

FRANK DALE 1870-1954

By Dale Hartle



Frank Dale was born on 7 November 1870 in Beaumont, near Lawrence, Central Otago, where the family were currently living. This was the epicentre of the Otago gold rush and Frank's father Charles Hawkins Dale was a labourer and miner.

Frank was the 8th child in the family, and was in fact a twin, whose birth and death was recorded but he never survived. There is a burial register note (#1499) giving 10 November 1870 and a charge of 10s. for grave digging, which we presume was for the twin of Frank who lived 1 day and was named Frank.¹ Maybe the name was then given to the surviving twin. There apparently was another child born to Eliza and Charles Dale in 1868 – his birth was registered as Frank Beaumont (Reg No 1868/33997, born in Beaumont, Central Otago to Elizabeth and Charles Dale, and his death at 2 months Reg No 1868/10992). His burial date was recorded in the register (#1406) as 23 March 1868. Sometimes parents named a later child with the same name as a recently deceased child.

Birth:

1871/38293	Dale	Frank	Eliza	Charles
1871/38296	Dale	NR	Eliza	Charles

Death:

<u>Registration Number</u>	<u>Family Name</u>	<u>Given Name(s)</u>	<u>Date of Birth/ Age at Death</u>
1871/10173	Dale	NR	1D

Frank married **Flora Ann McLean** on 12 July 1897 in Ashburton.



Flora was born in South Rakaia on 13 June 1877 to parents Hector McLean, a labourer aged 30 and Flora McLean (nee Bell). Hector came from Port Charlotte, Islay in Scotland, and Flora from Glasgow. Flora had several other siblings: **Mary 1868-** (Scotland), **Janet 1872-** (Scotland), **Hector 1874-** (NZ), **Jack (John) 1879-** (NZ), and one other unknown.

¹ Information provided by the Balclutha Genealogical Society.



Figure 1 - SS Dunedin

The Scottish connection begins here.

Scottish Connection

Hector McLean was born on 19 March 1840 in Kilchoman, Islay, Argyll, Scotland (an island off the coast of Scotland near Glasgow). The island is the southernmost of the Inner Hebrides islands and is known for its whiskey production.

Hector married Flora Bell (b. 1843-44) in Glasgow in 1870-71.

On 6 April 1874 they set sail from Glasgow on the “SS Dunedin” for Lyttelton, arriving on 3 July. The ship was captained by Whitson, and had 500 immigrants. It was her maiden voyage and she made the trip in 98 days.

The family first settled in South Rakaia but also lived in Pukeatua, Te Awamutu and Opotiki.

Flora McLean (Flora Dale’s mother) died on 3 August 1919 aged 76 years at Waikato Hospital and was buried in Hamilton East Cemetery, Block AA2-C-04.

Her death notice published in the *Waikato Times* on 4 August 1919 reads:

MacLean – On August 3rd, 1919, at Hamilton, Flora, dearly beloved wife of Hector MacLean, of Pukeatua, aged 75 years. Interment this day at Hamilton East Cemetery. Hudner Bros., Undertakers.

Hector McLean outlived his wife and died on 15 January 1927 aged 87 years, in Opotiki Public Hospital and is buried there, Block 34F. His occupation was listed as Farmer and his religion as Presbyterian.

The McLean name was also listed as MacLean, so it gets confusing sometimes and multiple searches must be done to find the correct information.

Family

Frank and Flora married on 12 July 1897 in Ashburton, settled in the Ohakune/Raetihi area, and produced 8 children:

1. Agnes May Dale, 1899
2. Frank Charles Dale, 1900
3. John Hector Dale, 1902
4. **Janet Flora Beatrice Dale, 1904**
5. George Frederick Dale, 1907
6. Maud Gladys Myrtle Dale, 1909
7. Eledia Alice Dale, 1911
8. Gordon Henry Dale, 1913



Dale Family group, 1909-10: from left - Frank Charles Jnr b.1900, Janet Flora Beatrice 1904, Frank Snr, Flora holding Maud 1909, George Frederick in front 1907, Agnes May 1899 and John Hector 1902.

The seven surviving children are seen in this family group photo taken on the occasion of Gordon's wedding in 1951 in Matamata.



Figure 2 - From left: Jean (Janet Flora Beatrice), May (Agnes May), Gordon (Claude), Frank Snr, Frank, Eledia, George, Maud.

