

Norman MANSSEN and Eliza BATE
(Weblink Norman Manssen & Eliza Bate)

Norman MANSSEN

B 18 December 1887 Stoke Nelson NZ

D 10 June 1957 Auckland NZ

M 30 March 1912 Nelson NZ

Eliza (Tiddie) BATE

B 02 October 1885 Takaka Nelson NZ

D 12 March 1988 Auckland NZ

Children:

1. Male MANSSEN born Nelson

The family history of
Norman MANSSEN and Eliza BATE

Norman MANSSEN was born 18 December 1887 Stoke Nelson NZ. His parents were Emma Elizabeth MARRIS age 35 born Sheffield England and Charles Frederick MANSSEN age 39 born Nelson occupation Labourer. His parents were married 03 June 1874 Wellington NZ. E. E. MANSSEN mother from Stoke registered the birth on 25 January 1888. The registrar was Robert KIRTON.

(Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1888 folio 523 page 22 Stoke district)

1905 Apprentice deed

This Deed made the Ninth day of January one thousand nine hundred and Five Between Norman MANSSEN of Nelson in the Colony of New Zealand an infant of the age Seventeen years or thereabouts hereinafter called "the Apprentice") of the first part Charles MANSSEN (Labourer) of Nelson in the Colony of New Zealand (Father) of the Apprentice (hereinafter called the "Father") of the second part and John A. STRNGER Builder Nelson in the Colony of New Zealand hereinafter called "the Master" of the third part Witnesseth as follows that is to say.

1. The Apprentice of his own free will and with the consent of the Father puts himself Apprentice to the Master in his business of a Carpenter & Joiner to learn the art and business as a Carpenter & Joiner for the term of five years from the Ninth day of January one thousand nine hundred and the (squiggle)

2. The Master covenants with the Apprentice and as a separate covenant with the as follows –(a) THAT he will accept the Apprentice as his Apprentice during the said term or cause him to be instructed in the trade of a Carpenter & Joiner and in everything relating thereto (b) THAT he will pay to the Apprentice every week during the said term wages at the rate of Ten Shillings per week as from the Ninth Day of January One Thousand Nine Hundred and Five until the term of Apprentiship Expires.

3. In consideration of the premises the Father covenants with the Master as follows: (a) THAT the Apprentice shall truly and faithfully during the said term serve the Master as his Apprentice in the trade at Nelson aforesaid and at any other place where he may at any time during the said term carry on the same and shall diligently attend to the said business and at all times willingly obey the lawful commands of the Master and shall not absent himself from the Master's service without the leave of the Master and will keep his secrets (2) THAT the Apprentice shall not do or knowingly suffer any damage to be done to the goods or moneys or other things which shall be be put into his custody or care and shall not embezzle or waste them

or lend or dispose of them to anyone without the Master's consent and shall not gamble with cards or dice or play unlawful games or frequent taverns BUT that in all things he shall demean and behave himself towards the Master as a good and faithful apprentice ought (c) THAT the Father will during the said term provide the Apprentice with suitable clothes medical attendance and all other necessaries. (d) THAT in case the Apprentice shall at any time during the said term be repeatedly wilfully disobedient to the lawful orders or commands of the Master or be habitually slothful or negligent or shall otherwise grossly misbehave himself towards the Master then and in any such case it shall be lawful for the Master to discharge the Apprentice from his service.

"The Master and Apprentices Act 1865" shall be excluded from and shall not be construed to have any effect on these presents and the Apprentice is hereby expressly exempted from the operation of that Act In Witness whereof the said parties have hereunto subscribed their names and affixed their seals.

Signed Sealed And Delivered by the said

NORMAN MANSSEN

Charles F MANSSEN

J A STRINGER

R PEARSON

(Reference copy of the original Apprentice papers held by Norman's descendants)

Irvine Shield

The Competition for the Irvine Shield was fired on the Toi Toi Valley range -- Saturday January 30th sev -- taken part. The weather conditions -- were good except for the -- range which was fired in driz -- However, the shooting was -- resulting in a very close finish -- separating the first three -- Nelson Rifle Club B 464, Nelson -----

Nelson Rifle Club	300	500	600	Tl.
Rflm. J Manssen	32	34	32	98
Rflm. M Manssen	34	34	28	96
Rflm. R Kenning	31	34	28	93
Rflm. C. Carnow	29	33	28	90
Rflm. J Fisher	30	32	25	87
Totals	156	167	141	464

CHECK newspaper again (Reference National Library of NZ Papers Past)

1911 Nelson Electoral Roll

Norman MANSSEN Toi Toi Valley Nelson occupation Carpenter

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ microfiche NZ Electoral Rolls)

Norman was living with his parents and siblings in Toi Toi Valley.

