#### SOCIAL AT THE OPIHI.

On Friday evening last about forty couples took part in a dance held in the Opihi School as a farewell to the Misses Matthews, who are leaving Totara to live in Timaru. Piper J. Davidson, of Timaru, supplied the music for the Grand March, which was led by Miss Matthews and Mr i R. J. McKeown. Dancing was kept up until 12 o'clock, when everybody was invited to supper in the schoolhouse. The refreshments were all that could be desired, and were supplied by the ladies of Opihi. The schoolroom had been very prettily decorated with evergreens and flowers by the Misses Mitchell and McKenzie. After supper Mr R. J. McKeown in a humorous speech referred to the many good qualities of the Misses Matthews, who had lived at Opihi all their lives, and presented Miss and Miss Lottie Matthews with a gold dress ring each, and Miss Dorky and Miss Flora Matthews with a gold brooch and a gold heart each as a small token of the esteem in which they are held by the people of Opihi and Totara. Mr J. Matthews replied for the very handsome presents, and said they would remind them of the happy days spent at Opihi. Hearty cheers were given for the Misses Matthews. Dancing was then resumed, and was kept up until the small hours of the morning. Mr W. Thornton made an efficient M.C., excellent dance music was supplied by Messrs J Davidson, G. Bracefield, H. Raynor, J. Downes, and J. Kelliher; and songs were rendered by Miss Collet and Messrs H. Uprichard, H. Raynor, J. Downes, and a duet by Misses Cartwright and Stewart. Miss Jones, of Kakahu, and Messrs J Lawlor, J. Walker and R. Wareing gave recitations.

Dominion. 10 November 1915 (PP) [28/05/2021]

Nurse Matthews, who has been selected for service abroad, leaves Wellington to-day on a visit to relatives in the Wairarapa.

Wairarapa Daily Times. 27 November 1915 (PP) [28/05/2021]

The authorities' have accepted the services of Nurse Matthews, of Masterton, for the hospital ship Maheno.

#### WAITOTARA.

From the most remote corners of the earth men have rallied round the flag in response to the Empire's call and in this respect Waitotara has done its share. A social was held last night to farewell a number of men who are leaving shortly for the training camp. Not only has Waitotara provided its quota of men but yesterday morning Nurse Matthews, a daughter of Mr Matthews, a well known resident of Waitotara, left by the mail-train for Wellington where she joins the Hospital Ship Marama. Nurse Matthews received her training at the Public Hospital at Masterton.

Wanganui Chronicle. 9 December 1915 (PP) [28/05/2021]

#### WAITOTARA NOTES.

The splendid work which is being carried on by our womenfolk, not only in this little district, but throughout the Dominion, is a credit to them, and absolutely puts to shame thousands of young fellows who are shirking, through either cowardice or laziness, apart from the work the women are doing in their own homes. One, Miss Matthews, a daughter of one of our respected settlers, Mr F. O. Matthews, has enlisted as a nurse and is going forward on board the hospital ship Marama next week. All honour to her, and the more shame to the young "men" who are hanging back! This, however, by the way.

Kai Tiaki. 1 January 1916 (PP) [18/04/2017]

# The Hospital Ships.

# HOSPITAL SHIP "MARAMA."

The second New Zealand hospital ship left on the 5th December for her long voyage across the ocean to commence her work of mercy. A lovely sunny morning ushered in the day of departure. The staff went off in great spirits: Seven medical officers, twenty-one sisters, and a large number of orderlies with them, forty-eight passenger nurses, bound for service in Egypt and one Masseuse. All were on board at 2.30, and at 3 p.m. His Excellency the Governor and Lady Liverpool came on board. Owing to the fact that the ship left two days before she was expected to do so, the nurses called up from all parts of the Dominion and only a short time in town, were not given their usual farewell party, and the badges of the Army Nursing Service were presented to them on board by Her Excellency Lady Liverpool.

Letters received from the sisters from Adelaide and Albany are quite enthusiastically happy.

. . . . . . . .

Some of these names have already appeared in our last issue as going in the Marama, but for various reasons a change of the personnel was made, the correct list of the nurses on the Marama being: — Staff: Matron, Sister Broun; Sisters R. Gilmer, I. M. McRae, A. Rudd; Nurses D. Arrowsmith, . . . . . , C. H. Matthews, . . . . . . .

## Patea Mail. 10 March 1916 (PP) [28/05/2021]

Another Waitotara boy that has received promotion is a son of Mr F. O. Matthews of Ngutuwera. Trooper Matthews is at present in the training camp at Featherston and has been promoted to Sergt.

Nurse Matthews who left Waitotara some months ago has arrived at her destination and in writing to her friends she says that only about half of the nurses have got employment so far but she states there is some talk of a number of them being sent to France.

