

Gore Branch of New Zealand of Genealogists

October 2010

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Next Meeting

2 November 2010 at 8 pm
Speaker: **Jim Crighton** – restoring old photos and care of them. Bring one of your old photos that you need help with.
Hostesses – Margaret McDonald

Branch News –September 2010

Due to a change in the programme this was a quiet Research night that was appreciated by all, with some members discovering new material from

Hints for new members

A few months or years after receiving birth, death or marriage certificates, go back and study them. Sometimes the answer to that brick wall is there all the time. You ignored it because you didn't need it at the time.



Deepest sympathy is extended to Rosalie McLean in the loss of her loved husband, Jack this month.

NZ Old Age Pensions

Old Age Pensions Act 1898 provided for small pensions for the deserving aged and the poor. The Social Security Act 1938 provided for 2 different benefits for the elderly.

1. Superannuation - not subject to a means test; at age 65. Known often as the Universal Superannuation.
2. Age benefit - payable at age 60 but means tested on any other income.

Also payable at 55 to women unable to support themselves.

1976 National Superannuation payable to all reaching 60 and not means tested.

In about 1990 the age was increased to 65 with a means tested pension payable at graduated years to protect people who were close to retirement.

Other than the one example state pensions were all the same for men and women.

However, if people were public servants, PO, teachers, nurses etc who contributed from their pay to the Government Superannuation Fund or the Local Authority Fund there was a pension available to men after 40 years service and for women age 55 or 40 years which ever came first.

More about Directories

As well as the Wises or NZPO directories (Wises were franchised by the NZPO); there are Stones Directories for most parts of the country apart from Auckland, which are in several volumes by province (eg Canterbury or Wellington etc). Wises and Stones both have householders; there are various 19th century business directories.

Filius Nillius which is Illegitimate –

Always remember that the term illegitimate in early Roman Catholic records can mean that the parents were married in a religion other than Catholic, which in turn meant that in the eyes of the Church the children were illegitimate although in civil terms they were legitimate. – One father in the Eastern Southland area registered his 6 children which all had red ink 'illegitimate' scrawled across them because he could or would not remember his marriage date.

1911 Electoral Roll now available

Thanks to Diane Wilson and her Chocolate Fish Indexing Team, NZSG has now published the 1911 New Zealand Electoral Roll on CD. The latest in this series is, like its predecessors, searchable across all the electorates in the country, making it a simple matter to locate ancestors who had moved electorates since the previous enrolment, or whose electorate boundaries had changed. The 1911 General Election in New Zealand saw over 590,000 people registered to vote. This CD contains the lists of citizens who were eligible to vote and includes electorate maps from Alan McRobie's New Zealand Electoral Atlas. Available now for purchase from the NZSG website, in person or by post from the Family Research Centre. Price \$50. Order reference: CD113

***** **Writing Family Histories – Try this.**

http://genealogy.about.com/od/writing_family_history/a/write.htm



NZSG AGM and Conference – Dunedin, 3-6 June 2011

Keep this date in your calendar. There will be lots of resources, lectures and workshops.

Members interests: Elaine Grant

My Great Grandfather, John Barr Wilson, born in Ayrshire, Scotland in 1839. The whole family shifted to Canada and settled near Toronto and then to Illinois where they took up land near Plainfield, some 40 miles from Chicago.

When he was grown up he came to the goldfields of New Zealand, arriving at Port Chalmers in 1862 in the good ship *Aboukir*.

He took up a claim in the Cromwell district at Quartz Reef Point opposite Lowburn. My grandmother was born there. She was Isabella Russell Wilson and married H. H. Hull. Mr Wilson's wife was Margaret Dickson Wilson.

When the Knapdale Estate was auctioned in 1877, he bought a piece of land. No roads, only tussocks. He built a number of the settlers' homes. His farm was called "Plainfield". at Knapdale.

