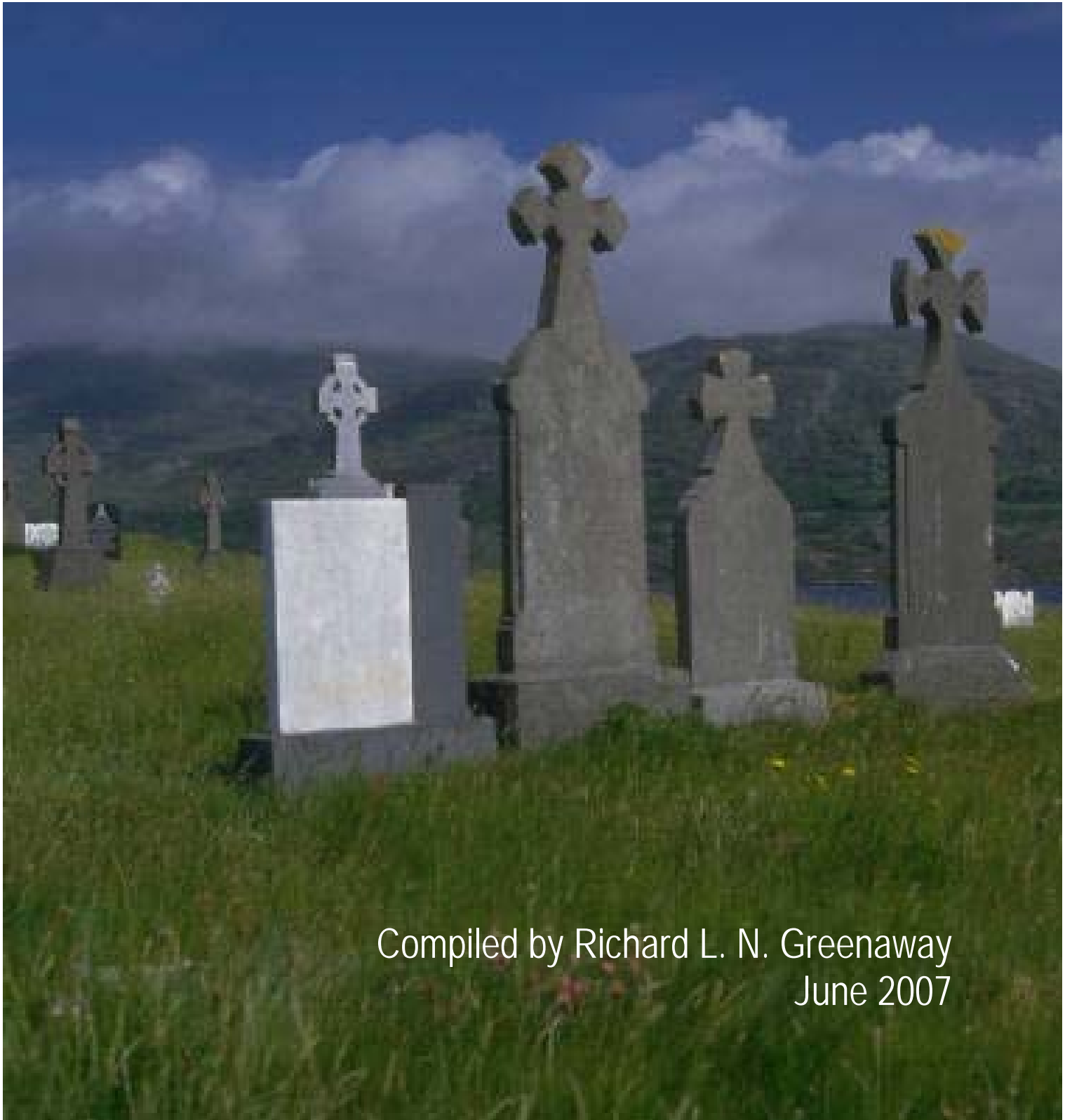


Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery Tour



Compiled by Richard L. N. Greenaway
June 2007

Area 1

Row A

No. 1

Murray-Aynsley

Ina Winifred, 31, wife of C. P. **Murray-Aynsley**, died 12 April 1917

Elizabeth A. **Murray-Aynsley** died 1940

Mary **Murray-Aynsley** died 19 June 1946

These are members of the family who gave their name to **Murray-Aynsley Hill**.

More prominent family members are buried elsewhere in the cemetery.

Row B

No. 40

Richardson

Born at Cupar, Fifeshire, Scotland, John **Richardson** was left an orphan at an early age and brought up by an uncle, John **Smith**. Educated at Edinburgh, he was apprenticed to the leather trade and left his homeland with his uncle and aunt, arriving in Wellington by the ship *West Australian* on 1 July 1864.

In 1870, again with his uncle, **Richardson** moved to Christchurch and established himself on Ferry Road. John **Smith** set up a Woolston tannery and carrying business, **Richardson** working with him, taking over after his death and selling the business in 1897.

Richardson was prominent in the Masonic Craft and Independent Order of Oddfellows. In 1884 he was elected to the Woolston Town Board. When the Woolston Borough Council was established in 1893, he was elected Mayor. To commemorate the event he had erected outside the borough offices 'a handsome memorial lamp and fountain [which was] suitably inscribed'.

Richardson was mayor till 1896 and again in 1902. A Justice of the Peace, he was on the Christchurch Drainage Board, Lyttelton Harbour Board and first Christchurch Tramway Board.

As a Justice of the Peace **Richardson** took his place upon the Bench, many very young offenders being brought before him.

In the home circle ... [he] often commented on the heart-breaking experience of dealing with young children who could hardly be seen over the top of the dock and who occupied the same place as hardened adult criminals.

Thus it was that **Richardson** became an advocate of Juvenile Courts long before they were established.

Richardson married a widow, Matilda **Witty**, mother of the M.P. George **Witty**. Matilda **Richardson**, 81, died in March 1913.

In February 1927 Richardson moved to 406 Papanui Road. This road had been the first thoroughfare along which he had travelled in 1870. He died, at 82, on 13 July 1927.

Sullivan Avenue was once Richardson Street. There is now a Richardson Terrace which runs along the Heathcote River to Opawa Road.

Row C
No. 48
Hawker

In England William **Hawker** married Ann **Parsons**. William was a successful baker in Woolston and had an orchard in Princes Street, now Rutherford Street. He was a solid citizen and chairman of the Heathcote Road Board.

At the **Hawkers'** house, Ann's sister, Louisa, married a shopkeeper, Joseph Harrop **Hopkins**. In 1870, at a meeting about the Ferry Road Drain, Joseph suggested that the name 'Lower Heathcote' be abandoned and 'Woolston' taken in its stead. There are two places in England with the name Woolston and it is not clear which place **Hopkins** was thinking of when he put the name forward. Louisa and Joseph are buried not at Heathcote but at the Addington Cemetery.

William and Ann had no children. However, a number of their relatives are buried at Heathcote. William's father, George, of 'Ashbourne', an area on Ferry Road, died, at 79, in 1894. He is buried in an unmarked grave in the cemetery. Also interred at Heathcote are William's sister and brother-in-law, Eliza Catherine and Thomas **Plumridge**; his sister-in-law, Priscilla **Hawker**; and Priscilla's daughter-in-law and her adopted son, Sarah Ann and Laurie **Hawker**.

William **Hawker**, 74, died at Princes Street, Woolston, on 8 October 1913.
Ann **Hawker**, 89, died at Princess Street, Woolston, on 24 February 1921

Row C
No. 59
Pavitt

Augustus Reid **Pavitt** was born on 11 March 1840. His parents, John and Elizabeth, farmed at **Jackson's** Farm, part of Hill Farm, Theydon Garnon, near the Roding River, Essex. The repeal of the Corn Laws together with potato blight, the lowering of the value of farm produce and the fact that the new railway would bypass their farm induced John and Elizabeth to leave their home and emigrate to New Zealand. Sons who accompanied them were Frederick, Henry, Alfred, Francis, Thomas, Edward, Augustus Reid and Spencer. Daughters were Elizabeth Ellen, Sarah Hannah, her husband, John **Parker**, and their children, Herbert and John Gordon; and Mary Ann and her fiancé, builder-architect Samuel Charles **Farr**. They sailed for Auckland on the *Monarch* which left Gravesend on 22 November 1849.

Edward later recalled:

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

Instead of landing in Auckland ... we drifted round the west coast of New Zealand, through Foveaux Strait, up to Banks Peninsula, into Akaroa Harbour, up which we were steered by the help of two boats, as we had lost our rudder some hundreds of miles before we sighted New Zealand.

As we drifted towards the anchorage, several Maori canoes came out to meet us. When the natives came on board, clad in very scanty garments, all the lady passengers retired to their cabins. The steward returned presently with several articles of apparel which were received with great satisfaction by the natives, especially by one heavily-tattooed old gentleman whose share of the pakeha clothing was a white bell-topper, which he immediately put on. The natives were never troublesome.

The *Monarch* limped in on 2 April. Captain **Bruce** brought fresh bread, butter and watercress, the French were friendly, and the **Pavitts** decided not to take up the land which they had bought in Auckland but, rather, stay on Banks Peninsula. As this was prior to the arrival of the First Four Ships, the family qualified as 'pre-Adamites'.

The **Pavitts** purchased 100 acres at **Robinsons** Bay, wild pigeons, pigs, kaka and fish being their staple food. Timber for their huts they obtained 'from the dense native bush that descended from the ridges of the hills to the fringes of the harbour'. The conditions in which Augustus lived 'laid the firm foundation for a long life. Until he was 90 he had not suffered a day's illness and, to his death, he retained a keen interest in life'.

The family established a sawmill. Augustus Reid and Spencer, aged about 15 and 13 respectively, were asked by the elders of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Christchurch, to supply the timber for frame work and roof beams.

The two boys went out into the bush, selected trees which they felled, floated them down the creek by building a series of dams and then pit sawed the logs into beams and, making a raft of timber, towed it behind a schooner round the Peninsula to the Estuary and up the Avon as far as the Bricks. They were paid about 10 pounds between them.

The **Pavitts** also supplied timber for other large city buildings. Timber was shipped by small coastal vessels up the Heathcote. The family built 'a little ketch of sixty or seventy tons, the *Thetis*, to carry on the trade but it was wrecked on the Kaiapoi bar.

Augustus was a member of a trade organisation, the Canterbury Flax Association. He was also active in the manufacture of flax which was sent away to be made into linen. In 1869, in association with his brother, Spencer, and Frederick **Bull**, Augustus established a company at Saltwater Creek. The enterprise was welcomed by the locals who had seen their area devastated by the great Waimakariri flood of 1868. The company was prudent in its financial dealings, had light expenses, kept its books in good order and, between April 1869 and June 1870, produced 200 tons of flax. The cost of producing a ton of flax was often 20 pounds; sometimes it was 25 pounds.

However, while it was fetching 48 pounds ten shillings a ton, the venture was worthwhile.

The 13 April 1870 *Lyttelton times* carries an item which shows how much the venture was appreciated in Saltwater Creek:

A supper and ball took place at **Cameron**'s Hotel on the evening of the 6th inst. The affair was got up by the men in the employ of Messrs. **Pavitt** and Co. in commemoration of the opening of the Sefton Flax Works which have been such a ... boon to the working class in the vicinity. Including their employers, and a few friends invited by them, about 40 sat down to an excellent repast The room was tastefully decorated with dressed flax ... After doing justice to the many good things served up, the cloth was removed and Mr. **Wilson** rose to propose the health of Her Majesty ... and all the royal family. Mr. **Bull** proposed the health of Mr. G. **Rutherford** who had ... given a sum to be spent amongst the men. Dancing was afterwards commenced and kept up with spirit until an advanced hour.

Augustus shipped 138 1/2 tons of flax to England through Messrs. **Cobb** and **Sawtell** and **Miles** and Co. Alas, only 10 tons were sold. In July 1870 A. R. **Pavitt** and Co. were adjudged bankrupt. Augustus put his bankruptcy down to the great depression in the price of flax and the judge accepted that this was the case.

Augustus and his brother had a timber yard in Christchurch and made sluice buckets for West Coast gold diggers.

If he was not a great success in business, Augustus was wise in his choice of a spouse. On 4 February 1868, at St. John's, Woolston, the Rev. G. J. **Cholmondeley** officiated at the wedding of Augustus Reid **Pavitt**, 'of age', timber merchant, and Emily Elizabeth, 'under age', second daughter of Captain Thomas **Buxton**, shipping entrepreneur of Woolston.

For many years prior to his death, Augustus lived in retirement at his home near the Heathcote River in Tennyson Street, Beckenham. With him there dwelt his unmarried daughter, Mary, who taught at the Sydenham Primary School.

A relative recalls visiting Augustus. He liked cracknell biscuits which were in a waterlily shape and very crumbly. It was mandatory that one kiss the old man and, as a result, the crumbs from his whiskers were transferred onto one's face. When the relative mentioned this at a **Pavitt** family reunion, many others who were present recalled a similar incident.

The gravestone recalls Emily Elizabeth **Pavitt** who died on 6 July 1913;
Augustus Reid **Pavitt**, 97, who died on 29 September 1937;
Clara Isobel, their daughter;
Also Kenneth Maurice, son of the above, born 13 October 1881-died 15 September 1957

Row D
No. 61
Northcote

Hugh, son of the Rev. H. Mowbray **Northcote**, was born in Devonshire, England, came to Canterbury with his parents and siblings and lived with them at 'Highfield', a sheep run beyond Waiau in the Amuri district. He studied at Canterbury University College, graduating with first-class honours in 1891, and was well versed in the Greek and Hebrew languages. An Anglican priest, he held positions at Kaiapoi, Fendalton and Lincoln and was also chaplain at Wanganui College and acting-principal of College House, Christchurch. The Rev. Walter **Harper** officiated at the 10 June 1897 St. Matthew's, St. Albans, marriage of Hugh **Northcote**, 28, and Mary Frances **Thorpe**, 32, a daughter of Archdeacon Richard Joshua **Thorpe**.

In 1903, after a seven year period as vicar of Lincoln, the **Northcotes** left for England and Europe, remaining there for 24 years. From 1911 to 1919 Hugh was British chaplain at the Church of St. John the Evangelist at Boulogne. In World War I he laboured 'with untiring zeal and unflinching endurance in the interests of the soldiers of the Empire, particularly those from New Zealand'. Before and after the war, he worked in English parishes. For four years he was 'public preacher in the diocese of Exeter'. He wrote a book with an interesting title, *Christianity and sex problems*.

Finally the **Northcotes** settled in Redcliffs, Christchurch. Hugh assisted the Sumner vicars, E. C. W. **Powell** and W. A. **Orange**, was 'always an active worker among the sick and distressed, and, in this work, became a ... familiar figure in the ... parish'.

Meanwhile, the Rev. Harry Warwick **Smith**, Vicar of Opawa, had fallen ill; he was to die on 30 August 1932. Hugh **Northcote** cheerfully stepped into the breach and was responsible for most of the church services in the parish.

