

A New Life in Aotearoa: An outline history of 19th and 20th Century BADHAM migrations to New Zealand

by John Eden Badham

Hamilton, 7 February 2007

“New Zealand was the last country in the world to be discovered and settled by human-kind. It was also the first to introduce full democracy. (In the near-millennium) between those events, and in the century that followed the franchise, the movements and the conflicts of human history have been played out more intensively and more rapidly in New Zealand than anywhere else on Earth.” So reads the close of Michael King’s book *The Penguin History of New Zealand* (2003). Although the first European formal contact with Aotearoa was by the Dutch explorer Abel Janszoon Tasman in 1642, Pakeha (loosely, people of European heritage) in New Zealand still numbered just over 300 by 1830. With the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840, however, the numbers of (mainly British) settlers increased rapidly, such that by 1858 they would outnumber Maori by approximately 3,000: 59,000 to 56,000. And by 1881 there would be around 500,000 of them. What caused this massive removal from one side of the world to the other (pp93, 169)?

In his book *How our ancestors lived: a history of life a hundred years ago*, David Hey (2002, Public Record Office) outlines a number of factors which caused many British people to seek a new life elsewhere. The first of these was an inability to break out of class systems. “In 1872-73 four-fifths of the land of Great Britain was owned by a mere 7,000 proprietors...Of course, the great majority of the population owned no land at all” (pp3-4). Second, the population of Britain and Ireland nearly quadrupled between 1801 and 1901, despite the emigration of some 10 million Britons to America, Canada, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand (pp45-46).

Third, the combined effects of agricultural depression, mechanised farming techniques and industrial growth meant a huge shift of the population from the countryside to the towns. For millions of Britons this meant a forced relocation from rural areas and small towns to often appalling slum conditions in the burgeoning cities, where air pollution and poor sanitation often had severe effects on public health. Work in mills and mines usually involved long hours of work in hazardous conditions for poor pay and little security of tenure. Finally, for some religious controversy or outright persecution, the offer of free passage, or simply a sense of adventure, were reason enough to up roots (Hey pp13-16; King p170).

My initial research indicates eleven different families have migrated to New Zealand, the first arrival being about 1861. The families detailed below are given in approximate date order of first arrival. All British place names are in the county of Herefordshire, except where stated otherwise. The names in **bold** typeface are family members who emigrated to New Zealand. Earlier generations, and subsequent spouses and children, of these immigrants are given on normal typeface. Deaths of first immigrants of each family are given where recorded in the New Zealand civil death indexes. Absence of such a record normally indicates a death recorded under a different surname or a death overseas.

Sources of information were primarily NZ and UK civil birth, marriage and death records and UK censuses, supplemented by sundry other references, such as church records, electoral rolls, shipping records, early telephone and business directories, newspaper articles and personal comment. Note, although comprehensive national censuses have been taken in New Zealand for many years, the resulting personal information has never been made available to family historians. The details given below are to be regarded as work in progress, and it is likely that further research would add detail and possibly link some families.

Family 1

Forster William BADHAM, son of George David BADHAM and Sarah Emma WALKER, was born at Waldringfield, Suffolk in 1843. Forster was a first cousin, once removed, of Rev Dr. Charles BADHAM, DD, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney. Details of this family are given in Peter Badham's article in B1NS Journal No. 2 (February 2006). Forster William BADHAM emigrated to New Zealand about 1861, possibly on the *Rhea Sylvia*. In the 1870's he purchased a farm in excess of 500 acres beside the Orari River, near Temuka, North Canterbury. Forster named the property *Bulmer* after the nearest village to the family farm in Essex. Badham Road (**Photograph 1**), and Badham Bridge over the Orari River, are named after this family. He married Margaret Jane SEFTON in 1874 and the following year a daughter, Alice Emma BADHAM, was born. Alice Emma married Emil SCHLAEPFER at Waimate in 1893.

