

# MRS BERTHA MAY HOWELL DIARY

1953-54

NEW ZEALAND HOLIDAY  
WALTER AND MAY HOWELL



**MRS BERTHA MAY HOWELL**

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	<b>ITINERARY – TOWNS VISITED</b>	<b>DATES</b>
1	CHRISTCHURCH	19 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER
2	WELLINGTON	
3	AUCKLAND	
4	OTAKI	4 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER
5	PAREMATA	10 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER
6	PALMERSTON	6 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY
7	LEVINS	
8	ROTORUA	9 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY
9	AUCKLAND	
10	LEVIN	29 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY
11	NAPIER	
12	HASTINGS	
13	WELLINGTON	9 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY
14	LYTTELTON – CHRISTCHURCH	
15	QUEENSTOWN	19 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY
16	CASCADE CREEK	
17	MIDFORD SOUND	
18	LE ANAU	23 <sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY
19	LAKE MANOPOURI	
20	DUNEDIN	24 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY
21	WAIMATA	
22	WELLINGTON	
23	LEVIN	27 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY
24	WELLINGTON	9 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH
25	SYDNEY	11 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH
26	MELBOURNE	13 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH

19th NOVEMBER 1953 - 14TH MARCH 1954



19<sup>th</sup> November 1953 – Left Essendon 10pm. Arrived Christchurch 8am. Stopped New City Hotel 20<sup>th</sup>. Took train and bus to Cholmere Hills, looked through building (tearooms) beautifully built and carved. Left Sat. 21<sup>st</sup> by plane for Pararapram. Arrived 12.45am met by Mr Coutie, driven to Levine 45 miles. Settled into Bungalow, taken by Mr Coutie driven Sunday to Haiterere Beach, saw ship wrecked 1878.

Tuesday had a look at Levin through Nth Church and Park, once settled in room.



Original Matt Hume, Huttville Bridge, Christchurch, N.Z. 1923. A. E. Hurst & Son Photo



**CHRISTCHURCH  
CATHEDRAL  
& CATHEDRAL  
SQUARE**



**COLIN AND WENDY  
COUTIE AND FAMILY**



**WALTER (WALLY)  
AT  
FOUNTAIN IN  
VICTORIA SQUARE**



**CHRISTCHURCH  
COLIN COUTIE &  
WENDY  
WILKINSON (HIS  
FIANCEE)**



**NEW DAM AT  
LAKE PUKAKI**



**VIEW OF  
MT COOK  
FROM OUR BEDROOM  
WINDOW AT  
THE HERMITAGE NZ**



**MOUNT COOK AND  
LAKE PUKAKI  
(ON BACK OF NZ 5P  
NOTE)**

Wednesday played bowls. Thursday bowls R.S.A. Saturday picture at Levin, Sunday motor drive to Wellington, lunch at Days Bay Motor Camp. Home along coast road, 160 miles. Saw new road in construction for out and incoming traffic, cars only, one road about the other, going from Wellington eventually to Auckland.



From the back of the section a corner of the flower bed on the right front gate and hedge on the right

The house is gorgeous across the street

Mr Coutie, LEVIN NZ



On 4<sup>th</sup> December took train to Otaki saw through Maori Church and Graveyard and Social Hall. Had lunch and returned to Levin by bus. Wally attended several Masonic Lodges – Levin Palmerston, Hoxton, Otaki. Went to Paremata by Parlor Coach on 10<sup>th</sup> Dec. pretty Bayside town, fished and had picnic lunch on Pier, then afternoon tea at ‘Mikes Café’ home by coach at 7 o’clock, very nice day. Wally’s birthday on 11<sup>th</sup> December 1953. Mr and Mrs Robinson came to afternoon tea, Will sick in bed, dose of Quinsy. Tom drove us to Shannon and we were shown over the Hydro Electric Station. Went to the Methodist Church in the morning 13<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1953 and evening and taken by Mrs Wrymess to the Children’s Home to a Sacred Play the ‘Nativity’.

