

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists March 2013

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Next Meeting
5 March 2013
Tuesday 8pm
Tom & Karen Chesley
Familysearch.org in Gore
Hidden treasures in
Certificates -
Please bring your certificates
to be copied for NZSG
collection.
Open Day 9 March
Cost \$10
Heather Bray – Irish
Research & Female Line

It was a busy start to the year with an excellent Genealogy display which was created for the **Gore A & P Show Day** on 2nd February. It generated a good interest by the public. There were many people who asked simple to complex questions about their ancestors. Thanks to the members who hosted the display throughout the extremely hot day. Our excellent position on the back wall in the pavilion lacked air circulation, but could have been alleviated with an electric fan. (Next year)

Report of February 2013 Meeting

Roberta Laraman from Cromwell spoke of the beginnings of the New Zealand famous 'Cavalcade' in 1991 when it was suggested the reenactment of the hardships of miners travelling to the gold fields. The presentation film of the beautiful unique scenery was brilliant and showed the diverse conditions experienced by walkers, horses and riders and covered wagons. Trails go through private stations and country areas which are not available to the public. Overnight stops vary from shearing sheds,???? and the food provided by service clubs each night is 5 star. When all the trails finally come together, the walkers are first into the show ground arena, followed by all the riders and then the covered wagons. This is an impressive sight.. The 3rd March 2013 Cavalcade finishes at Tapanui. The Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust members from all over NZ attend field weekends at historical gold fields locations where local historians share their knowledge.

Gore Branch members wish to thank Smiths City for the excellent deal we received when purchasing the new Branch computer.

Housekeeping – Ancestry.com and Findmypast are continually adding new records- check regularly. Heather Bray is speaking on Female Line and Irish Research at the Open Day, 9th March 2013



Marriage certificates are the most accurate: Both parties are present at the time and you hope they are sober and telling the truth. Amazing how often the 16 year old bride became 21.

Death Certificates : the person with the most accurate information has just fallen off the perch
Birth certificates: the father may have been in the hotel for the last few hours or days and can't remember where the mother was born. All certificates are only as accurate as the information given at the time. Death certificates are frequently lacking in the essential information. Birth certificates can be very doubtful if the father had been celebrating the birth, so he makes a guess as to where the mother was born.

Keep in mind NZ birth and death certificates before 1876, and marriage certificates before 1881 do not have all the information genealogists seek.

Scams

Ever get those emails or phone calls saying you have won millions of dollars, phone calls saying your computer has a virus and you need to follow the instructions to remove the virus. Well if it is too good to be true then it probably is. check out all the scams scamdetector.com.

School Records, Census & Apprenticeships

After you have the bare bones of your ancestors lives on the family tree chart, the next step is to find the census', what schools they attended, their occupations and where they lived.

'Sunday schools' in UK provided a basic education before it became compulsory in 1870's. Where admission registers exist they usually provide the dates the pupil started, birth date, address of guardian or parent and when they left and the new school or where they went i.e work o home, High School, died or emigrated.

Early education in Scotland was under the auspices of the church (kirk) where they were taught to read the bible, often in the Gaelic.

Finding a school in the rural areas is easier, where there may have only one available. In towns they normally went to the closest school to their home. Current maps at Google Maps www.maps.google.co.uk Town county directories have been published mid 18th century and searchable databases are at www.historicaldirectories.org In NZ the Admission, Progress & Withdrawal registers are indexed and listed on Kiwi Index. Southland registers are at Invercargill Library, Otago are at Hocken Library. If the records were lost through school fires which frequently happened in NZ, it is possible to find the pupil at another school with the previous school noted.. The Johnson family are listed with Gruting as their previous school when they enrolled at Redan School All records were lost at Wyndham primary and high school, St Mary's Convent in Gore through fires. There was only one register kept at each school.

Taxes.

Householders who paid an annual rent of 20 shillings (1 pound), and the returns usually list the names of those who were exempt.

