

TEXT FOR TODAY : Today is the 190th anniversary
of the Christianing of your
gr. gr. grandfather. Rchd. } 53 Wmara Ave,
Waikanae,

My dear Phyll, 29-4-82

I'm as tired as blazes,
the glorious days of drought we've
had for weeks seems to be
ending & as it's dull we've got a
fire & boy (no girl) is it enjoy-
able!! What better than pen you a few lines.

Thankyou so much for your last
letter & the Hodgson enclosure.

That was interesting & I'm pretty
certain Wm. Hodgson's wife was
the daughter of the above Rchd Prouse,
either Mary or Sarah. I'll look
her up later, but can't just
now - cats on my laps,
dead asleep.

I returned the photo album promptly
because I concentrated on it as
soon as it came, so it wouldn't be
allowed to lie about. Also, &

2.

wanted to beat the rise in postage
(ligger the grasps!) Quite a
number of your snaps I have
copies of in Grace's old album
but not James' funeral one.

Re. "Model T Ford Soupsitt" snap.
I was particularly interested in
Vera in the snap because I'm
certain that's my now sister-in-law.
She went to a convent in Wanganui
as did the Soupsitt girls & they were
great friends & Vera used to
come to Otaki to stay with the Ts.
so I'm sure that's who it would be.
Her name was Naylor or something
very close to that.

I well remember Tina's beach cottage
inside & the porch, lap two from bank
& going out there to help clean up
for someone going in for a holiday
& the ~~the~~ little black spiders among
the pots & dishes — I do bet they
were Keelips. There was a plate

Here I adored & wasn't allowed to
 bring home for personal use. It had
 a drift design of pastel coloured
 flowers & I think a lacey edge (open
 work china). I don't remember the
 the enamelled blue bird door lock
^{to}
 I wonder if some~~one~~ had fished
 them by my time. Last week J.
 & I did a scamper (glorious day)
 & went out to "the Hoki" - I
 haven't been for centuries & it looks
 super with thousands of toi toi's
 & masses of water cross along the
 stream (very old) but the sea is
 so far away now - looked about
 1/2 mile walk to get there.

I'm so glad to read that you & June
 finally got your scamper up
 the East Coast. It is a super
 area & the sea & sky seem so
 much more brilliant in colour.
 I think I've at long last tracked
 down Doris Wells in the family,

& she's taken some finding & digging
isn't certain, but I feel it's her
alright & it's in another village
not far away, where there's ~~the~~
a beautiful church & graveyard.
Ben & I did it together the day
we were out.

I'm reading the autobiography of
a medium - Doris Stokes. I
guess you saw her on T.V. when she
was here, last or the year before. It's
so readable & she must be quite a
one.

Well I'd better stop & put a dinner
on. Hope you can read this, I can't
read properly, have a speck of the
Starbles in the eye - serves me right
for drinking 5 cups of tea. I'll enclose
a note for June.

Do hope you are all well up
there & get the fire wood supply
well stocked - that winter won't be
long. Lots of love to you all & to
dear Thomas. Both. P.T.O

I looked up the Hodgsons
It was Mary Brouse who married
Joseph Hodgson, so the butcher
William would no doubt have
been their son. She was the 2nd
daughter of Rev. & Mary King who
gallantly sailed out here.
The Hodgsons are buried somewhere
in Auckland.

S.