

Wedding Bells

Right: CORBETT-STONE.
At St. Mary's Church, NP, Jacqueline May, second daughter of Mr R.E. Stone, Auckland, and Mrs F.E. Phillips, Cambridge, to Henry John, second son of Mr and Mrs R.L. Corbett, Waitara. Rosemarie Phillips, sister of the bride, Cambridge, was the bridesmaid and Ernest Corbett, brother of the groom, Waitara, was the best man. Future home will be Waitara.



Below: SAMPSON-BERRY.
At St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, NP, Yvonne, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Berry, NP, to Trevor, second son of Mr and Mrs L. Sampson, NP. Bridesmaids were Dawn Weston and Patricia Hill, both NP, and Cleone Worth, Auckland. John Berry, brother of the bride, Sydney, was the best man and Ray Clarke, Huirangi, and Geoffrey Berry, brother of the bride, NP, were the groomsmen. Future home, NP.



New Citizens Take Oath



More local people took the Oath of Allegiance at the recent naturalisation ceremony held at the Memorial Hall lecture room. Some fifty of the more interested citizens attended to wish these new New Zealanders well. **Above, left:** Davibeu Moral wore national costume for the ceremony. **Above, right:** Mr and Mrs Ken Collier with their children Maureen and Michael receive their certificates from the Mayor of New Plymouth, Mr A.G. Honnor. **Below:** Mr Willem Custers and his wife swear their oath. **Below, right:** Mr and Mrs Rama Unka (Laxman) and their son Vallabh.





Okato Remembers

To begin the centennial celebrations at Okato, the morning of the first day was devoted to a short ceremony at the Cenotaph and the new town clock as a mark of respect to those of the district who had passed on. **Above:** The local RSA paraded to the Cenotaph for this short ceremony. **Below:** Wreath-bearers from various organisations in front of the Cenotaph. **Below, right:** Arms presented and the standard was lowered during the sounding of the Last Post and Reveille.

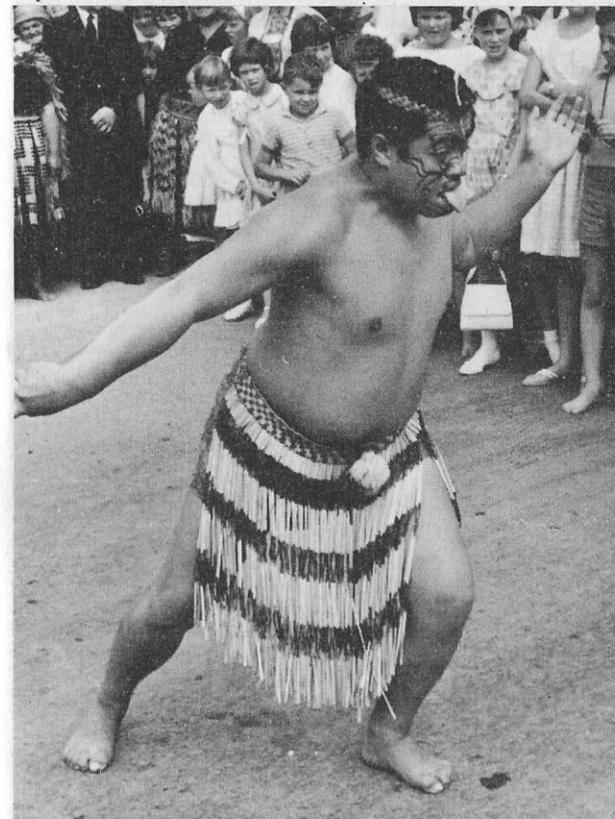


Above: Seats were provided for the older people, some of whom had come from far away to attend the celebrations.

Below: Sonny Keepa, a member of the Maori welcoming party for the official speaker, Mr D.S. Thompson, MP for Stratford, placed the two white feathers of peace at Mr Thompson's feet.

Right: An RNZAF Vampire jet caused necks to be craned skywards.

Below, right: With the two white feathers of peace in his hands, Mr Thompson smiles his approval of the Maori welcome.

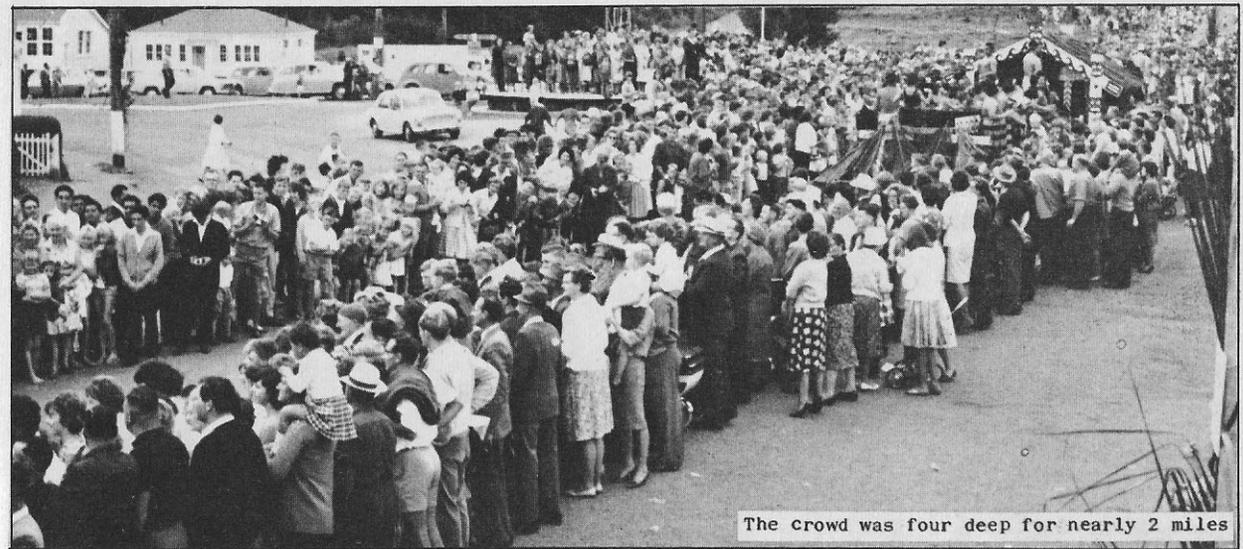




Wedding Bells

Above: JONES-WELLS. At St. Mary's Church, NP, Patricia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Wells, NP, to Colin David, third son of Mr and Mrs W.J. Jones, Stratford. The bridesmaids were Llama Brennan and Heather Sole, both NP. Peter Coles, Douglas, was the best man and Richard Deathm, Stratford was the groomsmen. Jocelyn Beattie, Alton, was the flower-girl. Future home, Toko.

