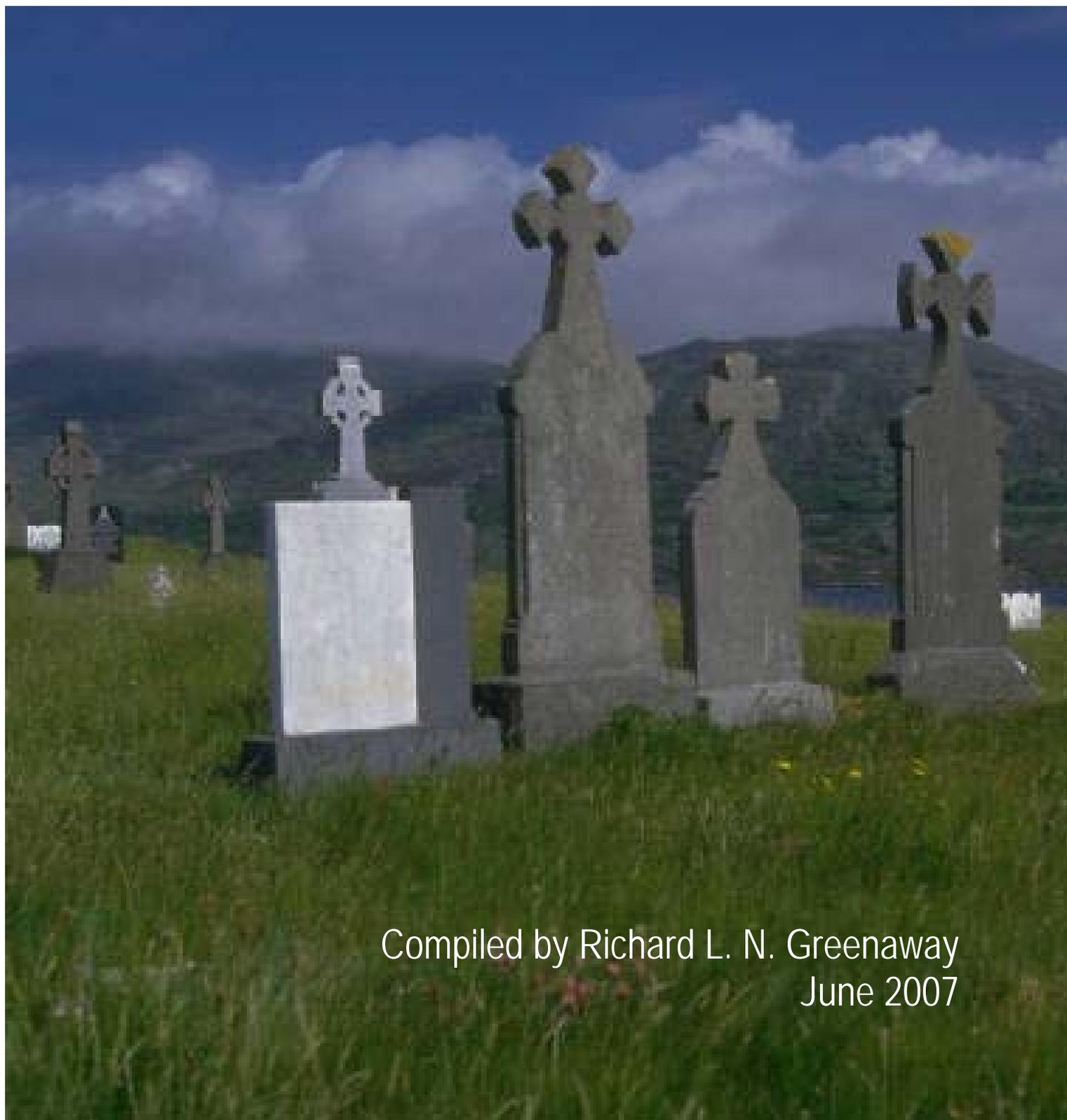


# Addington Cemetery Tour



Compiled by Richard L. N. Greenaway  
June 2007

## **Addington Cemetery**

The Church of England ensured that only Anglican priests could take services in the Anglican section of the Barbadoes Street Cemetery. When the church said that it was going to consecrate its portion, Jane **Deans**, a Presbyterian, wanted the grave site of her husband, John **Deans** I, who had died in 1854, to be exempt. She was told that if she did not like it, she could have John dug up and interred elsewhere.

The Presbyterian or 'Scotch' Church had its centre at St. Andrew's Presbyterian church. St. Andrew's church, now in the grounds of Rangitapu School, was then on St. Andrew's Corner, opposite Hagley Park and the Christchurch Public Hospital. The Presbyterians were led by the Rev. Charles **Fraser**, who arrived in 1856, and laymen such as John Craib **Angus**, William 'Cabbage' **Wilson** and the ironmaster John **Anderson**.

Inspired by Jane **Deans**, the Presbyterians neglected the limited area for graves which the Canterbury Association had granted to Dissenters in the Barbadoes Street Cemetery (on the western side of the road and closer to town than to Bealey Avenue). Instead, they purchased an area in Selwyn Street - part of Rural Section 66 of 50 acres granted to J. R. **Buchanan**. They bought five acres and opened it as a graveyard in 1858. At first the place was called the 'Scotch Cemetery'.

Although owned by St. Andrew's, the cemetery was de facto the first public graveyard in Christchurch. The ground was advertised as 'open to all persons of any religious community and to the performance of any religious service at the burial not contrary to public decency and good order'. There was no attempt to keep people of one denomination in one area and of another denomination in another.

It was expected that the cemetery would be a revenue earner. It was decided that money which came in would be spent on the purchase of building sites for religious or educational purposes of the Presbyterian Church, the relief of well ascertained distress occurring amongst the members of the parish, the erection of schools and churches on any new site and 'to establish bursaries in the Academy or College connected with the said St. Andrew's Church' (this Christchurch Academy was the ancestor of Christchurch West High School - now Hagley High School).

Eventually, as with the Barbadoes Street Cemetery, the Addington Cemetery was vested in the Christchurch City Council.

A visit to the graveyard shows it to be jampacked and the plot map shows how graves have been squeezed into every possible niche. Iron railings are prominent and many stones are vertical slabs. A number of yew trees give good shelter and protection.

Area 1  
Row A  
No. 10  
**Wascoe**

Master mariner George Frederick **Wascoe** had a vessel, the Linnet, which was ultimately blown up for target practice in Lyttelton Harbour. On 19 September 1868 **Wascoe** married Sarah **Haylock**, widow of Charles Lagden **Haylock** a member of a prominent Akaroa family.

**Wascoe** sued George **Scarborough**, who would become first Mayor of Akaroa, seeking 500 pounds compensation because he had used for brewery purposes a building in which C. L. **Haylock** had left his wife a life interest. **Wascoe** lost the case.

In the 1950s Dr. David **MacMillan** observed that, as one approached Birdlings Flat, from Christchurch, one came upon ‘big gum trees [which were] always known as **Wascoe**’s’. He knew that **Wascoe** had had an accommodation house at Birdlings Flat in the 1870s and ‘80s. This was on the exact spot where there had broken out the ‘eat-relation feud’ which decimated Ngai Tahu and left them vulnerable to attack from Ngati Toa chief **Te Rauparaha**.

In 1882 **Wascoe** owned three acres, worth 875 pounds, in the Selwyn County - doubtless at his last home in Bryndwr, and land worth 15 pounds in the Akaroa County. In his will, **Wascoe** gave, devised and bequeathed all his real and personal property to his ‘dear wife’. He died, at 59, on 18 July 1886. the estate was ‘sworn at under 950 pounds’.

Row B  
No. 30-31  
**Bruce**

On 24 April 1855 Thomas **Bruce**, a storekeeper, married Ellen **Gee** whose family were Lyttelton storekeepers, bakers and confectioners.

One son, Alfred Selwyn, was born on 7 August 1866. He became an ironmonger and, in 1891, married Janet, daughter of William and Ann **Boag** of Burnside.

Alfred collected stories of the pioneers. A verse relating to his activities appeared in In the public eye:

Staid Selwyn Bruce he puts to use  
each fact from out of the past.  
He lies in wait with tempting bait  
to make his captives fast.  
If dainty mite of history bright  
should pass with none to guide her,  
he’ll pounce again, while men explain:  
“That’s Bruce, lo, he’s spied her”.

Many of **Bruce**'s stories were published in the Star. In 1932 they were brought together and published as The early days of Canterbury – something of a misnomer as the work concerns Christchurch and the surrounding area. The book was dedicated to Bruce's mother who had arrived on the Sir George Pollock in 1851, 'lived to see the wilderness ... blossom as the rose', and died, in her 95<sup>th</sup> year, in October 1928.

**Bruce** aimed to immortalise

... the memory of many of the rank and file of our Canterbury settlers who ... were the ... founders of the province. The man in the street, ... the nerve and sinew in the stupendous task of developing the embryonic province, has been largely overshadowed and forgotten in the busy process of civic development; hence my desire to perpetuate his memory.

**Bruce**'s book is subtitled: 'A miscellaneous collection of interesting facts dealing with the settlement's first thirty years of colonisation, 1850-1880'. There are many brief, entertaining pen portraits of early personalities. The book includes an index and synopsis of contents. If the reader exercises great patience, he may find information here which is not readily found elsewhere.

Alfred Selwyn **Bruce** died, at 70, on 11 September 1936. Janet Bruce, who was four years her husband's senior, died on 22 June 1937.

Row F  
No. 108-109  
**Reese**

Here lie three generations of the **Reese** family. The grandparents were Thomas **Reese** who died, at 73, on 27 October 1891, and Jean Dalziel **Reese** who died, at 84, on 17 September 1902.

Their son, Daniel, was born at Wishair, Lanarkshire, Scotland on 31 October 1841. He served his time at the Motherwell Ironworks as a carpenter and, in 1862, the family arrived in Lyttelton on the Zealandia.

Daniel **Reese** established himself as a building contractor, making a 'modest fortune' though the business almost failed in the 1880s depression. Among the structures which **Reese** built were the Normal School, the Belfast Freezing Works, the old Christchurch Post Office in Cathedral Square, early sections of Lincoln College (now Lincoln University) and parts of Sunnyside Hospital.

**Reese** built **Morten's** buildings which were on the south-west side of Cathedral Square and erected for 'sheep kings', Richard May **Morten**. To those of us who have reached mature years, the buildings are remembered as the United Service Hotel, the place where Queen Elizabeth II stayed in 1962. The Sunnyside and **Morten** building have been demolished.

Daniel **Reese** was interested in rowing on the Avon and was owner and a crew member of a famed boat, Black Eagle. A Christchurch City councillor, he was also, from 1884-1887, Member of Parliament for Stanmore. His obituary notes that he

... gave great offence to his constituents by his strong attachment to Sir George **Grey**. A meeting at which he addressed the Stanmore electors on his return from Parliament will long be remembered as the scene of perhaps the wildest disorder ever witnessed here.

**Grey** visited during the birthday of one of the **Reese** sons. He slipped a coin into the birthday boy's pocket. Usually coins which the boys received were no more than pennies. **Grey** 'did not deal in pennies' and the coin extracted was a silver coin. Before the children could spend the windfall at the corner shop, their mother took the sum into safe keeping and the recipient swore that he never saw it again.

**Reese** died, in his 50<sup>th</sup> year, on 4 October 1891. His wife, Cecilia, 73, died on 3 September 1922. The couple had a family of nine.

A son, Tom, wrote an invaluable history, New Zealand cricket, the first volume covering the years 1841-1914, the second the years 1914-1933. Another son, Daniel, who was born on 26 January 1879, attended Christchurch West School, was apprenticed in John **Anderson's** foundry and attended night classes at the Canterbury College School of Engineering. As a cricketer he was a brilliant left-handed batsman, slow left-arm bowler and outstanding fieldsman. He was chosen for the 1898-99 tour of Australia. In 1903 he played against Lord **Hawke's** touring English team. His 148 for New Zealand was the first century scored for the country.

Tom and Dan **Reese** were the principals of **Reese** Brothers, a building firm. On 2 April 1913 Dan married Esther **Parsonson**. Daniel, 74, died on 12 June 1953. Esther, 86, died on 14 July 1973. They were buried in the family plot.

One day, in the late 1930s, my mother was working in the office of timber merchants **Hardie and Thomson**. Dan **Reese**, 'a benevolent old man', came in and commented: "You better not come to my office to work. The women there like it so much that they never leave to get married".

Row G

No. 120

**Sheppard / Cookson / Freeman**

This is the grave of several members of the **Sheppard** clan. Sarah **Sheppard** was a sister of the famous **Oram** brothers, hotel-keepers, who had come from Midsomer-Norton, England. Sarah, 84, died on 4 November 1907. Her husband, Edward, 87, a merchant, had died on 19 January of the same year.

On 25 January 1877, at the Durham Street Methodist church, the Rev. William **Morley** officiated at the marriage of the **Sheppards'** daughter, Mary Ann **Sheppard**, 23, to Edwin **Cookson**, 28. One witness was the bride's brother, Joseph Oram **Sheppard**.

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In 1915 Mary Ann, a widow with a 'fairly large grown-up family' was living with a son, Joseph, in a recently-built, two storey, seven-room villa on the eastern side of Idris Road, Fendalton. Joseph left early in the evening of 21 September.

Constable **Porteous** and his friend, who were cycling along Idris Road, saw flames proceeding from the back and upper part of the house. They burst in but were beaten back by the flames. A crowd gathered and

... in the absence of any organised system of protection against fire in the district ... did their best to conquer the flames with buckets and other receptacles, filled with water at the nearest artesian well. Such efforts were quite inadequate to cope with such a roaring fire, and the building was soon a mass of flames, while falling beams and roof timbers made the position of the volunteer fire-fighters untenable. All that could be done was to watch patiently while the fire burned itself out.