Two of their sons, George and Gordon (Claude) both served in World War II enlisting with the Second New Zealand Expeditionary Force (Second Echelon) in 1940/1941.

From Maud's account of her early life, it seems the family moved around the North Island a lot, working on farms with Frank doing survey work.

Maybe other members of the family have more information on Frank and Flora and their working lives.

Death – Flora Dale

Flora died on 7 May 1931 at Waikato Hospital, Hamilton when she was 54 years of age. Her death notice says she was living in Otorohanga at the time. She is buried at Hamilton East Cemetery, plot BB-O-032.

Her obituary published in the “*Waikato Times*” said:

OTOROHANGA, Friday. The death has occurred at Hamilton of Mrs Flora Ann Dale, of Otorohanga, after a long illness. The deceased with her grown up family of sons, had farmed for many years in the district. The late Mrs Dale was 54 years of age.



Death – Frank Dale

Frank outlived his wife by 23 years, and died at 191 Malfroy Road, Rotorua, on 11 March 1954, at the age of 83. He was buried in Rotorua Cemetery, Sala Street, plot 4-22-09.



His headstone inscription reads:

In loving memory of FRANK DALE beloved husband of the late FLORA ANN, died 11th March 1954, aged 83 years. At rest. Ever remembered by his family.



Figure 3 – Graveside 1954, Frank Dale, from left: Jean, Carol, Violet, Maud, Eledia

1. Agnes May Dale, 1899-1952



Figure 4 - Agnes May Dale

Agnes May Dale was born in Raetihi on 31 January 1899. She was the eldest child of Frank Dale and Flora McLean.

She married Frank Leslie Thompson, on 12 August 1919 in Raetihi. Frank was a brother of James Thompson, who married Agnes's sister Maud Gladys Myrtle Dale.

Frank was born on 16 January 1888.

Agnes died on 28 October 1952 in Waimarino Hospital, Raetihi, aged 53 years, while Frank died ten years later on 26 August 1962 in Raetihi. Agnes is buried in the Raetihi Cemetery, Block 23, plot 12, and Frank is in Block 26, plot 13.

Together they had two children: **Mavis Jean, 1923-1985**, and **Ivan Frank, 1927-2010**.



Figure 5 - Wedding Agnes May Dale and Frank Leslie Thompson

2. Francis Charles Dale, 1900-1977

Francis Charles Dale was the second child of Frank and Flora Dale. He was born on 1 October 1900 in Raetihi and died on 24 June 1977 in Rotorua at the age of 76 years. He was commonly known as Frank. He is buried in Rotorua Cemetery, Sala Street, Plot 5-13-18.



Frank married **Frances Onorine Ryan** in 1934, but the marriage ended in divorce.

He next married **Violet Caroline Harvey** in 1944, and they had one daughter **Carol Fay 1952**.

3. John Hector Dale, 1902-1911

John Hector Dale was born in 1902. He was the third child of Frank and Flora Dale.

Unfortunately John Hector Dale met an untimely death in Raetihi aged 10 years on 7 June 1911. His cause of death was believed to be diphtheria². However family sources say while out in the bush collecting clematis he fell in a river and caught influenza.

John was buried in Raetihi Cemetery on 10 June 1911, Block 4, Plot 12.

4. Janet Flora Beatrice Dale, 1904-1968



Figure 6 - Janet Flora Beatrice Dale

Janet Flora Beatrice Dale was born on 2 June 1904 in Raetihi. She was known as “Jean” by the family. She was the 4th child of Frank and Flora Dale.

She met and married Henry Reginald Rush (known as “Reg”) in 1930 and they lived in Wellington in the early years of their marriage where Reg was a police constable. They had two children:

- **Marie Daughan Valerie Rush** (known as Daughan), **1931-1989**
- **Brian Henry Rush** (known as Pete), **1933-2017**



Wedding - Janet Flora Beatrice Dale to Henry Reginald Rush. 1930.

Reg was born in Palmerston North on 25 September 1902, the eldest of 7 boys and 1 girl in the Rush family. He used to tell me how he got arthritis in his knees: “it was all the walking on the beat from Wellington Central Police Station to Rongotai and back every day!” No fancy Holdens or Fords in those days, it was all boot power.

Jean was struck down with multiple sclerosis³ in the mid-1930s shortly after Pete was born. I remember stories of how her nieces on the Rush side used to go to Wellington to help her with the children when she was ill. In those days the disease was relatively unknown and there was no treatment or cure.

