

THE LADY GALWAY PATRIOTIC GUILD

The Guild was founded after a preliminary meeting at Government House, on 5 June 1940. The object of this Guild was:

"To enlist and use to the utmost extent the sympathies and services of the women of New Zealand in one national effort to provide comforts for those of our own people or our allies who are rendered homeless or destitute by the war."

The inaugural meeting of the Wanganui Branch was held on 12 July 1940 and although the Lady Galway Guild ceased to be on 31 December 1946, the winding up process took sometime with some receipts still being issued to the local branch in 1948.

The Guild collected clothes and blankets, both to be sent overseas to unfortunate war victims and for use in emergencies here.

During its five and a half year life, the Lady Galway Patriotic Guild in New Zealand, sent more than 9000 cases, containing some 6,000,000 items, to the United Kingdom.

SCOPE

These papers cover the activities of the Wanganui Branch of the Lady Galway Patriotic Guild, from 1940 to 1948, including, minutes, correspondence and financial records.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

SERIES ONE Minute book
 One folder

The minute book in this series covers the period 9 October 1940 to 6 February 1946 and details general activities undertaken by the Guild and discussed at their meetings.

SERIES TWO Correspondence
 Five folders

This series contains mainly inwards correspondence received by the Wanganui branch of the Guild and one or two copies of outwards correspondence. Much of the material is in the form of circulars from the National executive and other patriotic associations. The correspondence covers the period 5 June 1940 to 20 March 1947 and is arranged chronologically. A few undated items may be found in folder two.

SERIES THREE Receipts
 One folder

The receipts cover the period 1941-1948. They have been left in the bundles in which they arrived, which appears to be their original order. They are grouped in types of account, ie general stores, drapers, printers and are all gathered together. There are six small bundles in total.

SERIES FOUR Newspaper clippings
 One folder

This series comprises a scrapbook with clippings pasted into the first few pages. There are also a number of loose clippings at the front of the book. These articles all deal with the activities of the Lady Galway Patriotic Guild. Newspaper articles may also be found, pasted into the front and rear, of one of the donation books in series five.

SERIES FIVE Donation record books
 One folder

There are three books in this series. One small notebook was used for the 'Plunket Emergency Appeal' for babies articles for use in emergencies here. The other two larger books list organisations and individuals and the items they had donated. Some financial records are also contained in these volumes.