



Above: Tikorangi Corner (about 1936).

Below: Bertrand Bridge opening, 1898.



OPENING TIKORANGI BRIDGE BY HON. HALL-JONES

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TIKORANGI SCHOOL AND DISTRICTS REUNION MAGAZINE



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TIKORANGI SCHOOL AND DISTRICTS REUNION MAGAZINE

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF EDUCATION
AND COMMUNITY LIFE

1867 - 1992

Photo on front cover: Tikorangi School, 1967, Centenary year.

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FOREWORD

Changes in Education

Traditionally change comes slowly in the large Government driven Ministries such as the former Department of Education. No one was prepared for the scope of change which schools have been forced to endure over the past few years.

Going back over the past 25 years or so, however, the physical changes to the school are quite noticeable with the court area being moved to the rear of the school, a small adventure playground, the G.P. room fenced off and extended, alterations to the front of the school, an extra classroom and the resource room/office building.

The G.P. room is now occupied and operated by the Tikorangi Playcentre for pre-school children. The additional classroom came in 1988 when the school role rose and the school qualified for an extra teacher - the room came with the teacher.

Not so today! The school now has five permanent teaching staff (and three teacher aides) but administrative changes mean that the school is having difficulty obtaining another classroom. The resource room/office building was purchased by the Board of Trustees in 1992.

TOMORROWS SCHOOLS - In the mid 1980's the then Labour Government undertook to review education. The subsequent Piquot report heralded the beginning of a major overhaul of the Education system in New Zealand. Education Boards and School Committees became the Ministry of Education and Boards of Trustees. The new system promised all but delivered little as pressure on Government to balance their budget took money away from Education.

THE BURDEN OF CHANGE - Consequently the transition was not an easy one for Boards of Trustees or principals as information poured from the Ministry offices and directives were amended and the amendments were amended and so on. Boards struggled with Charters, policies, property occupancy documents, mission statement, and the many other requirements of the new system. And the difficulties continue as Boards, Principals and Staff grapple with Bulk funding of teachers salaries, changes to the curriculum and deferred maintenance.

Centralisation by the Ministry, by removal of District Offices, made information difficult to obtain at times and changes have made it difficult to

get some things done while for other problems finance must be provided from the Bulk Grant received by the School to fund their operation.

Despite the problems the concept of Tomorrows Schools is a good one and a great deal of work has been done by our Board members and much has been achieved. One recent major achievement being to obtain approval and funding to carry out a major upgrade of the Staffroom/Administration area of the school including a sickroom.

At present the school role has risen to over 110 and continues to rise as parents exercise their right to send their children to the school of their choice. A number of children now come to Tikorangi School from Waitara. The Board of Trustees is trying to deal with this in the fairest possible way to reduce pressure on resources and staff.

The School continues to be the focal point of the Tikorangi district as it has done for 125 years.

We look forward to an interesting and challenging future.

ROSS SOFFE
Chairman
Board of Trustees

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EDITORIAL

This magazine reflects elements of the 125 years of Tikorangi schooling and District life. That view shows us as we were and helps us understand the way we are today.

It can be observed in the school that with each incoming headmaster and staff member comes strengths and qualities from which the school as a whole benefits. Also, increasingly, we see the pupils strengths, in the classroom, playground and home life, being brought to the fore and reinforced by staff. Pupils emerge from this system with competence and confidence.

The past is built upon and improved with time so that the foundation from which we

propel ourselves and our children off into the 21st century is solid.

The material contained within draws heavily on the excellent work done in the 1958 School Magazine and in many instances is a direct copy of that work. As such we hope that this is a tribute to Bill Keen, his committee and others involved with that memorable Jubilee.

The 1992 Reunion Committee planned this Labour Weekend to bring people together in as many ways as possible to meet and reminisce.

May you enjoy yourselves.

Paul Cole, Editor.



The School today.

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23rd

Tikorangi Hall 7:30 pm

Wine and Cheese Evening.
An informal get together to renew old acquaintances and exchange reminiscences

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24th

Tikorangi School 9:00 am.

Calf & Lamb Day at School

11:00 am

Speeches /Cake Cutting

12:00 noon

Decade Photographs

1:00 pm

Lunch

2:00 pm

School Displays

3:00 - 6:00 pm

Get Together at Tikorangi Rugby Club

Tikorangi Hall, 8:00 pm

Celebration Ball
Evening Dress of other eras welcomed and encouraged

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25th

St. Lukes, Tikorangi, 11:00 am

Reunion Church Service

Tikorangi Hall, 12:30 pm

Celebration Dinner and Farewells

Greetings from Maori Ex-pupil of the Tikorangi School

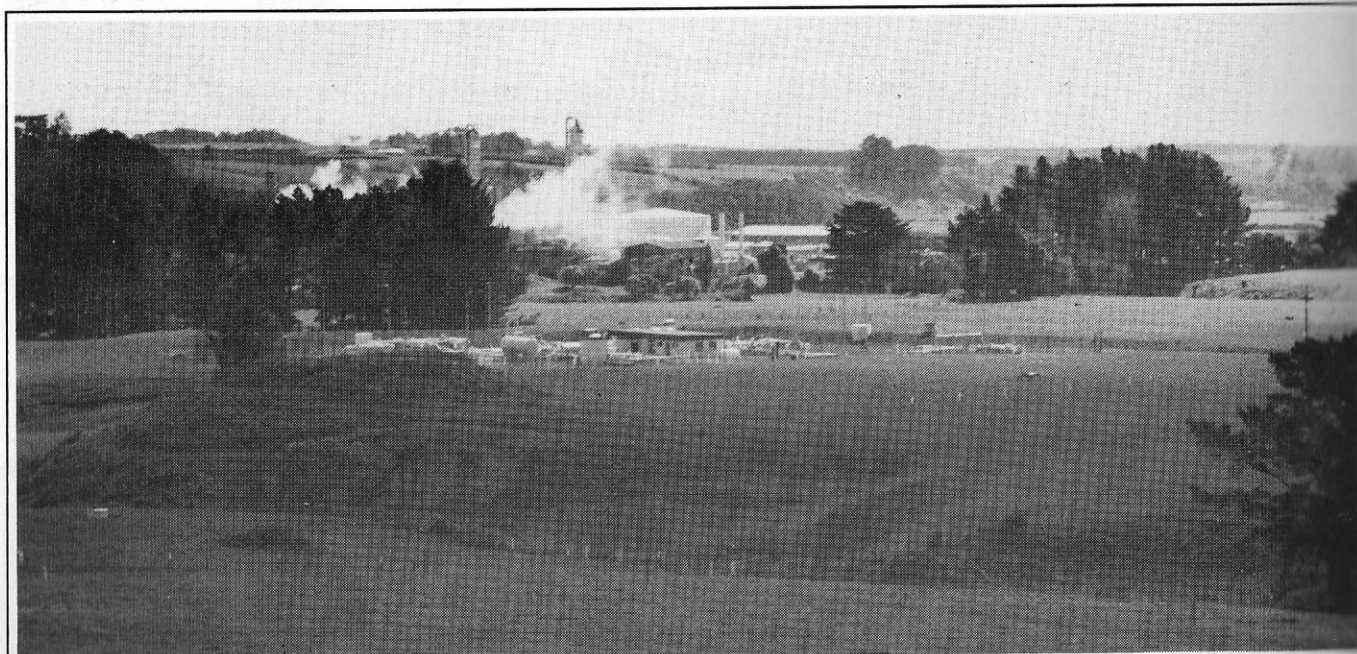
Enga Iwi, e nga Reo, Maori, Pakeha, e huihui nei irungaite Marae o totatou Whare-runanga, e manaaki nei tona ra; Tena Koutou!

To the People, both Maori and Pakeha, assembled here on the courtyard of our House of Learning for the purpose of honouring this historic milestone in its long period of existence; Greeting!

As a former Maori pupil, I have very happy memories of the years I spent at Tikorangi School, and it gives me pleasure to greet you on behalf of past and present Maori pupils.

Our district, Tikorangi, is part of the land originally owned by the Otaraua tribe. The Maori's love for his land can be seen in his naming of every hill, valley, stream and fishing pool. These names maybe sound strange to the pakeha, but are full of meaning to the Maoris.

The many pas in the district, centres of busy Maori life in days gone by, now remain as grassy knolls, surrounded by a few shallow trenches, with perhaps some native trees here and there. One or two are cemetery reserves, having been old burying grounds.



Pinchgut lies between the two industrial sites high above the river.

One of these is the old Otaraua Pa, locally known as Pinchgut, which is situated on the northern bank of the Waitara River, about three miles from

its mouth. Another old Pa, in the vicinity of Blockhouse Hill was Te Awa-te-takee, and on the hill near the present Otaraoa Road tunnel was Te Reinga-o-kare.

The last pa to be lived in by our people was Mangaemiemi, or to call it by its more correct name Te Ahikaroa (a fire that has been alight a long time). Situated on the Pukepapa Road, near the Waitara River, this is now a tribal reserve. Close to it, the area known to Maoris as Pukehou, between the Bertrand and Pukepapa Roads, has always been, and still is, Maori land.

Tribal boundaries were marked by objects such as stone pegs, large stones or special trees. These were venerated to such an extent that to remove or destroy one of them would endanger life. Legend tells us that one man did indeed lose his life because he removed a sub-tribe's boundary mark, on land now occupied by G.K. Foreman.

When the river was in flood, an important part of Maori life was fishing for piharau (lamprey eels) which used to be caught in huge quantities. Tradition decided who had the right to do the actual fishing, but all the others would be there to help. When caught in large quantities, the fish would be

cooked and dried, and later sent to other tribes in exchange for some different variety of food such as muttonbirds or pigeons.



Pukepapa from Pukehou with new building on tribal reserve on the right.

Although today it is difficult to be sure of the sites of Maori kaainga (homes), a grove of karaka is a fairly sure sign that in days gone by, a Maori family had its home there.

May Maori and Pakeha long live side by side in friendship.

The article that you have just read was submitted by Mrs. George Ngatai (Kathleen O'Carroll) to the Tikorangi School Jubilee Magazine in 1958. This piece is still as appropriate today as it was then. Not much has changed since those earlier days, as far as the land is concerned. The Otaraua Pa mentioned is at the end of Faull Road overlooking the river.

Tikorangi Road (formerly Pukepapa Road) leads from the base of Blockhouse hill down to the flat and Te Ahikaroa. If one is to look inland, down Ngatimaru Road, right in front of you is Blockhouse Hill, where once lived my neighbours the Walmsley and the Dowman families, at the top and the bottom respectively.

Those people, and others in the district, have since moved on and so, once again history has left a few more grassy knolls, shallow trenches, and perhaps the odd camellia tree, which are sure signs of settler home life.

It seems rather symbolic that at the site of Pinchgut there exists together both karaka and camellia trees.

Jimmy Rakeitahanga O'Carroll



Blockhouse Hill. The Blockhouse was situated on the high ground to the right of the view.

THE HISTORY OF THE TIKORANGI DISTRICT

1865-1957

(Compiled by L.A., W.E. and J.D. Alexander)

The First Settlement

The pattern of the pakeha settlement of Tikorangi would, no doubt, have been quite orthodox if it had not been for the Land wars. Five names of the original settlers can be found in the passenger list of the "William Bryan," one in that of the "Oriental" and one in that of the "Essex." All these became citizens of New Plymouth and the surrounding districts and assisted with its development in the bustling days between 1841 and 1859.

