

## PHIPPS David Harold

Contributed by W.J. (Bill) Richardson [bilric@kinect.co.nz](mailto:bilric@kinect.co.nz), great grandson of Samuel and Alice Phipps, (David's parents) with support from Elizabeth Joan Wade [ejwade@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ejwade@xtra.co.nz)

**David Harold PHIPPS** was born in Onehunga, 5 September 1885, and died, aged only four-and-a half years, on 28 March 1890. David is buried with his grandparents, **William Marlborough DOUGLAS** and **Ruth DOUGLAS** nee **MALONE**, at **Saint Peters Cemetery** ([see this website for their biographies](#))

(This biography features David's parents, **Samuel** and **Alice Phipps** nee **Douglas**)

David's father **Samuel PHIPPS** was born at Wimbledon, Surrey, England in October 1842. He went to sea aged 14 and completed a 5-year apprenticeship with William Hill of Whitby. He first arrived in New Zealand in 1864, became mate, then skipper of the schooner '*Daring*' (that unfortunately went aground and was abandoned at Kaipara Heads in February 1865; the remains of the '*Daring*' were recovered in 2019 and are now being preserved at Mangawhai.) Samuel went back to sea after that event, but returned to settle in New Zealand in 1874, and married **Alice Douglas**.

David's mother **Alice DOUGLAS** was baptised 4 August 1850 at Rathvilly, County Carlow, Ireland. She arrived in Auckland with her parents and six younger siblings in June 1863 on the ship '*Aloe*.' The family lived in Onehunga. Alice's father, who was employed as an engineer/surveyor supporting the Military in the Waikato Land Wars, died in 1864. Her mother died 3 years later in 1867.

Alice and her siblings were taken in by a Mrs Lewis who ran *Shortland House Boarding School*, Shortland Street, Auckland. Alice married Joseph Stephens, 4 June 1866, but he apparently deserted her. She then married **Samuel Phipps** on 23 July 1874. They established a home in Church Street, Onehunga, and had seven children. Samuel was often away at sea and Alice had most of the responsibility for raising the children.

**Captain Samuel Phipps'** home port was Onehunga. He sailed to other ports on the West Coast of the North Island between Wanganui in the south and around North Cape to The Bay of Islands. (He was sometimes described as a 'Bar Bounce Expert'.) The vessels that he skippered were mostly ketches and schooners (of less than 50 tons capacity.) He also made some trips to some Pacific Islands. Another of his vessels, '*Wild Duck*,' went aground in a storm at Guards Bay, Marlborough, in July 1880; however, she was successfully re-floated with little damage.

In later years he skippered a scow that collected sand, shell and firewood and delivered these items around the Manukau Harbour, including supplying sand and shell to the Onehunga Borough Council. He was involved with the Onehunga Yacht Club for many years. He also owned a number of smaller private pleasure craft.

**David Harold** was Samuel and Alice's fifth child. Their other children were **William Lewis** (married Ethel Mary Wilson); **Lilly Cerita Louise** (married Ernest Kusabs); **Alice Ruth** (married Alec Scobie); **Kate Anne** (never married); **Doris Douglas** (married Les Coulthard); and **Ivy Sarah** (married Arthur Cleland.) There were 13 grandchildren.

**Samuel** died 19 February 1912, aged 70 years. He was found on the Onehunga Beach, having suffered a heart attack after rowing his dinghy to shore.

**Alice** died 29 March 1937, aged 87 years.

They were buried together in **Waikaraka Cemetery**.