

Gore Branch of New Zealand of Genealogists August 2011

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Next Meeting
 2nd August 2011 at 8 pm
Photographs – care and storage
Speaker Vicky Muir from
 Donald Buckley's
Supper hostesses -
 Isobel Agnew/Alwyn Cavanagh

Branch News –July Meeting

Several members brought their picture they wished to write a story on. Although no one actually wrote anything, the homework was a catalyst to start writing. Elaine Scott described her picture of the Clarendon hotel, in early Invercargill that Rebecca Smith from the Library found for her. Avis did the same with a photo of her grandparents' old Shetland croft in Gruting.

Edinburgh: 300,000+ Burial and Cremation Records Added to Deceased Online

Nearly 1 million Scottish burial and cremation records are now available. 313,000 records for Edinburgh's Seafield Cemetery and Crematorium and for Warriston Crematorium are now on www.deceasedonline.com. Nearly 39,000 burial records dating from 1888 to the present day for Seafield Cemetery feature scans of mortality registers (with many of them including details of the type of hearse used!).

Over 49,500 records from 1939 for Seafield Crematorium are available as scans of cremation register pages. Records for Warriston Crematorium, numbering nearly 225,000 and dating back to 1929, are available as scans of cremation registers. *Please note: records up to 1991 are immediately available – records after this date are still being uploaded but will be available shortly.*

The combined Edinburgh dataset of 313,000 means that the total Deceased Online database for Scotland now numbers just under 1 million burial and cremation records.

Australian Irish

National Museum of Australia
<http://www.nma.gov.au/irish/> Many Irish did cross the ditch after being in Australia. Even if they came to NZ directly there are lots of tips.

Hints for new members

Civil registration of BDMs was compulsory for Pakeha since 1847 and for Maori since 1911 (marriages) and 1913 (births & deaths), but this does not mean the records are either accurate or complete.

www.familysarch.org has, births and marriages but **does NOT have deaths.**

Try the NZSG land research service for Land records- which you can contact via landresearch@genealogy.org.nz and give them as much information as possible.



WHO'S WHO IN THE WORLD OF COUSINS

It is easy to get confused about how to describe relationships with cousins when talking about your own family tree.

Here are some easy rules to remember:

• First, second, third cousins:

First cousins share the SAME grandparents.

Second cousins share the SAME great grandparents (But not the same grandparents).

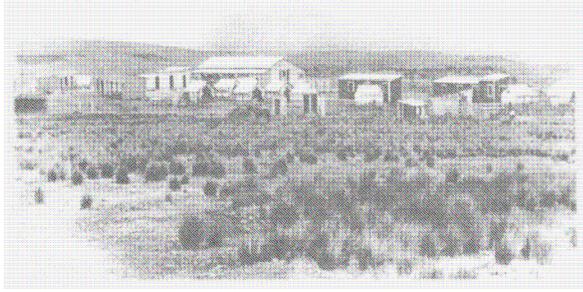
Third cousins share the SAME great-great great grandparents (But not the same great grandparents or the same grandparents) etc.

• **Cousins removed:** When the word 'removed' is used to describe a relationship, it indicates that the two people are from different generations. Your mother's cousin is one generation different from yourself; hence she is your first cousin once removed. Your grandmother's first cousin would be your first cousin twice removed.

• **Cross-cousins:** This is the child of your mother's brother or your father's sister

• **Double first cousins:** This term is used for the children produced when a set of brothers marries a set of sisters, or a brother and a sister marry another brother or sister.

• **Parallel (Ortho-) cousins:** This is the child of your mother's sister or your father's brother. X Blenheim Branch



Waipiata Sanatorium 1914

The first sanatorium at Waipiata was established in 1911 and was owned by Dr George Byres, a Scottish physician who emigrated to New Zealand in 1909. Dr Byres' sanatorium consisted of wooden buildings and shelters situated on the slope of the Rock and Pillar foothills in the Maniototo region. It was capable of treating twelve patients. In 1912 it was purchased, along with almost 1300 acres of surrounding farmland, stock, and the water rights of Pigburn Creek, by eight health boards of the lower South Island. In 1923 the Waipiata Sanatorium Committee was formed to administer the sanatorium. Dr Byres continued to manage the sanatorium until 1923 when the Committee appointed Dr Arthur Kidd as medical superintendent. After two years of construction, it could hold fifty-five patients when it was officially opened in 1925. The sanatorium grew to a maximum of 148 patients in the postwar years, after which time the numbers decreased as chemotherapy reduced the need for sanatorium care. Waipiata was always a relatively small institution. By 1961 the sanatorium was considered obsolete, and was sold to the Department of Justice and converted into a youth borstal.