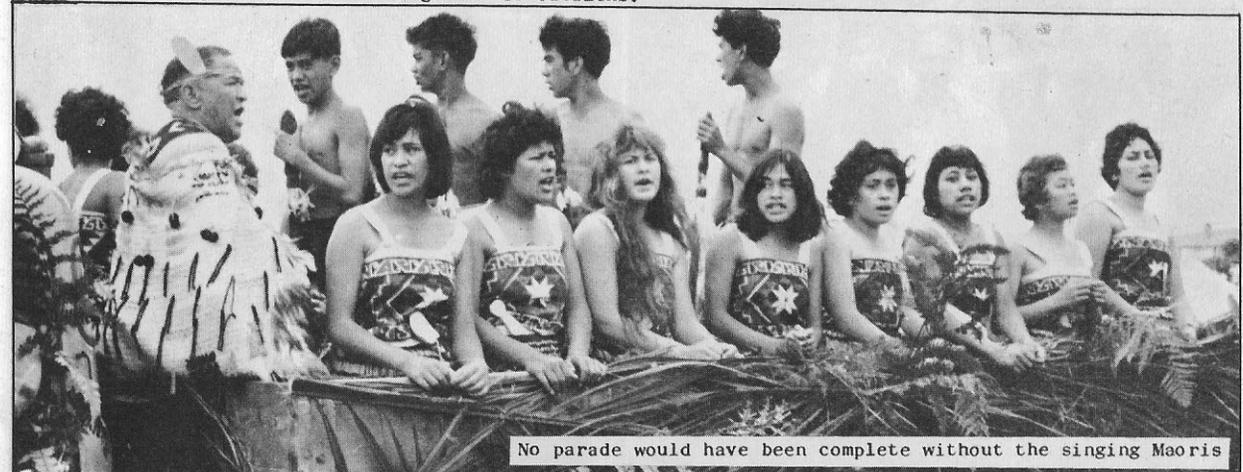
Below: HUGHES-CURRIE. At the Whiteley Methodist Church, NP, Gail Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs L.W. Currie, NP, to Keith William, second son of Mr and Mrs C.H. Hughes, NP. The bridesmaids were Norma Hughes, NP, Maxine Needham, Patea, and Glennis Howells, Hastings. Best man was Jack Harwood, Inglewood, and the groomsmen were Graham Hughes, brother of the groom, NP, and Lawrence Cameron, Waitoa. Future home, NP.



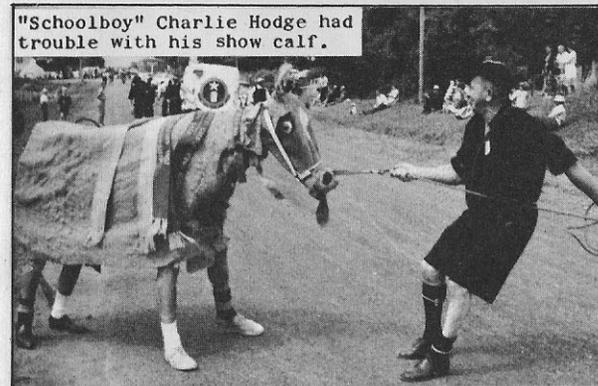
The crowd was four deep for nearly 2 miles

115 FLOATS IN OKATO CENTENNIAL PARADE

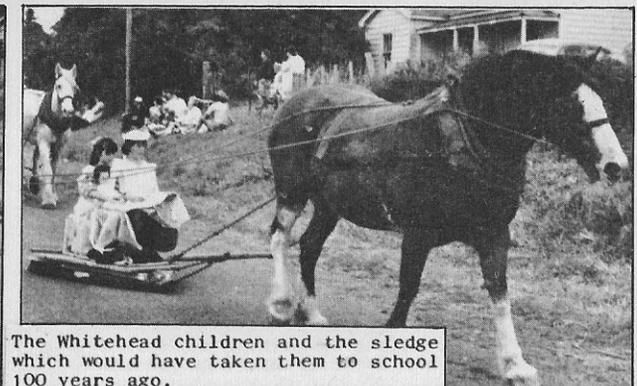
No words of ours would do justice to the wonderful parade at Okato, celebrating 100 years of life in the district. Tremendous effort and thought must have gone into the floats of this parade, a parade that must surely make the people of Okato stick out their chests with pride. The organisers and those taking part are worthy of the highest praise for a parade that has put Okato in an enviable position as the township with the most loyal inhabitants. With a population of about 400, most of whom were in the parade, Okato provided a wonderful show for the estimated 15,000 visitors who crowded the streets. We offer our sincere congratulations to Okato for a job well done by a loyal and hard-working band of citizens.



No parade would have been complete without the singing Maoris



"Schoolboy" Charlie Hodge had trouble with his show calf.



The Whitehead children and the sledge which would have taken them to school 100 years ago.

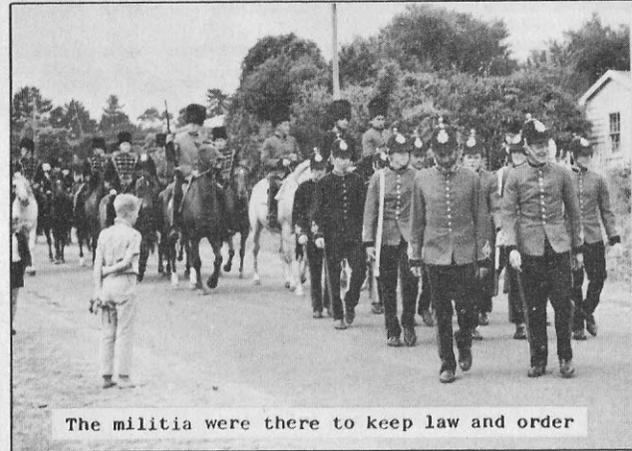


Young Anglicans' float required a ton of thought, led by Michael Corbett with Merridee Haylock on the box seat!

PEOPLE IN OKATO PARADE



Bridal party of 100 years ago with Pat and Michael Goodin, Lois Hurley and Colleen Gooding, plus Dobbin.



The militia were there to keep law and order



Crude contraption which went like a bomb.



