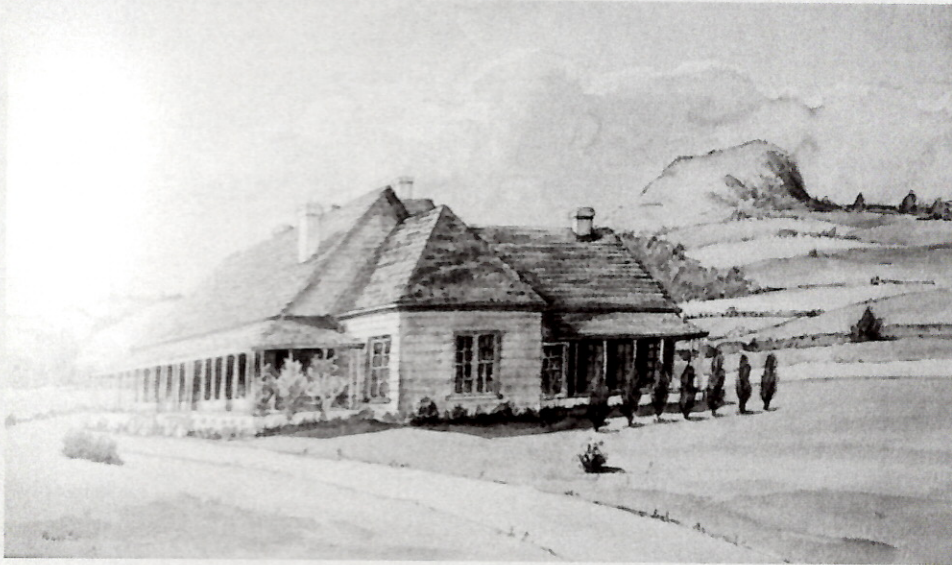




# BULLETIN

## NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY



Government House 1841-1848

### NUMBER 80 – REPORT FOR YEAR 2008

Pages 30 - 37 Financial Reports and Statements



## Notes on the Founder's Society Study Grant.

**Article 3** of the Trust Deed: The purpose of the trust shall be the encouragement of research in New Zealand into the history and development of New Zealand and to encourage those who carry out such research.

**Article 4** The Society shall hold the trust fund upon the following trusts;

(a) To pay out of the annual income there from all expenses costs and commissions of and incidental to the administration of the trust fund.

(b) To pay apply and distribute the balance of the annual income each year ending 31st March or such part thereof and of the capital of the trust fund as the Society thinks fit to or towards the aforesaid charitable purpose for which the fund is held.

(c) To accumulate the balance if any of the income of the trust fund in any year to the intent that such accumulations shall be added to the capital of the trust fund and be subject to the like trusts.

**Article 5** The Society shall have the management and control of the trust fund and may make rescind and alter regulations not being inconsistent with this Deed for the purpose of regulating the study grants and other grants for the aforesaid charitable purpose.

**Article 6** suggests an award of not less than \$1000 to a person considered to have made the greatest contribution to the research.

**Applicants** for the award are screened by the executive council, many of whom have an academic and suitable background. The Study Grant officer reads and makes a resume of the proposals received that are then discussed by the executive council and a unanimous decision is made. The present Study Grant person is qualified in history.

Applicants for the grant must send a detailed outline of the research proposed and completed. The work is to be published with acknowledgement to Founders and a copy sent to our Secretary.

**Points to note:**

There must be

a clear outline of the topic

objectives of the research

the sources to be used, i.e. records, repositories etc

the research methods

the expected date of completion, publication etc.

The topic can be local history if it has clear relevance to founding history and is of national interest. A good standard of writing is expected.

The funding is to be paid in instalments, a third being paid at the start. Another third will be paid after evidence is produced to council that good progression has been made with the research. A final payment will be made when the work is complete and published.



## OBITUARIES

### *JACK GLENGARRY*

It was with sad regret that members of National Executive of the New Zealand Founders Society, learnt that Jack had died on Saturday, 27th October 2007. Jack had been a member of the Society since 1999, serving as Chairman of Wanganui Branch and also National Councillor from 2000-2004 when he stood down because of poor health.

Jack also edited the Bulletin and agreed to be our Publicity Spokesman. He had a tremendous enthusiasm for Founders and generously donated a fax machine and also several books to our library. We remember an outgoing man, full of ideas and energy, lots of fun and guaranteed to brighten up any meeting.

He will be a great loss to the Society and especially the Wanganui Branch.

Janet Robinson  
National Secretary



*BERTHA VIOLET (VI) JOLLY 28-1-1912 to 14-9-2006*

Bertha Violet was born in Auckland to Bertha and Charles JOLLY in 1922. Her grandfather, Joseph FREAR, arrived on the maiden voyage of the "Matoaka" in September 1859. A committee member of the Waikato Branch of the NZ Founders Society for 16 years, Vi was Chairman at the time of her unexpected death.

Vi served in the RNZAF Women's Auxiliary in World War Two before attaining a diploma in Fine Arts (Canterbury). Her mother was also an artist. Vi taught at Hamilton High School from 1949 until it separated in 1956. She continued teaching at Hamilton Girls' High School until 1963 when she moved to Ngaruawahia to become Head of Art and later Senior Mistress. She retired to Hamilton in 1976 to care for her ageing mother. Here she organized exhibitions for the Waikato Society of Arts. Vi never married but belonged to, and contributed to, many organizations. She was a foundation member of the Waikato Graduate Women's Group from 1951 and from 1991 was that organization's delegate to the National Council of Women for many years. She was the ex-WAAF's Association Secretary/Treasurer for several years and a rest home visitor for the RSA.

