

# MICHAEL and ISABELLA COOGAN



Their Ancestral  
And the  
Descendant Family

**JAMES and DOREEN COOGAN**

By Garry O'Neill February 2010

## FORWARD

*Michael and Isabella Coogan* records the life of Michael Coogan, who with his parents, brothers and sister arrived in New Zealand in 1880. The death of his mother Honora six weeks after their arrival and how Mick's early entry into the workforce and his training in ploughing and the care of horses played an important part of his later employment by the Keiller family on Raumai Station in the Bull's district.

*Michael and Isabella Coogan* is a companion to my earlier publication in 2005 *Harold and Eva Jordan Family* which records the ancestral and descendants of Doreen Coogan (Michael's daughter-in-law) family. The story records Jim Coogan's ancestry, his life and the publication of photos from the family album not previously duplicated, his children and grandchildren. The section on Jim and Doreen's family has been edited and updated from that published in *Harold and Eva Jordan Family*

The material has been collated from many sources and the assistance of several organisations. These include Te Manawa Museum, Bulls Historical Society, Rangitikei District Council, Patricia Keiller (William Keiller's granddaughter), *Behold the Plains* by Dorothea Joblin, extracts from *Paper Past, History of the Parewanui District and Schools* published in 1979, the obituaries of Joseph Coogan (Died in Taumarunui on 19 April 1960) and Edward Coogan (Died in Taumarunui 13 November 1956), the *Coogan Family Register* by Jack D. Coogan 30 April 1983, condolence letters received after the death of Isabella Coogan in 1927, Jim's war time letters, from the records assembled by Doreen Coogan, my wife Margaret's sister and brothers..

Garry O'Neill  
February 2010

## WILLIAM COOGAN

Lawrence (Larry) was the son of William and Mary (Malone) Coogan. William and family, a farmer occupied 23 hectares of land in Upper Balief owned by George Ryall.

**William Coogan** married **Mary Malone**

<u>Michael</u>	<u>Lawrence</u>	<u>Lawrence (Larry)</u>	<u>William</u>	<u>John</u>	<u>Mary</u>
19 Feb. 1824	2 Mar 1826	8 Mar 1829	6 Jan 1832	20 Oct 1834	18 Mar 1838
	Early death.				

They lived on the Estate of Woodgift Castle on land that had been farmed by the Coogans for generations. On the hilltop close to their home is located "Coogan's Bush" covered in hazelnut trees which were removed in the 1960's, and unfortunately replaced with spruce that did not take hold and the area had reverted to gorse. Known now as "Coogan's Wood" locals refer to the "mean wind" always comes from the wood quoting like "When the wind is coming from Coogan's Wood, she'd be a severe blow". Through the generations the Coogans had improved the holding and built all the sod buildings on the property that have now been demolished.



Photos taken in 1971. Sod houses, with walls 80cms thick

## LAWRENCE (Larry) COOGAN



Larry married Honora Scott on 23 February 1865 in the Roman Catholic Chapel of Cullohill in the County of Queens. Their place of residence was listed as Balief.

In Ireland, Honora lived at Bunlacken on a farm about two kilometres from Cullohill, a small village on the main road to Cork. Other members of the Scott family lived at Durrow. Bunlacken is in open and gently rolling farmland. To the south is Johnstown which is the centre of a peat reclamation area being converted to farmland.

**Lawrence** Coogan married **Honora** Scott

**William** 21 Dec 1865

**Michael** 21 Mar 1867

**John** 27 Oct 1868

**Edmond** 29 Jul 1870

**Lawrence** 1 Apr 1872

Twins

**Thomas** 3 Sep 1874

**Mary** 3 Sep 1874

**Joseph** 31 May 1876

**Patrick** 25 Jan 1878

In the late 1870's Lawrence experienced two consecutive years of dry seasons, with complete crop failures. In the second year conditions had deteriorated so badly that a water cart was rigged up to irrigate the swedes. But to no avail –the crop failed. A stressful time, Honora, Lawrence's wife was not in good health.

Seeking a better life Lawrence, Honora and family emigrated to New Zealand and settled in Geraldine. John Scott, Honora's brother had emigrated in 1861 initially to Australia and the following year to New Zealand to successfully work a goldmine. In 1867 he purchased 16 hectares of land at Orari, Geraldine, and worked part time locally. On 19 April 1880, he married Bridget O'Connell.

Lawrence, Honora and family left London on the *Caroline* on 6 January 1880, arrived in Wellington on 29 April 1880 and boarded the ship *Go-a-Head* for Lyttelton. Arriving on 2 May, 1880 they travelled to Orari to live with John Scott and his new bride. Honora's health declined, and she died in the Timaru Hospital on 29 June 1880 and is buried in the Geraldine Cemetery. The family was indeed fortunate that John Scott had already established his farm and was undoubtedly ensuring the bereaved family was cared for.

Larry and his family continued to live in the area with the older boys seeking employment in the farming community while the younger siblings attended school in Geraldine. *Papers Past* (Timaru Herald) records prizes won by Mary, Joseph, Thomas and Patrick at school. Other articles recorded John's athletic prowess in numerous sports and how in 1884 he suffered a broken leg while horse riding in Pleasant Valley. Also recorded in 1892 was Thomas Coogan's injured knee while working and the 1899 fire in Joe Coogan's Geraldine home that was occupied by his father Larry.

As each of the family grew older they worked in the local area and in the 1890's moved to the lower Rangitikei in the Bulls and Parewanui areas where work was available as farm labourers, the emerging flax industry and as domestics before moving into the Taihape and Taumaruni districts.



Inscription:  
HONORAH –Beloved wife of Laurence Coogan.  
Died 29<sup>th</sup> June 1880 agd 40 years.  
Also John Coogan, her son





1960 photos of the Coogan Home in Geraldine on Section 382

Larry continued living in Geraldine area until the turn of the century when he moved to be closer to his family in Taihape where he died on 26 October 1906 and is buried in the Taihape cemetery.



Inscription

REMEMBRANCE  
In Loving Memory of  
**Lawrence Coogan**  
DIED 26<sup>th</sup> OCT 1906 AGE 76 YEARS  
**Mary Ann**  
BELOVED WIFE OF  
**William Coogan**  
DIED 19<sup>th</sup> JULY 1931 AGED 56 YEARS  
AND HER HUSBAND  
**William Coogan**  
DIED 4<sup>th</sup> JAN 1945 AGED 79  
YEARS  
R.I.P.

## MICHAEL (Mick) COOGAN

*Original certificate right of which this is a true copy*  
*Phelps*  
DEPUTY REGISTRAR  
SUPREME COURT  
FORM III

Certificate of Baptism.

Parish of *Mullingford* Diocese of *Down*

I HEREBY CERTIFY that *Michael Coogan*

was Baptized, according to the Rites of the Holy Catholic Church, in the Church of  
*St. Peter's Green* Parish of *Mullingford*

on the *25<sup>th</sup>* day of *March* year *1867*

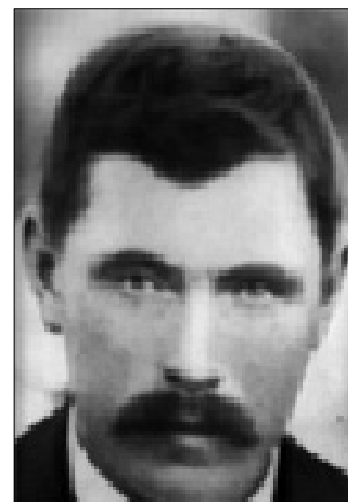
by *Rev John Walter CC*

Parents, *Lawrence Coogan + Maria Scott*

Sponsors, *William Scott + Catherine Coogan*

Rev. *Petrus Ballard CC* Parish Priest.  
Coadjutor.

To..... Date *2.12.88*



Michael Coogan

Michael was thirteen years old at the time the Coogan family arrived in Geraldine and it's highly unlikely that he attended school there.

Michael commenced work on farms and developed skill as a ploughman while working on the farm of Mr. William Earl, a well known farmer.

The *Timaru Herald* on 10 August 1882 reports on a

### "Ploughing Match in Geraldine"

Double-furrow for boys under 18 years of age First prize £4.

Ploughing: M. Coogan  
Owner: W. Earl  
Make: Reid and Gray

Also Best work M. Coogan.

Judges' Comment: "Coogans work was far superior to that done by other competitors. Coogan's work was much praised and was thought by some to be equal, if not superior to that done by men."



In 1890 Michael is listed on the Electoral roll as living in Geraldine and the next entry is 1892 when he is listed as living at Raumai (Bulls). Later employed by the Keiller Brothers, Mick worked on the Raumai Station. It is uncertain as to what year Mick commenced work on Raumai Station.

Mick's brother Edward (Ned) also worked in the area for nine months in 1906 carting flax clearing £300 in nine months.

## RAUMAI STATION

Raumai Grange was established by Cornelius Campion on the Rangitikei Block of land totaling 225,000 acres purchased from the Maoris on 15 May 1849. The surveying of the land was spread



Raumai Station Homestead

over many years and title was not readily available. Campion who originally purchased sections fronting onto Parewanui Road continued to expand by purchasing the back blocks. By 1883 his elongated holding of 5500 acres spread back on each side of what today is Raumai Road. William Keiller (a descendant of John Keiller of Dundee the manufacturer of sweets, biscuits and Keiller Marmalade) purchased the land for his two sons Albert and Edwin who had emigrated and commenced as farm cadets in Hawkes Bay. Geoffrey Potts was appointed manager of Raumai responsible to William who financed extensive developments of the renamed station.

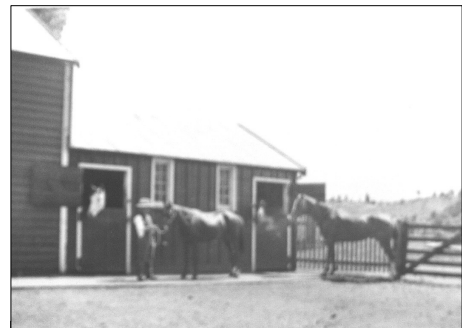
The *Wanganui Herald* newspaper on 21 January 1888 reported;

“The improvements effected on the Raumai property, Lower Rangitikei, since it has passed into the hands of Messrs Keiller, are particularly noteworthy. Large sums of money have been spent in draining, ploughing, fencing, etc., a large number of hands have been continually employed. The work carried out is highly creditable to the able management of the manager, Mr. G. Potts, and the property under his charge bids fair to become the finest in the district.”

