

*Lyttelton Times.* 27 March 1916 (Papers Past) [16/04/2025]

#### GAPES'S VALLEY.

Trooper H. Dass, of the Eleventh Reinforcements, was tendered a farewell social at Gapes's Valley Hall on Monday evening, when there was a large attendance. Mr W. M. Patrick presided. Mr P. Mulvihill, in presenting Trooper Dass with a money-belt, a sleeping-bag and a purse of sovereigns, on behalf of the subscribers, referred to the excellent work the departing soldier had done for the local rifle club, and congratulated him on his decision to enlist. All wished him a safe return. An enjoyable concert programme and dancing formed part of the evening's proceedings.

*Timaru Herald.* 13 June 1919 (Papers Past) [22/02/2021]

#### **A DOUBLE SOCIAL.**

##### WELCOMES AND FAREWELLS.

##### GAPES AND BEAUTIFUL VALLEYS.

A welcome home social was tendered to Sergeant C. E. H. Dass, M.M., and Privates G. Spillane, F. Hopping, H. Alley, in Gapes Valley Hall on Friday evening last, and also farewell presentations were made to Mr and Mrs Dass senr., W. Dass and Mr and Mrs Thew, all of whom are leaving the district. There was a very large gathering of residents and friends from the Valleys and surrounding districts. Dancing was indulged in until 11 p.m. During an interval a very nice supper which was provided by the ladies, was handed round.

After supper Mr W. M. Patrick occupied the chair, and after introducing the guests and making a few appropriate remarks, called on Mr Mulvihill to present each soldier with a massive gold medal from their friends of the two Valleys. Mr Mulvihill complimented the men on the services they had rendered to the British Empire, and spoke of the honour they had done to the districts to which they belonged, especially complimenting Sergeant Dass on having won his stripes and the Military Medal. During the intervals of the presentation the National Anthem and Marseillaise were played.

Sergeant Dass thanked the residents on behalf of himself and his comrades for their very valuable presents, and also the Ladies' Sewing Guild and Patriotic Committee for all the parcels that had been received at the front, which made them feel nearer home than they actually were. "For they are jolly good fellows," was sung very heartily by all present, and cheers were given for the boys and their respective families.

The chairman then called on Mr Heyder to make the presentations to those leaving the district, Mrs Thew being presented with a dinner service, and Mr Thew with a heavy Kaiapoi rug. Mrs Dass was presented with a massive arm chair, Mr Dass with a case of Loewe pipes and W. Dass junr. with a Loewe pipe.

Mr Heyder wished all the recipients many years of health, wealth and prosperity, and hoped that when using their presents they would be reminded of the old friends they had left behind them. All present then joined in singing "For they are jolly good fellows."

Each of the recipients then thanked the people for their very handsome presents, and said they regretted leaving the district, but hoped it would not be the last occasion they would meet.

The chairman thanked the musicians, the M.C., and the ladies for helping to make such an enjoyable evening, after which dancing was resumed, the musicians being Messrs G. Fletcher, S. Heyder with extras by several friends, and Mr J. Tindall of Hilton acted as M.C. very efficiently. During the evening songs were sung by Mrs Hall, Mrs Taylor and Messrs J. Hall, T. Townsend, S. Heyder. Thirty-four couples took place in the Grand March, which was headed by returned soldiers, of whom there were fourteen present.

*Temuka Leader*. 17 June 1919 (Papers Past) [22/02/2021]

### **DISTRICT NEWS.**

#### **GAPES AND BEAUTIFUL VALLEYS WELCOMES TO RETURNED SOLDIERS. FAREWELLS TO OLD RESIDENTS.**

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

A welcome home social was tendered to Sergeant C. E. H. Dass, M.M., and Privates G. Spillane, F. Hopping, H. Alley in Gapes Valley Hall on Friday evening last, and also farewell presentations were made to Mr and Mrs Dass, senr., W. Dass, and Mr and Mrs Thew, all of whom are leaving the district. There was a very large gathering of residents and friends from the Valleys and surrounding districts. Dancing was indulged in until 11 p.m., when a very nice supper, which was provided by the ladies, was handed round.

After supper, Mr W. M. Patrick occupied the chair, and after introducing the guests and making a few appropriate remarks, called on Mr Mulvihill to present each soldier with a massive gold medal from their friends of the two Valleys, Mr Mulvihill complimented the men on the services they had rendered to the British Empire, and spoke of the honour they had done to the districts to which they belonged, especially complimenting Sergeant Dass on having won his stripes and the Military Medal.

