his father at the original unveiling was held by Gwyn Rees who arranged for the memorial to be repaired.

**Reference:**

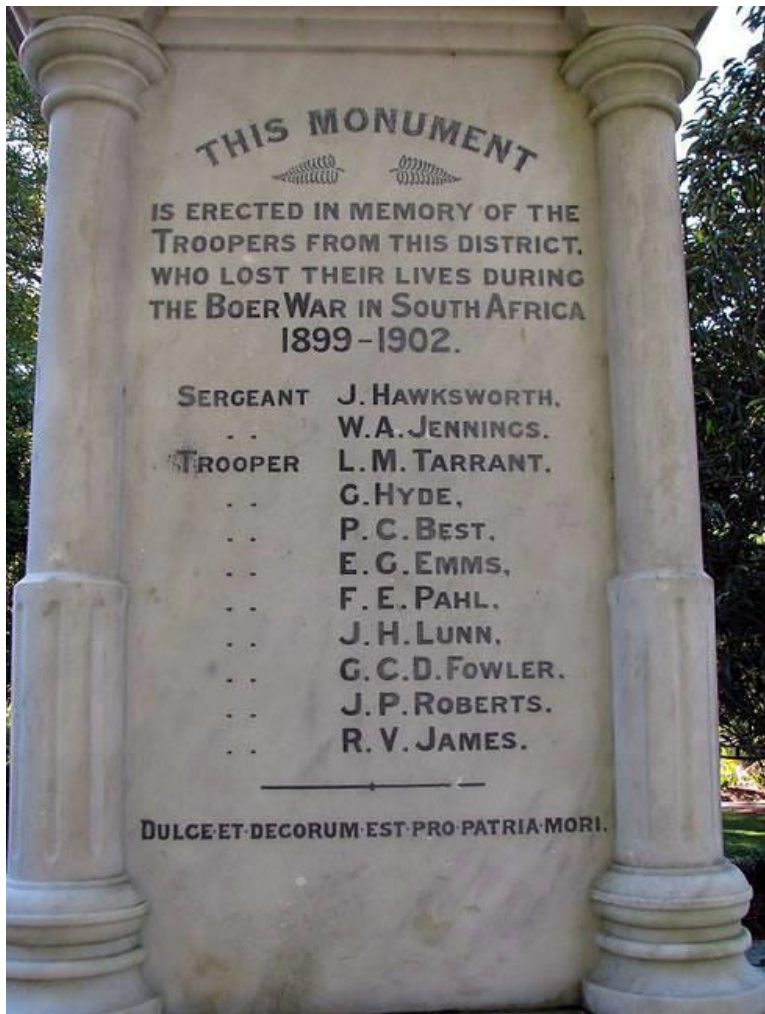
**<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Tarrant-619>**



Old Cemetery, Pretoria,  
Gauteng, South Africa.

TARRANT, Leonard Mathews





NELSON ANGLO - BOER WAR MEMORIAL

TARRANT, Leonard Mathews



MOUTERE ANGLO - BOER MEMORIAL

TARRANT, Leonard Mathews



MOUTERE ANGLO - BOER MEMORIAL

TARRANT, Leonard Mathews



**WHANGANUI SOUTH AFRICAN WAR MEMORIAL**

HYDE, George



IN MEMORY OF  
THE OFFICERS AND MEN FROM THIS DISTRICT  
WHO FELL IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.  
1899 - 1902

TPR. J. WYLLIE	1 <sup>ST</sup> CONTGT.	TPR. W. ANDERSON	3 <sup>RD</sup> CONTGT.
TPR. J.H.E. BROCK	1 <sup>ST</sup> CONTGT.	TPR. W. CALDWELL	5 <sup>TH</sup> CONTGT.
TPR. C.H.E. HENDERBY	1 <sup>ST</sup> CONTGT.	SGT. W. MOORE	6 <sup>TH</sup> CONTGT.
TPR. W.A. JENNINGS	2 <sup>ND</sup> CONTGT.	TPR. G.N. BORLASE	7 <sup>TH</sup> CONTGT.
SGT. F. RUSSELL	3 <sup>RD</sup> CONTGT.	TPR. W. FLEETWOOD	8 <sup>TH</sup> CONTGT.
TPR. HYDE	3 <sup>RD</sup> CONTGT.	TPR. L. ARDEN	9 <sup>TH</sup> CONTGT.
	DISPENSER.	D. ARMSTRONG	

**WHANGANUI SOUTH AFRICAN WAR MEMORIAL**

HYDE, George



**MARTON SOUTH AFRICAN WAR MEMORIAL**

HYDE, George



**BEST**, Philip Coster

**NEW ZEALAND CONTINGENT:**  
 LT. LEESE C.  
 " TWISTLETON T.C.H.  
 SM. LOVE D.J.  
**NEW ZEALAND MTD. RIFLES:**  
 L/CPL. LAMOND J.  
 TPR. BEST P.C.

