

Mascots

Sports teams, bands, and armies
all liked household pets
to be onside.

When Masterton's band beat drums
and blew their horns so rousinglly,
they won a medal; their mascot Roy,
a collie, wore one, too.

Another dog he can't have known, because
this one barked in French, was mascot to the Auckland
Regimental Band in World War I. A terrier, he sat upon
the largest drum.

Quite like the dog who stood atop the running
board of Whanganui's fire brigade, though he didn't
fight the fires – he just enjoyed the ride.

Mooloo the cow rang bells to help Waikato's rugby team
succeed. Unlike in the war, the score was
drawn. No players hurt, they all swapped shirts,
then left the field.

Jenny Bornholdt



The Masterton District Brass Band with Roy, their mascot, pictured in 1903. They are wearing the medals they won in a competition.



The Auckland Regimental Band with their mascot in France in 1918. Like mascots, bands were important in keeping up morale.



The Whanganui Fire Brigade outside the central fire station in 1926. Their mascot is sitting on the running board.



The Waikato district is well known for its dairy farming, so Mooloo is an appropriate mascot for the rugby team.

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by Jenny Bornholdt

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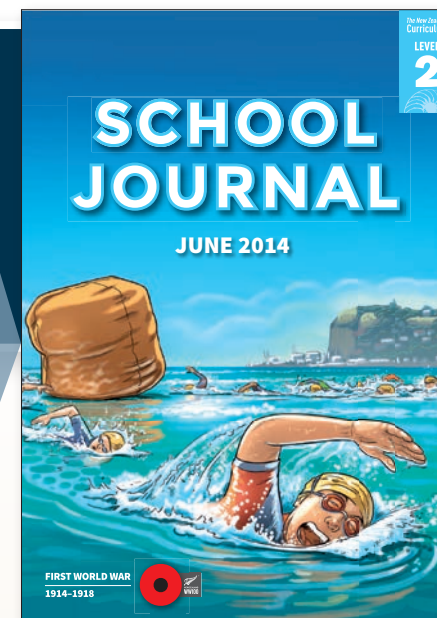
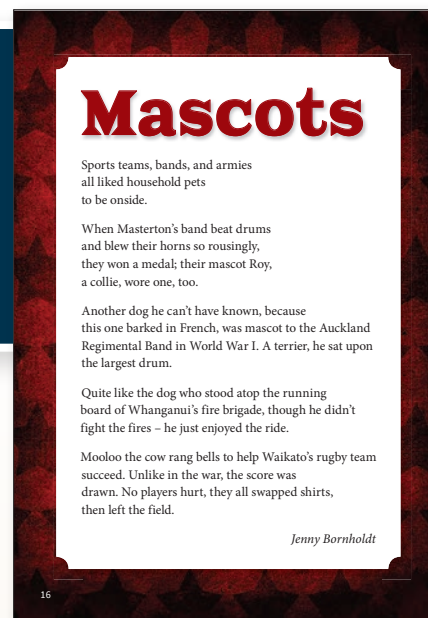
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