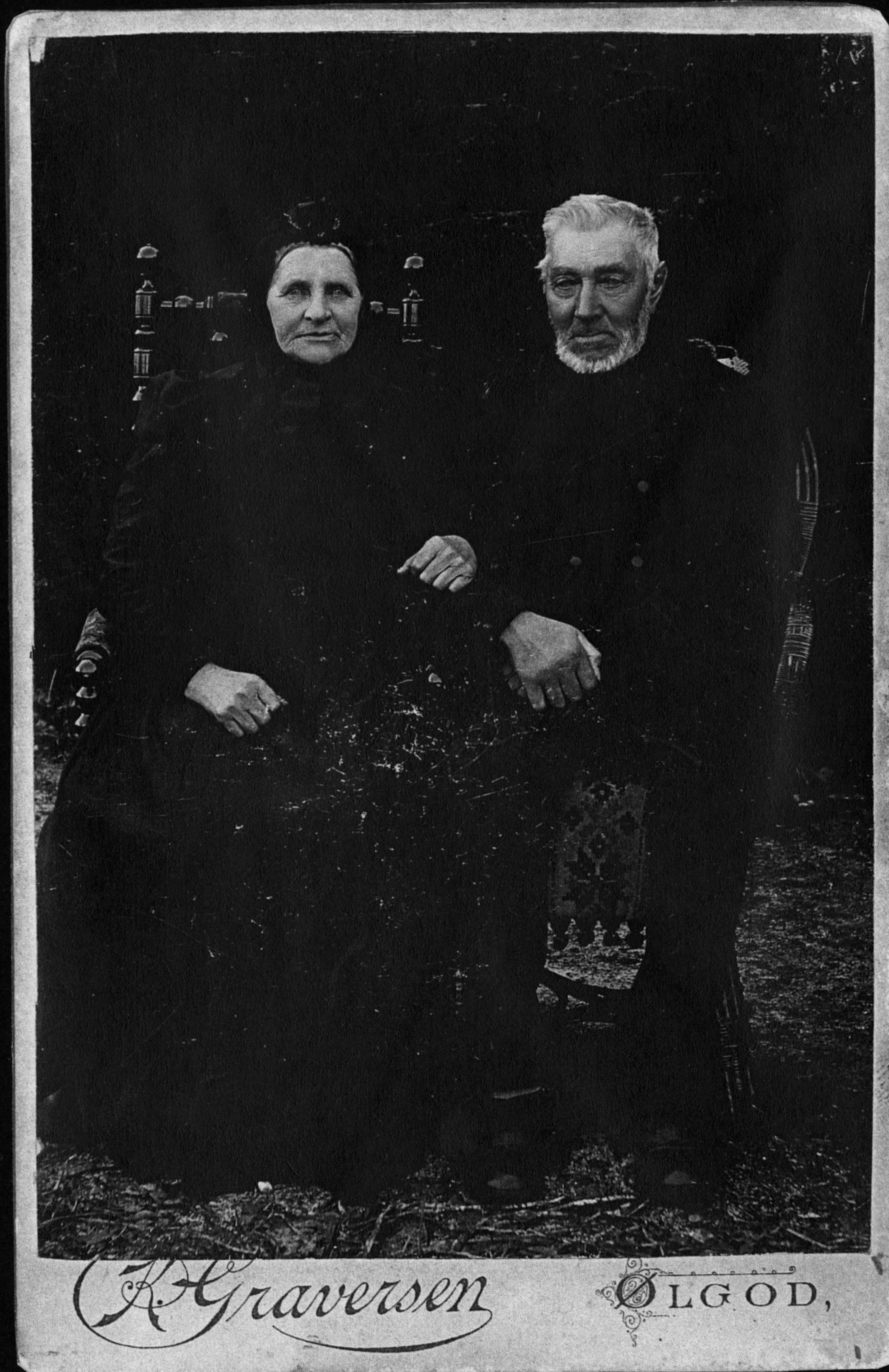


Pedersen
Family

By Rose Hanna 10DN July 2006



My great great grandfather Niels Christian Pedersen was born in Norre Bork in Denmark on 20 October 1853. His parents were Peder Christiansen Hinsig and Kirstine Thuesdatter (pictured). They had seven children.

Niels was the fourth child and he had three sisters and three brothers (although one died aged 5 in 1869).



