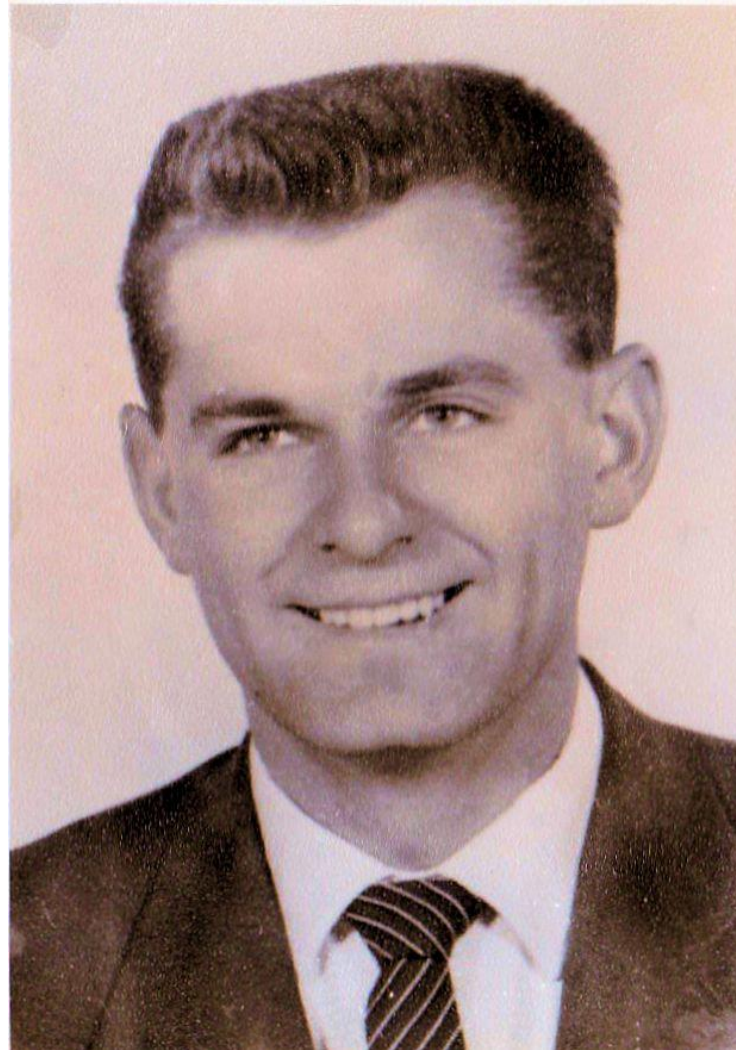


Memories of the Linton Family in Woodville 1939-1953

By Trevor Harris (Born 3 Sept 1939)





The early life of William Linton known as Bill

Table of Contents

Memories of the Linton Family in Woodville 1939-1953.....	1
By Trevor Harris (Born 3 Sept 1939)	1
Introduction and Story By Trevor Harris Feb 2019.....	4
Front of Woodville Primary on Left and Secondary (in 1900s) School on the Right (Photo taken around 2018).....	7
Woodville Primary School Photo (Back playground) (Photo taken around 2018).....	8
Linton's First House in Woodville was number 24 now number 28 (Photo Taken around 2018).....	9
Linton's Second House in Woodville number 13 Fox Street (Photo Taken around 2018).....	10
Linton's Block of Bare land at the time (Section) in Woodville at 16 McLean Street.....	11
Woodville Primary School Photo 1945	12
Woodville Primary School Photo 1946	13
Woodville Primary School Photo 1947	13
Woodville Primary School Photo 1950	14
Woodville Primary School Photo 1951	15
Woodville Secondary School Photo All Classes 1953.....	16
Name's of Students and Teachers in Photo of Woodville District High School 1953.....	18
Photo of Trev's 21 st Sept 1960	19
Photo Xmas 1953 at the Gorge	20
Photo of Bills Sister Pat.....	21
Photo of Jack Calver who Bill worked for in Woodville and learnt all about Bikes.	22
Photo of Bill	23
Photo of Jeanie and Bill.....	24

Introduction and Story By Trevor Harris Feb 2019

I am the Eldest of three children in the family of Ronald & Gwendoline Harris.

I was Born in Woodville, NZ on the 3rd Sept 1939, the day the Second World War was declared. My father worked on the Railway and we lived in a new double State Unit at number 9 McLean street (the one nearest the Railway), our neighbors in the other Unit were **Jack and Rosie Calver** and family who turned out to be lifelong friends.

When my Brothers, Rex and Charles, (Twins) were born in Feb 1944 Mum & Dad Purchased their own home at 28 Ross Street (Now 32 as renumbered for some reason) Woodville.