An enthusiastic member of the Hamilton Lyceum Club and a history recorder for the Hamilton City Library, she was always interested in the Waikato area History.

In later life Vi achieved a certificate in Theological studies and became an Associate in the Christian Ministry. She trained as an Industrial Chaplain and was allotted various businesses for regular visits. One of her specialties was helping Asian immigrants with their problems in settling and their use of the English language.

Vi lived alone in River Road, Hamilton, across the road from St Andrew's Church, where she took part in virtually every church activity. As her health declined she was emphatic that she wanted to stay in her own home until the end, which she achieved.

Bertha a former senior teacher at Ngaruawahia High School, has bequeathed almost \$300,000 to current and past pupils of the school to pursue further education at WINTEC. The Bertha Violet Jolly Scholarship Trust Board was appointed last week. Sheryl Morgan (Wintec), Jeff Stewart (principal of Horotiu School), Jan Gilby (Chair of Ngaruawahia High School Board of Trustees), Jeff Stewart (Ngaruawahia Lions Club) and David Bradford (principal of Ngaruawahia High) will form the selection panel. The first scholarships will be offered for 2009, with applications being called for in October.

Lynley Hyams  
Chairman, Waikato



## *MARY PRISCILLA MITCHELL*

Born 7th December 1907, died Totnes, South Devon, England, 29th July 2007, aged 99.

Priscilla Mitchell was the great-great-niece of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, architect of planned colonisation in New Zealand. She was the last surviving descendant of his brother Daniel, New Zealand's first Attorney-General.

On Daniel's death in 1858, Edward Gibbon gave his widow one of the sections he owned on The Terrace and this, still the site of Wakefield House, remained in Priscilla's ownership till the 1980s. Though she never lived in New Zealand, she visited often and her interest and connection remained heartfelt. She would recall how, as a young woman, she spent time with her great-aunt Alice who, as a young girl, gave Edward Gibbon Wakefield comfort and companionship during his dying days in Wellington.

Her connection with the early days of settlement was demonstrated most recently with her funding of last year's renovation of Wellington's oldest memorial, to William Wakefield, the city's founder, that now graces the terraces of the Basin Reserve.

Priscilla Williams' philanthropic work was worthy of her eponymous ancestor, Priscilla Wakefield, grand-mother of Edward Gibbon and his brothers. Priscilla the elder was founder of the savings bank movement in the early 19th century and established several charitable institutions.

Priscilla the younger founded a doctoral scholarship for graduates of Canterbury University, Christchurch, at Christ Church College, Oxford. Earlier, she set up an endowment to allow students from New Zealand, South Australia and Canada to study criminology at Cambridge. This was prompted by Edward

Gibbon Wakefield's 1830s campaign against the death penalty and transportation.

Her public service and philanthropy in England were prodigious. She worked for the Red Cross throughout World War II; served as a Kensington Borough Councillor for 17 years; served on the boards of several London Hospitals, notably Charing Cross; and was Governor of the Cardinal Manning Schools for more than 20 years. For all this service she was awarded an MBE.

After she retired from active social work at the age of 80, she set about building almshouses in her home town of Totnes, 12 all told, and received an award for the quality of the projects.

Her enduring interest in the historical achievements of her family led to her collection of Wakefield letters and documents, a crucial resource for researchers, often from New Zealand, who were always warmly welcomed at her Totnes home.

She was also interested in another notable ancestor, Thomas Attwood, whose daughter married Daniel Wakefield. Attwood was a leading campaigner for parliamentary reform. His threat to assemble a million protestors on Hampstead Heath if the Duke of Wellington continued to oppose reform was key to the passing of the great Reform Bill in 1832.

To mark Attwood's achievements, Priscilla commissioned a larger-than-lifesize sculpture that now reclines across the steps of Birmingham's Mansion House.

Priscilla Mitchell married twice but had no children of her own. Her only sibling, Roger, was killed in World War II, and so now another Wakefield line is ended. But her own legacy will be lasting, not only in the Totnes almshouses, but also in the Wakefield family papers that will one day reside in the Alexander Turnbull Library, at the heart of the city with which she felt so strongly connected.

Appeared in Obituaries, Dominion-Post, Thursday, 29th November 2007,

Contributed by Philip Temple



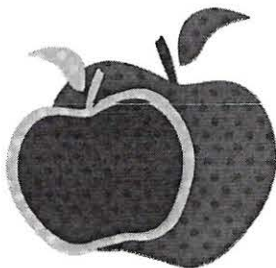
## WOMEN AND APPLES

From Enid Meyer, Wairarapa Branch

Women and apples come in all varieties. Some are rosy as a Royal Gala, as green as a Granny Smith, as hard as an unripened Sturmer, as yellow as a Golden Delicious or as wizened as a Crab Apple. Men have been troubled by women and apples since time began - think of Eve in the in the Garden of Eden.

I want to tell you about the most revered woman in our family, Granny O'Brien.