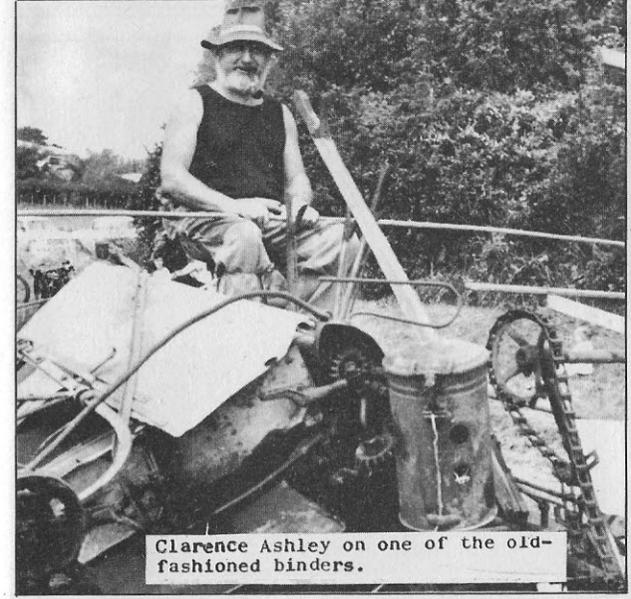
Mrs Nona Heydon (nee Fox) with her two children. The Fox family were one of the earliest settlers in the district.



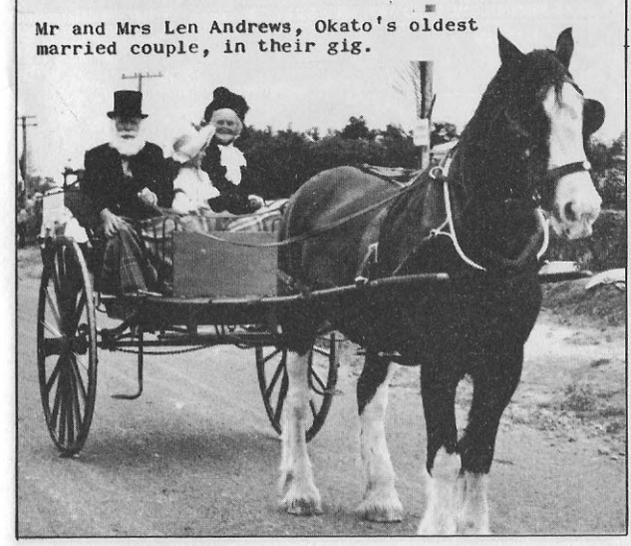
Mr and Mrs Archie Sears and grandma Sears with their desce' jants. Another of the town's earlier settler families.



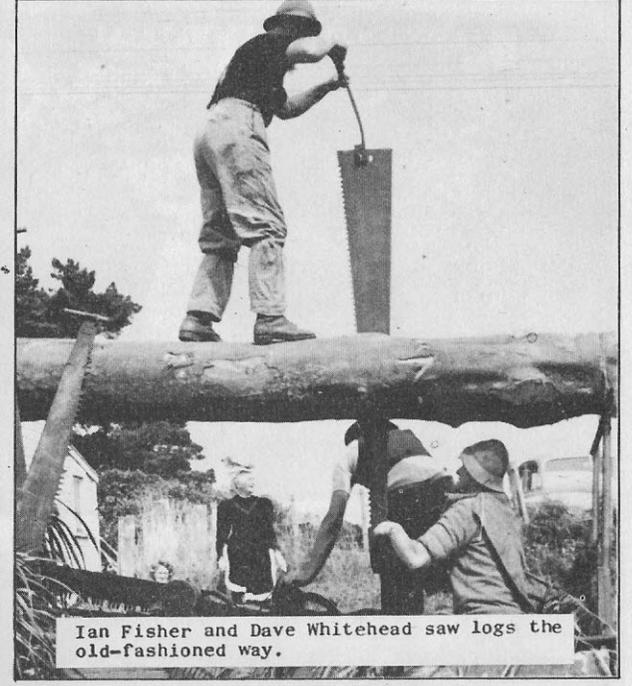
Three horse-power carrier



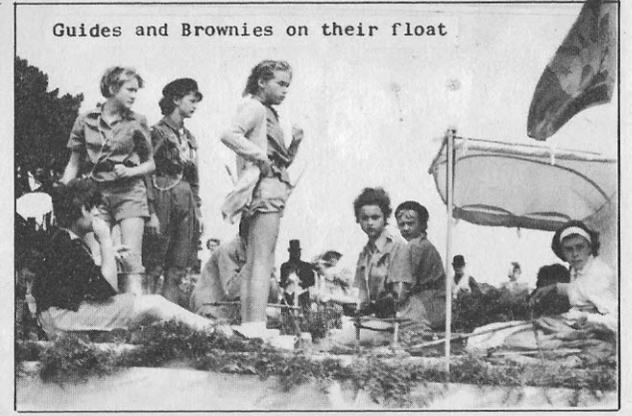
Clarence Ashley on one of the old-fashioned binders.



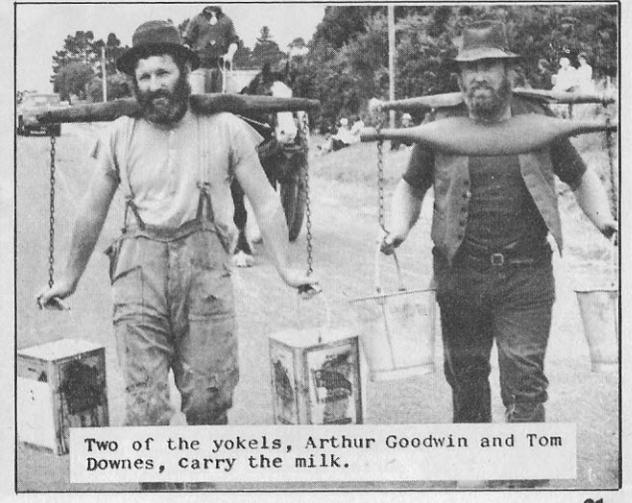
Mr and Mrs Len Andrews, Okato's oldest married couple, in their gig.



Ian Fisher and Dave Whitehead saw logs the old-fashioned way.