Hugh was a member of the governing bodies of Christ's College and the Society for Psychical Research. He devoted 'much ... time and enthusiasm to the furtherance of the interests of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals'.

Hugh died 'very unexpectedly' at his home on Saturday 12 August 1933. The death was 'for the diocese the loss of one of its most scholarly men'.

The *Press* commented:

His unexpected death has come as a great shock to a very wide circle of friends and acquaintances, particularly in scholastic circles and in Redcliffs where he was highly esteemed by all who knew him, and greatly loved by the children with whom he came so closely in contact.

The gravestone refers to Hugh **Northcote**, priest, 1868-1933, and Mary Frances **Northcote**, 1864-1951

Row F
No. 107
Ollivier

Cecil Claude Morton **Ollivier** was a son of Arthur Morton and grandson of John **Ollivier**. He was born in Opawa and educated at Christ's College, representing the school at cricket and rugby. An accountant, he was for some years in the firm of **Ollivier** Brothers. He was a Fellow of the Institute of Accountants of New Zealand.

Ollivier liked to 'become associated with companies that were at a low ebb so that he might be able to enjoy the arduous task of rehabilitating their finances'. He was a director of Christchurch Cinemas, the Golden Bay Cement Works, and the Glaxo Manufacturing Company. He was chairman of directors of **Beath** and Co., of **Bonds** Hosiery Mills and the Woolston Tanneries.

A trotting enthusiast, **Ollivier** was a committee member, steward and vice-president of the Metropolitan Trotting Club. He bred horses, 'raced on a fairly extensive scale', and, in 1922, won the New Zealand Cup with 'Agathos'. His wide business interests and 'close association with trotting in the Dominion and in Christchurch in particular' made him a familiar figure in the city.

Ollivier fell ill and lingered for eight months. 'During his long illness he was frequently visited by workmen from the [Woolston Tanneries] factory who shared a sincere interest in his condition and deep sympathy with him'. On 27 July 1935, when in his 58th year, **Ollivier** died at his residence, 'Glenelg', on Murray Aynsley Hill.

The Metropolitan Trotting Club established the Ollivier Handicap and Ollivier Free-for-all in his memory.

Ollivier's property was later purchased as the site of the Glenelg Health Camp and this remains its purpose today.

Row F
No. 109
Fynes Clinton

Geoffrey **Fynes Clinton** was one of 11 children and the sixth of the seven sons of Rosabella **Matthews** and her husband, the Rev. Charles John **Fynes Clinton**, Rector of Cromwell, Nottingham, England. An ancestor was the second Duke of **Newcastle**.

Geoffrey was born on 17 March 1847 and educated at King's College, London. He married Fanny **Searle** in 1873 and, the same year, arrived in New Zealand on the *Carisbrook Castle*. He worked as a draughtsman in the railway engineer's office at Christchurch till his ordination in the city four years later.

Fynes Clinton became curate at Sydenham and, between January and August 1878, was based in Phillipstown which had not yet become a parish in its own right. Indeed, there was but a church room in which to worship, the Church of the Good Shepherd having not yet been built.

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

Of the church room **Fynes Clinton** was to recall that:

... it was but meagrely equipped With the help of Mr. W. **Page**, a cabinet-maker, and Mr. **Copley** of the railway workshops, the interior was soon improved, having a sanctuary with screens and a vestry. The two men mentioned also erected a bell at the end of the west end gable.

Another anecdote of **Fynes Clinton's** time is worth recalling:

One parishioner, who shall be nameless ... lived at Addington... but walked over to Phillipstown and sang in the choir. There was also a personal attraction greater than the music of the choir which drew him across the area of the City-to-be. He was wont to hear the bell as he approached and often times realising he was late, cut straight through the paddocks to the church. An obliging bellringer, knowing his faithfulness to Mother-church and to somebody else, and that he would certainly arrive sooner or later, would continue ringing.

In 1879-80 **Fynes Clinton** was Vicar of Temuka. His parishioners charged him with 'habitual alcoholic self indulgence (with beer)'. Also, he went bankrupt. Archdeacon **Harper** recommended that he resign – which he did. For a time he was employed making church and domestic architecture.

Fynes Clinton eventually regained his good name. He served in the Dunedin diocese at Clyde and Dunstan, Milton (where his wife died in 1888), Waitaki, and Andersons Bay. In 1914 he was appointed Canon at St. Paul's Cathedral, Dunedin. He was in his late 80s when he retired from the position of Vicar of All Saints', Gladstone, Invercargill. In June 1934, while in Christchurch to visit a daughter, **Fynes Clinton** fell ill, dying at St. George's Hospital.

Canon **Fynes Clinton** left five daughters. One was Mrs. S. T. **Neville** whose father-in-law was Bishop of Dunedin. Her husband, also a cleric, put together a valuable manuscript about New Zealand place names and their origins which is held in the Hocken Library, University of Otago, Dunedin.

The gravestone refers to Geoffrey **Fynes Clinton**, 1847-1934, canon of St. Paul's Cathedral, Dunedin.

Row F
No. 129-131
Williams

Winifred, 45, wife of Henry **Williams**, died 17 August 1914
Their infant daughter, Mary, died 7 April 1910
Ethel Florence, wife of Henry, died on 29 May 1947
Canon Henry **Williams** O.B.E., 90, died 4 January 1962

Born in Suffolk, Henry **Williams** came to Lyttelton with his parents in 1879. For some years his father was minister at Trinity Congregational Church. Later he switched to the Church of England and was Vicar of Oxford and St. Albans.

Henry was educated at Christ's College and Canterbury University College from whence he graduated with an M.A in 1896. The same year he was ordained as an Anglican priest.

Henry **Williams** was first Vicar of Halswell and then, for 23 years, Vicar of Opawa. He became Canon of Christchurch Cathedral in 1930 and was best known for the fact that he spent 24 years as Chaplain at Christchurch Public Hospital. **Williams** was also Chaplain to Sunnyside Mental Asylum and St. George's Hospital. For the help and advice which he gave to thousands over a long period, he was given the O.B.E. in 1956, the year after his retirement.

Row G

No. 140

Plumridge

Eliza Catherine **Hawker**, daughter of George **Hawker**, sister of William **Hawker** and sister-in-law of Priscilla **Hawker**, was born in England in 1850. She married Thomas **Plumridge** at St. Michael's church, Christchurch, in 1867. Thomas, like several members of his wife's family, was a baker. The family lived in Addington and had several children. Thomas died in 1904. Eliza fell ill with cancer and died at her residence, Thomas Street, New Brighton on 14 July 1906 'after a long and painful illness borne with great patience'.

The gravestone recalls Thomas **Plumridge**, 56, died 3 February 1904

Eliza Catherine **Plumridge**, 56, died 14 July 1906

Row G

No. 147

Jones

For advertising purposes a challenge was issued to S. F. **Napper** by **Jones** Bros. A five mile motor cycle race was to take place between **Napper** and Clement Goodwin 'Scorcher' **Jones** at Lancaster Park on Christmas Day 1908. On 23 December **Jones** was practising on the asphalt track at the park, his speed being about 25 m.p.h. The front wheel of the vehicle collapsed and **Jones** 'collided with terrible force with the fence skirting the track'

The unfortunate man

... received the impact with his head and was hurled high into the air. A piece of timber entered his temple and inflicted terrible injuries, other portions of his head and body being also badly battered.

Doctors were called but 'could only pronounce that death was probably instantaneous'.

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

The gravestone states that ‘Clement Goodwin **Jones**, 33, [was] accidentally killed at Lancaster Park [on] 23 December 1908. Clement was ‘the beloved husband of Ursula **Jones** and third son of John Charles and Mary Ann **Jones** of Wilsons Road, Linwood’.

Row G
No. 148
Ollivier

Walter, seventh son of Elizabeth and John **Ollivier**, came to New Zealand when five years old. Educated at Christ’s College, he entered the Railway Department and, for 28 years, served as cashier and paymaster for the South Island. Later he was an accountant with the firm of **Ollivier** Brothers and secretary of the Canterbury Chamber of Commerce.

Walter fell ill with angina but continued to work until a week prior to his death. His end came very suddenly on 9 November 1923. ‘At about 9 a.m. he had a severe attack of heart trouble and passed away four hours afterwards while sleeping’.

The gravestone recalls Fanny **Ollivier**, 45, who died 18 December 1908;
Walter Morton **Ollivier**, 24 November 1849-9 November 1923;
and their son, Geoffrey, who died on 10 October 1960.

Row G
No. 159
Inight

William **Inight**, United States veteran, born 24 June 1836, died 23 Jan 1910

Jesus said unto her (Martha):
Thy brother shall rise again”.

Row I
No. 169
Marquet

The original Louis Aime **Marquet** was born on 6 October 1839 at Crean, Sarthe department, France. He had brown hair, grey eyes, an ‘ordinary’ forehead, average mouth, round chin and oval face. He was registered as a sailor in Rochefort and employed as an ordinary seaman (novice).

Marquet was on a three-master ship, the *Caulaincourt*, which had one cannon, 10 guns and 50 kg. of powder. Built in 1856 at Honfleur, the vessel belonged to the **Guillot** brothers, was captained by Laurent **Labaste**, and, between 1856-59 was whaling in the Pacific. In February 1857 a crew member deserted in an unspecified part of New Zealand. In March 1858 three crew members deserted in Akaroa. On 2 May 1859 two more deserted in Akaroa Harbour. On 8 May **Marquet** was one of a trio who deserted at Akaroa.

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

Marquet was naturalised at Christchurch, on 24 October 1860. On 16 July 1862, aged 23, he married Elizabeth **Palmer**, 19, at St. John's, Woolston.

Louis **Marquet** captained several ships which traded in the estuary and came up the Heathcote River to the wharf at Woolston, his favourite vessel being the ketch *Margaret*. Navigation being difficult, the captain often had a friend meet him with a strong draught-horse which would drag the vessel to the wharf.

The **Marquet** home was in Woolston. Louis and Elizabeth had a family of at least 12 children. In the baptismal records of the younger **Marquets**, Louis is described, usually, as a mariner or master mariner but, occasionally, as a tanner. In 1905 the captain was lost without trace on a voyage to the Pacific Islands.

Louis - or Lewis - junior was baptised on 12 April 1863. He and his wife, Ada, lived at Sumner. Louis' gravestone records that he died, at 74, on 5 March 1937.

Ada had died on 25 September 1903. The entry, in the St. John's, Woolston, burial book is scant. Nothing is included 'other than the surname of the deceased, her sex, date of burial and the name of the officiating minister', A. C. **Hoggins**.

Row I
No. 161-62
Turner

This grave commemorates three brothers who were killed in World War I. Sergeant Richard Burman **Turner**, 23, 1st Canterbury Regiment, Main Body, son of J. R. and J **Turner**, died 8 March 1918, aged.

Corporal Frederick Everard **Turner**, 25, was killed on the Somme on 15 September 1916. He was named after the Woolston doctor, Frederick Everard **Hunt**. **Hunt** was born in 1840, arrived in the colony in 1880 and, presumably, brought young Frederick into the world. Dr. **Hunt**, well known for arguing with his patients, obviously had some admirers. He died in 1900 and is buried in the Burwood Anglican Cemetery.

Gunner Edgar Mercer **Turner**, 21, was killed at Messines on 3 June 1917. Their mother, Jessie, 73, died on 13 November 1939; their father, John Richard, 84, died on 1 Jan 1942.

Row I
No. 185
Killick/Charlesworth
Annie Killick, 20, wife of S. R. **Charlesworth**, died 19 December 1899
James Joseph **Killick**, 75, died 6 June 1916
Solomon R. **Charlesworth**, 73, died 29 June 1944

These were members of the **Charlesworth** family. The most prominent member of the family, Captain William **Charlesworth**, is buried elsewhere in the cemetery.

Row K

No. 190-197

Wilfred **Beadel**, 73, died 22 July 1944

Reginald Heber **Cholmondeley**, 64, died 25 June 1942

Mary Jane **Fry** died 21 May 1943

Emma Leonora **Cholmondeley**, 1836-1923

Hugh Heber **Cholmondeley**, 88, 'crossed the bar 13 July 1935'

Mary Christian **Cholmondeley**, 79, died 23 October 1911

Charles Pitt **Cholmondeley**, 60, died 28 May 1891

Archdeacon of Christchurch and Vicar of Opawa George James **Cholmondeley**, 67, died 11 December 1901

Lena **Cholmondeley**, 67, wife of the above, died 14 December 1904

Joan Cholmondeley **Tapper**, 4, died 5 November 1918

Mary **Cholmondeley**, 54, died 15 October 1924

Charles Pitt, George and Hugh **Cholmondeley** were brothers of Georgiana Adelaide **Cholmondeley** and Caroline Elizabeth **Fry** and sons of Thomas and Jane Christian **Cholmondeley**, all of whom are buried elsewhere in the cemetery. They 'belonged to a branch of one of the oldest and noblest families in England', which dated back to the 11th century. Their relatives included the Marquis of **Cholmondeley** and Lord **Delamare**. Their property at Port Levy, 'Vale Royal', was named after Lord **Delamere**'s residence in England.

In 1850 Charles Pitt **Cholmondeley** emigrated with his cousin, Thomas **Cholmondeley**, on the *Charlotte Jane*. The latter was to write *Ultima thule* which criticised the Canterbury Association; inherit property in his native Shropshire; marry a titled lady; and die of malaria on his honeymoon in 1864.

Charles dwelt in a sod house at Port Levy till his parents and siblings joined him. He then had the 12 room homestead, 'Vale Royal', built for the brood. Quiet, mild and of delicate constitution, he owned, in 1882, 1966 acres of land worth 10, 705 pounds. Eventually he went to live with his brother, Archdeacon **Cholmondeley**.

At the end of the 1880s Charles fell ill. He travelled to England to seek medical help but found that his complaint was incurable. He returned to his adopted country and, though paralysis deprived him of the use of his lower limbs, he did not complain. He died in 1891.

The *Church news* waxed lyrical about Charles **Cholmondeley**, 'an Israelite, indeed, in whom was no guile'.

The general esteem in which he was held was not owing to the possession of brilliant talents nor to services rendered to the public in any official capacity but to that mysterious attraction which centres round a pure and simple life, a life which finds in its trivial rounds and common tasks a road that leads it daily nearer God.

Charles had been much liked by the Banks Peninsula Maori to whom he had sent a load of presents each Christmas. The *Church news* commented:

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

Mr. **Cholmondeley** secured the warm attachment of the Maoris who resided in a large reserve in the immediate neighbourhood of his estate. His example of industry, sobriety and purity of life, his justness and fairness in all his dealings with them and his kindness to them in times of sickness and poverty won their hearts and the news of his death caused them genuine sorrow.