Though she died in 1931, the year before I was born, the influence she had on the family echoed down the years and survives today. She was born in Tipperary in 1853 and married Patrick O'Brien in Doon, County Limerick in 1869. Three daughters



were born to this farming family while they lived in Doon but times were hard and they decided to emigrate to New Zealand and sailed from Plymouth on the "*Rangitiki*" \* on 4th December 1875. They landed at Lyttelton on 16th February 1876. This voyage was part of a record round trip voyage of only six months and twenty-seven days.



They found work on farms in the districts around Timaru, saving every penny they could towards the purchase of a farm of their own. During this time they were blessed with five more daughters. They were able to take up a farm near Woodville on the old Napier Road in 1888. This was to have been the start of easier times for the family who were talented in many ways. The girls learned sewing, painting and were excellent cooks, and found work in the homes of the large land-owners in the district. Granny O'Brien was a keen gardener; so much of the food used came from the farm. The dairy herd also kept the family busy but provided for them in plenty.

Granny O'Brien was pregnant with her ninth child and when the baby was born, they called her Ellen after her sister. She was always known as Aunt Nell and a great favourite.

As there were no sons to help with the work on the farm, the girls were willing and able to take their share of the load. Patrick's brother, John who had travelled to New Zealand with them, came to live at the farm and help also. It was a large and lively household, full of love and hospitality. The younger children went to Woodville School to learn all they could, and also helped with the milking and the haymaking.

Granny O'Brien had only been able to read and write a little after attending a "Hedge" school in Ireland which was illegal and destroyed if found by the British authorities, and she wanted her children to be literate. *(see editors note at end)*

In 1891 when she was pregnant with her tenth child, Patrick became ill with influenza and pneumonia and died just 50 years of age. In November Granny had her first son, but sadly his father never saw him. She called



him John Patrick O'Brien. He was well loved and cared for in the house, full of women, perhaps too much so, as he went to sea at the age of twelve and raised his family in Australia.

The elder girls were sought after as brides and the wedding photos show the progress the family had made since their arrival in New Zealand, with fashionable frocks and suits worn by the wedding parties. After a while Granny married Patrick's brother, John who had promised to care for the family as Patrick lay dying.

All through the years, Mary O'Brien nee Hogan, lived her life for her family. She was devoted to her church and received much consolation from her religion during the hard times, but counted her blessings when things were good.

If I were to like her to an apple, I would say she had the rosy cheeks of a Gala - the keeping qualities of a Granny Smith - the tartness of a Sturmer and the taste of a Delicious. A truly wonderful pioneer of the time.

The second daughter, Ellen Mary O'Brien, died at the age of eighteen.

The family names of the eight daughters are:

Bridget Agnes O'BRIEN married Alfred James MARSHALL, 16 children

Mary Francis (Molly) O'BRIEN married Robert Ambrose MARTIN, 4 children

Catherine O'BRIEN married Archibald John HOBBS, 8 children

Margaret Gertrude O'BRIEN married William John Alexander SCADDEN, 5 children

Winifred Cecelia O'BRIEN married George WADE, 6 children

Agnes Mabel O'BRIEN married John William SMYTH, 6 children

Johanna Cecelia O'BRIEN married Richard Joseph TIERNEY, 4 children

Ellen Mary O'BRIEN married Harold Joseph SUSANS, 1 son  
John Patrick O'BRIEN married Christina URQUHARD, 3 children

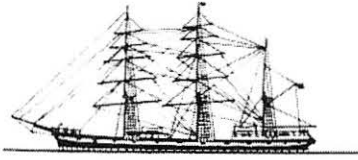


(Eidotors note) *Hedge school*

*From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*

*A hedge school (Irish names include scoil chois clai, scoil ghairid and scoil scairte) is the name given to an educational practice in 19th century Ireland, so called due to its rural nature. It came about as local educated men began an oral tradition of teaching the community. With the advent of the commercial world after 1600, peasant society saw the need for greater education. While the "hedge school" label suggests the classes always took place out-doors (by a hedgerow), classes were more regularly held in a house or barn. Subjects included primarily basic grammar, English and maths (the fundamental "three Rs"). In some schools the Irish bardic tradition, Latin, history and home economics were also taught. Reading was generally based on chapbooks, sold at fairs, typically with exciting stories of well-known adventurers and outlaws. Payment was generally made per subject, and brighter pupils would often compete locally with their teachers. While Catholic schools were forbidden under the Penal laws from 1723 to 1782, no hedge teachers were known to be prosecuted. Indeed, official records were made of hedge schools by census makers. Hedge schools declined from the foundation of the National School system by government in the 1830s.*





## *Rangitiki\**

*The New Zealand Shipping Co full rigged sailing ship was built in 1863 as the Scimitar. It was designed to carry 300 emigrants and made its first voyage to New Zealand taking 71 days from Plymouth to Port Chalmers. It was then named Rangitiki and made several further trips to New Zealand until 1899. It was then sold to a Norwegian firm. All the New Zealand Shipping Co's sailing ships had no port of call between England and New Zealand and sailed continuously for the three month voyages. The provisions and water had to be carried from England for the whole voyage - rainwater was collected whenever possible as long as it was not being contaminated with salt water.*