How successful was the station? The *Feilding Star* on 28 October 1889 reports

“We have on excellent authority that Mr. Potts, manager of the Raumai Station, Rangitikei, which comprises 7500 acres of flat land, has written to Mr. Keiller, his principal in Scotland, his intention to dispose of the whole of the cattle on the station, about 3000 head, and to cultivate flax. There are already several large mills on the run. This decision opens a new prospect for the holders of cattle, who will realise in it, another reason why values should be maintained.”

By 1890 William had emigrated to New Zealand and was living at Raumai, and Albert and Edwin had moved onto the property across the road, “Fernwood” and were joined by another son Ernest. The station leased a further 1000 acres on the coastal end of their property. Oats and wheat was grown, a flourmill established and the planting of trees commenced which with development by others became Santoft Forest.



Raumai Station Stables

In 1905 Raumai Road was formed and the land on each side of it put up for sale. The Keillers commenced the building of a new home Atawhai –“ warm welcome”-on the bluff hill at Fitzherbert. The site overlooked to the north the Manawatu River and Palmerston North and they took up residence in 1908. This home, which is alongside Massey University, is now a student hostel called Ferguson Hall.

1908. Extract from *Behold the Plains* by Dorothea Joblin pp80

Mick Coogan, an employee at Raumai station, drove all the furniture from Bulls, load by load, in a wagon with six horses. Brian (Keiller) can still see those horses leaning into the collar, knees bent, as they engaged the heavy wagon up the steep road

Mick was highly thought of by William Keiller who at the time of the shift to Palmerston North wrote

MANAWATU CLUB,  
PALMERSTON NORTH, N.Z.

The bearer Mick Coogan has been in my employment for fifteen or sixteen years. In his particular line (looking after horses) he is without exception the best man I have ever seen, in fact he can do anything with draught horses. And further he treats horses as they should be treated. His chief work with me was head ploughman, but he is a first class all round farm hand, & can turn his hand to any work

on a farm or station. He is thoroughly up in the working of all farm machinery, if however he does not understand how to set about any job he is put at, he will say so straight out. He is a real grafter, sober, & as honest as the day. He only leaves me, as the property has been sold, & I have no further employment to give him.

He is a man whom you can give instructions as to what you want done, go away & leave him for a month, with the absolute assurance that he will work as well if not better behind your back as before you.

In short I never expect to have a better servant, & can with confidence recommend him to anyone wanting a man of his description.

Yours truly  
W.A. Keiller

COPY.

Manawatu Club,  
PALMERSTON NORTH N.Z.

The bearer Mick Coogan has been in my employment for fifteen or sixteen years. In his particular line (looking after horses) he is without exception the best man I have ever seen, in fact he can do anything with draught horses and further he treats horses as they should be treated. His chief work with me was head ploughman, but he is a first class all round farm hand, and can turn his hand to any work on a farm or station. He is thoroughly up in the working of all farm machinery, if however he does not understand how to set about any job he is put at, he will say so straight out. He is a real grafter, sober, and as honest as the day. He only leaves me as the property has been sold, and I have no further employment to give him. He is a man whom you can give instructions as to what you want done, go away and leave him for a month, with the absolute assurance that he will work as well if not better behind your back as to your face.

In short, I never expect to have a better servant, and can with confidence recommend him to anyone wanting a man of his description.

Yours truly,  
"N.A. Keiller".

Signature should read W.A.

Mick was joined by other members of his family. The Electoral Rolls show:- Bulls District

#### Bulls

1893	Michael	Labourer	1903	Michael	
1897	Michael	Raumi	1908	Lawrence	
	Mary	Domestic		Michael	Ploughman
	Lawrence	Ngaio		Isabella Moore	
1900	Michael		1911	Michael	
1901	Lawrence			Isabella Coogan	
	Patrick	Groom	1914-19	Ditto 1911	
1902	Ditto 1900		1922-31	Michael	Roadman

Records of the Raumi Station held by *Te Manawa Museum* show on the balance sheets for 1901 to 1909 the annual wages paid

1901:	Mick Coogan	£53-10-5	1905:	Mick Coogan	£170-10-5
	Pat Coogan	£7-18-1		Bella Moore	£12-12-0
1902:	Mick Coogan	£86-10-5	1906:	Mick Coogan	£177-2-5
1903:	Mick Coogan	£124-10-5	1907:	Mick Coogan	£190-12-5
1904:	Mick Coogan	£137-10-5	1908:	Mick Coogan	£29-0-0
	Bella Moore	£2-14-0		Bella Moore	£11-10-0
			1909:	Mick Coogan	£19-10-0

To put the money into perspective, the annual total wages bill for 1907 was £1185-11-11 and for 1908, £1394-10-2. The cashbook from 1919 - 1925 has no record of Mick or Isabella Coogan.

Bella Moore is listed in the cash book from 1904 and in 1908 married Mick Coogan

R.G. 100 NEW ZEALAND No 2488

**CERTIFIED COPY OF ENTRY OF BIRTH**  
IN THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S OFFICE

Place of Registration: CHRISTCHURCH

Child	
1. When born	7 January 1868
2. Where born (Town or locality only)	St Albans
3. Christian or first names (If twin, state whether elder or younger) (If stillborn, state so.)	Isabella
4. Sex	Female
Father	
5. Name and Surname	James MOORE
6. Profession or occupation	Carter
7. Age	-
8. Birthplace	-
Mother	
9. Name and Surname	Margaret MOORE
10. Maiden Surname	Carson
11. Age	-
12. Birthplace	-
13. Name and Surname of Child, if there has been any addition or alteration after registration of birth.	

Certified to be a true copy of the above particulars included in an entry of birth in the records of the Registrar-General's Office.

Given under the seal of the Registrar-General at Wellington, the  
3 day of June 1977

The fee for this certificate is \$2.00

CAUTION—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses it as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution under the Crimes Act 1961.



Isabella Coogan (Moore)



Little is known about Isabella and her family but letters found in 1993 records a woman highly thought of by the residents of the area.

James MOORE  
d. 6 May 1910 Christchurch  
Margaret MOORE nee Carson  
d. 22 July 1878 Christchurch

Isabella MOORE  
b. 7 January 1868 St Albans Christchurch  
d. 29 January 1927 Bulls

Thomas MOORE

Mary Jane MOORE  
m. David MILNE



Headstone of  
James and Margaret Moore

NEW ZEALAND		Nº 12521
<b>CERTIFIED COPY OF ENTRY OF MARRIAGE</b> in the Registrar-General's Office		
Number	43	
When married	20 October 1908	
Where married	Roman Catholic Church, Feilding	
Name and surname	<b>Bridegroom</b>	<b>Bride</b>
	Michael COOGAN	Isabella MOORE
Age	43	38
Profession or occupation	Ploughman	-
Conjugal status (bachelor, spinster, widower, widow, or divorced)	Bachelor	Spinster
Birthplace	Ireland	Christchurch
Usual residence (in full)	Bulls	Hawkes Bay
<p>Certified to be a true copy of the above particulars included in a marriage entry in the records of the Registrar-General's Office.</p> <p>Given under the seal of the Registrar-General at Wellington, this</p> <p>5 day of May 1977</p>		
<p>The fee for this certificate is <del>£</del> \$2.00</p> <p>CAUTION—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses it as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution under the Crimes Act 1961.</p>		



Following their marriage Mick and Bella continued to live on Raumai Station



Workers Cottages on Raumai Station

Isabella gave birth to James Lawrence Coogan in 1908.

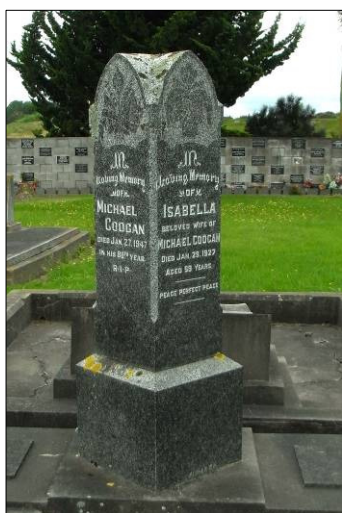
NEW ZEALAND.										N <sup>o</sup> 11923		
CERTIFIED COPY OF ENTRY IN THE REGISTER-BOOK OF BIRTHS												
in the District of <u>Dunedin</u>										Year, 190 <u>8</u>		
										[R.G. No. 3E.]		
No.	CHILD.			FATHER.		MOTHER.		INFORMANT.		REGISTRAR.		CHILD.
	When and where Born.	Name of Child, and whether present or not.	Sex.	1. Name and Surname. 2. Rank or Profession. 3. Age. 4. Birthplace.	When and where Married.	1. Name and Maiden Surname. 2. Age. 3. Birthplace.	1. Signature. 2. Description. 3. Residence. 4. If entry a correction of a former entry, Signatures of Witnesses attesting the same.	1. When registered. 2. Signature of Registrar.	Name, if added or altered after Registration of Birth.			
188.	1908 2 <sup>nd</sup> November.	James Lawrence	ms	Michael Coogan Labourer. 17 1/2 years. Ireland.	1908 15 <sup>th</sup> October.	Isabella Coogan formerly Loebe 28 years. Dunedin Christchurch	Michael Coogan Labourer Dunedin	1908 19 <sup>th</sup> December.		B. B. Halliday		
I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above is a true copy of an entry of birth in the Register-book kept in my office.												
Given under my hand at <u>Dunedin</u> this <u>27<sup>th</sup></u> day of <u>August</u> , 19 <u>12</u>												
[The fee for this certificate is 2s. 6d.]												
<u>Wm. Brightwell</u> Registrar.												