Family 2

Louisa Sophia BADHAM and her brother, **Charles Adrian BADHAM**, were born at Bristol, Gloucestershire in 1820 and 1822, respectively, daughter and son of Thomas BADHAM and Mary LEWIS. Louisa Sophia BADHAM emigrated to New Zealand in 1863, married publican George ORAM at Christchurch in 1873,

and died there in 1915. Charles Adrian BADHAM was a civil servant. He led an eventful life, travelling widely, marrying three times, and having twelve children. He seems to have lived only briefly in

BADHAM arrived on the *Waimate* in 1877, and married farmer James MacKenzie BRODIE in 1879 at Christchurch. Her sister, **Margaret (Margarita) BADHAM**, married John STAFFORD-BUSH in 1884



Photograph 1 - The author at Badham Road, December 1999

New Zealand from about 1879 to 1881. Charles Adrian BADHAM died in Bangalore, India, in 1903.

However, three of his daughters were to make New Zealand their home. **Florence**

in London before coming to New Zealand, together with a half-sister, **Emily Rosa BADHAM**, who was a witness at Margarita's wedding. Emily Rosa BADHAM died in Christchurch in 1932, age

87. B1NS member Stephen STAFFORD-BUSH of Karaka is descended from this family. The history of this family is given in B1NS Newsletters No.4 (March 2002) and No. 9 (November 2003).

Family 3

Alfred William BADHAM, son of husbandman Samuel BADHAM and Ellen BIGGS, was born at Llangarron, Ross, in 1857. Ellen died in 1861, and Samuel subsequently married Ann JAMES. The family, including Alfred's younger brother Thomas, emigrated to New Zealand in 1870 (*Merope*). The family seems to have returned to England soon after, but Alfred William remained in (or returned to) his adopted home. He trained as a baker, and in 1885 married Harriett Susan LAWRENCE at Sydenham, Christchurch (**Photograph 2**). They had four children, Alfred E, Alice Joyce and Leonard being born in Sydney, NSW and then Stephen Walter in Christchurch. Harriett Susan and Alfred William both died at Christchurch, in 1933 and 1946, respec-

tively. This family is descended from John BADHAM of St. Devereux, who married Susan RUCK at Newland, Gloucestershire in 1789. B1NS member Jonathan Badham of Trellech, Wales, is also a descendant of John and Susan.



Photograph 2 - The home of Alfred and Harriett BADHAM at 11 Wildberry Street, Christchurch

Family 4

Henrietta BADHAM and **Richard Tree BADHAM**, were children of George BAD-

HAM, solicitor, and Martha COWELL. Four generations of this family were solicitors, and to this day you can see, in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, a solicitor's brass plaque including the Badham name. Henrietta BADHAM was born at Waltham-

stow, Essex, in 1836. She arrived in New Zealand about 1875, and became active in the New Zealand Women's Temperance Union and women's suffrage movement. In 1893 New Zealand women received the vote, 35 years ahead of their counterparts in England. Henrietta did not marry, and died at Auckland in 1924, age 87.

Richard Tree BADHAM was born at Tewkesbury in 1848. In 1871 he and his brother, Harry, were living in Lambeth, London. However, Richard Tree probably emigrated to New Zealand soon after, as he does not appear in the 1881 UK census. In 1896 he married Sophia

Prideaux GOODRIDGE of Wellington. At about the same time he formed an accountancy practice with Augustus Samuel BISS, who later also became a

Wellington City Councillor. Richard Tree died in 1917, and Sophia in 1921.

Fanny Ann BADHAM emigrated to New Zealand in 1877 (*Waitara*) and married Henry MEARS at Grovetown, Blenheim in 1880. Fanny Ann was born at Bromyard in 1858, daughter of innkeeper Patrick BADHAM and Hannah HARRIS. Fanny Ann was a second cousin of Henrietta and Richard Tree, their great-grandparents being George BADHAM and Hannah BOWCOTT of Bromyard.