Born at Peel, Isle of Man, in 1833, George James **Cholmondeley** was in Port Levy in the 1850s with his relative, Thomas **Cholmondeley**, and brother, Charles. He studied for the priesthood at St. Aidan's College, Birkenhead, was ordained priest in 1859, was a curate in Norfolk and Gloucester, and back in New Zealand in 1861. Curate at St. Michael's and Vicar of the pastoral cure north of the Waimakariri, he was Vicar of Heathcote from 1862-75 and of Opawa from 1875 till his death. He was canon of Christchurch Cathedral from 1882 and, from 1890, Archdeacon of Christchurch. As well, he engaged in farming, owning, in 1882, land in the Akaroa and Ashley counties worth 3444 pounds.

Cholmondeley wrote books on church doctrine and practice. As a member of the Historical Committee set up to manage the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Canterbury Settlement, he collected name of Canterbury Association immigrants.

George James **Cholmondeley** died very suddenly early on the morning of Wednesday 11 December 1901. Later that morning the Cathedral bells tolled 68 times, at intervals of half a minute, to commemorate the life of the archdeacon.

Hugh Heber **Cholmondeley** was a farmer. In the 1870s he was on the committees of the Ellesmere Ploughing Match and St. John the Evangelist Anglican church, Leeston. Also, he was elected to the Ellesmere Road Board. Later, at West Eyreton, he was chairman of the local school committee. He became the manager of **Threlkeld**'s well-known farm on the Cust Downs, **Threlkeld** having married his sister, Elizabeth Jane. In 1882, **Cholmondeley** was a farmer at Morrinsville, owning land to the value of 2024 pounds.

On 13 January 1898, at St. Paul's Church, Thorndon (Wellington's Pro-Cathedral) Archdeacon G. J **Cholmondeley** officiated at his brother's wedding. Hugh Heber **Cholmondeley**, full age, bachelor, a sheepfarmer, had been born on the Isle of Man, was resident in Wellington but, usually, in Port Levy. His father was Thomas **Cholmondeley**, gentleman, and his mother Jane Christian nee **Munn**.

The bride, Margaret **Morgan**, full age, spinster, was born in Auckland and resident in Wellington but, usually, in Blenheim. Her father, James Rice **Morgan**, was an architect, while her mother was Ann **Morgan** nee **Kitchen**. The witnesses were Edwin H. **Dean**, solicitor of Wellington, and Isabel D. **Morgan** of Hastings.

At her death Margaret was the wife of Hugh Heber **Cholmondeley**, 'retired sheep farmer of Christchurch, Canterbury, New Zealand' but currently at Dial House, Campden, Gloucestershire. Margaret, 49, died of 'appendicitis peritonitis' on 8 July 1911 at a private hospital at 70 Newhall Street, Birmingham, England. Hugh was present when his wife died.

Fond of children but without any of his own, Hugh brought in architects **Collins** and **Harman** to design a brick and stone building which faced north and overlooked the sea on his attractive, isolated property at Governors Bay. This was to be a home for convalescent youngsters. It replaced the Children's Convalescent Cottage which, since the beginning of the 20th century, had been run by a Ladies Committee of the Ministring Children's League in Union Street, New Brighton.

'The weather was glorious and there was a large attendance' when, on Saturday 7 March 1925, a group gathered at the home. Dean **Carrington** began the ceremony with prayer and Sir Robert Heaton **Rhodes** declared the house open. Hugh stated that

... there were many institutions ... doing excellent work but they belonged to this or that denomination and he would like to look on the new home as a church union home'.

Other denominations were present at the proceedings and the Presbyterian minister T. W. **Armour** made a speech. Nevertheless, the Ladies' Committee, which was to manage the home, consisted of women who were prominent in the Church of England. The committee consisted of Mrs. **Carrington**, Mrs. **Tobin**, Mrs. H. D. **Andrews**, Mrs. **Pairman**, Mrs. **Maling**, Mrs. Croasdaile **Bowen**, and Mrs. **Wagstaff**.

The official name of the institution was the '**Cholmondeley** Memorial Home for Convalescent Children'. On a brass plate inside the door there was inscribed the following:

To the glory of God and in memory of Margaret, the dearly beloved wife of Hugh Heber **Cholmondeley**; this home is erected by her husband.

Hugh Heber **Cholmondeley**, 88, died on 13 July 1935. There was a 'private interment' and 'by request, no flowers'. There was, also, no obituary.

Row K
No. 198
Adley

Antill Alfred **Adley** was born in Ceylon in 1831, a son of the Rev. William **Adley** who, for 21 years, was a missionary on the island and, afterwards, rector of a parish in South Wales.

Antill was 'educated at King William's College in the Isle of Man, like most children born in hot climates having to be sent to a more temperate one'. Contemporaries at school included future Canterbury personalities, Crosbie **Ward**, Archdeacon **Cholmondeley** and Charles **Cholmondeley**.

Antill arrived on the 'Fifth Ship', the *Castle Eden*, in 1851. Edward **Ward** thought he would make little progress: 'He has no money and no training as a colonist, he ... cannot write a good hand, cannot work at anything but likes gardening'.

Antill was in the grocery business with George **Gould** and then, in Kaiapoi, with J. S. **White**. He spent his limited capital on the purchase of a site on the Colombo Street-Chester Street East corner. This had belonged to the Canterbury Association and its successor, the Province of Canterbury, but was deemed surplus to requirements.

On 11 November 1860, at St. Michael's church, the Rev. Charles **Alabaster** officiated at the wedding of Antill **Adley**, 28, and Sarah **East**, 42. Sarah had previously been married to and had a family by Edwin Portlock **East**. Edwin had died in England and the widow had brought her family to New Zealand to make a fresh start.

For a short period after this Antill worked on the Otago goldfields. Then the profits that he had made and Mrs. **Adley**'s money was used to build a boarding house on Antill's property. In 1862 Antill put a 'lean-to' against the boarding house, sought a licence to 'sell spirituous and fermented liquors' - that is, run a pub - and his request was granted. Mrs. **Adley** came from Oxford in England and the place was close to Oxford Terrace. Thus was established the Oxford Hotel, now the Oxford-on-Avon. The hotel was close to the then commercial centre of Christchurch, Market (now Victoria) Square. As well, this was 'the only establishment in this quarter of the town where ale is supplied at threepence the glass'.

The couple made a trip 'Home' - a thing commonly done by those immigrants who made a substantial pile in New Zealand. From 1873 the **Adleys** lived at St. Martin's, Opawa, 'at that time ... quite a country district', and were active in church work.

Sarah **Adley**, 72, died on 23 December 1890. Antill, 80, died on 1 December 1911. His funeral left the Christchurch Railway Station for the Woolston Cemetery on Tuesday 5 December at 1 p.m.

It would seem that the family disapproved of the couple's activities as hotel-keepers. Antill has an obituary but there is no reference to the fact that he and his wife established the Oxford Hotel. Perhaps the family's reticence on the subject relates to the fact that the children of both of Sarah's marriages had been successful in careers which were far removed from the drink trade. One of the **East** sons was a *Lyttelton times* compositor. Another was the Anglican cleric Herbert **East**.

Row K
No. 201
Ollivier

John **Ollivier** was born in London in 1811 and conducted business as a publisher in that city. The family emigrated to Canterbury in 1853, establishing a home in Woolston. In High Street John set up business as an auctioneer.

With a 'good flow of language [and] some humour', [**Ollivier** was] not bad at chaff'. W. E. **Burke** thought him 'a strong, vigorous active man endowed with abundance of cheek and go and a very fluent tongue'. A popular orator and, perhaps the best after-dinner speaker in the city, he gained a reputation for talking in a no-nonsense manner for the 'common man', the small-scale businessman or tradesperson. Although a

member of the first General Assembly which met in Auckland, he achieved fame and power in the local arena.

In 1857 **Ollivier** came forth 'buoyant, in the full pride of manhood, with beaming face and cheerful voice', 'trusty henchman' to and 'kingmaker' in the election of Canterbury Superintendent, William Sefton **Moorhouse**; **Ollivier**'s 'persuasive tongue' was of the best assets of W. S. **Moorhouse**. Not surprisingly, **Ollivier** 'and Sefton hitched together for a long time'. While **Moorhouse** held office, **Ollivier** was either Provincial Secretary - the manager of day-to-day government business - or President of the Executive Council.

In the Provincial Council **Ollivier**, 'prime minister of Canterbury', led battles 'where, at times, there was fierce, exciting work, there being some very able men amongst the ... provincial politicians ...' **Ollivier** was 'great as Chancellor of the Exchequer, and manipulated surpluses with financial dexterity'.

It was **Ollivier** who argued that the government should endeavour to raise money on the English loan market so that it could afford to bore a railway tunnel through the Port Hills and make it easy for farm produce to be transported to ships at Lyttelton. He fought, in a most determined manner, against his foes, often genteel land-owners with links to the Canterbury Association. Such people thought raising loans for development as bad as popular government in Australia or 'the still lower hell of Yankee democracy'. **Ollivier** described James Edward **FitzGerald**'s attacks on the **Moorhouse** government as the result of a 'bitter hatred of the 30, 000 pound loan and of the tunnel through the hill'.

Ollivier's pugnacious nature comes through in the following speech:

Perhaps our government thought (presumptuous impertinence) that Canterbury no longer stood in need of leading strings, that the time had come when it could walk by itself as well as under the tutelage of its old rulers and law-givers and dictators under the Canterbury Association ... Gratitude is at all times a pleasing trait in the character of man but it ceases to be a duty ... when the parties who once rendered the service become exacting. It is odious to be continually reminded of any obligation and provokes a rejoinder and, not infrequently, a severance of interest. Nor is it to be forgotten that, while the original settlers ... were bound to the originators of the association by ties of friendly action, there are hundreds, perhaps thousands, here now who know nothing of these ties

In 1863 **Ollivier** was the author of an ordinance which took discretion about the granting of liquor licences away from magistrates and made it easy for people to gain a licence to sell liquor without providing food, lodgings and stabling for customers' horses. The newspapers complained of how people no longer consumed alcohol in a quiet, orderly manner. Rather there could be heard 'the howlings of frantic bacchanals'. It became necessary to modify the ordinance.

In 1863 **Moorhouse** went bankrupt and was forced to resign as Superintendent. **Ollivier** summoned the meeting which anointed Samuel **Bealey** as his successor. **Ollivier**'s closet critic, Charles Christopher **Bowen**, wrote to H. S. **Selfe**:

Bealey is to be Superintendent. **Ollivier** has said so, so it must be. You may fancy what we have come to when a mild, platitude-grinding nobody is to be ruler, set up and crowned by a frothing chattering bookseller. Ichabod.

The last word is a Biblical reference. In Samuel 4:21 the Phillistines capture the Ark of God and the sons of the Israelite leader, Eli, are killed. On hearing the news, Eli falls back, breaks his neck and dies. His daughter-in-law goes into premature labour gives birth and, before she dies, names her son Ichabod, meaning that the glory has departed from Israel. **Bowen** saw Canterbury under **Moorhouse** or an associate as akin to Israel after its great military and spiritual defeat. Georgina Bowen commented about how George **Ross** and John **Ollivier** were seeking office. Mr. **Ross** was

... a gentleman and a very fit person for the office and Mr. **Ollivier** a very bumptious auctioneer ... Canterbury has always been so highly respectable that it would be a pity to see it fall lower in the colonial scale.

H. S. **Selfe**, who shared the **Bowens**' views, wrote on one occasion: 'I groan to think of Canterbury passing once again under the management of **Moorhouse**, **Ollivier** and Co'.

Viewing **Bealey** as no more than a seat-warmer, **Ollivier** eventually tried to oust him and bring back the former Superintendent. There was much criticism of **Ollivier** and other 'self-appointed and irresponsible arbiters of the public destiny'. The worm turned. **Bealey** sought a new executive, which included the heavyweights William **Rolleston** and John (later Sir John) **Hall**, and was able to serve out his term.

In 1865-66 **Ollivier** was Speaker of the Provincial Council. This position, where he had to show tact and impartiality, must have been 'most irksome to one who had always been accustomed to speak frequently and lengthily on all occasions'. Later still he was Provincial Auditor and auditor to infant local authorities in Christchurch. His final position was Resident Magistrate in Lyttelton.

It was at **Ollivier**'s offices, on 27 January 1864, that the Heathcote Road Board, predecessor of the Heathcote County Council, first met. An original board member, **Ollivier** held an official position for but a short time. Nevertheless he long exercised influence in the election of members and appointment of clerks. No meeting of Heathcote ratepayers seemed complete unless **Ollivier** held the floor for a substantial period.

The Heathcote bridge lay within the road board boundaries. It was built so that it could be raised and let through small freight-bearing and toll-paying vessels. Alas, business interests did not make much use of the river or bridge and the bulk of the toll money came from local people such as the poor fishermen who worked at Sumner.

In 1872 Ferry Road storekeeper Joseph Harrop **Hopkins** was elected to the board and, despite the enmity of John **Ollivier**, campaigned for the abolition of the tolls. Sandwich men went about supporting his cause and a cartoon was produced. This shows John **Ollivier** whistling cheerfully much to the chagrin of a poor fisherman whom the great politician has condemned to pay tolls as he crosses the Heathcote bridge each day in search of a livelihood. The item was picked up by bibliophile and historian Thomas Morland **Hocken** and is now held at the Hocken Library in Dunedin.

The 20 April 1872 *Star* comments on the cartoon:

A boldly drawn, rather well executed and not altogether pointless cartoon has just been issued. A prominent provincial official who made a long speech at the late meeting against the abolition of tolls is represented driving into town at a smart pace in a well-horsed trap; he passes a fisherman who we may suppose has crossed over the bridge and paid tolls for his donkey cart - if it is a donkey cart – and the latter remarks: “Ah, if you had to pay toll, you’d soon alter your whistle”.

Ollivier turned a barbed tongue on his younger opponent: “It’s an evil bird which fouls its own nest” and “Mr. **Hopkins** or **Popkins**, I hardly know which”. At a meeting of ratepayers at the Heathcote Valley School, the board chairman, James **Fisher**, was subject to a vote of no-confidence. The rest of the board resigned and, at the subsequent election, only **Fisher** was returned; **Hopkins** was at the top of the defeated candidates.

In his later years, **Ollivier** generally lived a quiet life though, occasionally, he would come out fighting. In 1881, at Phillipstown, the Rev. H. J. C. **Gilbert** presided over a meeting where it was proposed that B. W. **Mountfort**’s plan for a substantial church should be approved. The *Press* noted that **Ollivier** proposed:

That this meeting, fully recognising the great need of the proposed building, pledges itself to support the vestry to the utmost of its power in procuring the new church according to the designs furnished by Mr. **Mountfort**’. He urged the claims of the district to increased church accommodation in a forcible speech The motion was carried unanimously.

Plans were thus made for the building of the brick Church of the Good Shepherd.

