

**CHARLES RICHARDSON WHITE MBE JP 1892-1974**

C R White came to Wanganui from Ashburton in 1913 to join the Wanganui Borough Council as a clerk. On 24 April 1916 he married Agnes Lyall Russell, in Christ Church, Wanganui. Charles and Lyall, as she is referred to, had three children, Campbell (Cam), Lynda (later Mrs Charles Levett) and Atholl.

Although the references contained amongst these papers suggest Mr White considered positions at Eltham, he never left the Council's employ. Serving them for nearly 40 years, Mr White spent the last 13 years as Town Clerk. He retired in 1952.

Not fit for active duty in either war, Mr White nevertheless undertook useful service such as secretary for the Emergency Precautions Scheme. In the New Year's honours list 1946, he was awarded an MBE for this work.

Mr White was a keen sportsman interested in boxing, rowing and athletics, particularly harriers and was instrumental in the establishment of the Wanganui Harriers Club in 1925.

Charles White died in Timaru on 30 June 1974 at the age of 82. His wife had predeceased him by two years.

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**SCOPE**

*These papers comprise mainly photographs covering the period 1890-1972. They also contain copies of Mr White's employment references, letters from his son, Cam, and certificates gained by his daughter, Lynda.*

**SERIES DESCRIPTIONS**

SERIES ONE           References  
                           One folder

This series contains references relating to Mr White's employment at Ashburton and at Wanganui. Written by various council officials they cover the period 1913-1917. This series also contains a copy of his certificate of discharge from the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces 30 November 1916.

SERIES TWO           Letters from Cam White  
                           One folder

The letters contained in this series are from Campbell White, who served in the Airforce during World War II, to the family and were written during December 1940 - January 1941. Two were written whilst he was at sea, on route to England and the remaining five while stationed in the United Kingdom.

SERIES THREE        Photographs  
                           Six folders

These photographs are of the family, the Wanganui City Council, notable events and views of Wanganui and Ashburton. There is one small photo album and 121 loose photographs. A list of the 'loose' photographs is at the front of folder four. Many feature C R White and they cover the period 1890-1972.

SERIES FOUR         Lynda White  
                           One folder

This series contains certificates gained by Lynda White. They are mostly music exam passes and swimming awards. They cover the period 1927-1929.

SERIES FIVE         Agnes Lyall White  
                           One folder

This series contains a ration book, dated October 1946, issued to Mrs White.