In due course the foundation of New Plymouth would have expanded in search of land until all that freely available on the west bank of the Waitara River was occupied and economic necessity and love of adventure finally took settlement across the natural barrier of the river. Settlement, however, did not occur in this way because anticipated trouble with the Maoris came to a head in 1860 and New Plymouth changed from a peaceful settlement to an armed camp. Military commanders were appointed and regiments of regular troops were landed on the coast. To assist these regulars the manpower of the new settlement was mobilised in 1859 in to a unit called the "Taranaki Volunteers and Militia" which took a very complete part in the campaigns against the Maoris. Military activities consisted of pitched battles, raids on pas, and reprisals for Maori atrocities. Little progress towards permanent security was made until Major Atkinson conceived the plan of establishing a ring of forts or blockhouses around the settlement, the perimeter of which could be gradually extended. It was from this plan that the organised settlement of Tikorangi sprang.

In 1865 two special companies of the Militia were formed to be known as the North Waitara Volunteers. Their task was to build and garrison redoubts at Tikorangi, Urenui and Pukearuhe. They were to be paid 2/6 a day during their service and their final reward was to be a grant of land in the district. The land had already been taken by Act of Parliament on December 3rd, 1863. They were to continue in-service until September 1st, 1866, and their military allowance was to continue for some time until they could win a subsistence from the land.

On June 16th, 1865 Captain (afterwards Colonel) Stapp and Captain Armstrong left New Plymouth for Tikorangi with one company and three days later Captain Jones set out with the other company. The move was made on foot with the

equipment necessary for the camp loaded on to bullock waggons. The river was forded at the swing bridge.

Building the Blockhouse

The two companies, under canvas near Blockhouse Hill, an old Maori fortification, went to work building a stockade and forming a road up the hill. The blockhouse was occupied on July 7th, 1865. While this work was going on the forts at Urenui and Pukearuhe were garrisoned alternately by the companies. No incidents with the Maoris occurred and life became more settled. Land near the blockhouse was cleared and potatoes and vegetables planted for the men's own mess. Relaxation consisted of concerts and entertainments in the blockhouse and shooting for trophies in leisure hours.

Allotment of Land

All members of the garrison were looking forward to the time when they could take possession of their own land and, although they still had a year of service to perform, on September 23rd, 1865, the two companies drew lots to see which would have the first choice of blocks. Captain Armstrong won first choice for No. 1 Company. In October two surveyors, Messrs. Hursthouse and Parris, arrived in the district, but difficulties arose and the survey did not begin until January 24th, 1866. There appeared to be insufficient land and No. 1 Company was told that it could not have the land at Tikorangi unless it included the broken land to the south. Then they were offered land at Stoney River but after a stormy meeting decided not to separate. A letter of protest was written to the Defence Minister, Colonel Haltain. These difficulties were resolved and on January 16th, 1866, No. 1 Company was officially allotted the Tikorangi Block. The survey went ahead immediately and everyone was busy cutting and chaining survey lines.

In the allotment Colonel Stapp received 303 acres, Captain Armstrong 300 acres, Lieutenant Black 200 acres, Lieutenant Lawson 200 acres, Sergeant-Major Jupp 100 acres, Sergeant Faull 80

acres, Sergeant Bertrand 80 acres. These men chose their own sections and the rest of the company drew lots for sections of 50 or 60 acres according to locality. Each man was also allotted a quarter-acre section in the township.

Enlisted time for the company expired on September 1st, 1866. Many of those who drew sections disposed of them immediately but among those who received original allotments are names honoured for long association with the district whose descendants now occupy a large portion of the land. They are :H. Faull, C. Oliver, W. Jury, J. Sarten, H. Jury, G. Jupp, S. Whitehead, T. McKenzie, Hy. Jury, Levi Sarten, S. Knuckey, J. Armstrong, J.W. Foreman, J. Terrill and Jas. Sarten.

Roading

The first access to the Tikorangi district was by fording the Waitara river at the rapids on Karaka flat and where the swing bridge now stands.

formed in 1886 and the first nine chains metalled in 1888 with metal quarried from pits along the river bank and transported by bullock drays at a cost of £3 17/- per chain. Over the next few years Inland North and Nikorima Roads were also formed and some metal applied, and in 1899 the Otaraoa road was commenced starting at what is known as West Hill, the cost being 8/- per chain unmetalled.

Apart from the main roads, many side roads were metalled only when the residents concerned were able and prepared to contribute to the cost, and it was not until 1954 that the last of these was completed. All roads, after a foundation of crushed metal, were in later years dressed with a very durable pit metal obtained from pits in the Onaero district. With this material and regular grading, a very good surface was maintained. In 1929 the first tar-sealing was applied on the first 2 1/2 miles of the Ngatimaru Road and today only parts of two short roads remain unsealed. Over the years most of the hills had their grades reduced including the factory hill which was considered dangerous es



Cutting through the Bertrand Road Hill – Clarry Jones, Harry Sarten and Mr Nicholls.

The first roads were not formed until after the building of the bridge at Waitara and the forming of the County in 1885. Ngatimaru Road was

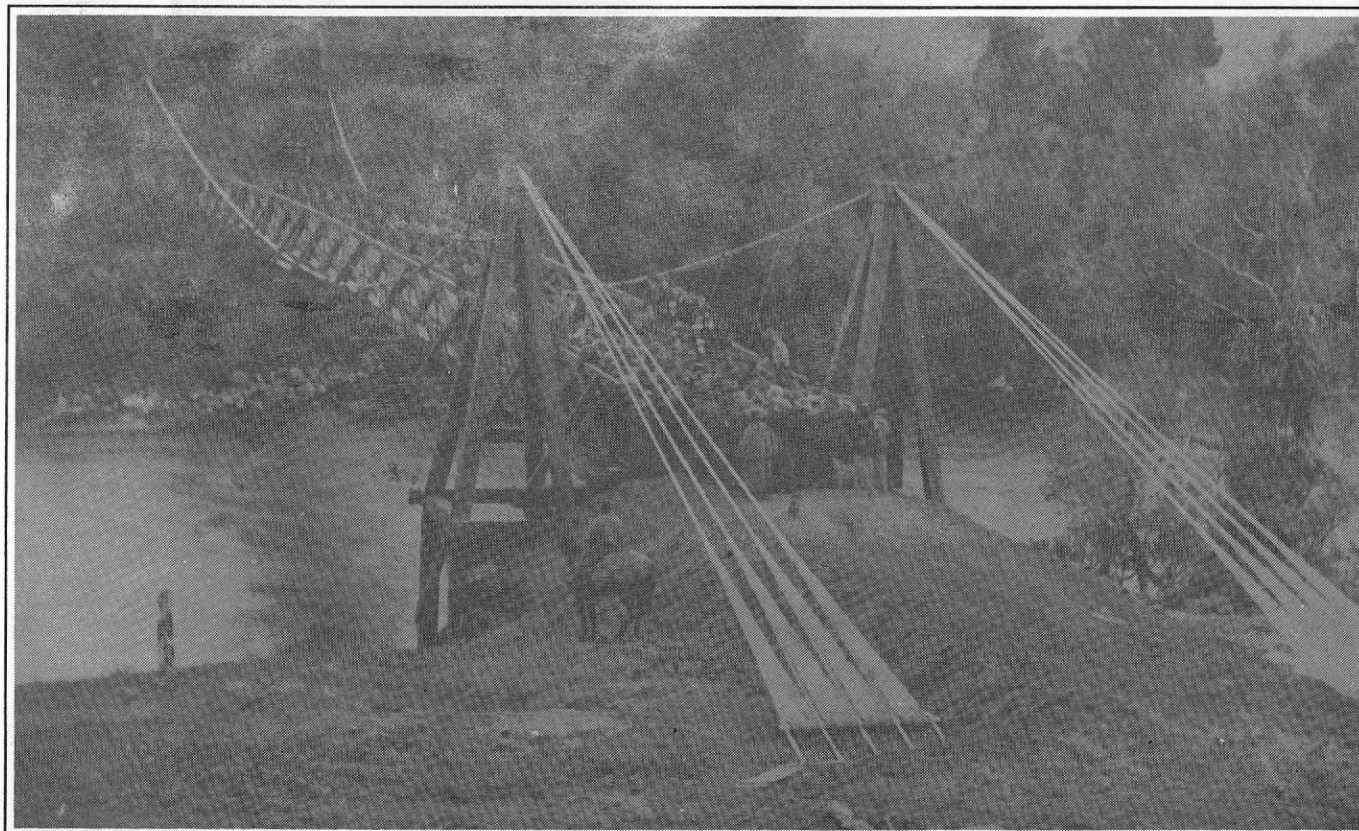
pecially for school children and was the scene of numerous accidents. One of these was when one of contractor Les Bunn's trucks appeared over

the hill, ploughing into a mob of sheep driven by James Sarten. The truck rolled several times but fortunately the driver emerged unhurt - however about forty sheep lay dead and injured in its wake.

In 1900 the first 'roadman' as we knew him was employed and over the ensuing years he became a familiar sight with his horse and cart, and pick and shovel, filling pot holes and clearing water tables. In 1928 a cottage was built to accommodate him at a cost of £407.

The tunnel on Otaraoa Road was dug in 1904 at 25/9 per foot and this opened access to the coast for Tarata settlers.

With increased traffic in the area the first traffic officer or Inspector as he was then known was Mr George Rowe a most good natured and genial individual - and it is doubtful whether he ever



The Government built a truss bridge on the Bertrand Road over the Waitara River in 1898, and much of the work on it was done by Mr Levi Sarten who was a good craftsman with a fine set of tools. Previously, the river was forded above the present bridge. When this bridge was washed away, the present swing bridge was built in 1905. This was re-designed in 1928.

issued anything other than a warning.

The discovery of oil in the 1970's brought more and heavier vehicles with it necessitating the upgrading of the roads they were using. This was a costly exercise but the oil companies involved contributed greatly to this cost, and today the district enjoys a standard of roading second to none in rural areas.

Tikorangi had only one major road bridge, namely the Bertrand Road suspension or swing bridge as it is known today. It was first built in 1896, washed away and replaced by a higher structure in 1927. During the floods of 1935 the Waitara bridge was severely damaged, leaving the swing bridge the only crossing of the river from the North for several months. During this period two men were employed 24 hours a day to restrict the number of vehicles on the bridge at anyone time. In 1970 structural replacements and repairs were necessary to extend the life of the bridge but illegal overloading took its toll over the next few years, and it was closed to all but light traffic.

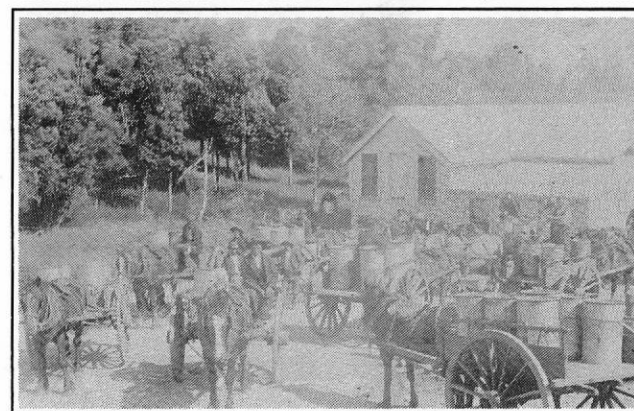
In 1985, after inspections, it was considered unsafe and closed completely. Submissions by local and interested people to the appropriate authorities, even with the offer of funds, have failed to have the bridge re-opened. It is a great pity that an historical and attractive structure such as this, should be allowed to fall into disrepair and will no doubt eventually disappear. J.D. Alexander



Tikorangi Dairy Factory 1914

Dairy Factory

The first dairy factory in the district was privately owned and operated by Mr J.C. George from 1886 to 1894. The present Co-operative Company was formed in 1895. The original shareholders were: J.W. Foreman, W. Crump, J. Old, J.P. Smart, R. Snell, S. Knuckey, James Hine and T. Charles. The capital was 400 pounds. Mr J.W. Foreman was the first chairman and his son Charles was chair-



Tikorangi Dairy Factory 1895

man for 29 years. Mr J.B. Hine was secretary for 30 years. Long service was also given by Mr Jack Garner, who was manager for 33 years. In the early days the Company was called Hine, Knuckey & Co. Ltd.