### Patea Mail. 22 December 1916 (PP) [28/05/2021]

Trooper Brendon Gilligan writing to his parents, Mr and Mrs P. S. Gilligan of Kakaramea, mentions the interesting fact that when in hospital in Egypt, recovering from his wounds received in the Romani engagement with the Turks he was nursed by Sister Matthews, of Ngutuwera who had a pleasant surprise in meeting a patient from her own district. Trooper Gilligan is making excellent progress towards recovery.

# Patea Mail. 28 February 1917 (PP) [28/05/2021]

In the latest Hospital report from Home appear the names of . . . . . . . and Nurse Charlotte Henrietta Matthews (Waverley) as severe cases.

*NZ Times*. 13 June 1921 (PP) [28/05/2021]

Sister Charlotte Matthews, N.Z. A.N.S., formerly of Masterton Hospital, and Sister K. Welch (Masterton) are transferred to the reserve list.

### *Kai Tiaki*. 1 July 1925 (PP) [28/05/2021]

In a letter from **Sister Charlotte Matthews**, Reserve N.Z.A.N.S., who has been for some time in Durban, she mentions that she is still with the same private case and that Sister Glynes is going to England in October to pay a visit to friends and is intending to return to Durban. She had been kept very busy private nursing there.

. . . . . . . . . . .

**Sister Matthews** remarks that the South African nurses are struggling hard to get co-operation and will no doubt, in time, become a well organised body. There appears to be a lack of some recognised head to the profession such as one Director of Nursing under the Health Department. Durban is going ahead, the sisters notice a big difference since they arrived about two years ago. There are many flats and two enterprising girls erected a building of nine flats which they let from £10 to £14 per month and are doing well.

**Sister Matthews** intends to return to New Zealand as soon as her patient no longer needs her.

## Evening Post. 11 September 1925 (PP) [28/05/2021]

Writing from Durban, South Africa, Sister Charlotte Matthews, formerly of New Zealand, states that the South African nurses are struggling hard to get cooperation, and will no doubt in time become a well organised body. There appeared to be a lack of some recognised head to the profession, such as one director of nursing under the Health Department. Durban was growing rapidly, and Sister Matthews noticed a big difference since her arrival there two years ago.

# Kai Tiaki. 1 April 1927 (PP) [28/05/2021]

Sister Charlotte Matthews, late N.Z. A.N.S., who went with Sister Glynes to Durban about two years ago, is now Mrs. Colinbrander. Her home is at Tugela, Zululand.

## Kai Tiaki. 1 April 1927 (PP) [28/05/2021]

A very enjoyable afternoon was given on Saturday, March 12th, by Mrs. Lea, of Hataitai, for her guest, **Mrs. Colenbander** (**Sister C. H. Matthews**, N.Z.A.N.S.), who left by the "Moeraki" en route for her home in South Africa. An amusing competition was won by Miss Bicknell, and consolation prizes were handed to Sisters Crispin and Hooper.

The guests were all sisters or ex-sisters who had shared war service with Mrs, Colenbander. They included Mesdames Mays, Myers, Kidman, Miss Bicknell, R.R.C., Sisters Crispin, McLeod, Pengelly, R.R.C., Eady, Gray and Hooper.

Timaru Herald. 27 July 1933 (PP) [28/05/2021]

**DEATH** 

MATTHEWS — At Wanganui, on July 24th, 1933, Elizabeth, beloved wife of F O. Matthews, "Caerleon," Waverley, and sister of Mr W. H Collett, Opihi, and Mrs H. Maxwell, Kakahu; aged 66 years.

Manawatu Standard. 19 August 1937 (PP) [28/05/2021]

#### MR F. O. MATTHEWS.

The death occurred at Wanganui, on Friday, of Mr Frank Octavius Matthews at the age of 76 years.

Mr Matthews was born at Newport, England, in 1871 and came to New Zealand at an early age, taking up agricultural farming in the South Canterbury district. Later, accompanied by his family, he came to the North Island and in 1907 took up land in the Wairarapa district. He farmed there for five years and took an active part in the establishment of the Waingawa freezing works.

Mr Matthews later moved to the Wanganui district and settled at Waverley. He is survived by a brother, Mr Fred Matthews (Melbourne), and a sister, Miss Matthews (England). He was predeceased by his wife four years ago. He also leaves four sons and five daughters, Messrs W. (Waverley), L. (Ngamatapouri), H. (Maxwell) and F. Matthews (Bunnythorpe), Mesdames Colinbrandey [sic] (Durban, South Africa), L. Heckley (Masterton) and H. Francis (Eltham) and Misses B. and E. Matthews (Wanganui).