

Roll of Honour
The Great War 1914 - 1918
Burnside West Christchurch University Cricket Club

The following Roll of Honour has been compiled from newspaper clippings and articles of the period about members of West Christchurch Cricket Club. The list is not complete and it may never be known who all those brave men were. Some records are not available online and we have not been able to completely confirm who made the supreme sacrifice for their country. Apologies for any inaccuracies, omissions and errors - please contact the club with any information or with corrections.

R.C. Auld*^
E.H.L. Bernau
Rev. G.S. Bryan-Brown+
Sir A.T. Donnelly
James Lloyd Findlay^{||} CBE, MC [Wikipedia](#)
D. Godfrey+
J. Godfrey
J.Goss
W. Hay*
C.G. Harrison+
F.G. Jolly
R.J London*
K. de Maas*
R.J.P McConnell+
D.M McRae
C.Moor
G.S.Overton +
L. Pinel*
W.S. Wallis
L.J. Wills
L. Wootton*^
C.L. Young⁺

+ Those who made the supreme sacrifice

* Online records cannot confirm the identity

^ Presumed killed in action based on the roll of honour at Christ's College, or named on the Cross at the Cranmer Square for the 100 year remembrance

^{||} Served in the army in WWI and NZ Air Force in WWII



The crosses on display at Cranmer Square for the 100 year remembrance, April 2015

Due to the 2015 remembrance of the Gallipoli landing, the roll is focused on the Great War, World War I. There were additional serving members in World War II and more recent conflicts, so if you have further information please send it in. The greatest help in compiling the list were the reports from the 1915 Club Annual General Meeting, which are in two newspapers. We have an idea on a number of people who joined up as at September 1915. . However this will not include all those who joined up after this date. We have added the names of some that we are aware of and have left the links to the articles and records for further reading.

The Roll of Honour at Christ's College Chapel (below) bears the name of many club members.



9th of September 1915 Annual General Meeting

“Owing to the large number of active club members joining the various Expeditionary Forces the club’s revenue is far short of what it would have been, but we must congratulate those members who have thought it their duty to fight for their country”. “The report also records that 14 members of the club had enlisted for service. One of these G.S. Overton had laid down his life.”

10th September 1915 - [The Sun Christchurch Newspaper](#)

10th September 1915 - [The Press Christchurch Newspaper](#)

10th October 1915 - [The Star Newspaper - then names of members of clubs enrolled to fight.](#)

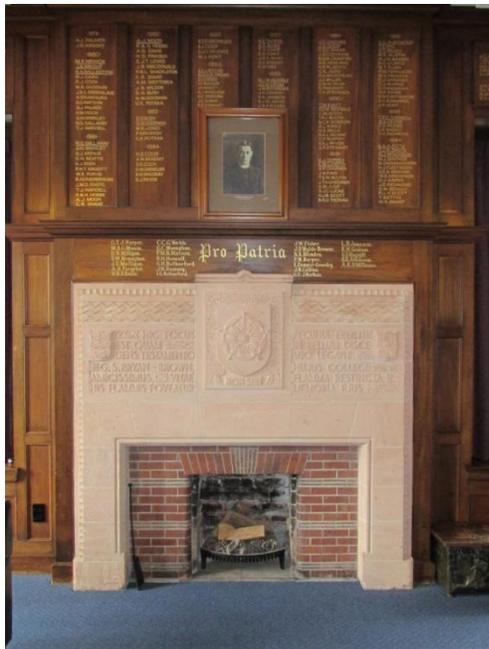
Those who made the supreme sacrifice

Rev. Guy Spencer Bryan-Brown - (4th October 1917, Passchendaele, Ypres, Belgium)



B-B, as he was known, served the club in 1915/1916 on the committee and as senior selector, with duties as club delegate on the CCA. He played several trial and friendly matches for Canterbury.

Rev. Bryan-Brown, having served as the Chaplain at Christ’s College, was a Chaplain in the Army and was killed in action. A stone fireplace in his memory is within the Library of Jacob’s House at the College and was built in 1930. The translation of the house’s Latin motto ‘*Non Sibi*’ is ‘not for self’. It is an impressive memorial. He is also represented in a stained glass window in the chapel.