With the flames at their height, prominent surveyor Fred **Freeman** arrived. He told the police that it 'had been arranged that [his daughter, Patricia Frances] ... should spend the night with her grandmother [Mrs. **Cookson**] as she had ... done on previous occasions'.

Joseph **Cookson** returned, stating that his mother had intended to stay home for the evening. It was now realised that Mrs. **Cookson** and her granddaughter had died in the fire. Sergeant **Bird** of the St. Albans police discovered that the two year old child had suffocated in her cot. Mrs. **Cookson** had been overcome by smoke while either ascending or descending the stairs.

The gravestone has the words:

Mary Ann **Cookson**, aged 61, and her granddaughter, Patricia Frances **Freeman**, aged 2. Both died 21 September 1915.

A Lyttelton times editorial pointed out that the fire had taken place outside the boundaries of the Christchurch Fire Board. It was thus

... remarkable that communities otherwise progressive should remain under the constant menace of loss of life and destruction of property, contenting themselves with, perhaps, an insurance policy and taking no steps to provide themselves with modern protection .... It does seem evidence of a primitive faith in luck or else a lack of ordinary citizenship which is beyond understanding, that, beyond the limits of the city brigade's duties, the residents are apparently content to live at the mercy of chance. There have been occasions without number on which valuable homes within a stone's throw of the Christchurch fire area have been destroyed when they could have been saved if the local authority had made provision which a backblocks township would not neglect .... The fire last evening was not in a remote, isolated quarter but in a well-settled residential district perfectly able to provide necessary fire fighting equipment.

The paper described the situation as ‘nothing short of scandalous’ and stated that the Waimairi County Council must atone for its neglect ‘by taking prompt measures for meeting the requirements of the locality’.

Patricia’s father would develop political aspirations. When, in 1933, Elizabeth Reid **McCombs**, Lyttelton’s Labour candidate, was elected first woman Member of Parliament, the losing Coalition candidate was Fred **Freeman**. Fred, 88, died, in 1969.

Mary Ann **Cookson** and Patricia Frances **Freeman** are commemorated in a stained glass window at St. Barnabas’ church, Fendalton.

The best-known member of the family was Sarah and Edward’s son, Joseph Oram **Sheppard** who is also buried in this plot.

Joseph started in the hotel trade when 14 and was managing a business at 20. He took over the White Hart Hotel which had been established by Michael Brennan **Hart** and supplied dinners after big ploughing matches.

On 4 December 1876 Joseph, 27, married Maria **Hadfield**, 19. Yet, on 20 January 1877, there was born Georgina Gertrude **Wilkins**, daughter of Joseph **Sheppard** and Georgina **Wilkins**. At the child’s baptism, at St. Luke’s, on 2 February 1877, the Rev. E. A. **Scott** noted that the parents were ‘unmarried’. When 16 days old, the child died, being buried in the Anglican section of the Barbadoes Street Cemetery on 6 February 1877. However reprehensive Joseph’s behaviour had been, he had, at least, acknowledged his daughter and allowed his name to be included on documents which related to her.

The mistreated Maria died on 11 June 1887. Her gravestone has the words:

A faithful friend, a mother dear,  
a loving wife lies sleeping here.

On 3 April 1888, Joseph married Nellie **Hart**, 21.

Joseph made a fortune from the White Hart, invested it in station property and went bankrupt. In October 1888, while managing the City Bar, **Sheppard** allowed J. K. **Pawsey** to drink and ‘shout’ at the bar and draw cheques on his agents long after he had run out of funds. **Sheppard** was charged with ‘inciting to drink’. However, the Resident Magistrate (and formerly a Canterbury Provincial Council grandee) John **Ollivier** was notoriously lenient towards publicans and let him off. T. B. **Bain** wrote ‘a neat and witty rhyme’ on the incident but another Resident Magistrate decided that it was libellous. The verse began:

When gentle **Sheppard** guards his flock  
in ‘City’ of the Plains ....

Joseph died, at 76, on 27 April 1926

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Row L  
No. 203  
**Hopkins**

Joseph Harrop **Hopkins**, a shopkeeper in 'Lower Heathcote', took part in local affairs. In 1870, in a debate about the Heathcote Road drain, he suggested that the area called 'Lower Heathcote' be called instead 'Woolston' after a place in England, presumably the place from whence **Hopkins** came. The name was accepted.

**Hopkins**, a member of the Heathcote Road Board, was, in 1872, involved in a controversy over the tolls on the Heathcote bridge. The poor local fishermen, who went to Sumner to gain a livelihood, objected to having to pay tolls. **Hopkins**, who supported them, was opposed by the heavyweights of the road board and also by John **Ollivier**. Some of the debate was of a very low standard. **Ollivier** read his opponent's comments in the newspapers and stated that the man was "Mr. **Hopkins** or **Popkins**, I hardly know which". He also commented: "It's an evil bird which fouls its own nest".

**Hopkins** had a cartoon published. The 20 April 1872 Star commented that

... 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".

In a snap election for members of the road board **Hopkins** came in at the head of the list of unsuccessful candidates. George Thomas **Hawker**, whose brother, William, was **Hopkins**' brother-in-law, described **Hopkins**' anger. **Hopkins** stated: "The day will come when there will be grass growing across Ferry Road"..

It seems as if it was almost in spite that **Hopkins** bought virtually the whole of Central New Brighton. He built a hotel on the north side of Seaview Road near the Avon River and what is still a hotel on the south side of Seaview Road near the sea; and established a river ferry service with a boat called the Brighton. Local firemen, on a picnic to the seaside on the Brighton, sang of 'the fair young girl with her hair in curl that sits at the sewing machine'.

By 1875 the great enterprise had collapsed, **Hopkins** being declared bankrupt. However, he picked himself up and had a big store on Ferry Road which was known as '**Hopkins**' Emporium'.

In 1887 Montague **Mosley** waxed lyrical about Hopkins' enterprise. He had

been postmaster in the district since his settlement in it .... His establishment is connected with the Christchurch Telephone Exchange, although he is several miles from that centre ....

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Elsewhere, his business is described as having

Grown, under its present proprietor, from what was originally a four-roomed cottage to ... a gigantic establishment. It was enlarged twice, after which Mr. **Hopkins**, finding it still too small for his growing trade, built the eastern part of the present building, a two-storey brick one, very substantial with compo front and ornamental windows, alongside the old original building. Subsequently, he removed the old building and built the second half of the present structure, which now forms one of the most convenient and compact establishments in New Zealand. In it there are six distinct departments – drapery, clothing, boots, grocery, crockery, ironmongery and a corn store. Each department is well filled with a carefully selected stock, while the grocery portion – 50 feet by 16 feet – is in advance of any establishment in Christchurch. The fixtures and arrangement of stock show that great care has been taken in disposing of and displaying the goods to the best advantage. We will instance a butter cupboard, fitted with shelves to hold about 200 pounds of butter, with a constant flow of artesian water through it, which keeps the butter both fresh and cool during all weathers. There is also a large cellar for cheese, where a stock of that article is kept that would surprise many.

The frontage of this establishment is 85 feet with a depth of 66 feet, with upper floor storage and cellar accommodation below. There is a splendid supply of good artesian water which is forced by a ram into tanks upon the buildings, from whence it is distributed through the dwelling house, the store, and the stables, and is also ready for fire preventive purposes, and to carry off surface water, no less than 580 feet of drainage pipes.

One of **Hopkins'** sons-in-law, Charles **Hervey**, was an employee of Sir Henry **Wigram's** pioneer flying company which established what became the Wigram Air Force Base. He was also head of the Waimakariri River Trust. During the Depression the employees laboured mightily to tame the river.

Joseph Harrop **Hopkins**, 73, died on 13 March 1910. Louisa **Hopkins**, 82, died on 28 August 1923

Row P  
No. 291  
**McLean**

Allan **McLean** was born about 1822. He was one of the children of Mary **McLean** and Alexander **McLean**, a farmer-fisherman who lived on and drowned off Lagmor, a town on the Inner Hebridean Island of Coll.

In 1840 the widow brought her family to Australia where the brothers, John, Allan and Robertson prospered as carriers, merchants and gold-buyers. In 1852 they took up a run near Christchurch. Robertson returned to Scotland. John and Allan had runs in Canterbury and Otago. Laghmor was near Ashburton. Morven Hills in the Lindis

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Pass, Otago (named after the Scottish mainland which lies near the Island of Coll) was a place where 135, 184 sheep were shorn in the peak season. In 1866 the **McLeans** acquired Waikakahi near Waimate.

Eventually the partnership broke up. John went to Redcastle, near Oamaru (now the site of St. Kevin's College); while Allan remained at Waikakahi. In the 1882 Return of the freeholders of New Zealand John's properties were valued at 210, 426 pounds while Allan's were valued at 200, 000 pounds. In 1895 Allan had 69, 000 sheep, while 40 four-horse teams ploughed in a block of 8000 acres. A homestead, 'the Valley', was surrounded by beautiful gardens.

Allan often wore a bow tie, white socks and a plum-coloured suit. He travelled about in a white wagonette, the 'Yankee Express'. He was generous to the poor and had a large bunk-house especially for swagmen.

In 1899 the Liberal Government, in its policy of 'breaking-up-the-big-estates' and distributing them to small farmers, purchased the Waikakahi run of 48,000 acres for about 320,000 pounds. It was the second largest Liberal Government purchase in Canterbury, the largest being at Cheviot.

The Cheviot purchase was undertaken with the blessing of the trustees of William 'Ready Money' **Robinson**. Allan **McLean** reluctantly left his land and never returned. He purchased a five acre property with frontages on Manchester and Colombo Streets, Christchurch, and had R. W. **England** draw up plans for a 23,000 square feet three-storey kauri-built Jacobean-style house. It was considered the largest wooden residence in New Zealand. This was 'Holly Lea', holly being the **McLean's** plant badge.

In 1904 **McLean** made his will and, two years later, added a codicil. He died at Holly Lea on 12 November 1907. The will includes the following:

... I bequeath all my clothes, boots and other wearing apparel unto or for such charitable institution or institutions or object or objects in the Provincial District of Canterbury as my acting Executor or Executor may in their or his absolute discretion think fit to be handed over ...

Elsewhere **McLean** wrote:

I leave all the wines, liquors, consumable stores and provisions which shall belong to me at my death free of legacy duty to Emily **Phillips**, at present living in my dwelling home at Holly Lea aforesaid.

Emily was **McLean's** long-standing housekeeper. She was to 'have the use, occupation and enjoyment' of Holly Lea 'during her life if she shall so long remain a widow' and also an annuity of three thousand pounds. Should Emily remarry, she was to have an annuity of but five hundred pounds.

**McLean** also established the McLean's Institute. The Board of Governors was to include the Anglican and Roman Catholic bishops, the minister at St. Andrew's

Presbyterian church, the Mayor of Christchurch, other dignitaries and ‘two women’.

The Holly Lea property was eventually to become a home for

... gentlewomen or women of refinement or education in reduced or straitened circumstances and to the children not being over the age of ten years of any such gentlewomen or women, my special intention being that the Holly Lea property shall be reserved exclusively for the use of gentlewomen ... who either by their birth, education, previous life or manner may be able to live in harmony under the same roof.

The board of governors was to have absolute power over who should be admitted to and expelled from the institution except that they could not admit people who had been in receipt of Charitable Aid Board moneys or of the Old Age Pension which had been introduced in 1898.

The people who had lived at Holly Lea now live on a site in Fendalton. In older death certificates the Fendalton site may be called ‘Quamby’.

Kin who are buried at Addington include Allan’s mother, Mary, 84, who died at the Waimakariri run on 12 July 1871 (the fact that the family was involved with a run in the Waimakariri area is commemorated in the name ‘**McLean’s** Island’); a sister, Mary, who died on 8 July 1875; a sister, Alexandrina, 70, ‘relict of George **Buckley**’, who died on 31 July 1902; and John **McLean**, 84, who died on 15 July 1902. The body of the Redcastle ‘wool king’ was brought up from North Otago for burial.

In Oamaru, in 1884, a grand post office was erected beside its 1864 Lilliputian predecessor. A clock tower was provided but no clock. On 17 September 1903 St. J. McLean **Buckley** of Redcastle presented a clock and chimes in memory of his uncle and benefactor, John **McLean**.

Dr. David **MacMillan** wrote of the **McLeans** that he ‘always thought of them as the toughest and hardest of all early settlers’.

Row P  
No. 303  
**Beattie**

The information on the gravestone says it all:

John **Beattie** died 8 June 1917, aged 70. For 40 years caretaker of the West Christchurch School. And his wife, Emma, died 3 June 1936, aged 84; after 59 years spent in the service of the West Christchurch School .... Also their son, Arthur John **Beattie**, died 5 July 1969, aged 90, late caretaker of the West Christchurch School. Erected by pupils, teachers and friends of the school as a mark of respect and in admiration of many years of faithful service.

John **Beattie**, handyman-cabdriver for the Rev. Charles **Fraser**, was a gravedigger at the Addington Cemetery and part-time caretaker at **Fraser’s** Boys’ High School. On

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25 September 1872 **Fraser** officiated at the wedding of John **Beattie**, 25, labourer, and Emma **Stillwell**, 21, who had cooked for the boarders at the school. In 1876 John became school caretaker.

John was a stern figure held in awe by pupils and teachers. He looked after the fires – there were 23 fireplaces in 1884; swept the floors; kept the clocks on time; and cleaned and weeded the paths and grounds. When the headmaster was busy instructing the pupil-teachers, he was in charge of the school.

Emma gave birth to and raised seven children in the caretaker's cottage. In the periods between her pregnancies and then after her child-bearing days, she was in charge of cooking and first aid. The children were up at 6 a.m. and swept rooms, dusted seats and cleaned basins before breakfast.