The following table is included as a commentary on the growth of the factory and on the prosperity of the District:

Year	Tons of Butter	Total Pay-out
1902	61	9.3d
1910	125	10.69d
1920	154	23.25d
1930	406	16.00d
1934	488	8.8d
1940	474	17.3d
1950	484	31.8d
1957	535	42.65d

Production of casein was commenced in 1917 and 1953 reached a record of 184 tons. In 1924 the butter room was enlarged and the casein room rebuilt and enlarged and extensive alterations were carried out in 1935. In 1957 the paid-up capital was 9419 pounds.

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The Public Library

No history of the district would be complete without including the Library which was an institution with a character of its own. It was first opened in the school in 1895 but in 1897 the settlers decided that a separate building was necessary, so they borrowed 30 pounds from the Rowing Club and erected a building on a piece of land given by Mr J.W. Foreman. The first trustees were Mr L. Faull and Mr J. Cole. An energetic committee with Miss Alice Faull as secretary had paid off the debt in 18 months and organised socials, dances and concerts to keep the finances healthy. By 1909 the Library contained 1300 volumes and had become something like a social club where many residents gathered on library nights for social gossip by the fire, games of draughts and even coffee and biscuit suppers on special occasions. It continued thus for the first twenty years of the century but could not compete for interest with the attractions of the motor-car age of the mid-twenties and even with the assistance of the Country Library Service it could not be kept alive. Finally, in 1945, a general meeting decided to dispose of the 2000 volumes and close down. The building was sold for removal for 30 pounds, the exact sum borrowed from the Rowing Club to establish the institution 48 years previously.

Postal Facilities

Until 1887 residents were responsible for getting their own mail from Waitara. Mr Alf Faull rode to Waitara twice a week to get the mail and it was distributed to the school children by Mr Morgan. When Mr Morgan left the district in 1887 a post office was established at Mr Henry Faull's house to which residents came for letters. In 1906 Miss Kate Faull took over and a full postal service was provided including the first telephone. This remained the only telephone in the district until 1919 when the first party line (the 88 line) was connected with the Waitara exchange. In 1920, when Miss Faull left the district, a system of postal boxes was established in a tin shed near the school and in 1938 the present rural delivery method was introduced. News from beyond the district was provided by the "Taranaki Herald" and the "Waitara Evening Mail and Clifton County Chronicle" established in 1898 by Mr J.H. Clayton and continued by Nosworthy Bros. and delivered on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Shops

Matchett's General Store was in business on the same site as the present store and it was then transferred to the hands of Mr J. C. George at the factory site where it continued until 1894. The present store was erected in 1935, the Dairy Co. store came into existence years after Matchett's store closed.

A butcher's shop flourished for a while about the years 1906-7 on Captain Armstrong's property on the Bertrand Road.

A short distance away from Matchett's store a blacksmith's shop was erected and run by Mr H. Revell but closed before the store shut its doors.

Faull's Store

Wilf Faull opened the store in 1935 at first working single handed. The first un official customer was Oscar Foreman who called at the back door before 8.30am to buy a bottle of vinegar which Wilf drew from a barrel and charged him 6 pence. The first official customers via the front door were Frank Jupp and Lawrie Jury who bought a packet of biscuits to share!

Bebe (Wilf's sister) later joined him in running the shop. His brother Max also joined him, unfortunately Max was killed in action. He was well known for adding an extra boiled lolly so that children received 9 instead of 8. Phyllis went to work in the store from 1940 on and then the boys were later co-opted.

Wilf joined the army in 1942 so from then until 1949 the store was run by Mr and Mrs H. Leadbetter. The Faull family then returned to the store until 1978. For a while the Hight family took over but the Faulls went back briefly rather than see the store close. In 1980 Grant and Pauline Burnett leased the shop for 4 or 5 years followed by the Johnsons.



Tikorangi (about 1935): Library, centre – Post Office on right.

TIKORANGI STORE

Ph 7544042

Proprietors: Ian & Lynda Jury

PCL Products - Plants & Seeds (Watkins) Fresh Fruit & Veges

Ice Creams - Cones - Fresh Bread Daily - Rawleigh Products

The Changing Pattern of Life

It would be an understatement to say that the first years of the settlement were grim but with the threat of war removed and long years of peace ahead, hope for the future encouraged those pioneers to win a living from their land. Their first task was to provide shelter for their families. These homes were built from timber felled on the land and pit sawn into boards and roofed with shingles split on the farm. At first farming was directed towards the provision of the bare necessities of the family but it is surprising how soon land was cleared of bush and prepared for cash crops of potatoes and wheat. The sale of fungus gathered from the remaining bush was also a source of cash income. The proceeds from these crops were used to purchase livestock and the important animal was the bullock which did all the farm tasks. Cropping continued in the district until well into the first decade of this century but the invention of refrigeration in 1882 opened up to possibility of markets overseas for meat and dairy produce. As a result as early as 1886 sufficient land had been cleared and laid down in pasture to support enough dairy cows to warrant the establishment of a factory. From this point on the local farmer could turn all the produce of his farm into cash to provide his necessities and from this point the history of the district depended almost entirely upon the price of butterfat.

Life on the farms was not easy, however, and a living could only be won by the whole family from an early age assisting in the milking-shed and with the routine jobs of the farm. The first glimpse of the prosperity of the future appeared in 1920-21 when butterfat rose to 2/6 per pound, but in 1934 it was back to 8.8 pence per pound and only the hard-working and prudent farmer survived the depression. The real prosperity of the district began in 1936 when prices again became buoyant.

Other changes occurred which alleviated the conditions of work on the farms. The invention of the separator increased the yield of fat and reduced the work of handling milk in bulk. The coming of the milking machine about 1910 reduced the number of hours in the shed, made it possible for larger herds to be handled with less labour and in many cases freed the housewife



Hay Sweep attached to car, 1930's — Gil Beaven, Frank Jupp, Roy Griffiths and George Jupp.

from the milking shed. These changes were further emphasised by the mechanisation of farming processes in the late 'twenties with the coming of the tractor and all its gadgets. The history of the haystack and methods of harvesting is a particularly vivid example of this evolution.

With this prosperity has come changes in domestic life. Improved transport and the availability of reasonably cheap motor cars after the First World War brought the farmer close to the amenities and social life of the town. Electricity came to the district in 1935 and provided cheaper and more reliable power in the milking shed and in the home and more convenient electric light replaced the oil lamp and the benzine-pressure systems. Telephones and radios have eased the farmer's sense of isolation and the country housewife shares with her sister in the town the increase in leisure which has followed the introduction of labour-saving devices into the home.

In the meantime we have progressed further to television, microwaves, farm bikes and computers.

What will it be in another 125 years?

TIKORANGI HALL 1880 - 1992

By John Megaw

The Tikorangi Hall originated in 1880 when Richard Thomas Hicks handed over to the people of the District a piece of land on which to erect a place of assembly.

The Trustees elected to administer this were Levi Sarten and John White Foreman.

A hall was built and this was the beginning of the focal point of the District.

For many years people came to dances, movie pictures, cards and other social gatherings. In 1954 the hall became an Incorporated Society being controlled by an elected committee.

The next few years saw a change with the Indoor Bowling Club extending the South-West wall six feet and replacing the swing floor with a more suitable one to play bowls on.

At the same time the Rugby Club built a shower and changing room on to the back of the hall.

During this period, finances were a problem and money was raised by canvassing the district and holding bowling tournaments and card evenings. The hall has been used over the years for

sports such as badminton, table tennis, indoor bowls and meetings of C.W.I., Country Girls, Young Farmers and Federated Farmers.

In 1979 the Tikorangi Community Centre was formed with the hall being vested in the Clifton County Council. This enabled money to be collected by an annual levy per house, through the Council Rates, to maintain the hall.

With the building of the energy projects around Tikorangi, an Energy Development Fund was created. The Council was approached by members of the Hall Committee for funds to help rebuild the hall. A substantial grant was obtained both in 1987 to rebuild the supper room, kitchen and toilets and in 1989 to rebuild the main hall. Approximately half of the required funds came from the district in the form of donations and voluntary labour.

Today the Tikorangi Hall is a modern up-to-date unit catering for all local affairs plus a number of outside weddings and 21st birthdays.



50th anniversary of hall opening, 1915.



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THE CHURCH



Dedication of Church 1901

The first church service in the District was conducted at the Blockhouse in 1865 by the Rev. Whiteley, afterwards killed during the land wars at Pukearuhe on Friday 5th, 1869. Services were afterwards held at the house of Captain Armstrong, who was himself a lay reader, then at the school at Takapu, built in 1867 and shifted to the present site in 1876. Services, both Church of England and Methodist, continued in the new school, built in 1879. The school shared a small harmonium with the Methodist Church.

On February 18, 1879, the Right Reverend Bishop of Auckland presided over the first meeting of church members. Captain Armstrong was nominated as warden and a full vestry was elected. The present St Luke's Church was dedicated by the Primate of New Zealand, Archbishop Comie, on January 16, 1901. The first vicar was the Rev. F.W. Walker and the first marriage celebrated was that of Mr and Mrs T. Jury. Mrs Vickery was organist, followed by Miss Armstrong.

St Luke's Church continues to play an impor-

tant part in the life of the Tikorangi district. Services are held each 1st and 3rd Sunday and, in addition, the church is used regularly for baptism, weddings, and funerals.

Last year we celebrated the 90th anniversary of the dedication of the church and the building was full to overflowing when we were joined by many former residents for the commemorative service followed by lunch in the hall. In 1986 we were honoured by the visit of Bishop Brian Davis of Waikato (later Archbishop of New Zealand) who officiated at a confirmation service and afterwards planted a tanekaha to mark the occasion.

Another special day for Tikorangi came in 1987 when Bernard Faull, an old boy of the school, was appointed vicar of St John's Parish. He officiated at services at St Luke's, just across the road from his childhood home, until he moved to Paraparaumu in 1991. His father, Mr Wilf Faull, has been a stalwart of the church over a period of more than 40 years both as lay reader and as an enthusiastic and dedicated caretaker and grounds-

man. He also represented Tikorangi parishioners on St John's Parish Vestry for many years and we lost a valuable member of the community when Wilf, sometime after the death of his wife, Phyllis, decided to leave the district and settle in New Plymouth.

His place on vestry has been filled by another hard-working member of the church, Ian Vickers.

Over the years St Luke's has benefited greatly from the generosity of parishioners and residents in both time and money. The church was re-roofed in 1981 when the need became apparent and at about the same time the toilet block was built. In 1988 the exterior was thoroughly stripped down and repainted while last year the interior was completely refurbished, with carpet and underpew heaters added.

The church has also been the recipient of many gifts. In 1971 the local Young Farmers Club donated and erected a plough in the grounds as a monument to the early settlers of the district. This was unveiled at a special service by Mr T.R. Hine.

Later the CWI contributed a seat to mark the 50th anniversary of their organisation while, most recently, a new organ, donated by the Mahy family in memory of their parents, has made the job of our loyal organist, Mrs Gay Whitehead, considerably easier and more enjoyable. By the time of these celebrations it is expected that the

fine bell given by the Faull family will be hanging in a new and enlarged porch built to give much needed additional space.