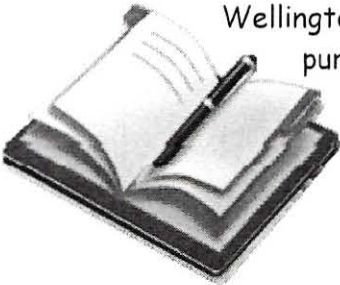
*(Editors note)*



## **Wellington Deeds: Interesting Histories That Can Unfold**

Contributed by Carol Hurst, Wellington Branch

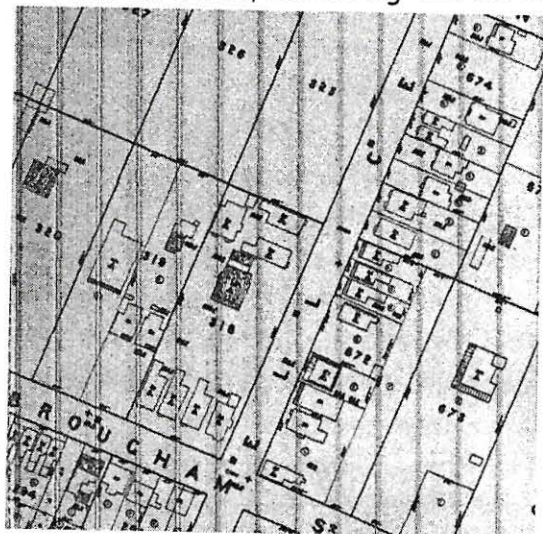
Deeds held at the Land and Information Office in Wellington chronicle the early history of the Wakefield settlement of Wellington and those people involved in the purchase of land. Many early settlers profited by speculating in land and the details are in the deeds books and associated records held by LINZ.



Crown Grants and even wills relating to the properties can be researched in these books.

As part of Wakefield's scheme for settlement the New Zealand Land Company issued scrip to investors allowing them one town acre plus a country section of 100 acres or thereabouts. Some investors held several scrips and did not come to New Zealand, but engaged an agent to look after their entitlement and sell them. Consequently there is often much family history in some of the deeds books.. Initially there was difficulty obtaining the sections that were balloted because of beginning of the Crown Colony. Wakefield and his supporters lobbied fiercely for the entitlements under the New Zealand Land Company. The Crown decided to honour the lands apportioned by the Company, but proving them and obtaining title could take years and sometimes the property had changed hands many times before a legitimate title could be produced.

Town acre 318, bordering the corner of Brougham and Ellice



Streets and diagonally opposite the site of St Joseph's Catholic Church today, was allocated to Robert Hart Pike of Cambourn, Cornwall, England. Pike had several scrips for land and did not come to New Zealand. Volume 17 Folio 597 adds further information, describing a Robert Hart Pike, 44

Moscow Road, Bayswater, Middlesex, and Elizabeth his wife on the one part and Robert Hill of Hanwell, Middlesex, Coal

Merchant, and George Golden Square, Tallow Hart of 11 Sergeants London, Gentleman of



Hart, 51 Brewer Street, Chandler, and Robert Inn, Fleet Street, the other part. These fact. He gave the

selections in trust for the benefit of any children he had with Elizabeth, who could agree to the sale in her lifetime, or the trustees would sell on her decease.

The Crown Grant to Pike made in 1868 was dated from 27 April 1842 and under the New Zealand Company Land Claim Ordinance Session IX number 15. In 1875 section 318 was conveyed to Elizabeth Ann McKirdy with mortgages to the National Bank of New Zealand in 1876 and to the Colonial Bank of New Zealand in 1879. The property was on sold to Alexander MacDougal on the 8<sup>th</sup> August 1882. The certificate of Title for this transmission has a plan of the site and is handwritten. That is the last time section 318 is sold as an acre.

A search of Wellington Directories lists MacDougal as a gentleman, a Justice of the Peace and the Managing Director of the Grey and Point Elizabeth Coal Company.

Alexander MacDougal came to NZ in 1869 from Lochmaddy, Invernesshire. He was connected with banking institutes in Glasgow. For some time he was manager of the Gear Meat Company, but eventually went in for land dealing. Early in the 80's he saw great prospects for coal on the West Coast and he acquired the lease of over 4000 acres at Coal Creek near Greymouth. He went to England to raise sufficient capital for a mine, but an expert sent to appraise the coal prospects reported unfavourably. He persisted in his efforts, eventually becoming the owner of the Cobden Railway and Coal Company, finally forming the Grey-Mouth Port Elizabeth Coal Company.

The Brunner Mine was then purchased, but in 1896 a terrible explosion occurred in that mine costing over 60 lives. A newspaper report in the 'Otago Witness' dated 2 April 1896 prints a telegram to the Premier from MacDougal: *"Deeply grieved by the sad disaster at Brunnerton. Would like if you could make it convenient to visit the scene, as your presence would encourage the rescuers, allay excitement, and lead to a better discretion of energies. Bishop, manager, is incapacitated, and if you could possibly see your way to inaugurate some scheme of relief the company would heartily support the method adopted. I leave for Greymouth tonight if I can arrange for a special steamer, if not I will leave by the "Grafton" on Saturday"*. The mine was shut down. A lawsuit cost the company heavy damages. The Chief Justice said he had been unable, under consideration of all points brought before him, to conclude the defendants had established by satisfactory evidence what the cause of the accident was, and that it was not neglect of the defendants or of persons in their employment. A trip was made to London to raise fifteen thousand pounds to pay off the liabilities incurred by the explosion in the hope of reconstructing the company, but a receiver was appointed. MacDougall stayed as a manager. By 1905 he was the managing agent in Wellington for the sale and distribution of State Coal, the purchaser of the Brunner Mine.

