

Preface

Yesterday we were journeying to Nelson Hospital in the early hours of the morning. We had left Picton at 5.45 am because my appointment was scheduled for 9 am. One never knows what is going to happen on a journey in a vehicle so we made sure we had lots of time up our sleeves.

It was quite hilarious actually – my husband had worn his new shorts and summer shirt, jazzy sunglasses and cap and we had loaded up

heaps of fresh cool water into the car only to get to Nelson to find it was raining. It never rains in Nelson that we know of!

Yet here we were traveling over many hills going up and up and up into clouds of misty rain with the road wet beneath us so we knew it had been happening for some time before we came along.

Eventually, we got to Nelson and it was still raining – we got a great car park though because we were in the midst of early people at the hospital. We arrived in plenty of

time to sit an hour in the waiting room and to write this book in a notebook I just happened to have in my bag, thank goodness!.

As we had climbed the hills into the misty rain I thought of my own ancestors doing the same thing, however, not on any formed roads, certainly not on any worn path and most certainly on foot. They were among the first pioneers to come to this land, therefore the countryside had to be broken in by those who accompanied them on the many

ships arriving in the ports of entry in those days.

I thought of my own great grandmother – raised as a genteel woman leaving her familiar home and extended family behind in Leicestershire – only to arrive in a country where there was nothing except bush, hills and more of the same upon descending into valleys and being forced to climb some more.

So this is how these books have come to be. Her travails into a new

life and her impressions on what was ahead of her.

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The images I have used throughout this book are free. All content is my own. However, please contact me should there be a discretion that you would like me to fix and we can fix it quickly. Links to all outside material are always at the back.

Any quotes from actual text on pages I wanted to include in my references are in the colour blue so

that you can distinguish between my thoughts and the thoughts of others who actually provided me with the insight as to what I wanted to include in my own book.

Watch out for more from me in other areas.

As usual, my email address for correspondence, criticisms or just some love from you is

stories4debbie@gmail.com.

Kind regards

Debbie Nicholson

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