Gore Branch of New Zealand Genealogists
February 2014

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Gore A & P Show 2 Feb
Next Meeting
4 February 2014
Tuesday 8pm
Early Settlers Museum & Auckland War Museum
Rhonda & Rosalie

December meeting

Members had a complete change of venue and meeting when they had a lovely meal at the local RSA. It was a relaxed evening with everyone having the opportunity to enjoy fellowship.

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When Rosalie McLean was in Auckland she visited the Auckland War Museum. They were very helpful and provided information on a NZ nurse who was killed when the ship was torpedoed.

Rhonda visited the Early Settlers museum in Dunedin and she was most impressed with the information that is available. They will both speak on their experiences and explain how we can utilize the resources from both museums.

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The next two months will be very busy with the display at the Gore A & P Show, followed by the LDS Genealogy library opening on the 15 February. The library will be open on Thursday nights.

Our branch will have a Genealogy display in the Gore Library advertising the Open Day on 8th March. Heather Bray is speaking at the Open Day on Poor Laws and Workhouses. She is a brilliant and popular presenter who is always very informative.

Happy New Year everybody. Hopefully everyone has made some New Year resolutions and started on the right foot by attending to the ones on your family history! Judith found some good tips for creating genealogical New Year's
resolutions on a **free** family history site she uses, at www.mocavo.com . They suggest:
* Why not share your research with family members. See how in "3 Steps for Sharing Your Family History."
* Stay in the know about key genealogy resources in the US and Great Britain (check out the links they provide)
* Don't miss the heartwarming story about the power family heirlooms can have to reunite families.
There is other information and ideas on their site also.
Thanks to Mosgiel Branch Convener Judith for this article.

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Dates to Remember

15 February – LDS Library Opening

8 March Open Day - Heather Bray

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Interview Your Relatives

Oral histories are a valuable and vital way to record the memories and voices for future generations.

1. Decide who you wish to speak to- the elderly and ancestors have a disconcerting habit of suddenly dying.. talk to them before that happens. Phone or make a date for the interview, but limit it to 2 hours.
2. Prepare the questions, photographs which may generate memories
3. Be familiar with your equipment- take spare batteries and tapes. Photograph your relative
4, Always try to ask open ended questions which cannot be answered with a 'Yes or No". Start with ", why, when"(how did you go to school – walk, ride?)
5. Don't rush into silences – he may be thinking - a good interviewer is a good listener.
6. Respect the wishes of the person – if they don't wish to discuss a topic, move onto another.
7. Always have some sort of release form for them to sign.
Remember to thank them for their valuable information.

GUTSCHLAG

Seeking contact with Gutschlag descendants for inclusion in a Gutschlag Family History Book.
BLONDELL - KNOWLES - SAMPSON - ROSS - CROFTS - GARDENER

CHITTOCK - FORSYTH - BROADHURST - COCKROFT – RANCE THOMSON - HENKE - PERRY - WILLIAMS - UNAHI- CHRISTIE MCKENZIE - AMERIEN - RIGG - HOMER - SUTHERLAND - DAWSON CRAWFORD - GEE - LAKE
Descendants of Lorna May Gutschlag and Keith Raymond Brown including Meikle, Dejout?, Christie, Swalinski or Walinski, Ross

Please contact:
Christina Morris, 'Currawong',
591 Bootoowa Road
Naradhan NSW 2669
Ph: 02 68969815
Fx: 0 268969804
Emails: krisandko@live.com.au
christina.morris1@bigpond.com
Or contact me through Facebook on the Gutschlag

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NZSG President Michelle Patient who is on leave of absence has spare time to actually research her ancestors. She noted our branch had indexed the records for Eastern area and she has a request for the following Ancestors

Patrick BURNS , married **Jane McCABE** in Co Meath, Ireland and lived in Wyndham.

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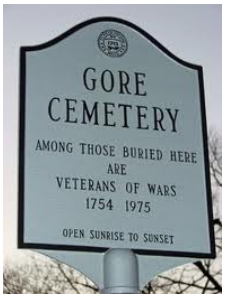
Gore Cemetery Searches –



Gore Borough Council have the reputation of having the best 'online' data for the whole of NZ, but they do not include burials. If you have lost someone, search the hard copies (3 red volumes on the shelf at Heritage centre). These invaluable books were ypted and created in 1993 by Gore Branch member, Doreen Hudson. Do check them, and the other hard copies of local cemeteries. They frequently contain extra information which has been lost when headstones have become illegible or fallen face down.

