

GORE BRANCH of the NZ SOCIETY of GENEALOGISTS

February 2008

CONVENOR	Carole Perwick	2038 548	NEXT MEETING	Tuesday 5 February 2008, 7pm.
SECRETARY	Jill Youngson	2086 938		Hokonui Heritage Centre,
TREASURER	Bruce Cavanagh	2084 538		Norfolk Street, Gore
BULLETIN	Avis McDonald	2086 812		
WEBMASTER	Alan Taylor	2089 053		Research night - What you can find in BDM's in the centre
WEB SITE	www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsggb			
NZSG WEB SITE	www.genealogy.org.nz			

December Meeting Report

This was lots of fun and everyone participated with many articles. Supper was beautiful and the social time was enjoyed by all present.

Never Assume Anything...

As well as looking BEFORE, you should always look for a marriage several years AFTER the birth of a child, or even a number of children..

If looking in England and Wales, do remember to use the FreeBMD www.freebmd.org.uk the website that has millions of births, marriages and deaths from the General Register Office RGO indexes.

SPOTLIGHT UPSTAIRS

the latest Electoral Rolls from 1993—2006 are now in the new shelving installed in the FRC . The earlier years are in the stack. There is one shelf designated to the Southland Otago electoral rolls for all the years. Do please use them.

Hearth Tax records -

simply meant = the more hearths you had in your home during the Restoration period, the more tax you paid.. The hearth tax which was introduced 1662 - 1689 is perhaps the most well known and utilized tax in England and Wales.

The upheaval caused by civil war and placed the finances of the crown and the government in a very fragile position.

In theory each hearth or fireplace in the country was liable for a tax of two shillings (20c) per year. This was payable in two installments of one shilling each at Lady Day (25 March) and Michaelmas (29 September).

It was the property occupier who had to pay the tax, rather than the owner.

Some people were exempt from the tax because they could not pay, such as paupers who were receiving parish relief, or people whose houses were less than 1 pound in rent per year, or because the hearth was used for industrial purposes.

The idea was that people lived in a house which was relative to their wealth. Richer people live in bigger house with more rooms, and more hearths, while poorer people had only one or maybe two hearths. As per all taxation, this tax was extremely unpopular and many people bricked up fireplaces they no longer used or needed.

Assessors listed the heads of households in the parish, together with number of hearths in each property.

Where records can be found:

a database is available through TNA's website www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/e179/. Please note that the data base does not contain details of individual names and their payments, but is a database detailing what records survive and the location and dates covered.

Wiksworth in Derbyshire has the hearth returns for 1670 at www.wiksworth.org.uk/97-HTAX.htm.

Hearth tax was imposed in Scotland from 1691 - 1695. Records are held by the National Archives of Scotland. (www.nas.gov.uk/guies/taxation.asp).

After the battle of Trafalgar Nelson's body was brought back to England pickled in a barrel of rum to stop it decomposing on the way home – prior to his death he had ordered that he not be buried at sea...He was buried and Nelson's column is still in Trafalgar Square, London.

Write down what you find and where you found it. What institution? Which collection of records? What volume and page number? Which microfilm reel? Always record the sources you've searched, even if the results are negative

People Who Post Who Disappear

Many of us have changed e-mail addresses over the years. If you change yours, post a message on the message board indicating that you have previously posted there and that you have changed the address. Ask people to respond to that address in future. You might do this as a general message, but it is perhaps more appropriate to post it in a reply to your message postings.

Newspaper clippings

should be photocopied onto acid-free paper. Place the original clipping between buffered paper and store in an archival box. Always keep newspaper separate from other items. Unfortunately, it is extremely acidic and will crumble into small pieces over time. The acids can easily spread to other paper and the buffered paper helps to contain it. Store the acid-free photocopy in a separate alkaline folder or box. (U/v of Virginia Library)

Un believable facts

The bubonic plague in 17 century killed around two million people in a year. But that pales into insignificance when e 1918 influenza pandemic which wiped out 25 million In a few months – remembering there was a much smaller population base in 17th century.

WEBSITE WATCH

<http://armagh.brsgenealogy.com/index.php> - transcriptions of over 320,000 births, nearly 220,000 marriages and almost 16,000 deaths (so far) in County Armagh on a pay per view. Searching is free of charge but 7 pound to view the details of a record.

This is the second website set up for a genealogy centre in the government approved network in Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic, the first one being the Ulster Historical Foundation's site

www.ancestryireland.com transcriptions of 430,00 births, nearly 900,000 marriages and 170,000 deaths for counties Atrim and Down. Similar sites for the remaining 29 Irish counties are set to follow.

<http://tinyurl.com/2wzjh2> - Jewish records at Family Search.

www.ancestry.co.uk free of charge – convict records 1788- 1868, New South Wales bounty immigrats 1828-1842, Anzac Memorial 1914- 1918, convicted rebels in Upper Canada who were transported to Tasmania, convict transportation registers of the 'First Fleet' om 1787 – 1788, and Who's Who in Australia 1921 – 1950.

www.ancestorsonboard.com - which is association with National Archives, on findmypast pay site, has added the complete UK outbound passenger lists forn1909- 1919 including the records for RMS Titanic, to their extensive collection, now spanning 30 years. This includes war brides and their young children travelling to North American after WW1 & WW2, home children sent oby charities to start new lives as far labourers or domestic servants in Canada.

The 1918 Flu Pandemic

He took me in his arms and carried me to see my dead sister before she was carried to the grave. He took me for a last visit to my mother for he thought that both of us would die. But we didn't. We gasped for breath, our chests and throats rattled ith the passage of the hard-won air. We sweated and we shivered, we fainted and revived. Death waited for us but we survived. (From a 1967 radio documentary about the pandemic, 'The Great Plague').

Current anxiety over the danger of avian influenza virus “H5N1“ has revived memories of New Zealand's worst disease outbreak, the lethal influenza pandemic of 1918. In two months New Zealand lost about half as many people to influenza as it had in the whole of the First World War.

FRONT LINE FIRST - AIDERS



Since the 11th century when a hospital was established in Jerusalem to care for sick pilgrims, St John's name has been connected with the care of the sick.

The work of the early 'hospitaller' monks developed into a military religious order of knights dedicated to defending Christianity and care for the sick which, in 1140, established its headquarters in London's Clerkenwell.

This was dissolved by Henry the Eighth, the Order of St John was later revived and in 1877 founded the St John Ambulance Association to carry on the tradition of caring for the sick. It did this by providing instruction to the general public in first aid, elementary hygiene and home nursing.

Did you know....?

The twin mottoes of the order of St John are Pro Fide (For Faith) and Pro Utilitate Hominum (In the Service of Humanity)

Like the British Red Cross the Brigade did sterling work in the First World War but the threat of a new war saw their activities expand.

By 1939 over 250,000 people had gained St John certificates of how to cope with injuries caused by poison gas and bombs dropped from the air

The Red Cross and St John established a JWO (Joint War Organization) to avoid duplication work and fundraising activities.

When World War 11 broke out trained volunteers formed many first aid parties that were first on the scene of any bombing incident. Others acted as stretcher bearers for hospitals and ambulance ships. Volunteers were assigned to work as stretcher bearers on 30 civilian ambulance trains kept in railway sidings outside major British cities. These trains were aside to evacuate the mass casualties expected as a result of air attacks

POW relief - The JWO set up a POW department to record captured British servicemen, sent food and clothing parcels to POW camps.

I wish to express my sincere thanks for the wonderful caring support members have given me during my recent health problems. Thank You Everyone—Avis