Between 1740 and 1774 all apprenticeships, except those arranged by parishes and charitable institutions were subject to a tax. They generally show the names of the apprentice and master, the trace and terms of apprenticeship, together with the name of parent or guardian. These are held at the National Archives with a searchable name index at www.findmypast.co.uk



Irish BMD Certificates Double in Price

Long-form copies of birth, marriage and death certificates via both the GRO in Roscommon and the [online facility](#) have doubled in price to €20 with immediate effect. These certificates are the 'long-form, full copy of the registered entry' and can be used for most legal purposes. They are not to be confused with the 'research' photocopies that most researchers prefer to buy from the GRO* and cost

only €4, with a €2 fee for searching. (The photocopy is generally all that's required for most research, but in the absence of an online facility via the GRO, many overseas researchers have been buying the full certificate via www.certificates.ie when possible.). This info is from [Irish Genealogy News Blog](#)

Letters from Scotland's Victorian Asylums go on Display

BBC Scotland's health correspondent [Eleanor Bradford reports](#): documents which give a fascinating insight into life inside Scotland's Victorian lunatic asylums will be revealed to the public. Archives from Craig Dunain Hospital, in Inverness, will be available to the public in the Highland Archive Centre. Hundreds of letters from patients at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital have been analysed as part of its bicentenary celebrations.

NSW Probate Laws are Changing on 21 January 2013

From Monday, 21 January 2013 all notices of intention to apply for probate, administration or a reseal to the [Supreme Court of NSW](#) will be required to be advertised via the NSW Online Registry website. A link to the Online Registry website will be provided on the Supreme Court website. From Monday, 21 January 2013, advertising these notices in the newspaper will no longer be necessary and will cease to meet the requirements of the probate rules.

View Early Colonial Office Photos in Australasia Through a Lens

The National Archives England has released online thousands of [early photographs and drawings of Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga and other Pacific Islands](#). You can now view images of Australian towns, buildings, landmarks and people, dating back as far as the mid-nineteenth century. The photographs have been uploaded to the photo-sharing website Flickr so that you can [tag and contribute comments and suggestions](#) to help improve the descriptions.

More Army Pensioner Records Online

[Findmypast](#) have added tens of thousands of new records for army pensioners, including over 19,000 that were held by the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham in Dublin. Those records are held under WO 119 at the National Archives; other records added at the same time are from WO 121, WO 122, WO 128 and WO 131, most of which relate to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

World War 1 Records Saved

[The Western Front Association](#) (WFA) is delighted to announce that it has secured the safe storage and preservation of a major archive of over six million Great War soldiers' pension record cards.

Some two years ago, the WFA learned that the Ministry of Defence (MoD) was no longer able to retain and manage its archive of Great War soldiers' pension records cards and related archives. The MoD had held these cards, passed to it from prior custodians, all of which date from the time of the conflict.

There was a possibility that the records would have had to be destroyed unless they could be passed for safe keeping to a reputable organisation. The WFA has, in this time, made a study and catalogued the primary information for of each group of records in the archive, and arranged the safe transfer and storage of the records to the WFA's secure premises

Thanks to Famnet

If You Could See Your Ancestors

If you could see your ancestors, all standing in a row, would you be proud of them? Or don't you really know? Some mighty strange discoveries are made in climbing family trees, and some of them, you know, might not particularly please.

If you could see your ancestors, all standing in a row there might be some of them you wouldn't care to know. But here is another question that requires a different view. If you could meet your ancestors, what would they think of you?

Author Mable Blake.

Ancestry add Manchester registers

Over 6 million records from baptism, marriage and burial registers for [Manchester](#) and the surrounding area are now available online at [Ancestry.co.uk](#), complementing their existing collection of [Lancashire](#) parish registers. I've at last been able to see the baptism and marriage entries for a branch of my family who moved to Oldham in the second half of the 19th century - confusingly these records can be found under Manchester, not Lancashire (the same applies to Rochdale, which is even further away from Manchester). See Bruce Cavanagh about saving 25% to 55% on an Ancestry subscription.

[Manchester](#) records - including workhouse registers, prison registers, and school admission registers - are online at [findmypast](#). Findmypast also have the parish registers for [Cheshire](#) (the county boundary is just south of Manchester).

Millions more Irish court records online

Findmypast have added a further 2.1 million records from the [Irish Petty Sessions](#) order books from 1850-1912, covering 25 new courts and adding to the existing data for more than 50 others. By my calculation about half of the 16 million records are now online, so it's a massive resource for a country whose population was only about 4 million in the second half the 19th century. The Petty Sessions were the lowest level courts, dealing with civil cases as well as criminal ones, and most of the people who appeared weren't hardened criminals but ordinary people who were charged with minor offences or had got into a dispute. You can find out more about the records and see a list of which courts are included [here](#).

New Zealand will be limited to just 2000 places compared with Australia's 8000 at the official Anzac Day ceremony at Gallipoli for its centenary.