Family History Directories

Cyndi's List started off as a small web based project in March 1996, listing 1,000 website lists and is now accessed by 250,000 people per month. It was the brainchild of the American, Cyndi Howells. Categories include DNA, handwriting and script UK and Ireland.

If that useful site suddenly disappears from the internet, you may still find an archived or 'cached' copy on the site via the Internet Archive's Wayback Machine facility at https://archive.org.

Other sites include www.genuki.org.uk which focus on UK and Ireland It is one of the largest platforms, acting as a gateway and encyclopaedia. Clicking on one of the counties will give you the categorized links for holdings concerning that area. These include Gazetteers, and the Genuki Church database.

The FamilySearch website https://familysearch.org is creating a Wiki section that will benefit researchers, as it provides details on many topics, including the location of record collections, and whether the LDS has microfilmed them. If you have Jewish background go to www.jewishgen.og
www.iukgenweb.org – for British Territories and UK and Ireland Records Online site is at www.ukisearch.com. www.ukmd.org.uk has UK births, marriages, deaths and censuses. Select a county from menu & scroll down to find the resources available.
www.ukgdl.or.uk for Genealogical Directories and lists, www.ukmfh.org.uk for UK Military Family History.
Scotlands Family site at www.scotlandsfamily.com tends to be hit and miss affair.
www.scotlandspeople.gove.uk has a large list of Scottish based websites.
www.irishgenealogy.ie is now a major gateway offering links to other Irish based projects.
Irish Ancestors www.irishtimes.com/ancestor/browse .

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In England, Lady Day was New Year's Day up to 1752 when, following the move from the Julian Calender to the Gregorian Calender, 1 January became the start of the year. A vestige of this remains in the United Kingdom's tax year which starts on 6 April, i.e. Lady Day adjusted for the *lost days* of the calendar change (until this change Lady Day had been used as the start of the legal year). Headstone transcriptions in Essex sometimes state the death occurred on 'Lady Day'.

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1st November 1898: Old-Age Pensions Act

A world first, the Act gave a small means-tested pension to elderly people with few assets who were "of good moral character". Chinese were specifically excluded. It was one of the major achievements of Richard Seddon's Liberal government.

The reforms of the 1890s attracted international interest and seemed to symbolize New Zealand's egalitarian ethos. The groundbreaking legislation of 1898 was based on the principle that the state had some responsibility for elderly citizens who were not able to provide for themselves.

The Old-Age Pensions Act was the first of its kind in the British Empire and marked the birth of social security.

Applicants had to meet certain criteria to qualify for a pension of at most £18 per year (equivalent to $3000 in 2011).

Proof was required that the applicant was aged at least 65. Only those with an annual income of £34 ($5800) or less and property valued at no more than £50 ($8500) received the full amount. Applicants had to have lived in NZ for the previous 25 years, and if not British subjects (including Maori) they needed to have been naturalized for at least 5 years.

(Acknowledgements October 2013 newsletter of the Mosgiel Branch)

ANCESTRY.COM NEWS

Among a few new databases of interest that have been added to the website recently are:

Added on 13 November:

England & Wales Quaker Registers

These cover births, marriages and burials for the period 1578-1837. For births the following details are given: date, address where born, occupation of father, names of parents.

Texas Birth Certificates

These are images of actual certificates for the period 1903-1932

Texas Death Certificates

These are images of actual certificates for the period 1903-1982

UK Civil Engineer Lists

These are images of printed volumes which list civil engineers registered in England. Details given include the date of election, qualifications (i.e. university degrees) and address of engineer. Often the address given is that of the engineer's workplace and can be overseas. The period covered by these lists is 1818-1930 but not all years are indexed. From 1818 to 1876 us indexed and thereafter only those years ending in 6. Other years are able to be browsed for viewing.

FINDMY PAST NEWS

The UK website has recently added baptisms from 21 Devon parishes, mostly from 1813. Also burials from 19 Devon parishes, mainly from 1812. From Northumberland there are marriages from 25 parishes, mostly pre-1812.