Clergy

1875- 1882	Rev Walsh
1882	Rev Hitchcock
1882- 1892	Rev Baker
1892	Rev Walker
1900	Rev Rawnsley
1918- 1931	Rev Gavin
1932	Rev Fussell
1935	Rev Clark
1935- 1939	Rev Bianchi
1939	Rev Oulds
1939- 1943	Rev Wilson
1943- 1949	Rev Adams
1949- 1952	Rev Niblock
1952- 1957	Rev Clark
1957- 1959	Rev Pierard
1959- 1965	Rev Aldworth
1966- 1968	Rev Jones
1968- 1973	Rev L. Mould
1974- 1982	Rev M. Wendelborn
1983- 1986	Rev E. Smith
1987- 1991	Rev B. Faull
1992-	Rev R. Barnes



Celebration of 50th year of St Lukes, 1951

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF MR GEORGE JUPP

A Pioneer Settler of Tikorangi



George Jupp, 1828-1919

We are fortunate in having at our disposal a diary written by the late Mr George Jupp covering the years 1851-79. It is felt that his experiences were typical of those of many early settlers, and the following extracts may throw some light on events leading up to the settlement of the district and, in time, the founding of the Tikorangi School.

We are grateful to the Jupp family for having made these records available to us.

The first part of the diary deals with Mr Jupp's voyage from England on the sailing ship "Simlah" which left England on 26 April 1851. Interesting though this is, space does not permit its inclusion here, so we begin the story when journey's end is in sight.

10/10/51—Land Ho, was the cry at 5 a.m. Mt Egmont in view. The summit covered with clouds. Sighted the Sugarloaves by 7 a.m., the flagstaff, the surf too high to land.

12/10/51—Fine day. Most of the passengers landed at New Plymouth. The mountain came out beautiful, the country looked splendid.

13/1/51—I went on shore at New Plymouth at 11 a.m. Dined at the Ship Hotel. The "Simlah" left at 6 a.m.

25/12/51—Very hot. Went to Poutouka Pa to see the natives have their Christmas feast. Returned home to dine. Had roast beef, ducks and green peas, new potatoes, plum pudding, but not too hot to be pleasant.

31/12/51—Cutting bush in the morning, pulling fern from potatoes in afternoon. May I live to see many years in this beautiful country.

During the next two years, Mr Jupp lives in New Plymouth at Mr Gilbert's, doing many kinds of work fencing, gardening, bush cutting, road work, harvesting. Typical entries:

15/1/52—Digging well in morning, cross cutting logs in afternoon.

6/7/52—Killed a pig and planted gooseberry trees.

26/8/52—Putting up five-rail fence.

On the anniversary of his arrival in New Zealand:

13/10/52—Although I left friends at home near and dear to me, I never once regret leaving England. New Zealand is a lovely country, a beautiful home for the labouring man, who, if he is industrious may soon live under his own vine and fig tree.

In '53, now at Omata:

6/1/53—Began with G. Gilbert to frame his house, 20 x 14, divided into two rooms, a slay of two rooms at the back.

28/1/53—Had a tooth drawn by Dr Wade. Very poorly.

Later that year, now with Mr Vickers, at Henui:

13/10/53—I like New Zealand better every day....This part is most lovely country....Mt Egmont, the pride of Taranaki, is surrounded by forest trees, all evergreen....

31/3/54—Anniversary of New Plymouth. Great rejoicing in town.

1/1/55—Went to a picnic on banks of Waiwakaiho River.

19/1/55—Went to Warea and sold horses....Returned to town with 115 pounds in sovereigns for Mr Vickers.

11/4/55—Planting shrubs that Sam Vickers brought from Sydney, and sowing Norfolk Island pine seeds.

Still at Omata:

23/1/56—Brought 7 3/4 acres of bush for 48 pounds. I intend to cut the bush and build.

16/4/56—Began to frame my house.

Mention of frequent visits to Henui leads up to this entry:

5/5/56—Went up to the Henui and told Susan what I had done (about the house), found her washing. She and her sister dressed and went to Marshes with me. We got married at half-past one p.m.

1856-57— are spent living and working in Omata.

26/6/56—Agreed to cut and clear the bush road...one chain wide, clear, and cart road width 12 feet, for 16/- per chain.

First hint of trouble with the Natives.

2/3/58—Walked to town. Sworn in the Militia, Omata Company.

There is now frequent mention of drilling until -

23/2/60—This day Martial Law proclaimed in this province.

Things go from bad to worse -

4/3/60—Today great preparations making for occupying the Waitara, 65th Regiment under Colonel Gold.

6/3/60—Work hard at the stockade (Omata)

13/3/60—People are leaving their homes for town.

29/2/60—I was promoted Corporal in the 3rd Company of Militia.

Now Corporal Jupp lives a dual existence as soldier-settler for ten years. We can include only a few entries to keep the thread of the narrative -

17/3/60—First shot fired at the Waitara today. John Sarten of Mounted Volunteers wounded.

The Battle of Waireka Hill is vividly described, then -

28/3/60—I turned in to sleep after two days and one night of horrible scenes such as I have never seen before.

The situations worsens, so -

7/8/60—Was sent to town today to prepare my family for leaving Taranaki for Nelson. Said Colonel Sillerey, "All must go."

Mrs Jupp and family are in Nelson until January, 1862. Meanwhile, an expedition (one of many) under General Pratt, to Waitara, is recorded thus -

11/9/60—Went with troops to camp at river mouth. This is the first time I saw the Waitara River. I am much pleased with the place.

24/1/61—Released from Guard at 12 a.m. to go to the Commissariat as Conductor in Land Transport, took charge of bullock carts, drivers, etc.

Troubled times continue - we have frequent mention of Bell Block, Omata, the Waitara -

3/2/61—Went to the Waitara in "Tasmania Maid."

4/2/61—Went to the front with 20 carts. Men at work....to clear in front of Redoubt No. 6 now building.

31/3/61—Got capsized in Waitara River.

30/12/61—Sworn in Taranaki Rifle Volunteers.

With his family back in New Plymouth -

21/2/63—Building my house in town.

Time is now divided between military and home duties. One entry of interest in this period runs -

4/8/64—We (the Bush Rangers) crossed the Waiongona River, and marched on....down to the Waitara River. Natives took us across in canoes....to an old Pa with lots of fruit trees....The men had their rations for the next day (but) they ate it all that night. Some who were on guard got little or none. The men called this place Pinch Gut Pa.

Now we must move along to -

16/6/65—Colonel Stapp started for Tikorangi with some N Waitara Volunteers.

2/7/65—I walked out to Tikorangi with Lieutenant Free.

The stockade was built and two Companies moved in.

9/7/65—Mr Whiteley preached.

This is the first entry recording a Church service at Tikorangi, and through the years Mr Jupp faithfully notes the service every Sunday and by whom conducted. To choose a few entries at random -

23/6/67—Mr Whiteley had service at Armstrong's.

12/4/68—Mr Whiteley preached at the new school-house (at Takapu).

3/5/68—Mr Govett preached at Tikorangi.

But back to the Block house in '65 -

14/8/65—Work at a new mess house.

22/8/65—Clearing up land for potatoes.

24/8/65—Cutting fern for cultivation.

1/9/65—We at Tikorangi have one more year to serve for our land. We are all looking forward to the day when it will be peace, and us on our farms at work, instead of carrying the rifle.

22/9/65—At Tikorangi, the men firing for prize revolver. Corporal Chas. Oliver made 41 points. Fifteen shots.

23/9/65—The Companies drew lots for the choice of Blocks. Captain Armstrong had first choice.

6/10/65—We killed our first bullock today.

Disagreements developed about division of the land between the two Companies and finally -

10/1/66—Men thought it best to toss for choices.

16/1/66—The companies tossed. No. 1 got Tikorangi.

6/2/66—Men and N.C.O.'s drew lots for their choice of land.

19/2/66—Officers chose their land today. I got the piece I wanted.

Preparations now begin to take up residence in Tikorangi, work on section is described, till -

7/2/67—Cutting down trees for a place to build my house.

12/2/67—Strong S.E. wind..... many houses burnt today by bush fires.

13/2/67—Bought a pair of bullocks for 45 pounds.

1/4/67—Drove my bullocks to Tikorangi with doors and windows.

27/4/67—At home (New Plymouth) packing up my things for Tikorangi.

30/4/67—My family came to Tikorangi.

Now comes a period of settling in, typical entries:

23/7/67—Drove back (from New Plymouth) to Tikorangi. Crossed at the Karaka Grove but (river) very high.

7/8/67—Fencing through the bush.

15/8/67—Grafting apple trees.

17/8/67—Rolling my wheat land.

26/8/67—Making shingles for my dairy.

Alas! Tragedy comes close -

15/2/69—Heard today of Mr Whiteley and seven others being murdered at White Cliffs.

16/2/69—Drove my family to town.

8/2/69—On guard at Block House.

In next few months there are frequent references to being "On guard at Tikorangi" or "On the Hill on duty." Women and children stay in New Plymouth for about a year, meanwhile here in Tikorangi farm life proceeds fairly normally.

29/5/69—Sold five tons potatoes to Honeyfield for 2 pounds 10 shilling

30/7/69—Ploughing up bank under fence to plant furze.

The settlers remain on the alert till -

28/2/70—On the Hill at Tikorangi. Everything seems quiet around us at present, one year since Whiteley massacre.

Retracing our steps, we note references to other pioneer families -

10/12/67—Washing Bertrand's sheep. Jury earth-ing up my potatoes.

21/1/68—Working for Faull clearing bush land.

30/1/68—Cutting my wheat - McKenzie and Whitehead with me.

7/9/70—Carting out fencing - Jim Sarten with me.

20/9/70—Ploughing up new land with J. Richards.

26/12/70—Shearing at Major Stapp's.

10/2/71—Cutting wheat for John Foreman.

31/3/71—Thrashing wheat at Vickery's.

2/3/74—Thrashing with machine at E. Lye's.

1/4/74—Sold to W. Rossiter, old Ben for 9 pounds. Sixteen sheep at 14/- each.

9/3/77—Went to Manutahi, sold my wheat, 5/9 per bushel.

6/7/78—Putting up ditch and bank with Mr West. R. Hicks with us.

Two events of local importance -

21/6/72—The Waitara Bridge opened today.

21/8/73—The first sod of the Waitara-Wanganui Railroad turned.

Now we must hurry on to -

11/7/76—Began to move the schoolhouse.

12/7/76—Tried to take the school on wheels, did not succeed.

13/7/76—Began to cut the school in two.

14/7/76—Took the school to Coxes place.

15/7/76—Work at the schoolhouse.

Although the diary continues until '79 perhaps it is fitting to conclude with this reference to the school. The record of the next few years tells of a busy life on the land, continuing the development of previous years.

And so a grand pioneer, typical of many, lays down his pen, having left for us a faithful record of daily life in a sterner age than ours today.

Some Reminiscences of an Old-Timer

Mr Ern Sarten recalls his early working days. "I left school in 1880 at the age of 12, to go to work on the roads, and Jack Richards and I were soon driving five pairs of bullocks in a two-yard block dray. We had trouble in keeping three bulls from fighting so we used to tie their tails together. We carted metal and cobblestones which are still under the roads today.

I recall that when I was about 20 years of age, I fell from my horse and broke my leg. There was no doctor nearer than New Plymouth, and no horse available to take me there, so I had to stay the night at the only hotel in Waitara. The following day my father took me by horse and gig to New Plymouth where Dr Gibbs attended me.