Read more about the Reverend Bryan-Brown in these historical documents

- [The Press, 12 October 1917](#)
- [Evening Post, 13 October 1917](#)
- [The Press, 17 December 1917](#)
- [Archives New Zealand Records](#)
- [Tonbridge School Biography](#)

He earned a blue for Cambridge Hockey, and was 12th Man in their cricket XI having attended Downing College.

David Godfrey (5th September 1915, Died of Wounds, committed at sea, Gallipoli)



David Godfrey, one of four sons, died of wounds received at Gallipoli on board a hospital ship and was committed to the sea. His brother, John Godfrey, also a club member, survived the war and went on to serve in WWII. David has several mentions playing in our 1st XI.

[The Sun, 21 September 1915](#)

[The Colonist, 21 September 1915](#)

[The Sun, 21 September 1915](#)

[Auckland Museum Records](#)

[Archives New Zealand Records](#)

Robert James Patrick (Bob) McConnell (12 October 1917, Passchendaele, Ypres, Belgium)

Bob McConnell was reported as missing in action, with a military panel then determining that he was killed in action. This press clipping advises he was a member of the club:

[The Press, 15 May 1918](#)

[Auckland Museum Records](#)

[Archives New Zealand Records](#)

Guy Stanley Overton - (10th of August 1915, Gallipoli, result of wounds)



Guy Overton received a chest wound and died on board the hospital ship Delta and may have been committed to sea. His name is on Lone Pine Memorial in Gallipoli.

[Auckland Museum Records](#)

[Archives New Zealand Records](#)

[The Sun, 18 August 1915](#)

[The Auckland Star, 18 August 1915](#)

Charles LeFanu Young



There is not enough information from the club records to confirm whether this is the C.Young who played for West Christchurch Club as mentioned in the Newspaper article as enlisting in September 2015. The name C.L. Young appears on the Roll of Honour at Christ's College and as so many boys went on to play in the West Christchurch Cricket Club it could well be the same person. Jane Teal from Christ's College confirms the following:

CL Young did marry Stephanie Grace Bryan-Brown (Rev. Guy Spencer Bryan-Brown's sister), and she did become the Headmistress of St Margaret's College.

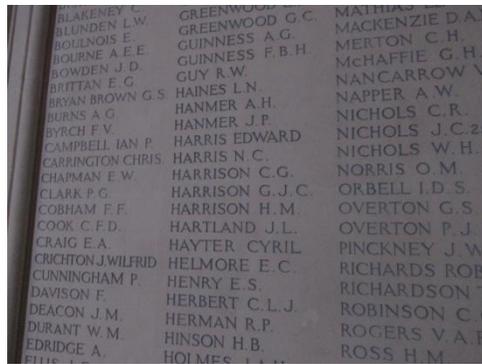
If this is the same person, then he was teaching in the Lower School (see explanation below) before the war, and when he returned he continued his study at Canterbury College and completed a BSc and possibly a BA. (you will need to check this information, as I have conflicting reports of his degrees) When George Merton retired as Headmaster of the Lower School, he was offered and accepted the Headmastership in 1920. He died on 10 February 1921 of Tuberculosis, as a result of Gas in the Western Front.

His last known rank was Captain, New Zealand (Maori) Pioneer Battalion, 3rd Maori contingent.

From 1895-1923 Cathedral Grammar School was part of Christ's College - it was known during that period as the Lower School.

[Archives New Zealand Records](#)

[Auckland Museum Records](#)



Charles Geoffrey Harrison, Killed in action 27th November 1917, France

We have found records of C.G. Harrison playing cricket, but have not be able to confirm the circumstances of his death. He appears on the Roll of Honour in the Christ's College Chapel.

In Honour of those who served

Sir Arthur Telford Donnelly



A.T. Donnelly c1912

A.T. Donnelly c1922

Former President and player of the club, Sir Arthur is in three photos in the club pavilion, and was a member from 1908 to 1922. He was a life member of the New Zealand Cricket Council, of which he was Chairman for ten years from 1928, and President from 1946 to 1948.

He served as a sergeant with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force France in World War I and later became a high-profile Christchurch businessman.

He was made CMG in 1939, and knighted in 1949.

[Wikipedia entry](#)

[Auckland Museum Records](#)

[Archives New Zealand Records](#)