Ernest Pilcher, manager of the Greymouth Point Elizabeth Coal Company stated that about May 1905 the company set up a retail yard in Wellington for the sale of Brunner coal.

After an illness for some months, MacDougal's death was reported in the 'Evening Post' on September 30th 1911. He and his wife had no children. His nephew Allan MacDougal was at Oxford as a Rhodes scholar. Mrs. MacDougal sold up and left New Zealand. Over the time of MacDougal's ownership, parts of

section 318 had been subdivided and a few houses were appearing. The following material documents the progress of number 53 Ellice Street -

C.T 202 Folio 31 dated 4 March 1911 is issued for Thomas Dillon of the city of Wellington, Contractor. The land is outlined in red and comprises 19 and 2/10 perches with front and back boundaries of equal measurement and subject to the right to maintain a drain along or near the Northern boundary of the said land with incidental rights reserved by Transfer 79575.

Thomas Dillon is listed as a contractor in all the documentation.

In Hokitika and Greymouth it is possible he was involved in the coal trade and continued that association in Wellington. While it is not proven, he appears to have had an association with Alexander MacDougal, purchasing the land for his house from MacDougal and having coal in common.

A search of Wises shows Dillon as a contractor living at Hokitika between 1904 and 1909. He probably moved to Wellington the following year.



The Ellice Street house plans are dated 1910. The house is a substantial and solid house diagonally across from St Joseph's Church. There is a large concrete basement, possibly used to store coal in the

early days of open fires and coal ranges. The view from the front looks over the Basin Reserve and the house has a verandah on the lower and upper stories at the front and side of the house. It would have cost quite a lot of money to build.



Dillon was born at Ballyhooly, Ireland , and came to NZ around about 1879, a time of concentrated immigration. His father James Dillon was also a 'contractor' who had married Mary Hanrahan in Ireland. In July 1898 Thomas Dillon of Paroa married Margaret Maloney of Orwell Creek in Ahaura Church. Present was her father, Martin Maloney, her sister Katie and John O'Donnell, cousin of the bridegroom.( N.Z. Tablet 12 July 1898, page 15 ) He was 32. When he died in 1933 he had five sons between the ages of 20 and 32 and two daughters aged 19 and 31.

Dillon died very suddenly at 87 Tinakori Road where he had a coal business. In 1904 Richard Duignan, a coal dealer and grocer, is listed at Lambton Quay and 100 Molesworth Street. In 1910 he is listed at 85-87 Tinakori Road with a coal yard. Number 87 was on the left side of the road at the intersection of Hawkstone Street. Previous occupants had been Edward Anderson, a labourer, William Norgate, railway signalman, Walter Price, driver and Edwin B. Ash, a boot maker. Dillon appears to have bought the business.

His son, William Henry Joseph Dillon worked with him. He arrived at Tinakori Road on 10<sup>th</sup> July 1933 to find the premises locked. It was usual for his father to unlock the premises. William forced his way in and found his father unconscious in bed. He rang for Dr. Pattie who came at 8.10 a.m. and said Dillon was dead. He usually lived at Ellice Street, but owing to petty thefts he had been staying in a room at the business premises. It seemed he died overnight from long -term myocarditis and pneumonia. He was described as a thin elderly man with a heart grossly enlarged that showed the gradual onset of heart failure. The Ellice Street house originally had 6 bedrooms and the large Dillon family would have filled them. Dillon was 67 when he died. Father W. Heavey conducted the burial service, possibly across

the road at St. Joseph's Church in Ellice Street, and he was buried at Karori cemetery on 12 July 1933.

Margaret Dillon, his wife, died in 1955. She is buried in Karori Cemetery. Area 03 Block A Row 10 Plot 052 has a memorial stone that includes Margaret: In Loving Memory of Mary Maloney 1915, Martin Maloney 1920, M. Dwyer, daughter 1917, Catherine M. Dillon d. 11 August 1911 at 3 months, Michael Maloney 1953 and Margaret Dillon d. 3 May 1955 at 79 Years.

In the years after Margaret's death the house was turned into 2 flats and there were various owners. In 2007 the property was bought for a family dwelling and now houses 2 adults and 4 children,

It is interesting to note that several owners of Town acre 318 had connections to coal.



### Wairarapa Outing

Around 40 members of the Wairarapa Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society met at the South Wairarapa Working Mens Club on the 26th June for their Mid Winter meal and meeting.

Speaker for the afternoon was Brian Scadden who introduced us to the mysteries of Collodion Wet plate Historic Photography. His love of photography no doubt started when working for the National Film Unit for 31 years.



Brian began by tracing portrait photography from the earliest beginnings about 1830 and the various methods used over the years. The metal frames that were used to keep Grandma and Grandpa still for the necessary time caused much amusement. No wonder they didn't smile much!!

We were invited to smell the liquid collodion used in the process. Not very pleasant!!

After the Wet Plate was sensitised and made ready we all went outside for our photograph. Because this type of photography has to be done at the scene, the photographers worked in the field and often used tents to do the processing. Brian has his own portable darkroom (van) set up to develop the photograph on the site. We were able to see the resulting photograph of our group and also some



of his other work.