When I married I took on a bush section (now farmed by Jupp brothers) and got a good start by saving cocks foot for seed. I remember selling 300 sacks at 3d a lb (3 1/2d for tops) all off bush burns.

Helped by a stock firm I bought 150 yearlings at 14/- and on rising markets I soon was on my feet. About 1908, I bought Mr Knight's farm where my grandson Vernon farms today. "here my great-grandson Allan farms today."



Left to Right: G. Jupp, Jim Sarten, Capt. Armstrong, Sam Whitehead, Jack Richards.
Seated: S. Jupp, Mrs Sarten, Mrs Armstrong, Mrs Whitehead, Mrs Faull, Mrs Richards.

HORSES

A FAMILY TRADITION

These are the recollections of the late Mary McGreal, formerly Cole, as told in the Waitara Record/Times/ 27/10/1982. They start with a short history of horses in Devon, England, where her father was born in 1881.

Mrs McGreal continues the story:

My father was Percy Cole and his earliest memories were of watching his father ploughing in the fields of Devon, England, with two quite small horses. As well as the usual farm work which sometimes involved being harnessed to the hurdy-gurdy to thresh grain, these same horses would be ridden by his uncles to the hunt, where dressed in their hunting pink, they would chase deer, not the fox. The uncles also rode the horses when they exercised in the Yeomanry.

Arrival

Father could not remember when he first learned to ride, but it is certain that he was riding by the time that he celebrated his fifth birthday in Bell Block, where his parents had brought the family to start a new life.



In 1887, Grandfather, his wife and five children settled in Tikorangi, a mile up from the school. They were to engage in dairying. My father's riding ability was to serve him well through his school days. The roads were not metalled and in some places the bracken was saddle high. It was quite usual for the boys to stay at school until they were 15. They would work in the summer at whatever labour was offering, and go to school in the winter months.

Droving

Father used to help Bill Baker every Saturday and occasionally on school days, to drive stock and to attend the cattle sales. The horse he rode was a very well trained stock horse of Mr Baker's which father grazed at home. The horse could be ridden bareback, and when father went out for him in the morning, the horse would insist on rounding up all the other horses too.

Grandfather

Grandfather was the first in Tikorangi to buy a gig and he was progressive in his farm ideas. He was the first to top-dress his land, and he was the first in Tikorangi to sell butter commercially, setting up his own private factory. It was father's duty to take the butter in a horse and cart to the Waitara Railway Station, twice a week.

On his return he would fill the cart with coal, which was cheap and plentiful at that time, being brought down from Mokau. The coal was mixed with wood to fire the steam engine that churned the butter.

On other occasions, he would accompany his father taking grain to Sentry Hill mill to be ground. When his brother, Bob, left school, he took over the horse breaking, as he had the greater patience, and father looked after the stock.

Marriage

My father, Percy Cole, was married in 1911 to Miss Ethel Cunningham, who was a descendant from pioneers of the district. They lived on the Otaraoa Road on 500 acres of Crown land that father leased for five shillings an acre.

It was on the Otaraoa Road that father learned hillside ploughing. It took two years for him to learn, and also two years for the horse.

Childhood

I was born in 1912. I cannot remember when I could not ride. It was said that I could ride before I could walk. I always accompanied my father

wherever he rode. I can remember riding a sturdy horse and coming to the Bertrand road suspension bridge on our way to Huirangi, I became very frightened when the bridge began to sway. Father scolded me severely until I moved on. On another occasion, he had taken me to Mr Tom Jury's to buy a special saddle pad. This was equipped with safety stirrups, of leather that enclosed the toe. After father put me up on the horse, I knew where to go, so I set off down the road a mile to my grandmother Cunningham.

By the time father caught up with me, it was his turn to get a scolding from his mother-in-law for letting such a small child ride alone.

School

By the time I was six and a half, it was necessary for me to go to school, so I came to live with Granny Cunningham, where my cousin, Frances Fraser, was also living. We would usually walk the straight mile to school. My younger brothers and sisters were coming on and it was time for them to go to school also, father decided to lease land at Motunui, in 1920, situated at the corner of the Nikorima and Main Roads, where we were to stay for 16 years. Father kept jersey milking cows and also bred horses.

During this time we rode to the hunts and my brother, Peter, joined the Queen Alexandra Mounted Rifles. Both Peter and I whipped for the hounds during the hunting season. One of the horses my father bred and sold as a two year old, was 'Our Nation' who was later to win the Great Northern Steeplechase. We bought a horse called 'Ginger' and we bred one called 'Gingerette'. I rode both of these horses. I had some success in

the hunting fields, sports meetings, point to points and shows in points, and shows in Taranaki. My brothers and sisters also participated in these activities.

Return to Otaraoa

When my father returned to Otaraoa in 1936, he was able to buy his leasehold land. The late John White Foreman was instrumental in getting a law passed to enable lessees to buy their land after they had owned it for 21 years and could prove that they had improved it. Father then purchased a total block of 640 acres for five pounds an acre.

Waitara

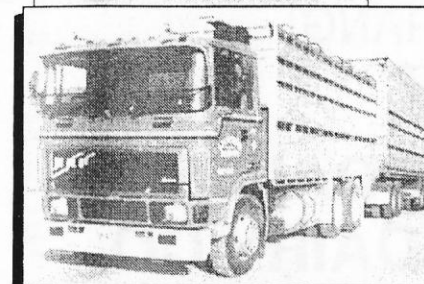
My father retired to Waitara in 1948, leaving a mixture of 50 draught and stock horses at Otaraoa on the farm.

Father was to live on his Princess Street property for the rest of his life. During this time until his death in 1973, he maintained a steady interest in horses and supported the Pony Club in particular, supplying them with horses and riding gear.

I was married in 1932 to Sydney McGreal, who was to become well known as a horse trainer, both here and in Australia. I shared his work, and my sons have also.

My father was riding to the hunt when he was 60 and was made a life member of the Taranaki Hunt Club in 1947.

I was last on a horse in 1965, but carried on my work with horse preparations until 1975.



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CHANGES ?

This article appeared in the Saturday, April 9, 1898 edition of the newspaper "The Budget" and shows that the topics of concern in the District have changed little.

TIKORANGI

(From our own correspondent)

The spell of fine weather has been very much against the dairy. The season is now all but over. Summed up shortly, the yield of milk has been very much less than during previous seasons, the dry weather having caused the cows to go off their milk. The cows are not in any worse condition than previous years, and the pastures are no worse. This maybe because we have had occasional showers. Water on the farms is very short.

Johnson's steam thresher has been a second time in the district. The yields of wheat and oats are about as usual, wheat varying from 18 to 30, and oats 20 to 40 bushels per acre. The caterpillars cut off in some places the greatest part, but for them there would have been a good yield per acre of oats. There is considerably more grain this side of the river this year. The thresher has threshed close to 20,000 bushels. It has gone over to Huirangi; then returns to Waihi, where there is a lot yet to thresh.

The school residence has been painted and sundry necessary repairs effected. It is many years since it was previously painted. It is one of the old

Germain square buildings erected at New Plymouth in consequence of the native war of 1860, and it was given by then Provincial Government to the settlers who carted it, got up the timber, re-erected it at their expense, and opened it as a school. It was used as a school until a new one was erected, sometime after the present Education Act became law. The building is now about 37 years old, and is in fairly good condition. The present doing up has added favourably to its appearance.

At a late meeting of the school committee the Salvation Army asked for the use of the school room to open a Sunday school. The committee granted it for two months to see how the building would be attended to; after the two months it is to be again considered. It is hoped it will succeed. A great difficulty is getting the children to come. There had been a Sunday school here from the time the settlers came on the block up to about two years since, when the teachers gave it up because children attended so irregularly. The teachers were at their post regularly, but not the children, so apparently no interest was taken by many of the parents and the school was closed. Therefore it is

to be hoped that, as a Sunday school is again in existence, parents will feel more interest than formerly.

I am pleased to say that we have an Episcopalian minister temporarily appointed to the district, namely Rev. Mr Walker. The preaching of the Rev. gentleman for the last two Sundays has drawn a much larger congregation than usual. There does not appear to have been much interest taken (by those whose duty it is) as to whether there was a minister appointed or not. Query, are we so good that there has been no necessity for appointing a minister to look after our spiritual wants.

There was a meeting held in the hall on Monday evening, called by the Clifton Council to have the opinion of the ratepayers on the rating of the lands on the improved or unimproved value. The majority of those in attendance were in favour of rating on the improved value.

This can only be done by a poll of the ratepayers, which, when taken will, I expect, support rating on the unimproved value. However, there does not appear to be any necessity for hurry, for a change in the rating could not take place, I am told, until after 31 March, 1898, the calling of a meeting to consider the question is not of much importance when the Act says a poll must be taken, and from the then voting, will be decided whether the rating shall be on the improved or unimproved value.

The revaluation of the district has been completed sometime. Ratepayers are now getting from the department the values set on their land. The valuation has gone up quite 25 per cent. What

reason there can be for increasing the value, when all products from the farm are no higher, and as to cattle, well, you cannot get more than half as much for some classes of stock, and as for calves, the selling price is two shillings to seven shillings for good weaners, then the settlers ask where is the justness of the increasing taxation, and how it is to be got.

It is true that the settlers could have appealed, but what is the good in appealing, for from experience and the hearing of appeals as seen in print, the valuation is generally upheld.

So it will always be until the appeal court is composed of practical men, farmers who have to get their living from the land, rather than by the monthly cheque. The valuers as a whole are men who have not been successful themselves, except to pile taxation upon others, that they could not pay at all easy themselves. It is the old cry "please their employers, so as to get the chance of another job".

I do not think the settlers could let their holdings at 3 per cent on the now improved capital value, and I feel sure that if they were taken on at the 5 per cent, the lessor ought to have the rent in advance, for he would stand a very poor chance of getting it at the end of the year. It could not be got out of the property at the present prices of farm produce.

The stubble lands are nearly all ploughed, and sown down to grass or green food for the winter.

So much for the fine weather.

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THE WAR YEARS

THE MONTHLY NEWS

Vol. 50 V ... — TIKORANGI, TARANAKI, NEW ZEALAND V ... — October, 1941



SOLDIERS' XMAS NUMBER

This issue of the Monthly News contains special messages and is dedicated to "Our Boys Overseas." To those of our kinsfolk who are engaged in such an honourable duty to our country and to all peoples of the world who stand for freedom, we extend our most hearty thanks. We are indeed proud to be associated with you, to whom we owe a great debt of gratitude. We know many of you have already—and others will when the opportunity presents itself—maintain and even build to greater heights the courageous deeds for which our men are renowned. We wish you "God Speed and a Safe Return," hoping you derive as much pleasure from this paper as it gives us in sending it.

AU REVOIR AND GOOD LUCK!

1941		OCTOBER					1941
Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		

ALL FUNCTIONS IN TIKORANGI HALL UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE.

WEDNESDAY, 1st, at 1.30 p.m.
Women's Institute monthly meeting.
Bring-and-buy in aid of Soldiers' Parcels.

WEDNESDAY, 1st, at 8 p.m.
Fortnightly pictures. George Formby in "Come on, George." See Britain's nitwit comedian on the race track. "You'll laugh till you cry."

SATURDAY, 4th, at 1 p.m.
On Mr. L. M. Lepper's property, Home Guard shoot.
Note.—Home Guard parades every Saturday night except this night.

MONDAY, 6th, at 1.30 p.m.
At Mrs. Norman's residence, Red Cross soldiers' sewing day. "England expects everyone this day will do their duty."

THURSDAY, 9th, at 8 p.m.
Farmers' Union monthly meeting.

