

*Timaru Herald.* 2 May 1916 [21 May 2016]

A farewell social was given to Private F. Foster in the Kingsdown School on Thursday evening, and though arranged at short notice passed off successfully. It was opened with a short programme, Mr A. Coster presiding. Songs were given by Misses Ballagh, Campbell and Grey, Mr F. Ellis; recitations by Messrs A. H. Trott and J. P. O'Neill. Miss Stewart gave a piano solo and also played accompaniments. Some gramophone selections were added. After a short address Mr Stewart presented Private Foster with a wristlet watch. Refreshments were afterwards partaken of by all present, and the young then engaged in a dance, Mr W. Campbell acting as M.C.

*Press.* 9 July 1919 [22 May 2016]

Mrs J. Foster, of Springston, has received advice that her son, Private Fred. Foster, is returning in the Marama. He was severely wounded at the front, having lost a leg. He was in the Lewis Machine Gun section and saw three years' service in France. Before leaving for the front he was engaged in farming pursuits with Mr Alf. Trott, of Springston. His brother, Henry, is with the Mounted Troops in Egypt. Another brother has returned to New Zealand.

*Star.* 9 July 1919 [22 March 2023]

Mrs J. Foster, of Springston, has received cable advice that her son, Private Fred Foster, is returning to New Zealand by the Marama. He was severely wounded at the front, losing a leg and sustaining other injuries. He was engaged in the Lewis machinegun section and had three years' active service in France. Before leaving for the front he was engaged in farming pursuits, for Mr Alf Trott, of Springston, and he also worked at Timaru. He was educated at Lincoln. His brother Henry is still on service in Egypt. Another brother, William, has returned to the Dominion.

*Lyttelton Times.* 9 July 1919 [24 May 2023]

Mrs J. Foster, of Springston, has received cable advice that her son, Private Fred Foster, is returning to New Zealand by the Marama. He was severely wounded at the front, losing a leg and sustaining other injuries. He was engaged in the Lewis machinegun section and had three years' active service in France. Before leaving for the front he was engaged in farming pursuits for Mr Alf Trott, of Springston, and he also worked at Timaru. He was educated at Lincoln. His brother Henry is still on service in Egypt. Another brother, William, has returned to the Dominion.

*Press.* 26 August 1919 [24 March 2023]

#### SPRINGSTON.

On Thursday evening last in the Public Hall, a welcome home social was tendered to a number of soldiers who had lately returned from the front. The gathering was fairly large. The programme was given by the Farmers' Co-op. Concert Party, the programme consisting of songs, choruses, and glees. The following contributed songs: Misses Kitto, Donn, and Goodchild, Messrs A. Johnston, D. Bishop, and F. P. Morrison. The choruses were given under the baton of Mr Kitto. During the interval the chairman, Mr J. W. Kime, took the opportunity of extending a hearty welcome home to Privates C. Dent, W. Tyson, W. Parish, J. Earnshaw, G. Simpson, J. Bray, F. Foster, Trooper H. Foster, also Trooper J. P. Hayward, and Private M. Bray,

the latter two not being present. Owing to Privates J. Bray, F. Foster, and Trooper H. Foster not receiving a medal when leaving for the front, opportunity was taken to present to them the usual gold medal. Trooper H. Foster suitably replied. A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Concert Party, also to those who had motored them out.

*Lyttelton Times.* 26 August 1919 [24 March 2023]

### SPRINGSTON.

On Thursday evening last, in the Public Hall, a "welcome home" social was tendered to a number of soldiers who have lately returned from the front. The gathering was a fairly large one, and the programme was given by the Farmers' Co-operative Concert Party. The following contributed songs:—Misses Kitto, Donn and Goodchild, Messrs A. Johnston, D. Bishop and F. P. Morrison. Choruses were given under the baton of Mr Ketts. During the interval the chairman (Mr J. W. Kime) took the opportunity of extending a hearty welcome home to the returned men, Privates C. Dent, W. Tyson, W. Parish, J. Earnshaw, G. Simpson, J. Bray, F. Foster and Trooper H. Foster. Trooper J. P. Hayward and Private M. Bray were unfortunately not able to be present. Owing to Private J. Bray, Private F. Foster and Trooper H. Foster not receiving a medal when leaving for the front, they were now presented with the district's gold medal. Trooper H. Foster suitably replied. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the concert party, also to those who had

motored them out. Supper was then handed round, and dancing was kept up until the early hours of the morning.

*Ellesmere Guardian.* 27 August 1919 [24 March 2023]

### Springston News.

(From our own correspondent.)

#### WELCOME HOME,

On Thursday night last, in the Public Hall, a welcome home social was tendered to a number of soldiers who had lately returned from the front. The musical programme was given by the Farmers' Co-operative Association Concert Party from Christchurch, and there was a fairly large attendance of the residents, though not quite as large as is usual at Springston welcome homes. The musical programme, which was thoroughly enjoyed, comprised songs, choruses and glees, the following contributing songs: Misses Kitto, Donn and Goodchild, Messrs A. Johnston, D. Bishop, and F. P. Morrison. The choruses were given under the baton of Mr Kitto. During the interval, the chairman, Mr J. W. Kime, extended, on behalf of the residents of the district, a very hearty welcome to the guests, Privates C. Dent, W. Tyson, W. Parish, J. Earnshaw, G. Simpson, J. Bray, F. Foster and Trooper H. Foster. Two other men Trooper J. P. Hayward and Private M. Bray, were not able to be present. Owing to Privates J. Bray and

F. Foster and Trooper H. Foster not receiving a medal when leaving for the front, the opportunity was taken to present to each of the three men mentioned the district's gold medal to mark the appreciation of the people. Trooper H. Foster suitably replied.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the concert party and those who had motored them out from town.

Supper was then handed round and dancing was kept up until the early hours of the morning.

*Timaru Herald.* 7 October 1919 [20 May 2016]

**RETURNED SOLDIERS.  
WELCOME HOME AT KINGSDOWN.**

A social and welcome home was tendered to Private Fred Foster and Trooper T. Hughes at Kingsdown last Thursday. The school was well filled and the proceedings were very hearty. Mr A. Ballagh presided, and musical items were contributed by Misses Ballagh and Richards and Mr L. Walker. The chairman afterwards presented Private Foster and Trooper Hughes with gold medals, and the recipients were greeted with hearty applause. The chairman complimented Privates Foster and Hughes on returning from active service in such good health. Miss Vera Campbell and Miss Rene Trott pinned the medals on the breasts of the soldiers. Trooper Hughes suitably replied for himself and Private Foster. After supper had been dispensed later in the evening, the young people continued dancing, the music for which was supplied by Mr L. Walker, Mr Evans acting as M.C.

Private F. Foster was severely wounded in France about a year ago, but has recovered wonderfully well. Trooper Hughes saw a good deal of service in Egypt, and has returned looking very fit.