**BEST**, Philip Coster



**BRITISH ABW MEMORIAL**,  
 Olien Park Cemetery, Potchefstroom,  
 North West Province, South Africa.

**BEST**, Philip Coster



**PAHL, Francis Edward "Frank"**



**NEWCASTLE CEMETERY,  
Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa.**

**PAHL, Francis Edward "Frank"**



**PAHL**, Francis Edward “Frank”



**BRITISH ABW MEMORIAL,**  
Newcastle Cemetery,  
Kwa Zulu Natal,  
South Africa.

**PAHL**, Francis Edward “Frank”

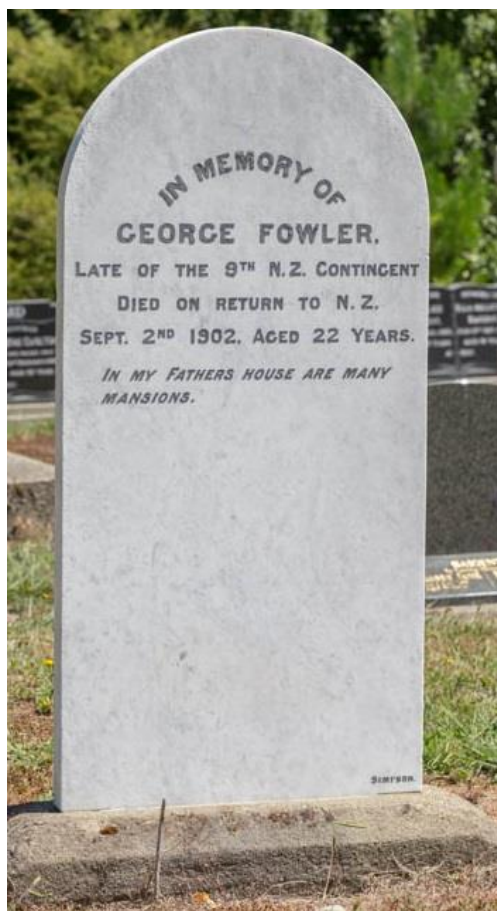


Karori Cemetery, Wellington, New Zealand.

**LUNN**, John Neighoff



Nelson members of the 8<sup>th</sup> New Zealand Contingent.  
**John Lunn** is in the back row, 4<sup>th</sup> from left.