Spent afternoon 16<sup>th</sup> Day at Couties, looked after Will and Colin to the New Years weekend. Tom and Mavis returned from their tour on 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. Train disaster on Christmas Eve caused by eruption of Mt Ruapehu. Presbyterian Church New Years Sunday. Mr and Mrs Hau? Drove us to Palmerston on 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. saw the Royal couple at 5.30pm. Spent night at Fearnley’s Hotel saw the Royal Couple following morning at 10am as they left the Grand Hotel, returned to Levin by bus on 8<sup>th</sup>.



**Left: Alter Cloth at Maori Church, Otaki NZ presented by Queen Elizabeth II**

**Right: 4/12/53**

**Maori Church and Cemetery at Otaki**

**8/1/54**

**Left: Mount Ngauruhoe (Volcanic)**

**11/12/53**

**Right: Maori Chief and Grandsons Grave at Otaki Cemetery. Grandson decorated by King George VI**

**4/12/53**

**Maori Meeting House, Otaki**



**Wally and Mr Coutie  
fishing on the Pier  
Paramatua**



**8/1/54  
Falls at Wiarakei River near  
Lake Taupo**



**Graves of unknown  
victims of  
NZ Railway Disaster**



Left by car on 9<sup>th</sup> Jan. for Rotorua, arrived at 7pm. ON the way we saw the Huka Falls. Waitemoto Gorge where the water is a lovely blue color, then further on we saw the Steam Geysers, running into pipes, the pace is all steam and a terrific roar as the steam forces its way out of the pipes, boring went down to 11,460 feet. Then saw the Lake Taupo and lovely boating sheds with jetty. Settled into our caravan at Autohaven Park, Sunday rested and went for a walk up the town. Monday had a motor trip to Wiatomo Caves, beautiful sight to see the thousands of glow worms in the Grotto, then the Arathanic Cave.



At Autohaven Camp, Rotorua  
Wally and May  
Elizabeth, Georgina



Queen Victoria's  
Statue, Rotorua  
Ohinemuta  
Village  
Wally and May



Wally in front of Statue in Rotorua  
Gardens, of Fred Wylie, Kings  
Sergeant of Boer War 1899-1902



Mrs G Smith,  
Elizabeth and  
Geogina at  
Motor Camp,  
Rotorua.  
Wally



Maori Church,  
Graveyard  
Ohinemutu  
Village, Rotorua



Bath House  
Rotorua Gardens

On Tuesday had trip Whaka the Maori Village and Thessual Springs and mud pools. Maori Concert on Tuesday very good. Poi dancers were lovely. A trip to Fairy Springs and Yanakei Spring Pairi Harvey the colored fish, another Maori Concert on Wednesday night. A walk through the gardens and baths on Sunday and through the Maori village and Church. Rested on Monday took some snaps in the morning.