Members Interests: Terry Moulin

My mother was St Helen Violet "Ray" Holmes, so hows THAT for a name for starters!! She was born in Christchurch in 1915. Her mum was violet HOOD, born Christchurch 1887, Ray's grandmother was Charlotte DOBBS, born Christchurch area 1856 and Rays Great Grandmother was most like Catherine WEBSTER, born 1810 in Scotland. (Terry's only traceable Scottish connection). Catherine's

husband was Henry DOBBS, born 1801 in Queens county, Ireland. He immigrated to NZ in 1855 arriving at Lyttleton on the 'Colchester' via Melbourne with 5 children. He wed Catherine in 1831 in Edinburgh. She died 1841. Next wife was Frances

TOMLINSON, born 1815, Ireland, wed 1848, died 1855; next Harriet CLARKE, born 1812 Christchurch, wed 1861, died 1868, 4th, and final wife Belinda Kerridge, born Suffolk, England, wed 1868, died 1879. These wives had many and various attempts at arranging their offspring in Rubik cub like puzzles. A lot of which I'm still persevering with!

Mums Dad was Joseph HOLMES, born 1874 in Christchurch, wed 1895, died 1944, his dad was William HOLMES born 1847, Donegal, wed 1868, died 18?? He wed Sarah ORR born 1844 Ireland. William's dad was Andrew HOLMES born Ireland, he wed Rebecca ALLEN. My Mums paternal grandfather was Arthur Hood, born 1850, Staffordshire, died 1920 in Paparoa Prison!. He wed Carrie DOBBS in 1877, she died 1940 in Christchurch.

My Dad was born in Port Melbourne, as was his sister with the other three born Christchurch. Dad was born

1899 and died 1982 in Gore, as was my Mom in 2002. Dad's father was born by the Catlins River in 1876 (along with his elder brother attended South School in Invercargill). He wed Mary McGRATH in 18797, & died 1938 Christchurch. Mary was born Bombay.

Dads grandfather was Francois MOULIN born 18511 in Brittany, he wed Susan LE FEUVRE in 1872 in Jersey; Frank died where and how?. The story is he was a slave trader!. Possibly leaving NZ through Campbelltown (Bluff). Susan went to Australia and died in South Melbourne in 1824. Her mum was Marie MAUGER and Dad was Pierre. Frank's dad was Etienne (Steven to you and me).

Sincere thanks to Elaine and Terry for these items

Historic Hospital Admission

Glasgow Sick Kids Records

Brilliant news from the Records Project <http://hharp.org>
Welcome to HHARP, the home of 19th century children's hospital records

We are very pleased to announce the addition of a new database of admission records to the HHARP website: the Royal Glasgow Sick Children's Hospital. Covering the period 1883 (when the hospital first opened) to 1903, the database offers insight into the health of the poor child in the Scottish city of Glasgow, complementing databases already available for three London hospitals: the Hospital for Sick Children at Great Ormond Street, the Evelina Hospital and the Alexandra Hospital for Children with Hip Disease. In HHARP family historians can find patients by name, medical historians can study childhood diseases and investigate pioneering medical staff, while demographers can analyse incidence of disease in Victorian and Edwardian London. It provides access to nearly 120,000 individual admission records between 1852 and 1914; and a collection of articles on the early history of the hospitals, pen-portraits of personalities who inhabited them and a gallery of images.

GENE' WEB MAGIC

The following link will take you to a pilot project of the Church of Latter Day Saints which is preparing the New Zealand Immigration Passenger Lists, 1871-1915. This project is currently 17% complete. Click on the following link to search for your immigrant. You are able to view the image of the passenger list and the images I found were good scans.
<http://pilot.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#p=collectionDetails&c=fs%3A1609792>

Scotlands People website has recently launched a new version of the site with new and advanced features including improved and advanced search functions. Explore it at
<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>.

This website may be of help for dating old photographs
<http://www.cartes.freeuk.com/time/date.htm>

NZ BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES PRICE INCREASE

The new charge for electronic printouts are:

- Pre 31 Dec 1874 is now \$26.50
- Post 1874 is now \$20.50

Remember that for family history purposes an 'electronic printout' is the record to request. You will, in most cases, receive an image of the handwritten bdm registration that was originally copied from the registers in the registration districts and returned quarterly to the registrar general in Wellington. Only get a bdm 'certificate' if required for legal purposes.
Thanks to Balclutha for this info.