Eliza BATE was born 02 October 1885 Takaka Nelson NZ. Her parents were Alice Bertha BARNETT and Henry Langman BATE occupation

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1885 folio 3926 Stokes district)

Intention to Marry 30 March 1912 Nelson district

Norman MANSSEN age 24 bachelor occupation carpenter dwelled Beachville Nelson 15 years and Elizabeth (Eliza) BATE age 26 spinster occupation Domestic Duties dwelled Hardy Street Nelson 4 days intend to marry All Saints Church Vanguard Street Nelson by Church of England minister Rev W S LUCAS.

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington Intention to marry 1912 agency BDM 20 item 82 page 898 line 26 Nelson district)

Norman MANSSEN age 24 bachelor occupation Carpenter dwelling place Nelson and Eliza BATE age 26 born Takaka spinster occupation Domestic Duties present dwelling place Nelson usual Lower Moutere married 30 March 1912 All Saints Church Vanguard Street Nelson NZ by minister Rev W S LUCAS. Norman's parents were Emma Elizabeth MARRIS and Charles Frederick MANSSEN occupation Settler. Eliza's parents were Alice Bertha BARNETT and Henry BATE occupation carpenter. The witnesses were Ivy BATE Nelson and Henry BATE Nelson and William Cuthbert MANSSEN Tailor Nelson. William was Norman's brother. Ivy BATE was Eliza's sister and Henry BATE was either her brother or father.

(Reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1912 folio 1225 page 429 and web reg. 1912/ Nelson district)

Nelson Colonist newspaper

MARRIAGE

On 30th March 1912 at All Saints Nelson by Rev W S Lucas Norman 7th son of C.H. MANSSEN of Toi Toi Valley to Eliza (Tiddie) 6th daughter of Henry BATE of Lower Moutere

1914 & 1919 Nelson Electoral Roll

- Norman MANSSEN Beachville Nelson occupation Carpenter
- Eliza MANSSEN Beachville The Port 41 Edgeware Road Christchurch occupation married

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ microfiche NZ Electoral Rolls)

Norman and Eliza had a son who was born 21 April 1916 Nelson
ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1916 folio 2823 Nelson district)

Nelson Colonist newspaper

BIRTHS

On 21st April 1916 Mr & Mrs Norman MANSSEN a son.

1922 Christchurch Electoral Roll

- Norman MANSSEN 41 Edgeware Road Christchurch occupation Carpenter
- Eliza MANSSEN 41 Edgeware Road Christchurch occupation married

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ microfiche NZ Electoral Rolls)

1923 & 1924 Post Office Directory

Norman MANSSEN Builder 41 Edgeware Road St Albans Christchurch

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ 1923 & 1924 Post Office Directory)

1925 Nelson Electoral Roll

- Eliza MANSSEN Halifax Street Nelson occupation married

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ microfiche NZ Electoral Rolls)

1927 & 1928 Post Office Directory

Mrs Eliza MANSSEN Halifax Street Nelson

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ 1927 & 1928 Post Office Directory)

1928 Nelson Electoral Roll

- Norman MANSSEN Halifax Street Nelson occupation Overseer
- Eliza MANSSEN Halifax Street Nelson occupation married

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ microfiche NZ Electoral Rolls)

1929 Post Office Directory

Norman MANSSEN Builder Bryndwr Road Bryndr Christchurch

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ 1929 Post Office Directory)

1931 & 1935 & 1938 Nelson Electoral Roll

- Norman MANSSEN Halifax Street Nelson occupation Overseer P.W.D.
- Eliza MANSSEN Halifax Street Nelson occupation married

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ microfiche NZ Electoral Rolls)

1931 & 1932 & 1934 & 1935 & 1937 & 1938 & 1940 & 1941 & 1942 Post Office Directory

Mrs Eliza MANSSEN 56 Halifax Street Nelson

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ 1931 & 1932 & 1934 & 1935 & 1937 & 1938 & 1940 & 1941 & 1942 Post Office Directory)

1946 Post Office Directory

Norman MANSSEN Builder 1 br Hillside Crescent Auckland

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ 1946 Post Office Directory)

1946 & 1947 & 1948 & 1949 & 1951 & 1952 Post Office Directory

Mrs Eliza MANSSEN 56 Halifax Street Nelson

(Reference Alexander Turnbull Library & National Library of NZ 1946 & 1947 & 1948 & 1951 & 1952 Post Office Directory)