SUNDAY, 12th, at 11 a.m.
In St. Luke's Church, morning and H.C. Service, Rev. Wilson.

MONDAY, 13th, at 1.30 p.m.
In Public Library, branch depot, for soldiers' sewing day. "United we stand, divided we fall."

WEDNESDAY, 15th, at 1.30 p.m.
Euchre Party and Bring-and-buy in aid of Red Cross funds.

WEDNESDAY, 15th, at 8 p.m.
Fortnightly pictures, "Kentucky," filmed in technicolour. Loretta Young and Richard Greene.

MONDAY, 20th, at 1.30 p.m.
At Mrs. Norman's residence, soldiers' sewing day. Yes! We must all pull together in a determined effort to down Hitlerism.

MONDAY, 20th, at 8 p.m.
Silent pictures of present war, including Greece and Crete. Dance to follow. Proceeds in aid of Waitara Ex-Patients' Association.

THURSDAY, 23rd, at 2 p.m.
St. Luke's Guild social afternoon. Bring and Buy. Sweet and Produce stalls. Flower and cooking competition. Everybody welcome. Admission: Tikorangi residents 1/- and plate, Outsiders 1/-.

SUNDAY, 23rd, at 2.30 p.m.
In St. Luke's, afternoon service, The Vicar.

MONDAY, 27th.
Labour Day holiday.

WEDNESDAY, 29th, at 8 p.m.
Fortnightly pictures, "Owd Bob," Will Fyffe, John Loder, Margaret Lockwood.

WEDNESDAY, 5th November, at 1.30 p.m.
Women's Institute monthly meeting.

PETROL COUPONS FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER ARE NUMBERS—
Numbers 8, 9 and 10.

FOUND at Pictures: Purse containing sum of money. Owner can secure same by supplying description of purse and stating amount of money enclosed to Faul's Store, Phone 805.

TIKORANGI TALKIE PICTURES

Fortnightly Wednesdays

NOTE.—Now starting at 8 o'clock.

Admission: Adults 1/6, Children 6d.

"COME ON, GEORGE," WEDNESDAY, 1st OCTOBER, at 8 p.m.

George Formby in the picture he has always wanted to make, with Patricia Kirkwood and Gibb McLaughlin. Don't miss George riding that famous horse "Maneater" and singing his way to victory.

"KENTUCKY," WEDNESDAY, 15th OCTOBER, at 8 p.m.

"Kentucky," the 20th Century Fox Technicolour production which climaxes in the Kentucky Derby, filmed for first time in Technicolour, with Loretta Young and Richard Greene in featured roles; also Walter Brennan, Academy Award winner, and Douglas Dumbrille, Karen Morley and Moroni Olsen.

"OWD BOB," WEDNESDAY, 29th OCTOBER, at 8 p.m.

With the one and only Will Fyffe, supported by John Loder and Margaret Lockwood. One of the greatest dramas ever enacted in the Highlands of Scotland.

Coming Attractions:

"40,000 Horsemen," "Nurse Edith Cavell," "Irene," "Sea Hawk," "Song of the Plains," "Convoy."

THE BEST BY TEST—

"REIDRUBBER" MILK RUBBERWARE

Phone 805.

ENGLISH REFUGEES.

The Tikorangi Red Cross has received advice from England expressing their sincere appreciation for the donation of the last allotment of clothes. These people who have had their homes ruthlessly bombed and in many cases only a heap of debris left, are most grateful for any assistance. These clothes, for which thanks has just been received, were the results of the third and last clothes drive. The fourth clothes drive will be conducted shortly. Any spare clothing anyone has in reasonably good order is very acceptable. What about starting your parcel to-day and save yourself the last-minute rush.

POSTING FOR XMAS PARCELS.

Parcels required to reach the boys overseas for Xmas must be posted before the 15th of this month.

Better be too early than too late!

BOBBY CALF COLLECTING DAYS: MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS at present. Later ONE DAY WEEKLY.

SOLDIERS WELCOME PARCELS.

The Women's Institute has received letters of thanks for parcels sent by them. They were from Wit Alexander, Bert Elliot, Rolfe Davidson, Arthur Davidson, Snowy Fraser, Messrs. Harry Fraser and Frank Knuckey's relatives have advised that they have also received parcels from them, which they appreciate. The Red Cross recently received a letter from Peter Cole stating he was very grateful for the parcel he received from them.

HAVE YOU TRIED?—

PORTER-CAFF

Get a Nip at Faul's Store!

CALLING ALL TIKORANGI BOYS

XMAS GREETINGS TO YOU!

Hope you receive our parcels and make good use of them. Our thoughts are with you. From the President and Members of the Tikorangi Women's Institute.

TIKORANGI RUGBY LEAGUE BOYS.

Xmas greetings. Congratulations Peter on Fryberg Cup performance. Wet it there, rationed here, Axis Greece. Stilton great demand. Tom, Rex, Fred, Rang and Dave, Spot and Daisy misses Bert, Merv, Snowie, Jim and Reg. at 4.30 a.m. Haa, haa, no stripping. Faul's new sideline—Egyptian silk hose, overseas representative?? M—

No beg pardon, tackle hard.

Follow up the same.

Retain team's fame, be solid and game.

God speed.

From honorary and active members.
No. 4985, Spr. T. R. Surrey (Also Rex and Fred): Xmas tidings to you all. Insist on Shield brand cheese on your menu.—Tikorangi Cheese Factory.

No. 45958, Pte. G. A. Adam, No. 67284, Gnr. H. R. McAllum: We all send Xmas cheer to you both with a Waitemata or what about a pay-day shout. Good luck.—Waipapa Cheese Puncters.

No. 1196, Tpr. W. P. Cole: Wishing both you and Snowie a very Merry Xmas. All thinking of you.—Mum, Dad and family.

No. 20083, 2nd/Lt. M. R. Faul: Fondest greetings to you and Darcey. Thinking always of you both. Hope you're together for Xmas or the New Year.—From Mother.

20083, 2nd/Lt. M. R. Faul: Christmas greetings to you, Ted, Bill and Rolfe. Fattening the calf for next Christmas. Best of luck to you all.—Uncle Jack and Auntie Hattie.

1002, Capt. E. R. Andrews: Christmas and New Year greetings; all well at home.—Tubby, Jean and Dad.

No. 23959, Pte. J. R. Davidson: Greetings from us here. Hope the cake arrives in time for Xmas. How goes the A.T.S. section. Keep your step.—"Busy Corner."

No. 65875, Gnr. A. W. Tiplady: A very merry Xmas to you; we're on the 40-hour week.?? Hope you're O.K.—"Winthrop."

No. 67284, Gnr. H. R. McAllum: Thanks for your letter. Best wishes for Happy Xmas; au revoir.—Tikorangi Pen Friends
No. 45958, Pte. G. A. Adam: Thoughts of you every morning while having cup of tea at 1 to 6; love from home.—Mum.

N.Z. 41995, Sgt. Pilot R. J. Newman: Happy Xmas, Reg. Best of luck in the New Year. To you and Graeham and all Tikorangi boys. Cheerio from Mother.

No. 46561, Drv. J. O. Heppell: Wishing you Merry Xmas. Try the canteen. Greetings to Peter and Snowie. From Frank.

No. 20083, 2nd/Lt. M. R. Faul: Greetings for Xmas. Heating up the stonies for the coming year. Namesake watching your Hollywood interests. From Kath, Jim, Garry and Jos.

No. 23959, Pte. J. R. Davidson: You are all always in my thoughts, Bill, Ted and Rolfe. Expecting you home soon. From B. E. Faul.

No. 40792, Drv. H. D. Fraser: Xmas greetings to you; good luck.—Milly and Len.

No. 41740, Drv. A. C. (Bert) Elliot: Bert, all good wishes and the best of luck for Xmas. Sorry you won't be here to share the turkey.—K. Lye and family.

No. 4985, Spr. T. R. Surrey: Xmas and New Year greetings. Fattening up the turkey so be here on time. Thumbs up.—Garner family.

FURTHER MESSAGES SEE OVER LEAF

No. 41103, Pte. A. A. Johnson: Greetings this Xmas, home for the next. Hope you are as fit as a trout. The sun still rises in the east and sets in the west. From Scottie.

No. 40792, Drv. H. D. Fraser: Xmas greetings and heaps of love from Rex, Mary, Leo and Fan.

No. 21905, Tpr. E. J. Bevin: Xmas and New Year greetings. Better keep track with Max about Easter. Thumbs up.—Faul.

No. 20083, 2nd/Lt. M. R. Faul: Xmas greetings. The menu being printed for July and cook already hired. Speed up things. Love from us all at "Tre-Withen."

No. 46561, Drv. J. O. Heppell: Xmas greetings to you and Chan. Bill sends a purr. Love and good luck.—"Old People."

No. 23959, Pte. J. R. Davidson: Merry Xmas. Hope you get our parcel. Have seen Arthur.—Bruce and Joy.

No. 4985, Pte. T. R. Surrey: Best Xmas greetings and a speedy return. Everyone here O.K. Best of luck.—Ken.

No. 6854, Cpl. T. W. Steele: Happy Xmas. Allie posting parcel, also Rhoda. Thumbs up; hope stripes also. Love.—Henderson Clan.

No. 40792, Drv. H. D. Fraser: Best wishes for Xmas. You are ever in my thoughts. Love from Mum.

No. 45958, Pte. G. A. Adam: How are you, George? Doing fine here; hoping you the same. Best of luck from Brother Bill and family.

No. 17771, Bnds. C. H. Humphries: Merry Xmas, best of luck; O.K. here. From Bessie.

No. 1002, Cpt. E. R. Andrews: All the best to you and Max. Hope you share our turkey next year. Love from Pat and Joe.

No. 23959, Pte. J. R. Davidson: Xmas greetings to you, Rolfe. Beware of the ??? and remember our N.Z. girls. Does the mow tickle the A.T.S. From Garry, Jos, Jim and Kath.

No. 4985, Spr. T. R. Surrey: Best Xmas greetings. Hoping you have a good time. Be home soon.—Soffe Family.

No. 20548, Sgt. V. D. Dore: Pleased to receive your letters. Happy Xmas and best wishes. From C., L., Doris, Trevor and Patsy Lye.

No. 34094, Lt. W. E. Alexander: A merry Xmas and lots of love from The Farm. No. 45985, Pte. G. Adam: Merry Xmas to you; everything in the garden is lovely. Don't get frost-bitten.—Joe and Mary.

No. 20083, 2nd/Lt. M. R. Faul: Wishing you a merry Xmas and happy New Year. Hope the turkey is tender. Good luck. Still waiting for that party.—Armstrong Family.

No. 41710, Drv. Bert Elliot: Best wishes for Xmas and much better New Year. Give the Hun one for us. Good luck.—Armstrong family.

No. 32842, Pte. F. H. Ainsworth: Merry Xmas to you and all the Tikorangi boys, Darcey, Peter, Snowy, Bert, Tom, Bill and Harry.—Rolfie Family.

No. 1397, Lt. D. A. Cole: All at home extend greetings, happiness for Xmas and the New Year, to Max, Harry, Peter and Alec Atchison. From Mr. and Mrs. A. Cole and family.

No. 40792, Drv. H. D. Fraser: Xmas greetings. Always thinking of you. All O.K. here. Hope you are, too. Good luck.—Jean, Harold and Maurice.

No. 20083, 2nd/Lt. M. R. Faul: Xmas greetings and the best of luck to you, Ted, Rolfe and Bill. Hope to see you all soon. From Uncle, Auntie and Mary.

