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ANZAC HEROES by Maria Gill, illustrated by Marco Ivancic

Publisher: Scholastic NZ

RRP \$30.00

This book will delight the child who likes facts, the reader of hero stories and biographies, the student of war, both child and adult. While written in a way that the child will find interesting and easy to follow, it is not in any way condescending in its approach – adults will also find plenty here to think about.

Maria Gill has done an excellent job of balancing heroes, both male and female, who were significant players in the theatres of both World War One and World War Two. Australians and New Zealanders are featured, including Aborigines and Maori. There is also a mix of the famous with the not-so-well-known.

Joice Nankivell Loch, for example, was born in Queensland and spent most of her life in Greece. With her husband Sydney Loch, she was recognised for her work helping Polish refugees in both the 1920s and 1940s. People like Joice Loch are presented as heroes alongside the better known Dr Peter Buck, Sir Bernard Freyburg, Sir Keith Park, Moana-nui-a-Kiwa Ngarimu, and Nancy Wake.

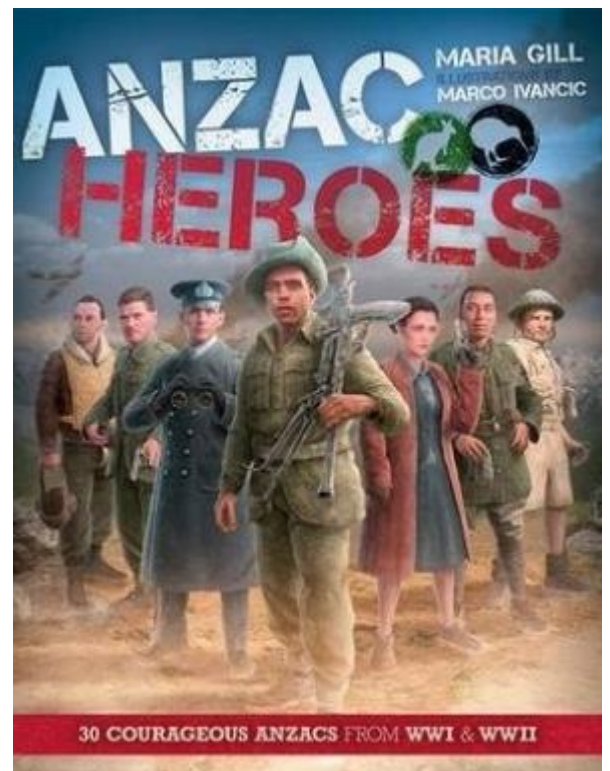
Clear maps and timelines preface the double-page spread stories of the heroes of war. Each story is accompanied by a large portrait of the subject, with quote boxes, fact boxes, photographs, medals, and a timeline of the person's life along the bottom of the pages.

Towards the end of the book there are more facts and figures, more information about the military, their ranks, their medals, the medics and their roles, plus a comprehensive glossary.

Author's website: www.mariagill.co.nz

Illustrator's website:

www.marcoivancic.blogspot.co.nz



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