John **Beattie**, 'prince of caretakers and self-constituted censor of the conduct of pupils and teachers, to say nothing of inspectors and education boards', died, at 70, on 10 June 1917. A son, Arthur John, took his place though Emma 'wielded a broom [at the school] until a year or so before her death', at 84, on 7 June 1936. Arthur retired in 1948 and died, at 90, on 5 July 1969.

Row Q

No. 307

**Twigger**

Joseph **Twigger** had been born on 5 January and baptised on 28 December 1801 at Bedworth Coventry, County Warwick, the first child of Frances **Shipman** and her husband, the Rev. Joseph **Twigger**. The first Rev. **Twigger** had been born about 1763 and died at Bedworth in 1816. Frances married again. A prosperous woman, she leased out her 85 acre farm at 150 pounds a year. It was known that, as his parents' eldest son, Joseph would eventually inherit an income of about 300-400 pounds a year.

Under instructions from his mother rather than because he wanted to, Joseph studied at Oxford University and read for holy orders. His greatest interest was betting at boxing matches.

While on vacation from Oxford, Joseph met Elizabeth **Cole**, a member of a wealthy Leicester family, whose parents and guardian had died, and who was boarding near Frances's home. Despite the fact that his love letters were to be judged 'rhapsodical nonsense', Elizabeth found Joseph a 'young man of fascinating manners', believed his intentions to be honourable, that he intended to marry her and thus became pregnant.

Joseph did not intend to marry Elizabeth and took flight. When the authorities caught up with him, they found that, on 10 December 1824, at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, he had married a widow, Catherine **Lawton**.

On 5 July 1825 Joseph was charged with breach of promise at the King's Bench, Westminster. Joseph accepted the bastardy bond but evidence was brought forward to show that the plaintiff had had a relationship with another man and was thus a woman

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of loose morals. Frances stood by her son and the defendant was 'nonsuited' that is, she lost her case.

Joseph now paid more attention to his studies. He gained a B. A. from Oxford in 1823 and an M. A. in 1831.

In 1850 Joseph was residing at Cemetery Parsonage, Kensall Green, West London. His wife and mother were now dead and, the following year, he emigrated to Canterbury as chaplain on the Canterbury Association ship, Cornwall. From the Canterbury Association he purchased Rural Section 128, 150 acres, at 'Lower Lincoln Road near Christchurch'. He also purchased Rural Section 132, 50 acres, in the same area.

Joseph supported Colonel **Campbell**, the opponent of the Canterbury Association, in his attempt to become Superintendent in 1853 and because of this, or perhaps because of his private life, was described by Henry **Sewell** as '**Twigger**, our shame'.

Joseph paid for the passage of the 'good looking servant girl' - described in the Lyttelton times as 'Miss Letitia **Wilbee**'. Joseph frequented the White Hart Hotel, left dead drunk at midnight on 21 March 1855, and, shortly thereafter, drowned in the Avon, his body being discovered by a cabbie, Stephen **Brooker**. Letitia sought security in marriage to William **Beechey**. Her daughter by the Rev. Joseph **Twigger**, Elizabeth Anne Twigger **Wilbee**, had been born in December 1853, herself gave birth to a girl-child in 1869, married a shoemaker in 1872, moved to Napier and there died, of pulmonary tuberculosis, in 1880.

W. E. **Burke's** manuscript, held at Christchurch City Libraries, tells the story, adding John **Twigger's** discreditable part therein.

Rev. J. **Twigger** lived in the middle fifties in a house ... on Oxford Terrace. His body was found in the Avon not far away. He had considerable landed property which remained unclaimed for years. The wicked man - he was a parson - had a good looking servant girl. Results followed, a little girl. He had made a will providing liberally for her. But it was not signed. The curmudgeon who got the property later did nothing for her.

Charlotte **Twigger** and her husband, John, a herbalist from Rugby, England, came to Christchurch in the early 1860s. John, heir to Joseph's estate, was the 'curmudgeon' in W. E. **Burke's** manuscript.

However, to many John appeared a public benefactor. He donated a roast ox to the groundlings in 1868. Thus they could celebrate the fact that, in Australia, the Duke of **Edinburgh** had survived an assassination attempt at the hands of an Irishman. In 1885, just months prior to his death, John sold land to the Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association. The terms were easy. John donated a frontage on Lincoln Road and the association was thus able to establish grounds where its shows took place for more than a century.

John, 67, died on 7 November 1885 and was buried in the Addington Cemetery. He left his wife a life interest in his estate; (Charlotte, 72, died on 24 September 1891). The estate was then to go to charitable institutions, the Old Men's Home at Ashburton, the orphanage and to the Female Refuge (for young women who were about to give birth to illegitimate children). These institutions have died out. The **Twigger** Estate, originally valued at 16,000 pounds but now worth \$4 million, benefits the Women's Refuge, Cholmondeley Home and suchlike. The beneficiaries have, in recent years, rebuilt John's tombstone.

The estate has always been well managed. In 1909 the statement was made: 'The **Twigger** Estate had ... increased in value at least twice as fast as the best of farm land in this part of the Dominion'.

Area 2  
Row E  
Nos. 404-405  
**Greenaway**

Hannah **Greenaway** lived from 24 September 1832 to 15 July 1908. Her grandson, Samuel John **Ingold** was born in September and died in December 1885. There is also a memorial to Hannah's husband, John.

John **Greenaway** arrived in Canterbury in 1857. For about 10 years he lived in a 'small but cosy ... cottage on Kilmore Street East' and there grew and sold nursery stock. From about 1864 he was in charge of **Kohler's** 'Vauxhall Gardens' on Lincoln Road, the first private pleasure garden in Canterbury. As well, he bought property on Lincoln Road for nursery production.

In 1871 and 1872 **Greenaway** bought two properties, one on Whately Road ( Victoria Street), the other between Blighs Road and Hawthorne Street and just off Papanui Road. It has been stated that Hawthorne Street is named after the plants which abounded on his property. **Greenaway** had 'fruit trees, forest trees .... pinus insignis and other choice conifers'. He came to specialise in roses but his profits were made through his shop in Victoria Street and his work as a landscape gardener.

**Greenaway** was an enthusiastic member of the Christchurch Horticultural Society, a committee man and an exhibitor. Indeed, he was a member from 1863 (18 months after the society was formed) till his death. He arranged the society's exhibit of foliage and flowers at the time of the Duke of **Edinburgh's** visit in 1869. In 1874-75 he negotiated so that a breakaway group might be bought back within the fold. The society was to comment:

It is almost unnecessary to refer to the zeal and assiduity displayed by ... Mr. **Greenaway** in his connection with the Horticultural Society .... To a very large extent it owes its present position to his efforts.

At 5.30 p.m. on 30 November 1880, **Greenaway** boarded a tramway carriage on the Papanui line. Spying G. A. **Reade** (Treasurer of the Horticultural Society) on the roof of the next carriage and, wishing to show him a particularly fine rose, he tried to pass

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from one carriage to another by stepping round from platform to platform. He fell off and was dragged beneath the tram. The tram pulled up and **Greenaway** was placed on a mattress and removed to a milk cart but 200 yards from the scene of the accident. He suffered broken legs and severe bruising on the lower part of his body. An employee, **Wood**, held up his master's head, and after 10 minutes, cried out: "He's gone" and burst into tears. **Greenaway's** death was the result of shock and loss of blood. A death notice describes **Greenaway** as 'of Victoria Street, Christchurch' and adds that his death was 'deeply regretted by all who knew him'. A contemporary would write:

Thus the desire to have a chat with another devotee on the beauty of some specimens of England's floral emblem was the cause of the death of an ardent gardener.

At the inquest the Chairman of Directors of the Canterbury Tramway Company, John Evans **Brown**, stated that he had several times warned deceased about getting on or off cars while the tram was in motion.

People assembled at **Greenaway's** residence prior to the funeral, chief among them being the President of the Horticultural Society, the Hon. E. C. J. **Stevens**.

At half-past 2 o'clock [on 3 December] the coffin, upon which were placed a number of beautiful floral wreaths, was placed in the hearse and borne to the Addington Cemetery, followed by upwards of 100 pedestrians and a large number of carriages and other vehicles.

The Horticultural Society erected a memorial which reads:

Erected by the Christchurch Horticultural Society to John **Greenaway** in recognition of personal worth and valued services as Secretary to the Society, died 30 November 1880, aged 49.

Row F  
Nos. 422  
**Beath**

Here lie Maria **Beath**, 1846-1930, her husband, George Low **Beath**, 1827-1913, and their children, George Malcolm, 9, and Laura Christina, 13.

Although born in England, Maria was the daughter of Scots parents, Jemima Crawford **Souter** and her husband, Andrew Wilson **Malcolm**. Maria's sister was Kate **Sheppard**.

Maria **Malcolm** and George Low **Beath** had married at St. the John the Baptist Latimer Square Anglican church on 6 February 1867

George Low **Beath** of Leslie, Fifeshire, Scotland, was apprenticed as a draper. He left his home at 37 to take part in his brother's Melbourne business, **Beath, Schiess** and Co. He came to Christchurch in the interests of this company, established his own

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drapery business, **Beath's**, and ran it himself till 1896. Associated with him were relatives such as F. S. **Malcolm** and a son-in-law, J. E. **Wickenden**. In 1901 the business became a company.

**Beath** was a deacon in the Congregational Church on the Worcester Street-Manchester Street corner (which has now been converted to other purposes) and a founder and supporter of the Christchurch branch of the Young Men's Christian Association.

One of George's employees said: 'He was the whitest man I have ever come across. He was generous and upright and the best of employers'. A much later description of how the Riccarton coach picked up George **Beath** has a comparison between the draper and a companion.

Mr. George Low **Beath** ... is a much gentler person. His shy nervous manner indicates refinement and taste. He wears a silk dust coat over his dark suit and a grey bell-topper hat.

**Beath** was survived by 'a widow and three children, Mrs. A. **Bevan** and Mrs. J. E. **Wickenden**, both of Christchurch, and an unmarried daughter, also of Christchurch'.

No. 422a

### **Malcolm / Sheppard**

Here lie Jemima **Malcolm**, 1822-1881, and her daughter, Catherine **Lovell-Smith**, 1848-1934, who appears on our banknotes as Kate **Sheppard**.

Kate was born Catherine Wilson **Malcolm** at Liverpool in 1848. She came to Canterbury with her siblings and widowed mother on the Matoaka in 1869. A member of the Congregational Church, she married Walter Allen **Sheppard**, grocer and general merchant on 21 July 1871. A son, Douglas, was born in 1880.

In 1887 Kate became national superintendent of the Franchise and Legislation Department of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Three petitions for 'votes for-women' were presented to Parliament by conservative politician Sir John **Hall**. Nine thousand women signed the first petition, 19,000 the second and 32,000 the third. On 19 September 1893 the Electoral Act was passed with a clause to the effect that the word 'person' encompassed women. Kate **Sheppard** worked to get women on the electoral roll. Sixty-five percent of eligible women voted in the 1893 election. Richard John **Seddon**, an opponent of the female suffrage who had, at the last moment congratulated Kate, won a resounding victory. James Edward **FitzGerald** told **Hall** that women's suffrage resulted in 'exactly what I had predicted - the utter destruction of your whole party'.

A bill which would have allowed women to stand for seats in Parliament failed. Women with property already had the vote in local body elections and, in 1893, Elizabeth **Yates** was elected Mayor of Onehunga. She reached the status of mayor

without 'any idea of asserting a woman's position' and 'thought it a burning shame to rob the working man of his beer'.

Douglas **Sheppard** married, in England, in 1910, Wilhelmina **Sievwright**, daughter of one of Kate's suffrage friends, Margaret **Sievwright**. He died in England in 1912, leaving one daughter, Margaret Isobel **Sheppard**. Walter **Sheppard** died in Bath, England, in 1915. Margaret **Sheppard** died in 1930. Kate had, in 1925, married suffrage supporter and historian William Sidney **Lovell-Smith**. He died in 1929 and is buried, with his first wife, at Waimairi Cemetery. Kate **Lovell-Smith** died in 1934 and was buried at Addington.

Row K  
No. 503  
**Fisher**

On 20 December 1806 there was born at Winchcombe, Gloucestershire, Thomas Richard **Fisher**. His father having died while he was an infant, he was taught by his mother, a daughter of Joseph **Hill** of Norwich; the **Hills** were a prominent Methodist family.

After working in a business house in Birmingham, **Fisher** joined the Methodist ministry on the advice of his uncle, the Rev. Josiah **Hill**. From about 1830-46 he ministered at London, Oxford, Margate, Aylesbury and other circuits. He married Harriett Maria, daughter of James **Bickerton** of London, who was born on 17 June 1816 and died on 29 July 1853. In 1846 a throat affection had forced him to give up his work and, although he started again, at Aylesbury, in 1848, his health would not allow him to continue.

About 1854 **Fisher** sent his eldest son, Thomas Richard, to New Zealand to spy out the land. Two years later he married Sarah **Wadman**. Then, with his wife and the children of his first marriage, he boarded the Myrtle on 20 October 1856, arriving in Wellington on 20 February 1857. Thomas Richard was there to welcome them.

The **Fishers** lived in Colombo Street, Christchurch, and then on the North Belt (Bealey Avenue). T. R. **Fisher** built his first house in Durham Street South. This he called 'Alcester Lodge'. A small street off Durham Street still bears the name Alcester Street.

On 30 April 1857 **Fisher** leased from John **Broughton** Part Town Section 839 with an 84 feet frontage on Hereford Street and an 81 feet frontage on High Street. The lease was to cost **Fisher** 10 pounds per annum, to run for 21 years, and, within three years he was to erect buildings to the value of 100 pounds. **Fisher** surrendered the lease on 30 April 1872 and received a further lease of 56 years at a cost of 130 pounds per annum.