Norman MANSSEN age 69 years born Nelson occupation retired Superintendent Ministry of Works died 10 June 1957 Caster Bay road from 12 Midway Avenue Caster Bay Takapuna. Cause of death was Myocardial infection coronary immediate sclerosis years as certified by Dr Arthur C A COOMBES who saw him last on 19 June 1956. Norman's parents were Emma Elizabeth MARRIS and Charles Frederick MANSSEN. Church of England minister Rev G L MAFFEY buried him on 12 June 1957 Glenfield Lawn cemetery. Norman was age 22 when he married in Nelson to Eliza BATE now his widow age 71 years. His living issue was 1 male age 41 years. A B Wynyard authorised in writing by Funeral Director Devonport registered the death on 12 June 1957. The registrar was Jack DOUGLAS

(Reference RGO NZ death registration 1957 folio 1625 page 86 Auckland district)

Eliza (Tiddie) MANSSEN formerly BATE died 12 March 1988 Auckland. She was buried March 1988 Glenfield Lawn cemetery Auckland along side of her husband Norman MANSSEN.

Newspaper

MANSSEN – Eliza (Mannie) On March 12 1988 (peacefully) at Lady Allum home, in her 103rd year. Beloved wife of the late Norman, dearly loved mother of Norman, mother-in-law of Shirley loved grandma of Brent and Gloria, Jan and Bruce, and loved great-grandma of Ashley and Katie. The complete service will be held at St Pauls by the Sea Anglican Church Otakau Road, Milford at 2pm tomorrow (Tuesday). In Lieu of flowers donations to the Lady Allum Home, Milford would be appreciated. H Morris Ltd, Funeral directors.

SEARCH (Reference National Library of NZ Alexander Turnbull Library newspapers on microfilm)

The family history of Norman MANSSEN and Eliza BATE written by their son (living male) MANSSEN

Norman MANSSEN was the seventh son of Charles Frederick and Emma Elizabeth MANSSEN. He was born on the 18 of December 1887 in Stokes. There were 15 children in the family.

To provide work opportunities for the growing family his parents shifted from Stoke to live in Hampden Street Toi Toi Valley in Nelson City. After passing standard VI at the age of 12 Norman was apprenticed to the leather trade in Mr MILLARS shoe factory in Hardy Street. He served his apprenticeship and became skilled at making all types of leather goods particularly boots and shoes. Throughout his life he looked after his own family's footwear and made numerous leather bags and containers using the hand sewing methods he had learnt during his apprenticeship.

Despite his competence in the leather trade he disliked it and decided to take up carpentry. He was apprenticed in January 1905 to John A STRINGER a builder in Nelson. He was then 18 year of age. He made great progress in the building trade and after completing his apprenticeship became foreman for Robertson Brothers the largest firm of builders in Nelson.

At this time Norman demonstrated a keen interest in local affairs an interest, which continued, throughout his life. He became a member of the Nelson Volunteer Fire Brigade Defence Rifle Club, a football club, the Foresters Lode in Nelson and at a later date the Masonic Lodge. Along with his brother John Harold he demonstrated special skills in rifle shooting and won the shooting champion of the South Island. The outdoor activities of fishing, tramping and football claimed most of his leisure time. He was a member of the Northern Albion Football team and played in the Nelson Representative Rugby team in 1909.

In March 1912 he married Eliza BATE and they settled into a house Norman had previously built in Nelson on the hilltop in Beachville overlooking Auckland Point. He continued to work in the building trade and established a reputation for getting the job done with skill and efficiency. He took a special interest in concrete construction, which at that time was relatively new. In 1914 he offered his services to the Army but was rejected because of a defect in his right ankle – an unusual medical ruling especially in light of the outdoor activities he took part in both before and after World War I.

In April 1916 a son Norman Bernard was born the only child that he and Eliza were to have. A family of one was a strong contrast to the large families from which they both came. Eliza was one of 14 children. Norman was a skilled Gardner and fresh vegetables were always available thanks to his efforts and the Nelson climate. By early 1920's he had established a reputation for building construction skills and was responsible for some innovated methods. One such was the construction of a steel-reinforced concrete house built in Takaka for Mr John ROSE a house which was to withstand the 1929 Murchison earthquake without any faults or cracks developing in it.