During the intervals of the presentation the National Anthem, and Marseillaise were played. Sergeant Dass thanked the residents on behalf of. himself and his comrades for their very valuable presents, and also the Ladies' Sewing Guild and Patriotic Committee for all the parcels they received at the front, which made them feel nearer home than they actually were. "For they are jolly good fellows" was sung very heartily by all present and cheers were given for the boys and their respective families.

The chairman then called on Mr Heyder to make the presentations to those leaving the district, Mrs Thew being presented with a dinner service, and Mr Thew with a heavy Kaiapoi rug. Mrs Dass was presented with a comfortable armchair, Mr Dass with a case of Loewe pipes and Mr Dass, junr., with a Loewe pipe.

In an appropriate little speech, Mr Heyder wished all the recipients many years of health, wealth and prosperity, and hoped that when using their presents they would be reminded of the old friends they had left behind them.

All present then joined in singing "For they are jolly good fellows."

Each of the recipients then thanked the people for their very handsome presents. They regretted leaving the district and their friends, but hoped it would not be the last occasion they would meet. Should any of their friends come to the district to which they were going they would always be- made welcome.

On resuming their seats, "The Star Spangled Banner" was played by the orchestra.

The chairman thanked the musicians, the M.C., and the ladies for helping to make such an enjoyable evening, after which dancing was resumed. The musicians were Messrs G. Fletcher and S. Heyder, and Mr J. Tindall, of Hilton, acted as M.C. very efficiently. During the evening songs were sung by Mrs Hall and Mrs Taylor, and Messrs J. Hall, T. Townsend, and S. Heyder. "Extras" were played by Messrs M. Patrick, A. Hopping, B. Patrick, W. Frisk, and E. Green (bagpipes), and Mrs Toomey. Thirty-four couples were in the march, which was headed by returned soldiers and their partners. Miss Dorothy Hall, of Timaru, danced the Sean Treaus, and Highland Fling (in costume), being accompanied by Mr E. Green on the bagpipes.

The following returned soldiers were present: — Sergeant C. E. H. Dass, M.M., Gunner H. Alley, Privates F. Hopping, G. Spillane, A. Toomey, A. Davie, T. Davie, B. Jones, F. Alley, A. Hopping, T. O'Brien, B. Hall, G. McMillan.

*Press.* 6 October 1919 (Papers Past) [22/02/2021]

## **MARSHLAND SCHOOL.** **ROLL OF HONOUR UNVEILED.**

An important function was held in the Marshland school on Friday afternoon last, when parents, friends, and scholars assembled to do honour to ex-scholars of the school who had taken part in the great war. Mr J. Voss presided, and the proceedings commenced with the singing of the National Anthem, after which Mrs D. Goode unveiled two Honours Boards, containing the following fifty-five names: — Albert Lange, Thomas Quaid, . . . , **Harold Dass**, . . . , **Ernest Dass**, Frank Goode. . . . ., and Arthur Lowe.

A marble tablet, containing the names of ten ex-scholars who had made the supreme sacrifice, was unveiled by Mrs C. G. Dalgety. They were William Faulls, Robert Cox, Michael Brown, David O'Callaghan, David Martin, Hugh Dempsey, **Ernest Dass**, William Bussell, George Stanbridge, and Abraham Dobby.

Short addresses, suitable to the occasion, were delivered by the Revs. D. D. Rodger, H. Spencer, and Father Seymour.

A special vote of thanks was accorded to Mr D. Goode, the chairman of the School Committee, who had presented the school and the district with the memorial tablet. He was given three hearty cheers for his generous gift, which has been placed between the two boards containing the Roll of Honour.