**TAKAKA EAST CEMETERY**  
Nelson, New Zealand.

**FOWLER, George Clarke Dunbar**



**OLD CEMETERY, PRETORIA**  
Gauteng, South Africa.

**ROBERTS, Joseph Preecey**



**ROBERTS, Joseph Preecey**

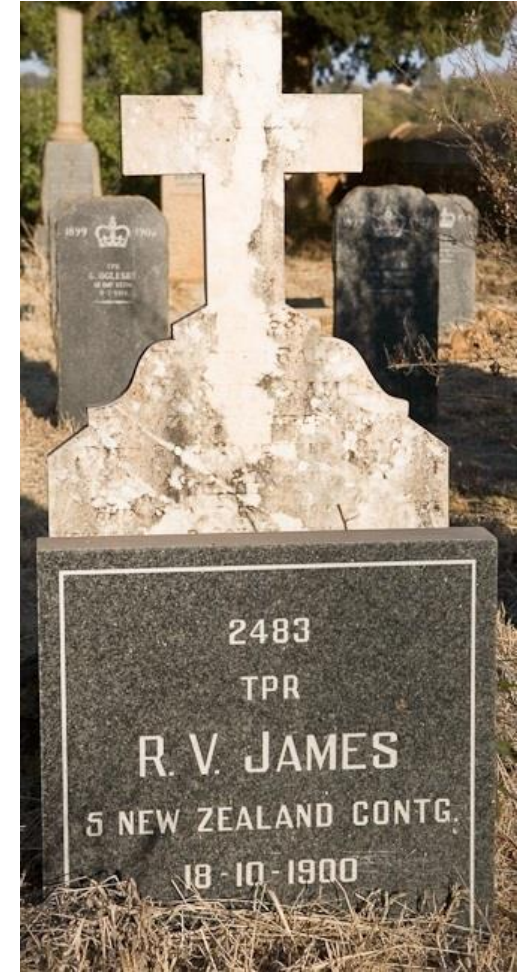


**JAMES**, Ralph Vincent



**ZEERUST CEMETERY**  
North West Province, South Africa.

**JAMES**, Ralph Vincent



**JAMES**, Ralph Vincent





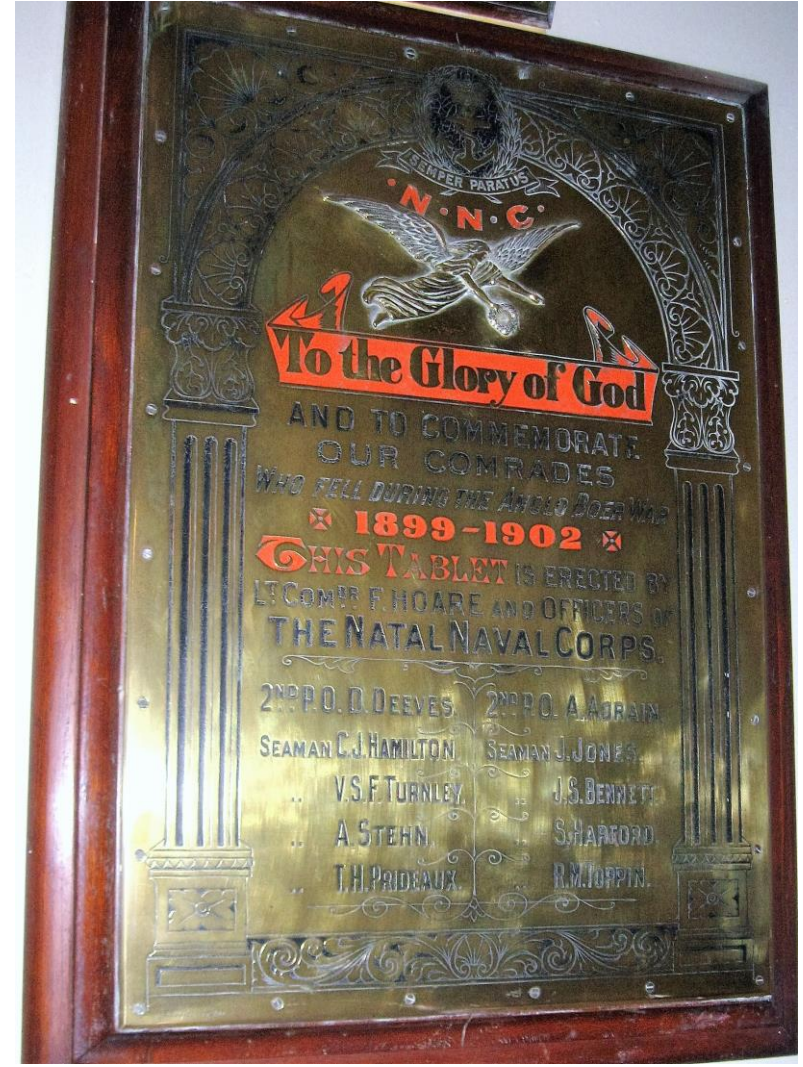
**NEWCASTLE CEMETERY,**  
Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa.

