

Ashburton Guardian. 21 June 1918 (Papers Past) [19/03/2023]

Several members of the Lismore Patriotic Society last Friday evening visited Private Basil Foster, who was down from Trentham on final leave. The chairman, Mr A. Lister, presented him with a money-belt, a razor, and a hand mirror as parting gifts from the society.

Press. 24 June 1918 (Papers Past) [24/03/2023]

Last week several members of the Lismore Patriotic Society met Private Basil Foster, who was home on leave, and presented him with a money-belt a razor, and a hand mirror. The chairman (Mr A. Lister) made the presentation.

Manawatu Standard. 12 December 1923 (Papers Past) [19/03/2023]

The Rev. Basil Foster, who has been appointed director and English master to the recently-organised Catholic Boys' School in Ramallah, Palestine, is a son of Mrs K. J. Foster, late of Timaru and Christchurch, and now resident in Cambridge.

New Zealand Times. 12 December 1923 (Papers Past) [19/03/2023]

The Rev. Basil Foster, son of Mrs K. J. Foster, of Cambridge, Waikato, but formerly of Christchurch and Timaru, has been appointed director and English master in the recently-organised Catholic Boys' School in Ramallah, Palestine. Mr Foster was educated at the East Christchurch School. After the war he went to St. Benedict's, Fort Augustus, Scotland, and this year was appointed to work and study in Palestine under His Eminence the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Otago Daily Times. 1 October 1927 (Papers Past) [19/03/2023]

BENEDICTINES IN THE ORIENT.

ORDINATIONS AT JERUSALEM.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

LONDON, August 27.

On August 7, the Rev. Cyril Fay and the Rev. Basil Foster, the former from England and the latter from New Zealand, both destined for missionary work in the Near East, were ordained deacons in the Latin Patriarchal Cathedral, Jerusalem, by his Lordship Right Rev. Dr Godric Kean.

After the religious function, in the course of an address, his Lordship referred in terms of high praise to the Fathers of the Seminary responsible for the training of the young Levites, and paid a glowing compliment to the great Benedictine Order to which these Fathers belonged. The first of the Orders founded in the Western

World, and the fruitful parent of many offshoots, it had come down in unbroken succession for nigh 1500 years, instructing the world by its learning, edifying the world by its piety, and enriching the world by its labours.

The two men missionaries, continued the bishop, had a vast field of labour before them. If they faced actual facts, they would find millions calling out in one way or another for light and guidance. Modern movements in the political world had changed both the Near and the Far East.

There had been a general awakening of Oriental peoples. A contact with Western thought, the influx of Western ideas, the new civilisation which had arrived, were profoundly affecting them. A spirit of religious inquiry was abroad.

Important influences were at work, and the Catholic missionary must go forth well equipped with personal sanctity, and with practical knowledge — boldly and undauntedly — into the midst of those great peoples, and not in a listless and lethargic manner, but actively, vigilantly, and perseveringly spread everywhere the illuminating rays of Catholic truth.

Lyttelton Times. 5 May 1920 (Papers Past) [21/03/2023]

A CANTERBURY MUSICIAN

The departure of Mrs Arthur Foster from Lismore for Cambridge, Waikato, where her daughter takes up an appointment at the head of a church school, recalls her long and honourable record in the musical annals of Canterbury. Mrs Foster, then Miss K. J. Young, came from Home after completing her studies at the Edinburgh Educational Institution, then under the musical superintendence of Sir Alexander MacKenzie, who soon after was appointed Director of the Royal Academy, London.

