

= Henry Dewar ( rugby ) =

Henry " Norkey " Dewar ( 13 October 1883 ? 9 August 1915 ) was a New Zealand rugby union forward , who played for the All Blacks , and represented Taranaki and Wellington provinces .

Playing for the Melrose Club in Wellington , he was selected in 1908 for the provincial team that played and defeated the Anglo @-@ Welsh team on tour in New Zealand . After moving to Taranaki in 1910 , he was soon selected to represent the province . Coming close to winning the Ranfurly Shield in 1912 , a subsequent challenge the following year was successful against the longtime holders Auckland . He earned selection to the North Island team for the annual Inter @-@ Island match and thereafter was picked to play for the All Blacks , first to play Australia and then for the tour of North America , in which he played 14 of the 16 games , including the 51 ? 3 defeat of the All America team .

Soon after the British Empire declared war on Germany on 5 August 1914 , Dewar signed up to the New Zealand Expeditionary Force , and took part in the expedition to occupy German Samoa , departing the day after he played for Taranaki defending a challenge from Wairarapa . On his return , he volunteered again for active service and enlisted in the Wellington Mounted Rifles , joining the machine gun section . After promotion to sergeant , he departed in October for Egypt . There , he captained his regiment 's rugby team in matches against other New Zealand and Australian regiments . He landed at Anzac Cove on 8 August 1915 and participated in the action to capture Chunuk Bair in the Gallipoli Campaign . The following day he was killed in action .

= = Early life = =

Henry Dewar , born 13 October 1883 in Foxton , New Zealand , was the son of Alexander and Lydia Dewar . He spent most of his early years in Wellington until moving to Taranaki in 1910 where he worked as an iron moulder for B. Harkness of Stratford .

= = Rugby career = =

Dewar first played for the Melrose Club in Wellington and was selected for Wellington province in 1907 . In 1908 , he was a member of the Wellington team that defeated the touring Anglo @-@ Welsh 19 ? 13 on 27 May . The visitors played much of the game with fourteen players , only six forwards , after an injury in the first half : the captains , before the game , had agreed that there would be no substitutions for injury . Dewar and Rush , in particular , as well as Harding and Cracroft Wilson , bore the " heat and burden of a truly Homeric struggle . "

Later in the year , on 15 August , he took part in a Ranfurly Shield challenge , which resulted in a heavy 24 ? 3 defeat for Wellington at the hands of Auckland . The challengers , away to Auckland , were the underdogs but it was expected to be a close game , and at half @-@ time Auckland were just leading by a conversion , 5 ? 3 . In the second half , Auckland 's forwards imposed themselves on Wellington , who struggled to maintain the pace and were unable to respond to Auckland 's scoring .

Dewar moved to Taranaki in 1910 , where he played his club rugby for Stratford ; he captained the team in 1913 . He was first selected for Taranaki that year and continued to represent the club until the outbreak of the First World War . In 1912 , Taranaki , with Dewar in the team , came close to winning the Ranfurly Shield from Auckland , losing 6 ? 5 . In front of a 12 @,@ 000 @-@ spectator home crowd , Auckland dominated in the first half , scoring six points through a try and a penalty kick . The second half saw Taranaki 's forwards take control for long periods , resulting in a converted try , but despite ongoing attacks , the visitors were unable to add to their score and lost by just one point .

= = = 1913 Season = = =

1913 saw Dewar 's best season . His provincial form saw him selected for the North Island in the

annual Inter @-@ Island match , having been nominated for inclusion the previous year but not selected . In the event , the North was beaten 25 ? 0 . He was then part of the Taranaki team that ended Auckland 's long tenure of the Ranfurly Shield , in a game described as " the finest match ... and the most exciting ... ever witnessed in the history of the Ranfurly Shield " . Taranaki controlled the first half , with the forwards stronger than their opponents in every aspect , scoring the first points . The visitors ' lead of 0 ? 3 , however , changed to a half @-@ time score of 5 ? 3 in Auckland 's favour after an injury temporarily reduced the opposition to fourteen men . Soon after the break , Taranaki took the lead through a try , and then a second ? scored by Dewar , who was continuously " in the thick of it " ? took them four points ahead , 5 ? 9 . The home side responded with two tries of their own to take back a two @-@ point lead . Towards the end of the game , Taranaki scored one more try , which was converted and gave them a 14 ? 11 victory to win the Shield for the first time : Auckland was the first team to be awarded the Shield in 1902 and , after Wellington won it in 1904 , regained it and held on to it continuously from 1906 .

