



GORE BRANCH of the NZ SOCIETY of GENEALOGISTS

NEWSLETTER – November 2009

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WEB SITE	www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsggb	
NZSG WEB SITE	www.genealogy.org.nz	

**November Meeting – transferred to Dunedin
Wednesday 11 November, leaving Gore 5.30pm
to be hosted by the Dunedin Family History Group
'Researching in a Dunedin Cemetery' –history of
Dunedin cemeteries,
\$2 plus car pool / petrol cost.**

October Meeting - Heather Bray ... Shipping
This was a fabulous night with many members and visitors attending. It was educational, entertaining and enjoyed by all. Sincere thanks to Judy Pulley for the creation and placing of posters advertising the event.

Time-line of shipping to New Zealand

From approximately 1839-1853, the New Zealand Company brought passengers to Wellington, Nelson and New Plymouth

From 1848 - approximately 1852 the Otago Association brought passengers to Otago.

From 1850-1853 the Canterbury Association brought passengers to Canterbury.

From 1853-1870, each provincial government was responsible for immigration.

In 1870, the central government, under Vogel, took over control of immigration.

Reasons why you may not be able to find passengers on shipping lists.

People travelled under false names. Possibly they were hiding their identity to escape crimes, unwanted pregnancies or to escape from their unhappy marriages. However in some cases they would have travelled by assisted passage which could be limited to their age in some counties in certain time periods. In the 1840s it was easy to obtain false baptism certificates from hawkers in London for assisted passage to Australia.

The port your ancestor sailed from or arrived at may be different from your understanding. The immigrants did not necessarily travel from A - B. Some may have gone to Canada, USA or Australia before coming to New Zealand. Births and deaths which occurred on a ship were registered in the country of the ship owners. Passenger Lists may differ. Lists were compiled when the passengers boarded the ship and again when they arrived. Some passengers did not sail after initially boarding. Others died on the voyage.

Many trans-Tasman vessels often carried up to 40 illegal passengers during the height of the gold rushes. These passengers were often bought ashore at places such as Waikouaiti, Port Molyneux or Riverton. Remember vessels made more than one trip to New Zealand so make sure you have the right voyage.

Scottish wives often retained their maiden names although they were travelling with their husband. Always check for women under both names. Ages of children were altered. Small children usually always appeared as a one year old. Children under 2 years qualified for more arrowroot, so the ages of small children were sometimes adjusted down to 2. Older children were reduced in age also to avoid them being separated from the family group and placed with the single men and women. Passenger lists were often printed in the newspaper of the port of arrival.

Keep a list of all passengers for future reference. They may be related or become relatives by marriage later. The Vogel scheme operated 1870- 1890s. Look for neighbours and check on occupations.

To Trace a ship

..Look for clues within the family - child named after the ship or the captain

..Look for newspaper notices - both for arrivals and departures..Death certificates tell you how long someone has lived in New Zealand - but beware of Intention to Marry details.

Obituaries

..Group arrivals - Occupation / schemes / religion / military e.g. Chelsea pensioners

..Look for collections of journals or diaries which could give a clue to your families arrival

..Neighbours in small communities - often travelled together and then settled together - check census

..Check for school rolls - when a child was enrolled - last school may give clues to when the family arrived.

..Check directories, electoral rolls, land records etc for clues as to when the family first appears in this country.

New Irish data online.

Places to look for shipping information
Letters of Embarkation for passengers pre 1853 are available at Archives New Zealand and also on microfilm at the Family History Library (part of the Latter Day Saints).

NIPS (newspaper index to passenger shipping) pre 1862, and 1862 - 1872.

Available only at the Otago Settlers Museum.

OASP (Otago Southland Assisted Passengers) 1872 - 1888. Available in Hocken

Collections and at the Otago Settlers Museum.

<http://www.ancestoronboard.com> 1890 - 1960
freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/nzbo
und/hints.htm - genealogy
links / newzealand/nzships

People living in New Zealand who wished to sponsor immigrants had to own property of 10 pound, and had to be in the country for 1 year or more before 1870 on Debtors list.

Catholic Diocese of Christchurch Baptism Index

A new updated CD (version 1.2) (Gore Branch of NZSG has purchased the first version and it will be available at the Heritage Centre) is now available covering baptisms between 1840 and June 1908 This new updated version includes an additional 2500 names.

The cost of the CD is \$20 plus \$2 postage. If people have the earlier version of the index, by trading in that index, the cost will be reduced to \$10. The CD is available from:

Archives - Baptism Records

Catholic Diocese of Christchurch
PO Box 4544
Christchurch

Email: receptionists@chch.catholic.org.nz

Caitlins Bound: The Maritime Crew's Southern Tour
St Andrew's Church, Gore
7.30pm Thursday 19 November 2009-11-01
Admission: Adults \$10.00.
Book and CD Launch.

Ireland

For Irish family historians the most important news is the completion of 32 counties of the 1911 Census which is available free at www.census.nationalarchives.ie. Full transcriptions of all data on the household forms should be available now. Waterford Central Library has acquired the Roman Catholic parish registers for the city and county.

Three Northern Ireland organizations release important new data.. Street directories of Northern Ireland from 1819 – 1900 are available at

www.proni.gov.uk/index/search_the_archives/street_directories.htm Among the directories are 16 editions or parts of *The Belfast and Province of Ulster Directory from 1858 – 1900 and 13 others between 1819 – 1952*. They mainly cover Belfast but some cover Armagh, Londonderry and elsewhere. They include free only collections of Ulster Covenants, freeholders records and will calendars.

A name index of 36,000 records is expected to add another 46,000. The Irish Family History Foundation has added 800,000 baptism, birth marriage, death and census records for County Derry to its website www.brsgenealogy.com this brings the total number of records covering both Northern Ireland and the Republic to more than 16 million. Records cost 5 pound each but basic searches are free to registered members of the site.

1911 Census

Findmypast has made the 1911 census available as a subscription lot. The data was completed earlier at www.1911census.co.uk but was only available on a pay per view basis.

Free Welsh Wills.

The National Library of Wales has now on line around 190,000 wills that were proved in Welsh ecclesiastical courts before civil probate registration began in 1858. You can search the wills index by date, location, occupation and name for FREE at <http://cat.llgc.org.uk/probate> At the date of launch probate records covered the following courts. Bangor. 1635-1858; Brecon 1543-1858; Chester (Welsh) 1557-1858; Hwarden, 1554-1858; Llandaff (Cardiff), 1568-1857; St Asaph 1565 – 1857; and St David's 1556-1858.

HAVE YOU TRIED...?

It's obvious when you think about it - but have you ever thought about it? From 1912 onwards the General Register Office birth indexes show the mother's maiden name - which offers a new way to search for young twigs on the branches of your family tree, because at some sites you can search on maiden name alone. Even if you don't know who your female relatives married, you may still be able to find the births of their children - just so long as the surname isn't a common one.

FreeBMD has very good coverage up to 1931, so this is one tip that won't cost you a penny to try!

Scotland – break through your brick walls with Kirk Session minutes. These are available at The National Archives of Scotland, but there are plans to make them available online at www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk. Scottish ministers had an obsession with investigating antenuptial fornication!