BY 1924 at the age of 36 he felt he need to understand more of the theory behind the construction of buildings and structures and to this end he decided to attend the engineering school at Canterbury University College in Christchurch. This move involved giving up the Nelson home and shifting to rental accommodation in Christchurch near the University. He studied structural engineering and surveying with success and in the years ahead he was to benefit greatly from these studies. The University too gained from his considerable experience in the practical world of engineering construction. Most students of the day were much younger than he was and had not been involved to any degree in the practical side of the subjects they were studying. As part of the practical work involved in the syllabus he supervised the construction of underground reservoirs to serve the reconditioned hydraulics laboratory. He and his fellow students supplied the manpower for the work. A story is told that he was asked to suggest how a surplus

machine foundation block could be removed from one of the laboratories. It was too large and heavy to lift and manoeuvre through any of the access ways. He said he could dispose of the block in less than a day. With the help of three labourers he proceeded to dig a hole large enough to accommodate the foundation block under the laboratory floor. The block was then lowered into the hole covered with earth and the concrete floor repaired. The surplus earth was wheeled outside the building. While studying at the college he took an active part in University affairs including playing for the senior B team of the Canterbury Football Club. He was a member of the University College Engineering Society.

In 1926 he decided to build a house in Christchurch, which incorporated some of the structural features, which he had learnt about in his studies. On a bare section in a new subdivision in Bryndwr Road he built a two-story reinforced concrete house and a flat roofed concrete garage. The flat roof of the garage was made of steel-reinforced concrete a unique form of roof construction for 1926. All this time the world-wide depression was biting deeply in New Zealand and living conditions were becoming very difficult for many people who were out of work. It was the recommendation of his professor that he should seek employment in the Public Works Department (PWD) where there were still opportunities for skilled people. Following this advice he applied for and was appointed District Overseers from the PWD in Nelson.

The House in Bryndwr Road was rented out and he moved with his wife and son Norman who was now 10 years six months old to 68 Halifax Street in Nelson. The house was situated near the centre of Town and boarded the Maitai River. He settled into his new job with enthusiasm and soon earned the respect of his colleagues. The Depression was deepening and affecting everybody. The Works Department became involved in organising the many work schemes, which were implemented to provide some relief for those who were unemployed. The severe earthquake in June 1929 centred in Murchison caused widespread damage in the area administered by the Works Department and many buildings under its control were either destroyed or severely damaged. Nelson College modelled on an English public school design was one building which suffered severe damage and much of it required demolition and subsequently rebuilding. The workload for PWD staff in the area increased several-fold and remained at this level for some years while strengthening and rebuilding programmes were implemented. Norman was not daunted by all this extra work and still found time to follow pursuits that had been dear to him before he left Nelson for Christchurch. These included gardening, fishing, shooting, tramping and at a later stage athletics administration.

During the depths of the Depression people with good jobs still found it necessary to extend their pay packet by becoming as self-sufficient as possible. Gardening, fishing and shooting were ways of achieving this self-sufficiency. Norman was good at these pursuits so it was natural for him to turn his attention to them in his spare time. His family lived well off the land and enjoyed as everyday fare foods that today have become almost beyond the means of the average person. These included venison, wild pork, crayfish, oysters, whitebait and trout. The Nelson climate, the river silt soil at 68 Halifax Street and Norman's gardening skills produced vegetables in profusion.

He derived a lot of pleasure from tramping and rifle shooting while his wife Eliza preferred to spend her time at croquet a game, which she played well. The croquet lawns were but a few minutes walk from Halifax Street. Most of Norman's tramping at the time was centred on the Mount Dunn area where the Nelson Tramping Club with the benefit of Norman's construction skills built a log cabin-type mountain hut which was to serve for many years as a focal point for the club's outing in that area. During the course

of these club activities he gained the respect and friendship of Harry ATMORE also a keen trumper who was the Member of Parliament for Nelson and Minister of Education. In April of 1930 he was invited to join Harry ATMORE's climbing party, which in company with guides spent several weeks traversing the Southern Alps in the region of Mount Cook. It was a unique experience for him. Prior to this, his trips into the mountain areas although extensive had always been places where some form of plant or animal life had existed. The vast snowfields and glaciers apparently held no lasting appeal because he was not attracted to them after this first occasion.

Soon after returning to Nelson Norman joined the Nelson Defence Rifle Club, which held regular Saturday competitions at the Seabourne rifle range as well as inter-club and provincial events. He was always well placed in these. When Norman Jnr was old enough to take part he accompanied his father and learnt to become a competent rifle shot and in 1935 became the winner of all the senior shooting events at Nelson College. Norman became an executive of the Nelson Athletic Club possibly as a result of Norman Jnr's interest in athletics while attending Nelson College. His interest in athletics administration was to continue until near the time of his retirement from government service in 1954.