No. 4985, Spr. T. R. Surrey: Xmas greetings and happy New Year. Hope you are fit and well. Good luck. Kia ora.—Douglas Andrews.

No. 23959, Pte. J. R. Davidson: Best wishes for a Merry Xmas and bright New Year. Keep your end up. How about that M.O. Good luck.—Armstrong Family.

No. 44492, Pte. Les McCullough, and No. 44493, Pte. John McCullough: Best wishes for Xmas and New Year from Mother, Father, Alf, Ciss, Rita and Jack.

No. —, Pte. Rang Martin: Best of luck. Writing soon. Everyone here is O.K. From Rita and Whare.

Driver A. C. (Bert) Elliot:—

I have visited the zoo a couple of times and of the few zoos I've seen I think it is the best. I visited the museum of hygiene, which is very interesting and shows disease in its worst form, but it's not a thing one likes to see very often, although it didn't put me off my tea. Another chap and I were taken by his officer friend to a cabaret one night, which was quite an eye-opener and very amusing. Another time a party of us were taken by the N.Z. Club guide to see the Mahomed Ali Mosque, the tombs of the Caliphs and the Mahomedan University. Of course, we saw the Pyramids and they are really disappointing unless prepared beforehand of what one will see. We made an enjoyable day of it by riding up to the Pyramids on donkeys and then climbed to the top of the big pyramid, and I've quite a good snap taken of me standing on top. It was quite a hard climb in the heat but worth it for the great view one gets. We went and had a look at the new Lowry Hut, which is a nice building and a great place to relax in. We have started doing more work with trucks now and have been lucky to be sent on two trips. One Sunday I went and brought an ambulance to our camp and last Thursday went 70 miles away and returned with a truck. It was an all-day job and quite a tiring drive when one was not used to it. I met Jack Beaven, a relation of the Tikorangi Beavens, who was in the hall at Max (Faul's) farewell, and he told me where some of the N.Z. chaps were who are missing. Remember me to our Tikorangi friends.

Trooper I. H. Fraser (Snowie):—

I have just come back from a week's holiday in the rest camp at Alexandria. I had a great time there, mostly swimming all day, as it is right alongside the seashore and there is a club there also with a swimming pool and deck chairs to relax in while a waiter brings you a glass of beer or soft drink. It was quite a good place. I finished up the week by going to the races, which was a good two days' sport, but cost me £3, but still I am well ahead of that here. Am glad to hear Jim is in camp, but tell him to stop back there if he can, as this is no white man's country. We have quite a few South Africans here with us; they are big fellows and good mates. Well, will sign off now, hoping you're all well back there.

2nd/Lt. M. R. Faul:—

We are quite settled here and have dug all our tents in. Since we have been here we have been on a 10-mile route march and I have also been for two swims in the lake. The water is very salty and hurt my eyes and also it is very strong if one takes a mouthful of it. Around the edge of the lake in places you can pick up lumps of dried salt. We are lucky to be right next to the picture theatre here, but the pictures are not very good and also have bits cut out of them where the film has worn most. It often breaks down and then we get a notice on the screen, "One minute please." The Wogs often get the flits mixed up and we get the wrong ones first. We have some Greeks alongside us, too. They're dark and all look as though they need a good haircut. At present we are on a job digging and sand-bagging. Can't tell you any more. I might be going on a month's course to Palestine. Corporal A. K. (Arthur) Davidson recently returned from Egypt to New Zealand. He, along with a number of others, have been sent back to instruct in tank warfare at Waiouru Camp. Being allowed only five days' leave between landing and reporting to Waiouru, he was only able to spend one day at Tikorangi. He saw the Freyberg Cup match, in which Peter Cole played, and told of various other doings of Tikorangi boys whom we all hope are fit and well. He was amongst those fighting the rearward tank action in Greece, of which he told of interesting happenings.

PARABLE OF THE ISMS.

Socialism—If you have two cows, you give one to your neighbour.

Communism—If you have two cows you give them to the Government and the Government then gives you some milk.

Fascism—If you have two cows you keep the cows and give the milk to the Government; the Government sells you some milk.

New Dealism—If you have two cows you shoot one and milk the other; then pour the milk down the drain.

Nazism—If you have two cows the Government shoots you and keeps the cows.

Capitalism—If you have two cows you sell one and buy a bull.

The Monthly News was produced in the war years by Wilf Faul.



Welcome home dinner at Tikorangi Hall for returned servicemen, 29th May, 1946

V FOR VICTORY

ROLL OF HONOUR

1914 - 1918

ALLEN, E.
ALEXANDER, H.J.
CUNNINGHAM, S.G.
COLE, H.
DAVIS, H.
#FURZE, C.
FURZE, G.
JURY, O.C.
LYE, L.E.
SARTEN, N.L.
WHITEHEAD, A.D.

WHITEHEAD, R.G.
ALEXANDER, H.D.
ALEXANDER, E.D.
CUNNINGHAM, H.G.
COLE, F.
FURZE, J.
JURY, R.C.
RIDLAND, W.
TERRILL, W.F.
WOOD, C.E.
WHITEHEAD, H.R.

1939 - 1945

ALEXANDER, J.D.
AVERY, D.V.
BEAVEN, R.A.
CHAPMAN, F.W.
COLSON, G.W.
DAVIDSON, J.R.
#DOWDING, R.
ELLIOT, A.C.
FRASER, H.
FRASER, G.S.
FRASER, I.H.
FLINTOFF, M.
GARNER, J.P.
HICKS, A.R.
#HONEYFIELD, H.J.
HUNT, N.P.
#JURY, A.A.
KNUCKEY, F.L.
LOVERIDGE, M.V.
MAY, M.T.
MCALLUM, H.R.
MCCULLOUGH, L.S.
ALEXANDER, W.E.
BEAVEN, B.A.
BINT, K.A.
COLE, W.P.
#DAVIDSON, A.K.
DAVIS, S.F.
#FAULL, M.R.
FRASER, H.D.
FRASER, L.R.L.
FOREMAN, G.K.
HEPPELL, J.O.

HILLS, C.A.
HUNT, H.M.
JULIAN, F.L.
JURY, P.R.
LANGLEY, B.E.
MAY, A.W.
MARTIN, R.
MCCULLOUGH, J.
NEWMAN, R.J.
O'CARROLL, P.W.
O'CARROLL, T.O.
PATU, T.
RAWIRI, W.
SARTEN, W.H.F.
SOFFE, A.C.
SURREY, T.R.
TERRILL, C.V.
TIPLADY, A.W.
VICKERY, K.C.
WEST, C.A.
WOOD, R.G.
PALMER, L.
PATU, M.
RAWIRI, P.P.
RITCHIE, J.E.
SMART, E.W.
SOFFE, S.L.
TAMATI, T.
TERRILL, I.G.
TURNBULL, J.J.D.
WELLS, B.J.
WOOD, K.N.

#denotes killed.

Every effort has been made to make this Roll as complete as possible.

OIL

Tikorangi lies over the geological area known as the Taranaki Basin and has featured as an area of significant hydrocarbon presence.

Gas is still used on the Steiner farm for heating and lighting after discovery in the early part of this century. The Tikorangi Dairy Factory had its own source of gas also. The first major oil/gas well was Mangaheva 1 put down by Shell, BP and Todd on the Mahy farm in 1960/61 following a seismic survey by Shell, D'Arcy and Todd. The well reached a depth of 4283m which was a very deep well in

those days. Tests made at intervals revealed natural gas and smaller quantities of condensate than Kapuni.

While gas quality was better than Kapuni because of lower CO2 content, the viability of the find was in doubt because of water influx. Kapuni 1, the well drilled immediately before Mangaheva 1, was seen as the field to develop and Shell Todd relinquished its licence in the Otaraoa area to Petrocorp.

The McKee Oilfield came into production in the 1980's becoming New Zealand's first Commercial oil find.

The various wells piercing the pockets of the Tikorangi Formation are MCKEE 1-5, POURI 1, PUKEMAI 1-3 and TUHUA 1-5.

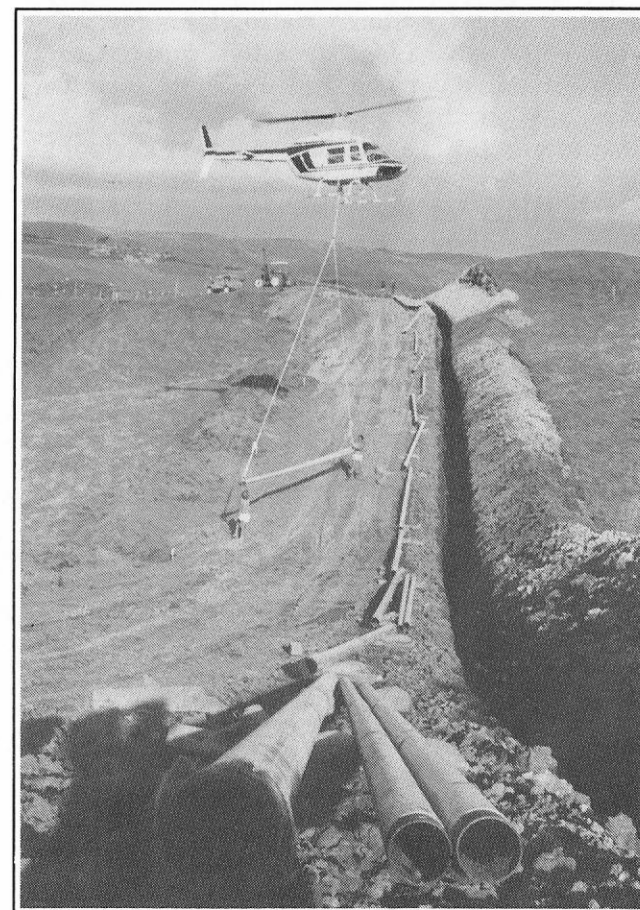
From these wells comes a waxy condensate that is piped to the McKee Production Station on Otaraoa Road. Here the two products, oil and gas, are separated, the oil being chemically treated to aid flow properties in its piping to Omata Tank Farm. The gas is piped and joins the Natural Gas

transmission system at the former site of the Waitara Waihi Collie Club.

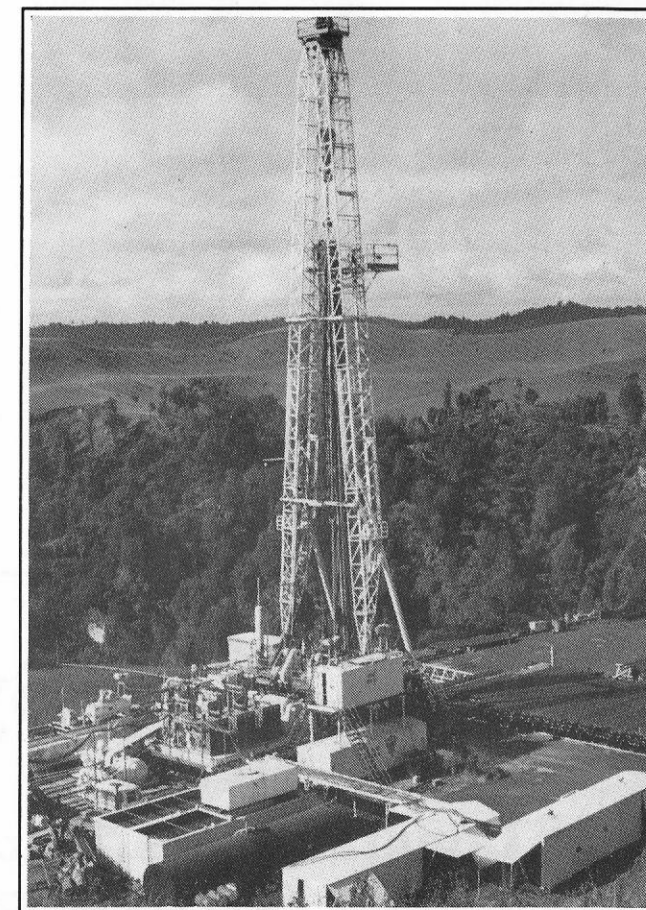
McKee currently produces at the rate of about 9000 barrels of oil per day and 10.5 million standard cubic feet per day of gas.