We also had the pleasure of congratulating members Lenna and Hugh Simpson who were celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

A very enjoyable and informative day!

By Betty Catt.



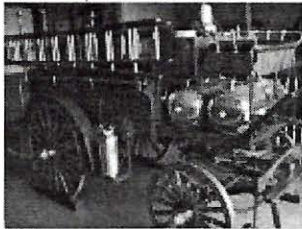
## CHILDHOOD IN ORIENTAL BAY

Know Your Wellington by Poneke, Evening Post 24 September  
1960

*Mr G.G.G. Watson, well-known barrister, in an address to members of the New Zealand Founders' Society, recalled his childhood in Oriental Bay. This is what he had to say:*

"Not only had we no motorcars, we had no trams except in the case of a horse tram from Lambton to Newtown. There were no parking problems, no parking difficulties. For the most part we walked. I was born and brought up in Oriental Bay, where we had one horse-bus a day - to town in the morning and back again in the

We went to  
Street, and  
home to  
fascinating  
Aro Railway



evening.  
school in Upper Willis  
we walked both ways and  
lunch. We passed such  
sights to a child as the Te  
Station, the gasworks in

Courtney Place, two shoeing forges in the same district, the Fire Brigade Station, with its teams of horses, and so on.

On Saturdays or holidays we probably went for a picnic or a tramp 'round the rocks' in Oriental Bay, past the few houses that then existed, past Wilkinson's Tea Gardens and its delectable grapes. One of the joys of a walk round the rocks was to see the Prime Minister, Dick Sedden, taking horseback exercise for his over-weight condition. He never went faster than walking pace.

Sometimes we went to Moxham's dairy farm, which was where the university and the whole of Kelburn now are. That was a major climb, and meant an all-day expedition. There was no Kelburn cable car. The installation by private enterprise of the latter incurred the wrath of the few residents on those slopes, and a number of them brought actions for damage for noise and vibration!

In the other direction we would take the horse tram to Newtown, and scramble over the hills, also over the sand dunes between Kilbirnie and Lyall Bay: we were almost always rewarded there with the sight of a horse funeral. That area, now covered by houses, also covers the bones of hundreds of decayed horses. At the time Lyall Bay had nothing but a few fishermen and weekend shanties.

If our parents wanted a special outing and celebration for some occasion they hired a buggy or wagonette - according to the size of the family - for an all-day outing through the mud track of the Hutt Road to the joys of Bellevue Garden, or Mason's Gardens, at Lower Hutt. Among the joys of such expeditions were the five or six fine old characters who drove those vehicles - Christie, Somerville, Georghan, Innis, Cotterill.

Stupid Laws

When we were a little older we were able to take advantage of the stupidity of the licensing laws: the latter were as stupid as they now are. As young men we were able to show how smart we were by pushing a bicycle on Sunday mornings to the hotels either at Kilbirnie or Ngauranga. Having travelled three miles, we were bona-fide travellers entitled to demand Sunday drinks. Both hotels did a large Sunday bar trade.



To go further afield one had the choice between the Government Railway with its two stations in Wellington - Lambton and Te Aro - which laboriously puffed and grunted its way over the Rimutaka mountains, or the more popular route by the private company, the Manawatu Railway Company, along the west coast to Palmerston North.

To go still further afield on a really great adventure, one could buy a ticket for a berth and go aboard a steamer for Sydney. The bureaucrats had not then got into their stride. One did not have weeks of paper work to obtain permits to leave, tax clearances, passports, or anything of that sort.

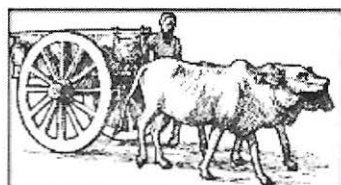
During the height of the price war between the Union Company and the Huddart Parker company, when there was real competition one could buy such a ticket for 10/-! One could travel to Sydney in real comfort for £3 to £4, or one could go to England for £40. At that time nobody ruled as to how much or how little of our money we could spend while in Sydney or London."



## Early resident of Carterton

Early events in Wellington and the Wairarapa as I remember them in my early days, 88 years of age .I may have forgotten some of the events.

My grandparents on both sides arrived in New Zealand in the early fifties by ship on the *Ann Wilson* after a period of 5months and landed on the beach at Petone. After a stay in Wellington they and



several of their shipmates moved onto the Wairarapa . This was no easy matter, for the only means of transport was by bullock dray, the roads being mere tracks in the bush, the rivers had to be forded and that was a risky job.

My father's parent's and some of the other people took land at Greytown and my mother's parents and the rest of the party went on to Carterton , which was in the centre of a dense bush. Source of the finest Totara in New Zealand was grown there.

Their first house was built of slabs and roofed with bark. For many years bush fires in the dry season caused a lot of damage. Soon after the arrived in Carterton my grandfather and some of his mates started pit sawing to provide timber to build better houses. About 1860 messes Hooker Brothers and W Booth and Co started two sawmills, one of which Booth and Co still mill timber, cut from the low hills.