Mrs Foster settled first as a music teacher in Timaru, where she lived for sixteen years, during which time she held many outstanding positions in Canterbury. She was one of the first New Zealand teachers to advocate and forward in every way possible the music examination movement in this country, and when Trinity College sent out its first examiner (Mr Myles Birlcott Foster) she was appointed secretary for South Canterbury. Later, she represented in Timaru the Associated Board of the R.A.M. and R.C.M. through Canterbury College, holding these positions till she left for Christchurch to forward the education of her children. While in Timaru Mrs Foster was teacher of voice production in the Sacred Heart Convent, and not a few of her pupils have attained distinction. She was also examiner for the South Canterbury Board of Education for many years, and, later, for the New Zealand Education Department, Wellington. Mrs Foster always took much interest in school singing, which she believes should hold a much more important place in the New Zealand syllabus than it does at present. Her professional work has allowed little leisure to exercise her melodious gift of composition, but her New Zealand school songs are sung with much appreciation, especially in the North Island. Mrs Foster subsequently lived for ten years in Christchurch, breaking up her home when her sons went to the front. Her moving from Canterbury is regretted much, especially in Christchurch, where her wide knowledge, experience and ready sympathy were well appreciated, and she leaves, followed by the sincere good wishes of her wide circle of friends, musical and other.

Waikato Independent. 10 March 1925 (Papers Past) [19/03/2023]

OBITUARY.
MRS ARTHUR FOSTER.

There passed away peacefully at Cambridge yesterday afternoon, in the person of Mrs Arthur Foster, a lady of very considerable musical and literary attainments, who will be much missed. Mrs Foster was a native of Edinburgh, and in 1883 came out to New Zealand to an uncle and aunt, the Rev. Hugh Murray and his sister, of Geraldine, South Canterbury. She married the late Arthur Pearse Foster, eldest son of the late Rev. George Foster, of Timaru, who died in 1903, leaving Mrs Foster with a family of four young children, and right well has she obeyed the slogan of her Highland ancestors, “bi tren,” be valiant.

While in Timaru the late Mrs Foster held many important positions, including that of visiting professor of music to the Sacred Heart Convent, representative of the Associated Board and Trinity College of Music, London, and examiner in music to the Canterbury Education Board and Education Department, which latter office she held for many years. Some years later Mrs Foster moved with her family to Christchurch, where she became very well known in musical and literary circles, until some nine years ago, when her health broke down.

Mrs Foster leaves a family of one daughter (Miss Heather Foster, of the Cambridge District High School teaching staff), and two sons (Mr Roland Foster, of Tauranga, and the Rev. Basil Foster, of Palestine). Four years ago her young daughter, Myrtle, died in Cambridge, from which sad loss Mrs Foster never fully recovered. Mrs Foster was a Christian lady of sterling character and outstanding ability, who lived a full life of usefulness.

The funeral takes place at Cambridge to-morrow morning.

Timaru Herald. 13 March 1925 (Papers Past) [19/03/2023]

OBITUARY.
MRS. KATHERINE JANE FOSTER.

News has been received of the passing of Mrs Katherine Jane Foster, a well-known musician, who for some years resided in Timaru, at Hamilton, Waikato, last Monday.

Mrs Foster, then Miss Denoon Young, came out to relatives in the North Island 45 years, ago, but soon removed to Canterbury, where the whole of her professional life was passed. Young as she was, she had taken a brilliant musical course under the best Edinburgh teachers, and held a good appointment in Manchester. Her finished playing, her artistic gifts, and her successful methods of instruction secured her a large connection, and the position of Government Examiner in the teachers' course. She married Arthur, eldest son of the Rev. George Foster, of Timaru. After her widowhood, she removed to Christchurch. Failing health closed her professional career over ten years ago, and her later years were spent in peaceful home life in Cambridge, where her daughter, Miss Heather Foster, holds a teaching appointment. Mrs Foster is survived by three children, Miss Heather Foster, Mr. Roland Foster, civil engineer, Tauranga, and the Reverend Basil Foster, Palestine. A large circle of South Island friends will be pained to hear of her passing, especially in Timaru, where she held a brilliant professional record.

Timaru Herald. 18 March 1925 (Papers Past) [19/03/2023]

DEATH

FOSTER.—On March 9, 1925, at Hamilton, Katherine Jane Foster, late Christchurch, widow of the late Arthur Pearce Foster, Timaru, and beloved mother of Heath Foster, Cambridge, and Ronald Foster, Tauranga, and the Rev. Basil Foster, of Palestine; also of Myrtle Foster, deceased.