In early 1930s most of Norman's serious fishing expeditions were to an area called Blind Channel. It was a natural tidal inlet, which commenced at the north-western end of Tahuna Beach a spot reached after 30 minutes cycling from Halifax Street. On an incoming tide large numbers of big snapper would travel up the channel to reach the shellfish beds on the tidal flats of the inlet. The lines he used for fishing were of the best quality twisted cotton and of such thickness as to provided a balance between strength to hold possibly two large snapper and lightness to enable the sinker and bait to be hand cast into the deeper water. These lines he purchased from Tisdalls in 80-yard hanks and with great care and almost reverence he tanned them himself with a liquid extract made from wattle bark. The sinkers he made by hammering pure soft lead into square cross section torpedo shapes. With great skill and strength he would cast a sinker and up to six baited hooks a distance of nearly eighty yards. When fish were not plentiful he would put out several lines terminating each one to a large pieces of driftwood. To give indication of when fish were biting he would pass each line over the end of a thin length of driftwood driven vertically into the sand. Because hooked fish required a certain amount of playing to prevent the line breaking it was impractical to fish with more than one line when the fish were biting freely. A combination camping/fishing weekend in this location was to result in a most distressing and almost tragic outcome. With son Norman Jnr he set up camp in the sand bordering the channel. He awoke early on the first morning and felt unwell to the extent that he set out in the direction of Tahuna to obtain help leaving his son to mind camp. He was found unconscious by a passer-by and taken to hospital. It transpired that he had been bitten on the neck by a Katipo spider which was found on the pillow of his camp bed by Eliza and friends when they came to collect Norman Jnr. And dismantle the camp. He was to remain in a delirious and unconscious state for several days and ill for quite some time. Eliza maintained that for the remainder of his life his health was never as robust as previously. Nonetheless he continued to fish in the channel area to tramp extensively and match shoot with considerable success. In 1932 his tramping activities awakened an interest on geology and rocks. He was impressed by the gold discoveries, which had taken place in the late 1800s and felt there must still be gold-bearing areas, which had been overlooked. Eliza's parents Henry LAGMAN and Alice Bertha BATE had been closely associated with the gold digging days of the 1890s in the Takaka, Collingwood area and the Tableland to the west of Mt Arthur. During the next two Christmas holiday periods he went on gold digging expeditions to the Mt Arthur Tableland district accompanied by his son Norman and brother-in-law Arthur

BATE. With great care and ingenuity he built two items of gold recovery equipment a sluice box and a cradle both of which could be taken apart for transport by back-pack and then reassembled on site. These were to provide very effective in practice and allowed substantial quantities of pay dirt to be processed. He did not find any large quantities of the precious metal but came back on both occasions with several ounces which at that time had a value of approximately 3 ponds 10 shillings an ounce.

At the time of these digging holidays the Tableland area was supporting large herd of deer and it was quite common to see 50 or more animals at a time in each little valley. With a bounty of 5 shillings a tail paid by the government through the acclimatisation societies, shooting was as profitable as digging for gold. From these trips Norman Jnr gained considerable experience in bush-craft and deer hunting and at the age of 17 he was quite at home in the mountains for weeks at a time.

Norman's responsibilities at work increased and in 1935 he was appointed Inspector of Works for the Nelson District a position he held until transferred to Auckland in 1939 to the position of Superintendent of Works for the then Public Works Department later to be called the Ministry of Works (MOW). He was in the process of settling into his new job when World War II erupted and defence construction assignments became the responsibility of the PWD. Five hectic years were to follow during which time his duties took him to many remote parts of the Auckland Province. In the early years of the War radar stations were established at a number of places on the coasts of New Zealand and it was the responsibility of the PWD to design and erect the buildings to house equipment and personal and to provide electric power. In the Auckland area stations were sited on outlying Islands in the Gulf and in many cases sea access was very difficult indeed. Under Norman's overall supervision this work was always ready when required to receive the radar equipment supplied and installed by the Radio Development Laboratory (R.D.L.) in Wellington. Coincidentally Norman Jnr was on the staff of R.D.L. at the time and supervised the construction and installation of this particular Radar equipment. Despite being unusually busy during these years Norman became a member of the Akarana Rifle Shooting Club and the Auckland Athletic Club and participated in their meetings and functions. He retained his skills with the rifle and was successful at many shoots held by his club and district. The so-called Waihi Rooster Trophy became one of his successes as well as a number of trophy spoons presented for winning performances in club outings.