Traffic generated by the development of this field has resulted in considerable upgrading of roading in the district.

The school and playcentre have also benefited from this neighbourhood industry in the donation of classroom, playground and administrative facilities.



TUHUA No. 1, May 1983



Laying Gas and Oil Pipelines - McKee, Tikorangi

Petrocorp
EXPLORATION

Clifton County Rural Water Supply Scheme

Background

In order to ensure the continued stability, in the event of a major earthquake, the ground beneath the Synfuel plant is continuously de watered.

This dewatering activity required a water right and a condition of the right was that the water be supplied to the landowners affected by the dewatering. To fulfil this condition the Corporation financed the construction of the rural water supply scheme.

The scheme was originally intended to cover only the Otaraoa/Epiha roads triangle but was extended to Inland North Road with a header tank

installed in the corner of the Tikorangi Rugby Club playing fields.

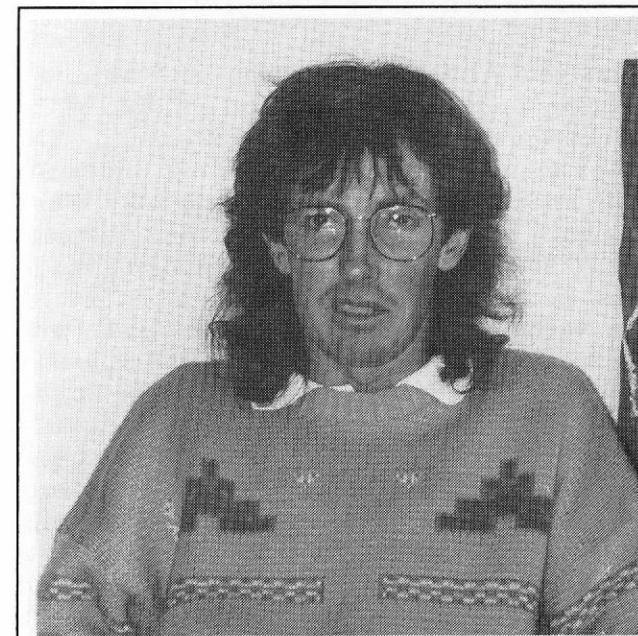
Current

The water supply has now been extended to the Tikorangi School.

With the disappearance of the Clifton County the control of the scheme has passed to the New Plymouth District Council. The cost of operating the water supply is covered by the NPDC who recover that cost by charging each user for the water on a volume used basis.

TIKORANGI SCHOOL

The Future



Mark Collinson

Tikorangi School is currently a five teacher school with 110 pupils, three teacher aides and a deputy principal. Although the social make-up of the school has changed after the advent of Tomorrows Schools, it is still essentially a rural school with a rural education tradition going back 125 years.

Tikorangi has continued to attract quality teaching staff and the popularity of the school has resulted in an enrolment policy being implemented by the Board of Trustees to limit the number of children that this school can take.

The argument that we had 45 or more pupils in the class, 30-40 years ago, while you have a ratio of 1:22 is irrelevant. The curriculum (Mathematics, Reading, Social Studies, Science etc.) has now over one dozen separate components to cover as well as areas never even dreamed of when most of us were here at school. By this I am referring to Information Technology, Self-Esteem, Computers etc. Coupled with this is the fact that childrens behaviour has changed and continues to at an alarming rate. We now try and cope with increasing social problems as well as teach our required syllabus areas.

The change that Principals have had to cope with has been astronomic, the actual effect on classroom activities though has been minimal. Our school now runs on a Mission Statement which says:

"Within the available resources we will build on the children's existing experiences to help all become caring individuals and skilled independent learners.

Within a safe, enjoy able and positive environment, emotional, cultural, physical and intellectual skills are developed while challenge, inventiveness and parental co-operation and support are encouraged".

The main problems that are affecting this school are concerned with the buildings and a lack of space. Hopefully by next June a new administration area and the remodelling of two classrooms will alleviate the situation.

We are continuing to be deluged with change and this is mainly affecting the Board of Trustees and Principal. The Board of Trustees has delved into areas concerning the running of the school never before experienced such as appointing teaching staff and actually having a major say in the schools operations.

I wish Tikorangi school the best for what promises to be an exciting and challenging time for children now and in the future.

Kia Kaha.
Mark Collinson.
PRINCIPAL

Me

by Jannah Lovell

I went to Waitara East school but mum moved schools to Tikorangi. Now I didn't want to do it. When mum made me meet the headmaster I was rude to him. They moved me into room 4, I was so scared. I looked at my new teacher and I gulped! I put my bag away and I sat by the babies in the class. I was the oldest kid in the class. The work was so easy I could do it with my eyes closed!!!

Then my teacher moved me up to the top class! The teacher I was rude to was my teacher. He gave me an adding test but I forgot how to carry my ones. I only got 4 out of 30!!! A few days later my teacher said he was going to move me by Camilla.

I'm 9 and I'm fascinated by sharks. I have broken my arm twice. Life is always moving. I'm good at writing stories and drawing and playing the keyboard. I feel good now and I have made lots of friends.



Synfuel

**Congratulates Tikorangi School on its
125th Birthday**

Synfuel - Driving New Zealand

THE HISTORY OF TIKORANGI SCHOOL

(from the original by W.H. Keen)

The history of Tikorangi School extends over a span of one hundred and twenty-five years, and since the Acts and Papers of the Education Department go back only as far as 1877, when the Education Act was passed, our search for the earlier information had to go to the Archives Branch of the Internal Affairs Department. From this source we were able to find some detail regarding the earlier part of our School's story.

These files and other authentic information enable us to thread together the events which led up to the founding of the school, and to present to you its story.

As the early pioneers arrived with their families to settle in this district, the need for schooling for the children soon became apparent. It is to their credit that these settlers almost immediately set negotiations afoot to ensure that the educational needs of their children should be adequately provided for. Application was made in the year 1867 to the Provincial Government for assistance in the erection of a schoolhouse.

The Provincial Government, as a result, made available a building in New Plymouth, known as Germaine Square, which had been erected as a place of refuge for the New Plymouth settlers during the troublesome times of 1860. This building was granted to the Tikorangi settlers on condition that they dismantled it and re-erected it on a site given by the Provincial Government, 7 to 10 acres on Section 25, Tikorangi Survey District. This condition the settlers complied with, and the School was opened in 1867. Known as the Takapu School, it was situated at the junction of Inland North Road, and Nikorima Road, and the teacher was Mr W.H. Earl, one of Taranaki's first teachers.

In February, 1869, the unfortunate events of the

massacre at White Cliffs took place, and the School was closed while all women and children of the district were evacuated to New Plymouth. The troops then took over the building under the commands of Captains McKellar and Kelly. When the alarm had passed, and life in the settlement had returned to normal, the temporary block-house became a school house once more.

In November, 1879, Mr David Scholfield, who had been teaching at the Whiteley Hall School in New Plymouth, made application to the Educational Authorities for permission to teach at Tikorangi, but he was informed that the request must come from a committee of settlers. In January, 1872, Captain Armstrong, heading a committee of settlers comprising Messrs H. Faull, J Foreman, E Lye, and P McKoy, applied for a grant for books and other furnishings for the School. As a result of this deputation a grant of 10 pounds was approved and also a new teacher, Miss Emily George, was selected and sent to take over the School. It may be of interest, by way of comparisons, to note that the first record of Tikorangi School held by the Department is that a sum of 5 pounds 12 shillings and 6 pence was paid to Miss Emily George, the teacher at the Tikorangi School, for the quarter ending 30th June, 1872. How many teachers would be attracted to the outposts of Empire at the rate of five pounds for four month's work these days?

In 1873 the authorities (obviously intending to, later on, build "a proper school") had a reserve of 10 acres set aside as a school site, but owing to lack of funds at that time, no school building was ever erected on it, and it was let at a yearly rental. In 1874 when the Provincial Government took over the responsibility for education, an Education

board District was established, and it is recorded that the following settlers interested in educational matters each made a payment of one pound to the new Education Board on the 12th September, 1874. When one looks at the School today one can see that this money was a sound investment.

J.H. Armstrong	Samuel Knight
Thomas Billing	Edward Lye
William Blake	Patrick McKoy
Edward Bates	Francis Oliver
Bernard Bayham	William Oliver
Henry Faull	William Rowe
John Foreman	William Richards
Thomas George	Alfred Richards
E. Hopkinson	John Richards
R. Hicks	James Sarten
William Jury	Levi Sarten
Thomas Jury	George Stockman
Thomas Joll	John Vickery
Samuel Whitehead	George Jupp

In 1874, Miss Emily George was formally appointed by the new Education Board, Sole Teacher of the school at Takapu and a list of pupils who attended at that time is detailed here as a record, the only record since attendance records were not formally kept until 1880. This list was published in the report of the Taranaki Education Board and was found in the Taranaki Government Gazette.

Miss Emily George, Teacher, received 8 pounds 6 shillings and 3 pence from the Education Board last quarter for 28 children to whom the capitation allowance is given.

Names of children receiving this grant are:

Chas, Hopkinson	Ellen Hopkinson
George Stockman	Richard Lye
Miriam Lye	John Lye
Elizabeth Faull	Richard Faull
Emma McKoy	Frank McKoy
Charles Oliver	Minnie Oliver
Emily Jupp	George Jupp
Catherine Armstrong	Frances Armstrong
Thomas McKenzie	John Whitehead

Alice Whitehead
Annie Knight
Charles Jury
Alice Jury
Ellen McKoy

Sam Whitehead
Ernest Knight
Herbert Jury
Maude Jury

On the 22nd December, 1874, Mr Benjamin Wells, the Chairman of the Education Board, visited the School and reported:

"Miss Emily George, Teacher. Hours 9 a.m. to 12; 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Only six pupils present (3 boys, 3 girls). Present roll is 28 enrolled. Reading, writing, spelling, dictation - tolerable. History, geography, grammar - knowledge very little. Harmonium in the school. Singing....taught. Sewing.....taught. No maps or blackboards." He continued at length on the reasons for the "bad attendance at these small rural schools."

In 1876, it was decided to have the school in a more central position for the majority of the children. One acre of Section 23, facing the Inland North Road, and Ngatimaru Road was secured, and the schoolhouse at Takapu was moved to the new site by Mr Levi Sarten and his bullock team. It is interesting to note that one of the pupils who watched Mr Sarten working on this removal stood by only last year and watched the removal of the last school residence by modern articulated trailer, assisted by a bulldozer. It would have been interesting to record the thoughts that must have passed through Mr Alfred Jupp's head as he stood there.

In 1877 when Mr Crompton inspected the School he reported: "Tikorangi is as usual orderly, and in all circumstances well attended. The writing, spelling and arithmetic are all good. Pupils present - 25."

By April, 1878, the attendance had reached 34 pupils and the Chairman of the School Committee, Mr H Faull, wrote to the Board that the Committee would enforce the Compulsory Attendance clauses of the Act as soon as accommodation, and an additional teacher have been obtained; and a new school built; and the boundaries of the school defined.

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