^{2 2} Diphtheria: an acute and highly contagious bacterial disease causing inflammation of the mucous membranes, formation of a false membrane in the throat which hinders breathing and swallowing, and potentially fatal heart and nerve damage by a bacterial toxin in the blood. It is now rare in developed countries owing to immunization.

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multiple_sclerosis



Figure 7 - Henry Reginald Rush

The family moved to Taihape when Reg was posted there with the Police, and he served several years in the Taihape station receiving the Long Service Medal. When he retired from the Police, he purchased a milk bar in the centre of the main street of Taihape, and operated this for some years. Daughan and Pete spent their teenage years in Taihape, eventually meeting and marrying their partners there.

Eventually Reg and Jean moved to Te Awamutu, probably to be closer to Jean's two sisters Eledia and Maud who were living there, and he purchased a property in Te Rahu Road. Eledia and Maud lived across the road, on either side of the entrance to the Pekarau School.

Reg purchased another milk bar and dairy up at the Triangle in Te Awamutu, managing that for several years, until Jean's illness



Figure 9 - Jean on her sister May's horse.

forced him to sell up. During that time, Jean's health had been steadily declining. I remember as a youngster going up to Te Awamutu to stay with "Nana and Pop" during the school holidays, and helping to look after my Nana and enjoy her company. She loved playing cards and scrabble, and often I would push her around the garden in her wheelchair so she could



Figure 8 - Jean playing croquet.

tell me which flowers to cut for the vase. In her earlier days, she was a keen player of croquet and bowls, and loved horse riding.

During that time, there were a lot of visitors to the house, with many of the Dale and Rush relatives calling in to see how my Nana was, and to offer my grandad support. Saturday gatherings around the radio for the horse races was a popular activity and the cheers or commiserations rang out all afternoon. As time went by, it became evident that Nana was not going to survive the disease, and slowly her health deteriorated until she was hospitalised. We had just been up to visit during the August school holidays, and we had only just got home when we got a call to go back to Te Awamutu as Nana had taken poorly. So we packed up and rushed back to Te



Awamutu by car. Nana died in Waikato Hospital on 14 September 1968 at the age of 64 years.

Her funeral service was held at St Patrick's Church, Te Awamutu, and her pall bearers were P. Rush, J. Thompson, G. Dale, F. Dale, H. Wright and B. Rush. There were a large number of mourners including many members of the Dale and Rush families, as well as friends and ex Police members. Jean is buried in Te Awamutu Cemetery.

Reg went on to remarry his cousin from the Pearson side **Ivy Crane** and moved to Upper Hutt for a number of years. He died in Lower Hutt on 30 August 1978

at the age of 76, and was buried at the Akatarawa Lawn Cemetery, Upper Hutt. His second wife Ivy, who died on 16 September 1979, is also buried there.

5. George Frederick Dale, 1907-1987



Figure 10 - George and Gordon Dale

George Frederick Dale was the 5th child and 3rd son of Frank and Flora Dale (pictured with his brother Gordon Henry (Claude)).

He was born on 22 September 1907 and married Elizabeth (Betty) Saville after the war and went on to have 4 children: **Flora Jean 1946 -**, **William George Frank (Bill) 1947-** , **Elizabeth Ann 1952-** , and **Gordon Saville 1959-2002**.

When he enlisted for the Army in 1940, George was living in Mangapehi, near Te Kuiti and he recorded his father, Mr Frank Dale of Waimiha as his next of kin.

His occupation was Bushman/Civilian but in the Army, he was a driver, service number #21703. He was assigned to Headquarters, 2nd NZ Divisional Ammunition Company, NZ Army Service Corps of the 2nd New Zealand Expeditionary Force, Second Echelon.

It appears George enlisted at the same time as his brother Gordon (Claude).

His Army service files are available on Archway but are currently restricted. Only the direct family can request copies from Archives New Zealand.

George Dale died on 20 August 1987 and was cremated, with his ashes being interred at Pyes Pa, Tauranga.

His wife Elizabeth (Betty) lived another 32 years, and died on 16 August 2019 aged 95. She was the last of her generation to pass away and was also cremated. She is fondly remembered by all the family.



6. Maud Gladys Myrtle Dale, 1909-2004

Maud Gladys Myrtle Dale was born in Raetihi on 12 May 1909. She was the 6th child and third daughter of Frank and Flora Dale.