Mick Coogan and his team of horses



With the sale of Raumai in 1909-10 Mick's employer is unknown and it was not until 1922 his occupation as a roadman is shown on the electoral rolls. A search in December 2009 of the archives of the Rangitikei District Council did not reveal any detail as to when he became the Roadman or where he lived. The Parewanui roadman's house was not erected until 1938. The 1935 and 1938 electoral rolls show that Michael Coogan had retired to live at Mataroa to return to live in Feilding in 1940 with his son Jim and daughter-in-law Doreen.



Isabella and Michael Coogan are buried in the Bulls Cemetery. Isabella died on 29 January 1927, aged 59 years, and Michael died on 27 January 1947, in his 80th year

## JAMES (Jim) LAWRENCE COOGAN

James (Jim) Lawrence Coogan, the only son of Michael Coogan and Isabella, nee Moore, was born on 2 November, 1908 in Feilding. Following their marriage in 1908 in Feilding Mick and Isabella settled in Parewanui, on the coast road west of Bulls. Mick continued with farmwork until appointed as roadman. Parewanui was the principal home of the Ngatiapa Tribe and the site of Maori settlements and fighting pas. Jim's early association with the Maori, at school and play, reflected in his later life in his welfare work and the respect shown to him by the Maori people.



Jim with his mother

Jim attended school at Parewanui where he completed his Primary Education before going to the Bulls High School. He left school at the age of sixteen and his Seventh Standard.

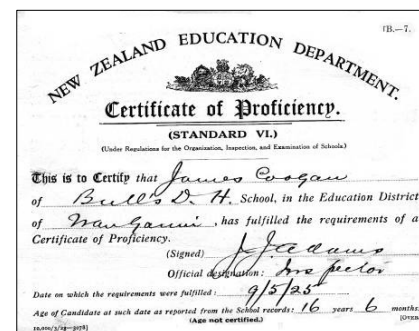
(Certificate of Proficiency at Standard VI dated 9 May 1925).

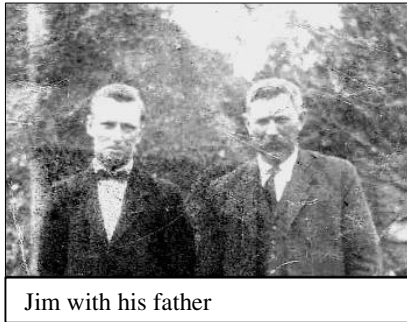
In May 1926 Jim joined the Post Office at Bulls as Postman and Exchange Clerk. Over the next 9 years he participated in the life of the township playing tennis and rugby for the Bulls Football Club.

A highlight in Jim's young life was visiting Australia for the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1932.



Jim growing up





Jim with his father

In 1935 Jim transferred to New Plymouth where he met his future wife Doreen Jordan. A year was spent in Hunterville as a postal clerk followed by a transfer to Feilding in 1938.



## DOREEN JORDAN and JAMES COOGAN

### Doreen Coogan (nee Jordan)

Doreen Eva Jordan was born on March 5, 1918 in New Plymouth as the eldest daughter of Harold George Henman and Eva Jordan (nee Rudings). An older half brother Allen Leslie McPherson was born in 1915 and had been adopted and was not known by the family. Doreen's sister Delma was born in 1919 and her two younger brothers Raymond (1921) and Bruce (1922).



Doreen lived with her family at 98 Leach Street, New Plymouth, in a small colonial home. Educated at the Central School in New Plymouth she passed her Certificate of Proficiency in 1932 (aged 12 years 10 months). She attended New Plymouth Girls' High School for her secondary education. In 1932 Doreen passed her Intermediate Examination entitling her for Senior Free Places. In 1935 Doreen passed her Junior Examination for Shorthand-Typists, with Credit. From school she commenced work as a stenographer and Junior Office Assistant at the General

Merchants of W.S. Ward and Company until late June in 1936 when she joined the staff of the Post and Telegraph as a shorthand-writer, where she stayed employed until her marriage.



Doreen at the time of her engagement

Christened as an Anglican she was a regular participant at St Mary's Bible School Class from 1930 to 1937 and worshipper at St Mary's where she received First Communion and was Confirmed. Doreen participated in the social life of the Church.

In 1936 she had met Jim Coogan, through Don Tweedale, a mutual workmate at the New Plymouth Post and Telegraph Office. Over the next two years the romance blossomed. Together they attended the social dances at St Mary's and shared the activities of Hibernians and the Holy Name Sodality that were to be part of Jim's whole life.

A sportswomen, she enjoyed tennis, loved socials and dancing. Doreen was a keen swimmer, and at a young age attained her life saving medals.

In 1937 Jim Coogan was transferred to Hunterville and became a regular visitor to New Plymouth. Doreen and Jim announced their engagement late in 1937.

Doreen, who had continued with her own church commitment, decided to become a Roman Catholic and was received into the Catholic Church. In 1938, Jim was transferred to Feilding.

Jim and Doreen married on 23 September 1939 in St Josephs Catholic Church, New Plymouth by the Rev Fr A J Heavey, with Daniel Coogan of Taihape as best man and Delma Joyce Jordan, her sister, as bridesmaid.

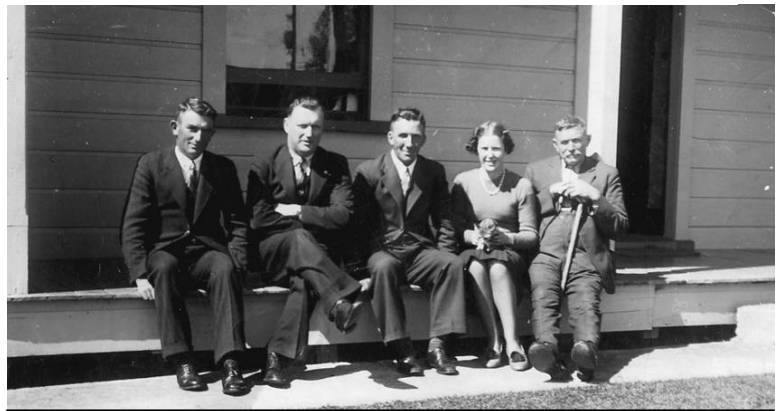






**At the Wedding**

Harold and Eva Jordan, Mick Coogan, Esther Devane



**On Their Honeymoon at Mataroa**

Dan Coogan, Jim Coogan, Jim Devane, Doreen Coogan, Mick Coogan

## Jim and Doreen Coogan

Jim and Doreen moved to Feilding where they boarded until their home gifted to them by Jim's father Mick was completed at 9 Poole Street. Mick joined them at their home until his death in 1947.

Jim and Doreen participated fully in the life of the St Brigid's Catholic Parish. Jim's commitment to welfare was extended with St Vincent de Paul Society when a branch was established in Feilding. Doreen cared for Jim's father who was elderly and in poor health. With the birth of three children Margaret 1940, Patricia 1941, and Michael 1943 Doreen was kept extremely busy.

Jim volunteered to join the Air Force, became a signalman and was posted overseas in 1944 to serve





at Guadal Canal in the Solomon Islands. Life in the Poole Street home was not easy, with Jim on active service. Mick, though suffering from arthritis ensured Jim's gardens were maintained. Doreen in later life always said Mick was a tower of strength to her during this time. However, with the support of many friends, Doreen, with determination and strength of character, met the many challenges. Towards the end of the war in 1945 Jim returned home and continued working for the Post and Telegraph, Doreen rearing her family.



Over the next nine years Jim and Doreen were blessed with four further children, Paul (1946), Peter (1947), Denis (1951), and Philip (1954). Together they cared for Jim's elderly uncles, Tom and Larry from time to time. Margaret and Patricia remember Uncle Tom buying them new beds and bedding while staying in their home. Doreen's interest in helping other people is reflected in her



involvements with the church, raising money for the Parish and School and St Dominic's School for the Deaf. Visitors to their home were always extended a warm welcome.

As her children married and settled into their lives, Doreen, in 1970 sat and passed School Certificate English. She worked, as a counselor, for the Samaritan telephone service, and for 24 years until 1987 undertook the copperplate lettering on the Dolphin Swimming Club Certificates. Her interest in tracing her kith and kin saw Doreen spending many hours researching the forebears in the Jordan and Coogan families.



1958 Margaret, Jim, Patricia, Michael, Paul,  
Peter, Philip, Doreen, Denis

Throughout his life Jim, supported his fellow Catholics and the Parish of St Brigids. Community welfare within his work in the Post Office and his dedication to the work of St Vincent de Paul Society was an important part of his daily life. In all this he was supported by Doreen. Together they raised seven children who all married in Jim's and Doreen's lifetime.

An avid gardener, Jim produced bountiful supplies to feed his large family, and any surplus went to the Sisters at the Feilding Convent and neighbours. He loved to socialise, was highly respected, and enjoyed the company of all. He had a great love for

steam trains and in later life took every opportunity to ride the trains. From the time of his retirement, with Doreen, they travelled throughout NZ, renewing friendships and maintaining contact with their many relatives.

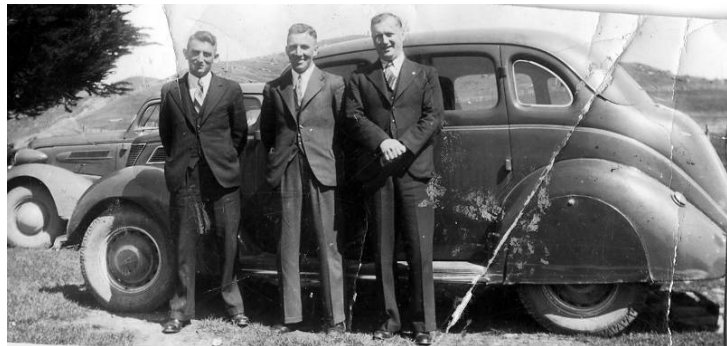


Jim died on 3 July ,1989, aged 80 years, and Doreen on 29 March, 1993, aged 75 years. They are buried in the Feilding Cemetery.