Next door in Ross street on the Railway side was an empty section (owned by a builder who keep his timber etc there) and next to that at the time was #24 (now 28) lived the Linton's.

1944: It wasn't long before I met Bill Linton and time to start school at 5 years old. We became like Glue as in best mates and we would walk to school Summer & Winter Bare feet (never sandals or shoes) and paddling in the gutters on the way home.

We each had Hornby train set and used to couple them all together and make one large track.

We spent time doing things we weren't supposed to do on the section next door like borrowing bits of timber to build Huts.

As Bill and I grew up we were given Bikes, not flash or new in hard times, but did the job, and so it was look out, they were seen here then there and everywhere!!! Have wheels will travel! We learnt to fix and fit extras ourselves. We could be seen riding over heaps of Road Shingle or up and down hills in paddocks leaving home at almost daybreak and returning after dark. (no one was worried about us, that's the way it was then, like safe as!)

Bills Father Alec worked for HB Farmers in Grocery dept and his mother Agee worked in a Sewing factory amongst other things.

Alec and Agee were both real workers and were heavily involved in local sports, Agee Played and ran Women's hockey, a local farmer allowed the use of a paddock for a hockey field and so Agee Planned and laid out the field using Binder twine (used for hay bales)

Then she commandeered a couple of young guys!!!!!! To mark the lines using a three-wheel machine filled with creosote, a black weed killer, and we had to line up the machine on the Binder twine and wheel it along marking the lines by killing the grass.

Alec and Agee were real workers they took on and ran a sports night at the local rugby field on a Monday night in the summer.

It seemed like the whole of Woodville was there. They organized competition's and races for all ages like running three legged races long jumps and high jumps etc and guess what, yes Biking!

So yes, the main attraction for Bill and Trev was the Bike Races around the rugby field several times, Bill was a VERY competitive person and it was not in his vocabulary to lose. I remember the first week there was anything up to 20 bikes in a race and Bill would be waiting at the finish line for the rest of us, so they decided to give him a like a 20 yard handicap but he still won and I remember it got to the stage where he was starting on the opposite side of the field like two hundred yards behind us. I remember coming down the straight I was clearly in front and like 5 yards from the line when from nowhere came Bill and won by a whisker!! That was Bill.

Opposite where Bill lived were the Woolf's and Mr. Woolf was a Trained St Johns ambulance officer and he was there every Sports night all dressed up and as a volunteer. (Bevan was a year ahead and Jim and Pam were in our class)

Alec and Agee were also involved in a big way with running the show on a Horse Race day, they were real workers, and yes they commandeered a couple of young guys to help clean up the area after the races!!!

Being at the Horse races was big time and after school sometimes or a rainy day we got, about 20 bottle tops, and numbered each one and we would sit on the floor at their house. We would mark out a race track on the lino and place the numbered bottle tops on the floor and take turns in giving them a push along the track until they got to finish line of course we bet on them, and I think Bill always won!! Haha.

On the odd Friday night we would, at about age 12, go to Palmerston North on the little Red Railcar terrorize the town then return on the railcar which just happened to have my father as the conductor.

Agee always seemed to be doing washing and NO MACHINE!! She had a Washing board (a board with ribs all the way down it) and rubbed the clothes up and down on it to wash them!!.

Being just after the second World war the economy was weak and fresh food not only hard to find but expensive, so Alec and Agee bought a section in McLean street and had those boys round there helping with growing vegetables!! That's all they used it for other than investment.

I remember going to Palmerston North a couple of times with Bill and family and visited his uncle and family, I think Alec's brother.

When we were older like 11 or 12 I had a job delivering the milk starting at 4am and would be dropped off at school at 9am.

Bill had a job at HB Farmers after school and myself and a couple others would go in there to see Bill and get a bag of Broken biscuits for free which the HBF were happy with. Anyway, one day there was no broken ones so abracadabra and then there was some mmm anyway Bill got told off for manufacturing some.

Then Bill on his own initiative got a job after school fixing Bikes "Ya". He worked for Jack Calver at the Walker and Calver Garage in the main street. (Jack lived next door to us in Mclean street) Bill became an expert on fixing bikes and Jack Calver was really pleased with him.

My grandparents had a farm and I spent many holidays there and learnt to drive on the Tractor aged 12 one day I was out the front at home and this Austin Seven, Alec and Agee's, came past, yip it was Bill all on his own (12) Fearless Bill !!

Then along came High School and we were in the third form but during that year Alec got a transfer to Napier HBF.

The following year my father got a transfer to Auckland and two years later in September 1955 we shifted to Palmerston North where I took on an Electrical apprenticeship.