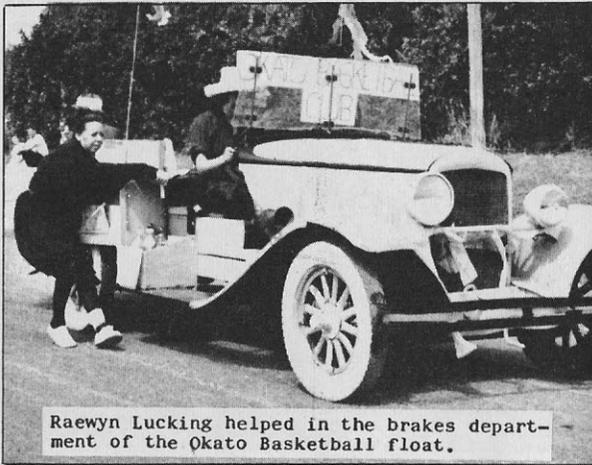
Guides and Brownies on their float



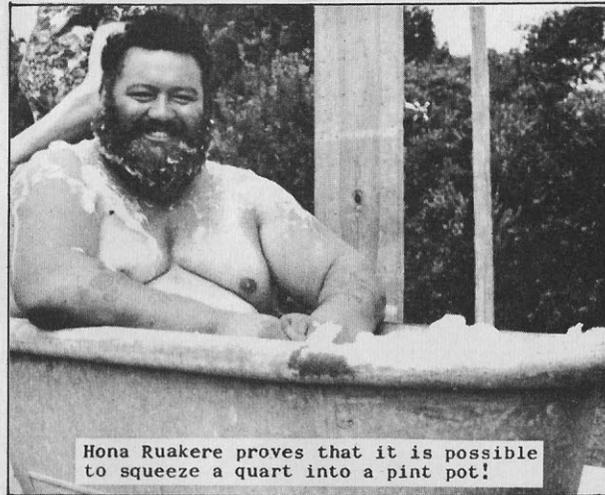
Two of the yokels, Arthur Goodwin and Tom Downes, carry the milk.



Young "Cor! Those young wives didn't half cut the capers!



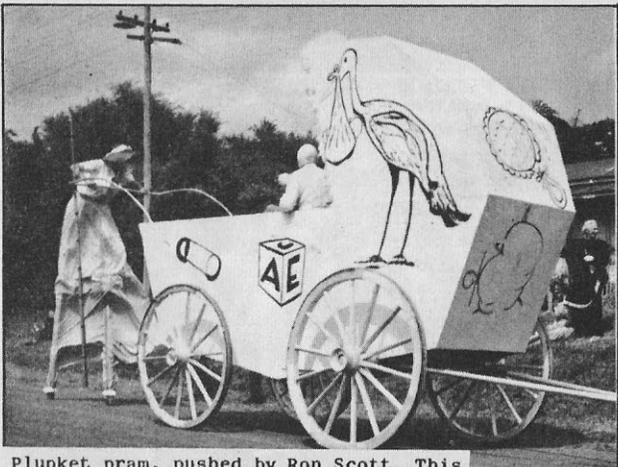
Raewyn Lucking helped in the brakes department of the Okato Basketball float.



Hona Ruakere proves that it is possible to squeeze a quart into a pint pot!



Beth Pease and Pauline Bright made very attractive mermaids.



Plunket pram, pushed by Ron Scott. This was one of the best in the show.



Mr and Mrs Errol McCabe in their phaeton



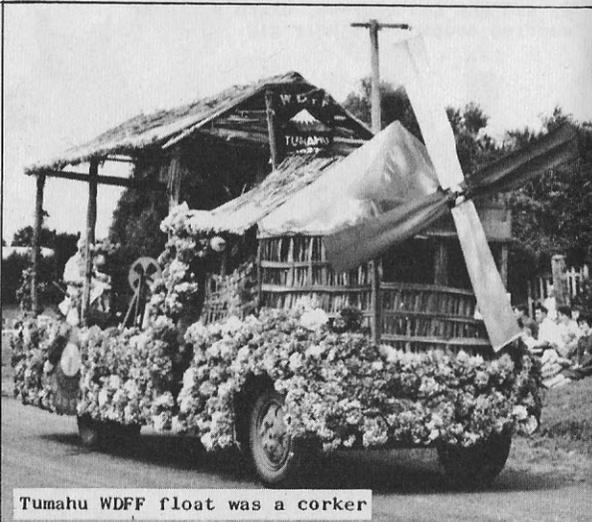
Max Took in his Flintstone Flyer... a masterpiece in ingenuity.



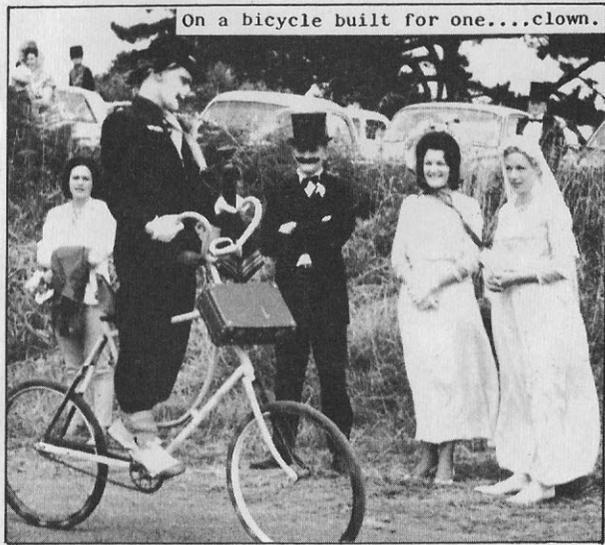
Okato WDFW float with Mesdames Clements, Rook and Cocksedge.



Kerry Hurley hitches a ride...the cheat.



Tumahu WDFW float was a corker



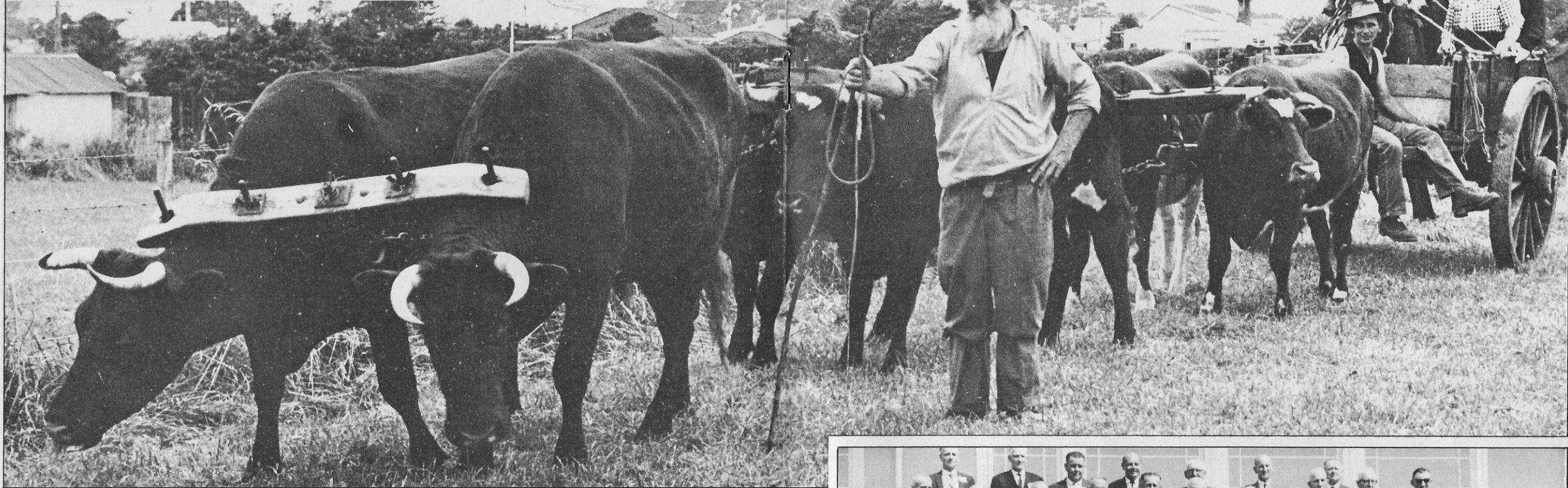
On a bicycle built for one...clown.