12/1/54  
Maori Guide  
and Wally  
Whako  
NZ



12/1/54  
Swimming Pool  
Whako



12/1/54  
Boiling Pool  
Whako



**TANIWHA SPRING**



**RAINBOW TROUT, HAMURANA SPRINGS**



**TROUT POOL, TANIWHA SPRINGS**



**RAINBOW TROUT, HAMURANA SPRINGS**



**RAINBOW TROUT, TANIWHA SPRINGS**



**HAMURANA SPRINGS**

**TROUT POOLS**



**WATERFALL POOL - HASNEY THE FREAK FISH**

**TANAKEI SPRING**



**RAINBOW TROUT**

**YANAKEI SPRINGS**

Wednesday took a trip to the Green and Blue Lakes and Buried Maori Village. Thursday Wally played bowls. Saturday went for a walk also on Sunday to the Maori Village in Rotorua and took some snaps. Monday rested. Tuesday went to Auckland. A lovely city and harbour stopped at the Peoples Palace in Queen St, had a scenic trip Wednesday morning to Helliers Bay, another in the afternoon. A trip about Auckland and over the Waitakere Ranges. Wally played Bowls at Sandringham in Auckland. Went another trip in the afternoon around Auckland to Mt Eden, One Tree Hill, Savage Memorial, home along Harbour Drive. Pictures at night saw the 'Robe 3D'. Went to Museum a very lovely place and the Winter Garden and Conservatory saw beautiful flowers from the tropics. Back to Rotorua on Friday. Tom arrived at 6pm Friday. Went to Lauranga Bay Saturday back to Levin on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Jan.



Mexican Waterlily at Auckland, leaf measures 6 ft 3" across holds 200 lb weight. Went to Levin Show on Sat. 29<sup>th</sup>. Very good parade. Leave for Napier on 4<sup>th</sup> Feb. Very good time at Napier returned on 7<sup>th</sup> went for drive to the port around Hastings back through the Cemetery and saw the reclaimed land, then another trip to the Gavie Reserve where the Salmon trout are hatched, also Piasauts and the Kiwi. On to Le-Matra peak once 2000 feet above sea level and got a lovely view of Napier and the harbour. Went to the Skating Carnival Saturday night, Marine Parade all illuminated, a lovely night, returned home Sunday afternoon.



Overlooking Napier from N.Z. 7500. A.D. Hunt & Son Photo.



Evening Marine Parade, Napier, N.Z. 275



Skullered Napier, Whakapu Road.



Open House in Napier, Napier, N.Z.



Fire Starts in Hastings Street, Napier, N.Z.



Fire Destroys the South, Napier, N.Z.



Panorama of Napier After Fire.

*Taken from out in the street. I am sitting on the concrete fence among the hydrangeas.*

*Robbies front gate and garage on the right of pole.*



De Moore's House Napier (Napier, 1931)



Scene in Emerson Street, Napier (Napier, 1931)



**GRAVE OF  
EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS  
NAPIER CEMETERY**



Remains of Moore's House, Napier (Napier, 1931)



**OCEAN VIEW  
MARINE PARADE  
NAPIER**

Left by bus for Wellington on 9<sup>th</sup>, got onto GS Hinemoa sailed all night, a lovely sight to see Wellington all lit up, got to Lytteton at 8 o'clock, left by train for Christchurch, stopped there 3 days, Hotel Federal. Left by bus 14<sup>th</sup> for the Hermitage amongst the Southern Alps, enjoyed it there and left for Queenstown on 15<sup>th</sup>, and lot of climbing through the Gorges and by the Shotover River where all the gold was found. Stopped at the Beach House and went for a trip on 19<sup>th</sup> but it was misty rain. Went through the Museum at Christchurch and at Queenstown.