Not having seen or heard from Bill since 1953 I went to Napier to see him when I was about seventeen. It was there Bill introduced me to Brian Wall and Sam Sherriff and not long after, Sam got a job in Palmerston North so we got around together and I used to go with him on the back of his motor bike at weekends to Napier. And stay with the Sherriff's. I can remember Bill having an Austin 7 Convertible and riding in the back holding on for dear life!!

After my 21st I moved to Napier, boarding with the Sherriff's until I got married at 23.

After I moved to Napier, I didn't really see much of Bill as he was married with children, but I do remember going to visit them at their new house in Harold Holt avenue.

To sum up, I remember Bill as a real goer, everything he did he followed through and did well, he was a very likeable guy always jovial and a great and best mate anyone could have.

Trevor Alfred Harris

Front of Woodville Primary on Left and Secondary (in 1900s) School on the Right (Photo taken around 2018)



Woodville Primary School Photo (Back playground) (Photo taken around 2018)



Linton's First House in Woodville was number 24 now number 28 (Photo Taken around 2018)



Linton's Second House in Woodville number 13 Fox Street (Photo Taken around 2018)



Linton's Block of Bare land at the time (Section) in Woodville at 16 McLean Street.
I would say its quarter Acre, and they just used it to grow vegetables in those tuff times.



Woodville Primary School Photo 1945



School Photo of 5-year old's 1945, Top back row second in from right is me and third is Bill.

Woodville Primary School Photo 1946



School Photo of 6-year old's 1946, Second row from top third from right is Bill (I think?) and sixth from right is me.

Woodville Primary School Photo 1947



Bill is not in this photo, now I cannot remember why but I do remember at some stage Bill was sent to a Sanatorium for a long period like more than 3 months and less than a year?? This from memory was to build him up health wise, or for some reason?

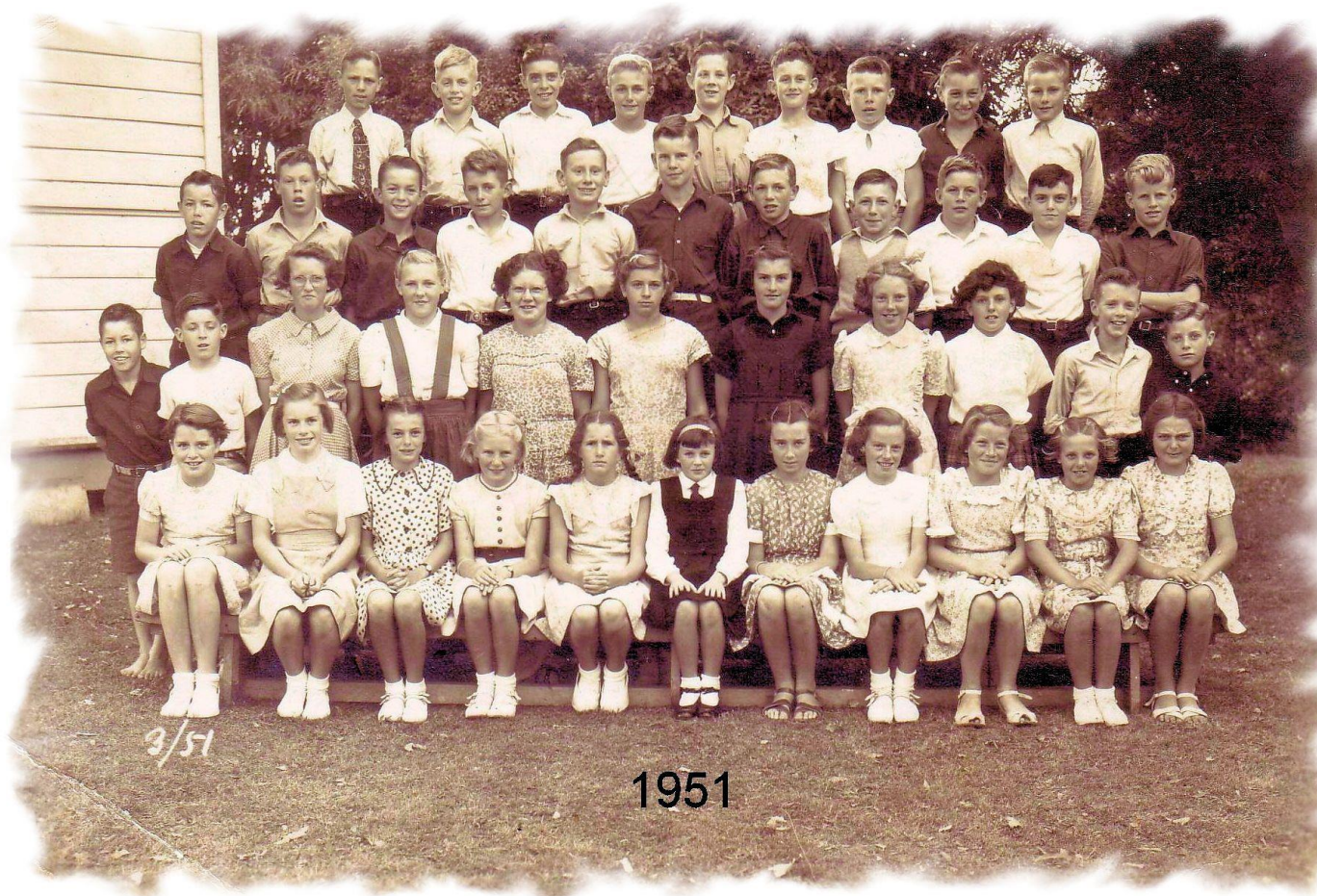
(Quote: The Sanatorium was a medical facility which was specially run for patients who were suffering from long-term illnesses. These facilities were mainly associated with people who were suffering from tuberculosis.)