Family 5

Charles BADHAM, son of John BADHAM and Sarah TURBERVILLE, was baptised at Stoke Edith in 1844. Charles was a great-grandson of Thomas BADHAM and Anne HETHERIDGE of Ashperton and Mordiford. Earlier generations of this family lived at Lugwardine and Eaton Bishop. Charles, a farmer, married **Laura Mary NOAKE** at Dilwyn in 1867. Two children were born at Ledbury, **Charles John BADHAM** in 1869 and Helen Cecilia BADHAM in 1874. Helen died three years later, and late in 1884 the family emigrated to Christchurch, New Zealand. Sadly, Charles senior died there early the following year. Laura died in 1896, also at Christchurch.

Charles John BADHAM married Emily PRICE at Sydenham, Christchurch in 1892. They had eight children born

between 1892 and 1912, the fourth and eighth children being born in England during brief visits there. Charles John BADHAM died in 1950 at Sydney, NSW. B1NS member Diane SMITH of Tamworth, Australia, is descended from this family.

Alice Jessie BADHAM was born in 1887 at Tarrington, daughter of George BADHAM, stationmaster, and Leah BROOKES. Alice Jessie was also a direct descendant of Thomas BADHAM and Anne HETHERIDGE, through their fifth son Daniel. Alice Jessie married George ROSEVEARE at Christchurch, New Zealand, in 1924.

Family 6

Mary Ann BADHAM, nee WINSER, was the widow of Henry BADHAM. Henry was born in 1843, youngest son of William BADHAM, farmer of Shelwick, and Sarah SPENCER. William was the second son of William BADHAM and Elizabeth TOMKINS, the Tomkins family of Kings Pyon, and later of Wellington, being notable for developing the Hereford breed of cattle in the 18th century. The history of this Badham family is outlined in B1NS Newsletter No. 4 (March 2002). It should be noted, however, that Richard BADHAM (who married Elizabeth BERNETT in 1748) was born at Ullingswick in 1721, not at Lugwardine in 1723. He was the

third son of Thomas BADHAM and Frances DAVI(E)S who were married at Stoke Lacy in 1711.

Mary Ann WINSER was born in Calcutta, India in 1849 and married Henry there in 1868. Soon after Henry's death in India in 1876, she moved to Britain with her young family, where she lived for nearly 30 years. In 1906, at the age of 57, she emigrated to Auckland, New Zealand, possibly at the same time as her second son, Charles Ryall BADHAM, a draper. Following Mary Ann's death in 1912, Charles Ryall moved to Christchurch where he married Annie Lawrence EMMETT in 1925. They had no children, and Charles Ryall died there in 1946.

Edward Dudley Cust BADHAM, youngest son of Edward Cust BADHAM and Louisa Mary Alice CAMPBELL, was born in Calcutta, India, in 1887. Edward Dudley Cust BADHAM was a great-grandson of William BADHAM and Sarah SPENCER. Edward Dudley Cust BADHAM arrived at Auckland, New Zealand from India early in 1909. He had been working on river steamers in India since leaving school in Darjeeling five years earlier. In 1908 he contracted malaria, and received medical advice to move to a more temperate climate to recuperate. His choice of New Zealand was probably influenced by his father and stepfather having worked for the Calcutta office of The South British Insurance Company of New Zealand. The

presence of his great-aunt Mary Ann BADHAM, and her son, Charles Ryall BADHAM, in New Zealand may also have been a factor in his decision. Edward Dudley Cust had purchased a return ticket to New Zealand, the second part of which was never to be used. In 1914 he married Zoe Kathleen FARLEY at Karekare, near Auckland (**Photograph 3**).

They had four children, Wallace Dudley Cust, Dudley, John Murray (my father) and Zoe Eileen. Edward Dudley Cust and Zoe Kathleen died at Howick, near Auckland, in 1962 and 1972, respectively.