My grand father Mr G King had one of the first shops in Carterton .In those days there used to be a toll gate on the Carterton side of the Wahione river between Grey town and Carterton .The first post office, was held in a small room in a private house and was opened in 1861, in 1903 a brick dwelling was erected, but was later pulled down owing, to damage by earthquake .I was born in Carterton in1871 .My father at that time had a butchers shop there .As a young

man, my father for some time carried mail from Wellington to Castlepoint on horseback and had several narrow escapes of losing his life when crossing flooded rivers. It was an event to meet the coach from Wellington. In the early part of 1875 my father moved from Carterton to Wellington with his family and took up a butchery business one in Tory street and the other in Vivian street. It was in the latter part of 1875 that I started at Mount Cook School.

During that time several events that took place are still fresh in my mind. The first was to see 5 Whales which had washed ashore near the Gasworks, which in those days was close to Courtney Place. Boy like with two of my mates we climbed onto the tail of one Whale, which was unknown to us was not quite dead and gave a flick of his tail and sent us flying, and needless to say we left for home and mother.

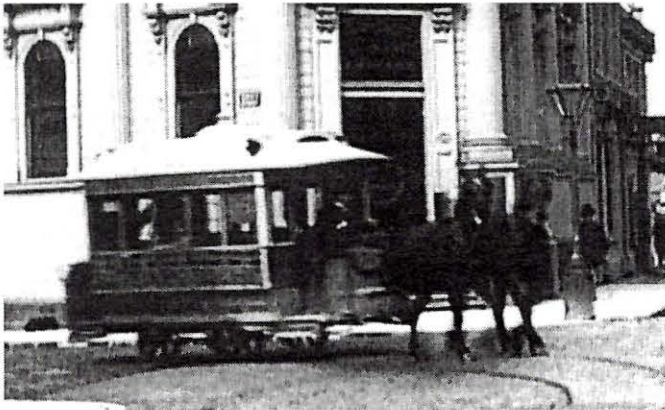
Another event was the large fire in 78, which destroyed 47 buildings; it broke out one Sunday night after a lamp had exploded in one of the churches while being put out.

After the fire the body of a bookkeeper at Smith's drapery store was found under a partly burnt counter and it was thought that he had tried to save the books of the firm.

In those days the sea used to come right up to Lambton Quay. Where the D I C now stands, the old Ark a small sailing vessel had been washed ashore; the fore part was used as a sail maker's shop, at low tide we boys used to fish off the stern.

I saw the first land reclaimed along Lambton Quay. A Mr Saunders had the contract for the job. Overhead chutes from the Terrace shot the spoil down on to the foreshore. The site of the first land reclaimed

was were the Central Hotel stood, but now where a large Insurance building stands. I also remember the first trams,





which were drawn by a splendid type of horse and it was wonderful how they knew the stopping places. During our stay in Wellington I saw races held at Island Bay and also going with my father and uncle Pigeon shooting around the Hutt .In the early eighties the first exhibition was held .In 1880 my father returned to Carterton and later took up land on the Taratahi Plains. Rabbits in those days were a pest and did a lot of harm and farmers had to place wire netting on boundary fences to try and stop them spreading on to their lands .The government in those days tried Ferrets and wild cats to try to cope with the pests but were of little use each farmer had large packs of dogs to try and cope with the rabbits On one occasion a massed drive was made at the farm of a Mr W Frances at Clareville and farmers and a large number of dogs drove the rabbits into a prepared yard on Mr Frances property and hundreds were yarded and killed . In 1879 the railway was opened up from Wellington to Masterton, the first stationmaster at Carterton was a Mr King who was later Stationmaster at Christchurch.

*Typed from an untitled hand written letter by Paul Lawrence BICKNELL William Joseph Ingley's great grandson*

### **Footnote**

Further research carried out by my cousin Michael HARVEY and myself show that William Joseph INGLEY was born on the 28<sup>th</sup> of December 1871, married Mary Haywood in Dannevirke on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 1896 and died on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 1965.

His parents were Joseph INGLEY a colonial war veteran and Emma KING

William Joseph INGLEY'S grandfather Thomas INGLEY arrived on the sailing ship *Libertas* in 1856 with his two eldest children James and Mary Ann, not on the sailing ship *Ann Wilson* which only took the KING family to New-Zealand. Three years later Thomas INGLEY paid his wife Elizabeth Haywood to come out to New Zealand with their other children Joseph, Elizabeth and Pamela on

the sailing ship *Queen of the Avon*. Two further children Louisa and Thomas (junior) were born in Greytown New Zealand  
Thomas INGLEY first bought land in Carterton on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 1858; later Thomas purchased land in Greytown on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 1865



### Wilton's Bush Revisited

By Betty Catt (nee George) Wairarapa Branch

I was extremely interested in the article in the 2007 Founders Bulletin on Job Wilton and Wilton's Bush in Wellington. As a child I remember my father Robert Percy George often telling us (no doubt to emphasise how hard HE had to work) how he and some other young men milked 100 cows by hand at Wilton's Bush.



Whether it was milk from this farm or not but he also delivered milk in Wellington including Wellington Hospital and when delivering milk to the hospital he met a lady who worked there who became my mother.

There were also many stories of the harrowing times delivering milk during the great "flu epidemic. Later, he and a friend of the Wilton's Bush era moved to the Wairarapa to farm. Our family of five children were all born in the Wairarapa. So the Wellington history is not so well known.