Maud married James (Jim) Thompson on 29 November 1930 in the Presbyterian Church, Raetihi. James was 23 years and a millhand, and Maud was 21 and her occupation was listed as domestic duties. A local farmer Jack Tilsley from Otorohanga and Eledia Alice Dale, Maud's sister, were the witnesses.

Jim was born on 3 July 1905 in Kawhatu to parents John Thompson, a Machinist from Nelson, aged 49, and Laura Alberta Thompson (nee Martin), originally from England, aged 42.



Figure 11 - Wedding of Maud Gladys Myrtle Dale and James Thompson, 29 November 1930, Raetihi

Together they had one child – **Ronald James 1933-2003** in Wharenoho, Te Awamutu.

Maud told the following life story to Ang Cole:

“Lived in Orautaha Valley until she was about 9 or 10. When she was under school age she was nearly drowned by crossing the river behind her house, the board she was walking on tipped and she fell into a whirl pool. Maud's mother who was in bed after the birth of Gordon came and jumped into the stream and saved her life. The house was just opposite Voelkerlings and both families used to go eeling together which they enjoyed. When she was about ten the family moved to Omahu, Thames valley and went to school there for about a year. Her father had bought a farm there and her mother shifted to Thames with the children into a dairy and tearooms. Frank Dale sold the farm and went surveying up the Thames coast and later to the South Island. Maud left school when she was twelve and the family moved to Matamata. They sharemilked there for Tims, hand milking over 100 cows. The next move was to Otorohanga, then to Turatea on another farm. Later they took their

cows to Hangatiki. Maud also said she was the only one with a driver's licence so had to drive all the boys wherever they needed to go."

Maud on her life, in her own words:

"This is my life story and what I can remember. (June 1988)

I was born at Raetihi and lived in Orautaha Valley until I was about 9 or 10. During that time I was under school age when I was nearly drowned by crossing the river behind our house and the board I was walking on tipped and I fell into a whirlpool and my mother in bed just after the birth of Gordon came jumped in the cold stream and saved my life. Our house was just opposite Voelkerlings, and both families used to go eeling together, which was great fun.

One day we saw the first car that came down the valley. It was just metal and dust and here comes this cloud of dust, we were quite scared as we didn't know what it was at first and ran away and hid out of sight.

Mum was a great gardener and used to do it with the boy's help and had names on all the paths from each bed after the streets in Auckland, such as Queen Street, Karangahape Road etc. We used to think it great fun.

Dad was surveying all around Ruatiti and various places, then came the fires. We all took a bucket, basin or whatever was at hand and carried water from the stream to keep the house from catching fire. The sky was like a big furnace, a big ball of fire. The wind so strong it blew us kids over so Mum said you better go inside and cover your heads up as the smoke was blinding. In the morning most of our cows were dead and the gigi's from the trees had blown by the wind, burning on to the poor devils. We saved the house anyway which many others did not.

That is where I first met Jim. Reg Martin and Jim came with some others of the family and he tried to put a daddy long legs down my back. Of course I was horrified.

It was quite a thrill last year when I went down and look at the old place and the school we went to (1987) I can remember my first school teacher. David Day Jolley - he put me on his knee one day and said this is the only blue eyed beauty in the school. Did I feel embarrassed, and all the kids called me teacher's pet.

When I was about 10 we shifted to Thames Valley and went to a country school there for 12 months. Dad had bought a farm there then. Mum and us kids shifted to Thames into a dairy and tearooms.

Of course Dad sold the farm and went surveying up Thames Coast then to the South Island. Work was fairly scarce at that time.

Forgot to mention at Orautoha our brother Jackie went into the bush and collected clematis and taking them home draped around his neck and crossing the stream fell in and got a chill and got pneumonia and died at about 10 years old.

We also used to have a lot of fun on the old swing bridge across the street and go catching the crayfish and boil them in a billy and eat them. Not much on them but tasty.

I left school when only twelve and we shifted to Matamata share milking for Tims, hand milking, which was tough getting up at 3 o'clock in the morning, over 100 cows. We then shifted to Otorohanga, onto a farm at Turitea hand milking and mud up to your knees in places, then we took our cows to Hangatiki.

We used to ride to all the dances at Honikiwi. The dances were held in a woolshed. We, the boys and myself sometimes arrived home in time to get the cows in to milk in the morning. We thought they were great times as everyone was so friendly and happy.

