

Timaru Herald. 24 August 1915 (Papers Past) [18/09/2022]

A pleasant hour was spent in the 2nd Regimental Bandroom last night, the occasion being the making of several presentations. Messrs W. Annand and J. Burns, cornetists, are leaving for the Front this week, and the Band presented each of them with a gold medal memento as a token of esteem and in recognition of their acceptance of the highest duty. A similar token was presented by the members to H. Osborne, in honour of the way he upheld the fame of the Band at the Christchurch contest, by winning the amateur cornet solo, and coming second for the championship and for his excellent work as solo cornetist in the Band items. A third kind of presentation followed, two easy chairs being presented to Bandsman George Booth, on the occasion of his approaching marriage. Mr Schnack the conductor, made the several presentations, with a happy little speech suited to each case, and the recipients respectively replied, thanking their bandmates for their gifts and good wishes.

Timaru Herald. 28 August 1915 (Papers Past) [18/09/2022]

WEDDINGS BOOTH—WALL.

At St. Mary's Church on Wednesday afternoon, a pretty but quiet wedding took place, when Miss Lula Wall, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Wall, of Edward Street, was married to Mr George Booth, of Oamaru. The bride, who was attended by Miss E. Aker and her niece Miss Myrtle Petrie (as bridesmaids), was given away by her father, while Mr George Wall, brother of the bride acted as best man. The ceremony was performed by the Ven. Archdeacon Jacob. The bride's dress was a lovely frock of soft silk veiled in pretty lace, and a court train of the faintest shade of heliotrope, veiled with ninon and trimmed with a true lover's knot caught with orange blossoms. Her veil was arranged in mob cap style, the sides being fastened with orange blossoms. She carried an exquisite bouquet of white flowers. The bridesmaids' dresses were made Miss Eliza Aker's of heliotrope silk veiled with net and trimmed with pretty insertion, Miss Myrtle Petrie's of white silk trimmed with neat insertion; and they wore mob caps of lace with white lilac, and carried white shower bouquets.

After the ceremony the guests were entertained at breakfast by Mr and Mrs Wall at the residence of the bride's sister, Mrs Spavin. Later in the day Mr and Mrs Booth left by the express for the south where the honeymoon is to be spent. The bride's going-away dress was a grey costume with a smart hat of pure white. The bridegroom's gift to the bride was a lovely pearl and ruby bangle., and to the bridesmaids, dainty gold locket, set with rubies. Both bride and bridegroom being well known in the district, they were the recipients of many handsome presents, and received many congratulatory telegrams.

Timaru Herald. 5 January 1927 (Papers Past) [18/09/2022]

The members of the recently-formed Senior Cadet Military Band, of 40 players, have received their instruments, and under the tuition of their conductor, Mr G. A. Booth, have made very good progress for the short time in which they have been playing. The instrumentation of the Band is practically the same as that of the Argyll Band which was so popular at the Dunedin Exhibition, and includes all the necessary reed and brass instruments to make a full Military Band. Mr Booth, the conductor, has had considerable experience with both reed and brass bands, and while in England went through a course of band training at Kneller Hall, where all the Army bandmasters receive their training. The instruments have been purchased on a small deposit, which has been found by a few music-loving citizens, and it is intended to make an appeal to the public of Timaru, through this paper, for the balance of the money owing, and also to purchase music, etc. Apart from the Cadet uniforms, the Band receives no financial assistance from the Government, but the district Defence officers are keen in their support. The Cadet Band will not be in any sense an opposition organisation to the Municipal Band, but rather will provide an excellent training ground for the latter.

Timaru Herald. 3 December 1934 (Papers Past) [18/09/2022]

The staff of the Timaru Borough Council met on Saturday morning to say farewell to Mr G. A. Booth, who for the last nine years has been sanitary inspector at Timaru and who leaves on Friday to take up a similar appointment with the Petone Borough Council. In presenting Mr Booth with a suitably inscribed fountain pen and pencil on behalf of the staff, the Town Clerk (Mr E. A. Killick), referred to the good feeling that had always existed between Mr Booth and other members of the staff, and congratulated the departing officer on his promotion. The Borough Engineer (Mr T. O. Fox) also spoke as to Mr Booth's many good qualities and wished him every success in his new appointment. Mr Booth made suitable acknowledgment of the gifts and thanked the staff for the kind expressions that had accompanied them. Mr Booth was also met by representatives of the South African War Veterans' Associations and was presented with a cigarette lighter in appreciation of his services in a musical capacity at the Association's annual re-unions for some years.

Timaru Herald. 7 December 1934 (Papers Past) [18/09/2022]

ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY PRESENTATION TO MR G. A. BOOTH

The valuable services given to the Timaru Orchestral Society by Mr G. A. Booth — who leaves to-day to take up an appointment at Petone — as a playing member since the inception of the orchestra nine years ago and as a member of the committee for two years, were recognised by members at a gathering last evening when the president (Mr G. H. Andrews), on behalf of members, presented Mr Booth with a silver wristlet watch. Mr Andrews said that Mr Booth, had been one of the most versatile musicians in Timaru, and in addition to his valuable work for the orchestra his talents had always been available for charitable concerts and entertainments. The orchestra could ill afford to lose such an enthusiastic member. He wished Mr and Mrs Booth every success at Petone.

The conductor (Mr W. H. Osborne) described Mr Booth as a valued member of the community, who had done a vast amount of good work, especially in musical circles. He had played the oboe with marked success in the orchestra.

Similar tributes were paid by Messrs H. S. Moore, A. J. Allport and A. G. Williamson, the secretary (Mr P. W. Rule) reading a letter of appreciation which he had been directed to hand to Mr Booth from the committee.

In acknowledging the gift Mr Booth assured the gathering that anything he had done for the orchestra was through his love for music. His association with the orchestra had been most happy, and Mrs Booth and he would greatly regret their departure from the town.

Timaru Herald. 9 August 1935 (Papers Past) [18/09/2022]

AIR FORCE BAND MR G. A. BOOTH APPOINTED BANDMASTER

By Telegraph—Press Association

WELLINGTON, August 8.

Mr G. A. Booth has been selected as bandmaster of the New Zealand Air Force Band. He is a member of the staff of the Petone Borough Council and holds a Kneller Hall certificate. He began his musical career at the age of 11 in the old Oamaru Garrison Band. Later he was a member of the Timaru Regimental Band and during the war was band-sergeant of the Sling Military Band. On his return to New Zealand he was conductor of the Waimate Silver Band before establishing the Timaru Cadet Band.

Timaru Herald. 6 November 1935 (Papers Past) [18/09/2022]

Under the conductorship of Bandmaster G. A. Booth, formerly of Timaru, the New Zealand Air Force Military Band is making rapid progress. It has been rehearsing for the last six weeks and has reached a playing standard which has been very favourably commented upon by those who attended the last rehearsal. The total strength of the band is 37, and the instrumentation, similar to that of army bands in England, consists of flute, piccolo, oboe, 10 clarinets, three saxophones, bassoon, four horns, five cornets, three basses and two drums. The band's uniform will be in Air Force blue, after the style of the Australian and other Air Force bands, but uniforms will not be issued until after the final personnel is determined. Since the number of applications received by the bandmaster is considerably in excess of the proposed strength there should be no difficulty in this respect, and already the personnel is fairly definitely established. A fair library of scores is available, but more will be required in the near future. A complete set of instruments — the men have been using their own at rehearsals — will be obtained as soon as possible.