*Timaru Herald.* 8 November 1924 (Papers Past) [20/04/2025]

## **WEDDINGS.**

### **DASS — MITCHEL**

A quiet but pretty wedding took place at Chalmers Church on October 29th, the contracting parties being, Daisy, second daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Mitchel, Theodocia Street, Timaru, and Clarence Everett Harold, youngest son of Mr and Mrs W. Dass, Harper Street, Timaru. The Rev. Gladstone Hughes officiated. The bride, who entered the church on the arm of her father, looked charming in a girlish frock of ivory crepe de chine, made in simple lines with the new long sleeves, and beautifully embroidered. Her veil, which was lent by Mrs J. A. Hall (the bridegroom's sister), was made of hand-embroidered silk tulle, and was hung from a wreath of orange blossom. A bouquet of choice hot house flowers and maiden hair fern completed a charming toilet. Her only ornament was a handsome gold bangle, the gift of the bridegroom. The bridesmaid, Miss Florrie Mitchel, sister of the bride, wore a pretty frock of mauve crepe de chine, trimmed with pale mauve and pink ribbon streamers, and a black lace picture hat, with a wreath of flowers toning with her frock. Her bouquet was composed of mauve sweet peas and maidenhair fern. The Misses Phyllis and Beatrice Hall made charming little flower girls, dressed alike in pretty frilled frocks of pale pink crepe de chine. They wore pink ribbon streamers and carried posies of pink and mauve flowers. Mr Charles Keenan attended the bridegroom as best man. After the ceremony a reception was held at the Tyrol Tea Rooms, where the usual toasts were honoured. Mrs Mitchel (the bride's mother) wore a navy blue costume, trimmed with black braid and a small black hat trimmed with mauve flowers; Mrs J. A. Hall wore a smart coat frock of nigger brown marocain, beautifully braided, a chic brown crepe de chine hat, and mole mar..bout stole.

Later in the day when Mr and Mrs Dass left amid showers of confetti, for the north, where the first part of the honeymoon is to be spent. The bride was wearing a smart navy blue costume heavily braided, a close-fitting hat of almond green crepe de chine, and grey suede shoes and stockings.

In the evening the guests were entertained at the residence of Mr J. A. Hall. North Street, where a very enjoyable evening was spent by all present.

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*Timaru Herald*. 25 September 1916 (Papers Past) [22/02/2021]

## **SOLDIERS FAREWELLS**

### **AT GAPES VALLEY.**

The residents of Gapes Valley and other visitors assembled in large numbers at the hall on the occasion of a farewell presentation to Private E. Dass of the 18th Reinforcements, who is shortly leaving for active service at the Front. Mr W. M. Patrick presided over the function. Dancing was commenced at 9 o'clock, the Gapes Valley orchestra playing the grand march which was headed by Private E. Dass and Mrs J. Hall, followed by three soldier lads, Privates T. Billings, H. Roundtree, and W. Kay with their partners. Dancing was continued until .11.45 p.m., when a halt was called for supper.

After supper a presentation was made. When Private Dass took his seat he was greeted with loud applause. The chairman explained to the audience the reason for the gathering and said that Private Dass had always lent a willing hand in anything for the good of Gapes Valley during the short time he had been in it, and he wished him God speed and a safe return. He then asked all present to sing the National Anthem which was played by the Gapes Valley orchestra, and was sung with great feeling. The chairman then called on Mr P. Mulvihill to make the presentation to Private Dass.

Mr Mulvihill made a stirring speech and said it gave him great pleasure to speak at these functions. He felt sure that Private Dass would make a good soldier and would uphold the honour of his parents, and district, and above all his King and country. He then presented Private Dass with a fine wristlet watch, and wished him good luck, God speed and a safe return. He also presented Private Dass with another small token from the Ladies' Sewing Guild, with best wishes from them.

The Marseillaise was then played by the orchestra and sung by the audience.

Private Dass in responding thanked the people of the district for their handsome present, and said he would always remember them when he looked at the time in the trenches; he also thanked the Ladies' Sewing Guild for the useful gift they had given him.

The audience sang "For he's a jolly good fellow," and gave three cheers for the departing soldier and his family.

Mr W. Dass, senr., thanked the company for the honour they had done his son, and also for the way they had treated the family during the time they had been in the Valley.

The wristlet watch was fastened round the soldier's wrist by Miss D. Hall of Gapes Valley. During the evening songs were contributed by Miss V. Hopping, Miss N. McIvor, Messrs T. Hall, W. Toomey, and S. Heyder. Supper was provided by the ladies of the district and was done full justice to. Dancing terminated at 3 o'clock and the gathering closed with the singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem. Excellent dance music was played by the Gapes Valley orchestra. The M.C. was Mr G. Tindall, of Hilton. Extras were supplied by Miss O. Prisk, C. Pentecost, T. Maxwell, A. Hopping, and S. Heyder. Visitors were present from Hilton, Timaru, and Beautiful Valley. The Patriotic Committee who organised the social deserve great credit for the manner in which they carried out their work.