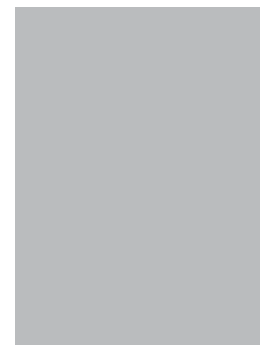
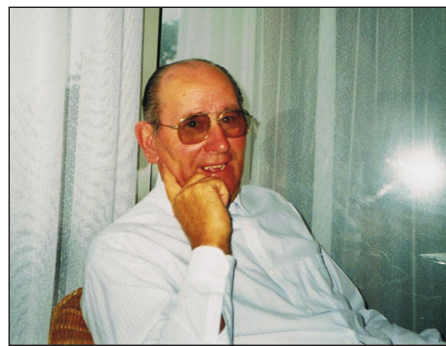


**Who:** Jack's Great Grandfathers

**From:** Holland and England

**When:** After World War 2



My Great-Grandfather came here from Holland in 1949 after WW2. He says he just came for a holiday after he had finished university. He became a dairy farmer and ended up with 500 cows. His name is Pierre and he lives in Mt Maunganui now.

He wore wooden clogs when he was in the milking shed but the first farmer he worked for said that the noise scared the cows and he had to buy gumboots. He went to the shop and asked for size 42, (that's what size he took in Holland). They laughed and said that size 9 would do!

He was asked to play football. He had played it all his life in Holland but he was shocked to see tall goalposts and that the ball wasn't round. When he asked for coffee in a café in 1949 people were very surprised. There was no coffee in New Zealand then.

My Great-Grandfather liked New Zealand because there was no class distinction and he was made to feel OK everywhere he went.

My other Great-Grandfather came here from England in 1953. In England, after WW2, there were too many Naval Officers so some were sent to the colonies. He came to look after gunnery and training in New Zealand. His name was John.

He liked New Zealand because here was not a big difference between what people could earn. He told my grandmother that he liked it because he earned as much as the mechanic next door and they could live in the same street. He also liked the trout fishing. He left the navy and became a schoolteacher and then a farmer.

