

Eleventh Born

Norman Leslie Neighbours (Tom) born in Christchurch on the 4th February 1888 in Christchurch. Baptise on 18th March 1888

Married Florence Ada Quinton on the 18th April 1919 in Dunedin. They knew each other before the war started and evidence of courtship is revealed through book gifts to Florrie at significant occasions during these years. During World War 1, Tom served as a medic on the front line battlefields of France and Belgium for four years. After the war, Tom was involved with the family brickworks at Waimangaroa. Tom and Florrie owned a drapery store in Waimangaroa and Tom being a keen business man went from house to house on foot selling his wares from a suitcase. He also did a bit of gold prospecting and water divining

Wife Florrie was one of the performers in the 'Sunshine Party' and was also well renowned for her polished singing voice. She received an invitation by Metro Goldwyn for an audition to sing but never took it up. The Sunshine party was formed to entertain locally at first in Waimangaroa but with increased popularity, the group travelled by train or 'White Freight services' to other centres. Thomas was a member of the Waimangaroa Brass band and played the trombone. They lived in a house opposite the Brickworks at Conns Creek and had three children Yvonne Florence, Ernest Rex and Allan Gregory. Below is house at Conns Creek

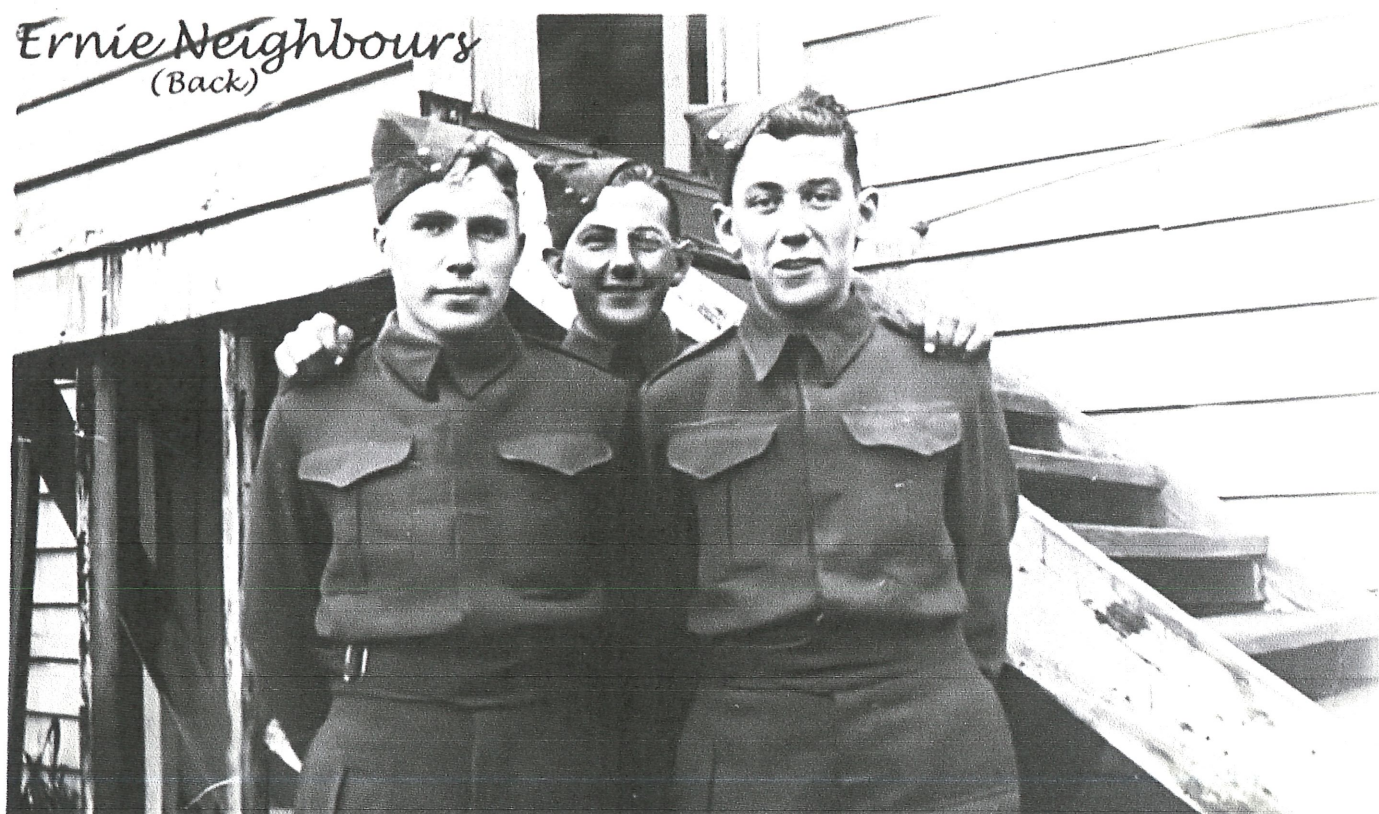


In the 1940's Tom and Florrie moved to Mokau on the West Coast of the North Island where they ran the Mokau General Store and built and operated the Seaside Tearooms between Mokau and Awakino. They retired further north to Waihi and then Auckland where they had a 7 acre farmlet in Glenfield called 'The Little Green Valley'. Tom passed away there in 1958 aged 70 years. Florrie moved to Birkenhead then to New Plymouth where

she lived with daughter Yvonne. She died in 1979 aged 85. They had three children *Yvonne, Ernest Rex and Alan Gregory*



Toms' family



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Ernie Neighbours
(Ernest Rex)

Alan Neighbours
(Alan Gregory)