When W. S. **Moorhouse** died in 1881, Christchurch Mayor James **Gapes** initiated a movement to raise a subscription for the purpose of erecting a statue of the ex-Superintendent. A committee was formed, of which **Ollivier** became chairman, and arrangements were made for the statue to be created in England and placed in the Botanic Gardens, the face looking towards the Port Hills tunnel. Those present on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue on 22 December 1885 included political ally Hugh **Murray-Aynsley** and long-term critic C. C. **Bowen**, the Governor, Bishop **Harper** and Julius von **Haast**. **Ollivier**, the first speaker, reminded the audience of **Moorhouse**’s chief work - the railway tunnel – and of his contribution towards the

development of the botanic gardens, museum and public hospital. **Moorhouse** 'knew how to design great things, and also to give effect to his great designs'.

Ollivier's last public activity, but a year or so before his death, was an unsuccessful attempt to prevent the police hierarchy from transferring his old friend Inspector Peter **Pender** out of Christchurch.

Sir Julius von **Haast** said of **Ollivier**:

Imagine a **Falstaff** who has forsaken sack and lived cleanly; a good portly man of a cheerful look, a pleasing eye, a colour as red as any rose, an admirable dexterity of wit, not only witty in himself but the cause of wit in other men.

Another description ran thus:

When you look upon his tall and stately figure, his bright penetrating eye and light step, you could hardly accept the evidence as to age of his whitening locks. When upon his subject ... [he] is a good debater and logical acumen is aided by a clear ringing voice and a distinct enunciation. He is happy in improvisation. He catches a fugitive idea in the course of a debate and instantly strings together a series of figures to prove something - he does not care what, so long as it gives him an opportunity to talk. Facts upon facts he adduces to illustrate his argument; and, if the facts are not to hand, he is not dismayed. Is it nota prerogative of genius to invent what is not otherwise attainable? But declamation is his particular forte. Here his tones rise and swell, his eye flashes and his whole form dilates and, with stalwart aim, he mercilessly beats the air

Elizabeth **Ollivier**, 79, died on 3 November 1892.

John **Ollivier**, 81, died at Bolton House, Ferry Road, on 31 July 1893.

Row K

Nos. 202-204

Murray-Aynsley

Hugh Percy **Murray-Aynsley** was born at Gloucester in 1828, the son of John **Murray-Aynsley** of Little Harle Tower, Northumberland. Educated privately, he spent time managing a sugar plantation for his cousin, Sir William **Miles** in Trinidad, West Indies.

Murray-Aynsley came to New Zealand as manager and principal partner in the firm of **Miles** and Co., the largest stock and station agent in Canterbury. As long as he was in the port town, he was a leading citizen. He took a large part in Lyttelton regattas and was chosen by ballot as Lieutenant of the Lyttelton Company of the Volunteers, being a good shot and often the top scorer in rifle matches.

In 1862 **Murray-Aynsley** bought from Colonel Alexander **Lean** 'Riverlaw' in Opawa and the Mount Hutt run. The **Murray-Aynsleys** broke up the run 40 years later.

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

Murray-Aynsley, a member of the House of Representatives and member of W. S. **Moorhouse**'s provincial executive campaigned, in 1864, against **William Rolleston** for a place in the provincial council. James Edward **FitzGerald** advised electors to vote against **Murray-Aynsley** on the ground that 'he was John **Ollivier**'s man'.

In 1865 **Murray-Aynsley** was active in the Middle Island Association, an organisation which thought that too much of the tax take of the New Zealand government was being swallowed up in the prosecution of the New Zealand Wars which were a North Island rather than a South (or Middle) Island matter.

During his career **Murray-Aynsley** was Lyttelton representative on the provincial council; chairman of the Chamber of Commerce; a member of the Lyttelton Harbour Board and Christchurch Domain Board; President of the Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association; and a member of the Christchurch Diocesan Synod. In business, he was director and chairman of the New Zealand Shipping Company and chairman of the Grey River Coal Company.

'The weather during the morning [of 6 May 1865] was very threatening and, about two o'clock, the rain began to fall in torrents'. That week the Anglican Church's general synod had been meeting in the city and this meant that the Bishop of New Zealand, George Augustus **Selwyn**, was available to lay the foundation stone of the B. W. **Mountfort**-designed St. Mark's Anglican church, Opawa. Despite the rain, **Selwyn** arrived, along with the Bishops of Christchurch and Waiapu; Archdeacons **Maunsell** and **Jacobs**; and the Revs. **Edwards**, **Tripp** and **Cholmondeley**; and several ladies of the parish. Elizabeth, wife of Hugh **Murray-Aynsley**, 'held an umbrella over Bishop **Selwyn** during the service which began at 2.45 p.m.' Bishop **Selwyn** commented 'that the ceremony in which they had been engaged was symbolical of the Christian Church; Christ was the cornerstone of their faith and he prayed that the work they had that day executed might form a cornerstone to salvation to many'. On 25 December 1865 there took place the first baptism in the new church. The child was George, son of H. P. and Elizabeth **Murray-Aynsley**. That this was a society baptism can be seen from the fact that the godparents were C. H. **Williams**, Joshua Strange **Williams** (later a judge) and Joseph Martin **Heywood**, founder of a major carrying business. The church was to burn down, probably as the result of arson, in 1949.

Elizabeth **Murray-Aynsley** actively sought to reduce the church's debts; was President of the Queen's Jubilee Fund (Queen Victoria's golden jubilee took place in 1887); and was on the committee of ladies which managed the Addington Orphan Asylum. She promoted the growth of flowers, the Riverlaw roses, grown under her supervision, being long known as among the best in Canterbury.

About 1892 Elizabeth suffered a stroke which left her 'more or less an invalid'. A year later, while sitting in her chair, she had another seizure but remained conscious for two more days 'when she became insensible, and gradually and quietly passed away'. At the time of her funeral, the flags of the New Zealand shipping Company and **Miles** and Co. were at half-mast.

Born in Lyttelton in 1860, the son of Hugh and Elizabeth, John Henry **Murray-Aynsley** was, educated at Mr. **Turrell**'s private school, Christ's College and St. George's Hospital, London. A general practitioner and staff member at the public hospital, Christchurch, he was a general practitioner in Eketahuna and, eventually, settled in Wigtown and Montrose, Scotland. He was also a surgeon, gaining the qualifications of M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. In Montrose, **Murray-Aynsley** married a daughter of Dr. **Key**. There were no children.

Towards the end of 1916 J. H. **Murray-Aynsley** fell ill and returned to Christchurch where his aged father was dying. Hugh, 88, died on 22 February 1917. Thereafter John lived at the family home in Holly Road, St. Albans. He dwelt in retirement and was 'practically an invalid'. He died on 21 September 1917.

As well as Hugh, Elizabeth and John, the gravestone recalls another son, Archibald Cryer, 39, who died on 20 August 1903.

Row K
No. 213
Ollivier

Arthur Morton, eighth son of Elizabeth and John **Ollivier**, was born on 23 March 1851, emigrated with his parents and attended Christ's College from 1862-65. A popular student, he became, in adulthood, Fellow of Christ's College and, at his death, was President of the Old Boys' Association.

A businessman, **Ollivier** worked for several firms, eventually being in partnership with Trevor **Grierson** as an accountant and auditor.

Ollivier was an angler, mountaineer and gardener. In the latter field he enjoyed frequent success at Christchurch Horticultural Society shows. He played chess, being, in 1888, colonial champion. In rugby he played against Auckland and Otago.

A Canterbury representative cricketer, **Ollivier** first played against Otago at Hagley Park when but 16. He was chosen for his fielding ability but 'signalled his first appearance by making the only double figure - 11 - on the Canterbury side'. His batting did much to secure for Canterbury seven wins in a row. He was in the first Canterbury-Auckland match, played against the visiting English and was the most successful Canterbury batsman in a tour of Victoria in 1878. T. W. **Reese** wrote that **Ollivier** 'was an admirable defensive bat and had many scores to his credit'.

An injury prevented **Ollivier** from playing sport after 1883 but, for a number of years, he was the sole selector of Canterbury cricket teams. In 1893 he was appointed to select the New Zealand team which played against New South Wales.

In **Ollivier**'s youth, sporting teams met on public reserves. People came to watch and officials had to walk round begging the spectators to give money to cover the cost of the games. Arthur **Ollivier** pushed for the establishment of a ground which was to be owned by the sporting codes and where spectators must pay to get in. On 8 May 1880,

at a meeting at **Warner's** Hotel it was decided that there should be floated the Canterbury Cricket and Athletic Sports Company.

Richard **Harman** and E. C. J. **Stevens** who represented offshore capitalists with money tied up in New Zealand came forward on behalf of a client, Benjamin **Lancaster** of Bournemouth, England. They offered land with an area of 10 acres three roods and 30 perches, the cost per acre being 260 pounds. This was part of Rural Section 62, of 50 acres, which **Lancaster** had purchased from the Canterbury Association in 1850.

In autumn 1881 the area was sown with Devonshire evergreen grass seed, the terrace turfed and a cinder running track laid in front of the terraces. On 28 July 1881 the ground, now Jade Stadium, was named **Lancaster** Park.

Ollivier suffered a comparatively brief and painless illness, dying at 12.30 a.m. on 21 October 1897. He was 46 years old.

Officiating ministers at the funeral were Bishop Churchill **Julius**, Archdeacons **Cholmondeley** and **Lingard** and Canon **Harper**. Cricketers attended dressed in their club colours Hymns were sung by members of the St. Mark's choir, the Cathedral and Christ's College chapel boys and the Liedertafel. Messrs. **Merton** and **Wallace** conducted and C. F. **Turner** presided at the harmonium. The list of people who attended the funeral is a late Victorian Canterbury's who's who. Fifty-one lines of newsprint are devoted to the names of people who sent wreaths.

Arthur Morton **Ollivier's** gravestone was 'Erected by the Cricketers of New Zealand'. Arthur's wife, Agnes, died on 4 February 1928.

The gravestone also recalls Hilda, wife of Keith, who died on 14 October 1937.

Row M

No. 229

Sarah Ann, 28, wife of H. R. **Hawker**, died 23 August 1898

'Dear little Laurie', 4 1/2, adopted son of the above, died 29 August 1898

Sarah Ann **Hawker** was the first wife of Harry Robert **Hawker** who lived from 1868 to 1956. Harry went on to have two more wives. Harry's mother, Priscilla, and a number of other relatives are buried in the graveyard.

Row N

Nos. 234-235

Milner

Mary and Edward **Milner** lived with their family at Gasworks Road, Sydenham. Edward was a coachbuilder and wheelwright. One of their children, Uriah, was killed in a tram accident on 26 May 1890 when aged 12 years 10 months.

At Uriah's inquest, on 27 May 1890, the coroner described William **Frazer**, merchant of Kaiapoi, as the most reliable witness. **Frazer** stated that, on the evening of the

previous day, he had been a passenger on the last car of the tram from the Heathcote racecourse. He had seen two boys running behind the car and a third, Uriah, riding on the draw bar. When the vehicle started to back slowly into a siding to avoid an oncoming tram, Uriah had tried to get clear, stumbled, fallen on the rails and the car had passed over him, dragging him about three quarters of a chain. Passengers rang the bell and called out for the tram to stop.

The coroner commented that this was 'one of those cases in which boys would, in their hare-brained way, endeavour to get a ride on a crowded car'. The jury brought back a verdict of 'accidental death'.

On the day of the funeral about a hundred members of the Queen's Cadets assembled at their drill shed on the South Belt under Seageant-Major **Linn**. They marched to the residence of the deceased's parents and joined the cortege on its way to the cemetery.

Uriah's memorial has the following:

A precious bud of promise,
which we had learned to love,
a precious soul is ransomed
and gone to heaven above.

Uriah's sister, Maria, 26 1/2, died on 31 March 1906. Edward **Milner**, 79, died on 24 June 1927, and Mary, 78, died on 17 December of the same year.

Row N
No. 239-240
Jones

This memorial recalls the 19th century battle to allow a man to overcome a supposed Biblical injunction denying him the right to marry his deceased wife's sister. Such a right was practical in that it enabled children to be brought up by an aunt rather than a stranger step-mother. The Deceased Wife's Sister's Marriage Act was passed in 1880 and followed, some years later, by the Deceased Husband's Brother's Marriage Act.

Only one person in a particular triangle is buried at Heathcote, though the names of all involved are mentioned:

Emily Laura Bruce, 38, wife of John Wood **Jones**, died 14 June 1894.
Catherine Ellen (Kitty), 69, her sister and his second wife, died in England on 20 December 1923: John Wood **Jones**, 81, Alfieri House, Northwood, Hanley, England, late of the Union Bank of Australia, Christchurch, and ... Sumner, died in England, 21 February 1935. Their daughter, Laura Abbott Bruce **Day**, died in England, 10 March 1982, and her husband, Harold Stuart **Day**, died in England, 6 June 1973.

In England, in the 21st century, it is not the done thing for a man to marry his deceased wife's sister.

Row O
No. 258
Nicholls

William **Nicholls**, a native of St. Austell, Cornwall, emigrated to Auckland on the *Warsprit* in 1863. He came to Canterbury where, under Major **Hornbrook**, he served an apprenticeship in the wool trade. At St. John's, Woolston, on 12 May 1875, William, 23, married Sarah Sheldon **Dixon**, 19, whose family were prominent butchers.

Nicholls moved to Belfast and, with J. M. **Watt**, ran the New Zealand Provision and Produce Company. On **Watt**'s death, **Nicholls** took over the wool scouring side of the business, calling it the Kaputone Works. At Belfast **Nicholls** owned 'Spring Grove', described as 'a very fine residence and one hundred acres of first class land'.

Sarah, 56, 'a loving mother and a good counsellor', died at 'Spring Grove' on 17 October 1911. When Annie Quayle **Townend** died in 1914, William bought her famed residence, 'Mona Vale'.

Like many other Victorian parents, the **Nicholls** lost children. Robert, six died on 19 March 1889. On 8 June 1914 a married son, Charles, 29, was killed in an accident.

While in Christchurch, William was 'a useful and much respected member of the city council'. His business experience was of value to patriotic organisations during World War I. William **Nicholls**, 69, 'a good citizen in every respect', died at 'Mona Vale' on 7 May 1920.

Row O
No. 266
Townend

William Potter **Townend**, brother of Dr. J. H. **Townend**, was a student at Guy's Hospital but never completed his studies. It was a common 19th century practice for busy doctors to refer their maternity patients to unqualified men. From about 1867 those of Dr. **Townend**'s women patients who were about to give birth came under the care of W. P. **Townend**. He attended about 1500 births.

In 1876 W. P. **Townend** was attending Mrs. **Isaacs** and found there was going to be a difficult birth. He sent for a large pair of household scissors and attempted to crush the baby's head, his idea being to sacrifice the baby and save the mother's life. His plans went awry, the child being born alive and dying of its injuries two days later. In the Supreme Court, Dr. **Townend** spoke of his brother's competence. However, he was found guilty of manslaughter, Judge **Johnston** sentencing him to six months imprisonment with hard labour. Five thousand people signed a petition in an attempt to have the sentence annulled.

On 6 February 1877, at St. John's Anglican church, Latimer Square, William Potter **Townend**, 'chemist', married Rosa **Perkins**. In 1879 **Townend** gained a position with Christchurch Public Hospital.

