

## Dame School Trentham – 1850s

Around the 1850s in the Trentham district a Dame school was established by Mrs Hannah Barton the wife of Richard Barton. The teacher at the Dame School was Miss Hannah Hedge.

**Mrs Hannah BARTON**



*(Reference Upper Hutt City Library Heritage collection Barton family P1-415-2165)*

Evening Post newspaper 13 April 1935

In an introduction written by the Mayor of Upper Hutt (Mr A J McCurdy) it is stated that in the fifties and early sixties people were too busy establishing themselves on their holdings to do much of a community character and beyond spasmodic attempts by way of home study and night classes and a Dame school established by Mrs Hannah Barton at Trentham with Miss Hannah Hedge as teacher nothing was done locally for the education of the rising generation. Those who could be spared and whose people could arrange their boarding out were sent to school in one or other of the older settlements on the shores of Port Nicholson. It was not until 1864 that a successful attempt was made to establish a public school in the new settlement.

*(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 13 April 1935 page 14)*

In the 1850's a Mrs Hannah BARTON and Miss Hannah HEDGE operated a Dame school in Trentham. All over the Hutt Valley other little schools operated in small buildings which often doubled for other purposes such as church services. As early as 1857 and thought to be the first in the Wellington area a school was established in Wainuiomata. (An early classroom serves as their Historical Society's Museum to this day.)

*(Reference Genealogical resources in the Hutt Valley edited by Peggy Crawford for the Hutt Valley Group of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists)*

The above is all the information I could locate regarding the Dame School established by Mrs Hannah Barton with teacher Miss Hedge.

### Barton Homestead Trentham



*(Reference Upper Hutt City Library Heritage collection Recollect Old House Barton homestead P2-24-38)*

## People associated with the Dame School

### Hannah BARTON

**0- Hannah BUTLER** born 05 September 1817 England died 26 August 1894 Hutt Valley New Zealand married 21 September 1843 Wellington New Zealand **Richard BARTON** born 30 August 1790 Fairlie Newport Isle of Wight England died 20 August 1866 Trentham Upper Hutt New Zealand

0-1- Richard John BARTON born 04 July 1846 Hutt New Zealand

0-2- John BARTON born 08 October 1850 Trentham Upper Hutt New Zealand

0-3- William BARTON born 01 August 1858 Trentham Upper Hutt New Zealand

Comment: The Barton family history and genealogy is located on the same website under the Upper Hutt family history and genealogy section.

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## Hannah HEDGE – Teacher 1850s

### 0- Hannah HEDGE (details not known)

Comment: I have been unable to locate anything about Hannah Hedge but have gathered some details below hoping that I could locate a link to the teacher of the early Dame School.

### HEDGE / HODGE miscellaneous information

1853-1864 Wellington Electoral Roll

John HODGE Majoribanks Street Labourer Freehold and Household Majoribanks Street

*(Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls)*

1853-1864 Wairarapa Electoral Roll

John HODGE Greytown Framer Freehold Greytown Wairarapa

*(Reference Ancestry website New Zealand Electoral Rolls)*

1853-1864 Ragland Electoral Roll Waikato

List of claims to vote at Elections of members of the House of Representatives for the Electoral District of Ragland received during the months of January, February and March 1863

John HEDGE Waiuku freehold Waiuku East sections 50 and 51 attested by James Speedy.

*(Reference Ancestry website 1853-1864 Ragland Electoral Roll Waikato)*

Lyttleton Times newspaper 28 January 1957

Shipping News arrived 25<sup>th</sup> January Steamer Zingari from Wellington passengers Mrs and Miss Hodge (plus others not transcribed)

*(Reference Papers past website Lyttleton Times newspaper 28 January 1957 page 6)*

Otago Witness 23 March 1861

18 March Omeo for Melbourne passenger's cabin Mrs Hodge and Miss Hodge (plus others)

*(Reference Papers past website Otago Witness 23 March 1861 page 5)*

Wellington Independent newspaper 15 October 1863

Passenger lists – S S Lord Ashley for the South – Saloon Messrs Samuels, Simpson and Duncan. Second Cabin Mrs Chipworth and 2 children, Miss Grose, Mr and Mrs Bennett and four children, Mrs and Miss HEDGE, and 4 children Messrs Harvey and Thorpe.

*(Reference Papers past website Wellington Independent newspaper 15 October 1863 page 2)*

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### Publications

- Genealogy Resources in the Hutt Valley edited by Peggy Crawford for the Hutt Valley Group NZSG 1992
  - Upper Hutt – the History by J A Kelleher 1991
  - List of Names and Places from the book Upper Hutt – the history compiled by Janet Doyle June 2005
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