It was not long after shifting to Auckland that he began thinking about building a house, which would be suitable for retirement as well as a home during the remaining years of his working life. He always had an affinity for the sea and this lead him to investigate suitable sections on Auckland's North Shore. A very efficient ferry service from his workplace in downtown Auckland to Devonport coupled with an equally good bus service from thee to places further North like Milford and Castor Bay attracted him to look for a building site in these two areas. From the subdivision of one-time farming land at Castor Bay he was able to secure several sections one of which namely 12 Midway Avenue Castor Bay he selected as being to his liking. It is interesting to note that he did not consider sections right on the cliff tops but decided against them because he believed the cliff face erosion problems could become serious as the years went by. As it has turned out with the passage of time the erosion problems have not been excessive and because of the superb sea view these sites are very much in demand. With the pressure of work shortage of materials and wartime building restrictions he elected to spend time developing the section rather than building. To this end he established a builders-type shed on the section and made regular visits during weekends when not working or pursuing his sporting interests. He and Eliza lived at the time in a rented flat on the

northern slopes of Mount Eden so every trip to Midway Avenue involved a train ride to the ferry terminal downtown Auckland and then the ferry and bus journey to Castor Bay. Fortunately the bus stop was only a few minutes walk from 12 Midway Avenue. It was a pleasant enough trip requiring at least one and a half hours.

On 1941 Norman began construction of a house at 12 Midway Avenue. Despite the shortage of building materials in the post-war period he managed to incorporate many features, which made for comfortable living. Especially large areas of glass windows and generous cross-ventilation suited the coastal outlook and took full advantage of the cooling summer winds. House sheathing materials were not readily available. He went to the extent of getting a sawmill in Thames to cut the weatherboards from natural macrocarpa trees being felled at that time in the Thames area. During the war years and for some time afterwards the usual demands made on Norman by the Ministry of Works limited his house building activities. However by late 1951 he and Eliza were able to move into their new home at 12 Midway Avenue. During these years Eliza gave Norman every support as well as finding time to contribute to the war effort by joining the St John Ambulance Brigade and attending many calls of duty previously answered by male members.

Eliza who had always been a keen and competent croquet player joined the Takapuna Croquet Club and for a number of years took an active part in its management. She was president of the Club and assisted also with the administration of the Auckland Branch of the Croquet Association. The Takapuna Club made her an Honorary Member in 1962. Throughout her life Eliza had a great interest in craftwork especially needlework and the embossing of brass and pewter. Several beautiful tapestries and metal covered boxes now owned by her family are reminders of her skills. At the age of 88 she decided to take up painting in oils and so fulfilled a long time wish to try her hand at something, which she had encouraged Norman Jnr to do many years previously. She attended local art classes and soon reached a standard enabling her to exhibit at displays held in Takapuna.

Norman's retirement from the Ministry of Works Department came at the age of 67 after 27 years of service during which time he had been a guiding force in many developments undertaken by the department in the Nelson and Auckland districts. The District Commissioner of Works wrote this reference for him.

"The bearer Mr N Manssen was until recently employed as building Superintendent to the Ministry of Works Auckland. My personal knowledge of Mr Manssen has extended over the last five and a half years and during this period the building work carried out by the Ministry has been very extensive.

In addition to contracts for schools, telephone exchanges and post offices it has included the maintenance of Government office buildings and Government-owned institutes. The Ministry also operates a large modern workshop in connection with its building and maintenance work. Mr Manssen has been responsible for the control and supervision of the outside inspection and overseeing staff for the checking of estimates for jobs carried out by the workshops and has undertaken a great deal of technical correspondence. His knowledge of all phases of building work gained from long practical experience is probably unsurpassed in the district. Mr Manssen is a man of fine personality and upright character and is thoroughly reliable in every way. It is with pleasure that I recommend him to anyone requiring his services."

Signed W L BELL M.N.Z.I.E. District Commissioner of Works.

By the time he retired from the Ministry of Works in September 1954 Norman was well established at 12 Midway Avenue and known by the local residents as a person with a reputation for getting things done so much so that he was persuaded to put his name forward as a candidate in the local body elections of 1954 until his death in June 1957. His unexpected death occurred when he was inspecting the laying of services pipes in the Crown Hill area of Castor Bay. Without any warning he collapsed and died instantly.

Norman enjoyed a life full of interest and activity and for the few remaining years after his retirement he was busy in both community affairs and a number of home construction projects. During this time his interest in concrete construction was to be rekindled with the making of large flowerpots, birdbaths and paving slabs. He used demountable moulds and a vibrating table for obtaining the essential compaction of the concrete mixes some of which he coloured with permanent powder pigments. Several examples of these are incorporated in the present-day garden at 12 Midway Avenue.

He is remembered by his family as a caring competent man who felt deeply about events in which he was involved. He loved his two grandchildren Brent and Jan and was able to share in their early development.

Along with the ashes of his wife Eliza who lived to the grand age of 102 he is buried in Glenfield Cemetery on the North Shore Auckland.

Eliza continued to live at 12 Midway Avenue after Norman's death but found the upkeep of such a large section an unnecessary burden. She subdivided the lot and lived on the reduced size section until 1976 when she moved into the Lady Allum Home a residential complex for the aged. She retained ownership of the smaller property and this has since passed to Norman Jnr and his wife Shirley. They have made alterations and additions to the house but retained the original character of it. Frequently during the changes the carpenters commented upon the very sound construction of the original building and attention to details that went into its making.

