

# What should we do about 'offensive' memorials?

A New Zealand Historian's Perspective



NZHistoryJock

# The Sorrow & the Pride

New Zealand War Memorials



Chris Maclean and Jock Phillips

# TO THE MEMORY

NEW ZEALAND'S WAR MEMORIALS



JOCK  
PHILLIPS





*Daily Telegraph*



*Reuters*

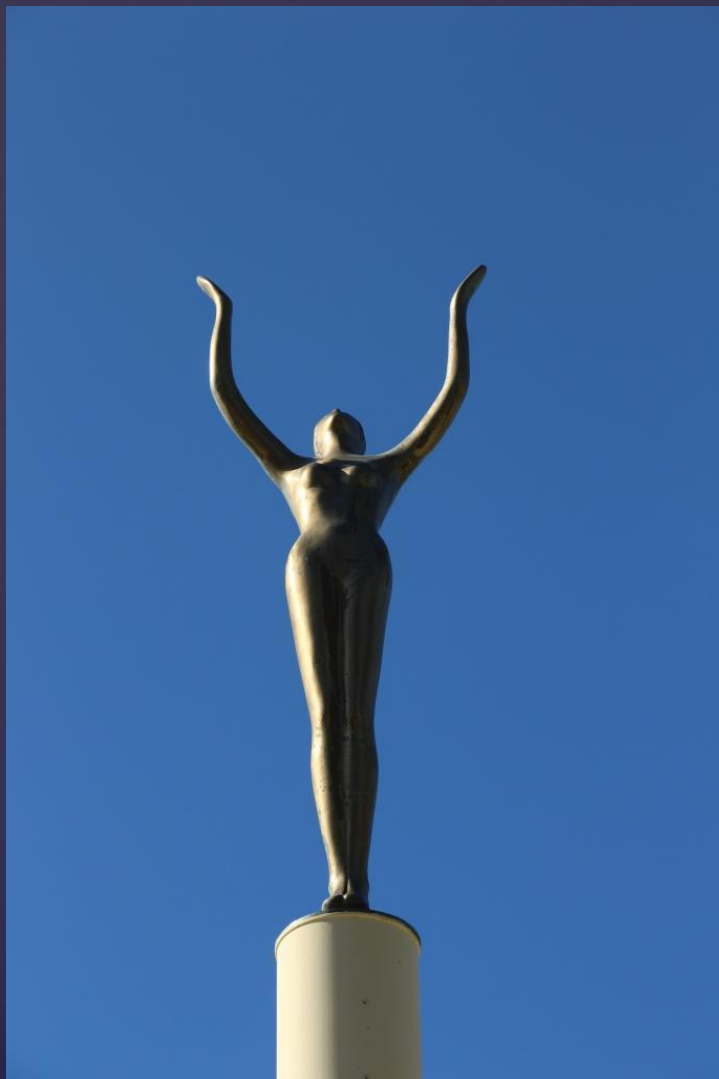












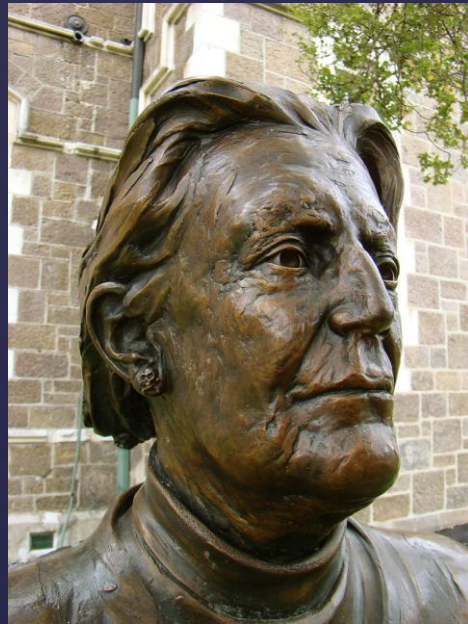
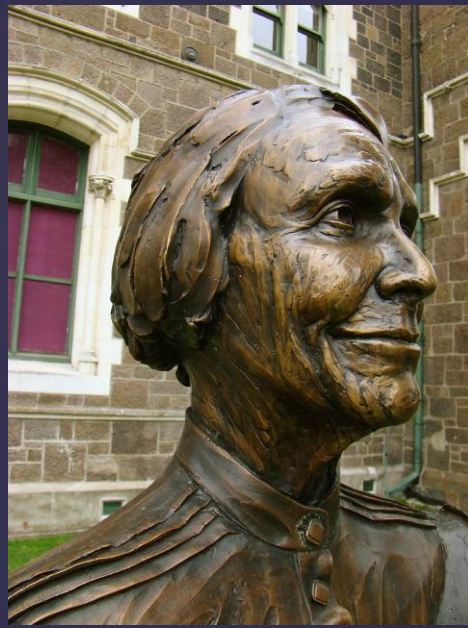