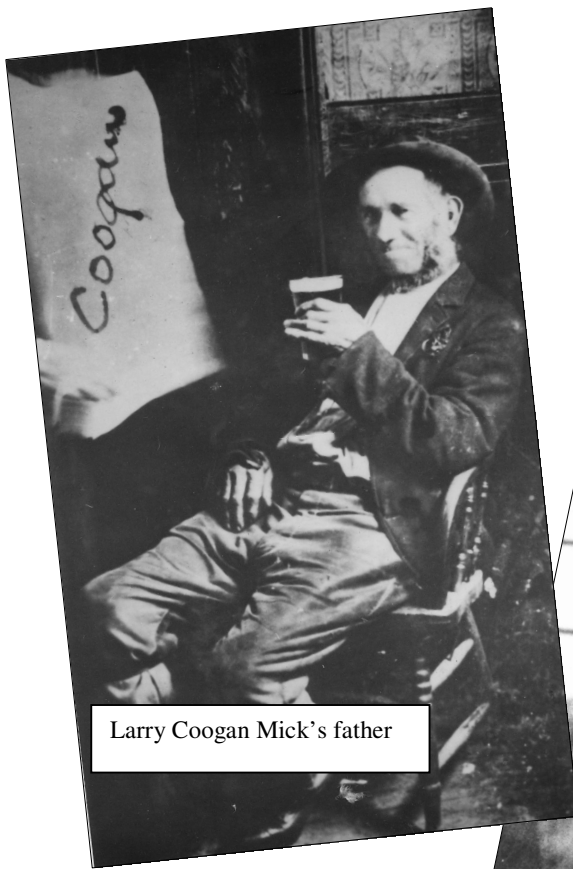
*Contributed by Margaret and Garry O'Neill and Patricia Bourke*



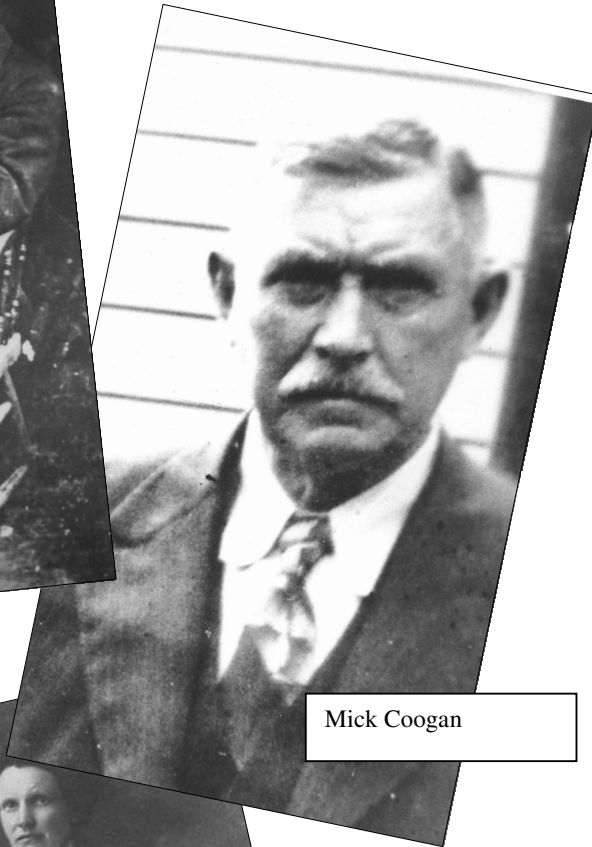
With Grandad Mick Coogan:  
Patricia, Michael and Margaret Coogan



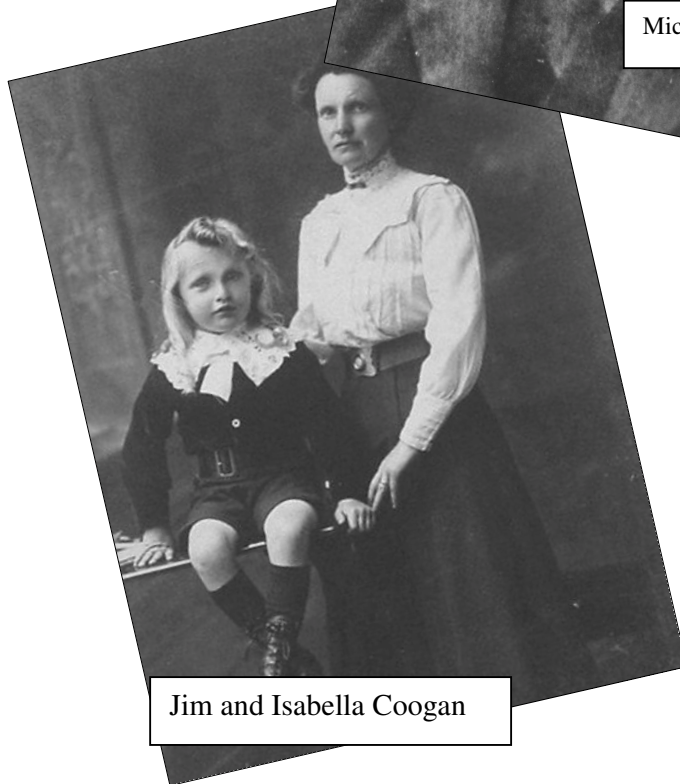
The Groomsmen:  
Dan Coogan, Jim Devane, Jim Coogan



Larry Coogan Mick's father



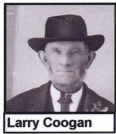
Mick Coogan



Jim and Isabella Coogan



# MICHAEL and ISABELLA (Moore) COOGAN



Larry Coogan



Michael Coogan



Jim Coogan












































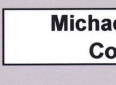


























Isabella Moore



Doreen Jordan

## FAMILY DESCENDANTS

### JIM and DOREEN COOGAN'S FAMILY

<p><b>Margaret &amp; Garry O'Neill</b></p>     <p>Mark Josie</p>   <p>Ashleigh Jason</p>   <p>Nathan Christopher</p>   <p>Sandra Kevin M</p>   <p>Ross Jan</p>   <p>Hamish Laura</p>  <p>Brendan</p>	<p><b>Pat &amp; Phillip Bourke</b></p>     <p>Marianne Tim</p>   <p>Emily Rory</p>   <p>Michael Meg</p>   <p>Joanna Daniel</p>   <p>Jack Christopher</p> <p><b>Peter &amp; June Coogan</b></p>     <p>Stephen Eleanor</p>  <p>Grant</p>	<p><b>Denis &amp; Sue Coogan</b></p>     <p>Claire Andrew</p> <p><b>Philip Coogan</b></p>   <p>Wendy T</p>   <p>Nick Jude</p> <p><b>Michael &amp; Ruth Coogan</b></p>       <p>Glenn Tracey Thomas Harrison</p>     <p>Gregory Nicola Isabella James</p>     <p>Gabrielle Richard Joanne Timothy</p>     <p>Catherine Bruce Grace George</p>	<p><b>Paul &amp; Sandra Coogan</b></p>     <p>Therese Mark W</p>   <p>Jasmine Arnika</p>   <p>Nigel Vanessa</p>   <p>Katelyn Michayla</p>
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## James and Doreen Coogan



**James Lawrence COOGAN**  
b. 2 November 1908 Bulls NZ  
d. 3 July 1989 Palmerston North

m. 23 September 1939 New Plymouth

**Doreen Eva JORDAN**  
b. 5 March 1918 New Plymouth  
d. 29 March 1993 Palmerston North



**Margaret Anne COOGAN**  
b. 30 August 1940 Feilding  
m. 19 August 1961 St Brigids Feilding  
**Garry William O NEILL**  
b. 8 August 1933 Feilding

**Patricia Mary COOGAN**  
b. 2 December 1941 Feilding  
m. 10 October 1964 St Brigids Feilding  
**Phillip Greville BOURKE**  
b. 8 July 1941 Wanganui

**Michael James COOGAN**  
b. 30 March 1943 Feilding  
m. 8 October 1966 St Brigids Feilding  
**Ruth Barbara GILMORE**  
b. 6 November 1945 Feilding

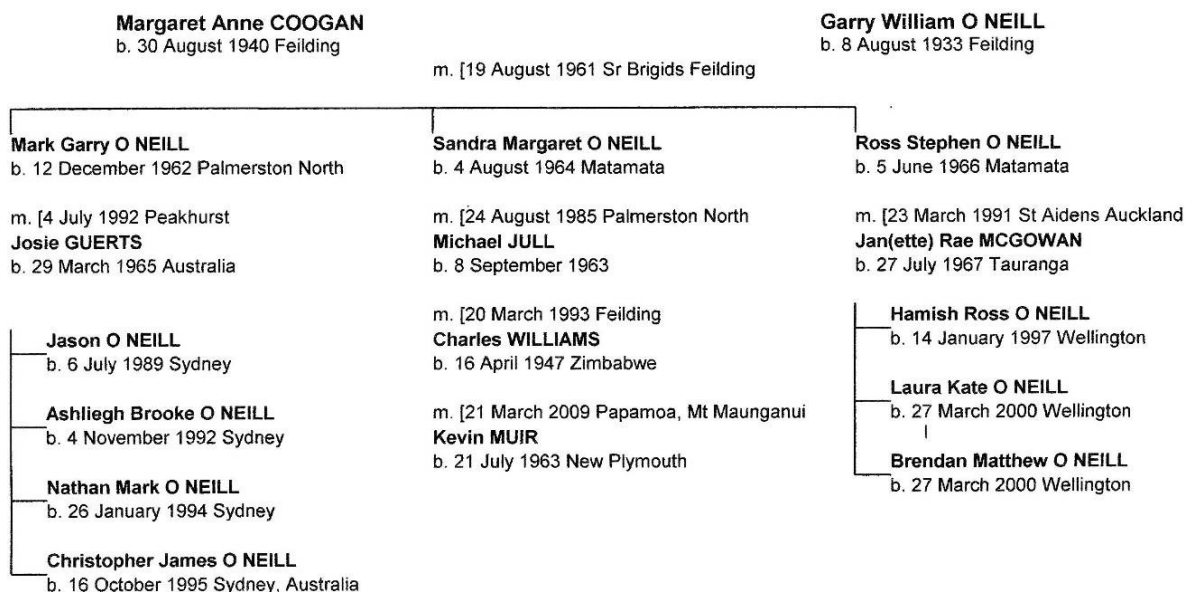
**Paul Raymond COOGAN**  
b. 21 March 1946 Feilding  
m. 23 January 1972 St Brigids Feilding  
**Sandra PUSSELL**  
b. 6 September 1948

**Peter John COOGAN**  
b. 14 September 1947 Feilding  
m. 18 April 1970 St Brigids Feilding  
**June (Kathleen) WOODMAN**  
b. 26 June 1947

**Denis Anthony COOGAN**  
b. 24 April 1951 Feilding  
m. 1 March 1975 Wanganui  
**Susan WARHAM**  
b. 1 October 1951 Wanganui

**Philip Brian COOGAN**  
b. 14 August 1954 Feilding  
m. 14 December 1985 Palmerston North  
**Jude LADBROOK**

# Margaret Anne O'Neill (nee Coogan)



Margaret, the eldest of seven children, was born in Feilding on August 30, 1940. Her only sister Patricia was born in 1941, Michael 1943, Paul 1946, Peter 1947, Denis 1951 and Phillip in 1954.

