

Meet Jack Scott:

Jack was born in Gore in 1937 and had an older sister. Jack's father was an electrical contractor in Gore and when Jack was 11 years old and playing rugby, he sustained a kick to his lower leg resulting in him contracting osteomyelitis, a rare but serious bone infection. The infection took hold in his knee joint and after some 4 months of treatment, it was decided that amputation of his right leg above the knee was the only option and this took place in Dunedin Hospital. At the time, Jack was attending the local primary school but subsequent to the amputation, he spent a lot of time away from school whilst rehabilitating and left school at age 15 before he started High School to take up a cabinet makers apprenticeship. Jack recalls his first leg being a very simple "peg leg" and spent some 3 years on this before getting a full prosthesis. He said that having to walk 2 miles to work and back again in the evening was physically very demanding which caused him to get cysts removed from his stump on many occasions. After 3 years of his apprenticeship, the family moved to Pareora, south of Timaru, where his father obtained a job as an electrician at the freezing works. Jack took a job at the works for a year but harboured the idea of being able to complete his apprenticeship and after being offered the opportunity to do so with a Timaru firm, he was set to start until his employer found out that he was a "freezing worker" and subsequently cancelled the job offer. He ended up working at Pareora for 28 years after this but would schedule the constant cyst removals for the works "off season" Whilst in Timaru Hospital during one of these visits, he had a very strong argument with a nurse who demanded that he take a sleeping tablet. Three weeks later, he got engaged to that same nurse and 54 years later, Doreen is still telling Jack what to do!!! Jack and Doreen have 2 children, Rex and Sonja and they both live reasonably close to the couple who now live in Rangiora. In 1972, Jack was elected as President of the Canterbury/Nelson & Marlborough Meat Workers Union, a position he held for around 11 years but after being elected as Assistant Secretary of the NZ Meat Workers Union in 1983, he was required to move to Christchurch to take up this role. The family lived in Wairakei Rd and after Jack's retirement in the mid 1990's, they shifted to Kaiapoi where they lived for around 10 years until they lost their home in the 2011 earthquake. They have been living in Rangiora since then and both say they enjoy where they currently live. Through Jack's involvement with the trade union movement and Federation of Labour, he got to know 2 very high profile members, Jim Knox & Ken Douglas. Jack's father introduced him to small-bore rifle shooting aged 14 and within 3 years, Jack had become the Eastern Southland Small-bore Rifle champion. The sport has been a lifelong passion for Jack which culminated in him being selected to represent NZ at the 1974 Commonwealth Games in Christchurch where he placed 11th in the field. He was selected to represent NZ at the 1978 world championships in

Korea but after arriving, found that his rifle stock had been broken in half. The USA gunsmiths repaired his rifle but Jack was only able to get one hour of practice before the event which he feels is the reason for not performing as well as had expected. In 1980, at the trials to select who would represent NZ at the Moscow Olympics, Jack equalled the world record for small-bore at 50 metres with a score of 599/600 and was selected to go to Russia. As we all know now, many countries, including NZ, made a decision to boycott those games and Jack never did get to compete. An invitation was extended by the Russian authorities to the NZ Federation of Labour to attend the games and Jack was approached by Ken Douglas from the Federation asking if Jack would like to be that representative. Of course he accepted and wore his official uniform on a trip he described as absolutely fantastic. Four years ago, his son, Rex, talked Jack into and paid for an Olympic rings tattoo to be inscribed on his arm to acknowledge his attendance at those games.

FAVOURITE ACTIVITIES: Shooting.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Brass band music. Played the cornet and tenor horn in a Gore band when he was young.

FAVOURITE MOVIE: Any Arnold Schwarzenegger movie.

FAVOURITE BOOKS: None in particular but does enjoy reading.

Jack recalls his younger days growing up during WW2 as being very tough on him and his family but does look back on his life as having enjoyed many good times...the best being having an argument with that nurse in Timaru Hospital 54 years ago. Jack has obviously travelled to many places with his shooting, Russia, Korea, Mexico and with Doreen has visited England twice, Europe, Singapore, Hong Kong and the USA.