Family 7

Thomas BADHAM, son of William BADHAM, agricultural labourer, and Mary HANKINS, was born at Shrawley, Worcestershire in 1869. This family were from Withington, with earlier generations from Bishops Frome and Hereford. Thomas was a domestic gardener when he married **Elizabeth CASHMORE** in 1894 at Boldmere, Warwickshire. In 1898 a daughter, Florence Harriett BADHAM, was born, followed by two sons, **Howard BADHAM** (1901) and **Austin BADHAM** (1906). Florence died as a child, and the family subsequently emigrated to Christchurch, New Zealand in 1910 on the SS *Turakina*. Elizabeth died in 1942 and Thomas in 1949, both at Christchurch.



Photograph 3 - The wedding of Dudley and Zoe at the School House, Karekare 27 May 1914

Howard BADHAM was an electrician. He married Sarah Amelia Ellen TILSON in 1931 and they had four children. B1NS member Lawson BADHAM, of Timaru, is the elder son of Howard and Sarah. Austin BADHAM, storeman, married Gladys May HALL in 1931 and they had one daughter. Howard died at Timaru in 1973, and Austin at Christchurch in 1984.

Family 8

Bertram George BADHAM, son of Elizabeth BADHAM, was born in Balsall Heath, Birmingham in 1883. Elizabeth was born at St. John Bedwardine, Worcester, Worcestershire, in 1859, fourth child of John BADHAM and Mary HUNDLEY,

who married at Worcester in 1851. John was born in 1818 at the hamlet of Linton, near Bromyard, son of Richard BADHAM. Elizabeth married Jesse TANDY in 1887, and had two further children, William George (1890) and Louisa Mary (1892). Elizabeth died in 1894.

Bertram George BADHAM was an engineer when he married **Agnes Ewart ALLAN** in 1905 at Motherwell, Scotland. Their first child, Violet Eileen Agnes BADHAM, was born in 1906, but died at Dalmuir the following year. A second child, Edward Bertram George BADHAM, was born at Clyde Bank, Glasgow in 1909. In November 1912 the family left London on board the "Mamari", bound for New Zealand. They arrived at Lyttleton on Christmas Day, Agnes and Edward as passengers, and Bertram as a member of the crew.

Two further children were born, John Henry (Harry) BADHAM at Waihi in 1915, and Allan Ewart BADHAM in 1917 at Gisborne. Bertram George died at Gisborne in 1955, and Agnes at Rotorua in

1970. Edward Bertram George BADHAM was a primary school teacher. He married Lavina Isabel FLETCHER at Te Karaka in 1935, and they had a daughter and a son. Edward Bertram George died in 1945.

Family 9

Albert Thomas BADHAM, son of Edwin James BADHAM and Fanny EVANS, was born at Balsall Heath, Birmingham, in 1889. Edwin James was the son of Edward BADHAM, and may have been born at Monmouth, Wales, in 1854. Albert Thomas emigrated to New Zealand about 1922. He was a hotel porter, and died a bachelor at Rotorua in 1947, age 58.

Family 10

Sydney John BADAMS was born at Walsall, Birmingham in 1898. His father may have been Walter BADAMS who married at Melton Mowbray in 1895. Sydney John married Olive Barbara LOASBY in New Zealand in 1941, where

two daughters were born at Greytown - Lorraine Barbara BADAMS in 1943 and Helen Frances BADAMS in 1944. Sydney John died at Masterton in 1974, age 76.

Family 11

Norman BADHAM, son of William BADHAM and Florence Alice RIVERS, was born at Swindon, Wiltshire in 1925. He trained as an aircraft engineer, and married Mary Catherine Grace BRYANT at Auckland in 1951 (decree absolute 1956). He subsequently married Pamela Howard VINCENT in 1966.

The author welcomes enquiries and information from other B1NS members by letter to 44 Howell Avenue, Hamilton, New Zealand, 3216 or email badhamgj@actrix.co.nz My thanks to Diane Smith, Jonathan Badham, Lawson Badham, Stephen Stafford-Bush and Dianne Badham for information on their respective families, and also to Peter Badham and Harold Badham for their comments on the draft text.