The Okato Bowling green was closed for the day!

GOING BACK A HUNDRED YEARS

Bob Thomas and his bullock team were perhaps the most noteworthy effort in the Okato centennial parade, in that it took months of training to get this team into shape. Even after getting the team to near-perfection, one of Bob's bullocks died, leaving him with more hurried training. We think that Bob did a grand job both with the bullocks and with his beard...in fact, this picture could have come from grandma's photo album of 100 years ago. It is doubtful if a scene such as this will ever be seen again in Okato. Below, left: Some of the surviving early settlers to the district who were either born or lived in Okato prior to 1900. Below, right: The 1900-1915 decade proves that, like soldiers, old Okatonians never die. (Photos by Henry McGee).





Okato Candid's

(By Henry McGee)

The centennial balls, one for the young in one hall, and another for the not-so-young in another, were both the successful affairs they were meant to be. The dancing was a trifle different, but the spirit was the same.

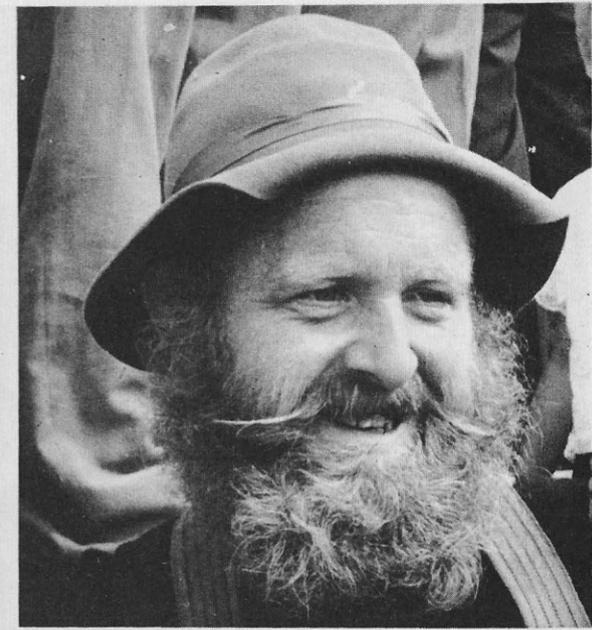
Above, left: Mixed bag here, which could have been at home in either of the halls.

Left: Mick Goodin and his "escort" chose the ball for the older folks.

Below, left: Informality was the keynote for the celebrations.

Above: Preparing the hangi was no small task.

Below: Len Andrews and cobbler of the past exchange greetings.



OKATO CELEBRATIONS

Left: Celebration cake was cut by the two oldest pupils of the Okato school. They were Mesdames Eva Clark (NP) and Catherine Walker (Hawera) who were pupils at the school in 1886.

Above: After months of cultivation, the winner of the beardie stakes was Dave Whitehead. His was a bosker beard...wonder if he slept with the whiskers over, or under, the sheet?

Below: These were the fifteen finalists in the beardie stakes. Never have we seen such a collection, some white, some red, some no colour at all. They were neat, straggly, long, short and shaggy. (Photos by Henry McGee).



Married

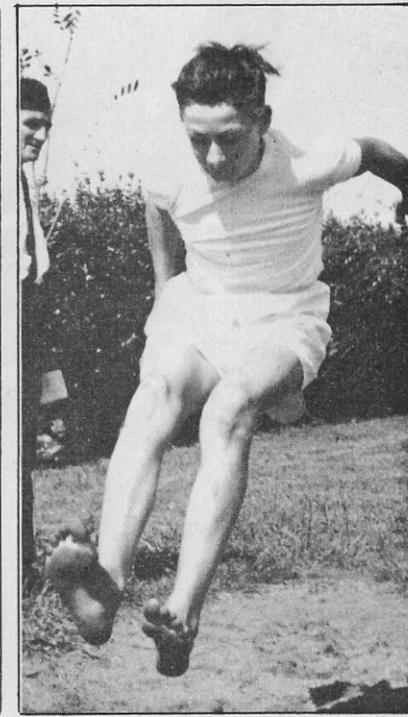
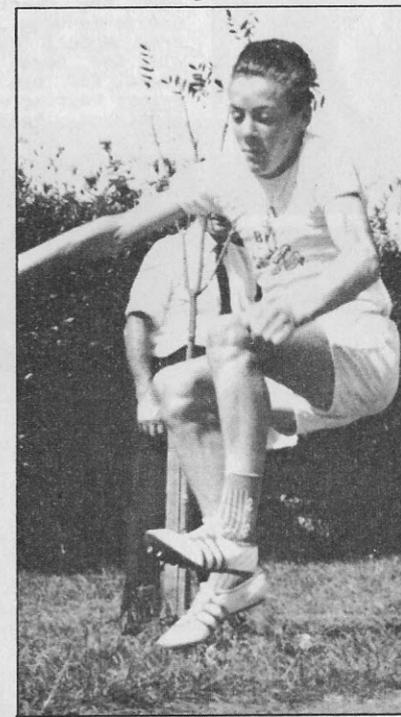
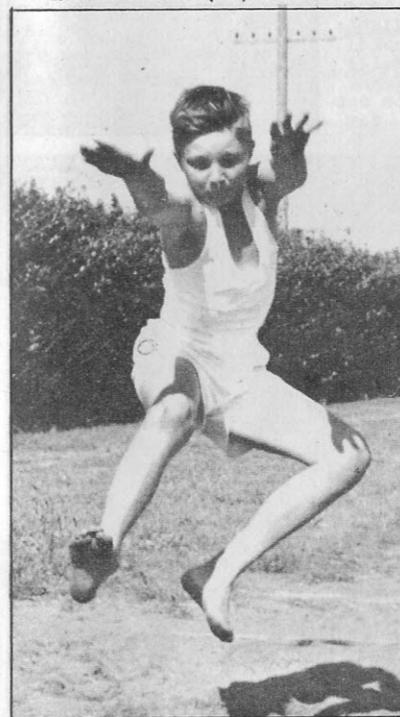
Right: HOWIE-RICHARDS. At the Whiteley Methodist Church, NP, Anne Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs D.H. Richards, NP, to Robert, only son of Mr and Mrs W. F. Howie, Ohura. The bridesmaids were Noeline Aldridge, Ohura, and Susan and Linda Pancred, NP. The best man was Graham Short, Ohura. Future home, Ohura.