It is obvious that emigration brought benefits to **Fisher's** health. He had a tea and grocery shop on the Hereford Street-High Street site and acted as a merchant and commission agent. For a time Robert **Thompson** ran the shop under the name of 'the Alliance Tea Company'. In 1880 the famed architect W. B. **Armson** designed for

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**Fisher** the Venetian Gothic building which still stands on the site and is known as the 'Fisher Building'. Once **Armson**'s grand commercial buildings were dotted about the area. The Fisher Building is one of the few survivors.

In later years **Fisher** sons ran the business.

Beyond Christchurch, T. R. **Fisher** owned a 760 acre farm, 'Sudeley', in the Irwell district. Managers ran it on his behalf.

In 1859 T. R. **Fisher** succeeded the Rev. John **Aldred** as Wesleyan minister in Christchurch and, in 1860, was preaching at the opening of the new Wesleyan church in Kaiapoi. His chief work, however, was as an administrator and advisor rather than as a preacher. W. A. **Chambers** wrote of **Fisher**: 'For many years he gave his excellent leadership to the circuit in the capacity of circuit steward'.

A member of the first committee of the Christchurch Mechanics' Institute (ancestor of Christchurch City Libraries), he was the founder of the British and Foreign Bible Society in the province. In July 1878 he was given a silver salver in appreciation of his work in this field. He was always prominent in any work which benefited the Methodist church.

From the 1870s **Fisher** limited his business interests – though it was for him and not his sons that **Armson** designed the famed 1880 structure. The minister devoted most of his time to philanthropic projects, giving 1000 pounds to the British and Foreign Bible Society in 1885 and helping denominations other than his own – United Methodists, Congregationalists and Presbyterians.

Towards the end of his life **Fisher** lived at what he called 'Cotswold House' at what is now 10 Parlane Street, Addington. He died there, at 83, on 12 January 1890. Sarah, 78, died on 20 July 1891.

**Fisher**'s estate was sworn at under 50,000 pounds. The worthy minister died a very rich man.

Also buried here is the minister's youngest son, Richard Hill **Fisher**, who was born in Bristol and arrived with his family on the Myrtle in 1857. Although the family were Methodists, Richard attended Christ's College, an Anglican school, between 1860-64.

Richard worked for the Bank of New Zealand in Auckland and Tapanui and for the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Company in Gisborne. On 17 February 1875 he married Alice **Warren**, daughter of the Rev. John **Warren** of Onehunga. In 1883 the couple came to Christchurch where Richard was an accountant, sharebroker and land and estate agent. For many years he was chairman of the stock exchange.

Alice and Richard Hill **Fisher** both died in 1931.

The prosperous marry the prosperous. This was certainly the case with Alice and Richard **Fisher**'s children. Edith married Douglas, son of Dr. F. McBean **Stewart**. Winifred Ellen married Fortunatus Evelyn, sixth son of Fortunatus Evelyn **Wright** ;

Fortunatus senior was a pioneer postmaster and, much later, commissioner on what was, perhaps, the most famous Royal Commission, the 'Sweating Commission'. Keith Warren **Fisher** married Annie, youngest daughter of Gerrit van **Asch** of Sumner School for the Deaf fame.

Row M

**Lawry**

The gravestone has been erected in recent years by a group of descendants. The wording on the plaque reads as follows:

In loving memory of Albert Edward **Lawry**, 23 October 1881 - 28 February 1890.

Iris (Rissy) **Lawry**, 21 March 1880 - 24 August 1896.

Edith Ann **Lawry**, 29 September 1849-30 September 1924. Also loved mother of Edith, Ira, Abby, Albert, Florence.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century a woman who lived with and had several children by a man who was not her husband was a being from beyond the pale. Edith Ann **Lawry** was one such person.

Born in 1849 at Truro, Cornwall, Edith was the daughter of Nicholas **Lawry**, a miner, and Elizabeth **Lawry** nee **Jenkins**. A cook, she was pregnant - possibly to a brother-in-law - when she embarked from Plymouth on the Eastern monarch on 7 May 1874.

Descendants suspect that relatives in England paid the passage of the errant family member so that she might be delivered of her shame in a distant colony. The ship docked at Lyttelton on 22 July. Edith's daughter was born in September and registered as Edith Jane **Lowry**.

Edith entered into a de facto relationship with Daniel **Manhire**. Born in 1835, he emigrated on the Mermaid in 1863, and worked as a labourer and carrier for timber merchant and politician William **Montgomery**. His obituary would one day state that he 'possessed in a high degree the independence of spirit that is a characteristic of Yorkshiremen' and that 'though he took no prominent part in public matters, [he] was an excellent citizen'.

Whatever his virtues, Daniel had a voracious sexual appetite. His first wife, Cecilia **Harris**, died and, on 11 September 1869, at the Congregational Church on the Worcester Street-Manchester Street corner, he married Eliza Annie **Pratt**. By the mid 1870s he was spending part of his time with his wife and part of his time with Edith **Lawry**.

Some of Edith and Daniel's children were born in the city. Ira Manhire, 'illegitimate' son of Edith **Lawry**, 28, was born at Addington on 15 May 1878. Iris, 'illegitimate' daughter of Edith **Lawry**, 31, was born in the same suburb on 21 March 1880. At Spreydon, on 23 October 1881, there were born Albert Edward, 'illegitimate' son of Edith **Lawry**, 32. Abisyna (always called Abbie), 'illegitimate' daughter of Edith **Lawry**, 34, was born in the same suburb on 28 September 1883. The second

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'illegitimate' Albert Edward was born on 6 April 1891, his mother being now 42. By this time Edith had moved not just to a rather out-of-the-way place, New Brighton, but to a satellite area, South Brighton.

A Land Information New Zealand document dated 23 September 1904 states that 'Edith **Lawry** of New Brighton, spinster, is seized of an estate in fee simple ... eight acres ... three roods and 37 perches or thereabouts'. The property ran from Kibblewhite Street to the Pleasant Point domain and looked over the river and the South Brighton bridge site. There was a substantial single-storey wooden house, back paddocks on which cattle grazed, an orchard, milking sheds and a sawmill with a gas engine. In front of the property there were swings, slides and other equipment for children. A primitive but attractive and accurate painting of the house by Ernest 'Daddy' **Jones** remains in the family's hands.

In the early days of T. J. **Edmond's** business, Edith pushed the product about the streets on a wheelbarrow and sold it door to door. At South Brighton she grew vegetables, had fowls, and delivered eggs and butter to more prosperous neighbours.

Edith outlived two of her children, one being Iris or Rissy who died of tuberculosis. The other was the first Albert Edward. On 28 February 1890, the New Brighton schoolteacher, George William **Bishop**, warned a group of boys that they should not go to the 'cutting', a willow-fringed stream which attracted swimmers and frog and duck hunters. The 'cutting', which ran from the modern Owles Terrace, round Union Street and back to the river, was, in fact, the original course of the river, a 'cut' having been put through in 1859 so that merchants could bring vessels up to Christchurch along a navigable stream. There was a rise and fall of six feet, Albert was caught on the incoming tide and drowned.

In her grief, Edith embroidered on a sampler the words:

In loving memory of our dear child, Albert Edward, who was accidentally drowned at New Brighton while bathing, February 28<sup>th</sup> 1890, aged 9:

Defer not till a future time what should at once be done for none can say they shall behold the morrow's rising sun. Death often strikes a fatal blow ere mortals are aware. Reader be wise and constantly for his assault prepare. Not lost but gone before.

In Christchurch City Libraries' church register transcripts Iris and Albert are entered under their father's name. Iris is Iris Lawery **Manhire**. Albert is Lawery Albert Edward **Manhire**. Their death certificates show that their correct surname was **Lawry**.

In 1889 Ira, the first Albert Edward, Iris and Abby **Lawry** were first day pupils at the New Brighton School. Ira was to establish a carrying business. His advertisement went something like 'Ira **Lawry**, Hire-a-lorry'. The second Albert Edward was a New Brighton Borough councillor.

Edith died on 30 September 1924 at her home at Richmond Terrace, New Brighton, the causes of death being ‘senile decay’ and a ‘tumour of [the] oesophageal end of [the] stomach’, which had afflicted her for three years, and. Edith’s doctor was the popular New Brighton general practitioner William Edward **Stevens**. The Rev. J. S. **Young**, a Presbyterian, took the service on 2 October 1924.

On her death certificate Edith is described as a spinster. Where the family was particularly coy – and untruthful – is in the section relating to ‘issue living, age and sex’. This is blank.

The newspapers contain nothing about Edith’s death and funeral even though the lady was a well-known personality in New Brighton.

And the **Manhires**. They are buried at Addington in Row E No. 403. Here lie the grandparents, William, 10 October 1909 - 11 August 1895, and Elizabeth, 71, who died on 3 June 1881; a son, Frederick, 65, who died on 13 January 1895 and his wife, Mary Ann, 71, who died on 2 August 1906; Daniel, 72, who died on 20 September 1908; Daniel’s son, Bethel Prinn, 49, who died on 6 May 1915, and his wives, Annie, 29, who died on 21 June 1898 and Bessie, 39, who died on 30 August 1909.

Bethel, the son of Daniel’s first wife, was a painter and glazier, established himself in business in Sydenham in 1887 and was twice mayor of the borough. While Mayor, he laid the foundation stone of the Sydenham Borough Council chambers. A member of the Charitable Aid Board, he was also on the Board of Trustees of the Samaritan Home. He arranged the dispatch of troops to the Boer War and also Canterbury’s 50<sup>th</sup> jubilee in 1900. Alas, his health failed, ‘death coming after a long illness’.

Perhaps other mistresses were deposited at the seaside. Older people will remember the phrase: “Are you married or do you live at Brighton?”

Area 3  
Row I  
**Farr**

Samuel Charles **Farr** was born at Baldock, Hertfordshire. His father was a builder and he learned the occupation of architect in the parental yard rather than through having spent the requisite number of years studying in an architect’s office.

In 1849 Mary Ann **Pavitt** of Jackson’s Farm, part of Hill Farm, Theydon Garnon, Essex, visited Baldock to farewell friends. She was to accompany her parents and siblings who were emigrating to New Zealand. Mary Ann and the young builder promptly fell in love. Thus **Farr** accompanied Mary Ann as her fiancé.

As the Monarch crossed the Tasman in a gale, the rudder - and a second rudder - were lost. The ship limped into Akaroa Harbour on 2 April 1850 and **Farr**, Mary Ann **Pavitt** and 39 others decided to stay - thus becoming ‘pre-Adamite’ settlers, people who were here prior to the arrival of the First Four Ships on 16 December 1850.

As no wedding rings were available, **Farr** fashioned one out of a half-sovereign. There was no minister but John **Watson** had been appointed Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages. A Press obituary would state that, on 15 June 1850, the 'ceremony was performed' by Mr. **Watson** and that this was 'the first marriage in Canterbury'. **Farr** started 'the first Sunday School in Canterbury', with five scholars, on 30 June 1850 and 'the first Sunday School Union in Christchurch in 1869 ....'.

While in Akaroa, **Farr** rebuilt the crushed cogwheels in Canterbury's first flourmill which had been built by Mr. **Haylock** in the Grehan Valley. He built sawmills in partnership with his **Pavitt** in-laws at Robinsons Bay, Barrys Bay, Duvauchelle and the Head of the Bay, designed the first small Anglican church in Akaroa and probably the present St. Peter's, Akaroa, though the documents on the subject have not survived. The gables which he added to **Bruce's** Hotel, which had been built in 1842, made the place appear a respectable establishment rather than a grog-shop. Also, he designed what is now the Coronation Library.

**Farr** practised as an architect in Christchurch. He was architect of the original privately-owned 'Town Hall' whose structural soundness was questioned and which came to an ignominious end in a fire in 1873. He designed the Presbyterian churches at Papanui, Lyttelton, Kaiapoi and Leeston and gained second place behind a Melbourne firm in a competition to design the Durham Street Methodist church. It was decided that the local man should make modifications to the original design and supervise the construction of the building. **Farr** was the architect of St. Paul's Presbyterian church in Lichfield Street, a building of 'no very great pretensions ... [but] fully suited to the needs of the congregation'. In a competition for a Congregational church on the Worcester Street-Manchester Street corner (**Farr** was a member of the congregation), B. W. **Mountfort** came up with the winning design. **Farr's** name appears on the foundation stone as deacon, not architect.

**Farr** designed George **Gould's** 'Hambleton', which stands, on the Bealey Avenue-Springfield Road corner; and G. H. **Moore's** 'Mansion' at the Glenmark station, North Canterbury. In 1891 it was destroyed by fire.

The stone-built Normal School, now apartments, in Cranmer Square was **Farr's** most famous building. It was the first model or normal school in New Zealand and was designed as

... a place to train young teachers and to impart the technical side of the art of teaching to educated persons of both sexes who might be willing to adopt the profession of teachers.

**Farr's** design for the school beat off 11 challengers. Second place went to R. A. **Lawson**, architect of the famed First Church in Dunedin.

The building has been considered 'a monument to conservatism and custom' - and it was demanded by the authorities that it should be such a building. In 1940 Paul **Pascoe** was the author of the myth that the school 'was planned to face south by an English architect who did not realise he was depriving its occupants of the sun'. The rumour long circulated - even famed academic Sir James **Hight** repeated it. In the 20<sup>th</sup>

century the solid nature of the structure was considered a fault. By then there was a preference for schools which were built of wood. Such economical and impermanent structures could easily be torn down and replaced. Certainly, in the winter months, pupils found the Normal School very cold.

In the 1980s Jonty Rout of Sheppard and Rout, architects, was responsible for converting the school into an apartment complex. Today

The architectural character and integrity of this magnificent stone building, in all its gothic glory, is well-preserved, while the apartments within offer all the convenience and comfort of modern-day living.

In 2006 the rateable value of one property at what is now Cranmer Courts, 350 Montreal Street, was \$486,000.