X Barbara Cunningham

Index of records in the Netherlands, especially marriages at this stage (records are being progressively added):
<http://www.genlias.nl/en/search.jsp>

"The information in Genlias is taken directly from the Civil Register, the most important Dutch source for genealogical research. Since 1811 the events in the life of every person in the Netherlands – birth, marriage and death – have been systematically recorded. Marriage records from all provinces are currently being entered into the system. After that most of the participating archives will start entering records of birth and death. Before 1811 the churches, and sometimes local authorities, kept records of baptisms, weddings and funerals. Some of these records are also being added to Genlias."

A TREASURE TROVE OF SHIP PASSENGER RECORDS GO ONLINE

continued from June issue

Similarly to today, the records reveal a high number of retirees also travelled to Australia to spend the rest of their lives in the sun, with 17,385 retirees emigrating from the UK during the 1950s.

Furthermore, 140,511 housewives travelled to Australia in the same decade.

The records also show that there were 58 divorcees and 215 widowers listed who may have journeyed to the country to make a fresh start.



Rhoda Breakell, head of Genes Reunited, comments: "The wealth of passenger list records now available on Genes Reunited is an invaluable resource for people tracing relatives they believe may have left the UK from 1890 onwards. [The passenger records may very well provide a missing link for many family historians who have hit a brick wall in their research, as well as helping those outside of the UK to trace back to their British and European heritage." The easily-searchable and user-friendly database will enable would-be genealogists and family historians alike to view digitized images of the original ship passenger records online, which contain over 1.1 million pages, listing the 24 million passengers who travelled on long-distance journeys from UK ports. From Genes Reunited June2011 and x to Blenheim Branch

"The A to J's are the Appendices to the Journals of the House of Representatives.

They are the documentary record of every report, memo, document, and correspondence tabled in the NZ House of Representatives. The A to J's website works just like Papers Past, and in fact uses the same technological platform. It has only been around since late last year, and we have just added new content (as of yesterday) - it now covers 1861 - 1906, 116 volumes, and something like 128,000 pages. Aside from being a social and political record of great significance, it is also becoming a genealogical resource of some use – it is chock full of lists of names.

The address is <http://atojs.natlib.govt.nz> "

DISASTERS in PLURAL

How can we prevent losses of historic documents, caused by fires, floods, earthquakes, burst water pipes, or even building collapses? All of those sad events raise a question: "How can we salvage what is left?"

The quick answer is: **"PLAN NOW for future disasters."** Are **YOUR genealogy records** backed up and stored in a different place or home. Use A. B C method and keep changing them up to date each month.

FRANK JAMES KEMSHED by Margaret Allan

FRANK JAMES KEMSHED was my Great Grandfather, an interesting character. It seems that the name KEMSHEAD or KEMSHED is derived from the Anglo-Saxon words KEM – CEMBAN – to comb, and SHEAD or SHED – to separate. From these words were derived the occupations of Kember (male), and Kempster (female) which meant Wool or flax combers or shedders. It used to be a common name in East Anglia when sheep were the main “crop” in that part of the country. The name is apparently pronounced in England as KEMSHED.

I consider myself fortunate to have gleaned many facts about Frank Kemshed through looking up references on the Papers Past website. Being an uncommon name meant that there were few other conflicting references to sort through.

Frank, one of seven children, was the second youngest child of Joseph and Mary Ann (nee Hone) KEMSHED. He was born on 4th November 1854 at Gold Street, Northampton, England. Northampton was the shoemaking centre for the United Kingdom. His father’s work shows that he eventually followed his gifting, which was evident in the family too. The UK censuses from 1841 to 1891 state that he was a bootmaker, boot and shoe manufacturer, general dealer, music dealer, and music dealer seller. The 1871 census mentions that his sons Joseph W. and Henry J. were piano tuners and Thomas Hone, the oldest son was a concertina tuner.

