

Patrick Joseph Murphy (60968)

Patrick Murphy was our great-uncle. He was the fifth child (of nine) of Patrick and Mary Murphy (nee O'Connor) from Ireland and was born on 9 September 1889 in Waimate, South Canterbury, where he lived most of his life.

During WW1 Pat was sent to France with the Canterbury Infantry Regiment. In April 1918 he was wounded in the left eye by enemy fire on the Somme and was discharged from active duty. He spent some time at Brockenhurst Hospital in Hampshire, England, before returning to New Zealand.

We remember Pat as a kind, generous man who used to give us rides in the "dickie seat" of his car – a real delight! Pat never married. He shared a home with Julia, one of his sisters, and worked on their farm at Waimate until he was in his sixties, when he and Julia bought a smaller house in Waimate township. Pat died on 12 July 1961.