In Christchurch **Farr** was, for 22 years, secretary of the North Canterbury Acclimatisation Society. He 'stocked almost every lake and river ... with fish ... [and] was also instrumental in introducing the humble bee in New Zealand'.

At the Canterbury Jubilee Exhibition of 1900, **Farr** exhibited a base relief plan of Banks Peninsula carved in wood and 'for this clever piece of workmanship he received a gold medal'.

**Farr** had not trained for a minimum of four years as the articled pupil of a qualified architect. Thus he failed to qualify as a member of the Canterbury Association of Architects which was established in the early 1870s by W. B. **Armson**, B. W. **Mountfort**, Alexander **Lean** and Frederick **Strouts**. On one occasion **Farr** wrote that, though not a member of the association, he did not regret this. **Lean** reminded him that he did not qualify for membership.

Despite the fact that the better qualified shunned him, **Farr** outlived them and had a very long productive life. Mary Ann **Farr**, 86, died on 22 September 1912. Samuel Charles **Farr**, 91, died on 14 July 1918.

Area 4  
Row B  
No. 812  
**Boag**

Born on 17 January 1828 at Ardoch, Scotland, William **Boag** arrived in Lyttelton on the Cornwall in 1851. Although 'not burdened with much money', he possessed 'good health and strength and a determination to succeed'.

**Boag** walked to Pigeon Bay to obtain employment and later worked for 'Mr. **Thomson** of Port Cooper', managing his dairy business. He bought stock for himself and, with the animals, moved to 100 acres of land, 'chiefly swamp covered with tussock and niggerheads', at what is now Burnside. This he rented from John **Deans I** with the right to purchase at the end of five years, the cost being five pounds per acre.

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A practical farmer, **Boag** could see that it was worth investing in potentially valuable land close to a market, Christchurch, and purchased the acres long before his lease ran out. Eventually he had '1700 acres of land of the finest quality' while his dwelling place was 'the ... beautiful grounds and residence at 'Burnside'. As well, he owned a 26,000 acre property at Selwyn.

With 'unflagging industry' **Boag** imported from England 'shorthorn bulls of the best lineage', imported and bred high class draught horses and was also a breeder of 'a well-known strain of Leicester sheep'. He won numerous prizes at agricultural and pastoral shows and his stock became known and in demand throughout the Australian colonies. Such was **Boag's** success that he could afford two trips to the 'Old Country', the first in 1875, the second in 1899.

**Boag** was on all the appropriate bodies: the Riccarton Road Board, Waimakariri River Board, Christchurch Drainage Board, Selwyn County Council, Board of Advice for Lincoln College and Canterbury Trotting Club. He 'was an elder and devoted supporter of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church'.

Part of **Boag's** property was purchased by the Liberal Government under the provisions of the 1894 Lands for Settlements Act. The land was disposed of on perpetual lease in areas of from two to five acres. As **Boag** was descended from a family which had been long established at Braco, West Perthshire, the name given to the area was the 'Braco Settlement'.

William **Boag** erected a gravestone to his mother, Jane, 60, who died on 9 January 1865; his father, William, 82, who died on 20 April 1882; his wife, Ann **Fermiger**, 52, who died on 11 November 1884; and his son, William junior, 44, who died on 25 February 1898.

On 17 June 1886 William married a second time, his bride Agnes **Duncan**, 37, being a sister of Christchurch mayor Andrew **Duncan**. William died on 28 August 1904, while Agnes, 74, died on 17 September 1923. William's estate was valued at 110, 299 pounds.

William **Boag's** property, 'Burnside', gave its name to a thoroughfare, Burnside Road (now Memorial Avenue), a suburb and a high school. The property was on the route to Christchurch International Airport. The traveller can find the area because it is located on the eastern side of Memorial Avenue, in a wooded area, prior to his reaching the golf course.

No. 817

## **Hay**

Born in Ayrshire, Scotland, Ebenezer **Hay**, a farmer and grain and produce merchant, was of 'solid honest industrious Lowland stock'. He helped Scots obtain a passage on New Zealand Company ships and then, with his family, emigrated to Wellington. He could not find suitable farm land and came down the coast on the **Sinclair** family's locally-built schooner, the Richmond. His companions, the **Deans**, **Gebbie** and **Manson** families became, like **Hay**, 'pre-Adamites', people in Canterbury prior to the

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arrival of the First Four Ships. Sites between Banks Peninsula and Otago were examined but, from the vessel, **Hay** saw and felt an affinity with Pigeon Bay. On 22 April 1843 he and his large family (five sons and four daughters, apart from two girls who died young) left Wellington on the Richmond, settling at Pigeon Bay. On this or a subsequent voyage the Richmond brought **Hay**'s two cows and a calf.

Ebenezer was patriarch of his family 'and senior statesman of the local European community'. Seeing his children grow up without education, he had 'a proper little school house' built 'at the foot of the old orchard' and a number of bay children, as well as his own, attended. Later Francis **Knowles**, who was to become a prominent Anglican clergyman, taught **Hay**'s children, and others, at 'Audsley Academy'.

As a farmer **Hay** was generally successful though he had his failures. In 1855 he and others took the Gratitude to Melbourne to sell potatoes, oats, cheese and butter. On the way back, the ship was hit by southerly gales, blown off course and spent 58 days at sea. The men were forced to kill and eat all but three of their horses.

In 1863 James **Hay** junior lit a fire to flush cows out of the scrub and the inferno raged out of control. In a law suit George **Holmes** of Holmes' Bay claimed that the fire had destroyed his property and won the huge sum of 3000 pounds plus 500 pounds in costs.

On 26 November 1863, while walking back to Lyttelton after visiting his lawyer, Ebenezer **Hay**, 51, fell over a steep bluff near the top of the Bridle Path, broke his neck and died.

The Lyttelton times stated:

... a cruel accident had deprived Canterbury of one of its earliest and best settlers .... In a quiet unostentatious way, Mr. **Hay** was the author of many good deeds. There are not a few living in Canterbury who can tell us of a friendly hand stretched out to help at the right moment, and that with no niggard spirit. In the same quiet way, Mr. **Hay** assisted the schools of his neighbourhood, of which he may be said to be the father, and in the progress of which he always took a lively active interest. By those who did not know him intimately his character was often misunderstood. He had a strong sense of justice, and where he believed himself to be right, was slow to give way ....

**Hay**'s funeral, on 2 December, was 'numerously attended'.

Ebenezer's wife, Agnes, 66, died on 3 March 1880.

Row E  
No. 861  
**Graham**

Helen **Graham**, who experienced 'ragged nerves' throughout her years in Canterbury, died, at 71, on 8 September 1891. Her gravestone also has the following:

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Erected by the trustees of the Riccarton Estate in memory of Douglas **Graham**, for about 18 years manager of the property of the late Messrs. W. and J. **Deans**, who were the first residents on the Canterbury Plains, having settled at Riccarton in 1843. He discharged the duties of his office to the entire satisfaction of the trustees and the great benefit of the Trust. He was faithful, industrious and conscientious as a man, unassuming, earnest and consistent as a Christian. Born at Kirkoswald, Ayrshire, Scotland, died Christchurch 9 March 1872 aged 54.

**Graham** was not only manager at Riccarton but also an excellent ploughman and judge of ploughing matches and agricultural implements. He and his wife were travelling by dogcart from Homebush to Southbridge when something startled the horse. Flesh was torn from **Graham's** little finger, he was removed to Christchurch and gave permission to physicians to amputate the finger. He was put under chloroform and his heart ceased to beat. Grahams Road is named in his honour.

In 1937 E. M. **Lovell-Smith**, wrote that **Graham** was

... a grandson of 'Tam **O'Shanter**, the hero of **Burns'** poem but, far from following in his grandsire's footsteps, he stood not in sinners' ways nor sat where men profanely talked, being an elder of St. Andrew's kirk.

No. 862.

### **McIlraith**

The gravestone records George **McIlraith**, 20, who died at Homebush on 26 November 1858; Elizabeth **McIlraith**, 41, who died at Riccarton on 17 March 1890; James **McIlraith**, 69, who died on 24 February 1903; and Jane Deans **McIlraith**, daughter of Hugh and Grace **McIlraith**, four and a half, who died on 27 September 1876.

George, Elizabeth and James, children of James **McIlraith** Esquire, J. P., had been born at Auchenflower, Ballantrae, Scotland. They were the half-brothers and halfsister of Jane **Deans** and had come to Canterbury after the death of John **Deans** in 1854 to help their sibling in the management of the property of John **Deans** II who was an infant when his father died. Grace **McIlraith** was a niece of the other people buried in this plot.

It is a sad fact that the first person buried at the Addington Cemetery was George **McIlraith**, half-brother of the woman who had pushed for the establishment of the graveyard. George

...fell from a horse, either in the act of mounting or soon after, and was dragged a considerable distance by the stirrup. The severe injuries received caused death. This happened at Homebush Station. An inquest, which was held before the coroner, at Riccarton, terminated ... with the verdict of 'Accidental death'.

Jane was to write that ‘the sad event weighed heavily on my spirits, dreading the effect on our aged father and mother [in Scotland] ... It was nearly a year before I heard how they had sustained the shock, which I believe they received with Christian submission to God’s will’.

James **McIlraith** worked for John **Deans** II during his long minority, managing the Homebush run, and died at his home, ‘Auchenflower’, Rakaia, after suffering two strokes. For a period Elizabeth **McIlraith** was housekeeper at Homebush.

Row F  
No. 867  
**Erwin**

Born in Belfast, Ireland, Robert **Erwin** studied at Queen’s University and the Assembly’s College. Ordained into the Presbyterian ministry in 1883, he arrived in New Zealand the same year, working at Otahuhu, Auckland, and then at Knox Church. On arrival in Christchurch, **Erwin** had the virtue of being ‘young enough to train the youth and old enough to satisfy the elders’.

**Erwin’s** pastoral work ‘richly blessed many homes during the joys and sorrows of the passing years, more especially in the trying time of the Great War’. **Erwin** built up his church ‘from a small beginning... in point of numbers and habitation’, was long-time superintendent of the Sunday School and ‘left a well-equipped church’ which remained ‘as a memorial of the great work done by him in this corner of the Lord’s vineyard’.

When the ‘burden of advancing years’ forced **Erwin** to retire in 1922, the congregation stated that it was appreciative of

... Dr. **Erwin’s** pulpit ministrations, the evangelical appeal of his sermons, and their high spiritual tone, thus making them so fruitful in building up the Lord’s people in their most holy faith and in leading many lives to the Saviour.

The congregation put its money where its mouth was. giving the tall erect minister a ‘substantial testimonial and ... retiring allowance’. **Erwin** spent his retirement in the parish.

Robert **Erwin**, M.A., D.D. 76, died suddenly just before midnight on 15 January 1932.. His grandson and namesake, born in mid 1931 was, for 40 years, was a member of the staff of the Canterbury University library, becoming reference librarian. He died in 2003.

No. 868  
**Lillie**

John **Lillie**, Doctor of Divinity, early acquired ‘learning and suavity of disposition’, becoming tutor to the future Duke of **Argyle**, then Marquis of **Lorn**. Throughout an

active life he ‘continued to keep up his acquaintance with the ancient classics and ... scientific and ecclesiastical discussions of the day’.

In Australia **Lillie** was known as ‘an intellectual and attractive preacher’ and, from 1836-1856, was minister at St. Andrew’s, Hobart Town, Tasmania. During that time he was ‘the most influential representative of the Church of Scotland in the southern colonies’. It was written that he was, ‘in conjunction with Archdeacon **Davies** and a leading ecclesiastic of the Church of Rome, the author of the educational scheme ... established by the Government of Tasmania’. In reality the scheme was almost entirely framed by Dr. **Lillie**. **Lillie** was described as

...large minded and tolerant in his views of what was required by the peculiarities of colonial society, and, while a most conscientious and staunch adherent of the Church of Scotland and of the Presbyterian form of government, he was both liberal and conciliatory in his intercourse with members of other churches and in his respect for their opinions.

**Lillie** came to Christchurch. While here his abilities as a preacher were little known as ‘his weak health and constantly threatening symptoms of cerebral disease prevented him from undertaking even occasional duty’. However, he was an important personage, being a supporter of the Rev. Charles **Fraser’s** Boys’ Academy. In 1863 he was a member of a Canterbury Provincial Council commission which examined the state of primary school education. The report, ‘temperate and unsectarian’, eventually led to the establishment of free, secular, compulsory and publicly funded primary schools which would bring basic literacy and numeracy to the masses.

**Lillie** put money into **Kermode** and Company, whose public face was George Henry **Moore**. The partners took up the leases of various runs, Wakanui, Rokeby and part of Longbeach, and acquired the Glenmark estate. ‘Scabby’ **Moore**, so named because he allowed his sheep to be afflicted with scab, lived from 1812-1905 and was the father of Annie Quayle **Townend** who purchased ‘Mona Vale’.

**Lillie** was

... taken ill ... with a sharp attack of British cholera, of which the symptoms gradually abated under the care and skill of his medical attendants. But his constitution was too much shattered to bear up under the sufferings he endured and, after a short while, effusion of the brain ensued from which he died ... at the comparatively early age of 59 years.

**Lillie** died, at ‘Springlands’ near Papanui on 16 January 1866. The funeral was ‘largely attended by members of all classes of the community’.

No. 875

**Nairn**

Elizabeth Howie **Nairn**, 73, died on 27 July 1937, while Robert **Nairn**, 78, died on 1 September 1938.

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Robert **Nairn** was born in Scotland and came to Christchurch as a small boy. Always interested in plants, he took over the Lincoln Road nursery which had been established by his father, David.

In 1905 a Mr. **Nicholls** came in with a sprig of a bright red flower in his buttonhole. Robert named the plant *Leptospermum nichollsii* and, in the 1911 Chelsea Flower Show, it won for the man who propagated it a gold cup with first class honours as the novelty plant for the year.