Ida Constance Harvey, 6 months, infant daughter of W. P. and R. **Townend**, died on 11 August 1890. Rosa died on 16 October 1926 and William Potter **Townend** died on 1 October 1934.

Row O
No. 277
Hanmer

Humphrey **Hanmer**, third son of John **Hanmer**, Vicar of Hanmer, Flintshire, was born on 20 July 1827 and died on 24 December 1892. Harriet, 77, his wife, died at Hampstead, London, on 2 June 1913

Three sons of the vicar of Hanmer, Flintshire, Wales - George, Philip and Humphrey - came to Canterbury. Philip gave his name to Hanmer Springs. George and Humphrey were among the first to settle at Rangiora. About September 1853 George selected a freehold section on the Cam and, with his brothers, built a wooden house with cob chimneys and a stockyard, drained the property and put up post and rail fences. Charles **Torlesse** sold George some standing timber and allowed the brothers to make a track into the bush to get it out.

To encourage people to settle in the area, the authorities granted George and Humphrey a 'bush licence' or limited accommodation house licence. Alas, the accommodation house does not appear to have been well run and, after a year, the licence was revoked. Although others sought the licence, it was never renewed.

Humphrey was a 'well-known landed proprietor of Canterbury'. One of his properties was close to the Avon River and a little to the east of FitzGerald Avenue. The land was subdivided, wooden cottages built and there working class families dwelt for many years. The road put through is Hanmer Street. William **Harper**, a handsome wholesome young man, dwelt there with his widowed mother. In 1898 he was struck and killed by a runaway nightcart. His funeral at Holy Trinity, Avonside, was a very big affair.

In later years Humphrey **Hanmer** lived in retirement in Sumner. In 1892 he and his wife visited Auckland, stayed at the Star Hotel, and there he died suddenly as the result of a stroke. Beside his wife, he left a son and daughter.

Area 2

Row C

No. 322

Buckley

Helen **McLean** wrote:

... George **Buckley** chose Alexandrina, younger daughter of Alexander and Mary **McLean** of Coll, to be his wife. They were married, on 25 February 1860, at the home of her brother, John **McLean**, at Cambridge Terrace, Christchurch. George took his bride to live at Lyttelton to be near his office and, in 1861, their eldest son, William Frederick McLean **Buckley**, was born in their home under the rugged Port Hills, overlooking the blue harbour. There were seven children of this marriage ...

W. F. M. **Buckley**'s father was a businessman and politician. His mother's family came from the island of Coll in the Hebrides. Her brothers were well known pastoralists. Allan had Waikakahi station. On retiring to Christchurch, he built the famed 'Holly Lea' in Manchester Street which became a home for women of genteel birth who found themselves in reduced economic circumstances. John or 'Jock' lived at 'Redcastle', Oamaru, his home eventually becoming a Roman Catholic boys' school. Bureaucracy decreed that a grand post office, with a clock tower, should be built in Oamaru but left it to the locals to supply the clock. They lacked the money to do this and W. F. M.'s brother, St. John McLean **Buckley**, gave the money for a clock tower as a memorial to 'Jock' **McLean**, his uncle and benefactor.

In youth, W. F. M. **Buckley** was one of the best polo players in New Zealand. He took a B. A. degree at Christchurch College, Oxford, and was called to the Bar but did not practice. Instead he farmed at Dunsandel, specialising in wheat-growing and the breeding of draught horses, harness horses and polo ponies. His animals 'had the reputation of being some of the best raised in the Dominion'.

Buckley was president of the Ellesmere A. and P. Association, a member of the General Committee of the Canterbury A. and P. Association and, from 1901-08 and 1915-19, a member of the Board of Governors of the Canterbury Agricultural College at Lincoln (now Lincoln University).

Buckley married Jessie Rose **Roberts** who predeceased him. Jessie was a 'sister of Mr. A. F. **Roberts**, the owner of the well-known stallion, 'Nightraid'. In his last years **Buckley** suffered ill-health; finally he was bed-ridden.

The gravestone has the wording: William Frederick McLean **Buckley**, 1861-1930

Row D
No. 348
McLean

Built in Auckland in 1903, the *Tainui* was, in 1919, owned by the New Zealand Refrigerating Company. A wooden steam screw steamer of 128 tons gross and 60 tons net register, she had 24 h.p. engines, was 92.3 feet in length, had a beam of 19.2 feet and depth of 6.7 feet.

The vessel left Lyttelton for Wanganui with a cargo of 1808 cases of benzine. At 3 a.m. on 16 September 1919, when the vessel was near Shag Rock off Gore Bay, North Canterbury, a fire broke out in the cargo and there was a terrific explosion which blew off part of the forward hatch and set the vessel on fire. The lifeboat was launched but capsized in the heavy sea and, of the ship's complement of nine, there was but one survivor, the cook, **W. Ferrand**, who clung to the lifeboat till washed up on the beach. Several others clung to the capsized boat but they gradually dropped off, Captain **J. W. Cowan** being almost in the breakers before relinquishing his hold. Heavy timber and wreckage, splintered and twisted, strewed the beach and the *Tainui* was quickly demolished after she drifted ashore.

The Court of Enquiry found that the regulations regarding shipment and carriage of petroleum at sea were not complied with; that due care was not practised in the stowing of petroleum; that the ship was not suitable for the reception and conveyance of petroleum; that the tins and cases containing the petroleum were leaking to such an extent that it was unsafe for the vessel to put to sea; and that, although lifesaving equipment was available, the lifeboat was too light in construction and had insufficient floor space.

The gravestone refers to one of those who drowned in the disaster:
My husband, Donald **McLean**, drowned in the *Tainui* disaster, 16 September 1919,
aged 38

Row E
No. 352
Howell

The father of Charles Selby **Howell** was

... an old Peninsula veteran, having been taken by a press gang in Bristol. He served for some 12 years; his last ship, the *Duke of York*... of which he was paymaster, was at the taking of Martinique from the French in 1794.

Later Mr. **Howell** was 'schoolmaster and parish clerk for over 50 years' at Stroud, Gloucestershire. The school was 'known as the Red Coat School because the boys wore scarlet coats and vests in fulfilment of a benefaction left by some ancient hunting squire for that purpose'.

Charles Selby was born at Stroud on 23 June 1836 and educated at his father's school. He became a saddler and worked at Bristol, Bath, Penzance, Birmingham, Oxford, London and towns in South Wales.

Howell boarded the *Roman Emperor* as an assisted immigrant bound for Canterbury. Perhaps, like future author Samuel **Butler**, one of the gentlemen who came on this vessel, he transhipped from the *Burmah* which was specially fitted out for the stock which it was to bring to the Antipodes and then disappeared without trace.

The *Roman Emperor* arrived in 1860. **Howell** worked in Christchurch, moved to Sydney and then came back as foreman to his old employer, John Craib **Angus**, a man prominent in business and the Presbyterian church. In 1873 **Howell** went into partnership with William **White**. After 18 months he set up his own establishment in **Tattersall's** Buildings at 162 Cashel Street, He carried 'on a profitable and successful business until December 1895 when he sold out to his two eldest sons'. For a time he again took over the reins before becoming interested in the Timaru Flour Milling Company and Zealandia Soap and Candle Works. In old age he decided to make a trip 'Home'. Prior to his departure a dinner was tendered him as a mark of respect and goodwill. Like many businessmen, he was active in the Masonic Lodge.

Interested in racing and trotting 'as almost part of his business', **Howell** was one of the convenor and first chairman of the first Trotting Conference in 1895. A club – originally intended to be a coursing club - was formed at Plumpton Park, Sockburn. This did not flourish and there was established the Plumpton Park Racing and Trotting Club.

Howell was one of the original promoters, being 'gateman, secretary, treasurer, judge and chairman' and helping 'to bring the club to the successful position which it ... attained'. In 1903 he could state that the club had 75 acres of freehold property at Sockburn, these being 'kept in good order and ... equipped with grandstand, boxes and all necessary buildings'. Indeed, Plumpton Park was the only club in New Zealand which possessed 'a racing and training track with grounds of its own'. In his last years **Howell** saw his beloved park – now 106 acres in extent - purchased by Henry (later Sir Henry) **Wigram** for his air school. The park was to become the Wigram Air Force Base.

In his dealings with others in the trotting world **Howell** showed 'enthusiasm, ability, integrity and geniality'. In 1908 his peers commissioned Sydney Lough **Thompson** to paint his likeness. As well, the C. S. **Howell** Handicap was established to perpetuate 'the name of one of the most honourable and respected men in the early days of trotting'.

On 30 March 1867, at St. John's Anglican church, Latimer Square, Christchurch, C. S. **Howell** harness maker, married Maggie **Hall**. Charles died at his daughter's residence in New Brighton, leaving four sons and two daughters.

The gravestone recalls Charles Selby **Howell** who was born on 23 June 1836 and died on 29 April 1921; and his wife, Maggie, 64, who died at Opawa on 2 October 1906.

Row E
No. 356
Bray

Born in London on 31 January 1812 and educated in Switzerland, William Bayly **Bray** trained in his home city as a civil engineer. He was engaged in railway and dock construction on the Thames and railway work in Tuscany. In Egypt he worked with the famed **Stephenson** family.

William and Harriet **Bray** emigrated on the *Duke of Bronte*, arriving in Lyttelton on 6 June 1851. William found work with the provincial government. He chaired the local commission on the best way to link the city to its port by rail - a meandering route to Sumner with a short tunnel behind the town or the 'direct route' through the hill at Heathcote. G. R. **Stephenson** of the English firm came down firmly on the side of the 'direct route'.

Bray set the point where the railway tunnel was to enter the hill near Heathcote; supervised the letting of the 250, 000 pound contract for the building of the tunnel; and was the first District Engineer for Canterbury as part of the Colonial Public Works Department, from 1871-72. A section of the northern railway, from Christchurch to Kaiapoi, was opened in 1872.

W. B. **Bray** took up Rural Sections 177 and 178, each of which was 200 acres in size, and 179, which was 100 acres. The combined sections became known as the 'Avonhead Farm' and it is in this area that rise the springs which feed the Avon River.

Bray built a two-storey pug clay house with 16 rooms, three staircases, five chimneys and a thatch roof. The walls were 18 inches thick and the house was notable for its peep-holes and secret hideaways. Oak panelling from Britain was lost in a storm off Sumner and local totara was used instead.

Bray believed - and expressed his belief - that the Waimakariri River would break its banks and flood Christchurch. Crosbie **Ward** wrote:

At Avonhead lived Mr. **Bray**
who every morning used to say
"I shouldn't be much surprised today
if Christchurch city were swept away
by the rushing, crushing, flushing, gushing
Waimakariri River.

In February 1868, on the morning that **Bray** arrived in Lyttelton after a visit to the 'Old Country', the Waimakariri spilled over the plain, being joined in its offensive by the Ashley, Okuku, Makerekeri, Cust, Eyre, Kowai, Hawkins and Selwyn. A depression which ran through Christchurch (and whose last remnants can be seen in the play equipment area of St. Michael's School) became a young river. The post office in Market (Victoria) Square was surrounded by three feet of water. At Kaiapoi a bumper harvest was destroyed and there was left 'a wreckage of fences, timber ... rubbish and the carcasses of dead animals' while 'houses rested crazily on sunken or

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

partly removed foundations'. Two North Canterbury girls named **Wilkinson** were drowned.

Although associated with Avonhead, **Bray** spent his later years at his home, 'Fifield', in Opawa and it was there that he died. The **Bray** gravestone refers to William Bayly **Bray** who was born on 31 January 1812 and died on 26 May 1885; and Harriet **Bray** who was born on 16 June 1809 and died on 31 October 1890.

Row F
No. 364

Hawker

Priscilla, 40, wife of Henry **Hawker**, and relative-by-marriage of the other **Hawkers** buried in this cemetery, died 15 October 1882. Her gravestone includes the words:

A loving wife, a fond mother, a sincere Christian

Row F
No. 373

Bunz

Charles Ferdinand **Bunz** was born Carl Ferdinand **Bunz** at Hohenfelde, Holstein, then part of Denmark, on 23 October 1844. He received a musical education at Entien, under Herr **Langenbuch**, whose school was supported by the Duke of **Oldenburg**. **Bunz** could play any orchestral instrument but was most proficient with the clarinet, violin and double bass.

Bunz passed his examinations in 1864, worked as an assistant teacher at the school and moved to London. He reached Christchurch in 1868 and 'was so impressed with the place and its possibilities, that he decided to settle here and remain in this city for the rest of his life'.

On 15 January 1874, at the Rangiora parish church, Bishop H. J. C. **Harper** officiated at the wedding of Carl Ferdinand **Bunz**, full age, bachelor, professor of music, and Emmeline **Merton**, spinster, minor. One presumes that music helped bring the couple together. A witness, the bride's father Charles **Merton**, brought music to the masses of North Canterbury. The couple had five sons and two daughters.

Bunz took private pupils at his 'academy' at 173 Armagh Street, 'receiving pupils for the violin, piano and orchestral instruments'; coached candidates for college examinations; and gave musical lessons at private schools run by Miss **Townsey** and Mrs. **Crosbie**. He was bandmaster of the Canterbury Yeomanry Cavalry Band. Under his leadership the band became popular, giving afternoon concerts to large crowds in the Botanic Gardens and, afterwards, in Latimer and Cathedral squares. **Bunz** was also leader of the Musical, Philharmonic and Mendelssohn societies.

For 40 years **Bunz** led the theatre orchestra - in the Gaiety Theatre, the First Theatre Royal and lastly in the Theatre Royal building which still stands.

With the exception of one night, Mr. **Bunz** led the orchestra whenever there was any performance at the theatre. In his adherence to duty - he never allowed anything to interfere with his work at the theatre - Mr. **Bunz** provided a strong incentive to the other members of the orchestra to put duty first Mr. **Bunz** probably influenced more young musicians for good, both in respect of music and of personal conduct than any other teacher in the Dominion.

In the 1880s **Bunz** had a holiday home in South Brighton or 'Eastbourne South', then a remote district. He laid out attractive gardens as he 'anticipated the connection of New Brighton and Sumner' via a bridge across the Estuary. The scheme did not eventuate and **Bunz** became one of the many New Brighton Borough Council ratepayers who, over the years, petitioned the local authority about heavy rate demands and the little he received in the way of services.

Here are buried Emmeline **Bunz**, 1853-1906; her husband, Charles Ferdinand **Bunz**, 1844-1923; their son, Leonard Merton **Bunz**, 21 December 1880-23 December 1927, and his wife, Mary Ellen **Bunz**, 12 December 1879-7 March 1951.

One **Bunz** son, Alfred, an 'able and well-known pianist', was to carry on his father's good work in Christchurch.

Row H
No. 397

George Victor **Monck**, drowned at Sumner on 22 March 1882, aged 7.

The child's gravestone has the plaintive words:

Without a moment's warning,
while busy at his play,
this bright and loving fair-haired boy
was quickly snatched away.