**ANSLOW,** Robert Ernest



**WEST STREET CEMETERY, DURBAN,**  
Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa.

**HARFORD,** Sydney Christopher



**NATAL NAVAL VOLUNTEERS**  
Anglo – Boer War Memorial  
St. Cyprian's Anglican Church, Durban, KZN, SA.

**HARFORD,** Sydney Christopher



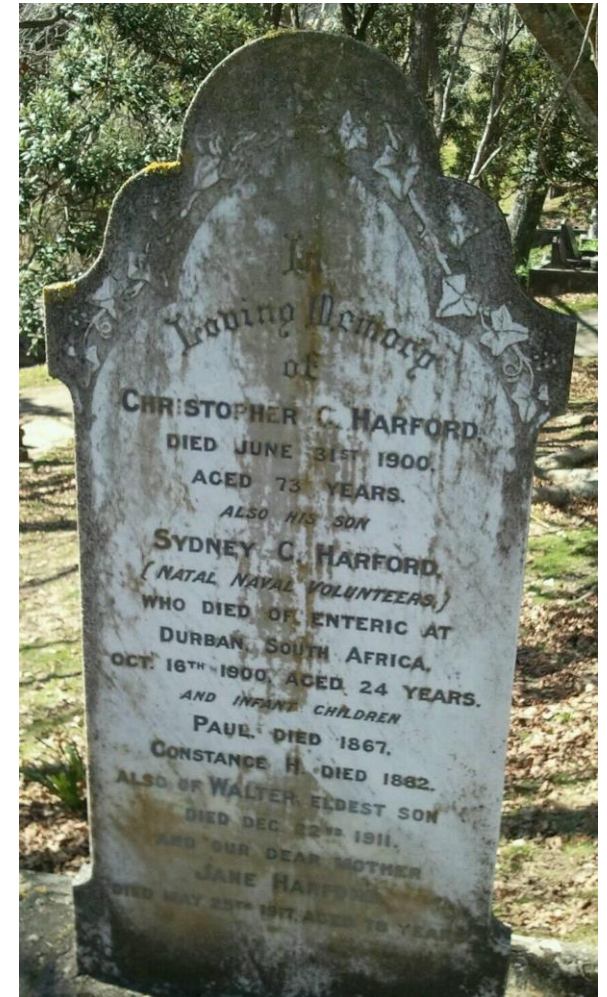
**DURBAN ANGLO BOER WAR MEMORIAL,**  
**PANEL 4,**  
 Francis Farewell Square,  
 Durban,

**HARFORD, Sydney Christopher.**



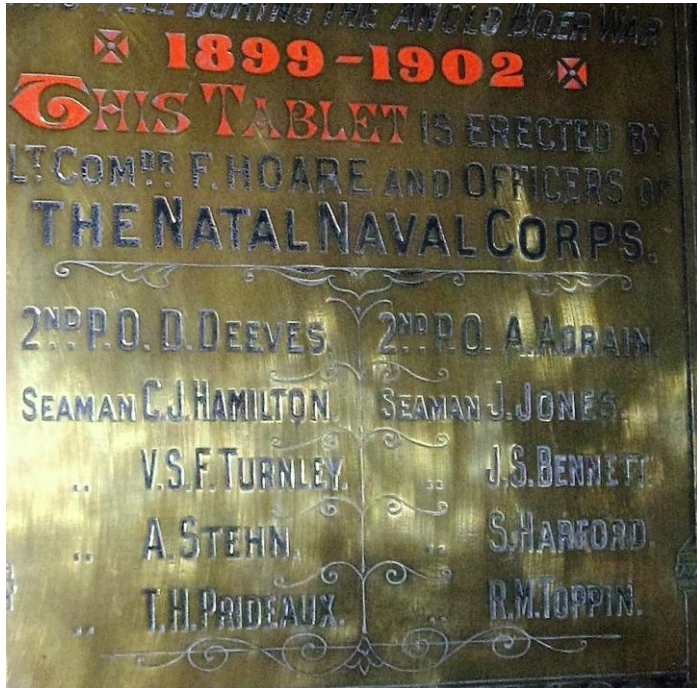
**DURBAN ANGLO BOER WAR MEMORIAL,**  
 Francis Farewell Square,  
 Durban,

**HARFORD, Sydney Christopher.**



**FAMILY GRAVESTONE,**  
 Wakapuaka Cemetery,  
 Nelson, N.Z.

**HARFORD, Sydney Christopher.**



**NATAL NAVAL VOLUNTEERS**

Anglo – Boer War Memorial  
 St. Cyprian’s Anglican Church,  
 Durban, KZN, South Africa.

**HARFORD**, Sydney Christopher



**DURBAN ANGLO BOER WAR MEMORIAL, PANEL 4,**

Francis Farewell Square,  
 Durban,

**HARFORD**, Sydney Christopher.

Before WW I, enteric fever, or typhoid fever, was the scourge of armies, and in the Anglo-Boer War killed more soldiers than enemy action. It is caused by a bacteria entering the body via contaminated food or water. Early symptoms include high fever, headaches and lassitude. Follicles along the intestinal walls later become inflamed, often leading to perforation and haemorrhaging. Other complications include gall bladder, pneumonia or heart failure. At the time of the Boer War, there were no antibiotic remedies for the disease.