

Well-known NP doctor dies

New Plymouth's first obstetrician and gynaecologist, Dr Thomas Henry Jagusch, died at his New Plymouth home on Saturday aged 68.

Dr Jagusch practised as a specialist in the city for almost 30 years and in that time delivered over 9000 babies.

Born in Auckland in 1909, Dr Jagusch was educated by the Sisters of the Mission in his primary school years and later at Auckland and Mt Albert Grammar Schools.

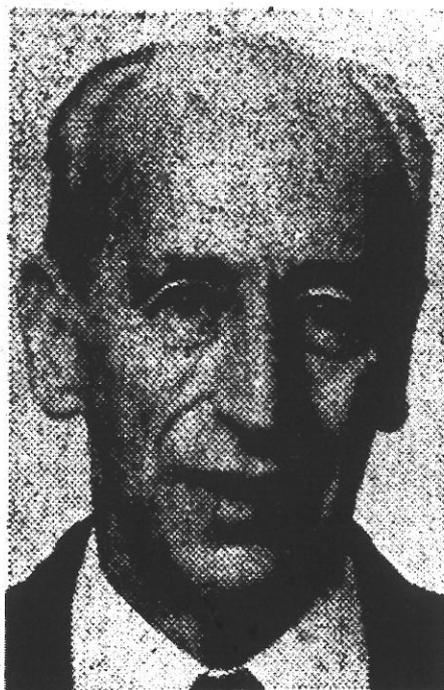
He attended Otago Medical School on a scholarship in 1926 and graduated in 1932, taking up a position of house surgeon at Auckland Hospital.

He came to New Plymouth in 1934 and worked for the late Dr Peter Davie as a locum. Dr Jagusch had originally intended the position as a fill-in until he went to England to study surgery but was encouraged to remain in practice in the city and to complete his training later on.

Delayed

However, the war broke out and his study plans were delayed once more. As a

member of the Fourth Field Ambulance, Dr Jagusch served in the Middle East, and Italy between 1942 and 1945.



Dr Jagusch

After the war it had become increasingly difficult to get to England to further his training so he decided to study gynaecology and obstetrics in Melbourne in 1947.

Dr Jagusch completed his post-graduate studies in 1948 and set up his specialist practice in New Plymouth which he continued until 1975 when he retired for health reasons.

In that time Dr Jagusch had contributed a great deal to the field of obstetrics, in particular, in the province.

He was appointed senior obstetrician and later superintendent of the New Plymouth maternity hospital in Westown after its opening in 1957.

He was responsible for much of the early research in New Plymouth on R.H. babies and helped save many infants' lives in the days before so much was known about the subject.

Dr Jagusch married a sister at Auckland hospital, Beatrice (Trixi) Tunstall-Ashley in 1936 and had three sons.

Keen sportsman

A keen sportsman, he played golf and tennis and in more recent years, bowls.

Dr Jagusch served on many boards and committees, including Red Cross, Plunket, the League of the Hard of Hearing and St John Ambulance.

He was an active member of the Catholic Church and played a part in the establishment of Francis Douglas College.

Dr Jagusch is survived by his wife Trixi and three sons, Karl, Chris and Mark.

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