They lived in this house in Denmark. At the age of 18 Niels left Denmark and sailed to New Zealand. He settled in Hawkes Bay and worked as a shearer. He later met Harriet Powell who lived in Otane (which was called North Kaikoura in those days). She had been born on 22 April 1865 in Staffordshire in England. On 27 April 1887 they married in Christ's Church at Pukehou (Te Aute). Niels was 33 years old and Harriet had just turned 22.



Back row:
Front row:

Harriet, Christian, Niels
Howard, Harriet (known as Nettie), Ivan



Niels' bakery in Otane

Niels and Harriet lived in Otane. They opened a bakery, which was probably built by Harriet's father William Powell who was a builder. A Scottish settler, writing home to Scotland in 1891, mentioned "the baker is a Dane named Pedersen, and he baked the nicest bread I have ever tasted, Edinburgh bread not excepted." Four children were born in Otane: Christian, Harriet, Ivan and Howard Bert (my great grandfather, born in 1900).



Niels developed health problems so they sold the bakery and moved to Ormondville. They bought land in the district. Their youngest child Eric was born there. The name of the property was 'Rata'. They later built a second house closer to the road which is still standing (see photo).



My great grandfather Howard went to school in Ormondville. He and his brothers walked to school every day. He left school at age 14 and did various jobs. For a while he worked at a dairy factory transporting milk (pictured). There he met his future wife Emma Mear who worked for the owners of the dairy factory (with laundry in picture).



Howard and Emma married in 1929 when they were both aged 29. They purchased a farm in Ngamoko Norsewood up against the Ruahine Ranges. The farm was called Glencoe. They first farmed sheep and dairy cows, selling cream to the local factory during the depression. Emma milked the cows and Howard worked as a shearer.