Norman and Eliza MANSSEN their children and descendants

- 1 Male MANSSEN** and Female THOMPSON
- 1-1- **Male MANSSEN** and Female SCHUCK
- 1-2- **Female MANSSEN** and Male BENNETT
- 1-2-1- Male BENNETT
- 1-2-2- Female BENNETT

BATE miscellaneous information

- 0- Henry Langman BATE** born about 1846 (or 13 February 1838 Devon England or 1842 Torquay England) died 1931 NZ married 25 January 1874 (folio 0225) East Takaka Church Nelson NZ Alice Bertha BARNETT born about 28/30 July 1855 (folio 87) Massacre Bay Nelson NZ (parents Charlotte and William BARNETT) died 1928 NZ
- 0-1- **Bertha Mary BATE** was born about 1875 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1893 (1893/3412) Charles KIDSON born died

- 0-2- **Claude Henry BATE** was born about 1876 Takaka Nelson NZ died 1882 NZ died young never married
- 0-3- **Sarah BATE** was born about 1877 Takaka Nelson NZ died 1920 (1920/2786) married 1898 (1898/309) Pierce James COTTER born 1871 died 1948 (1948/30515) NZ
- 0-4- **Arthur BATE** was born about 09 October 1878 Takaka Nelson NZ died 1973 (1973/47605) married 1906 (9106/7079) Emily Annie DAVIS
- 0-5- **Emily Langman BATE** was born about 16 October 1879 Takaka Nelson NZ died 1977 (1977/37682) married 1911 (1911/3367) William James EVELEIGH born 1874) died 1924 (1924/2503) NZ
- 0-6- **Nellie BATE** was born about 1881 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1909 (1909/7799) Cox Joseph GORDON born died
- 0-7- **Ella BATE** was born about 1882 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1907 (1907/4091) Arthur Scott MCFARLANE born died
- 0-8- **Henry BATE** was born about 11 May 1884 Takaka Nelson NZ died 1977 (1977/30472) married 1907 (1907/2553) Lily DUNBAR
- 0-9- **Eliza (Tiddie) BATE** born about 02 October 1885 (folio 3926) Takaka Nelson NZ died 12 March 1988 Auckland NZ married 30 March 1912 (web reg. 1912/1546) **Norman MANSSSEN** (1 Issue)
- 0-10- **Isabelle/Isabel BATE** was born about 1888 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1909 (1909/3725) Gordon FRANCOIS born died
- 0-11- **Ivy Penelope BATE** was born about 1891 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1913 (1913/6527) Robert Cleaver ANCELL
- 0-12- **Amy BATE** was born about 1892 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1909 (1909/2968) Robert ORMSBY born died
- 0-13- **Nathalia/Nattalea BATE** was born about 1895 Takaka Nelson NZ died married William Isaac GIBBS born died
- 0-14- **William Charley BATE** was born about 1897 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1927 (1927/708) Emma Isabel STAIT

I do not know when the BATE family arrived in New Zealand but a H BATE age 29 (born about 1834) single left Melbourne Australia on 07 March 1863 arrived Port Chalmers Otago 1863 on the "Alhambra" accommodation Fore.

ORDER (Reference LDS FHC microfilm 0284492 PROV VPRS 948 number 9143)

Intention to marry 25 January 1874 Takaka district

Henry Langman BATE age 28 bachelor occupation Farmer dwelled in Takaka 9 years and Alice Bertha BARNETT age 19 spinster dwelled in Takaka for 16 years intend to marry East Takaka church by Rev John SPEAR. William BARNETT father gave consent for the minor to marry.

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington Intention to marry 1874 agency BDM series 20 item 19 page 425 line 40 Takaka)

Henry Langman BATE married Alice Bertha BARNETT 1874 NZ

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1874 folio 0225 and web reg. 1874/6550)

Henry and Alice had a daughter Bertha Mary BATE who was born about 1875

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1875 folio and web reg. 1875/6067)

Henry and Alice had a son Claude Henry BATE who was born about 1876

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1876/6699)

Henry and Alice had a daughter Sarah BATE who was born about 1877

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1877 folio and web reg. 1877/11583)

Henry and Alice had a son Arthur BATE who was born about 1878

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1878 folio and web reg. 1878/16857)

Henry and Alice had a daughter Emily BATE who was born about 1879

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1879 folio and web reg. 1879/17133)

Henry and Alice had a daughter Nellie BATE who was born about 1881

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1881 folio and web reg. 1881/7645)

Henry and Alice had a daughter Ella BATE who was born about 1882

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1882 folio and web reg. 1882/11265)

Claude Henry BATE age 6 years died 1882

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1882 folio and web reg. 1882/5626)

Henry and Alice had a son Henry BATE who was born about 1884

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1884 folio and web reg. 1884/19227)

Eliza BATE born about 02 October 1885 Takaka Nelson NZ. Her parents were Alice Bertha & Henry Langman BATE.