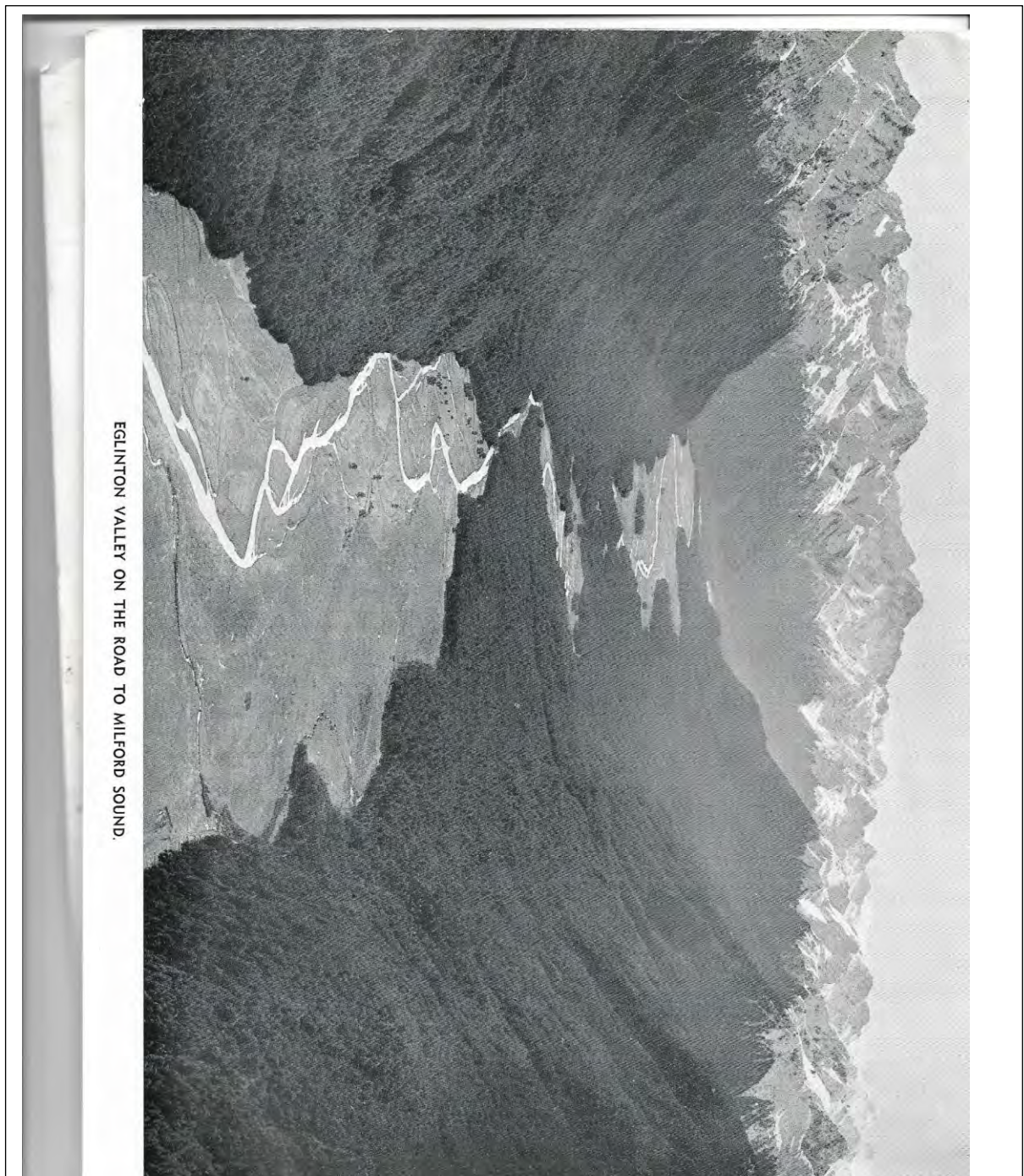
**CASCADE CREEK  
CAMPING HUTS**



**READY TO RETURN  
FROM LAKE  
MANAPOURIE TO  
CASCADE CREEK**



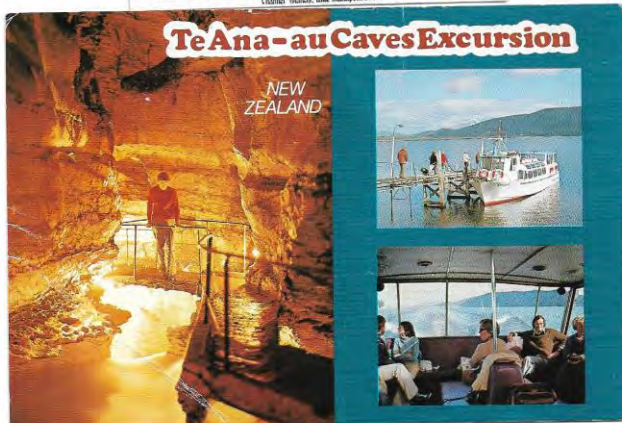
Saw film of NZ Royal Tour at Christchurch. From Queenstown to Cascade Creek and camped in Huts, 3 to a Hut plenty of sand flies, went by bus to Napier Tunnel then by smaller bus through the Tunnels ¼ mile long, long walk down steep hill to another bus which took us to the launch onto Milford Sound which is a wonderful sight, the long walk back to the Tunnel was very hot and tiring by the day was fine and we all enjoyed it.