Woodville Primary School Photo 1950



School Photo 1950, Second row from top third from right is Bill and second row from front second from right is me

Woodville Primary School Photo 1951



School Photo 1950, Second row from top & Fourth from left is Bill and back row First from left is me.

Woodville Secondary School Photo All Classes 1953



Secondary School Photo all Pupils 1953, Second row from top & Sixth from left is me and eleventh is Bill

Name's of Students and Teachers in Photo of Woodville District High School 1953

Row 04	Mr. Deroley (?)	#2	Jim. Veal	Tommy. Turner?	#5	Bevan. Woolf	#7	#8	#9	MAYBE. Mr. Rob. Dodd??	#11	#12	Bob. Bridges	Rex. Yates	Malcom. Flowers	Richard. Wixley	??.	Stewart.	#18	Kevin. Flowers. (Deceased)	Mr. Lyons. (?)
Row 03	Murray. Bridges	Reggie. Sellwood	#23	#24	#25	Trevor. Harris	John. Smith	Johnny. Jones	#29	Graham. Spackman	Bill. Linton. (Deceased)	Malcom. Hale	Peter. Frith	Jim. Woolf	Brian. McLean	#36	Graham. Beale	Max. Sellwood			
Row 02	Mr? - #39	Glennis. Richard	#41	#42	Lynette. Smith	#44	Janice. Le. Ba	#46	#47	#48	Wendy. Walker	Pam. Woolf	Jennell. Marks?	#52	#53	Gillian. Wixley	Beverly. Holland	#56	Mr. Gardener?		
Row 01	Heather. Houghton	Lorna. Spackman	#60	#61	#62	#63	#64	#65	#66	#67	#68	Gay. de. Malmauch	Patricia. Wiley	#71	Faye. Priest	Rosalie. Dean					

Photo of Trev's 21st Sept 1960



From left Grant (Leoni Calver's Boyfriend) Trev, Bob, Sam, Bill, Brian, Peter, David

Photo Xmas 1953 at the Gorge

Several of us in the holidays spent the night in the old tin shed at the gorge, Bill came there to see us as he was down from Napier and wearing his Napier Boys high Jacket.



From the left: Malcom Hale, Bill, ?, Graeme, Laurence, Trev From Left: ?, Malcom Bill, Graeme, Rex Laurence Trev Charles
Front Rex and Charles

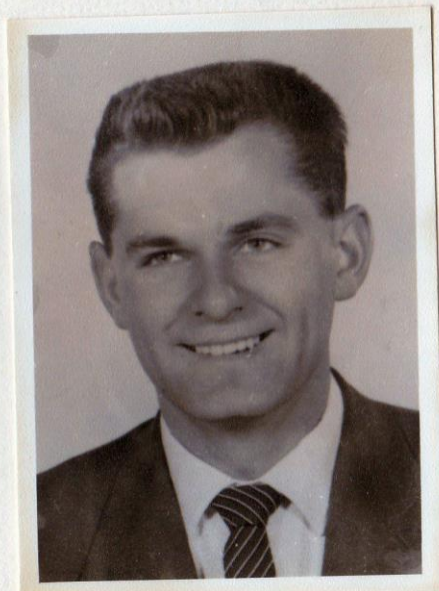
Photo of Bills Sister Pat



Photo of Jack Calver who Bill worked for in Woodville and learnt all about Bikes.



Photo of Bill



"AMONG GOD'S GREATEST GIFTS ARE GOOD FRIENDS."

*M^{rs} William Linton and Family,
M^r & M^{rs} Alex Linton and
Patricia acknowledge and deeply
appreciate your kind expressions of
sympathy.*

*It is a comfort to know that such a
wide circle of friends paid tribute to our
loved one's memory and thought of us
in our sorrow.*

Photo of Jeanie and Bill

