

The First Fleet of ANZEF of November 1914

Ships departing Albany, W.A. on 1 November 1914 for the Great War. Known as the Australian and New Zealand Expeditionary Force (ANZEF).					
Ship	Name	State	Tonnage	Troops	Horses?
1	Euripides	NSW	14957	2231	
2	Argullshire	NSW	10392	832	
3	Shropshire	Vic	11911	836	
4	Afric	NSW	11999	1420	
5	Benalla	Vic	10118	1234	
6	Rangatira	Qld	10118	445	
7	Star of Victoria	NSW	9152	513	y
8	Hororata	Vic	9491	2052	
9	Omrah	Qld	8130	1147	
10	Mitlades	NSW/Vic	7814	600	
11	Orvieto	Vic	12130	1439	
12	Southern	NSW/Vic	4769	141	y
13	Pera	NSW	7635	95	y
14	Armadales	supply ship	6153	supply	
15	Saldanha	SA	4594	56	y
16	Katuna	NSW/Tas	4641	99	y
17	Hymettus	NSW/Vic/SA	4606	111	y
18	Suffolk	NSW	7573	1111	
19	Anglo-Egyptian	Vic/Qld	7379	111	y
20	Wiltshire	Vic	10390	759	y
21	Star of England	Qld	9150	512	y
22	Geelong	Vic/Tas	7951	1342	
23	Port Lincoln	SA	7243	370	y
24	Karoo	NSW/Vic	6127	401	
25	Marere	Vic	6443	84	y
26	Clan MacCorquodale	NSW	5058	119	y
27	Medic	WA/Tas	12032	1005	
28	Ascanius	WA/Tas	10048	1793	

In response to the call to arms in August 1914, Australia and New Zealand gathered its 'First Fleet', ANZEF (the Australian and New Zealand Expeditionary Force*) in King George Sound, West Australia, sailing on November 1 for the six-week voyage to Port Said, Egypt. The tables on this page show the ships, men and horses in it. How big was this? (Total the numbers from the tables). It was ten percent of all men sent by Australia/NZ, and fifty percent of all who died. How can we help children to appreciate the enormity of this historical war effort?

Art - modelling this fleet

- Create a ship shape symbol.
- Decide on a scale for the tonnages e.g. 1cm per 1000 tonnes.
- Use paper to create a scaled shape for each ship based on its size (tonnage). Put the name on each ship so you can identify it.
- Choose different colours to colour your ships by their country of origin.
- Add a symbol or colour for the states of Australia onto your ships.
- Add a scaled symbol to show how many men per ship.
- Add a symbol to show ships carrying horses. What provisions would they need for a six week sea trip?

Ship	NZ	Tonnage
1	Psyche (escort ship)	2135
2	Pyramus (escort ship)	2135
3	Maunganui	7527
4	Tahiti	7585
5	Ruapehu	7885
6	Orari	7207
7	Limerick	6827
8	Star of India	6800
9	Hawke's Bay	6800
10	Arawa	9372
11	Athenic	12234
12	Waimana	10389

Additional Naval Escorts		Tonnage	Source
1	Minotaur	14600	British, cruiser, flag ship of the China Station
2	Ibuki	14620	Japanese, battle cruiser
3	Sydney	5400	Australian, cruiser
4	Melbourne	5400	Australian cruiser

Maths – arrangements of the ships

'Combinations' is the branch of maths concerned with how things are arranged.

How many ways can you arrange the ship models? Can different ways help you visualise different aspects of this fleet?

- Arrange ships alphabetically first (anything interesting?).
- The rank order of the size of the ships (largest, smallest, average).
- The rank order of ships from state/country (where were most from?).
- The rank order of men from state/country (where were most from?).
- The rank order of horses from state/country (most/none from?).
- Major General Bridges was the fleet's commanding officer. He sailed on the Orvieto. What advantages would this have had?



Geography

Use an atlas to find the size and shape of King George Sound.^{1,2} Then trace a route across the Indian Ocean to Port Said. See chapters V and VI of Bean's history**, for the places the men and ships came from.