EGLINTON VALLEY ON THE ROAD TO MILFORD SOUND.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> went to Le-Anau for one night, had a launch trip on Lake Manopouri then another Launch Trip to the Glow Worm Caves which are at Aurora Point on the Lake and consist of a roaring underground river, after entering a hole in the side of the hill you follow the river ledge then go in a Pond for a short way then climb a ladder and get into another Punt and ae then taken to the Glow Worm Caves which are very wonderful but the noise of the river is deafening and you are glad to get out into the fresh air again.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> we got to Dunedin Prince of Wales Hotel and went for a tour of the city and hills and through Tarnack Castle, on the highest peak and you get a wonderful view of the Port and islands and the city. Went to the pictures that night 'The Yellow Balloon', pictures theatre reverse tours and didn't care about it very much. Left by bus for Christchurch, had lunch at Waitamata and got to Wellington onto the 'Hinemod' and arrived at Levin on 27<sup>th</sup> at 11.30am.



Spent evenings at Mr and Mrs New, Mr and Mrs Pickering and Mr and Mrs Parfet and Mr and Mrs Taylor. Stopped at Levine until the 9<sup>th</sup> March then left by bus for Wellington stopped at Peoples Palace for 2 nights then left by seaplane on 11<sup>th</sup> for Sydney had a good trip and stopped at Hotel Wentworth, had a tour of the city and went for a lunch trip on the Hawkesbury River, had lunch at Bulleen Point, a pretty place which they are making into a pleasure resort, went to Koala Park saw the koalas and kangaroos.

Left 13<sup>th</sup> by train for Melbourne got home on 14<sup>th</sup>. Nice hot tea for us and we were pretty tired, and this ended a lovely 4-month holiday.

N Z Diary 19-12-53

Left Christchurch 10 P.M. 19-11-53 arr. Christchurch 8 A.M. stopped New City Hotel, 20<sup>th</sup> took train & bus to Cathedral Hill. looked through Building (Barracks) beautifully built & earned. Left Sat 21<sup>st</sup> by plane for Pararaparami arr. 12-45 A.M. met by Mr Bonta, driven to Levin 45 miles settled into Bungalow. Taken by Mr Cortie pedicure Sunday to Hātcherie Beach, saw ship wrecked 1978 Tuesday had a look over town of Levin through the Church & Park. Wednesday played Bowls Thursday Bowls R.F.A. <sup>Saturday</sup> Friday pictures at Levin, Sunday motor drive to Wellington Luncet at Days Bay motor camp four along coastal road, 160 miles. saw new road in construction for out & incoming traffic, cars only, one road about the other, going from Wellington eventually to Auckland. On 4<sup>th</sup> Dec took train to Otaki saw through Mōari Church & Graveyard and Social Hall had lunch and returned to Levin by Bus. Nally attended annual Masonic Lodge. Levin Palmerston, Foxton, Otaki. Went to Pōseparāta Pōsemata by Parker coach on 10<sup>th</sup> Dec, pretty Bayville town, fished and