Emma and Howard



The farmhouse at Ngamoko in winter

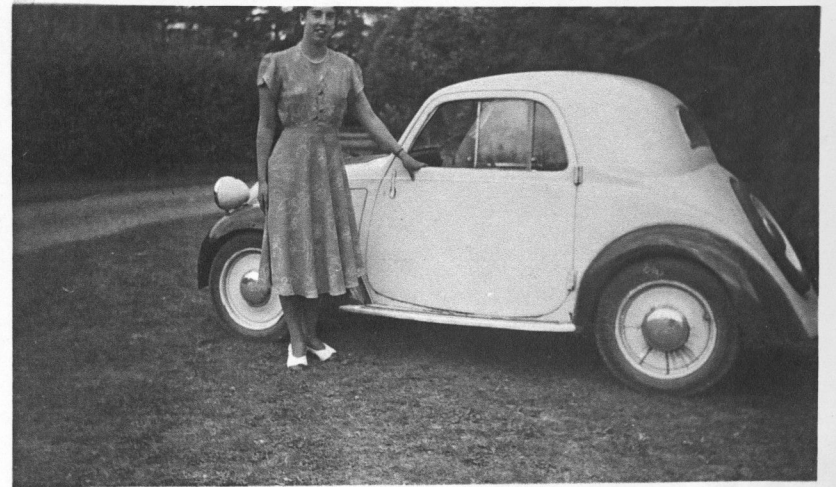


*Fay and Jill at the
Dannevirke AMP Show 1938*

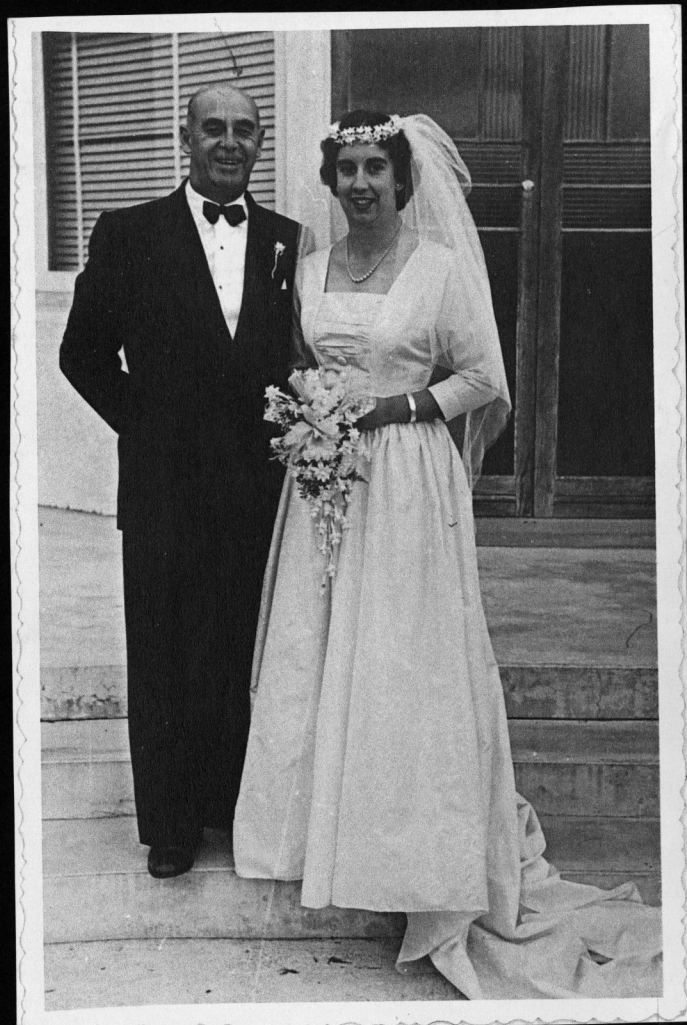
Their first child Valda Fay (my grandmother, known as Fay) was born in 1931. Ross Niels was born in 1932 and Jill Emma in 1934. They moved from dairy farming to sheep farming exclusively.

The children all went to primary school in Norsewood and my grandmother was head girl in her last year. There were about 105 children at the school in those days. They all went on to Dannevirke High School. My grandmother told me "The school was 43 miles away and we travelled by bus each day. We were the first children to be picked up and the last to get home. The trip took over an hour each way."

My grandmother left school at the age of 17 and went to work at the Norsewood Post Office. She started off at the telephone exchange before being trained to serve at the counter. Everything was done at the Post Office in those days including paying out pensions, car registrations, income tax collecting and the usual postal services. She had to drive to work everyday and she was given a Fiat car for her 18th birthday.



Fay beside her first car



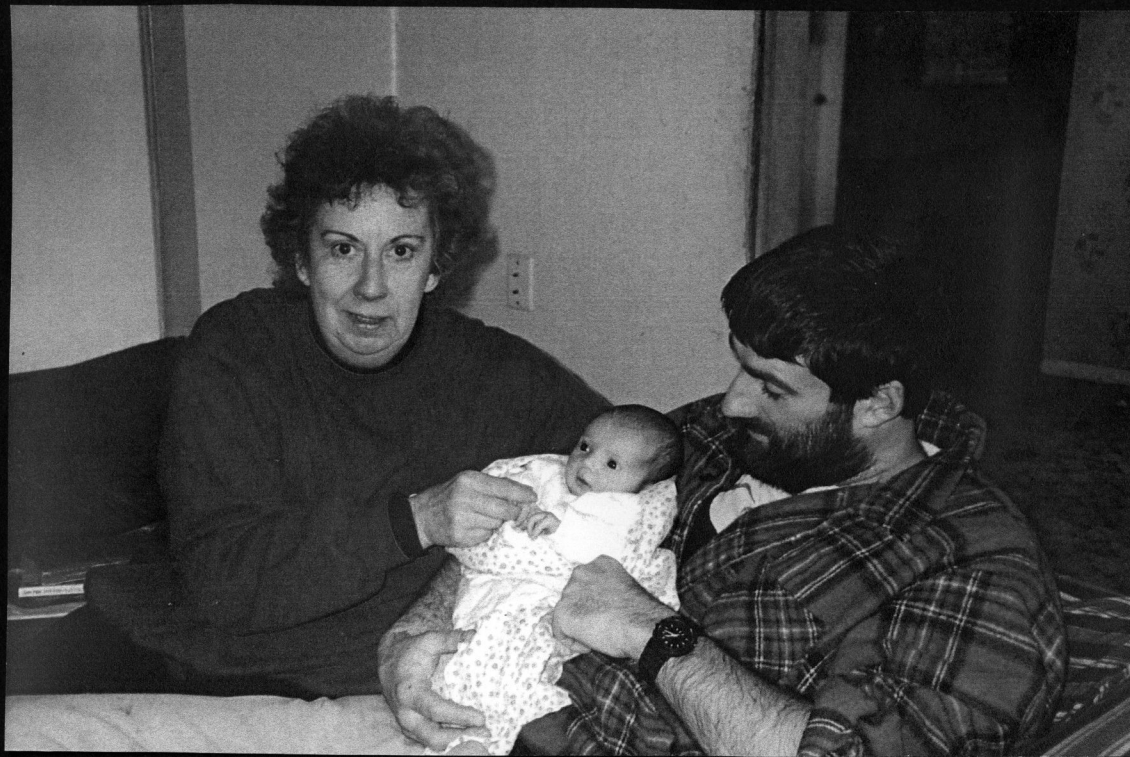
*Fay on her wedding day
with her father Howard*