Robert **Nairn** had 'a pleasing personality, was warm hearted and generous .... loved art and music .... God and nature' and was a 'good churchman'. However, there was an occasion when the breath of scandal was upon him. In 1936 philanthropist and conservationist Richard Bedward **Owen**, a member of the Christchurch Domains Board, claimed that nurserymen such as Robert 'would raid the glasshouse [at the Botanic Gardens] to such an extent that the girls and women in charge would weep'. Those in power stated that legitimate exchange between the businessmen and curator had taken place and that there was no 'trafficking in plants'. **Owen**, beaten, resigned from the board. 'That', he said, "ended my work for the city of Christchurch - a city truly hard to please".

No. 878

## **Reece**

In 1857 Edward **Reece** established his business in Colombo Street (it was to go through to Lichfield Street). The firm imported and supplied farming machinery, dairy implements, tools and hardware to country clients. It also sold china. The products of the firm were of a very high class.

**Reece** was a 'wholesale and retail builder and furnishing ironmonger and general hardware merchant'. He had the 'Birmingham and Sheffield Warehouse [at] Colombo Street South, Christchurch. He had:

...agricultural implements and machinery ... bar, rod and sheet iron; steels, nails, dray and cart axles and springs; horse shoes, anvils and vices; tubes for artesian wells; spades and shovels; sheet lead; shot, gunpowder, wire netting, standards and fencing wire; Avery's weighing machines ... etc.

Edward **Reece** was one of Marshland's big landowners (the other being Robert Heaton **Rhodes** senior). The fact that he owned land at Marshland can be seen when one looks at the 1872-73 Canterbury Provincial Council Superintendent's electoral roll. **Reece** owned sections 2431, 2432, 4408, 4409, 4593 and 5827 which were described as being at 'Bottle Lake' which is to the east of Marshland. Struggling German and Polish market gardeners who had fled European tyranny on the Freidelburg in 1872 leased the property.

Edward **Reece** had an S. C. **Farr**-designed residence, 'Forres House', in Windmill Road (Antigua Street), 'an imposing two-storeyed dwelling with balconies over which

creepers climbed'. **Reece**, 51, died on 12 September 1885, at 'Forres House'. His wife, Isabel, 56, died in London on 20 February 1890.

Row G

No. 879

**Anderson**

The son of a Presbyterian ploughman, John **Anderson** was born at Inveresk near Edinburgh. He was apprenticed as a blacksmith and, with his wife, Jane, emigrated on the Anglican-centred Canterbury Association's Sir George Seymour in 1850.

In Christchurch **Anderson** was an 'engineer, millwright [and] boilermaker'. He produced machinery which processed the province's primary products. The business went on to build railway lines, bridges, gold dredges, a lighthouse and small vessels such as the John Anderson which long worked in the Banks Peninsula area. The business was in the area between Cashel Street and Lichfield Street. **Anderson's** house, 'Inveresk', was in Cashel Street.

**Anderson** was a founder of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church and, a decade later, in 1864, one of those who protested against the views of the Rev. Charles **Fraser** and broke away, forming the congregation at St. Paul's.

Prominent in the Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association, **Anderson** was also involved with the Christchurch Mechanics' Institute and the Canterbury Club which tended to have, as members, businessmen rather than 'gentlemen'.

**Anderson** was in local politics. Although Canterbury was an Anglican settlement, the first three mayors were Presbyterian Scots - William **Wilson** in 1868, John **Anderson** in 1869 and Andrew **Duncan** in 1870.

**Anderson's** sons were examples of children of upwardly mobile parents going onto gain greater status in society. Their father sent them to Scotland to be educated at the prestige Merchiston Castle School, after which they gained experience as engineers in Scotland before coming back to run the family business which was a major employer of labour until it went out of existence in 1986.

**Anderson** was mayor when the young tearaway prince, the Duke of **Edinburgh**, visited Christchurch. **Anderson** presided at the ball at which the prince was special guest. Alas, it was not a complete success. The duke was staying at the Clarendon Hotel whose proprietor was George **Oram**. At the ball **Oram** assaulted John **St. Quentin**, the artist who was famed for his richly coloured work on the Gothic Revival ceiling of the Provincial Council Chambers. The duke did not make things any easier. W. E. **Burke** has an interesting recollection.

... A vision appeared to the town and ... was christened 'the Mermaid'. It had come by the well known old home trader of that name. It was habited novelly to provincial ideas. Its forehead had a fringe. Its back hair fell to its waist. It had a short skirt and it trod daintily with a small high heeled shoe. It was tall. The arrival caused a sensation. For months its every movement was talked of.

Alas, a short year or two of colonial life ended the gay romance. The spoilt toy palled upon the senses. It passed unheeded except for some unpleasant remark. From its pedestal it gradually slid until the poor butterfly ended its gay career as an outcast. She was at the ball, and to the horror of all the blue blood, the Duke selected her as his partner for the dance. Was considered by all the respectability of the village a sad exhibition of His Highness' want of taste. Sad to say, he seemed to enjoy himself despite the surroundings.

Jane **Anderson**, 73, died on 20 March 1894, while her husband, John, 76, died on 30 April 1897.

No. 880  
**Campbell**

Peter **Campbell**, 76, died on 25 July 1885. His wife, Mary, 79, died on 5 January 1890.

Peter and Mary were the parents of Dr. Donald **Campbell**.

George Ranald **Macdonald** found a story which showed the doctor in a bad light:

I have a good story of Dr. **Campbell** who hooked a substantial bequest on a patient's deathbed and afterwards failed to collect it. The patient handed over a cheque only hours before he died and the bank refused to pass the signature.

The gravestone refers to how the **Campbells** bravely faced death:

Donald **Campbell**, surgeon, his wife, Maria Esther, and their children, John Fraser, Jane Borthwick, Donald George Robertson Elmslie, and Esther ... were drowned in the wreck of the s.s. Tararua off Waipapa Point, on 29 April 1881.

**Campbell** showed professionalism when on the stricken ship and did his best to comfort the passengers even when it was clear that the vessel would sink and that most of those on board would die. Also, his elder son

... worked like a man to protect his young sisters - he held his arms about them and continually tried to keep them from falling when the waves washed over the deck.

The very tall gravestone was 'erected by personal friends in Christchurch and Lyttelton to whom Dr. **Campbell**, his esteemed wife and family were united by ties of warm and lasting friendship'.

The **Campbell** grave is surrounded by a huge yew tree. These trees are planted in graveyards because they symbolise longevity and reincarnation. It is thought that the oldest yew tree in the United Kingdom, at Fortingall, Scotland, is 1500 years old. The yew is hollow, the centre decays and new growth comes away from this part of the

tree. The wood is very elastic, was excellent for the long bow and this gave the English superiority over the French at the Battle of Agincourt.

The Latin name of the tree is *taxus baccata*.

Many people drowned on the Tararua were buried in the Tararua Acre, a quickly gazetted graveyard established behind the sandhills in the vicinity of the wreck. Others were buried at Tokonui and Foetrose. Ivan **Sell** recalls how, as a child in the 1950s, he and his Waimahaka School friends were taken, on the anniversary of the tragedy, to the burial grounds to clean the plots. A chain from the ship hung across the entrance to the Tararua Acre – till it was stolen. At low tide one could see the ship's boiler.

Row H  
No. 910  
**Nairn**

David **Nairn**, 83, died 7 July 1916  
Jessie **Nairn**, 87, died 30 August 1921  
Their son, David Ogilvie **Nairn**, 19, died 1 July 1882  
Their daughter, Jessie **White**, 61, died 21 May 1925

A Scot, David **Nairn**, arrived in Canterbury, with his family, in 1864. He did the 'ordinary everyday class of work that was offering to any new arrival with a will to work'. He was employed by the Papanui Road nurseryman John **Abbott** prior to establishing his own business at Burke Street, then Barrington Street and, finally, on Lincoln Road. His sons worked for him and his daughter was the secretary.

In broad Scotch, **Nairn** told his Lincoln Road competitors that he would succeed in the area and they told him that they would sell out provided he paid them in gold sovereigns, which he did.

David **Nairn** chose as his staff men who were often Scots but who always knew how to grow items for sale. He had clients throughout New Zealand and Australia, grew plants in greenhouses and locals came to marvel at his begonias, cyclamen, gloxinias, fuschias and pelargoniums. His was a place of interesting plant specimens and there was a phrase: "Go to **Nairn**'s for novelties".

When one drives from Moorhouse Avenue and along Lincoln Road, one notices to the left a side street which marks the site of the business - Nairn Street.

Row J  
No. 951  
**Plumridge**

The gravestone of Frank **Plumridge** shows that the unfortunate young man died aged 25.

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The school teachers' records at Canterbury Museum tell us a little more. Frank was a primary school teacher at Lismore in 1887. The inspector visited in June, and made the caustic comment: 'Mr. **Plumridge** has yet to learn the most elementary principles and implement technical details of primary school business. Children obedient. Attention very lax'.

In December 1887 Frank received three months' leave of absence to attend the Normal School. A brief note in the archives reads: 'Died 4 June 1888'.

Row J  
No. 933  
**Dickey**

Jane Dickey, 74, d 16 April 1891. Eliza McKeown, eldest daughter of Jane, 74, d 12 June 1920. Rachel Long, 81, d 21 May 1931. Samuel Dickey, 81, husband of Hannah, d. 23 November 1933

Samuel **Dickey** borrowed 24 pounds and became a property investor and owner. He owned most of the houses in Stewart Street, the last of which, the Stewart Street House, is at Ferrymead. He left his property to his wife, Hannah. His daughter, Bessie, was governess to the children of Sir John Hall.

Row N  
No. 1031  
**Wyatt**

Alfred Henry **Wyatt**, 59, died on 9 October 1920. His wife, Isabella, 79, died on 24 February 1942. A son, Huia, 23, was killed at Gallipoli on 22 June 1915.

In the 1880s and 1890s, A. H. **Wyatt** was the pioneer storekeeper in Seaview Road, New Brighton. He had a reputation as a philanderer. The story goes that, while his wife was away giving birth, he seduced the maid, a young woman called **Nankivell** from South Brighton. Until his teenage years, the child of this relationship was not told the name of his father. He became Europe and Africa-based book and art connoisseur Sir Rex **Nan Kivell** whose priceless collection is now in Australia.

Row O  
No. 1939  
**Taylor**

Here lie Edward **Taylor**, 74, who died on 19 April 1907 and his wife, Annie, 89, who died on 22 April 1922.

Here also is their daughter-in-law, Elizabeth Best **Taylor** nee **Ellison**, 72, who died on 27 April 1941. She and her husband had six children. Elizabeth was prominent in public life as a J.P. and supporter of the temperance cause and women's rights. Her son, E. B. E. **Taylor** was a National Party parliamentary candidate, coroner and New Zealand ambassador to Japan.

There is also the inscription:

Sacred to the memory of Thomas Edward **Taylor**, only son of Edward and Anne, born 16 June 1863, died 27 July 1911. Statesman, orator, reformer, Prohibition leader. Member of Parliament 9 years, Mayor of Christchurch, 1911.

I have fought the good fight. Oh fallen at length that tower of strength which stood four square to all the winds that blew.

T. E. **Taylor** was born in Lincolnshire and emigrated to Canterbury with his parents on the Cardigan castle. He became an anti-alcohol advocate and persuaded his father not just to take in a modest amount of beer but to take in none at all. Although people like Tommy **Taylor** could be called temperance advocates, they were in fact prohibitionists. They argued that not a drop of alcohol should pass a person's lips.

At one stage **Taylor** trained for the Methodist ministry but his minister thought him too unorthodox and argumentative. He retained the anti-alcohol, anti-gambling pro-social reform ideas of the Methodist church and worked for J. M. **Heywood** and Co., importers and forwarders. In 1894 he was offered a partnership but, because he would have had to give up temperance work, he declined and, instead, set up an importing and land agency company, **Cole, Taylor, Derritt**. **Taylor** encouraged the more prosperous to purchase land on the Port Hills at Cashmere. The **Taylor** property on the hills was 'Whareora' in Whareora Terrace.

Although prohibitionists might seem to have been killjoys, they were, in fact, lively witty people. Also, temperance people in general, and Tommy **Taylor** in particular, were on the left wing of politics, being champions of 'the poor ... disadvantaged and ... dependent'. They would invite people to picnics where the old and, more importantly, the young would be invited to take the pledge. By getting working men to give up alcohol, they reasoned that more money would come into the house for the benefit of the wife and children.

The bete noir of the publicans, **Taylor** was involved with many areas of the country becoming 'no-licence'. In 1895-96 he and his associates attacked **Coker's** Hotel, claiming that the George Street bar was the haunt of 'prostitutes and their consorts'. Litigation followed with one man claiming that, from his window, he had seen 'men and women coming tumbling out of the bar'. An expert witness stated that to see this the witness 'would have to put his head out seven feet six inches'.

**Taylor** served three terms in Parliament. He concerned himself not only with the prohibition cause but was also a thorn in the side of Liberal Party Premier, Richard John **Seddon**, himself a friend of publicans. **Seddon** was a very moderate left-wing politician. **Taylor** was, for his day, very left wing. The drink question caused them to be great foes.

**Taylor** claimed that R. J. **Seddon** interfered with the enforcement, by the police, of the country's licensing laws (it was thus that he wrote a book with the evocative title The shadow of Tammany). He accused the Premier of using the public purse to favour

his son, Richard junior; and was a supporter of women's rights. The organisation which spearheaded 'votes for women', the Women's Christian Temperance Union, was a branch of the movement with which **Taylor** was involved.

**Taylor** opposed this country's participation in the 1899-1902 Boer War at a time when, to take such a stance, was considered to be against all that was held dear in the British Empire. Needless to say, **Seddon** was a passionate supporter of the war.