Educated at St Joseph Primary School in Feilding and St Joseph's High School in Palmerston North, Margaret left school to work in a chemist shop before commencing a career in nursing at the Dannevirke Hospital. A keen sportswoman she enjoyed playing tennis and badminton. As a teenager she joined the Catholic Youth Movement becoming President in 1958. Through the movement she met her husband Garry. Married in Feilding on 19 August 1961, they have three children, Mark, Sandra and Ross.

Following her marriage, Margaret supported Garry in his employment in education, attending the needs of their children, and participating in local district groups. While living in Gladstone she assisted as a Mother Helper and as treasurer in the local Play Centre and assisted Garry during his year as President of the Masterton Lions Club. In 1975, after moving to Palmerston North, Margaret joined the staff at the Motor Registration Centre as a Clerk retiring in 1997. In 2000 with Garry, Margaret became a charter member of the Milson Probus Club and arranges garden visits. Within the Club she extended welfare assistance to members. Margaret has commenced playing mah jong after joining Probus and at the R.S.A. attends twice weekly Tai Chi and enjoys a game of Bolivia on Wednesday afternoon..

Margaret is a keen gardener, spends many hours caring for the flower beds and enjoys attending the monthly Garden Club meetings.



Together they visit Mark and his four children who live in, Sydney Australia. Ross and Jan and their three children live in Auckland. Sandra lives in Papamoa.

## Garry William O'Neill



Born in Feilding, on August 8 1933, Garry is the youngest of five children. His older sister Margaret (Peggy) was born in 1918, Peter 1921, Pamela 1926 and Bryan in 1928. The family moved to Palmerston North in October 1933. Following the flooding of their home in May 1941, when the Manawatu River broke its banks the family purchased a home at 48 Limbrick Street where Garry lived, when in Palmerston North, until his marriage in 1961.

Garry attended Hokowhitu, and St Patrick's Convent Primary Schools and at Marist Brothers' High School, all in Palmerston North. Trained as a primary school teacher at the Christchurch Teachers' College and returned to Hokowhitu as a Probationary Teacher in 1953. He taught at Marton Junction (1954-57), Terrace End (57-61), Carnarvon as Sole Teacher (61-63), Wardville as Principal (63-68) Gladstone as Principal (69-74) and for the final thirteen and a half years of his career was Principal of Our Lady of Lourdes School in Palmerston North. In 1987 he took early retirement to be involved in commission selling in real estate and insurance until his retirement in 2002,

Through his life Garry was involved in community work from his start as a Cub, and Boy Scouts and later in other organisations, including the Catholic Youth Movement, (where he met his future wife), Junior Rugby, Sailing, and the Commercial Travellers' Club.

In 1963 Garry was invited to become a Member of Lions International in Matamata, followed by Masterton, (President 1973-74) and until his retirement from Lions in 1981 was a member of Central Districts.

Garry maintained a strong interest in sport and as a teenager played a little tennis, competitively swam, played rugby, and later in life enjoyed social golf and sailing.

As part of the sixty years celebration of the Marist High School (February 1999) he wrote the school's history "Sixty Years On", in 2000 the history of Our Lady of Lourdes School "Five Decades". Other titles include In 2001 St. Mary's Parish under the title "The Golden Era". Followed by the "Harold and Eva Jordan Family", "The Three Oakleys" and in 2009 wrote and published the highly successful "Terrace End" the Story of Palmerston North's First Suburb.

In May 2000 he was elected Charter President of the Milson Probus Club. Garry enjoys local history working with the PN Historical Society and the publication of the Manawatu Journal of History"

Married in Feilding in 1961 to Margaret Coogan, they have three children Mark, Sandra and Ross.

## Mark Garry O'Neill

Mark, born in 1962 in Palmerston North, attended school at Wardville, Gladstone, Hiona Intermediate and secondary at St Peter's College. From college he entered into an apprenticeship as a coachbuilder. A keen sportsman he played rugby, later hockey and with the other members of the family was a member of the Manawatu Sailing Club. In 1985 Mark went to Australia where he worked for a Furniture Moving Company mainly in the Sydney area. After obtaining a heavy duty truck licence he commenced work for his cousin Martin O'Neill. This involved the delivery to sites on the Eastern Coast of Australia of film props, assembling them and assisting during the filming. In 1992 he married Josie Geurts. They have four children Jason, Ashleigh, Nathan and Christopher. Following his marriage he commenced work for Josie's father Herman, an engineer, and lintel distributor. Together they developed a light engineering business, Mark receiving training in reading plans and pricing. In 2000 Mark purchased the engineering business from his father-in-law and now fabricates steel beams and trusses for the residential market in Sydney. Mark and Josie have separated, and Mark owns two homes in Wattle Grove, has a caravan on site at Shoalhaven Heads, where he spends most weekends during the summer.

## Sandra Margaret Muir (O'Neill)

Sandra was born in Matamata in 1964, attended school at Gladstone, Our Lady of Lourdes and St Peter's College. A keen hockey player, she enjoyed sailing until she commenced running. She participated in several marathons and still runs daily for pleasure. From College she trained as a primary school teacher and after qualifying travelled extensively through Eastern Australia, Indonesia, Thailand and Japan, experiencing their cultures and learning the language. Married in 1985 to Michael Jull, later to Charles Williams in 1993, and in 2009 to Kevin Muir. Prior to their marriage Kevin and Sandra built a new home in Papamoa, Mount Maunganui.

Returning from Japan in the late '80's, Sandra commenced a business selling silver jewellery. This developed into a successful business, which with Charles she ran in London, Cornwall and Palmerston North. She finally established a wholesale and retail business, "Silver Surfers" and independently owns shops in Palmerston North, Hamilton and Mount Maunganui. Sandra travels overseas, to visit her suppliers, reviewing the market and purchasing stock for her business. Her earlier language experiences and knowledge of other cultures assist her.

## Ross Stephen O'Neill

Ross was born in Matamata, attended school at Gladstone, Our Lady of Lourdes, St Peter's Intermediate and Palmerston North Boys' High School. A keen rugby player until an injury to his ankle prevented further play, Ross took up refereeing reaching senior level in Wellington. From Secondary School he attended Victoria University where he completed a law degree, was capped in 1989 and admitted to the bar in November 1989. During the summer months Ross returned home and worked to raise funds for the next year at University.

He commenced work at law firm Kensington Swan where he became a partner specialising in mergers and acquisitions. In 2003 Ross was offered and accepted the position as General Counsel for Contact Energy.

When back in Wellington he enjoyed crewing on yachts, racing in the Wellington Harbour and across Cook Strait to Picton.

In 1991 Ross married Jan(ette) McGowan, whom he met at university. Jan completed a Bachelor of Science (Physiology) and has a Post graduate Diploma in Human Resources. Jan has worked as a HR Manager with Telecom since 1991 and in 2008 moved with the family to Auckland.

Ross and Jan have three children Hamish, and twins Laura and Brendan.

In 2008 he resigned from Contact Energy and in Auckland he cares for the children.

*Contributed by Margaret and Garry O'Neill*

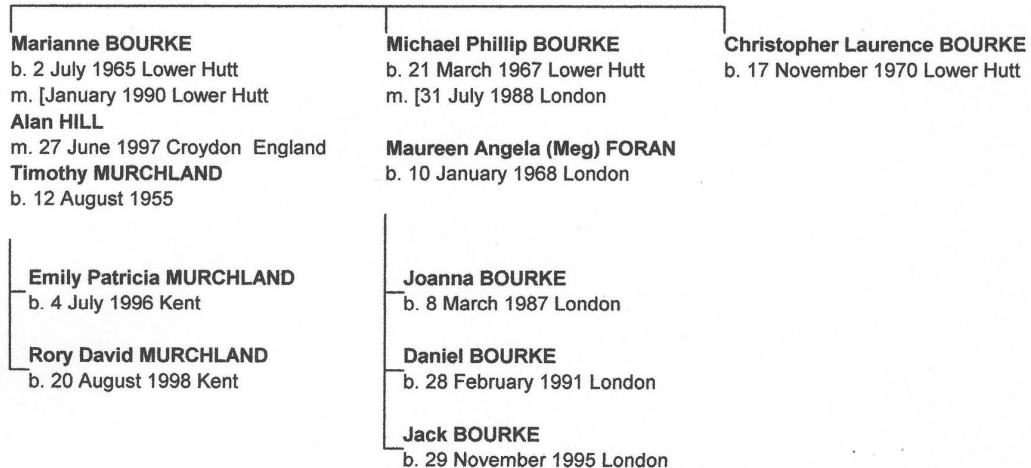
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## Patricia Mary Bourke (nee Coogan)

**Partricia Mary COOGAN**  
b. 2 December 1941 Feilding

**Phillip Greville BOURKE**  
b. 8 July 1941 Wanganui

m. [10 October 1964 St Brigids Church Feilding



Patricia was born in Feilding on 2 December 1941, the second child of seven: Margaret (1941) Michael (1943), Paul (1946), Peter (1947), Denis (1951) and Philip (1954). Her father James Coogan was employed at the Feilding Post Office, and her mother, Doreen, before her marriage, at the New Plymouth Post Office.