had picnic lunch on Pier, then afternoon tea at  
"Hiker Cafe" home by boat at 7 o'clock, very  
nice day. Wally's Birthday on 11-12-53. Mr & Mrs  
Robinson came to afternoon tea, Will sick in  
bed, dose of Quinsey. Tom drove us to Shannon  
and we were shown over the Hydro-  
Electric Station, went to Methodist Church  
in the morning 13-12-53 and evening and  
taken by Mrs <sup>Wynne</sup> ~~Wynne~~ to the 6 children  
Home to a Sacred Play the "Nativity".  
Spent afternoon 16<sup>th</sup> 12-53, Mr & Mrs Robinsons  
home next door, their Golden Wedding day.  
Spent Sunday at home, looked after Will and looked to  
the New Year weekend, Tom & Paris returned from  
their tour on 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. Train disaster on Sunday  
caused by eruption of Mt ~~Ruapehu~~ <sup>Ruapehu</sup>. Presbyterian  
Church New Year Sunday. Mr & Mrs New drove us  
to Palmerston on 6<sup>th</sup> Jan saw the Royal couple at  
5-30 p.m. spent night at Feilding Hotel saw the  
Royal couple following morning at 10 A.M. as they  
left the Grand Hotel, returned to Levin by Bus  
on 8<sup>th</sup>

Left by car on 9<sup>th</sup> for Rotorua arrived at 7 P.M. On the way we saw the Huka Falls. Waitemata Gorge where the water is a lovely blue color, the further on we pass the Steam Geysers, running into pipes, the place is all steam and a terrific roar as the steam forces its way out of the pipes, boring went down to 11,460 feet. Then saw the Lake Taupo and lovely boating sheds and jetties. Settled into our caravan at Autobaven Park, Sunday rested & went for a walk up the town, Monday had a motor trip to Waiatomo caves, beautiful night to see the thousands of glow worms in the Grotto, then the Aratanui cave. On Tuesday had trip to Whaka the Maori Village & Thermal Springs mud pools. Maori concert on Tuesday very good. Poi dances were lovely. A trip to Fairy Springs and Teitaki Springs near Harrow.

4

He returned first, another Maori concert on  
Wednesday night. A walk through the gardens  
and bath on Sunday and through the Maori  
village & church, rested on Monday took some  
snaps in the morning. Wednesday took a trip  
to the Green & Blue Lakes and Buried Maori  
Village. Thursday Wally played Bowls  
Saturday went for a walk also on Sunday  
to the Maori Village in Rotorua and  
took some snaps, Monday rested,  
Tuesday went to Auckland, a lovely  
city and harbour stopped at the  
Peoples Palace in Queen St, had  
a scenic trip Wednesday morning  
to Hells Bay, another in the  
afternoon a trip about Auckland  
and over the Waitakere Ranges, Wally  
played Polo Bowls at Sandringham  
in Auckland. Went another trip

572

subject of low <sup>572</sup> report to meet pleat a  
in the afternoon around Auckland  
Warden One has half page  
Memorial home along Harbour drive  
Pictures at night saw the Robi. 3. D.  
Went to Museum a very lovely place and  
the Winkie Garden & Conservatory saw  
beautiful flowers from the Tropics. Back  
to Rotorua on Friday. Four arrived at  
6 PM Friday - went to Tauranga Bay  
Saturday back to Levin on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Jan.  
Mexican Waterlily at Auckland, leaf  
measures to 14 3/4" across holds 200 lb weight  
Went to Levin Show on Sat 29<sup>th</sup>, very good parade  
Leam for Napier on 4<sup>th</sup> Feb. Very good time at  
Napier returned on 7<sup>th</sup>. Went for drive to  
the Port around Hastings back through the  
Penitentiary & saw the reclaimed land, then  
another trip to the Game Reserve where  
the Salmon Trout are hatched, also Pheasants  
and the Kiwi, on to Te-Mata peak  
over 2000 feet above sea-level and get