**Taylor's** stance led to his losing his seat after one term in Parliament though he was later to regain it and serve a further six years.

It can be said that **Taylor** spread his interests over too wide a range of subjects. Had he concentrated on prohibition, his cause might have had greater success.

In 1911 **Taylor** stood for the position of Mayor of Christchurch. New Zealand truth described **Taylor's** victory and the frustration of the Press.

The local Tory organ offered frantic opposition to Thomas which was about the best means of securing his return, for anything that the Tory organ opposes in Christchurch is sure of success. The Tory organ said that **Taylor's** time would be too much occupied with his parliamentary duties to enable him to devote himself to the Mayoral business. But **Taylor** put up a big fight, won, and, to show that the Tory organ was inaccurate in its estimation of the time at his disposal, toured both islands in the Prohibition interest, even visiting the wild, wet Coast. Then he brought down his scheme to raise 100,000 pounds for the reconstruction of the streets of Christchurch and, again, found the Tory organ in opposition. **Taylor**, who, in addition to all this, had his private business to attend to, immediately commenced a series of meetings throughout Greater Christchurch to explain his scheme ...

Perhaps, after all, the Press had a point. In the middle of his campaign, **Taylor** broke down.

Truth wrote:

There were some people who predicted that a person with the physique of Tommy **Taylor** couldn't burn the candle of publicity at both ends very much longer without breaking down and these predictions have, unfortunately, proved true as, on Thursday evening last, the stormy petrel of New Zealand politics breathed his last.

**Taylor** died of a perforated stomach ulcer and, at his funeral on a cold July day, between 40,000 and 50,000 people turned out to line the route to the cemetery.

Truth wrote:

Thomas Edward **Taylor** was without a doubt the most prominent figure in New Zealand politics. He was absolutely fearless, and reckless of

consequences, and it was this attribute of his that earned for him the sobriquet of 'the stormy petrel'.

When young, I would listen to my maternal grandmother's references to the 'wild men' of her youth, Tommy **Taylor**, Len **Isitt** and Harry **Ell**. A woman wrote: 'To me in my girlhood he was a legend. My father and mother both admired him but, when the rumpuses were on, my father would say, regretfully: 'But he's always stirring up the mud'. H. Sherwood **Cordery** wrote: 'To us boys Tommy **Taylor** was a great big hero'.

**Taylor** was an influential layman in his church, being associated with St. John's, Selwyn Street and St. James, Cashmere. A memorial to the **Taylors** in St. John's reads:

They lived generously for others' good. Their courageous service helped to build us up in faith and liberty. They loved the hills of home and by their labours increased our goodly heritage in the land. They followed Christ. Their lives shone as the light and their work abides.

In 2001 the Christchurch City Council opened flats for people on a low, fixed income. These stand on the corner of Waltham Road and Brougham Street and bear the name 'Tommy **Taylor** Courts'.

Row O  
No. 1053  
**Wilkin**

Robert **Wilkin**, a Scot from Dumfriesshire, spent 19 years in Australia; came to Canterbury to farm; was on the Canterbury Provincial Council and, indeed, Deputy Superintendent.

When a meeting of prosperous men called upon **Wilkin** to stand for the position of Superintendent, he declined as he had not yet firmly established himself on his sheep runs in the Ashburton area. **Wilkin** named Tinwald, the area just south of Ashburton and became one of the most prominent sheepmen in the province.

In several buildings on a quarter acre site in Hereford Street there stood the business of Messrs. Robert **Wilkin** and Co., merchants, auctioneers and estate agents. In one of the office rooms there was

... about as complete a library of works on farming as could possibly be got together. These books are all prizes won from agricultural societies ... for exhibits of seeds ... [and] machinery ... and are faced by a case full of medals ... [and] cups ... gained in the same manner.

In 1863 **Wilkin** was the first president of the original Agricultural and Pastoral Association. He supported the Rev. Charles **Fraser's** Boys' Academy.

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A supporter of trotting, **Wilkin** had stables on the Holmwood Road-Garden Road corner. As there were no 'clean-bred' trotting sires in the Dominion, he arranged that, in 1882, there would be brought from the U.S.A. a collection of sires and brood mares.

Robert **Wilkin**, 66, of Holmwood, died on 20 June 1886

Row O

No. 1055

**Fraser**

Born in 1823 and the son of a merchant, the Rev. Charles **Fraser** was a graduate of two Scottish universities. On 13 April 1856 he arrived in Lyttelton, on board the Oriental, with his newly-wed wife, Jane A. W. **Bisset**. Thirteen years her husband's junior, Jane, died, aged 33, on 4 February 1869.

**Fraser** obtained from the Canterbury Provincial Council 'the valuable grant of the site upon which St. Andrew's Presbyterian church now stands'. He preached over a wide area from the Waitaki to the Hurunui and also went to Hokitika. In Akaroa he preached to the French in their native tongue

Like many Scots, a supporter of education, **Fraser** established, at arms' length from but associated with St. Andrew's, the Boys' High School or Boys' Academy. **Fraser's** school was 'one of the most successful educational institutions in Canterbury'. Jane **Deans** wrote that it 'was intended to supply a want felt by many of a more commercial education than that afforded by Christ's College, the teaching of which was too much along classical lines ...' Latin was emphasised but so too were what might have been considered more 'practical' subjects, mathematics and English. In later years the school became associated with people of working-class origins. It was to be called Christchurch West High School and is now Hagley Community College.

In the 1870s **Fraser** publicly supported the establishment of what became Canterbury University College and, eventually, the University of Canterbury. He said:

... education in this province is [not] a matter of class ... or attached ... to rank. Thank God, we live in a country where education is free to all .... It is my great ambition to see this province ... as the centre of scientific research and the great nourisher of education throughout this hemisphere.

**Fraser** lectured at the infant college and was an early member of Sir Julius von **Haast's** Philosophical Institute of Canterbury, whose writings appear in the Transactions and proceedings of the New Zealand Institute, the ancestor of the Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand. It may seem strange for a minister of the period that **Fraser** showed an interest in Darwinian theory.

Sometimes things said in all honesty and sincerity will sound offensive to a later generation. In 1862 **Fraser** took it for granted that 'None of us would like to be called New Zealanders'. **Fraser's** comment related to a belief that being of English or

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Scottish extraction was more important than the idea that one should associate oneself with this country. Also, 'New Zealanders' were, originally, Maori.

**Fraser** preached his first sermon, in the Lyttelton Wesleyan Chapel, within two hours of reaching the shore. It was perhaps prophetic that he should have taken, as the text for his first sermon, a passage from Timothy: 'This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the chief'. **Fraser's** career ended in 1883 amidst charges of financial mismanagement and sexual misconduct involving 'undue familiarity with female servants'. The Canterbury Presbytery deposed him and, after a struggle, got from him the keys to the church. Some people, among them Jane **Deans**, remained loyal to the long-serving minister who, till his death, protested his innocence.

**Fraser**, 60 but claiming to be 55, married Margaret Anne **Blyth**, 20, at St. Andrew's on 21 March 1883. He retired to his farm at West Melton. There Hugh **Leslie**, who, as a boy had heard **Fraser's** first sermon, built a church for the embattled minister. Heart disease 'broke down what had hitherto been an exceptionally strong constitution' and, on 26 August 1886, at Merivale, Charles **Fraser**, 63, died.

**Fraser's** gravestone is almost defiant in its reference to the man as the 'first Presbyterian minister of Canterbury'. An epigram, in Greek, reads: 'He sleeps a holy sleep. Say not that the good die'. The writer of **Fraser's** obituary stated that the minister had left 'a solemn declaration of his innocence'. It was acknowledged by all that **Fraser** was 'a man of literary ability of a high order [and] an able writer, preacher and lecturer'

Row P

No. 1066

**Limbrick**

George Lawrence **Limbrick** was born at Gloucester, the son of Susannah **Lawrence** and her husband, Richard **Limbrick**, a yeoman farmer and hotelkeeper. Richard had shares in the New Inn at Westerleigh and the Grapes Inn at Chipping Sodbury. He worked as a stockbuyer for his family. Eventually George emigrated to Canterbury.

At Hororata George worked for a butcher named **Palmer** and then, possibly because of the high wages which were paid, spent eight months on the Waikari railway. He spent a year at the butchery of H. B. **Lane** in Cashel Street, Christchurch, after which he spent two years as an employee of a Mr. **Judge** who ran a butchery in connection with his hotel at Tai Tapu.

Elizabeth **Noy** or **Noye** came from the tiny Cornish town of Zennor which is close to Land's End. It is a district across which keen Atlantic winds constantly sweep. The **Noys** emigrated to Canterbury in 1875 in the 'newly launched and beautiful 1550 ton clipper ship Blairgowrie. On 5 April 1882, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Christchurch, Elizabeth, who was living at Spreydon, married George **Limbrick** who was already established at Tai Tapu.

After leaving **Judge**'s butchery and running a business in opposition to that gentleman, George bought out his old employer. For some years he had a prosperous business which served the area from Tai Tapu to Gebbies Valley. As well, he had a dairy farm and a large tract of leasehold land. He called his home 'Westerleigh' and spent some years on the Tai Tapu School committee.

The family moved to a farm at Cave, Timaru and Spotswood, Cheviot, eventually coming to live in the city. George indulged himself by paying for an entry in the 1903

Canterbury volume of the Cyclopedia of New Zealand. and was wealthy enough to afford one trip 'Home' to see his relatives.

George **Limbrick**, 66, died of cancer on 11 June 1921, while his wife, Elizabeth, 68, died at her home in Whiteleigh Avenue on 28 September 1929. A Press obituary stated that Elizabeth was 'very modest and kind to all who had the fortune to meet her'. She would be 'long remembered for her good acts'. The obituary concluded: "A noble soul has passed away".

The **Limbricks** were an upwardly mobile family. A grandson, Richard Lawrence **Simpson**, my uncle by marriage and the man after whom I am named, was, with his two brothers, educated at Christ's College. Richard Lawrence **Simpson** gained his B.Com at Canterbury University College when 21. He died when his ship was torpedoed in World War II. A cousin, Warren **Limbrick**, edited Bishop Selwyn in New Zealand, 1841-68 and was Dean of Dunedin Cathedral.

Row Q  
No. 1078-1080

### **Harband**

Here are the graves of several members of a Birmingham family, the **Harbands**. Josiah was a man of integrity, a Congregationalist and a coachbuilder by trade. He was born on 11 June 1836 and, along with his wife and children, arrived in Lyttelton on the Monarch in 1870. Josiah died at his residence, Harman Street, Sydenham, on 24 June 1889. His widow, Lucy nee **Hartlow**, who was born on 2 June 1831, died on 19 March 1890.

Their daughters included Amy and Mary Hannah Beatrice. They started life as pupil-teachers at Christchurch public schools and became London Missionary Society missionaries in Madras, South India. Amy founded the Lucy **Hartlow** School which was named after her mother. Amy's supposed failing health forced the siblings to return to Christchurch. Here Amy recovered, eventually dying, at 83, on 24 June 1942.

Beatrice wrote books which extolled the virtues of Christianity and the supposed evils of Hinduism. In 1903 there came out her Daughters of darkness in sunny India. The publishers thought that this would be read widely and had it printed in New York, Chicago, Toronto, London and Edinburgh. Back in Christchurch, Beatrice became known as 'Biddie' or 'Old Bid'. She did not agree with drinking, dancing and gambling, was a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and first

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teacher and headmistress at the Aranui Primary School between 1911-1921. She was respected by her pupils and remained in contact with many of them after retirement.

Selfishness was an unknown word to her. After her retirement Miss **Harband** married Mr. **Graham** who was far from well and who had little chance of ever regaining his health. Miss **Harband** ministered to him until his death. She knew the job she had undertaken but she carried out her duties faithfully and with little thought for her own comfort.

Beatrice died in 1955.

Centre Circle A

### **Deans**

John **Deans** II, son of Jane **McIlwraith** and her husband, John **Deans** I, was born in the first years of the Canterbury Settlement and grew up with it. From his father he inherited property at Riccarton and Homebush. His mother made his education and the handing on of a prosperous property her main concern. There were also a number of trustees and faithful retainers. One trustee was William **Lyon** of Wellington; his little boy was drowned in the Avon during a visit to Riccarton. Jane **Deans**'s half-brother, George, died in a horse-riding accident while taking care of the demesne. Little wonder that, when John II reached his majority, the event was celebrated in lavish fashion. There were three days of dancing and luncheons were provided for settler friends and Maori servants.

John was educated at Charles **Fraser**'s Boys' Academy and had a legal training. In adult life he wore black clothes and a semi-clerical collar. He was 'slight, thin-lipped ... sharp of eye, a serious person with a purpose'. He was responsible for ensuring that, at Riccarton, there should survive the vegetation which was native to Christchurch. At Homebush he had coal mines and a pottery business. He was on the Christchurch Drainage Board and Riccarton Road Board. However, he was primarily a farmer. He was a both a sheep and cattle farmer, paying high prices to get pure-bred Shorthorn cattle into the country. His interest in farming was demonstrated by his activities with the Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association, the Canterbury Frozen Meat Company and the New Zealand Flock Book Council.

An only child, John wanted his family to survive and thrive. In 1879 he married Catherine Edith **Park**, 'a woman of graciousness, strength, good humour and admirable fertility'; the couple had 12 children in 16 years.

In December 1900 John, his wife and his mother held a grand get-together of surviving Canterbury Pilgrims. This continued each year till Jane's death.

John would go on long drives from Methven to Waimarama in an open gig and, on occasion, in wet weather. He fell ill, probably with meningitis and died in 1902. The news 'of his death hardly came in the nature of surprise but was received with widespread regret'.

John **Deans** was 'born [at] Riccarton 6 August 1853 [and] died there 19 June 1902'.

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Catherine Edith **Deans**, 81, died at Riccarton on 2 September 1937.