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1885 folio and web reg. 1885/15232)

Henry and Alice had a daughter Isabelle BATE who was born about 1888

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1888 folio and web reg. 1888/14334)

Henry and Alice had a daughter Ivy Penelope BATE who was born about 1891

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1891 folio and web reg. 1891/17515)

Henry and Alice had a daughter Amy BATE who was born about 1892

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ birth registration 1892 folio and web reg. 1892/10701)

1893 Buller Electoral Roll

- Alice Bertha BATE Upper Takaka occupation Domestic number 3310

Nathalia BATE was born about 1895 (1895/3730)

William Charley BATE was born about 1897 (1897/6244)

Alice Bertha BATE formerly BARNETT age 72 years (born about 1856) died 1928 NZ

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1928 folio and web reg. 1928/2300)

Henry Langman BATE age 93 years (born about 1838) died 1931 NZ

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1928 folio and web reg. 1928/2300)

BARNETT miscellaneous information

0- William BARNETT born died married Charlotte born died

0-1- Alice Bertha BARNETT born about 28/30 July 1855 (folio 87) Massacre Bay Nelson died 1928 NZ married 25 January 1874 (folio 0225) East Takaka Church Nelson NZ Henry Langman BATE born 13 February 1838 Devon England or 1842-1846 Torquay England died 1931 NZ (14 issue)

- 0-1-1- **Bertha Mary BATE** was born about 1875 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1893 (1893/3412) Charles KIDSON born died
- 0-1-2- **Claude Henry BATE** was born about 1876 Takaka Nelson NZ died 1882 NZ died young never married
- 0-1-3- **Sarah BATE** was born about 1877 Takaka Nelson NZ died 1920 (1920/2786) married 1898 (1898/309) Pierce James COTTER born 1871 died 1948 (1948/30515) NZ
- 0-1-4- **Arthur BATE** was born about 09 October 1878 Takaka Nelson NZ died 1973 (1973/47605) married 1906 (9106/7079) Emily Annie DAVIS
- 0-1-5- **Emily Langman BATE** was born about 16 October 1879 Takaka Nelson NZ died 1977 (1977/37682) married 1911 (1911/3367) William James EVELEIGH born 1874) died 1924 (1924/2503) NZ
- 0-1-6- **Nellie BATE** was born about 1881 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1909 (1909/7799) Cox Joseph GORDON born died
- 0-1-7- **Ella BATE** was born about 1882 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1907 (1907/4091) Arthur Scott MCFARLANE born died
- 0-1-8- **Henry BATE** was born about 11 May 1884 Takaka Nelson NZ died 1977 (1977/30472) married 1907 (1907/2553) Lily DUNBAR
- 0-1-9- **Eliza (Tiddie) BATE** born about 02 October 1885 (folio 3926) Takaka Nelson NZ died 12 March 1988 Auckland NZ married 30 March 1912 (web reg. 1912/1546) **Norman MANSSSEN** (1 Issue)
- 0-1-10- **Isabelle/Isabel BATE** was born about 1888 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1909 (1909/3725) Gordon FRANCOIS born died
- 0-1-11- **Ivy Penelope BATE** was born about 1891 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1913 (1913/6527) Robert Cleaver ANCELL
- 0-1-12- **Amy BATE** was born about 1892 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1909 (1909/2968) Robert ORMSBY born died
- 0-1-13- **Nathalia/Nattalea BATE** was born about 1895 Takaka Nelson NZ died married William Isaac GIBBS born died
- 0-1-14- **William Charley BATE** was born about 1897 Takaka Nelson NZ died married 1927 (1927/708) Emma Isabel STAIT

The BARNETT family sailed on the "Thomas Harrison" departing 26 May 1842 from Gravesend England and arrived 26 October 1842 Nelson NZ.

- William BARNETT married age 33 occupation shoemaker Gardner
- Charlotte BARNETT married age 34 wife
- William BARNETT child age 7
- Henry BARNETT child age 3
- Arthur Wellington BARNETT child age 1

ORDER (Archives NZ Wellington NZC New Zealand Company series 34 item 2 pages 345-356 and Examiner newspaper 29 October 1842 page 134 and Pioneer Passengers by June E NEALE page 156-157)