THE RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

From Ancestry. com

Quarter Days and Term Days – British Isles

In the Middle Ages, people's lives were regulated by the Church Calendar. The Reformation swept away the authority of the Catholic Church but it did not change the observance of many special anniversary days, in particular those that were important to the agriculture year. Many documents referred to in family history make reference to these days and our ancestors took part in these events,

Quarter days and term days marked all sorts of secular events; e.g. Rents and payments were due and taxes were collected and periods of hire of labourers began and ended.

Quarter Days in England, Wales and Ireland

LADY DAY

25 March was the beginning of the year until 1752, at least for the Established Church and for legal matters. Labourers who were hired at fairs in February began their year of work at Lady Day. Half yearly rent and Taxes were paid on this day.

MIDSUMMER

24 June, Midsummer was probably celebrated in English Parishes by a church-ale, a fund raising event for the parish and so named because good stout ale was supplied.

MICHAELMAS

29 September. MICHAELMAS, or the Feast of St Michael and the All Angels, in the Church of England. Yearly and half yearly rents and taxes were collected.

CHRISTMAS DAY

25 December, Christmas Day, a break before the round of work began again, for tillage started at Candlemas.

Term Days in Scotland

CANDLEMAS

2 February, Candlemas, which fell 40 days after Christmas, marked the presentation of the infant Jesus in the temple and the purification of the Virgin Mary. Though not a quarter day in England, it was when important agriculture fair days were held.

WHITSUNDAY

Originally a moveable term day, coming the Seventh Sunday after Easter, was fixed in Scotland at 15 May 1693. It was originally the feast of Pentecost, around which a great many Christenings would occur, so it became associated with the colour white.

LAMMAS DAY

1 August, feast of St Peter and Vincula, was a corruption of Loaf Mass, the Sunday on which the first fruits of harvest were offered, first corn ground, and first loaf made. In Scotland it was associated with

hand-fasting and some fairs were called hand-fasting fairs (originally synonymous with betrothal.) Hand-fasting became a contract binding a man and a woman to live together for a year and a day before they decided on permanent marriage.

MARTINMAS

11 November, was known as St Martin in Winter or St Martin of Tours to distinguish this from another feast of St Martin in July.

Historical interchange between Scotland and Northern Ireland e.g. Co. Tyrone

This was an answer to a question given by John Wilson from the NZSG Members List.

The Presbyterians of Northern Ireland were attracted to Scotland as the established and favoured Church of Ireland which then was the Episcopal Church.

There was a daily packet boat between Donaghdee, County Down and Wigtown, and in the 1759-1826 period Portpatrick was known as the "Gretna Green" for Ireland as the minister overlooked requirements about banns or the period of residence; according to Arthur Black who transcribed the recorded Irish irregular marriages in that period.

See reference in Wikipedia article:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/portpatrick> x to Mosgiel Branch

Webb Sites

Enter your birth date, or ancestors date. This is a fun site

<http://www.paulsadowski.com/birthdata.asp>

Some hospital records at National Archives

<http://genealogy-new-zealand.blogspot.com/2010/09/hospital-records.html>

Researching at Wanganui

<http://genealogy-new-zealand.blogspot.com/2010/09/researching-at-wanganui.html>

Passengers leaving Victoria. The Prov.

<http://genealogy-new-zealand.blogspot.com/2010/09/passengers-leaving-victoria.html>

Record clues from Paperspast

<http://genealogy-new-zealand.blogspot.com/2010/09/record-clues.html>

NSW State Archives

<http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/news/additions-to-the-orphan-schools-index>

New series added - NRS 798, Indentures of Apprentices, 1822-33 - with almost 200 new entries to search.

Unassisted Inward Passenger Lists to Victoria 1852-1923

www.prov.vic.gov.au/indexes/index_search.asp?searchid=23.