Robert George **Deans**, son of Edith and John **Deans** II, was born on 19 February 1884. He attended Christchurch Boys' High School where he was head boy, senior monitor, and captain of the First XV and of cadets. He spent his working life on the family farm at Riccarton.

Six feet tall and weighing 13 stone 4 lbs, Robert abstained from tobacco and alcohol and had deep religious beliefs. A 'splendid figure of colonial youth', he was an All Black in the 1905 tour of Great Britain. He scored 16 tries on tour. His famous try at Cardiff Arms Park was disallowed by the referee who was not on hand to see clearly what had happened. The fact that the try was disallowed meant that the team came home without making a clean sweep of all their games. The Welsh had the better of the match.

Robert died of appendicitis on 30 September 1908.

Side Row A

No. 1150

**Falloon**

Here lie Thomas Henry **Falloon**, 20, who died on 17 January 1888, Matilda, 1827-1907, William David, 1872-1948, and Robert **Falloon**, 63, who died on 1 September 1899.

G. R. **Macdonald** wrote of **Falloon**:

He drove cabs and coaches and was always in the Magistrate's Court for various offences such as dangerous driving, obstructing other cabs and failing to obey council by-laws,

**Sources:** Lyttelton times: various numbers in the 1860s

Christchurch City Libraries' Press index is more blunt about the sources:

alleges double standard in cab by-laws, 19 February 1870 p. 2  
assaulted, 18 March 1870 p. 3  
deviating from route, 8 April 1870 p. 3  
absent from cab - in court, 20 May 1870 p. 2  
disturbance, 27 May 1870 p. 3  
wrong side of road, 3 June 1870 p. 3  
unattended cab, 24 June 1870 p. 2  
absent from cab, 1 July 1870 p. 2  
assaulted by other cabbies, 12 August 1870, p. 2  
wrongful plying, 16 September 1870 p. 2  
again 30 September 1870 p. 3  
wandering stock, 18 November 1870 p. 3  
son lost? 22 November 1870 p. 2  
assault, 25 November 1870 p. 3

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cattle trespass, 30 December 1870 p. 2  
wrongful plying, 21 January 1871 p. 2  
obstruction, 26 May 1871 p. 3  
injured, 9 June 1871 p. 2  
obstruction, 14 July 1871 p. 2  
hauled before city council, 18 July 1871 p. 2  
bankrupt, 14 October 1871 p. 3  
unlicensed operation, 19 January 1872 p. 3  
obstruction, collision, 4 February 1872 p. 2  
accident, 18 April 1872 p.2  
unlicensed operation, 6 September 1872 p. 3  
again 18 October 1872 p. 2

Side Row D  
No. 1223-1225  
**Duncan**

Here lie several members of the **Duncan** family.

Andrew **Duncan**, a native of the west of Scotland and was in Canterbury in 1858 with his parents; his father, George, was a trained and experienced horticulturist. **Duncan** junior had 'auburn curly hair and beard' and was 'a colonist in the truest sense of the word', a man 'not ashamed to turn his hand to whatever employment presented itself'.

In 1873 **Duncan** was to recall that, in youth, he had had no experience of working a bullock in harness but he quickly tackled the job. He 'ploughed, harrowed, sowed', went to the Maori Bush and carted timber and firewood to Harrison's Corner at the head of the Cam River. A fire later spread and consumed all the timber he had carried out of the bush. When his bullock strayed from the Maori Bush to Rangiora, he had to find Mr. **de Bourbel** and rescue it from the pound. He worked on the roads, forming and metalling that portion of the Great North Road from the Styx River to Channeys and looked 'upon that piece of road as one of the best in the colony'.

**Duncan** used the plough as a means of making money, worked for nurseryman and first Christchurch mayor, William **Wilson**, and then became a nurseryman and seedsman in his own right. He had shops on Gloucester and Cashel streets and the Exotic Nursery in Phillipstown off Nursery Road. He specialised in new, rare and greenhouse plants and, with a boom in trade, bought a large amount of land in Ensors Road, the lay-out being done by a 'masterly hand'.

A devout Presbyterian, **Duncan** was a member of the Rev. Charles **Fraser's** congregation at St. Andrew's. However, with other prominent members of the flock – John Craib **Angus**, William **Wilson** and John **Anderson** among them - he fell out with **Fraser and** left to form the congregation at St. Paul's. **Duncan** was 'a wise counsellor and true-hearted friend to many in the community and his advice was sought after and highly prized by a wide circle of acquaintances'.

**Duncan** became secretary of the Horticultural Society and a member of the Canterbury Provincial and Christchurch City councils. In 1870 he was the third Scotsman in succession to be Mayor in the Anglican city of Christchurch.

In 1874 **Duncan** and William **Lyon** were principal speakers at the coming-of-age function for 'Young Johnny **Deans**'. Many years later G. R. Macdonald read the Lyttelton Times accounts of the speeches and found them 'damned dull'. **Lyons**' speech was 'rubbish ...[and] padding'.

The same year, at the behest of the Canterbury Provincial Council, **Duncan** was appointed Canterbury's Special Immigration Agent in the 'Old Country', despite the fact that immigration was now the prerogative of central government. One hundred and twenty-five men sat down at a dinner in the Oddfellows' Hall to honour **Duncan**, Deputy-Superintendent R. J. S. **Harman** presiding. The tables were neatly decorated with pot plants, an 'efficient band' was present, and the caterer, J. W. Morton of the Commercial Hotel in High Street, 'gave general satisfaction'.

**Duncan** told the crowd that he would show prospective immigrants how, at home, they had no future but must depend on their 'feudal lords'. At home they would see their children 'sent out in a state of ignorance to shift for themselves', whereas, in Canterbury, the young ones would be educated. He would point to himself as one who had 'pushed himself along'. He would advise people to be sober, steady and industrious and do their duty to themselves and their fellow men, for six, seven or 10 years. Men 'of the highest education and position' would help them and they would be respected and would amass a fortune beyond the conceptions they formed before they left home.

**Duncan** worked in Scotland and northern England and, in a period of nine days, interviewed 900 people of whom 190 were chosen as immigrants. The Canterbury brought 'as fine a lot of Scotch girls [as] have ever come to Canterbury ... good, robust, healthy and comely lasses, intelligent and educated'. Another of **Duncan's** ships, the Crusader, brought 376 immigrants, mainly members of the Northern Agricultural Labourers' Union. **Duncan** 's immigrants were long considered 'desirable settlers'.

Although a hearty healthy-looking man, **Duncan** developed heart disease. He went to Australia to try to recover his health, returned, grew worse and died, aged 46, on 10 December 1880.

'Shortly after, with the loss of the master mind, the business ... dwindled and eventually closed up'. One of **Duncan's** sons became, in 1899, the founder of **Duncan and Davies** in New Plymouth. The Taranaki nursery became world famous. As one former employee commented: "If you came out of working for Duncan and Davies with a good record, you could work anywhere in the world". In 2005 the firm went into liquidation owing \$4.8 million though it was hoped that it could be sold as a going concern so that business could continue and staff keep their jobs.

Side Row E  
No. 1280

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## **Gibb**

John **Gibb** was born on 2 April 1931 at Cumbernauld, Scotland, and studied under John **MacKenzie** of Greenock. A 'stocky Pickwickian figure', he exhibited at the West of Scotland and Glasgow Institute of Fine Arts. A more practical occupation was that of building houses in the expanding suburbs of Glasgow.

In 1852 John married Agnes Crichton who was three years his senior. Their first son was stillborn and their second, David, died at four months in 1855. Agnes died in 1855 and, in 1857, John married Marion Menzies. The first three children, all sons, grew to adulthood, married and had children. These were John W. (1857-1943), William Menzies (1859-1931) and Herbert B. Gibb (1861-1935). Other children, Elizabeth, Mary, Jessie and Marian, died in Scotland. The last child, Gabriel, was born in Scotland in 1871 and died in Christchurch in 1880.

John and his family emigrated on the Merope in 1876. While living in Christchurch, **Gibb** was a promoter of the Canterbury Society of Arts.

**Gibb** was a professional painter in the new land. Indeed, he showed no fewer than 500 pictures on varied subjects at the local arts society. His obituary stated that his speciality was his 'wonderfully realistic treatment of water in his many seascapes, and ... details of shipping'. He also painted pictures of the West Coast Sounds and alpine scenery. His pictures 'were always noticeable for the careful and painstaking work bestowed upon all the details'. Doubtless the country's best-known marine painter, he produced works which were purchased by art galleries at Bendigo and Ballarat, the Canterbury Society of Arts, and the Governor, Lord **Onslow** who sent his wife along to be one of the great man's pupils.

**Gibb**'s fascination with the sky and light is recalled in family stories of how he would see a particularly fine sunset outside the dining room window, abandon dinner and rush off with his paints to depict it.

**Gibb** was highly regarded in his day. However, his 'large-scale, meticulously brushed oil paintings fell out of fashion in the 20<sup>th</sup> century's quest for modernism'. His work and that of eight other Canterbury artists was exhibited, in the millennial exhibition at the Robert Macdougall Art Gallery.

The gravestone records that Gabriel, nine, son of John and Marion Menzies **Gibb**, died on 17 February 1880. Marion, 62, died on 27 May 1891. John **Gibb**, 78, died on 10 September 1909. The Gibbs' second son, William Menzies, was a professional painter.

The **Gibb** gravestone fell into decay but has now been restored.

Side Row E  
No. 1362  
**Henry**

William Higgins **Henry**, 32, and his wife, Eusebia Margaret **Henry** nee **Maxwell**, 29, were drowned in the wreck of the Picton-Wellington Cook Strait passenger steamer Penguin on 12 February 1909. Of the 105 people on board, 75 lost their lives. In 1990 the disaster was described as 'one of the most tragic wrecks of the present century'.

The gravestone of the **Henry** family states: 'They were lovely and pleasant in their lives and in death they were not divided'.

With the **Henrys** lie Mrs **Henry**'s parents, Emma Jane **Maxwell** who died, at 44, on 16 August 1884 and the Rev. James **Maxwell** who died, at 69, on 26 July 1911.

Side Row G  
No. 405  
**Garrard**

William **Garrard**, swimming instructor and gunsmith, had a sister, Sarah Ann, the wife of Joseph **Kinsey**, and the family name is perpetuated in Kinseys Terrace, Sumner.

Joseph was an over-achiever, attended Greenwich's Royal Navy School, was a shipping magnate, attorney for one of **Shackleton**'s both of **Scott**'s polar expeditions, and was knighted.

William's brother, Francis George **Garrard**, captain of the Tararua when it sank in 1881, was held responsible for the disaster in which 151 people lost their lives.

Francis is buried in the Barbadoes Street Cemetery, well away from the 'Tararua Acre' which was established at Otara, Southland, almost opposite the site of the wreck. William purchased the plot wherein Francis was buried. The 21 May 1881 funeral of the 'dashing gallant' captain 'was of a private nature, only ... relatives and friends of the deceased being present'.

Sarah Emily **Garrard**, 78, died on 12 November 1922, while William **Garrard**, 89, died on 22 September 1926.

Side Row 3  
K-L

Here a new gravestone has been erected for members of the **Brooker** family. Rebecca **Jenner** was born at Mereworth, Kent, on 22 October 1820, the daughter of a gardener on a genteel estate. She came to New Zealand in 1836, was attached to the household of the Rev. J. A. **Wilson** and, after 1840, was an interpreter between the Government and Maori.

On 13 December 1844, at the Methodist Mission, Auckland, Rebecca married Stephen **Brooker**, who had been born at Tunbridge Wells, in 1817. The couple moved to Australia and arrived in Lyttelton on the ship Supply on 17 June 1851.

Stephen was a road labourer, guided settlers to their holdings on the plains and foothills and prospected in the Malvern Hills. A cabman in Christchurch, he would eventually establish his stand in front of the Godley Statue in Cathedral Square. Prior to that, in 1855, he discovered the dead body of errant clergyman Joseph **Twigger**.

Stephen **Brooker** is best known because of the story that, in 1860, he and several other men settled on a piece of land on the south side of where the Bower Bridge was later built and there gave to the district the name 'New Brighton'. There are now a Brooker Avenue and Rebecca Street not far from the site of the 1860 settlement.

Rebecca **Brooker** died on 1 November 1887. Stephen died on 12 March 1899.

Side Row L

No. 1502

**Hastie**

John **Hastie** was born at Kettle, Fifeshire and, in 1856, married Margaret Dron. The wedding may have been celebrated in Nelson as some of the couple's children were born there.

John was granted a conditional licence for an accommodation house with cob walls at Hurunui in May 1860. This became the original Hurunui Hotel and built on the opposite side of the Hurunui River from the public dip which was built so that all sheep coming down from the north should be dipped there. In 1864 **Cobb** and Co. established a coach service from Christchurch to Hastie's which ran three days a week. In November 1864 **Hastie** was the *Lyttelton times* agent in his part of North Canterbury.

Although John had a wide circle of friends, he was not an outstanding accommodation house keeper. James **Ashworth** junior recalled of North Canterbury accommodation houses:

... Unless one was known as a good drinking man, it was very hard to get any kind of food or attention. I have paid at **Hastie's** Hotel at Hurunui as much as two shillings for a loaf of about two pounds weight.

... Practically all the hotels were at the rivers and the hotel keepers were the ferrymen ... Unless you were a drinker, this was another way in which you were inconvenienced. For instance, the manner in which you got across was for the ferryman to stand on the bank and wave his arms right or left while you floundered in the middle of the stream.

On 12 February 1868 John **Hastie**, 43, died suddenly as the result of a stroke. His widow would appear to have had another relationship and to have borne a son, John Hastie, who died as an infant in 1876. On 17 September 1878, after a long and painful

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illness, Margaret, 42, died at Hurunui House, Hereford Street east. She was buried with her husband.

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