George, second son of Emma and John Stanley **Monck** of Monck's Bay, Sumner, was 'a great favourite with all the ... people'. Late in the afternoon of 12 March 1887, 'the little fellow' was playing with a friend on the banks of the Estuary, tried to get into the boat which was moored at the small jetty close to his parents' home, lost his hold and fell into the water which was near high tide. The companion called for help and watched as George rose to the surface three times before disappearing altogether.

Shortly after midnight on the day of the accident, a fisherman, John **Durant**, recovered the body. At the inquest, at the parents' house, on 23 March the jury returned a verdict: 'Accidentally drowned'.

Row I
No. 415
Calvert

Christopher Alderson **Calvert** was born in Fleet Street, London, in 1811, his father, John, being an importer of ivory. His godfather, Sir Edward Hall **Alderson**, a judge, became his guardian after John's death in 1822.

Christopher entered a merchant's office, was, for a period, at the Cape of Good Hope, and was called to the Bar (Middle Temple) in 1838. He obtained the degree of M.A. at Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, in 1839, and was granted the degree of A.M. of Edmund Hall, Oxford, in 1850. He practised at the Chancery Bar and, on the death of his mother in 1840, became counsel to her long-time friend, the elderly blind Princess Sophia, daughter of George III and aunt of Queen Victoria. The princess presented him 'with a portfolio and an autograph letter of Queen Victoria' which remained in the hands of the family.

On the founding of the Canterbury Settlement, **Calvert** was appointed adviser and secretary to the Rev. Thomas **Jackson**, Bishop-designate of Lyttelton. He was also 'designated Professor of Mathematics in Christchurch College and Bursar thereof' - in other words, mathematics teacher and bursar at Christ's College. He emigrated to Canterbury on the 'Fifth Ship', the *Castle Eden*. Offered a judgeship during a stop-over at the Cape of Good Hope, he declined the honour as he was to refuse the judgeship of Ballarat. His reason, in both cases, was that 'he would not condemn a fellow creature to death'. **Calvert** landed in Lyttelton in January 1851. It was claimed that

... **Calvert** put a knocker on [John Robert] **Godley**'s house in Lyttelton – the first knocker in the settlement – and it was so much used that **Godley** thought it was abused and muffled it with a white handkerchief, unconscious, apparently, of the meaning of that act.

Jackson's period as bishop-designate was brief, it being found that his debts pursued him to the new land. **Calvert** became mathematical tutor at Christ's College. In 1854 he became Deputy-Registrar of Deeds and Deputy-Registrar of the Supreme Court. He relinquished his Deeds position in 1861, three years after becoming Supreme Court Registrar. Another of his positions was Administrator of Intestate Estates. In 1867, owing to ill-health, **Calvert** resigned the position of Registrar. He remained Registrar of the Court of Appeal till his death.

Calvert always had style. In 1852 he commissioned B. W. **Mountfort**, Canterbury's greatest architect, to design his first home, 'Rosemary Cottage' (named after one of Bishop **Selwyn**'s daughters) at Governors Bay. A simple rectangular timber building situated close to the shore, it had an external chimney of earth construction and a surprising feature in such a primitive structure, two sets of French windows. On consulting the Maori about a name for the area, they suggested and he adopted 'Ohinetahi'. 'Rosemary Cottage' did not survive many years, probably being demolished about the time that T. H. **Potts** bought the property in 1858. **Potts** retained the name 'Ohinetahi' and it survives today.

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

In 1861 **Calvert** had **B. W. Mountfort** design his abode, 'the Hollies', about which there were holly fences. The building material, volcanic stone quarried from the site of the Sign of the Kiwi, was brought down by bullock wagon. The house, a Gothic structure in the form of a cross, cost 736 pounds 11 shillings and threepence. A similar house, in wood, would have cost a quarter of the price. The 'first stone house ... in the City of Christchurch' the home was, for many years 'a conspicuous landmark' at the Chester Street-Oxford Terrace intersection. A prominent feature of the place was an arched gateway with the arms of the **Calvert** family carved in the centre. **Johannes Carl Andersen** thought the place 'looked attractive with its big chimney protruding like a tower from the centre of the gables'.

A later owner 'had no reverence for gateways or coats of arms' and had the distinctive entrance-way razed to the ground. The structure became a store – the Holly Stores. Eventually **Hyman Marks** had the property, letting the house, then pulling it down and replacing it with two wooden two-storey houses. **Andersen** commented: 'Both these houses persisted as long as I remember the locality but they never had the appeal of 'the Hollies'.

Calvert's later homes were in Woolston and Opawa.

There was to be a dance at Ferrymead. In order to attend it, **Christopher Calvert** walked from Christchurch to Governors Bay by way of Dyers Pass to get his dress suit, thence to Lyttelton with his dress-case on his back and over the Bridle Path to the dance. The young woman he wished to marry was there and was impressed by his gallantry.

On 17 May 1859, at St. Michael's Anglican church, Christchurch, the Rev. Charles **Alabaster** officiated at the wedding of **Christopher Alderson Calvert**, full age, (in fact, 48), Esq., A. M., Barrister at Law etc., to **Mary Ann Davis**, full age, (in fact, 27), spinster. This was a society wedding. A witness, **James Townsend**, was well-known as the grandee who, in advanced years, emigrated to Canterbury and whose daughters married prominent local personalities.

After the **Calvert-Davis** wedding breakfast, the couple were driven to the foot of the hills and then walked over Dyers Pass to 'Ohinitahi'. **Mary Ann** was attired in a voluminous dress and round poke bonnet with white blossoms under the brim. Over her dress she wore a large white cloak with deep hood and wide bell sleeves, all being trimmed with purple silk cord and large tassels. The happiness with physical vigour and outdoor life which **Calvert** exhibited on this occasion was not unusual. Earlier he had got lost near Akaroa and camped comfortably for the night under a tree. He often walked over the Port Hills and came in to Christchurch to work.

There was an acidic element to **Calvert's** sense of humour. One individual, who insisted that he was acquainted with the Registrar, was asked: "Let me see: was it in the dock or the witness box?" A friend was likewise beset by a nuisance. Said **Calvert**: "Lend him a five pound note and you won't see him again".

Soon after **Calvert's** arrival, Charlotte **Godley** dismissed him as 'small, black and cockney looking'. Henry **Sewell** discussed his character on several occasions. When he found that pioneer lawyers had little to commend them, he wrote: 'Then there is **Calvert** as ... consulting counsel. I am really disposed to think him the best of the lot'. When **Calvert** argued that mayors and corporations had seals whereas provinces did not, the exasperated **Sewell** snapped: 'Is this not all nonsense?' Elsewhere **Calvert** was '...ci-devant secretary to poor **Jackson** ... a very small barrister but extremely pretentious'. When **Sewell** discussed the bureaucratic appointments which James Edward **FitzGerald** had made as Superintendent of Canterbury, he concluded: 'He has thrown away a valuable office, the Registrarship of Deeds, on that poor weak man, **Calvert** ...utterly good for nothing as a help to him.

Sewell's first opinion, and perhaps his kindest, was that **Calvert** was

... infinitely harmless and good-natured He chatted incessantly
....described himself as perfectly happy, satisfied with everything and
everybody ...his opinion all not worth recording except that he pointed out
the practical routes all over his district.

In his late 19th century reminiscences, W. E. **Burke** described **Calvert** as a '... somewhat eccentric man, very precise ... very obstinate and self-opinionated'.

In her 1920s *Star* reminiscences of her father (which are preserved in Christchurch City Libraries' Canterbury Pilgrims' and Early Settlers' Association scrapbook), **Calvert's** youngest daughter, Lily, managed to make her father seem perhaps even more pretentious than he was with constant references to the Supreme Court Registrar's notable family connections. She has a photo of her father, appropriately dressed in wig and gown, but also includes her uncle - who was not connected with Canterbury - and who is described as 'the Rev. William **Calvert** M. A., Minor Canon, St. Paul's Cathedral, London'.

Roland, only son of Mary Ann and Christopher **Calvert**, was always of delicate constitution, though he insisted on training for the Kaiapoi and Richmond rifles, detachments of the Volunteers. As he lay dying, he was told that King Edward VII's coronation day was approaching. He insisted that he not be buried on that day; it would not be loyal.

The gravestone has the wording: C. A. **Calvert**, 1811-1883; Mary Ann, his wife, 1832-1905; Roland John **Calvert**, their only son, 1865-1902.

Row J
No. 419
Williams

Joshua Strange **Williams**, son of a noted English jurist, came to New Zealand in 1861, settled in Christchurch where he practised, and served on the provincial council and provincial executive, being associated with W. S. **Moorhouse**. On 26 July 1864, at Horsham, Sussex, he married Caroline Helen **Sanctuary**. They had four sons and three daughters.

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

Williams became District Land Registrar at Christchurch and Registrar-General of Land. In March 1875 he was appointed to the Supreme Court Bench in Otago. On 20 June Caroline died at Opawa.

Williams married a second time, in Dunedin in 1877. He stayed in the southern city for 39 years and to many, including the celebrated A. C. **Hanlon**, was the 'dear old judge'.

Williams' biographer, William Downie **Stewart**, wrote that the judge was respected:

... not so much his learning as a judge and his fine scholastic attainments ... [but rather for his] exquisite and gracious civility to young and old, his unruffled serenity and dignity, his patience with young practitioners and nervous witnesses [and] his compassion for the poor

Elsewhere the comments were made that **Williams** had

... a wonderful command of vigorous language and ... avoided words derived from the Latin. I have often taken down in shorthand his oral judgements and found, on transcribing them, that almost every word had an Anglo-Saxon root He ... was quite ready on occasion to brighten the proceedings and his judgements with flashes of delicate and whimsical wit.

Downie **Stewart** was guilty of writing women out of history. In *Portrait of a judge* he makes one oblique reference to Caroline. In 1875 'several months elapsed before Judge **Williams** could transfer to Dunedin owing to illness in his family'.

Joshua Strange **Williams** retired to England in 1914 and, the following year, died there, aged 78.

Row J
No. 421
Earle

Charlotte **Godley** wrote that Catherine **Earle** was 'a very nice person'. Charlotte never met Catherine's sister, Marianne, the first wife of pioneer cleric Octavius **Mathias**. Marianne arrived in Canterbury on the *Dominion*, went into premature labour in her sister and brother-in-law's Opawa home and died in spite of the best efforts of J. W. **Earle** who was a doctor.

Dr. James **Earle's** English address had been Surrey Street, Norwich. It is understood that he lost money in a slump in railway shares in the 1840s and this may have led him to seek a fresh start in the colonies. He was an original land purchaser in the Canterbury Settlement, emigrated on the *Randolph* and took up Rural Section 44, a 50 acre property on the south side of the Heathcote River. This he called 'the Grange'. In 1882 it was to be valued at 3800 pounds.

Earle had a good knowledge of horticulture. However, on one occasion, he bought Tasmanian onion seed from William **Wilson**. In this there was a plant supposed to be the English honeysuckle. It turned out to be the first example of the Tasmanian bluegum to grow in Christchurch.

In the mid 1860s Maori weather prophet-cum-fisherman Arihita **Ngahiri** or **Ngahora** was cut off from access to his land by **Earle's** property. **Earle** refused to grant a right-of-way. He may have been unsympathetic to local Maori; he may have been simply unsympathetic. Much earlier Charlotte **Godley** wrote: 'Mr. **Earle** is a very clever surgeon but too stingy to have ordinary comforts in his house. He will scarcely allow any firing and so on ...'

The gravestone has the wording: James William **Earle**, 74, died 24 March 1878:
Catherine **Earle**, 82, died at Fendalton on 21 June 1894

Row J

No. 431

William **Langdown**, born Hampshire, England, 21 February 1827-died 27 May 1903
Eliza, born 12 June 1841-died 19 March 1905

William was a successful brick and tile manufacturer, built railway trucks and owned a wharf on the Heathcote River. In 1882 he has 12, 730 pounds' worth of real estate scattered round the Heathcote Road Board district and was a board member. He was a son-in-law of Rowland and Mary Ann **Davis**.

Row J

No. 433

Davis

Born near Bantry, County Cork, Ireland, about 1806-07, and supposedly, 'a descendant of old Irish monarchs', Rowland Robert Teape **Davis** came to England in early manhood and was involved in such causes as the abolition of slavery, Catholic Emancipation and the Reform Bill. On 13 October 1829, at Stepney, London, he married Mary Ann **Groombridge**. The couple had eight children.

A carpenter and engineer, **Davis** brought his family to Wellington on the *Aurora*, arriving on 22 January 1840. Rowland was active in a Working Men's Committee which, in fact, endeavoured to represent what it saw as the three classes in the community, 'landed, commercial and working'.

In 1851 **Davis** came down to Canterbury where he had the licence of the Canterbury Hotel, Lyttelton, 'which he kept for years'. Later, he was licensee at the Lyttelton Hotel in Christchurch, adding to the structure a bar frontage on Oxford Terrace. The Lyttelton Hotel would become the Clarendon and house the first Duke of **Edinburgh**, son of Queen Victoria, during his 1869 visit. A successor building on this spot would house Queen Elizabeth II during her 1953-54 tour.

In 1853 **Davis** put himself forward but then withdrew as a candidate for the General Assembly. He sought a position on the provincial council, was attacked by the

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

Lyttelton times and defeated at the polls. 'In the great election fight of 1857, when [W. S.] **Moorhouse** was elected, he worked the Peninsula for him'. He was on the provincial council for Akaroa from 1856-57 and Lyttelton from 1857-64.

A founder of the Oddfellows' Lodge and the Christchurch Mechanics' Institute, now Christchurch City Libraries, **Davis** was Westland's Inspector of Weights and Measures from 1871-74, became clerk to the Avon Road Board in 1877 and died, at 'Keilkill', Heathcote, on 27 February 1879. Mary Ann, 88, died at the residence of her son-in-law, William **Langdown**, Sydenham, on 17 August 1888.

Sympathetic chroniclers wrote that **Davis** was 'a portly Irishman with an unctuous tongue and fine volubility for chat ...' and that he 'had a fund of anecdote about old times, was an amusing, jolly, pleasant companion but no businessman or politician'. Henry **Sewell** scorned him. At one point he was 'a publican and head of the ultra-radical faction but shrewd, impudent and resolute'. Elsewhere he was a 'big, coarse, ill-favoured looking fellow who would do for a prize-fighting publican - withal destitute of that shrewdness ... which, in general, is the characteristic of such demagogues'. When **Davis** was planning to stand for Parliament, **Sewell** saw him as a 'vulgar, pushing fellow whom it would have been absolutely discreditable to send up to the General Assembly as representing the social superiority of the Canterbury Settlement'.

