

# Price family to reunite in Portland

HAMILTON woman Lynne Price had always wanted trace her family history.

So when she retired she began her search and uncovered the huge impact her descendants had on the sawmilling industry in the south-west.

The family history started in Plymouth, England, where Richard and Jane Price boarded the *Oithona* in 1854 bound for Portland.

Richard and Jane arrived with six of their eight

children, Joseph, 14, George, 11, Hannah, 10, Sarah, 8, Richard, 3, and James, 1.

William, 7, and Emma, 6, had arrived a month earlier with the Lewis and Owens families from Wales, who were relatives of Richard Lewis, a pioneer Western District landowner from Rifle Downs near Digby.

After their arrival, the Price family continued to increase in size with the arrival of five more children, Charles, Hugh, Mary-Elizabeth, Henry

and Fredrick.

In 1863 Richard Price & Co, a sawmill at Milltown near Heywood, which became one of the first mills in the area to use steam power to drive a vertical saw.

In 1880 Richard, his son James and grandson George, operated a timber yard on the corner of French and Cox streets in Hamilton (on land now occupied by Beaurepaires), as well as running the mill.



A FAMILY affair — three generations of the Price family from the Heywood district: Ted (in front) followed by his son Ewan and his children Marcus, Brittany and Liam.  
Picture: CHRIS RICHES 0090106cr31

Where Hamilton Permeawans stands, in Cox St, was once the shopfront, which adjoined Richard's timber yard, from 1882 to 1885.

Lynne and Hamilton man Rodger Dunn have been

organising the family reunion since October, and are calling on descendants of Richard and Jayne to attend.

The reunion will be in Portland on February 7 and will include the unveiling of

a plaque at the Immigrants Wall at 11 am. Attendees are invited to bring their own picnic lunch to the Portland Angling Club rooms, on the Portland foreshore, where there will be a

display of photographs and memorabilia.

Lynne said she was excited about the day and couldn't wait to get in touch with relatives.

"It's wonderful to get the family together," she said.



THE shopfront that became the face of Price & Co sawmill proprietors, which is at 59 Cox St that is now the face of Permeawans, Hamilton.  
Picture: SUPPLIED