a lovely view of Napier and the harbor,  
 went to the Skating Carnival Saturday  
 night, Marine Parade all illuminated on lovely  
 night, returned home Sunday afternoon.  
 Left by Bus for Wellington on 9<sup>th</sup> got onto  
 S.S. Huiemoa sailed all night, a lovely  
 night to see Wellington all lit up, got to  
 Lyellton at 8 o'clock left by trap for Chies  
 Church. Stopped there 3 days Hotel Federal  
 left by Bus 14<sup>th</sup> for the Hermitage and spent  
 the Southern Alps, enjoyed it there and  
 left for Queenstown on 15<sup>th</sup> and lots of  
 climbing through the Gorges & by the  
 Shotover River where all the gold was  
 found & stopped at the Beach house  
 & went for a launch trip on 19<sup>th</sup> but it  
 was misty rain. Went through the  
 Museum at Chies & at Queenstown.  
 Saw film of the Royal Tour at Chies.  
 From Queenstown to Cascade Creek and  
 camped in Hut 3 to a hut plenty of  
 sand flies, went by Bus to Homer Tunnel  
 then by smaller Bus through the Tunnel



2

1/4 mile long, long walk down steep hill to another Bus which took us to the Larnack onto Bilsford Sound which is a wonderful sight, the long walk back to the Larnack was very hot & tiring but the day was fine & we all enjoyed it. On 23<sup>rd</sup> went to Le-Anau for one night had a launch trip on Lake Manapouri then another launch trip to the Glow Worm caves which are at Aurora Point on the lake and consist of a roaring underground river, after entering a hole in the side of the hill you follow the river ledge then go in a tunnel for a short way then climb a ladder & get into another Point and are then taken to the Glow Worm caves which are very wonderful but the noise of the river is deafening and you are glad to get out into the fresh air again. On the 24<sup>th</sup> we got to Dunedin, Prince of Wales Hotel went for a tour of the city & hills & through Larnack Castle on the highest peak, and you get a wonderful

8 5

view of the Port & islands & the City. To the pictures that night, "The Yellow Balloon", pictures He also reverse to ours & didn't care about it very much. Left by Bus for Ck. Church, had lunch at Waitanata & got to <sup>Wellington</sup> ~~Long Point~~ on the "Hinemoa" and arrived at Levin on 27<sup>th</sup> at 11-30 A.M. Spent evenings at Mr & Mrs New. Mr & Mrs Pickering and Mr & Mrs Perfect and Mr & Mrs Taylor stopped at Levin until the 9<sup>th</sup> March then left by Bus for Wellington stopped at Peoples Palace for 2 nights then left by Seaplane on 11<sup>th</sup> for Sydney had a good trip and stopped at Hotel Newborth, had a Tour of the City and went to for a Lanch trip on the Hawkesbury River had lunch at Buller Point, a pretty place which they are making up a pleasure Resort, went to Koala Park saw the Koalas & Kangaroos. Left on 13<sup>th</sup> by train for Melbourne got home on 14<sup>th</sup>. Nice hot sea for us and we were pretty tired, and thus ended a lovely 4 month holiday.



Menu

## Hampton Life Saving Club; 1930; P0301



**From**

[Sandringham and District Historical Society Inc.](#)

**Name/Title**

Hampton Life Saving Club

**About this object**

Members of the Hampton Life Saving Club 1929-1930: G. Gould, H. Elliott, A. Rowe, G. Harvey, J. Rowe, B. Stroud, H. Charrett, P. Taylor, Mrs Love, G. Swinson, R.C. Jervis, Mrs Rowe; R.G. Harris, W. Swinson, G. Bean, C.W. Elliott, W. Howell, W. Bruce

**Date Made**

1930

**Measurements**

6 x.4 sepia print

**Object Type**

Photograph

**Subject and Association Keywords**

<https://ehive.com/collections/2136/objects/1099301/hampton-life-saving-club>

4/9



**80<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 1979**

**BERTHA MAY HOWELL (CASBOLT) TOP  
ROW THIRD FROM LEFT**

**STELLA ROSE (SINNOTT) – TOP ROW RHS  
END ★ ★**

**JESSIE CASBOLT (SINNOTT) – BOTTOM ROW  
SECOND FROM LEFT**

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**BOOKLET**

**Prepared by**

**Diane Casbolt**

**November 2023**

**Presented to Don and  
Sandra who celebrate  
their**

**80<sup>th</sup> Birthdays**

**this year.**