George, Eledia, Claude and myself all used to go, plus a few friends and dance to accordion music and mouth organ.

Then one day Jean came home and said to Mum it's time Maud had a break away for a holiday as I had to chop wood, do cooking, help milk, then clean up (pretty hard going). So I went to Raetihi and got a temporary job where we boarded then worked for a while for the postmaster's wife in the house, then out to Frank and May's milking cows, helping in the house and really doing it hard for 1 pound a week, then another job at Mosen's for less. I never knew what it was to have more than one best dress. Then as Jim and I were engaged we decided we would like to get married at Raetihi. May stood by me and helped me, and also Jean who got married 3 weeks before us. Harold was to be Jim's best man and to our disappointment he landed in Rotorua Hospital with Typhoid Fever and died, so we put our wedding off from then till November 29th 1930.

The mill Jim was working at closed and we had to get out of the house. I worked helping Jim's Mum in the house while Jim helped his Dad as he had a bad arm and he got Jim doing up the saws. We stored our furniture in a shed at Jim's home until Jack applied for 2 jobs one at Te Whetu and another at Te Awamutu, (Pokuru) on a farm and Arthur came with us for a while. From there we went to Te Rore for 24 shillings a week and I got 17/6 for the two boarders. Hard going, but we were saved by having fowls and plenty fish in the stream running through the farm. Charlie stayed with us for weeks (no board) and also my Dad, until he got a survey job at Hamilton. We also had a good garden.

Of course we had machines to milk over 100 cows. We didn't get money until Micky Savage got into Parliament then it was 2 Pounds something so we saved what we could. I sold eggs, Jim grew onions and we bought the Essex car for just over 100 pound. I think it was paid by instalments. Anyway I learned to drive after a while and joined League of Mothers and Institute at Pirongia. Also could do the farm messages and save time for the men. Of course we had metal roads so one had to be a careful driver so had no trouble getting my licence. I used to milk if any of the men were off and earned a little more money to help us through. Our boss was pretty generous and gave us meat to kill which was a big help. Of course Jim worked long hours and was left in charge quite a lot if the boss was called away. Then the owner who lived in Hawera died and they sold the farm cattle, cows and sheep, everything went, also the workers. So, without a job, Jack told us to shift in with him at Mamaku. It was pretty cramped with both lots of furniture etc; but we managed and Jim got a job at Steel's mill for a while, then at Gammons stoking for Jack who was the engine driver. Then he went into the bush until we left. He felled all the timber we needed for our present home. Due to him going on contract with a couple of other bushmen we were able to pay for the timber and get on with building this house, living in our bach next door. Our section was 1/2 acre.

At Mamaku I had many genuine friends like most small places and we had many happy times. I used to get up at 3 o'clock in the morning on weekends and go fishing, or deerstalking, or pig hunting whichever the boys wanted to do. I used to drive as I was the only one who kept my licence up. Roy Quinn used to be at home with Ron and get tea on for when we landed home. Sometimes it would be 8 or 9 o'clock at night so I know what it is like to be really tired. Next job was cut lunches for the bushmen.

I was on the Church committee and joined before we came down here. My neighbour and I, (June Simmonds who was one of a family of eighteen) used to knit and sew until all hours at night during the week to make money for the Church Bazaar and also for the soldiers who went overseas.

Ron went to Mamaku School and then to Rotorua College. They used to travel by bus there and back. He did very well at school and the teachers told me he should take an academic course and he was wasted on carpentry. However after having a business for a while he decided to give it up and get a foreman's job and not so much worry and is still doing the same. (1988)

We had lots of enjoyable trips to Kinahaku, floundering and fishing, also up the Thames Coast, had a small boat of our own and we had some enjoyable trips with the family.

I forgot to mention Ron was born 1933 at Wharenoha Nursing Home in Te Awamutu and did not go to school until we shifted to Mamaku. He was six years old but never made any difference. He was still mature enough to learn easily."

Most of Maud and Jim's life is encapsulated in a local newspaper article celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

DIAMOND WEDDING

Receiving telegrams from Queen Elizabeth, Prime Minister Jim Bolger, Internal Affairs Minister Graeme Lee, Waipa MP Katherine O'Regan and retiring Governor-General Sir Paul Reeves shows how highly people regard sixty years of marriage.

Jim and Maude Thompson of Te Rahu Road began their diamonding anniversary enjoying these messages and many others from well wishers.

