

## Ronald Lovell

Ronald was 32 years old when he was conscripted in 1916. He lived in Redfield and worked at Fry's chocolate factory in Bristol. He was a member of the No-Conscription Fellowship – [see his membership card here](#).

Ronald applied to the local Military Service Tribunal for complete exemption from military service. His statement to the tribunal said that it had been his view for many years

*“that wars between nations help not those nations but hinder them from developing those potentialities that they hold.”*

A local Methodist minister wrote a letter to the Tribunal confirming his principled objection to war – [see the letter here](#).

Ronald was granted an exemption on the condition that he took up Work of National Importance. He worked initially in the Merchant Navy and then at Jennings timber company in Pennywell Road, Bristol. Jennings also employed other COs doing Work of National Importance. [Ronald's exemption certificate can be seen here](#).

After the war Ronald returned to work at Fry's. He remained a socialist and trades unionist all his life.

Thanks to Ronald's grandson, Tim Lovell, for the documents and information provided here.

See also the pdf on this website relating to *The Tribunals: Judging Conscience*.