



The first doctor to settle in the Mosgiel area was Hugh Hutchison Inglis, a Scotsman, who, after practising in Stirlingshire for a time came to Otago in 1863 at age 33.

He took up farm property lying between Johnson farm and the future Gordon Road, hitherto farmed by Arthur Burns, and resided in the house which Burns had built there several years earlier.

Dr Inglis has been described as a heavily built man of about five foot ten inches high, very active in his movements, and not particularly fond of riding. His white horse was well known on Taieri roads and even further afield.

He attended East Taieri church and would sit at in the back seat to be handy if called out.

Like all the Otago doctors of the early days he had to ride over rough tracks in all weathers night and day to deliver the full range of care to patients.

The stresses and burdens of his practice eventually took their toll and he died in 1877 at the comparatively early age of 47. His passing was deeply felt by the local community.

At his funeral a meeting of local settlers was convened and it was agreed “that a memorial tombstone commemorative of the high estimation in which the late doctor was held be erected over his grave.” He had for 15 years, “occupied the position of medical advisor on the Taieri with consummate tact and ability and with the greatest acceptance to the people.” All agreed that “as a consulting physician and family doctor he discharged his duties with exemplary diligence and fidelity.”

His tombstone still stands in the East Taieri cemetery