

# OBITUARY

## MR W. V. BLAKE

The death occurred in Hastings this morning of Mr William Vickery Blake, a well-known and highly esteemed resident of Hastings and in his younger days, a prominent member of the famous Hawke's Bay "Magpie" Ranfurly Shield Rugby team. Mr Blake, who was 63 was a member of one of Hawke's Bay's outstanding Rugby families.

Born in Hastings, a son of one of the pioneers of the town, Mr Blake, after leaving school, joined the staff of the Tourist Motor Co. Apart from a break on overseas service with the 3rd Battery of the 9th Reinforcements in World War I, he had been with the company ever since. He was in charge of the firm's machine shop.

A keen member of the Celtic Rugby Football Club, Mr Blake was selected for Hawke's Bay when the province's team won the Ranfurly Shield in 1921, and was on tour with the team that year. He also played for the Hastings sub-union.

Mr Blake was also a keen deer-stalker and fisherman, and was one of the first to erect a cottage at Ocean Beach. He was a member of the National Military Reserve during World War 2.

Mr Blake was married to Miss Enid Merle Castle. He is survived by his wife and a daughter, Mrs T. Durney, Greenmeadows.

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