Pat at five years attended the Feilding Convent School and at 13 went to St. Joseph's Convent High School in Palmerston North commuting each day by bus from Feilding.

At sixteen, Pat joined the staff at the Feilding Post Office as a shorthand typist. Four years later she transferred to Wellington where she stayed at Grosvenor House, Hobson Street (Post Office Girls' Hostel) a lovely historic old home. Following her engagement in 1963, Pat transferred back to Feilding and married Phillip Bourke in St Brigid's Church in Feilding, on October 10, 1964.

The wedding party comprised Pat's sister Margaret, as Matron of Honour, and Anne Darragh (nee Rush) as Bridesmaid with Judith Cowles (nee McLeod) as Junior Bridesmaid. John Darragh was Bestman and David Smith was Groomsman.

Pat and Phillip shifted to Lower Hutt where Phillip had been working for the previous six months. Pat continued to work for several months in the Post Office Savings Bank, Lower Hutt.

Marianne, their first child was born on 2 July 1965, followed by Michael, 21 March 1967, and Christopher 17 November 1970. Later Pat worked as a typist/clerk in various places around the Hutt Valley, including N.Z. Motor Bodies, Farmers' Woolstore, and as Office Manager at Hutt Manufacturing Jewellers, and Synapco Industries.

From an early age Pat had a strong interest in drawing, reading and painting. She developed further her paintings and has been accepted for exhibition by the N.Z. Academy of Fine Arts and Watercolour N.Z. In sports she enjoyed netball, indoor basketball, tennis and badminton.

## Phillip Greville Bourke



Phillip was born in Wanganui on 8 July 1941, the eldest of two children. He has a sister, Diane. His father, Laurence was a policeman and his mother, Alison (nee Ewen) a nurse. Laurence was transferred to Taihape when Phillip was three. His father was tragically shot by a friend in a deerstalking accident in the surrounding hills. With the children, Alison shifted back to Feilding, her home town, and lived with her parents.

At five Phillip commenced his education at Manchester Street School, completing Form 2 at twelve and a half. At Feilding Agricultural High School, where he attended for four years, Phillip passed his School Certificate Examination and qualified for University Entrance.

At sixteen and a half Phillip commenced work with the ANZ Bank in Feilding and at nineteen he met Patricia Coogan, who was working at the local Post Office. Phillip was later transferred to Marton and then to Taihape where many people remembered his father and the accident. At this stage, he and Pat became engaged and were married on 10 October 1964.

Shortly before his marriage Phillip had been transferred to Lower Hutt ANZ, the area where they set up their home. During his working life Phillip was transferred several times around the Hutt Valley and Wellington with the ANZ Bank, ending up on retirement in 1997 in Senior Management.

Phillip and Pat have three children who were reared in Stokes Valley. In 1989 the family shifted to Woburn, Lower Hutt.

Phillip has had a lifelong interest in sport, particularly rugby and cricket. He played both at senior level and captained Naenae Old Boys (later Avalon) senior rugby team in the Wellington competitions. Since his retirement he has spent many hours on the golf course.

In later years, with two children and three grandchildren living in the United Kingdom, Phillip and Pat have travelled extensively.

## Marianne Bourke

Marianne was born in Lower Hutt and attended Kamahi Primary School in Stokes Valley, her Intermediate years at St Michael's Convent School in Taita, and then onto Sacred Heart College in Lower Hutt. Marianne's hobbies when young were dancing (mainly tap in which she won several medals), playing netball, reading, music and, later, travel. At the Central Institute of Technology, Marianne completed a computer course which gave her qualifications for a career in the computer industry, initially as a programmer and later in IT Management. At 18 she commenced flatting in Wellington and in 1985 travelled to Australia to work for several months. Returning home for six

months, Marianne left for London, quickly finding work in a Highgate pub, where she met Alan Hill. She returned to her career in the computer industry and spent time on a working holiday in Israel and Egypt, and visits home, before becoming engaged to Alan. In 1990 Alan and Marianne were married in Lower Hutt before returning to the United Kingdom.

Following her divorce in 1993, Marianne continued employment in the computer industry where she met Tim Murchland. Together they purchased a house in Westerham, Kent, and were married in 1997. Emily Patricia was born on July 4, 1996, and two years later, Rory David was born on August 20, 1998.

In 2002 Marianne, Tim, Emily and Rory emigrated to New Zealand and have purchased a home in Karori, Wellington.

## Michael Bourke

Born in Lower Hutt, Michael attended the Kamahi Primary School, Taita Intermediate and St Patrick's College, Silverstream. After four years secondary education he commenced work in the Post Office in Wellington. A keen rugby player, he later took up boxing to boost his level of fitness. Michael is a great enthusiast in all sports especially rugby. His other great interest is music. At 18 he left home to go flatting before leaving for London where he found casual employment in pubs and building sites. During this time he met Meg Foran. Returning home in 1987 for a few months he returned to London to live with Meg and her daughter Joanna. Michael and Meg were married in London, on July 31, 1988. Michael worked as a security officer until he found employment as a quality controller (food for restaurant) in the Savoy Hotel, and later at the Bluebird Restaurant on the Kings Road. Daniel was born on February 28, 1991 in London.

In 1992 Michael, Meg, Joanna and Daniel came out to New Zealand, staying here for a year before returning to live in London. Jack, their second son was born after their return on November 29, 1995, in London.

## Christopher Bourke

Christopher was born in Lower Hutt, attending Kamahi Primary School in Stokes Valley, Taita Intermediate and St Patrick's College, Silverstream. He left College after four years and enrolled at Polytech where he obtained the National Certificate of Business Studies. He commenced employment in insurance and banking before going to Australia for several months, returning to New Zealand in 1991. In 1993 he went flatting in Wellington and a year later travelled to London where he commenced work in the Banking Industry. At this time he met Rui. Eventually he studied and completed a course in journalism and has held various positions in that field. At present he is working for Bloomberg UK as their United Kingdom real estate reporter. Christopher has always been a keen reader and music enthusiast. He now lives with Rui in London.

Contributed by Patricia Bourke

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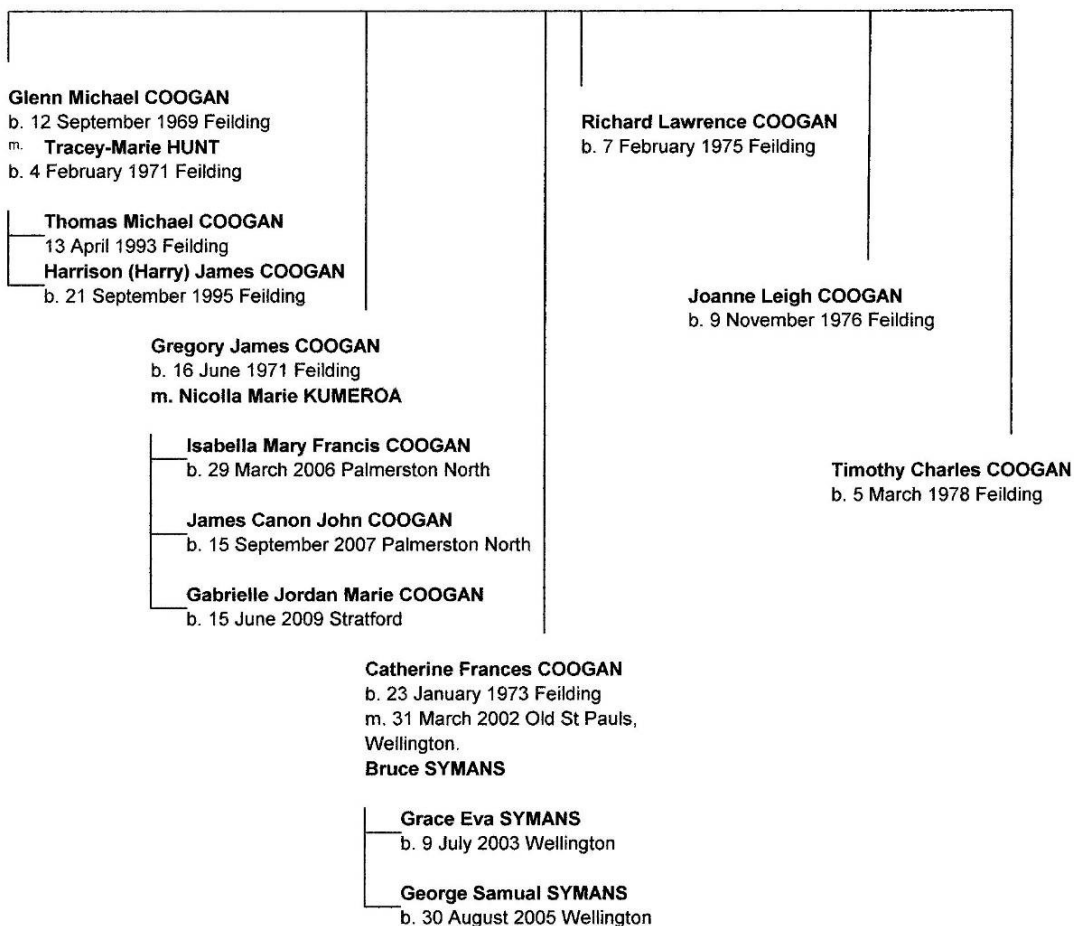


# Michael James Coogan

**Michael James COOGAN**  
b. 30 March 1943 Feilding

**Ruth Barbara GILMORE**  
b. 6 November 1945 Feilding

m. 10 October 1966 St Brigids Feilding



Born in Feilding on March 30, 1943 Michael attended St Joseph's Convent School for his primary education, and travelled to Palmerston North and attended the Marist Brothers' High School. Leaving school he worked on a farm for eighteen months before commencing a year's course on general farming techniques at Flock House, a Government training farm out from Bulls. Farm work and shearing followed before employment at Levin and Co. in Feilding as a storeman.