They are the only members on either of the Thompson or Dale side of their family to have reached this anniversary, with Mrs Thompson being the only remaining member of her family.

Although Mrs Thompson says they first met when she was nine years old Mr Thompson's family involvement with timber meant it wasn't until many years later they really got to know each other.

Mr Thompson's father was in the milling trade and he says he was "reared on sawdust". He worked at the mills or in the bush for a great deal of his life moving from one area to another as he was promoted or was promised better wages.

He quickly moved through the ranks to become "head man", earning the princely sum of 18 shillings a week.

When he moved back to the Otorohanga district Mrs Thompson says she literally "found him amongst the slabs" at the local mill.

For a while Mr Thompson went back to Raetihi and the two corresponded until they decided it was time to buy an engagement ring. Mr Thompson travelled to Taihape and bought a sparkling diamond ring, in much the same way he did for their sixtieth anniversary.

Their original wedding day was postponed as Mr Thompson's brother who was to be the best man was ill. A stand in was found, Mr Jack Tilsley, who wore the suit Mr Thompson had originally bought for their first wedding date.

Mrs Thompson also spent time moving around the countryside with her family in earlier days before returning to Otorohanga and marrying in Raetihi, the town where she was born.

After the Thompsons were married they farmed at Pokuru for 12 months, then moved to Te Rore. A return to forestry saw Mr Thompson working in the Mamakus, crosscutting in the bush.

Their last move was back to Te Awamutu with enough timber to construct their own home. This was duly done, being one of the few homes on Te Rahu Road at that stage.

Mr Thompson continued to work with timber, he was employed at Waikeria then Tokanui where he used his skill with wood. Working with wood has remained a hobby for Mr Thompson, lovingly creating hand carved pieces even with failing sight. The Thompsons were both keen bowlers for the Lotus club, playing both indoor and outdoor bowls for a number of years. To celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary a number of friends and family members gathered at the Thompson home on Saturday. Included with the guests was their son, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Memories

I have fond memories of my great-aunty Maud and Uncle Jim. When I used to visit my Nana (Jean) who lived across the road, I would spend a lot of time with them as well. I remember Uncle Jim had a wonderful fruit orchard and vege garden, and some spectacular dahlias in the front garden, some blooms being as big as a dinner plate. They also had their own private bowling green on the property and many local friends and family used to play. As children we were ordered to keep off the green or face the wrath of Aunty Maud! Uncle Jim was a dab hand at woodwork and used to make the most exquisite bowls and cups, some of which made their way into my family as keepsakes.

The photo below was taken in mid-1955 just before Maud and Jim moved into their new house in Te Rahu Road, Te Awamutu. Of course I don't remember the day, but I was clearly there in my mother's arms.



Figure 12 - Maud (centre) with sisters Jean (left), Eledia (right) and Daughan holding Dale, Te Awamutu, 1955

Deaths

Maud died on 8 August 2004 at Waikato Hospital, Te Awamutu. She was cremated and her ashes are buried in AshesD, Row 1, Plot 351, Te Awamutu. She was the last of her generation to die.

Jim died on 25 June 1992.

7. Eledia Alice Dale, 1911-1960



Figure 13 - Eledia Alice Dale

Eledia Alice Dale was the 7th child of Frank and Flora Dale. She was born on 8 October 1911 in Raetihi.

She was enrolled at Wharepoa School on 24 February 1920 from Orautoha.

Eledia met and married **Hector Wright** (1910-1992) in 1933 and they had two children: **Trevor John 1937-2019**, and **Heather Eledia 1944-** .

Eledia and Hec made their home in Te Rahu Road, Te Awamutu, adjacent to Eledia's sister Maud and over the road from her sister Jean.

Hec worked at the dairy factory in Te Awamutu. I fondly remember him biking to and from work in his black singlet, and bringing home a billy of fresh milk or a block of cheese. He was also good at woodworking, and had a wonderful orchard in his back yard which used to help fill the preserving jars every year.

Eledia died suddenly on 13 January 1960 aged 48 years. Her funeral was attended by a wide number of family and friends, and she is buried in Te Awamutu Cemetery, Block A(B), row 4, plot 328.

Her pall Bearers were Mr B Wright, Mr C Wright, Mr R Wright, Mr F Dale, Mr G H Dale, and Mr G Dale.