Below: DUNCAN-ALMOND. At St. Mary's Church, NP, Denise, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs G. R. Almond, NP, to Nigel James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs R.A. Duncan, NP. The bridesmaids were Jeanette Simonsen, NP, and Coralie Duncan, sister of the groom, NP. Roger Duncan, brother of the groom, Auckland, was the best man, and Mark Wilson, NP, was the groomsman. Future home, New Plymouth.

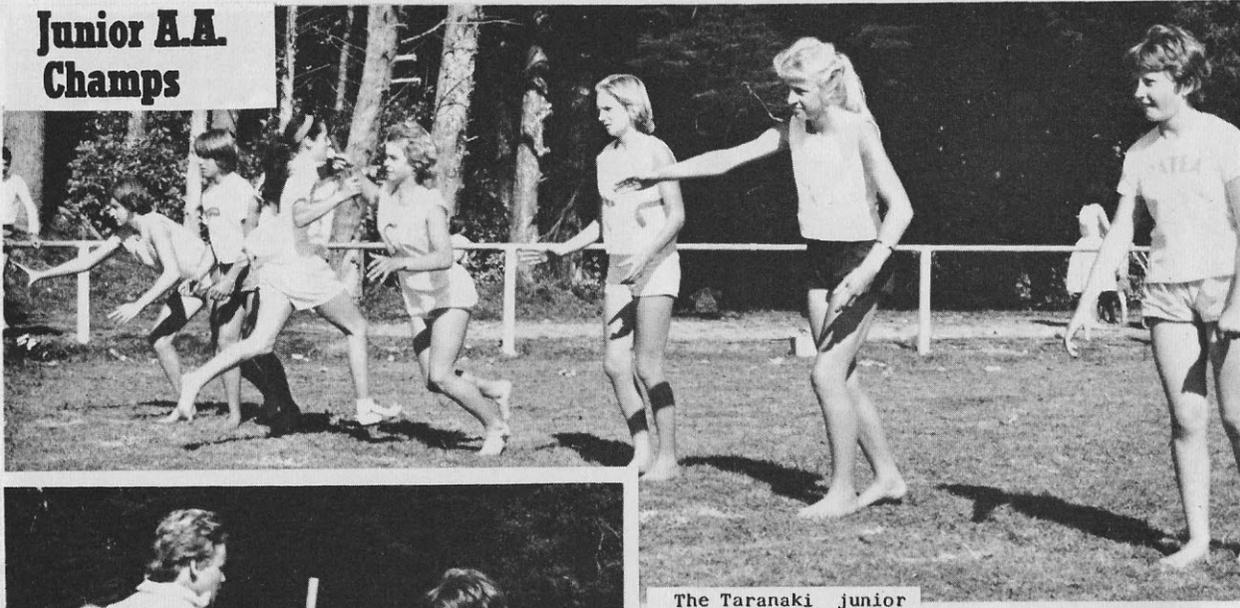


Taranaki Boys Brigade Party

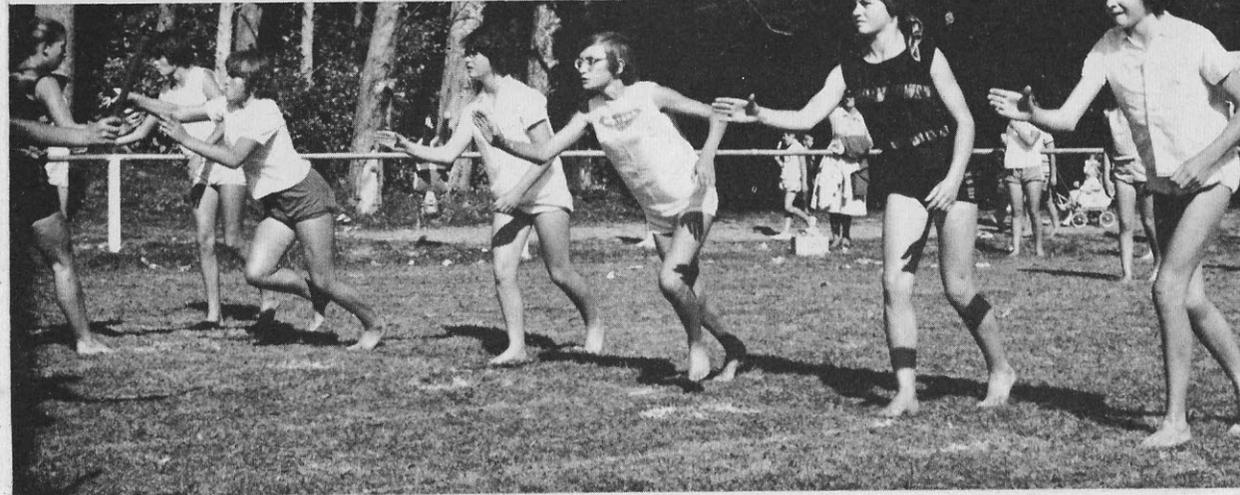
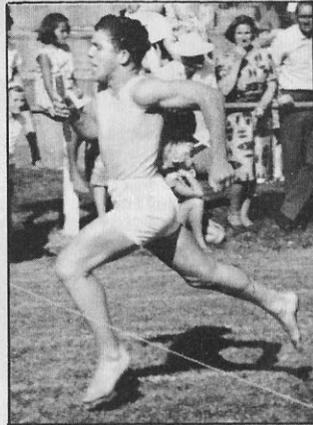
Waitara was the venue for the annual Taranaki Boys' Brigade sports. The boys came from all parts of the province, and enjoyed the day competing against different companies. **Above:** There was a large entry for the shot put event. The boys line up to take their turn as they watch fellow competitor Lloyd Ashworth (NP). **Below, left:** Graham Aldridge (NP) competing in the long jump event. **Below, centre:** Douglas Reader (Stratford) did well for his company during the sports. **Below right:** Ross Andrews (NP) comes in for a barefoot landing.