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NZ Herald











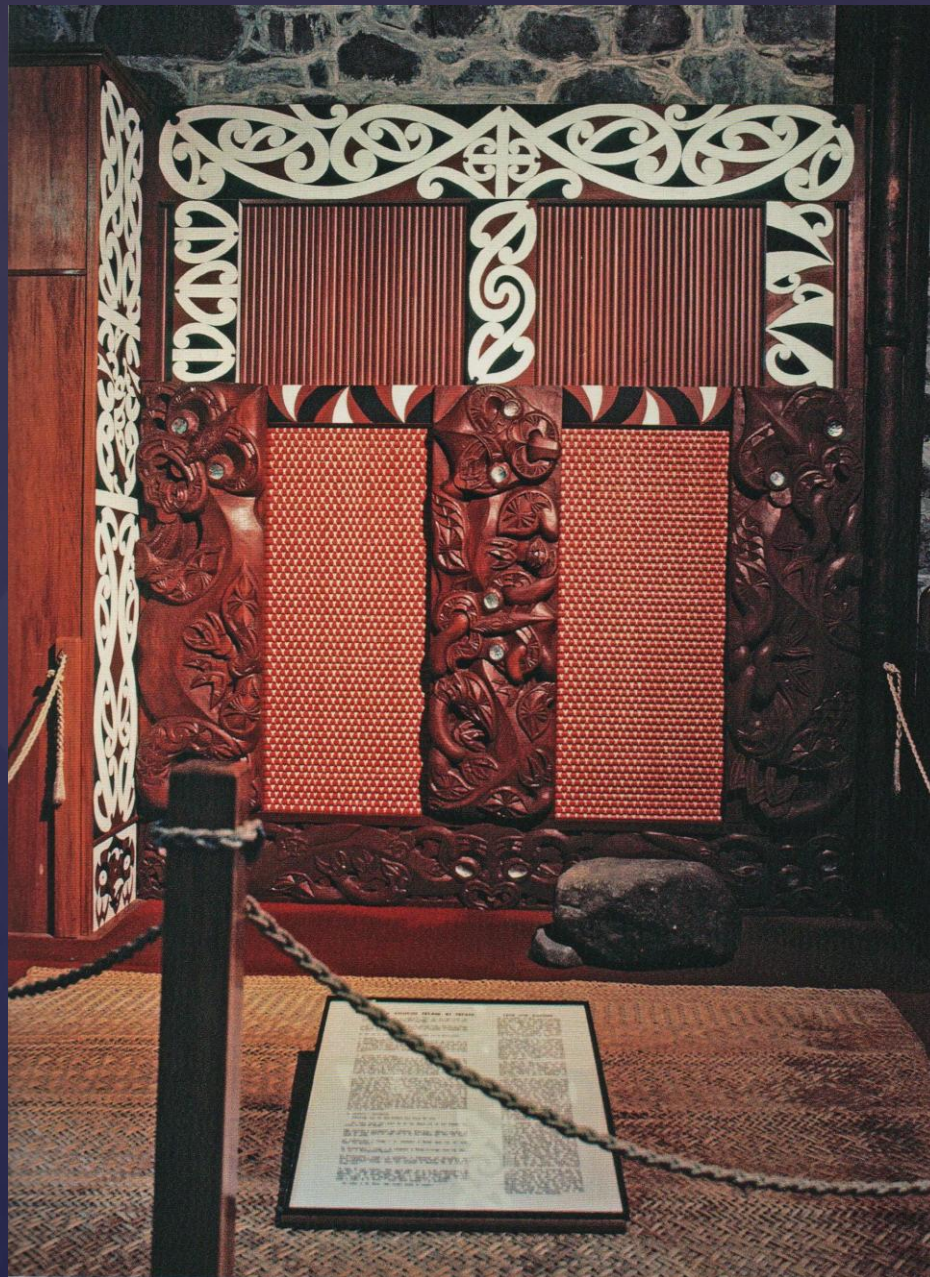


















Amanda Gillies







• A STRONG AND RESOLUTE PERSONALITY WITH INDOMITABLE WILL •  
ENABLED RICH<sup>d</sup> JOHN SEDDON TO CARRY OUT THE HUMANE AND PROGRESSIVE  
LEGISLATION WHICH CHARACTERISED THE 13 YEARS OF HIS ADMINISTRATION  
IN HIM THE MOST LOFTY QUALITIES OF AN EMINENT IMPERIAL STATESMAN  
WERE UNITED WITH WIDE HUMAN SYMPATHIES AND WARM AFFECTIONS OF THE HEART.  
• HE LIVED AND DIED HONOURED BY HIS KING AND COUNTRY. •

• THIS MONUMENT IS DEDICATED BY PARLIAMENT •  
AND THE PEOPLE OF NEW ZEALAND TO THE MEMORY OF  
**RICHARD JOHN SEDDON, P.C., LL.D.**  
— PRIME MINISTER FROM 1893 TO 1906 —

BORN AT ECCLESTON HILL, LANCASHIRE, 1845. DIED AT SEA, JUNE 10<sup>th</sup> 1906. LAT. 33° 55' S. LONG. 154° 08' E.