Hec remarried a few years later to Coyla Ashby who used to live further down Te Rahu Road. I remember many interesting evenings with my parents Daughan and Des playing cards with Hec and Coyla, with Canasta being the favourite game.

Hec passed away on 17 January 1992 aged 81 years, and is buried with Eledia in Te Awamutu.



Figure 14 - Eledia Alice Dale and Hector Wright

8. Gordon Henry (Claude) Dale, 1913-1989



Figure 15 - George and Gordon Dale

Gordon (Claude) was the youngest child and youngest son of Frank Dale and Flora Ann McLean (pictured with his brother George.) He is recorded at being enrolled at Wharepoa School on 24 February 1920 from Orautoha.

He was born in 1913 and married Emily Grace (Pixie) Tiddy. They had 3 children – **Donald Bruce 1952-2016** (twin), **Colin James 1952-** (twin), and **Clare Elizabeth 1958-** .

Claude was recorded as living in Ohakune Junction when he enlisted with the Army, service number #23597, and his occupation was Bushman/Civilian.

When Claude embarked for the war, he was listed as a Sapper with the 11th (NZ) Forestry Company, NZ Engineers, in the Second New Zealand Expeditionary Force, Second Echelon.

It appears Gordon enlisted at the same time as his brother George.

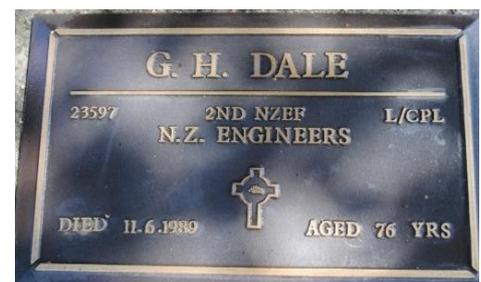
His Army service files are available on Archway but are currently restricted. Only the direct family can request copies from Archives New Zealand.



Claude and Pixie farmed for a while before settling in Matamata where they bought a house at 16 Fitzgerald Ave. They remained living there for the rest of their lives. Claude worked as a skilled linesman for Post and Telegraph. He belonged to the local RSA, loved gardening and enjoyed playing indoor bowls.

Claude died on 11 June 1989 aged 76 years and was buried at Matamata Cemetery, Block 28, plot 44.

His wife Emily Grace Dale died on 2 September 2014 aged 89 years, and is also buried at Matamata Cemetery, Block 28, plot 44.



Generations

Altogether Frank and Flora Dale produced 179 direct descendants:

Generation 1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL*
Agnes May Dale 1899-1952	2	6	19	21	49
Francis Charles Dale 1900-1977	1	4	4	0	10
John Hector Dale 1902-1911	0	0	0	0	1
Janet Flora Beatrice Dale 1904-1968	2	12	14	4	33
George Frederick Dale 1907-1987	4	12	12	0	29
Maud Gladys Myrtle Dale 1909-2004	1	10	12	0	24
Alice Eledia Dale 1911-1960	2	4	10	0	17
Gordon Henry Dale 1913-1989	3	5	7	0	16
TOTALS	15	53	78	25	179*

*including Generation 1

There are 6 sets of twins in the Frank Dale family.

Two members of the Frank Dale family served in WWII:

- George Frederick Dale
- Gordon Henry Dale

Corrections and updates:

If any member of the family finds an error or omission in this document, or is able to provide photographs, please contact Dale Hartle on email mjhartle at xtra.co.nz in Levin, New Zealand.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, there is bound to be mistakes and updates would be gratefully received.

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Family group photos



Hec McLean, Sis McLean, (a friend), Flora Dale, Jack Tilsley, Flo Dale, Frank Dale, Maude Dale, George Dale.
Sitting Eledia Dale, Claude Dale, Amy McLean. Christmas 1923 Te Awamutu.



Figure 16 - 4 siblings: Frank, George, Maud, Claude



Figure 17 - 4 Generations: Agnes May, Frank Senior, Mavis Jean, holding Barbara, 6 June 1951, Matamata.



Figure 18 - 3 sisters - Jean, Maud, Eledia, 1955, Te Awamutu



Figure 19 - Family Group, Ron and Audrey Thompsons Wedding, Rotorua



Figure 20 - Maud Dale (bride, centre) with Flora Dale (right), Eledia Dale (2nd from right) and unknown (left), 29 November 1930, Raetihi



Figure 21 - Frank Dale Family Get Together, 14 March 2020, Matamata.