My Grandfather also Robert George, came out to New Zealand in 1863 on the 'Queen of the North' and landed in Auckland.

I have the complete story of the voyage out, the cargo and passenger list thanks to my cousin Kerry Orange compiling the family tree. Although the several properties Robert George's family owned in Wellington were sold during the Great Depression, his residence in Entrance Street, Aro Valley was still there a few years ago.

Arriving in Auckland all alone at age 15 years Robert George Senior passed away in his late 70s in Wellington after an extremely colourful life. But that is another story!!



JOHN PATRICK O'BRIEN.

My Great Uncle, John Patrick O'Brien, was born three months after his father, Patrick had died in November 1891. He was the youngest child and only son, all nine siblings being daughters. He was born in Woodville, North Wairarapa but moved to Australia in his late teens, where he joined the Postmaster Generals Department as a linesman and enlisted in the Australian Army in 1915.

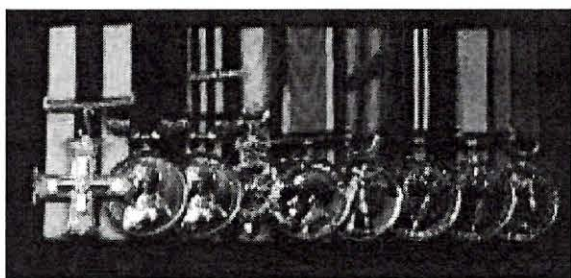
He went to Egypt and his troop was allotted to the 2nd Division Signal Company, which was sent to Gallipoli. In 1916 he was transferred to the 4th Division as a Corporal which took him to France, where he received the Military Medal for laying and maintaining the telephone cables under shell-fire and later he was awarded the Bar to the medal, for similar bravery. He was promoted Sergeant in April 1917.

Cable laying requires a six foot trench to be dug to lessen the effects of shell-fire, this had to be done at night by tired and weary

infantrymen. For his efforts in these conditions, his Company Commander described him "as leaving no stone unturned" to immortalise the password of the Signal Service "Communications at all Costs". For this work he was awarded the French Croix de Guerre. During the night of 28-29 September 1917 at Zonnebeke, 400 working men were preparing to bury cable when heavy fire from the enemy broke out. Jack volunteered to meet the party as a lot depended on the job getting done that night as there was to be an attack the next day. He safely passed the enemy fire and conducted the men to work. Later that night, under the barrage of fire he again volunteered and successfully completed the mission. For this act, he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal, promoted to Warrant Officer and then commissioned Second Lieutenant.

In France 1918 Jack personally supervised and maintained communications during extremely strong enemy fire on April 5th and was rewarded with the Military Cross.

Jack O'Brien was the only soldier in the Australian Imperial Army of 334,000 members to be awarded the MC, DCM and MM with Bar.



*Jack O'Briens Medals*

After the Armistice, Jack went to Glasgow, Scotland and married Christina McDonald Urquart. A daughter, Agnes, (Una) was born and when she was only six weeks old the young family moved to Sydney, Australia. Jack resumed his job as a linesman and later senior linesman.

Two more children completed the family, Winifred and John.

In World War II Jack was appointed a Lieutenant in the Signal Corps, Promoted to Captain, then Major and finally to Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1942 he became a Colonel.

From October 1943 to March 1945 Jack commanded Queensland Anti-Aircraft and Fortress Signals.

After the war Jack returned to his job with the Postmaster Generals Department as a line inspector at Dubbo, New South Wales and later transferred to St Leonards, Sydney. He retired in 1957 and was awarded the Imperial Service Medal. Jack had developed methods of jointing cables and established the first school for cable jointers.

Jack and Christina lived in Padstow, Sydney for the next twenty years until Jack died in May 1974. Christina lived until 1963.

John Patrick (Jack) O'Brien was the son of Patrick O'Brien, born Pallas Green, County Limerick, Ireland, in 1846. he married Mary Hogan at Doon, Co Limerick ,Ireland on August 7th 1869. They lived in Doon and three daughters were born to them there, Bridget, (1870) Ellen (1872) and Mary (1874). They then sailed for New Zealand and settled in Timaru, South Canterbury. The family grew with the birth of Catherine (1876) my grandmother, Margaret (1879) Winifred (1881) Agnes (1883) and Johannah (1886).

This large family set off for the North Island where they purchased a farm on the Napier Road at Woodville. They were soon joined by Patrick's brother, John who helped to clear the scrub and plant a large orchard and garden, while they both worked as labourers and farmers around the area.



Another daughter, Ellen Mary, was born in 1890 and finally a son in 1892. Patrick senior is buried in Woodville Cemetary as is his wife, Mary and his brother John.

These graves were given some tidying up and plaques on the occasion of the O'Brien Family Reunion in 1997.

By Betty Catt (nee George)  
Wairarapa Branch New Zealand Founders Society.

## **N Z Founders Creed**

We pledge ourselves to foster, promote and inculcate in rising generations that hardy will and spirit of enterprise, responsibility, work and faith so abundantly possessed by the actual founders, which has been so important a factor in the life and progress of New Zealand.

## **Acknowledgements**

The Society's grateful thanks is extended to all our members from various branches who so willingly provided material and photographs for this 2008 Bulletin. A special mention is made of the work done by the National Secretary, Janet Robinson and the editorial team of Barbara & Glen Robertson.  
Thank you all.

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