In 1952 Howard built a house at Rata Street in Hastings, leaving a manager on the farm in Norsewood. The farm was eventually sold in 1963 just before Howard's death. Fay was transferred to the Havelock North Post Office as a cashier. There she met her future husband William John Hanna who part-owned the local Shell garage Havelock North Motors. They married in 1956. They built a house in Havelock North and had three children, Pauline Kay, Bruce William (my father) and Tracey Anne.



Bruce, Pauline, Fay and Tracey (in front)

The children went to Havelock North Primary School. In 1970 they moved from Havelock North to Longlands Road East, where Bruce still lives today. Bruce went to Lindisfarne College. He was keen on farming and on leaving school joined the Hawkes Bay Federated Farmers cadetship. For two years he worked on a hill station at Tutira. In 1983 he travelled overseas, first to Australia and then to Europe via Indonesia, Malaysia, Burma, India, Pakistan, Iran and Turkey. He worked in the UK for two years and met my mother Shelley Howison in London in 1986. Shelley was born and grew up in Cape Town South Africa.



Fay, Bruce and Rose

taken 19-08-91

On returning to New Zealand, Bruce and Shelley lived in Hawkes Bay for a while before moving to Dunedin in 1988. Bruce worked as a commercial fisherman and Shelley worked for a law firm. Rose Yvette was born in Dunedin on 9 August 1991. Brother Jacob Nelson was born on 27 April 1996. In 1998 the family moved back to Hawkes Bay. In 2000 they built a second house on the Longlands Road property where my grandmother Fay still lives. My grandmother is now 75.

We have traced relations in Denmark and several members of the family have visited them in Denmark.

Family Tree

Neils Christian Pedersen.

Born. Norre Bork. October 20 1853 Danmark.

Died. Ormondville. New Zealand. June 15. 1938

Married Harriet Powell

Otane. New Zealand. 27 April. 1887

Born. Leek, Staffordshire. England. April 22. 1865

Died. Ormondville. New Zealand. 1937.

Christian William Thue

Born. Kaikoura 1888

Married. Isabel Jane

Died. Ormondville 1971

Ivan

Born

Never married

Died Ormondville

1956

Howard Bert

Born 1900

Married Emma

Died Hastings

Harriet

Born

Married Jens Pallesen

Died Hastings 1977

Eric

Born Ormondville 1907

Married Anne

Jean Patricia

Married Verdun

Benbow

4 sons

Maxwell Christian

Married Beryl

2 sons

Neils John

Married Nancy

2 daughters

Fay b. 1931

Married

William Hanna Rex Herne +

Jill

Married

Rex Herne +

Ross

Unmarried.

Pauline Tracey

married

Shelley

Rose

Born 1991

Jacob

Born 1996

Barry Evan

Married Hilary

Matthew Erik Dean

Project Diary 2006

- 17 May Started thinking about who I could research
- 31 May Made a list of people I could talk to
- 4 June Emailed my grandmother in South Africa to ask about our link with David Livingston
- 5 June Received reply from my grandmother
- 10 June Attempted family tree but found a missing link in the late 1700's which could not be resolved
- 11 June Decided to research Pedersen family line (my father's mother's family)
- 18 June Went through family photographs
- 25 June Interviewed my grandmother Fay and typed up notes
- 28 June Went to Hastings Library to look for local history books for background information
- 29 June Searched the internet for information
- 2 July Went shopping for paper and other supplies; photocopied photos and family tree
- 9 July Completed typing, bibliography and so on. Worked on layout
- 16 July Continued working on layout
- 19 July Typed up diary and completed project

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Wright, Matthew. Hawkes Bay - The History of a Province. The Dunmore Press 1994

Personal Interview:

Hanna, Fay. Childhood memories and family history

Websites:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hawke's_Bay_\(region\)#History](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hawke's_Bay_(region)#History)