Junior A.A. Champs

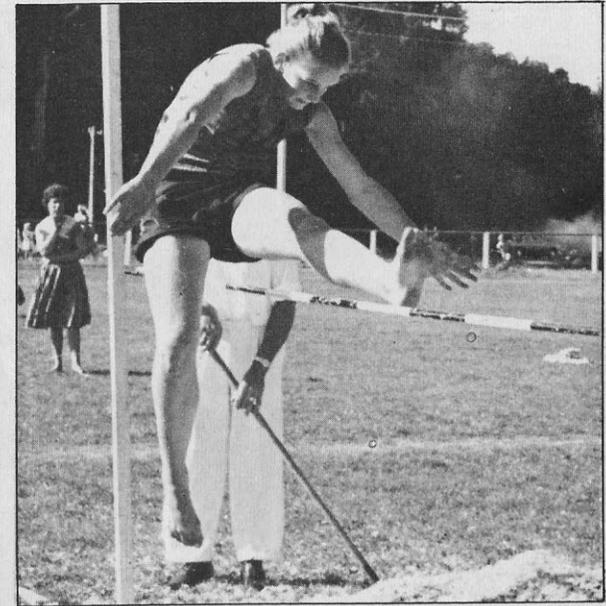


The Taranaki junior athletic championships recently took part at Jubilee Park, Inglewood. Some very good performances were witnessed, with competition keen for every event. **Above:** Girls' relay in progress brought all kinds of grimaces from their team mates. **Left:** Here is a perfect take-over in the relay races, which were run up and down the track, and not as is usual. **Right:** Bruce McCall (Opunake) wins the boys' relay event for his team. **Below:** Waiting with outstretched hands for the baton.



BUDDING CHAMPIONS

Many budding champions were recently on view at the Junior Athletic Championships at Inglewood. Here are some of those youngsters in action. **Above:** Last leg, and winner of the final of the girls' relay was Linda Rawlinson (Stratford). **Below:** Shona White (Pihama) just scraped the bar in the high jump event. **Above, right:** G. Meyers (Manaia) clears with inches to spare. **Right:** S. Garnett (Patea) got over, but only just. **Below, right:** Judith Woodward (Inglewood) had room to spare.





Mrs Alice Muggeridge tries her hand at the comic bowls, watched by Mrs Clem Cullen.



Andrea Rowe and Tracie Harrison at the picturesque wishing well.



Plant table was laden with good things



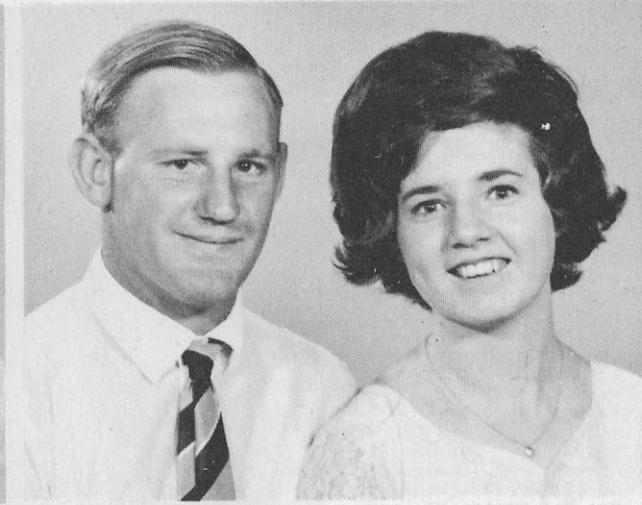
Mavis Wey and helper Lillian Wallace



Fortune-teller Eileen Elliott sees the future for Mrs Shirley Sole.

Fitzroy Plunket Garden Party

Mrs Mavis Wey, Bell Block, whose son is a competitor in the current Fitzroy plunket baby contest, recently organised a garden party to raise funds for her carnival baby. The party was a huge success, with many of the local women helping with stalls and produce. It would seem that Mrs Wey's committee are all out to win the competition and to help swell the funds of the Fitzroy plunket. Though rain did interfere with the proceedings later in the afternoon, it came after a fair sum had been collected.



Engaged

Above, left: **GREEN-LANCASTER**. Maxine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A.Lancaster, Waitara, to Richard, eldest son of Mr and Mrs H.T.Green, Waipukurau. (VOGUE STUDIOS).

Left: **DOBBIN-FURZE**. Cheryl Anne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R.J.Furze, Okato, to Terence Edward, elder son of Mr and Mrs V.J.Dobbin, Rahotu. (VOGUE STUDIOS).

Below, left: **COOK-GYDE**. Audrey, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs E.Gyde, NP, to Colin, second son of Mr and Mrs V.Cook, NP. (VOGUE STUDIOS).

Above: **SHOTTER-REEVE**. June, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs W.J.F.Reeve, NP, to Ean, son of Mrs E.Shotter, Okato, and the late Mr Shotter. (VOGUE STUDIOS).

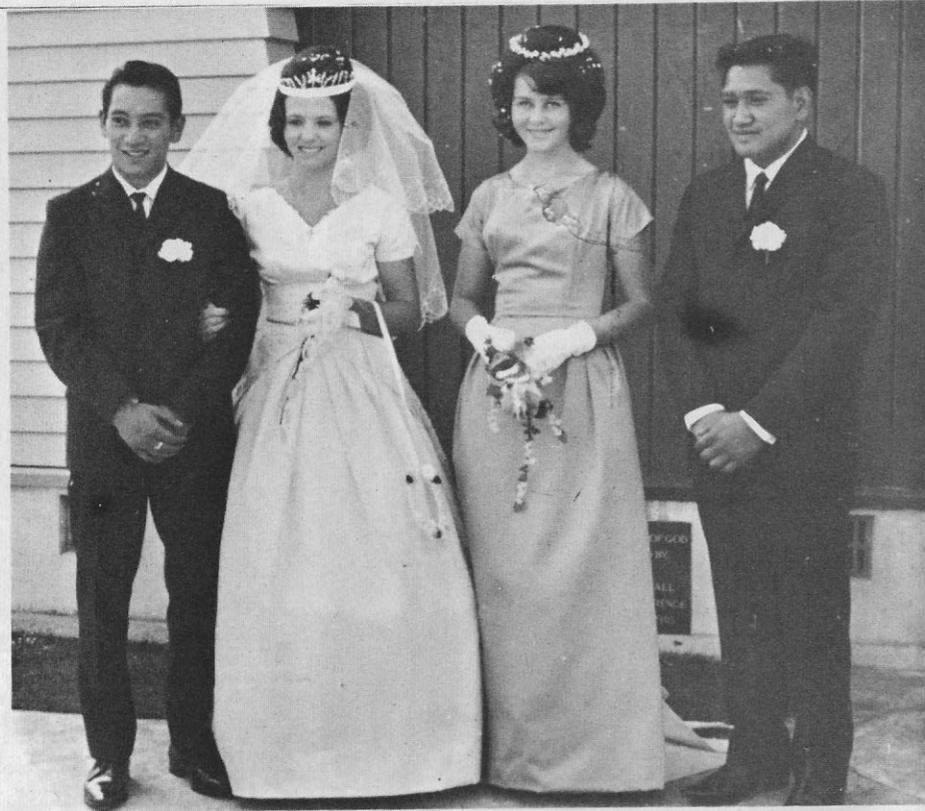
Below: **NEWMAN-LOVERIDGE**. Heather Alexis, the youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs R.J.Loveridge, Urenui, to Peter John, youngest son of Mr and Mrs E.F.Newman, NP. (VOGUE STUDIOS).