• "HE RESTS FROM HIS LABOURS AND HIS WORKS DO FOLLOW HIM" REV. XIV-13. •

CAPTAIN RICHARD JOHN SPOTSWOOD SEDDON.  
ELDEST SON OF RICHARD JOHN SEDDON.  
KILLED ON BOARD H.M.S. BAPHALE, TONCE.  
2<sup>nd</sup> AUGUST 1916 - AGED 37 YEARS.

• RICH<sup>d</sup> J. SEDDON ENTERED PARLIAMENT FOR WESTLAND IN 1879 •  
AND REPRESENTED THAT DISTRICT CONTINUOUSLY UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 1906  
HE HAD THE RARE DISTINCTION DURING HIS PARLIAMENTARY CAREER OF HOLDING  
SUCCESSIVELY MOST OF THE PORTFOLIOS OF THE CROWN THE FIRST BEING THAT OF  
MINES TO WHICH HE WAS APPOINTED IN 1891 HE BECAME PRIME MINISTER IN 1893  
HIS LAST MESSAGE ON EMBARKING AT SYDNEY FOR HIS HOME IN NEW ZEALAND WAS  
"LEAVING TONIGHT FOR GOD'S OWN COUNTRY." •



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Story: Cook, James

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Page 1: Biography

Cook, James  
1728–1779

First officer, sailing ship, explorer

This biography, written by David Hume, was first published in the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography in 1966. It was updated in November 2015.

According to reliable sources James Cook was born on 27 October 1728 at Marton in Cleveland, Yorkshire, England; he was baptised on 3 November that year. He was the second child of James Cook, a Scottish day labourer, and his wife, Grace Pace. He attended the Postgate School at Great Ayton in Yorkshire and at the age of 17 was apprenticed to William Smeaton, a haberdashery of Bradford, on the North Sea coast. In 1746 he moved to the port of Whitby, where he was apprenticed to the ship owner and coal shipper John Walker. As a sailor in the North Sea coal trade the young Cook was to familiarise himself with the type of vessel which, years later, he would employ on his epic voyages of discovery.

By December 1752 Cook had risen to the position of mate and in 1755 was offered the command of a collier. Instead, on 17 June, he took the unusual step of volunteering into the navy as an able seaman. He enlisted on the 60 gun ship *Endeavour*, on patrol in the English Channel. Within two years he had risen to the position of master and in October 1770 he was shifted to the *Pembroke*, a 64 gun ship, which was sent to support the war effort against the French in North America. Cook spent the next 20 years in these waters, taking part in the siege of Louisbourg in 1758, and the capture of Quebec the following

James Cook

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Page 1: Biography

Seddon, Richard John  
1845–1904

Politician, premier

This biography, written by David Hume, was first published in the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography in 1966.

Richard John Seddon was born at School Brow, Ecclestone, near St Helens, Lancashire, England, on 22 June 1845. His father was Thomas Seddon, headmaster of Ecclestone grammar school, who had married Jane Lindsay, a Scot from Annan, Dumfriesshire, and the teacher at the Ecclestone denominational school. When she married her school closed. Richard had an elder brother and two sisters; two other siblings died in infancy. The family was brought up in the Anglican church.

Richard is said to have been an unruly boy. The only subject that interested him at school was mechanical drawing; according to one account he decided to become an engineer after winning a prize in this subject. His father tried unsuccessfully to make a Latin scholar out of him: 'In my father's school, I was one of a number of boys who were taught extra subjects, and after a time I came to regard it as a little short of despotism that I should be kept indoors struggling with Latin while most of the boys were in the open playing at different games. I expostulated by not learning my lesson, with the usual result that might be expected from a schoolmaster, especially when his

All images & media in this story

Richard John Seddon

Richard John Seddon and family about 1860

## Moutoa Gardens NZ Wars memorial



New Zealand's first war memorial stands in Moutoa Gardens in Whanganui, a large town on the west coast of the North Island. The weeping woman, a personification of Grief, commemorates 15 kīpapa (Māori fighting on the government side) and one European who were killed at Moutoa Island, 80 km upriver, on 14 May 1864.

At Moutoa, cousin fought cousin. In May 1864, Mātene Te Rangitūia led 300 anti-European Pā

### WORK OF ERECTION.

**Tenders** are to be called immediately for the erection of the Maori War memorial designed to be placed on the triangular reserve at the junction of Symonds Street and Wakefield Street. The monument, which is being erected by the Government, under the supervision of the Victoria League, has been designed by Mr. Eyre Macklin, of London, and will consist of an obelisk of grey Nelson marble, with, at its base, a female figure in bronze, bearing a wreath and a flag. The shaft of the obelisk will bear an inscription showing that it is erected in memory of the Imperial and colonial troops and friendly natives who took part in the various native campaigns. The bronze figure arrived from England some months ago. Mr. Gerald Jones, architect, has been commissioned to prepare specifications for the work, and tenders will be returnable to him.

Papers Past: *Auckland Star* 5 March 1917, p. 2