

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists

July 2014

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Next Meeting
1 July 2014
Tuesday 8pm - Heritage Centre
Colleens two DNA Cds
Elaine Scott - DNA
Plan next year's programme

June Annual General Meeting

Our lovely efficient Convenor Rhonda conducted the meeting in record time with all positions being filled. We all recognized the sterling work Margaret McDougall had done as secretary and she won the annual Pam Milne and Noeline Shaw Rose Bowl Trophy for all her work over the years. The new secretary is Vicky Neuman and we thank her for accepting this position.

Following the meeting we adjourned to The Latter Days Saints Family History Center, Main Street, to view and become familiar with the records which are available on their computers. Sister Bartschi had made beautiful American cookies for supper.

The LDS Family Center is open on a Thursday night

5.30 – 7.30pm – do use it or we could lose it
 If you wish to use this excellent facility outside the normal hours, please contact Elder Bartschi 02 1683017



A warm welcome to a new member, Lawrence Redhead' with best wishes for success with his research.

Judy and I attended Colleen Fitzpatrick's lecture in Invercargill Library on 14 June. It was a fabulous 2 hour presentation on the mysteries of DNA and her work as a forensic genealogist. Female DNA is called mytrochondrial.



A woman inherits an X-chromosome from both parents, and a man inherits an X-chromosome from his mother and a Y-chromosome from his father.

Women have 23 matched XX chromosomes, but males always have a mismatched pair of XY-chromosomes. The sex of a child can be determined because X-chromosomes are heavier than Y-chromosomes, so they can be separated by using centrifuge!!

Refer to Colleen Fitzpatrick's book Pg 150 *Forensic Genealogy* which is now in our library.

DNA FACTS

Our DNA is 1 billion cells and each cell is 6 feet long!
DNA is recoverable from the roots of hair – not the strands

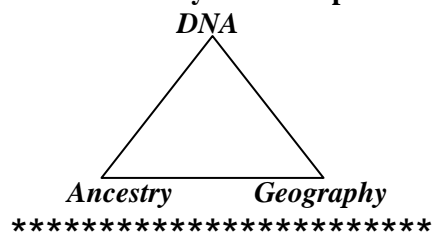
DNA It picks up, where your paper leaves off

Ancestry has discontinued DNA testing

Family Tree DNA testing is still available

65 markers or more are recommended for testing

The y-chromosome is inherited intact from father to son in every generation and it hasn't changed for generations. THAT is why it is so important



Nameless Baby

In a busy railway station a tiny baby (with no name) was passed by a mother to a complete stranger c 1942. This occurred during the movement of all Polish Jews to concentration camps where so many were gassed and exterminated. This baby was adopted and survived. With DNA and using geography, Colleen discovered her parents had originated from Poland and Rumania, but her surname remains a mystery.

Hidden Treasures

Find these in the basic resources such death, birth and marriage certificates. If possible study the original (Primary) source and always view indexes with serious skepticism. Indexes are created with the best will in the world, but people make mistakes because we are all human..

Look at who the informant of birth and death ..

Was it the father?. Had he been in the pub for hours or days and forgotten where the mother was born, or her age. Did he lie about his age, as my maternal grandfather did. As each child of his ten children were registered by him, he became younger until he had lost 10 years.

But grandmothers age was always correct!!
In the early times of NZ, agents were often paid to register babies who were born a distance from the Post Office. This increased the chances of mistakes on the register, and the mother's birth place being a guess.
In 20th century most babies in NZ were born in the family home with a midwife. But mothers frequently went back to their mother for the first birth. Later there were private Nursing Homes in most towns. Gore had several and Wyndham had at least two.

Please note: NZ birth and death certificates before 1876 have less information

ALWAYS order photocopies of NZ certificates. Scottish certificates will always give the time of birth and death. Only twins will have it noted on English birth certificates.

In all countries the Registrar may have had problems understanding and deciphering the Irish, Scottish or Welsh accents, or he was impatient or domineering, and the informant did not take time to read what had been written. Maybe the informant was not literate.

Marriage in England and Wales:

Until 1754 a marriage was valid as long as each party expressed unconditional consent to the union. No clergyman, or witnesses, nor any record of marriage was required.

Scottish marriages were equally as bizarre. Jumping over a broom or simply declaring the marriage was sufficient.

NZ marriages before 1881 have limited information.

No birth places, and only 'full age' if the bride or groom were over 21 years. They frequently adjusted the truth to avoid having to obtain parental or guardians consent if they were under 21.