Married

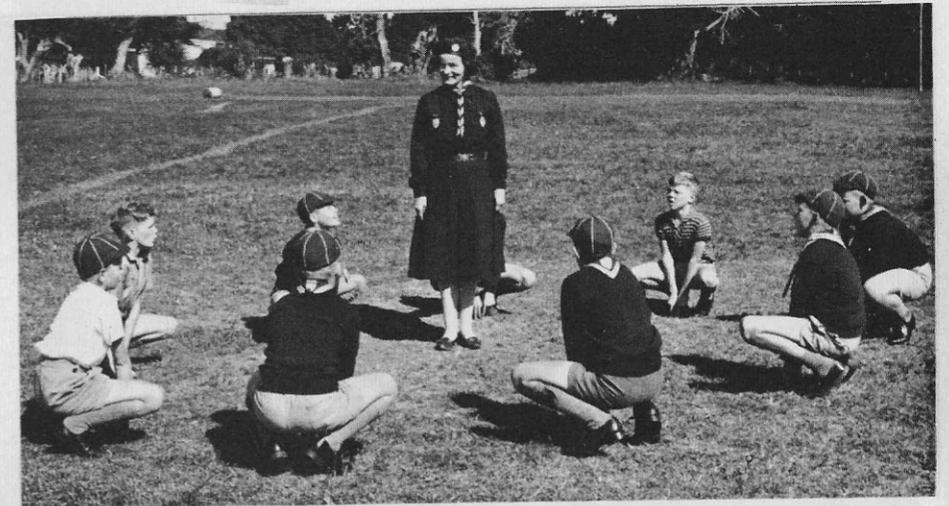
**Right: BUTLER-TOWNS-
END.** At St. Luke's Meth-
odist Church, NP, Max-
ine Freda, the eldest
daughter of Mr and Mrs
M. Townsend, NP, to
Robert Peter Butler,
only son of Mr and Mrs
J. Mackey, Wellington.
Beryl Townsend, sister
of the bride, NP, was
the bridesmaid, and
Lenny Koha, Taumarunui
was the best man. The
future home, NP.

**Below: COOPER-THOM-
SON.** At St. Mary's
Church, NP, Margaret
Joy, elder daughter of
Mrs W.I. Scott, NP, and
the late Mr J. J.W.
Thomson, to Bruce
Matthew, elder son of
Mr and Mrs Mc.A. Cooper,
Wellington. The brides-
maids were Karen Neale,
and Jennifer Scott,
sister of the bride,
both NP. John Leith,
Te Wera, was the best
man and Laurel Patter-
son, NP, was the
flower-girl. Future
home, Kaingaroa.

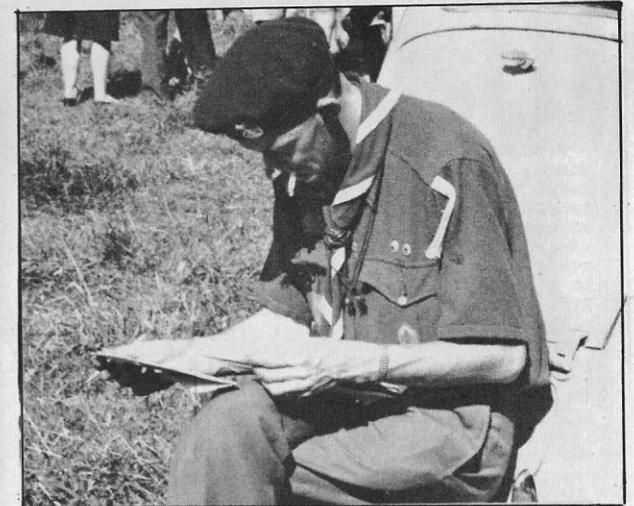


SCOUT AND CUB COMPETITION DAY

The local companies
of Cubs and Scouts re-
cently took part in
their annual inter-
troop competitions at
the Lepperton school.
To us, it seemed that
there were hundreds of
boys about, with activ-
ity buzzing in every
direction. **Right:** Per-
haps one of the keen-
est packs was the Lone
Cubs, shown here per-
forming their cry.



Resting between the various competitions



Scoutmaster Keith Savage adds up the points



The chariot race was the highlight of the competitions



Large Crowd At Waitui Sports

Probably the most popular sports in the province, Waitui lived up to its reputation when a large crowd attended the annual events. A not-too-bright day still brought out one of the largest crowds of the day. It could be the variety that draws the crowd, because there's every type catered for, with the largest entry in the chopping and basketball competitions. In fact, some choppers came from as far as 200 miles to compete, so popular are the sports.

Above: Some idea of the large crowd can be gauged by this picture as the competitors for the underhand chop prepare their blocks.

Below: Motor-cycle racers turned up in good numbers to give the crowd their money's worth in some very good racing. Many of these boys, new members of the club, are still at school. A credit to the club in creating such interest.

Right: Captain of the winning team, Atiawa, Waitara, Nancy Freakley receives her winner's medals from the president, Jim Stachurski.



ATIAWA WIN BASKETBALL AT WAITUI

Showing superior off-season training, the Atiawa team from Waitara won the challenge cup at the recent Waitui sports. Judging by this performance, this team will be hard to topple in the coming season. **Above:** This is the team which beat Ratapiko in the final: seven very fit and happy-looking girls, with a contented coach too. **Below, left:** It wasn't the greasy ground that made them tumble, just the keen competition. **Below, right:** Atiawa player looks as though she is running with the ball, but in actual fact she was only turning.