Frank ‘s mother wrote an inscription in his Bible, dated 27th January 1882, which makes me think he was about to head away from home. I have not yet found out the name of the ship he emigrated on and do not know why he came to New Zealand. Maybe he was an adventurer. Oamaru was the place where he settled for about seventeen years. In 1883 the St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church records state that a harmonium “and a borrowed one at that!” was used in the church for the first time, when Mr. Kemshed was appointed organist. He resigned in 1890, was reinstated a few months later, and continued in that position until 1896. My Great Grandmother Selina Amy SPEDDING, a teacher at Oamaru North School, sang in the choir at St. Paul’s. They married at the Spedding family home in Manor Place, Dunedin on January 3rd 1887. My grandmother Marion Amy, b. 17th November 1887, Frank Mervyn b. 28th August 1890, Donald Stuart Macfarlane b. 9th May 1894 were born in Oamaru and Percy James arrived on 12 April 1896 while the family were in Caversham, Dunedin.

Frank’s older brother Thomas, his wife and daughter arrived in Wellington on the Copic, on 29th July 1891. They must have lived for a short time with Selina Amy and Frank in Reed Street, Oamaru, before settling in at Till Street. In 1892 Frank leased St. George’s Hall (the present Waitaki Electric Power Board building) and set up a music warehouse in Thames Street. By 1894 he took on an agency for Chas. Begg, Dunedin. Music tuition was offered, instruments were available for hire or sale. Both Frank and Thomas were capable musicians, playing the violin, and they were associated with the local Brass band. The Otago Witness 27th April 1893 states ‘An impromptu smoke concert was held in Delargey’s commercial room. Mr. Kemshed, late conductor of one of her Majesty’s bands, officiating at the piano. This gentleman favoured the company with four or five piano solos, one violin, one banjo and one organ, while he was also good at fairy tales.’ He could also play the double bass.

Frank worked as an Insurance Agent in Dunedin, was a keen cyclist, dabbled in painting, tried trick photography and recorded his children singing. He had a quirkish sense of humour, and wrote a hilarious account of the trip he and his brother Thomas had made to Pembroke (Wanaka). (I wish we could find the book in which it was written!) Following the death of both parents in 1897, Frank travelled back to the UK, arriving there in June 1898, to collect his inheritance and have an extended holiday. It seems that he invested unwisely in diamond mines and lost his money. His brother Thomas must have left Oamaru for the UK, as he is mentioned in the 1901 census as ‘professionist violinist’. On his return to NZ, Frank and the family briefly returned to Oamaru, before shifting to Bell Street, Wanganui, where he took up a position with the Government Life Insurance Department. His last years were spent in Wellington where he died on 20th July 1905. He was buried at the Anderson’s Bay Cemetery in Dunedin. Selina Amy and my Grandmother Marion Amy (Haig) share the same plot.

I THINK I would like to have met him, but if he was such a stickler for detail as my great Uncle Stuart KEMSHED, I’m not so sure!! It certainly didn’t go down well with me when I met him as a teenager!

I haven’t had a great deal of success trying to follow the other family members in England, though will work on that one of these days. Frank’s son Mervyn died in World War One and is buried in France, Stuart married Frances Ronaldson, taught for more than forty years at Timaru Boys High School and had no family. Percy married Winifred Porter and his two daughters Muriel Sloan and Shirley Murcott are in their late eighties and early nineties. It has been a pleasure to meet them. Their descendants are in England, Australia and New Zealand. My Grandma (mother to eight children) has many descendants and I’m pleased that there is a real sense of “family” between us all. Our shared heritage is special, despite the imperfections.

WEBSITE WATCH

NEW ZEALAND PROBATES

www.familysearch.org FamilySearch has begun to make images of some New Zealand probates available online. They have an extensive Nelson collection and some for Marlborough. They are not indexed and you need to browse the images. They are in file number sequence, so it helps to know the Archives New Zealand file number to work your way towards your target. But the file images aren't numbered and it is useful if you have the NZSG CD-ROM Index Version 5 to check your progress with your search.