Frequently you will find the bride and groom were living in the same residential house – they were not cohabitating! Banns were read in only one parish (usually the brides) to save money and the hassles.

In 1873, only three days residential were required in Dunedin before a couple married at Knox Presbyterian church. Many marriages were held on a Wednesday due to it being half day, and people having to work on Saturday.

Death information is subject to even more anomalies because the person with all the information has just fallen off the perch, and taken the vital clues with them!

If the spouse is the informant there is a reasonable chance he or she knows it, but don't hold your breath, while children are frequently lacking the vital information. Funeral directors records are only as accurate as the information given to them. Always try to locate an obituary.

In 1700 Catholics were barred from purchasing or inheriting land. Other Nonconformists were also barred from certain profession, so it is understandable our ancestors kept their true faith a secret. Until legislation in 1882 in England, married women could only leave a will if they had their husbands consent, so any women's wills you find before then, relate to spinsters or widows.

TOP FIVE Detailed Resources

Wills and probates – these give an insight to relationships with children's names and often have death or marriage certificates attached.

Parish Records – from the 16th to mid 19th centuries the parish was responsible for the moral, financial and spiritual well being of its parishioners.

Look for bastardy examinations (interviews) and apprenticeships papers and poor law relief payments
Census Returns Until 1911 all census schedules were completed by enumerators and place names were written down phonetically and prone to error. If the householder was not literate he couldn't check if it was correct. Use a gazetteer to identify birth places.

It is most unlikely the three year old listed as a scholar was a child prodigy – it likely he was attending Sunday school. Sunday schools offered outings and treats for regular attendee. .

Death Certificates: the deceased may have been the last surviving family member, or he may have been known by his middle name and the original name was unknown.

Vintage photographs. Studio photos usually indicated a special occasion such as the family emigrating, a wedding, 21st or a family photo with soldiers before the war. Men were usually photographed standing up, to signify their upright morals, and also as figures of authority. Women folk were seated to look submissive!

Look for a Studio name on the cardboard frame.

Tips For In-depth Research

1. Do not make assumptions. Follow any leads methodically and only add them to the tree when proven.
2. Monumental inscriptions are not always accurate, and neither are some obituaries. Have you ever seen an obit which said the deceased was a complete disaster? Double check the information
3. People were not always known by the names on their birth, marriage, and death certificates, or census returns. *Who would have thought Hetty on a census would actually be named Kathleen.*

4. Lodgers, boarders or servants living in the household may have been family members but the relationship is too convoluted to be listed on the census schedule

NEW PROJECT TO PUT 40 MILLION WARTIME BRITISH RECORDS ONLINE

- Most anticipated family history project since the 1911 census
- Only complete overview of the population between 1922 and 1950 will open up the past British-owned online family history world leader DC Thomson Family History (who own findmypast) and The National Archives have announced on 27th March 2014 a joint project to make records of 40 million civilians held in the **1939 register** available online. Once digitized, it is estimated that the collection will comprise almost 1.2 million scanned full-colour images of documents covering the entire civilian population of England & Wales at the outbreak of WWII.

The 1939 register was taken on 29th September 1939 by the British Government and recorded personal details of individuals in order to issue identity cards and ration books. It later formed the basis of the National Health Service's records. When complete, the 1939 register will be fully searchable online for the first time, opening up the past to a new generation of family and social historians, just as the 1911 census did on its release in 2009.

The records contain the address, full name, date of birth, sex, marital status and occupation of individuals, as well as changes of name.

Although the Register is literally within living memory for many people, information about living individuals will be kept closed for 100 years from their year of birth, or until proof of death has been authenticated. From today, anybody interested in being kept informed about the project can register at . www.1939register.co.uk

The 1941 census was not taken owing to World War II, while the 1931 census, including schedules, enumeration books and plans, was destroyed in a fire at the Office of Works store at Hayes, Middlesex on Saturday 19th December 1942. The fire was not the result of enemy bombing in the Second World War but was due to an unexplained incident

Thanks to Blenheim Branch – Findmypast

NZSG INCREASE Subs

That from 1 August 2014 the annual membership subscriptions be set at:

Ordinary - \$85.00 (\$15.00 increase)

Joint - \$ 104.00 (\$15.00 increase)

Websites Websites and more Websites

www.1911census.co.uk – numerical code introduced in 1911 to identify birthplaces in England and Wales (but not Scotland)

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/first-world-war has released almost 4,000 more war diaries to mark the centenary of World War 1. They contain records relating to the last of the cavalry divisions and numbers 8-33 Infantry Divisions deployed at the Western Front (France and Flanders), it also include records of the Indian Cavalry and The Welsh Guards.