He also played in the Taranaki side that was only narrowly beaten by the touring Australians in 1913 . His form in these games earned him a place with the All Blacks . On 6 September 1913 , he played in the 30 ? 5 first test win over Australia at Athletic Park : Albert Downing and George Sellars played alongside him and were also later killed in action in the First World War . Dewar was then selected , along with four other Taranaki players , for the tour of North America , playing in 14 of the 16 games , including the 51 ? 3 victory over the All America team for his second test cap . He received particular mention in the test match for a cunning dummy pass to Downing on his right , drawing the defence and passing to five @-@ eighths McKenzie on his left to run in for a try . He scored just one try . There was little interest in the American press about the tour . A single short paragraph in the New @-@ York Tribune reports on the 51 ? 3 defeat of the USA team on 15 November .

In 1914 , Dewar participated in Taranaki 's defence of the Shield against Wellington on 24 June , winning 14 ? 10 ; Wanganui , on 27 June , winning 17 ? 3 ; Manawatu , on 23 July , winning 11 ? 3 , with Dewar " prominent " ; Horowhenua ; and Wairarapa , on 14 August , winning 22 ? 3 . Within days of this last game , a number of Taranaki 's players , including Dewar , left to join the New Zealand Expeditionary Force : " a brilliant forward ... who would almost certainly have gone to Australia this season [ on the All Blacks tour ] if he had been available for selection " . Although defeating Canterbury on 20 August , Taranaki 's pack was particularly weakened by Dewar 's absence , and only managed to win 6 ? 5 with a last minute try . Against a second challenge from Wellington on 10 September , the conspicuous absence of this " fine leader of forwards " contributed to the loss of the Shield .

His obituary in The Sun described him as " one of the best forwards in the New Zealand team which visited California ... he was fast and very clever , and always gave of his best . He was a good all @-@ round athlete ? an excellent boxer and no mean cricketer . "

= = = International appearances = = =

= = Military career = =

Dewar enlisted early , joining the New Zealand Expeditionary Force leaving on 15 August 1914 for German Samoa . On his return he volunteered again , joining the 9th Wellington Mounted Rifles as a machine gunner and was based at Awapuni Racecourse , Palmerston North ; he was promoted quickly to sergeant . On 16 October 1914 , after training , Dewar embarked on the Orari at Wellington en route for Egypt . There , Dewar captained the Wellington Mounted Rifles rugby team in several matches against other regiments ? beating the First Australian Light Horse , the Canterbury Mounted Rifles , and the Auckland Mounted Rifles ? before his regiment landed on 8 August 1915 at Anzac Cove , Gallipoli . Twenty @-@ four hours later , on 9 August 1915 , Dewar lost his life in the assault on Chunuk Bair ? Albert Downing was killed in the same action , the first All Black to be killed in the war . Sergeant Henry Dewar is commemorated on the Chunuk Bair ( NZ )

Memorial Turkey ( Panel 4 ) .

His mother , sister and brother published these words in memoriam :

Our thoughts they ever wander to a soldier 's honoured grave ,

Never will we forget the noble sacrifice you made ;

For our hearts are still united in that same fond love for you ,

And loving thoughts are cherished of one so brave and true .

Your cheery , sunny countenance will not from memory fade ,

For we see you in the photo , in the home you died to save ;

And when our hearts are sore for you we seem to hear you say ,

Break not your heart , dear mother , we will meet on that Eternal Day .

So widely known ; so highly esteemed .