The Australian website last month uploaded several interesting databases from South Australia: unregistered deaths 1840-1970; lonely graves 1837-2005; and remote deaths 1851-1965

Thanks to Riccarton Branch NZSG Newsletter, December 2013, page 4

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GAZETEERS AND MAPS

Knowing who your ancestors were, and where they lived is half the battle when it comes to genealogical research**.** However another important element is to discover the contemporary environment where they lived and how that may have changed throughout their lifetime. During the industrial and agriculture revolutions major expansion in urban settlements and enclosure of land changed the whole countryside. Natural disasters such as the Great Famine (1845 – 1852) helped to dramatically change the British and Irish landscapes.

Modern maps such as Google maps (http://maps.google.co.uk) and Streetmap (www.streetmap.co.uk. Google maps include satellite overview and you can walk through the street using the 'view facility'

A different view of the land is found on a birds-eye view of Britain aerial photography sites including www.olderaerialphotos.com. Ordnance Survey maps were first created by William Roy of Scotland in 1700's after the Jacobite rebellions.

Modern ordnance maps are available at www.getamap.ordnancesurveyleisure.co.uk

The old maps site at www.old-maps.co.uk has the earliest County Series for Britain. A vision of Britain through Time www.visionofbritain.org.uk has the Firt Series of OS For England and Wales from 1805- 1869 and 1902 – 1905.

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Top three Topographical Websites.

Domesday - http://domesdaymap.co.uk

Irish Land Registry
www.landregistry.ie
Blaue Atlas
http://maps.nls.ul/atlas/blaue
this is a first class Atlas of Scotland, published in 1654 containing 49 engraved maps and 154 pages of descriptive text.

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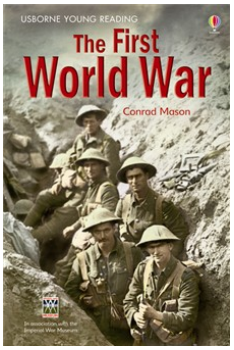
www.photoship.co.uk

This site, called Old Ship Picture Galleries is that of an enthusiastic collector of postcards, photos etc, black and white and colour depicting ships from 1860 to 1953. They are free to view and download.

maxwellancestry.com

This site of a professional genealogists Graham Maxwell who specializes in research in the southermost counties of Scotland. He provides on this site free indexes for this area of births baptisms, marriages and deaths/burials which do not appear on the OPRs on ScotlandsPeople. He also has indexes for Sheriff Court Paternity cases and Prison registers was well as indexes for 1841, 1851 and 1861 censuses. Graham also publishes booklets with full details of the entries on his indexes.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/first-world-war/



This website is a new one set up by TNA, London as a portal for their contributions towards the centennial celebrations of World War One. It contains all of their present online collections of records, indexes, useful research guides, videos, podcasts etc and will have new
Online records added from time to time during the next few years.

Scottish Records Release

Thousands of Scottish records are available to view on the web for the first time.

More than 120,000 births were recorded in 1913,

Family history website www.ScotlandsPeople.gov.uk (**Pay site**) has uploaded a tranche of birth, marriage and death records from across the country, dating from 1913, 1938 and 1963 respectively.

The documents – which consist of over 220,000 separate scans – were released on New Year's Day as embargoes on their public access were lifted.

Although the documents date from three individual years, they join an existing collection of scans dating back to 1855, when Scotland first began systematically recording its citizens' births, marriages and deaths – a process known as Statutory Registration.

Users can search the records by details such as name and date, revealing a range of crucial details about the individual. In the case of the 1913 births, the scans not only show the infant's date and place of birth, but additional clues about their parents, including the father's occupation.

"The new images represent a new chapter of Scotland's story now available to the public," says Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs, Fiona Hyslop.

"I'd urge anyone who is interested in finding out more about their history, or that of their family or the place where they live, to have a look at the wealth of records now available as part of our wonderful online resources."

The records can also be viewed in person by visiting the ScotlandsPeople Centre in Edinburgh, and at local family history centre's in Glasgow, Kilmarnock, Hawick and Inverness. *How we wish!*

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www.irishgenealogy.ei Church records, print information for free. Not all records are available. Kerry. Protestant and Catholic.
http://www.irishlivesremembered.com/

"A Little-Known [USA] Government Genealogy Service"
http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2013/11/a-little-knowngovernment- genealogy-service.html