

Charles and Bessie Griffiths

The first 40 years of Griffiths
Footwear Hastings.

OUR WELSH GRANDPARENTS

CHARLES AND BESSIE GRIFFITHS



CHARLIE and
BESSIE
in 1905





Carbon Copy of a Letter written by Charles Griffiths March 1953.

book which we have used since 1915 is now
to go out of print. I am not sure of the date of
my first purchase. I started business in Hastings,
March 1914. I think it was the following year
that I was persuaded by a good salesman
to try this book. I must say that right through
these years I couldn't have wished for a better
system. I have recommended it to many
of my business friends with what result I don't
know. My accountants Messrs McCallum Brothers and
Sons have approved of it. I have shown your
letter to them and they have advised me to
leave it to them. I am sorry to part with a system

I SAY, BILL!

What's all this comment I see in the papers—something about I-R-I-S?

Well, Jack, it's like this:— Messrs. **GRIFFITHS & COPPEY** have opened a new Boot Establishment in Heretaunga Street (between Banks of N.Z. and N.S.W.), Hastings, where they are introducing that famous brand of Boots and Shoes, viz.,

I—R—I—S

manufactured by Bostocks of England. Now you know, with a reputation that Bostocks' Boots have got, it's bound to make someone feel uneasy. It's like if you considered yourself a crack tenor singer, and, say, Signor Caruso came along to sing on the same stage. Well, you would feel small, wouldn't you? and you would not say much about your singing afterwards. Well, that's the whole of this trouble in a nutshell.

I-R-I-S BOOTS and SHOES have come to stay and are to be obtained at

**GRIFFITHS & COPPEY'S,
HERETAUNGA STREET, HASTINGS.**

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- 2804—Griffin, Minnie Helen, Puketitiri, farmer.
- 2805—Griffin, Thomas Joseph, Puketitiri, farmer.
- 2806—Griffith, Margaret Catherine, Gascoyne Road, Hastings, spinster.
- 2807—Griffith, Martha, Gascoyne Road, Hastings, married.
- 2808—Griffith, William, Gascoyne Street, Hastings, carter.
- 2809—Griffith, William Matthew, Gascoyne Street, Hastings, bootmaker.
- 2810—Griffiths, Bella, Wall Road, Hastings, married.
- 2811—Griffiths, Bessie, 607 Hastings Street, Hastings, married.
- 2812—Griffiths, Charles, 607 Hastings Street, Hastings, bootmaker.
- 2813—Griffiths, Elizabeth, New Road, Twyford, married.
- 2814—Griffiths, Frances Maria, Warren Street, Hastings, married.
- 2815—Griffiths, Frederick Charles, 301 Market Street, Hastings, electrical engineer.
- 2816—Griffiths, Joseph, Warren Street, Hastings, trainer.
- 2817—Griffiths, Robert, New Road, Twyford, farmer.
- 2818—Griffiths, Walter, 911 Wall Road, Hastings, shepherd.
- 2819—Grigg, John Herbert, Long Terrace, Havelock North, farmer.
- 2820—Grigg, John Herbert, Long Terrace, Havelock North, married.



607 Hastings St., Hastings



FAMILY GROUP 1917 - 1918

Bessie and Charles Griffiths



NANA GRIFF



GRANDAD GRIFF



DEMOLITION DUTY: Sailors from HMS Diomed demolish Griffiths Boots in Heretaunga Street West (now BJ's Cafe)
PICTURE / CHARLIE DAVIS





CLEANING UP AFTER THE 'QUAKE

Army Tent issued after the 1931 earthquake
and used by Rhys and Mary, Charles and Bessie.





From: Madelon van Zijll de Jong [madelonzj@hdc.govt.nz]
Sent: Friday, 27 February 2009 11:22 a.m.
To: sandgbullivant@actrix.co.nz
Subject: I found a small advertisement going through the February 1931 newspaper...

Hello Mrs Bullivant,

In case you have not seen this advertisement before (in the HB Tribune of 24 February 1931):



Kind regards,

Temporary Shop after 1931 Earthquake





607 Hastings St., Hastings





Citizen of Hastings

Charles Griffiths was involved in the Community in many areas. The Obituaries after his death in August 1953 contained some of the following quotes:-

“As a member of the Hawkes Bay Hospital Board from 1941 onwards, the late Mr Griffiths was a staunch and devoted supporter of our Fallen Soldiers’ Memorial Hospital... Unless he was away from Hastings ... Mr Griffiths never missed his weekly Sunday afternoon visits to the wards... and his cheery smile and greeting for everyone.. gave comfort for all.”

‘President of the Rotary Club, prominent member of the Hastings Chamber of Commerce, and the Hastings Retailers Association, a keen Bowler and Rugby fan and a staunch member of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church where he held many offices, Mr Griffiths sudden death came as a shock to many.’





GRIFFITHS FOOTWEAR SHOP STAFF

Front Row: Syd O'Neill, Jean Smith, nee Howard, Charles Griffiths.

Prize-winning
Float







Presented to -

M^{rs}. C. Griffiths, with love
from the members of St. Andrew's
Women's Guild, in appreciation
of the loyal and devoted
service for 27 years as Hon.
Secretary of the Guild.

Hastings July 1941.

"Her ways are ways of
pleasantness and all her
paths are peace"



NANA GRIFF

St Andrews Presbyterian Church Hastings

- Elder for 36 years
- Session Clerk for the last 4 years of his life.
- Sunday School Superintendent 32 years
- Regularly attended Assembly.
- Treasurer of the British and Foreign Bible Society for many years.
- On the establishment Board of the Eversley Rest Home
- Hillsbrook Children's Home