"This allocation ratio is based on the relative number of casualties suffered by New Zealand and Australia during the Gallipoli campaign in 1915." (not related to the population)

Websites

Links stripped from mail when sent

<http://winsomegriffin.com/Benbow/HuntressDiary.html>

<http://www.flotilla-australia.com/index.htm>

The S.S. Waimana, as well as being used in both wars, brought a lot of immigrants to NZ. My grandmother and her family came out on a 1921 voyage. When it was scrapped in 1952, the ship's bell ended up at Cottesmore Boys School.

http://www.lentontimes.co.uk/images/gallery/cottesmore_school_boys/cottesmore_boys_bell.htm

The Otago Daily Times is now available on PapersPast (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>) to 31 December 1920.

<http://www.stats.govt.nz/yearbooks?gclid=CNf8y9KTmLUCFQRKpgodVE0AWw> interesting links

Historical Directories is a digital library of local and trade directories for England and Wales, from 1750 to 1919. www.historicaldirectories.org/hd/

Goldrush Online

A database of 50,000 goldminers from the goldrushes of New Zealand spanning the years 1861 - 1872. Includes Otago Mining Records and Thames Mining Records. www.kaelewis.com

Mariners and Ships in Australian Waters A great site for finding ship records and passenger lists for boats in and out of Sydney, taken from NSW State Records <http://mariners.records.nsw.gov.au/shipdate.htm>

RSA database - submit requests for information (along with photos) to this NZRSA site relating to former servicemen and servicewomen. You may well get an answer. www.rsa.org.nz/lost-trails

Website pages compiled by Delwyn Andrew of not only New Zealand Funeral Notices but other types of notice from a wide variety of sources including newspapers. Well worth a search.

freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~funeral-notices

About The British Newspaper Archive

The British Newspaper Archive is a partnership project between the British Library and Brightsolid. (used to be Scotlandspeople) From November 2011 to 2021, up to 40 million pages from historical newspapers across the UK and Ireland (spanning the period, 1700 to 1950) will be uploaded to the website.

www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk .

What's New on Ancestry.com.au

New Zealand, White Wings, 1924, 1928 (Volumes 1 & 2)
New Zealand, Auckland, Chapman's Gazetteer, 1867
New Zealand, Registered Ships & Owners, 1840-1950

UK Online Parish Clerk

The Online Parish Clerk project created in 2000 by three men is a Cornish pub. They envisaged a scheme whereby a person would become responsible for an English county and enlist volunteers who would adopt a parish and transcribe documents and information from that parish. The resulting Transcripts would then be placed online, free of charge. Counties operating Online Parish Clerk schemes at present are:

**Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Essex,
Hampshire, Lancashire, Somerset, Sussex,
Warwickshire and Wiltshire.**

A Kent group also exists but is asking for donations which is contrary to the original concept of Online Parish Clerks. The backbone of the data is parish registers, but most counties offer many other records as well, doing look-ups in their records and answering queries by email. Online Parish Clerks website at : www.onlineparishclerks.org.uk

Thanks to Ashburton District Newsletter

Deceased Online add East London records

Over 100,000 burial records from Manor Park Cemetery in East London have been added by Deceased Online. Searching is free, but to view a record (which may be a transcription or a scan from the register) requires credits. Beware of buying a map of the grave location – it costs 25 credits with no added benefits

I am a member of the Neilston War Memorial Association, based in Neilston, East Renfrewshire, just outside Glasgow. We are looking to build a war memorial in our village for service personnel from World War One with connections to our village born/ lived/ worked/enlisted etc. If you know of anyone who should be included please contact Matthew Drennan at matthew.drennan@ntlworld.com

The Dominion Post (Fairfax) has announced that it will be putting family notices online from February 11th.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/comment/blogs/the-inside-story/8275005/Births-deaths-and-celebrations-notices-going-online>

Scottish Wills and Testaments 1902 – 1925 last wishes 267548 individuals, including wills of Scots who died outside Scotland www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

Sheriff Court Records. Shetland Archives have their catalogue online at

<http://www.calmview.eu/ShetlandArchive/CalmView/>
Shetland Times BDMs, it is now indexed up to 1965 at <http://www.jghalcrow.co.uk/stindex/stindex.html>

The 1905 Valuation Rolls now on the ScotlandsPeople website!

Valuation Rolls in Scotland for 1905 have just been added to the [ScotlandsPeople website](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk).

Over 2.4 million indexed names and over 74,000 digital images, cover every kind of building, structure or property in Scotland which were assessed as having a rateable value in 1905. Fully-searchable both by name and address, the 1905 Valuation Rolls (VRs) provide a terrific snapshot of Scottish society during the Edwardian era, and will be a valuable resource for genealogy researchers and local/social historians.\

‘The Press’ newspaper family notices online <http://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/>
Halfway down the page on the right.