Row K

No. 446

Georgiana Adelaide **Cholmondeley**, 23, died 15 July 1866

Jane Christian **Cholmondeley**, 70, died 31 August 1875

Caroline Elizabeth **Fry**, 40, died 13 November 1878

Matilda Elizabeth **Fry**, 13, died 22 December 1878

Thomas **Cholmondeley**, 84, died 21 October 1884

Charles and Jane Christian **Cholmondeley**, the parents of Caroline Elizabeth **Fry** and of Georgiana Adelaide, Hugh Heber, Charles Pitt and the Rev. George James **Cholmondeley**, arrived in Canterbury in 1855, settling at Port Levy.

In the same year that Charles and Jane arrived Henry **Sewell** wrote that he:

... walked round the shore of the bay to Mr. **Cholmondeley**'s [at Port Levy]. It is a pretty harbour, like all the rest here. More wood than Port Cooper and less than Pigeon Bay. A few settlers' houses here and there at the water's edge and the beginnings of enclosures which, one of these days, will grow into farms; but the mountains all round are an almost impassable wall.

Sewell was worried about meeting Thomas **Cholmondeley**. He had been told

The old gentleman is mad and goes about now and then with a musket and sabre; his great abomination being the Canterbury Association which, somehow or other, has swindled him into coming to this detestable place, when or how nobody knows. I did not half like paying a visit to so dangerous a character but summoned up courage

Sewell

... found old Mr. **Cholmondeley** at home, busy at harvest work - wild but not dangerous. He received us all courteously, gave us bread, cheese, butter and milk and introduced us to his family who seem simple and good. The burden of the old man's song the whole time we were there was a rhyme descriptive of the miseries of a colonist's life He ought not to have been brought away from home. He talks of returning but I suppose *dura necessitas* will keep him here to grumble out the rest of his days.

Georgiana Adelaide **Cholmondeley** died at her home, 'Vale Royal', Port Levy, on 15 July 1866. Her funeral notice reads:

The remains of the late Georgiana Adelaide **Cholmondeley** will leave the Heathcote Parsonage [the home of her brother, the Rev. G. J. **Cholmondeley**] for interment in the Lower Heathcote Cemetery on Thursday 19th instant at 3 o'clock p.m.

This was the first burial in the cemetery.

Christchurch City Libraries' church register transcripts contain the information that, on 1 October 1863 at Port Levy, John **Fry**, full age, bachelor, labourer, married Caroline Elizabeth **Cholmondeley**, full age, spinster, the witnesses being Mary Christian and Charles **Cholmondeley**, and the officiating priest the Rev. G. J. **Cholmondeley**.

The marriage was reported in the newspapers: '1 October 1863 at Port Levy, by the Rev. G. J. **Cholmondeley**, Mr. John **Fry**, farm servant, to Miss Caroline **Cholmondeley**'. The newspapers also report: '2 October 1863, at Port Levy, the wife of John **Fry**, of a daughter'.

It could be that John **Fry** was the father of Caroline's child and that the **Cholmondeleys**, hostile to a marriage because of John's low social status, put the wedding off till the last moment possible. Perhaps John was not the father but brought in at a late stage so that Caroline's daughter would be born to a married couple.

On 18 July 1952 chronicler George Ranald **Macdonald** commented on the marriage and birth: 'Not quite in the nick of time or born in the vestry but very near it'. The child born within a day of the marriage, Mary Jane, spent her latter years on the Cashmere Hills and died, as a spinster, at 80, in May 1943.

Another daughter, Matilda Elizabeth, was born to Caroline and John **Fry** on 28 January 1865 and baptised by the Rev. G. J. **Cholmondeley** on 7 February. Her father was, by this time, a farmer of Port Levy.

On 13 July 1865 Caroline was admitted to Sunnyside Asylum. She remained there, eventually contracting pulmonary tuberculosis, becoming greatly emaciated and dying in 1878. The post mortem showed that she had suffered no violence and that her lungs

were 'filled with tubercles'. When the skull was opened the brain was shown to be very much thickened.

Matilda Elizabeth **Fry**, 13, died but a month after her mother and was buried on 24 December 1878.

On 12 April 1880 at the manse of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Christchurch, the Rev. Charles **Fraser** officiated at the wedding of John **Fry**, 37, widower, farmer, and Christina **McLaren**, 32, spinster.

At Sydenham Cemetery there is the gravestone of Christina **Fry** who died, at 65, on 29 September 1913. She was the widow of John **Fry** of Hanmer. Dorothy Jean, daughter of J. and F. **Fry** and granddaughter of John and Christina, died, aged five years, on 18 February 1921.

Elsewhere at Sydenham Dorothy Jean's parents are buried. Florence Jean **Fry**, 43, died on 14 October 1923 and John Douglas **Fry**, 83, died on 14 August 1966.

Row K

No. 450

Charlesworth

The name '**Charlsworth**' or '**Charlesworth**' means 'the fortified holding of the churls or farmers'. It originated when the labouring Anglo-Saxons endeavoured to protect themselves against marauding Vikings.

The son of Mary and William **Charlesworth**, William **Charlesworth** was born at Wistow, Yorkshire, on 3 May 1814. The older William was overseer to Edward **Appleyard** who owned the 135 acre farm 'Garman carr' near Wistow. In 1829-30 William junior went to sea, becoming first mate to an Australian, Robert **Towns**, captain and owner of *The Brothers*, and trading throughout the Pacific and Orient. **Charlesworth** captained another **Towns** vessel, the *Royal Saxon*, which travelled from Australia to England, India and Russia. Rice from China and sandalwood from India were included in the cargo, while people who boarded the ship included European immigrants and Chinese coolies who would work in the goldfields.

In the mid '50s **Charlesworth** arrived at the steam wharf on the Heathcote River. He bought land and had mortgages over other properties, including the Mitre, Canterbury and Lyttelton Arms hotels in Lyttelton. He bought and leased land on Canal Reserve (Linwood Avenue) and thus was named Charlesworth Street. The captain's main property, 'Saxon Farm', included 'Saxon Villa'. The property consisted of

... a capital brick built dwelling house on Ferry Road ...complete in every particular. The house is built entirely of English material expressly imported by Captain **Charlesworth**. It contains 14 rooms, large dining and drawing rooms, breakfast room, bathroom, capital kitchen filled with every requisite, pantry, store room and all other conveniences The outbuildings consist of first class stabling, coal house, fowl house and piggeries and a garden covering

half an acre of land. It has an abundance of fruit trees in great variety. There is also a six acre paddock in English grass and well watered.

Charlesworth returned to England to settle his affairs there. From an absentee, the Rev. E. H. **Kittoe**, he purchased 100 acres which was adjacent to the property he already owned and, reluctantly, accepted town sections on the Madras-Kilmore Street corner. The latter property he was to find financially lucrative.

Charlesworth arranged for his siblings and their families to emigrate. Some of these 'looked upon the captain as a year round Father Christmas' and relationships were strained. **Charlesworth's** parents did not come but, later, the sea dog was to provide a striking gravestone for the old couple:

Sacred to the memory of Mary **Charlesworth** who departed this life 29 December 1861 aged 69; also to William **Charlesworth**, husband of the above, who departed this life 28 September 1873, aged 80. This stone was erected by their affectionate son, Captain William **Charlesworth** of Saxon Villa, Christchurch, New Zealand.

While in England, the captain stayed at a superior boarding establishment, No. 9 Mazemore Square, Park Road, Surrey, which was run by Mrs. Elizabeth **Reddick** who had the assistance of her daughter, Hannah Jane, who had been born at Lambeth in 1832. Impressed by her excellent housekeeping skills, **Charlesworth** asked Hannah to marry him. She agreed and came out as a cabin passenger on the *Cashmere*, arriving on 23 February 1861. The couple were married in the Registry Office, Christchurch.

Captain **Charlesworth** has a small but permanent place in Canterbury history. Superintendent William Sefton **Moorhouse**, sought a private arrangement with him whereby land would be bought and then passed on without extra cost to the provincial government for a branch railway line. This was part of the grand ChristchurchLyttelton railway tunnel and Canterbury wide railway system which 'Railway Billy' was establishing. Then, as often happened, **Moorhouse** found himself short of funds and had to ask the provincial council to pay for the purchase. Provincial Auditor Richard **Harman** resigned and the Superintendent's enemies bayed loudly for blood over the shoddy management of public business shown in what became known as the 'branch-railway job'.

A good host, the captain preferred the company of seamen or seamen who had come ashore. He held no public office apart from being on the Woolston School committee. In June 1875 a man was felling trees on the **Charlesworth** property. **Charlesworth** placed his weight on a tree to direct its fall, the axe slipped, cut the captain's foot and he died of blood-poisoning. His friends were invited to attend his funeral which left Saxon Farm on Tuesday 15 June at 3 p.m.

Perhaps Captain **Charlesworth** concealed from his wife the fact that he was 21 years her senior. Perhaps Mrs. **Charlesworth** knew the age disparity and wanted the world to think it was not as great as it was. Perhaps the captain, a man of action, was unsure

of or not interested in his age. Whatever the situation, the gravestone states that, at the time of his death, the captain was 57. He was actually 61.

The gravestone reads: Captain William **Charlesworth**, Saxon Villa, Ferry Road, died 10 June 1875:

Hannah Jane **Charlesworth**, 45, died 10 August 1877:

Frederick Towns **Charlesworth**, 23, died 26 January 1891.

Frederick Towns died of diphtheria.

Row M

No. 461

Willis

John Shearing **Willis**, the son of the squire of Fakeham, Norfolk, qualified M.D. and F. R.C.S. from St. Thomas's, was at Guy's Hospital and had leanings towards eye work and general surgery. He established a practice at Cheltenham and was 'a very clever doctor'. **Willis** married Agnes, daughter of Dr. **Klipsch** of Eversham.

Willis was one of Canterbury's original land purchasers and, at 45, emigrated as surgeon-superintendent on the *Isabella Hercus* in 1851. He had with him his wife, Agnes, and children; more children were born in Canterbury. **Willis** took up the 100 acres which he had been allotted, Rural Section 38, at 'Hawford', Opawa. Hawford Street commemorates his endeavour. **Willis**' property was at what is now 11 Hawford Street. On the other side of the Heathcote River, at 'the Grange', dwelt Dr. **Earle**.

Willis was keen on his garden and imported seeds from Australia. Horses were at a premium in those days, the doctor importing two working beasts from Australia and paying 200 pounds for each animal. He used these to break in his farm and cart timber from the Papanui bush, generously loaned them to other people. A neighbour accidentally drowned them while crossing a river.

Fearing Maori, **Willis** slept with a pistol under his pillow. The situation changed for the better when the doctor successfully performed a minor throat operation on a Maori man who went about singing the doctor's praises. Here was a physician who could cut one's throat and improve one's health. When the doctor was away, the grateful individual slept at the house door to protect Mrs. **Willis** and the couple's daughters. A number of members of the local iwi became **Willis**' patients.

About 3 p.m. on Friday 30 April 1869, while turning the corner of Cashel and Colombo streets, **Cowan**'s Leeston coach collided with Dr. **Willis** who was riding his horse at a walking pace. Both horse and rider were thrown to the ground, the doctor sustaining a wound over the right temple. He was taken to the nearby home of his friend, Dr. S. A. **Patrick**. Drs. **Turnbull** and **Prins** were called in. Alas, '... the unfortunate gentleman never recovered consciousness but gradually sank until, at 7.15 last evening [2 May] he breathed his last, apparently without suffering'.

The gravestone has the wording:

John S. **Willis**, 64, died 2 May 1869:

Agnes Louise **Willis**, 89, died 10 November 1900.

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

Row M
No. 465-466

Penfold

Legend says that Captain James **Penfold** was a cabin boy on Lord **Nelson**'s flagship, *Victory*. As the *Victory* was in action at Trafalgar in 1805 and the captain was born in the 1830s, it is clear that legend was wrong.

A seaman and captain of a small schooner, *Excelsior*, **Penfold** traded in Australian and New Zealand waters. On 13 June 1863, in the Wesleyan chapel, Christchurch, **Penfold**, 31, married Fanny **Shackel**, 29.

Penfold was contracted to ship the first load of train sleepers when, in the 1860s, the provincial government was establishing the Christchurch-Lyttelton railway tunnel. The *Excelsior* ran aground on the Sumner bar, was towed up the estuary and the rails offloaded onto the river bank. The schooner was broken up as it was considered too damaged for repair to be worthwhile.

On the estuary bank, about 100 yards on the Sumner side of the Heathcote bridge, **Penfold** and a man named **Roberts** built a sod house as the captain's prospective domicile. Timber he brought from **Jenkins**' sawmill in Ferry Road. Although it may have looked primitive, people dwelt in it for many years.

After the demise of the *Excelsior*, **Penfold** worked on the construction of the railway tunnel. In family baptism and marriage records he is described as a labourer, platelayer and railway employee. His children - at least nine in number - were born in the cottage. The family lived at places other than the estuary abode. The 1882 *Return of the freeholders of New Zealand* describes **Penfold** as a platelayer of Southbridge with land in Selwyn County worth 250 pounds. The captain died on 4 January 1905 and his wife on 28 June 1905.

The **Penfold** cottage was occupied till 1908, after which it fell into disrepair. In 1940 it was but a heap of sods lying about an old fireplace. Cocksfoot grew wild in the area. The Mount Pleasant Burgesses' Association planned the rebuilding of the structure. Men from the Mount Pleasant Boating Club who were too young for war service were brought in to work on the project. The restored cottage was to be a monument to the 'gallant spirit, endurance and foresight of the pioneers of Canterbury'. The man in charge, Ernest **Parish** of St. Andrew's Hill, could not find suitable ground from which to shape sods. Thus he had to do his work with cob, a mixture of clay and tussock or rushes. The cob was mixed with water in a trench and 'pugged' or trodden by foot. This was hard work and meant that **Parish** had to exercise great patience.

On 16 December 1944, the 94th anniversary of the arrival of the First Four Ships, Christchurch Mayor E. H. **Andrews** accepted management of the cottage on behalf of the citizens of the metropolis. Among the official party was the Rev. Frederick Guise **Brittan**, 96, the last survivor of those who had come on the First Four Ships.

Thousands of people attended the ceremony. The Sumner road and streets on the hill overlooking the estuary were lined with spectators. It should be remembered that, although an early settler, **Penfold** had arrived in the province and built his house more than a decade after the coming of the First Four Ships.

Ernest **Parish** looked after the cottage for many years. In 1955 Dorothy **Richards**, a Sydney woman and the captain's granddaughter, handed over a clock which had been on the *Excelsior* and, later, in **Penfold**'s home. The caretaker was delighted, this being the only thing in the cottage which had been in the original building.

The gravestone reads:

Thomas S. died June 1864

Elizabeth A. died 19 October 1873

Frederick E. A. died 16 April 1894 at Clapham Fire Station

William J. died Gisborne, 28 June 1900

Children of J. and F. **Penfold**

James **Penfold**, 72, died 4 January 1905

Fanny **Penfold**, 69, died 28 June 1905

Row N

No. 486

Acland

Thomas Dyke **Acland** belonged to one of Devon's oldest gentry families. Born on 3 July 1846 and educated at Rugby, he came to Canterbury as a youth, working as a cadet at Mount Peel, the station which belonged to his relative J. B. A. **Acland**.