Following Michael and Ruth Barbara Gilmores' marriage on October 8, 1966 in St Brigid's Church in Feilding, they commenced a life centred on the dairying industry, initially with employment with Graham Guy on Aorangi Road followed by sharemilking and the purchase of their herd to work on farms at Rongotea and Whakaronga.

In 1982 Mike and Ruth purchased land at Kakariki, an area towards the Tararua Ranges out from Eketahuna. Selling this land (2001) they purchased a property alongside, which required a new home. Their long time ambition to settle in the Feilding area eventuated in 2003 when they sold and moved to Colyton Road to a dry stock farm, and Mike found casual milking in the area. In 2004 they undertook the lease of a dairy farm at Mangatainoka which is being managed by their son Greg, with Mike caring for the replacement stock in Feilding.

At school and in the years following Michael played rugby and indoor basketball, but once married found little time for activity away from farming. In Eketahuna he was a member of the Parish Council and worked on maintaining the Church and on the finance committee.

## **Barbara Ruth Coogan**



Ruth is the fifth child of Helen and Cecil Gilmore and was born in Dannevirke on November 6, 1945. As her father worked on farms Ruth attended schools at Matamau, and Wharepapa. She finally completing her primary schooling in Feilding at Manchester Street, and was a first day pupil at North Street. Completing her secondary education at Feilding Agricultural High School Ruth worked as a salesperson in departmental stores.

Following her marriage Ruth devoted her time supporting Mike on establishing a dairy herd and the purchase of their own farm and the upbringing of their family of two daughters and four sons. Her mother, Helen, did not enjoy good health in the latter stages of her life, and Ruth, even though she lived some distance away gave her mother continued support.

Michael and Ruth's children were born in Feilding, and attended Primary Schools in Rongotea, Mangamaire and Secondary at Tararua College in Pahiatua.

## **Glenn Coogan**

The eldest of six children, Glenn was born on September 12, 1969. From College he commenced employment in the insurance industry. He later joined the Justice Department and worked in the Feilding and Palmerston North Court Houses and has now returned to insurance and finance. Glen played rugby and touch, and today enjoys cycling.

Married in Palmerston North on January 19, 1997 to Tracey Hunt, they have two children, Thomas (born April 13 1993) and Harrison (Harry) James (born 21 September 1995). Tracey was born in Palmerston North on February 4, 1971 and following her primary and secondary education commenced on a career which has involved considerable study and examinations. Her two degrees, as a Bachelor of Social Policy and Bachelor of Politics have assisted in her appointment as Community Development Officer with the Manawatu District Council. This position involves research, and setting policy in Community Services. At present Tracey is working on her Masters.

Glenn has helped Tracey achieve her success in the academic work. Recently Glenn, Tracey and the boys have moved to a lifestyle block near the Mt. Biggs School.

## Gregory Coogan

Greg was born on June 16 1971. As an adult with a strong interest in the Army he joined the regular Force and was posted to the Artillery until his discharge and has since joined the Territorials as a Military Policemen. From College he enrolled at Massey University where he completed a Diploma in Agriculture. Greg has worked in the dairy industry since qualifying. Greg now works in the New Zealand Army in the Military Polce.

Gregory married Sharon Kumeroa in 2006 and have three children Isabella, James and Gabrielle.

## Catherine Coogan

Mike and Ruth's eldest daughter, Catherine was born on January 23, 1973. From College Catherine has worked and qualified as a nurse. Her career commenced at a Rest Home in Feilding followed by training at the Wellington Poly-Tech and Hospital. Travel and nursing in London provided a base from which to travel extensively before her return to New Zealand. Here she met her future husband Bruce Symmans, a Wellington based Civil Engineer. Married in Old St Pauls in Wellington on March 31, 2002. Catherine and Bruce have a daughter Grace and a son, George.

## Richard Coogan

Born on February 7, 1975, Richard from College enrolled at Poly-tech (now UNCOL), and obtained a Certificate in Horticulture.

He works as a farm labourer in the Feilding area.

## Joanne Coogan

Joanne, the youngest daughter, has a strong interest in music, and enjoyed singing at College. In recent years she has attended courses at UCOL and is at present flatting in Feilding. Joanne was born on November 9, 1976

## Timothy Coogan

Tim has completed two courses at UCOL In,2001, he gained a Certificate in Computer and Learning Skills , and in 2005 received a Diploma in Visual Arts. He commenced work on a planned series on New Zealand Native Birds which he intends to exhibit and sell. The youngest of the six children, Tim was born on March 5 1978. When not painting he seeks employment as a farm labourer.

Contributed by Michael and Ruth Coogan

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## Paul Raymond Coogan

**Paul Raymond COOGAN**  
b. 21 March 1946 Feilding

**Sandra Margaret PUSSELL**  
b. 6 September 1948

m. [23 January 1971 St Brigids Feilding

**Therese Margaret COOGAN**  
b. 21 October 1972 Feilding  
m. [Halcombe  
**Mark WORBOYS**

**Jasmine WORBOYS**  
b. 13 September 2002

**Amika WORBOYS**  
b. 13 January 2007

**Nigel Raymond COOGAN**  
b. 22 September 1974 Feilding  
m. [21 April 2001 Palmerston North  
**Vanessa ANGROVE**  
b. 24 January 1977 Pahiatua

**Katelyn Marie COOGAN**  
b. 5 December 2001 Palmerston North

**Michayla Margaret COOGAN**  
b. 16 April 2004 Palmerston North



Paul the second son of Jim and Doreen's five boys was born in Feilding March 21, 1946, and educated at St Joseph's Convent School and Feilding Agricultural High School. His weekends were spent with his older brother Michael, who was working on the Williamsons farm at Colyton. Keen to become a farmer Paul spent a year at Flock House where he completed a course in farming techniques followed by employment on Ormond Wilson's farm before moving to Waituna West to work for Roy Pussell, for eleven years. Here he met Sandra Pussell whom he married on January 23, 1972 in St Brigid's Church in Feilding.

In 1973 Paul and Sandra purchased a sheep and beef farm unit on the Halcombe-Mount Stewart Road, that they still farm. While Sandra worked on her parents farm, Paul supplemented their income by working at the local sawmill. Over the next 20 years Paul purchased a third share in the sawmill and moved into a management roll, which involved students from the High School on work experience. Selling his mill shares, Paul commenced contract fencing in the district for 8 years and now works on his own land.

Establishing and freeholding their farm was a high priority for Paul and Sandra. Paul became involved with Civil Defense in the Halcombe area and assists in maintaining the local park.

## Sandra Margaret Coogan (nee Pussell)



Sandra was born in Feilding on September 6, 1948, is the eldest daughter of Roy and Audrey Pussell. She attended school at Tapuae, Manchester Street (Feilding), and Feilding Agricultural High School. Growing up with her sisters and brother, farming was to become a lifetime commitment for Sandra where she enjoyed riding with the Pony Club, and show jumping. Later she was to join in

horse hunting with the hounds and hares, polo-crosse and trekking. A highlight occurred in 2002, when, with her daughter, Therese, she travelled to Wanaka in Otago and joined in a Calvacade Horse Trek for ten days.

Talented in needlecraft, Sandra enjoys tapestry and sewing and now is making clothes for her grandchildren. Quilting is a new direction for her skills.

For many years Sandra worked alongside her parents on their farms at Waituna West and Feilding. Following the death of her father she has cared for her mother who now lives with Paul and Sandra.

Sandra and Paul have two children Therese and Nigel, both born in Feilding.

### Therese Margaret Worboys (nee Coogan)

Born October 21, 1972, Therese attended the Halcombe Primary School and Feilding Agricultural High School to work as a sales person before training as a nanny and caring for young children. In 1989 she travelled to Canada and lived in Grande Prairie where she continued with nannying. Returning to New Zealand she married Mark Worboys in Halcombe on June 11, 1994. Mark is the son of Brian and Merrell Warboys and grew up in Colyton where his parents owned a carrying company. Therese and Mark live in Colyton where he has his own transport business.

Prior to the birth of their daughter, Jasmine, on 13 September 2002, Therese supplemented their income undertaking milking on farms in the Colyton area. Her interest in horses, nurtured with her mother from childhood has continued and as part of the “Saddle Up Club” she has passed on skills to others. At home she has a pony for Jasmine. Their second daughter, Arnika was born on 13 January 2007.

### Nigel Raymond Coogan

Nigel was born on September 22, 1974 and like his sister attended Halcombe School and Feilding Agricultural High School. Enrolled as a cadet at the Wanganui Poly -Tech he undertook a course on farming techniques, which was similar to that his father had completed at Flock House years earlier. Nigel returned to live at home. A down turn in the farming industry made employment difficult and Nigel commenced work at the sawmill, moving later to dairy milk production, developing skills in product storage and management which he has continued with.

Married in Palmerston North on April 21, 2001, to Vanessa, they live in Pahiatua. Vanessa, the daughter of Ngarie and Doug Angrove was born in Pahiatua on 24 January, 1977.

Nigel and Vanessa have two children, Katelyn Marie (born 5 December, 2001) and Michayla Margaret (born 16 April, 2004)

Contributed by Paul and Sandra Coogan

## Peter John Coogan

**Peter John COOGAN**

b. 14 September 1947 Feilding

**June (Kathleen) WOODMAN**

b. 26 June 1947 Feilding

m. 18 April 1970 St Brigids Feilding

**Stephen Jophn COOGAN**

b. 31 May 1971 Feilding

m. 16 November 1996 Wanganui

**Eleanor ALLPRESS**

b. 23 April 1958

**Grant Matthew COOGAN**

b. 31 May 1973 Feilding



Peter, born in Feilding on September 14, 1947 he was educated at St Josephs School and Feilding Agricultural High School.

Peter enjoyed playing rugby and competed with the harriers. From High School he was encouraged by his father to join the Post Office. Commencing as telegram boy, he cycled round delivering messages to Feilding residents. Over the following years he moved through the Post Office structure and became a postman, gained experience on the counter, moving finally into the mail room where today he is Team Leader of the Delivery Centre, being responsible for employing postman, supervising mail sorters and ensuring mail is delivered in the town and rural areas.