Wellington arrivals are available on the Petone Settlers Museum database at the Hutt City Council site:

<http://www.huttcity.govt.nz/templates/StandardWithUserControl.aspx?id=1756>

A chart of the cost of passage in 1849 to various world places from the UK:

<http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/fares/1849.htm>

Australian research

<http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au/familyHistory/familyHistory.htm>

you can also purchase certificates from the same site. www.ancestry.co.uk has recently uploaded several parish registers for London city; births & baptisms 18143-1906, marriages & banns 1754-1921 & deaths & burials 1813-1980 www.vic.gov.au civil registration records start at 1837

Your Ancestors Occupations

Often found on census www.census-helper.co.uk/census-abbreviations or marriage, birth or death certificates, wills and obituaries, trade directories www.historicaldirectories.org and business records www.nre.nationalarchives.gov.uk

Different parts of the country (Britain) are strongly associated with certain industries Skilled manual workers and middle class employees left far more evidence of their employment.

Professionals – law, medicine, army of the church. Some sections are at Ancestry www.ancestry.co.uk barbers and Anglican clergy in Britain www.corckford.org.uk www.theclergydatabase.org.uk Important appointments and promotions were noted in the London Gazette www.gazettes-online.co.uk

Top three occupational websites:

Coalmining History Center At the beginning of the 20th century more than one million people worked in mining www.cmhrc.co.uk includes a database of mining deaths and injuries, covering 90,000 people, as well as location maps, the history of the industry and an extensive photo gallery.

The Police History Society www.policehistorysociety.co.uk is a network for all police history. It provides links to every police museum and related historical society.

The Institute of Railway Studies. In 1900 Britain's railway employed 620,000 people in a bewildering array of jobs, maintaining a network that stretched to every part of Britain www.york.ac.uk/inst/irs/irshome/features/features.htm. This is the leading center for the study of the history of transport and mobility.

Thousands of obsolete occupations have now died out, leaving these unusual and often amusing terms.

Billeter – made moulds used for casting bells

Bottom knocker – worked in the potter industry checking fired pots were sound

Farm servant or male farm servant – an unmarried person who live on the farm. Once he married he became an **agriculture worker**. If he lived in a 'tied' cottage on the farm he was a tied worker.

Fellmonger – removed wool and hair from sheep and cattle hides in preparation for tanning

Framework knitter (FWK) knitted woollen cloth, mainly in East Midlands

Herring gutters – females who followed the herring fishing boats along the coast

Hooker – a type of agricultural worker or someone who made the hooks and eyes to fasten shoes

Lorimer (or Loniner) – made the small metal pieces for horse harnesses and other small pieces of metal wear

Patten Maker – made a type of clog usually worn around shoes

Scutcher – worked in NZ flaxmilling industry – the machine removed the tangles, dust and vegetation from bleached and dried fibre before it was sent to the rope and twine factory

Stripper Feeder – NZ flaxmill worker who fed the flax into the stripper which removed the green vegetation from the blades of flax

Quarrell Pickers – worked in the glass industry

Upright Worker – a chimney sweep.

You can find the meanings of more strange occupations at <http://remhh.co.uk/occup/index.html>.

Early Pioneer Laundry Days.

The washing was often done outside until wash houses became part of houses. Scrubbing boards with animal fat soap was back breaking work. Then the fire under the copper had to be lit, and the clothes boiled, then removed with a strong stick to



be rinsed in large laundry tubs. Soapy water was precious, and whites were done first, then darker clothing. Water was squeezed out by hand. Early washing machines were hand operated with three copper inverted lampshade shapes that moved around inside of bowl. The mangle saved these early pioneer women hours of back breaking work, and their skin on their hands. It squeezed the water out of clothes when the handle was turned. Thorough rinsing included a blue rinse for 'the whites' and then the clothing was put back through the wringer and pegged out on the low single wire clothes line with a wooden pole to push it up higher to catch the wind. Electric agitator washing machines in the 1930's, had electric rubber coated wringers with a release bar which was essential when a child's hand and arm was caught.

Automatic washing machines were a great improvement because they removed far more water out of clothes. Europe, Canada, USA and Asia countries favour front loading machines which tend to use less water.