References :

** Bean's official war history is online. For example, for the fleet, go to http://www.awm.gov.au/histories/first_world_war/AWMOHWW1/AIF/Vol11/chapters_V_and_VI_for_the_assemblage_of_the_Fleet,_its_men,_provisions,_and_the_journey_to_Egypt,_including_the_convoy's_arrangement.

1 Map of assemblage of fleet in sound is in Pictorial Social Study Series, The Story of ANZAC, Sydney, Tasman Press P/L

2 Photograph of fleet and list of ships in the Sound is at http://www.smithsonplanning.com.au/index_files/albanyanzac2014c.htm

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Finding ANZEF Faces

By Jeanie Clark



The first Australian, New Zealand Expeditionary Forces (ANZEF) fleet had 20,000 Australians and 10,000 New Zealanders – that's 30,000 men departing from Albany, Western Australia, on 1 November 1914. The internet can be used to gather details about specific men in this fleet from a century ago, and this could be done in many ways. The method below uses the original resources in the Australian War Memorial's records, and starts with the ships.

Finding men in the troops on the ships

Start at <http://www.awm.gov.au/collection/awm8/>. This page lists all the divisions that were sent to the Great War. For this fleet, the embarkation dates should be October 1914.

- Choose one of the divisions on the rolls to click on (eg cyclists, signals).
- On the page that opens, choose a group with number one and click on it.
- The next page that opens will have the date when they went - if it is not October 1914, do not use this for this study. For example, the cyclists were not from then, but the signals were. Do not continue with the cyclists – go back and choose another group - but the signals continue.
- If the next page has another choice, do the same until there is a unit that embarked in October 1914 (eg 1 signal troop of the 1st Light Horse). Click on it.
- This opens to an image of that part of the roll. Click on the download PDF button above the image.
- The first page is a title page. The second page will have the name of the ship, place of embarkation, and date (confirm October). The lists of men cover service number, name, age, trade, marital status, home address, next of kin, religion, date of joining AIF, and unit.
- Choose someone to investigate more. For example, Sapper Robert Samuel Farnes, 21 years old, single, tea blender, from South Melbourne, Presbyterian, record number 11, joined 19 August 1914, and embarked in the 2nd Signal Troop of the 1st Light Horse, on the transport A10 Karroo, on 20 October 1914.

Finding the individual troop's experience

Use this information to find out more about his war

experience from the Australian War Memorial (AWM) site <http://www.awm.gov.au/collection/awm8/>, choosing the 'people' tab to go to the search page.

- Fill in his name and choose 'First World War' as the theatre.
- Click search.
- The page has his records under the box.
 - He doesn't have a 'roll of honour' record – so he survived the war! If this had come up, clicking on it would give details of death and burial.
 - He has four honours and awards – click on this.
 - Click on his hyperlinked name in the list to see the document where, now a Lieutenant, still in the 2nd Signal Troops in 1917, he was awarded the Military Cross.
 - If there are other places where records may be held, they can be clicked on too, and the links followed. Sometimes, full service records are available as pdfs.
- To find out more, you can also try a Google search for a family history entry. For example, Robert Samuel Farnes was born in 1893, son of Samuel and Rachel (Young), and died in 1970 back in Australia
- Check what else is recorded about a person by searching at Victoria's ANZAC Centenary and RSL websites: <http://anzaccentenary.uatsite.com.au/embarkation/> and <http://www.rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people>>. Both have an invitation to add more.

What can you do with this information?

Sometimes, not all information from the AWM will be at these sites. By the above investigation method, you may have information to add to these web pages. In this way, you can make a personal contribution to the knowledge of troops which people come to find at these web pages.

You can also use the above to search your own family's Great War history.

* The term ANZAC was not used until later. The Australian and New Zealand Army Corps was formed in Egypt in 1915. When the forces embarked at Albany, they were the ANZEF or the 1st Australian Imperial Force and 1st New Zealand Expeditionary Force.