In November 1870, in partnership with Cecil Augustus **Fitzroy**, he leased Heselton Station on the Rakaia River below Haldon. He was prejudiced against deep ploughing, telling his son: "If God Almighty meant the subsoil to be on top, he would have put it there". However, after seven years he did not have to concern himself with such philosophical debates. In 1877 John Johnstone **Loe** bought 2000 acres in the middle of the run and the partners found that they could not work the remaining land. At auction the whole property was sold to **Loe**.

T. D. **Acland** came to Christchurch, establishing the firm of **Acland, Dudley** and Co., sharebrokers and general agents. **Acland** was prominent in sporting circles, being clerk of the scales at Riccarton.

On 10 October 1874, at St. Luke's, Christchurch, T. D. **Acland**, 'gentleman', married Flora Margaret **Waite**, 'gentlewoman'. It was a society wedding. The witnesses included Annabel Ellen **Reeves**, Ellen **Reeves**, Agnes Isabella **Acland**, Gertrude **Mathias** and J. Barton **Acland**, gentleman of Mount Peel. The officiating ministers were the Rev. E. A. **Lingard** of St. Luke's and Bishop H. J. C. **Harper**.

The **Waite**s were prominent but not long-lived. On 7 January 1863, at St. Luke's, Bishop **Harper** had officiated at the wedding of Flora's sister, Mary Douglas, 18, to Llewellyn Price **Traherne**. **Traherne** became manager at Teviotdale, North

Canterbury, the sheep station owned by his father-in-law, Robert **Waite**. A son, Edmund, was born in 1864, but, in May 1865 Mary died. Robert **Waite**, 50, died in September 1866, a son George, 12, died in 1867, and Mrs. Catherine **Waite**, 54, died in December 1877. They were buried in the Barbadoes Street Cemetery.

Bishop **Harper** baptised Leopold George Dyke, only son of Thomas and Flora **Acland** at St. Luke's, on 13 August 1876. The godparents were the mother's sister, Agnes Isabel **Jameson**; the father's partner at Hesleton, Cecil Augustus **Fitzroy**; and the bishop's son, Leonard **Harper** who was later the leading figure in one of the city's biggest legal and financial scandals.

Flora M. **Acland**, 34, died at Sumner on 29 September 1885 when her son was but nine years old. About 1891 T. D. **Acland** became 'a sufferer from a combination of diseases, of which gout was the principal'. He sought but did not find relief in Sydney. He came to the polo races at Riccarton on 12 March 1892 but could remain only a brief time. He entered the **Rhodes** Convalescent Home, dying on 20 March.

To acknowledge an active member of its committee, the Christchurch Club lowered its flag on the day of the funeral, Tuesday 22 March. The funeral left the **Acland** residence, No. 37 Gloucester Street, at 2 p.m. The aged Bishop **Harper**, his son, the Rev. Walter **Harper** and 'a thoroughly representative gathering of commercial and sporting gentlemen' accompanied 16 year old L. G. D. **Acland** as he followed his father's wreath and immortelle covered polished kauri coffin to the Heathcote Cemetery. The *Press* noted that 'the grave is situated at the south-west corner of the pretty little cemetery, amid a perfect bower of shrubs'.

The world of the Canterbury gentry was a closed society. Bishop **Harper** officiated at and members of the **Reeves** family witnessed the wedding of T. D. and Flora **Acland**. In adulthood L. G. D. **Acland** ran a number of sheep runs, one partner being Hugh Maude **Reeves**. In 1935, after his partner's death, **Acland** married the widow, a daughter of Walter **Harper**.

Row O
No. 511
Buxton

Born in Derbyshire, England, in 1821, Thomas **Buxton** came, with his parents, to Tasmania, in 1822. About 1835 he began work on a whaling ship and cruised about the New Zealand coast. Later he had a barque, the *Missionary* and carried cargoes of timber to Sydney. The vessel caught fire and captain and crew spent two weeks in an open boat, depending for food on sea-birds and rain water.

Buxton had schooners, *Pride* and *June*, and brought timber from the Derwent River to Lyttelton. He had vessels built at Auckland, including the *Queen wave*, *Dancing wave* and *Ocean wave*. The purchase price for the last named was 3300 pounds. **Buxton** was the first captain to negotiate the Greymouth Bar and gained the 500 pounds reward offered by the Government to the man who could take supplies from Lyttelton to the West Coast miners.

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

In December 1867 **Buxton** took steps which would preclude him from losing the family wealth. He made a settlement on his wife of the *Ocean wave*; the couple's six or seven room house; the household furniture; and the land on which the house stood, a quarter acre in Ferry Road which was worth between 300-400 pounds. Later **Buxton** gave financial assistance to Messrs. **Laurie** and **Gannon**. The failure of these businessmen led to **Buxton** going bankrupt. The judge stated that:

... he saw no reason to think that the bankrupt had been guilty of fraud [but] ... must express his disapproval of the manner in which the bankrupt had kept his books, and would, therefore, suspend final relief for two months.

Ultimately Thomas **Buxton** disposed of his vessels and retired to a property at Victoria Terrace, Woolston. He was a long-serving church officer at St. John's church.

Captain Thomas **Buxton** 'entered haven' 28 February 1900, leaving a family of two sons and six daughters.

Row O
No. 512
Merton

Born at Haughley, Suffolk, Charles **Merton** moved to Stoke-by-Nayland. There, in their church and barn, the genteel **Torlesse** family taught their tenants music and drama. Charles sang in the Rev. C. M. **Torlesse**'s church choir, became the 'moving spirit in all things musical' in the district, and married Charlotte **Street**, the **Torlesse** family's nurse. When the squire, Sir Joshua **Rowley**, provided a school for the village children, the **Torlesses** eased Charles and Charlotte into the positions of master and mistress. In 1856 Charles, his parents, James and Susan, his wife and his children emigrated on the *Egmont*; with them came Miss Priscilla **Torlesse**. It was intended that **Merton** family members would work at the Rangiora property of Charles Obins **Torlesse**. The *Egmont* brought Bishop H. J. C. **Harper** to Canterbury..

In October 1857 Charles **Merton** brought a Christchurch concert troupe to Kaiapoi to play in the Northern Hotel. The repertoire included **Gluck**'s overture to 'Iphigenie', the Overture to 'Saul' and short classical pieces. On New Year's Day 1859, at a big public party at the **Torlesse** property, he sang 'Man the lifeboat' and 'The Bay of Biscay'. His aged father, dressed in white linen smock, Bedford cord breeches, gaiters and hob-nailed boots, came out with a pewter mug brimming with beer and performed an old English romp, the 'John Ploughman's Dance'.

Charles **Torlesse** donated land for the co-educational Rangiora Anglican Church School which was opened on New Year's Day 1861. **Merton** was placed in charge, being paid out of the church's educational fund, receiving the whole of the school fees but being obliged to pay all the ordinary expenses of the school. He also built a large room on the original schoolroom and a master's house so that the bishop was in debt to him to the tune of 280 pounds.

There were teething troubles at the school, the children having to share the yard with **Merton**'s pigs till the master was ordered to house his animals elsewhere. The girls' school was, at the insistence of the parents, eventually established on a separate site. However, what was commonly known as '**Merton**'s School', became a leading fee-paying school and there was attached a boarding establishment which housed the children who flocked to the site from elsewhere in the province.

Merton's curriculum had a strong religious element, history, geography and literature being based on Bible sources, and there was much singing as preparation for the school's participation in Sunday services. The master tried to pass on his love of music, establishing a drum and fife band. Pupils from the school who went on to be prominent in society included T. S. **Foster**, principal of Christchurch Teachers' Training College; and two men who held the position of New Zealand Agent-General in London: Sir Westby **Perceval** and William Pember **Reeves**, the latter also a politician and writer.

From the early 1860s, **Merton** had a concert troupe which performed, once a month, in the schoolroom. People living within a 10 mile radius of the school would make the cold wintry buggy ride to hear the music. As well, **Merton** took his troupe on winter tours to schoolrooms at Flaxton, Woodend, Kaiapoi, Cust and Leithfield. The troupe had with it a harmonium, dulcimer, violin and cello, sang part songs and madrigals and put on charades and dramatic readings.

In 1866 **Merton** established the Kaiapoi Dramatic Society, an offshoot of the concert group, and put on short plays. In 1871 he was a founder of the Mechanics' and Literary Institute which meant that public and club meetings could be arranged and concerts staged with little bother. The institute was also the beginning of a public library.

Merton re-established a local cricket club in 1869 and was involved with the running of the Ashley County Cricket Club. This arranged for the more promising cricketers in the Ashley area to play against the best sportsmen from other areas. A contemporary, William **Buss**, attributed the success of the club entirely to **Merton**.

A horticultural society, founded in 1874, gave prizes for the best kept cottage garden and encouraged the growing of flowers, vegetables and fruit trees. **Merton** was, once more, founder of and driving spirit within the organisation.

Merton was the first organist/choirmaster at St. John's Anglican church. To raise money for a substantial organ, he conducted members of the Rangiora and Christchurch musical societies in productions of the 'Creation' and 'Messiah'.

Eventually **Merton** found that his profits from the headmastership of the Anglican school were diminishing. The infant boys were moved to the girls' Anglican school, the provincial government started to encourage public schools and, at Christmas 1870, **Merton** resigned. He moved to his farm, 'Melford' (which was named after Long Melford, Suffolk, where he had spent holidays with the **Torlesse** family) and opened another boys' boarding school. He trained the boys in choral music and made them

adept cricketers. A feature of the school's break-up was a match between the boys and tradesmen of the district.

In 1881 **Merton** announced that he was leaving the district. His friends sang glees, choruses and selections from his repertoire. This proved to be the grand songster's last concert. Five years later his son, an Anglican priest, took his funeral service at the Woolston Anglican church.

Charles **Merton**, 64, died on 31 December 1885.

Charlotte **Merton** nee **Street**, 86, died on 3 July 1906.

In May 1922 there was a re-union of the old boys of Charles **Merton**'s original school. It was stated that:

Mr. **Merton**'s personality and ability made his school remarkable and drew scholars from far and near. Alas that this man's hard work should be lost to The Church for which he spent 10 of the best years of his life.

In England the **Mertons** had been members of the rural working classes. In Canterbury, Charles pushed himself and his family up the social scale. A grandson, Alfred, wrote the music of the Christ's College school song. A great-grandson, Owen, was an artist; while his sister, Agnes, tall, thin and with prominent teeth, was a long-time teacher at Christchurch Girls' High School, director of drama productions, and a woman of charm who could nevertheless use sarcasm to put down adolescent rebellion.. Agnes' nephew, John, was an Anglican priest. Her other nephew, Owen's son, was Thomas Merton. An American-based monk, mystic and author, he reached out to other faiths and, in America at least, universities teach Thomas Merton Studies.

Sources

Books

- Acland, L. G. D., [Early Canterbury runs: 4th ed. / extensively revised by W. H. Scotter and incorporating the annotations of G. R. Macdonald](#), 1975
- Andersen, Johannes C., [Old Christchurch in picture and story](#), 1975
- Armitage, A. C., [Captain William Charlsworth, 1814-1875](#), 2000
- Brett, Henry, [White wings](#), 1924-1928
- Buckley, Helen McLean, [From little towns in a far land we came](#), 1950
- Cooke, R. (ed.), [Portrait of a profession](#), 1969
- Cookson, John (ed.), [Southern capital, Christchurch](#), 2000
- Cyclopedia Company, [Cyclopedia of New Zealand : industrial, descriptive, historical, biographical facts, figures, illustrations](#), 1897-1908
- Furkert, F. W., [Early New Zealand engineers](#), 1953
- Hawkins, D. N., [Beyond the Waimakariri](#), 1957
- Hawkins, D. N., [Rangiora](#), 1983
- Ingram, C. W. N., [New Zealand shipwrecks : 195 years of disaster at sea](#), 1990
- Macmillan, David, [By-ways of history and medicine](#), 1946
- Mould, Jessie, [Old water wheel](#), 1991
- Pierre, W. A., [Canterbury provincial railways](#), 1964
- Scott, Karl, [Turf-tufts and toe-weights](#), 1954
- [Short history of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Christchurch, New Zealand : being the parish church of the Parochial District of Phillipstown from 1876](#), 1928
- Slatter, Gordon, [Great days at Lancaster park](#), 1974
- Stewart, William Downie, [Portrait of a judge](#), 1945
- Reese, T. W., [New Zealand cricket, 1841-1914](#), 1999
- Thomson, H. F., [Centenary, 1857-1957: St. John the Evangelist](#), Woolston, 1957

Newspapers

- [Canterbury times](#), 24 March 1892, 29 December 1892
- [Church news](#), July 1891, June 1922, September 1933
- [Lyttelton times](#), 4 June 1853, 30 July 1862, 15, 16 and 25 June 1869, 2 and 7 July 1869, 6 August 1869, 14 September 1869, 8 October 1869, 23 and 27 November 1869, 13 April 1870, 26 March 1878, 1 March 1879, 3 April 1883, 30 September 1885, 21 & 22 March 1892, 23 March 1892, 21 July 1893, 22 June 1894, 23 February 1917, 22 September 1917
- [Press](#), 1 & 3 May 1869, 23 June 1870, 12 July 1870, 13 July 1870, 6 August 1870, 21 October 1870, 18 November 1870, 21 June 1875, 1 March 1879, 23 August 1881, 23 and 24 March 1882, 28 May 1890, 1 August 1893, 21, 23 and 25 October 1897, 7 August 1899, 28 February 1900, 12 December 1901, 16 July 1906, 24 December 1908, 22 September 1917, 26 February 1921, 30 April 1921, 3 April 1923, 10 November 1923, 9 March 1925, 14 July 1927, 22 August 1930, 14 August 1933, 4 July 1934, 15 July 1935, 27 July 1935, 30 September 1937, 24 January 1955, 5 January 1962, 10 and 24 April and 1 June 1976, 6 May 2006.
- [Star](#), 20 April 1872, 29 May 1890
- [Sun](#), 14 July 1927

Archives and manuscripts

Woolston / Heathcote Cemetery
2006

[Burke manuscript](#), Christchurch City Libraries
[Canterbury Pilgrims' and Early Settlers' Association scrapbook](#), Christchurch City Libraries
G. R. **Macdonald** biographical dictionary, Canterbury Museum Documentary History Department
H. S. **Selfe** Papers, Hocken Library, University of Otago, Dunedin: including Letter from C. C. **Bowen** to H. S. **Selfe**, 13 February 1863
John **Hall** Papers, Alexander Turnbull Library, National Library of New Zealand, Wellington: including letter from H. S. **Selfe** to John **Hall**, 25 July 1865
Sunnyside Asylum files, Archives New Zealand, Christchurch
Departmental Archives of the Seine Maritime department, Rouen: Series 6P6 (crew lists of ships arriving in Le Havre) register 223 (1859)