Lots of data can be dug out of the web for free via search engines like **Google.co.uk**.

www.census.ac.uk/guides/Of.aspx#2 – PDF copies for the UK from 1971, 1981, 1991 & 2001

www.mocavo.com a free search engine for family history research, indexing only sites related to genealogy.

www.ancestry.com – revamped Irish collection with many new records added. Applotment Books 1824- 1837 with 600,000 land tax records, giving a snapshot of Ireland before mass emigration due to potato famines, Griffith's Valuation from 1848 – 1864. Lawrence Collection of Photographs from 1870 – 1910. Over 21,000 images covering every Irish county. Ordnance Survey maps from 1824 – 1846. Irish Archives site www.iar.ie

www.findmypast.co.uk – electoral rolls up to 1932 The British India Office collection includes births, marriages and deaths for Britons living in India from 18th century up until Independence in 1948. Over 5 million pages of records are being digitized and you can expect to see them on www.findmypast.co.uk early next year.

NEW ZEALAND PAPERS PAST -

<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz> – New papers are being added all the time so it pays to revisit this site often. Enter a name of an ancestor, you never know what you might find!

AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPERS 1840-45 –

<http://www.nla.gov.au/ferg/browselist.html>

□ ARCHIVES NEW ZEALAND –

www.archway.archives.govt.nz

HATCHES MATCHES AND DISPATCHES

www.bdm.nsw.gov.au

<http://www.dia.govt.nz>/Births-deaths-and-marriages

www.freebmd.org.uk has majority of civil registration indexes available. See also

www.freereg.org.uk

www.ukbmd.org.uk a collection of hundreds of links to online civil registration & census data.

www.freecen.org.uk - amazing

SOME OTHER SELECTED WEBSITES

www.genealogy.org.nz New Zealand Society of Genealogists. See what resources the NZSG have. There are also links to other genealogical websites.

www.cyndislist.com 260,000 genealogical links.

*On home page, click on "Are you new to genealogy?" then click on "Beginners Guides, Hints & Tips" with lots of links to browse.

www.rootsweb.com includes mailing lists and much more; try www.familysearch.org LDS site with births and marriages in the International Genealogical Index (IGI) and Old Parochial Registers (OPR), and much more.

www.genuki.org.uk genealogy in United Kingdom and Ireland. Click on door to "United Kingdom and Ireland" then click on "Scotland" *On home page, click on "Getting started in genealogy".

www.safhs.org.uk Scottish Association of Family History Societies. Look for the FHS in your region of interest.

www.scotlandsppeople.gov.uk online: births, marriages and deaths; with OPRs; wills to 1901; and 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901 censuses; most with images; costs £6. Do read "Help & other resources" before paying £6. *On home page click on "Getting started".

www.ancestry.co.uk a subscription site; free Hokonui Heritage Center & Gore Library shortly.

Curiousfox – www.curiousfox.com – a message board for the UK and Ireland, organized by place down to village level and surname. Unrestricted contact requires £5.

<http://scotfamtree.11.forerunner.com> – a popular Scotland based forum organized by county, name and topic.

www.oldbaileyonline.org track down criminal ancestors plus officials, witnesses and victims.

www.historicaldirectories a large collection of trade directories from 1750-199, fully searchable.

www.gazettes-online.co.uk The London, Edinburgh & Belfast gazettes have public & business notices back to 17th century.

www.british-hisory.ac.uk fantastic resource for local history, including many of the Victoria County Histories

For those going overseas www.nationrail.co.uk has 'cheapest fare finder'.

Visit www.spiltyourticket.co.uk for the weird world of two single journeys, A to B, and B to C, being cheaper than A to C. Fun!!

Non genealogy snippet

In mid Wales a local council of Denbighshire has banned Marmite being served in meals and snacks at its 51 primary schools because they say it contains too much salt.

That is it for this month.

*Please accept my apologies for the large bulletin.
Sincere thanks to all those who contributed*