Charity, philanthropy, humanitarianism and knitting. Really?

Sue Elliott
March 2015
Papatoetoe Historical Society
A Papatoetoe daughter

[Images of baby wearing knitted outfits and a swaddle blanket with a 'Fontana Knitting Book' cover]
Onehunga Ladies Benevolent Society; where it all began.
Patriotic Societies were formed, dedicated to fundraising for war-torn Belgium, supporting the troops, looking after war widows and pushing the war effort across the country. (Fensome, 2015)
Patriotic Knitting

(By Telegraph - Parliamentary Reporter)

WELLINGTON, Tuesday.

After the Minister of Supplies and Munitions had made a statement regarding the work of his Department, Mr. H. G. Elliot asked him today if he could assist the women of New Zealand to obtain wool for patriotic knitting at a reasonable price instead of the scandalous rates charged by retailers.

Mr. Myers replied that he had gone into the question at the Hon. D. Budden's request. The price of the wool retail was 8/- per lb, but he had made arrangements whereby wool could be obtained through the Lady Liverpool Society at an average cost of 4/6 a lb.

Auckland Star, Volume XLVIII, Issue 260, 31 October 1917, Page 8
World War 1; a lasting legacy

In August 1916 alone, 130,047 items were made.
MBE awarded to Mrs Janet Bowie, 1919

For knitting 736 pairs of socks for the ‘Boys at the Front’ during the Great War.
Hunters corner 1920s, included a haberdashery