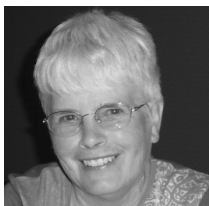
While holidaying in New Plymouth as a child Peter spent many hours with his grandfather, "Torchie" Jordan watching him play outdoor bowls, and his nana on the croquet pitch. This early experience gave Peter an understanding of the bowls and he commenced playing in 1979 at the Feilding Bowling Club. Over the years he has worked on the committee and held the offices of President and Club Captain. He has organised many tournaments, many of which he played in. Like his grandfather he enjoys snooker and pool and is a regular player at the Rangitikei Club.

Peter grew up in an environment where the Oroua River, located at the end of the street, became the centre of many activities. Through the summer he enjoyed hours of fun and play with the neighbourhood kids making rafts, using old car tubes to float and drift down the river.

In 1968, a young lady moved next door to Peter's home in Poole Street. Employed in the telephone exchange, June Woodman and Peter developed a strong friendship and became engaged in 1969 and were married the following year in St Brigid's Church on April 18.

## **June (Kathleen) Coogan (Nee Woodman)**

Born on June 26, 1947, June is the daughter of Herbert and Constance (Connie) Woodman. She grew up in Colyton attended the local school, before the families moved into Feilding. She completed her primary education at Lytton Street and Feilding Agricultural High School where she enjoyed playing netball which she played until after her marriage, and through the summer, she played softball. Following her marriage to Peter, they purchased their first home at 37 Andrew Street in 1971. Ten years later in 1981, June commenced work as a Care Provider for the house bound.



Stephen and Grant, June and Peter's two sons were born in Feilding and attended North Street and the Intermediate School prior to enrolment at Feilding Agricultural High School. June worked with other parents around the schools, giving support to the boys in the sporting activities.

## **Stephen John Coogan**

Stephen was born on May 31, 1971. At High School he developed strong skills and played tennis, achieving Manawatu Representative status. Other sports played with success were softball and basketball. A skilful badminton player as a member of the Oroua Club he represented Manawatu in a number of tournaments locally and in other areas. He now, as an adult, enjoys a round of golf. Academically he achieved well at all levels, finishing with an A Bursary, leading to enrolment at Massey University where he completed an Accountancy Degree.

As a Chartered Accountant, he worked in Wanganui, as the financial controller for Tasman Tannery and now works at Downer EDI Works Limited as Business Manager for the Lower North Island.

Married, in their home in Wanganui, to Eleanor Allpress on November 16, 1996, they have now moved to Palmerston North to a lifestyle block on the city's outskirts. Steve and Eleanor have developed an extensive garden, which is their passion. Eleanor, who has a diploma in Accountancy works as Management Accountant for Downer EDI Works Limited.

Eleanor's three sons, from her previous marriage are an important part of Stephen's life, where the father role he has followed, is reflected the close relationship he has with Michael, Tony and Scott.

## **Grant Matthew Coogan**

The youngest son, Grant was born on May 31, 1973. He played rugby at High School and passed School Certificate prior to leaving. He attended UCOL to complete a computer course. He lives away from home in his own flat and works as a storeman in an engineering warehouse in



Palmerston North. Grant enjoys socialising with his friends and playing snooker. A keen follower of rugby he keeps a sharp eye on the successes and losses of the provincial and local teams.

Contributed by Peter and June Coogan

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## **Denis Anthony Coogan**

**Denis Anthony COOGAN**  
b. 24 April 1951 Feilding

**Susan WARHAM**  
b. 1 October 1951 Wanganui

m. 1 March 1975 Wanganui

— **Andrew Blair COOGAN**  
b. 6 October 1983 Tauranga

— **Claire Louisa COOGAN**  
b. 14 October 1985 Tauranga



Denis the sixth of the seven Coogan children, was born on April 24, 1951. Primary schooling was at St. Joseph's Convent, followed by 4 years at Feilding Agricultural High School where he passed School Certificate and University Entrance examinations.

At 16, Denis joined the ANZ Bank Feilding, the start of a 25 year career with the Bank at various North Island locations. These included Napier (1 year), Wellington (11 years), Mount Maunganui (4 years), Te Awamutu (3 years), and finishing as branch manager Paeroa (3 years).

While in Wellington, Denis met Sue Warham and they married in Wanganui on March 1, 1975. Their two children Andrew and Claire were born at Tauranga.

Denis enjoys sport especially rugby and cricket and is a keen snooker and pool player and loves travelling.

In 1986 Denis and Sue toured South Africa as supporters of the Cavaliers Rugby Tour.

In 1992, Denis left the Bank, and he and Sue purchased the Maple Lodge Motel, Matamata, which they operated in partnership for nearly 10 years selling in 2002. After 8 months and overseas travel, they purchased the Central Motor Lodge in Morrinsville which they have since sold. Since 2005 Denis and Sue have lived and worked in Tauranga.

### **Susan Coogan (nee Warham)**



Sue is the middle of three girls born to John & Dorothy Warham in Wanganui on October 1, 1951, and was educated at Wanganui East Primary School, Wanganui Intermediate, and Wanganui Girls' College. Her father, John was a teacher at various primary schools in Wanganui. At 17 Sue commenced work at Post Office Headquarters, Wellington and worked in the same office until she resigned in 1980.

Sue now works at a rest home in Mount Maunganui and enjoys travelling.

### **Andrew Blair Coogan**

Andrew was born in Tauranga on 6 October 1983. He was educated at Te Awamutu, Paeroa, and Matamata Primary Schools, Matamata Intermediate, followed by 5 years at Matamata College. He has completed a Bachelor of Information Technology degree at Wintec in Hamilton. A keen inline hockey player while at College, Andrew gained selection in the Northern Zone Representative Team. He also played cricket and enjoyed other sports.

With his fiancée Stacey Heaslip, they live and work in London where Andrew is heavily involved in music with some ex Matamata College friends, He has formed a rock group (Melicband) in which he plays the drums, and they play and record in London.

### **Claire Louisa Coogan**

Claire was born on 14 October 1985 in Tauranga, and was educated at Paeroa and Matamata Primary Schools, Matamata Intermediate and Matamata College. At Primary School was a champion swimmer and a keen netballer.

In 2008 Claire completed her nursing degree at Hamilton and now works in the theatre at the Wellington Hospital. With her partner James they will be doing their OE in 2010-2011.

Contributed by Denis Coogan

## **Philip Brian Coogan**

**Philip Brian COOGAN**

b. 14 August 1954 Feilding

m. [14 December 1985 Palmerston North

**Jude LADBROOK**

**Nicholas COOGAN**

b. 23 June 1989 Auckland



Phil is the youngest of seven. Born in 1954, he was educated at St Joseph's Primary School and Feilding Agricultural High School before going on to complete a BA at Massey University.

During his time at school Phil was very involved in a range of sporting and cultural pursuits including debating, tennis and rugby (captaining the 1<sup>st</sup> XV in his third year in the team). Following completion of his degree, Phil trained to be a secondary History and English teacher at the Christchurch College of Education after which he spent a year on a working holiday in Australia and England.

In 1979, on his return from overseas, Phil moved to Auckland where he was employed as an English teacher at Lynfield College. In 1985 he moved to Northcote College where he took on the role of head of English. In 1989 and again in 1995, Phil was secondary English advisor for the Auckland-Northland regions. In 1991 an award enabled him full-time study towards a Master of Education Administration degree through Massey University, a degree he completed in 1992. In 1995, Phil was awarded a Commonwealth Fellowship which gave him the opportunity to take up a year of full-time study and research at the London University Institute of Education. On his return from London, Phil was appointed as Head of Secondary Teacher Education at Unitec in Auckland. That position evolved into his direction of Unitec in Schools which entailed responsibility for various contracts with the Ministry of Education, all involving either online or face-to-face professional development of teachers through projects like English Online, ESOL Online, Social Studies Online, Arts Online and the direction of information and communication technologies professional development clusters. From 1998 to 2000 Phil was president of the NZ Association for the Teaching of English. In 2006, he graduated from Auckland University as Doctor of Education.

As a result of his involvement in the secondary English community, in 1985 Phil met and married Judine Ladbrook, a friend from university days. Judine moved to Auckland where they lived in Mt Eden, then Mt Roskill. In 1989 they celebrated the arrival of their only child, Nicholas James. Jude and Phil divorced in 1995 but remain good friends sharing Nick's parenting.

In 2007, Phil took up a role as national operations manager for Cognition Consulting Ltd (now Cognition Education). This role also involved management of a wide-range of contracts (mainly ICT related) in New Zealand but also involvement in Cognition's extensive educational operations in the Gulf, especially in Qatar which he travels to frequently.

Phil lives in One Tree Hill in Auckland where his past-times include watching sports, walking and reading and spending time with his partner, Wendy Thomson.

### Nick James Coogan

Nick is the only child of Judine Ladbrook and Phil Coogan. Born on 23 June 1989, Nick went to Marshall Laing Primary School in Mt Roskill, Remuera Intermediate School and Onehunga High School.

During his early years, Nick enjoyed first soccer, then rugby. In 2005, he was selected in the Onehunga High School 1<sup>st</sup> XV which he (like his father) captained in his third year in the team. In 2008, Nick moved to Dunedin to where he is completing a commerce/marketing degree and playing rugby for the Southern Club.

### Judine Brenda Ladbrook

Judine was born 1954 in Hastings and schooled in Palmerston North at Central Normal Primary School, Normal Intermediate and Freyberg High School. Her sports included hockey and swimming. She attended Massey University, completing B.A (Hons), Dip Ed and PG Dip SLT and trained in secondary teaching.

Jude married Phil Coogan in 1985 and is mother to Nicholas James Coogan who was born 1989. Judine is currently Principal Lecturer, Faculty of Education, University of Auckland. She also publishes text books for schools, has been an English examiner and is mainly involved in the pre-service education of secondary English and ESOL teachers.

Contributed by Philip Coogan

