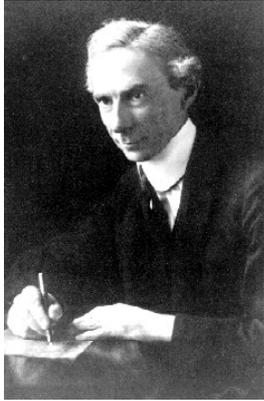


A Pacifist at War

Letters and Writings 1914-1918

By **Bertrand Russell**
Edited by **Nicholas Griffin**



ISBN:	978 0 85124 837 0
Price:	£9.99
Format:	Paperback
Length:	212 pages
Size:	235mm (H) x 152mm (W)
Publication Date:	August 2014
Genre:	Letters; Biography: Political; First World War
BISAC:	BIO009000 HIS027090
Readership:	General & academic



'The outbreak of the First World War in August 1914 dramatically changed almost everything in Bertrand Russell's life. It was the War that made him a public figure and ensured that henceforth philosophy would only occasionally prevail over politics for his attention ... Unlike so many who went enthusiastically to war in the summer of 1914, Russell knew the War would be a disaster. Nor did he share the general British opinion that Germany was entirely responsible. He thought the secret diplomacy of the Liberal administration under Sir Edward Grey, which had entangled Britain in a series of alliances to defend continental countries against aggression, shared a good deal of the responsibility. He had, moreover, no doubts at all that it was his public duty to oppose the War ...

The War made him a popular figure among pacifists and those on the Left who were opposed to it, but it made him *persona non grata* with the Government, including many of his erstwhile allies in the Liberal establishment (though not with his lover, Ottoline Morrell and her husband, who remained staunchly supportive of the pacifists). The costs to Russell of opposing the War were high. The government fined him, confiscated his passport, placed him under surveillance, banned him from certain parts of the country, and eventually jailed him. He was viciously attacked in print and in person and, on at least one occasion, physically assaulted. He lost his job at Cambridge, his academic career, and many of his former friends. During the War he was dependent on his brother for providing him a place to live and when it ended he was broke, jobless, and exhausted. None of this caused him to waver for a moment in his unrelenting opposition. '



Colette O'Niel



Ottoline Morrell

Nicholas Griffin
McMaster University, Canada

Russell was a tireless and engaging correspondent, and these letters, selected and fully annotated by Nicholas Griffin, give a vivid picture of his life and activities during those turbulent War years, including his complex personal life. They are supplemented by a selection of Russell's key writings from the period.

**Trade distribution by Central Books Ltd, 99 Wallis Road, London, E9 5LN
Tel: +44 20 8986 4854 | Fax: +44 20 8533 5821 | orders@centralbooks.com**

To check stock availability, and prices, visit
<http://www.centralbooks.co.uk/acatalog/search.html>

To find information on opening an account visit: <http://www.centralbooks.com>