<http://maps.nsl.uk/os/6inch-england-and-wales> - two main editions of major new collection of maps for England and Wales between 1842 and 1952.

www.yourfamilytreemag.co.uk/category/downloads
Previous issues of Family Tree digital resource options are all available for you to search at your leisure. Hover over the link and click. It will start to download automatically and be saved to the location your have chosen.

This months is Shropshire kin -search for Shrewsbury Burgess Rolls with relationships and occupations for up to three generations from the 15th to the 19th century

www.shropshire.gov.uk/archives

www.sfhs.org.uk – Shropshire Family History Society and Library. 900 reference books, maps & registers

<http://tinyurl.com/oo55fyz> - Whitchurch Local History Center.

<http://tinyurl.com/pu4tqhp> Shropshire Lookup Exchange
www.shopshirebmd.info 82,000 marriage records – no births or deaths

www.veterans-uk.info/service_records/army.html it is easy to apply for next of kin to apply for details of their ancestors WW1 service records in UK. You will need to complete two forms and a certificate of kinship – both of which can be downloaded from the above site. Cost is 30 Pounds!!! = \$60 NZ

www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk – British newspaper Archive

<http://probatesearch.service.gov.uk> English soldiers wills
www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/archive The Times digital Archive

www.westernfromassociation.com Western Front Association

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/history/ssne emigrants leaving Scotland

<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/searchUI/Home/OnlineCollections> Royal Navy Ratings 1853 – 1923

www.bl.uk/reshelp/findhelppregion/asia/india/indiaofficerrecords/indiaofficehub.html East India soldiers & sailors

www.nls.uk/family-history/gravestones/inscriptions/index.cfm and

www.nls.uk/family-history/gravestones/inscriptions/index.cfm and

www.scotlandspoplehub.gov.uk/pdf/monumental-inscriptions.pdf
<http://blog.myheritage.com/2013/12/newmyheritageadds-millions-of-nordic-records>

MyHeritage, have added more than 32 million records from Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland, dating back to the early 1600s.

www.emelbourne.net.au This Australian website is based on the original printed text volume, The Encyclopedia of Melbourne, which was published in 2005 by Cambridge University Press. However, the website has had additional material added. Excellent for background material on your Melbourne based families.

<http://www.landedestates.ie>

<http://www.nli.ie>

<http://www.proni.gov.uk>

Websites for private estate records in Ireland

Rootsireland has announced that the Clare Heritage & Genealogy Centre has now made their first batch of Roman Catholic parish baptisms (for seven parishes) available online. The parishes covered are listed below:

Cratloe 1802 - 1901

Crusheen 1860 - 1900

Ennis 1841 - 1900

Feakle 1860 - 1900

Mountshannon

and Whitegate 1846 - 1900

Parteen 1831 - 1902

Scariff 1852 - 1900

Further Co. Clare parish records including marriages and deaths, as well as further baptismal records, will be made available online on a phased basis.

Please find a list of County Clare sources that are currently online at County Clare Sources List.

thanks to Stratford Branch

Gaelic Names = English

Domhnull – Donald or Daniel

Hamish /Seamus – James

Fionnladh - Finlay or Philip

Rearlach - Charles

Fearchar - Farquhar

Coinneach - Kenneth

Greumach - Graeme or Graham

Tavish - Thomas

Nessie – Agnes

Bryde – Bridget

Grissel or Grizel – Grace

Mairi – Mary

Seonaid – Janet or Jessie

TOP 5 MISSPELLED GENEALOGY WORDS

WRONG

Geneology

Cemetary

Ancestor

+Linage

***Descendent**

+ Number of lines in a printed or written matter

* North American spelling

CORRECT

Genealogy

Cemeter y

Ancestor

Lineage

Descendant



Irish Catholic records added to Ancestry.co.uk

Researchers with Irish Catholic ancestors could break down brick walls following the addition of over 700,000 parish records to Ancestry.co.uk. Family historians with connections to the Emerald Isle could make new breakthroughs following the addition of four Irish Roman Catholic record sets to the web. Spanning 1763 through to 1912, the Ancestry.co.uk release features baptism, marriage and burial registers from parishes across the country, as well as the records of over 8,000 confirmations.

Although the Church of Ireland was the established state church from 1536 to 1870, the Irish population remained overwhelmingly Roman Catholic and did not start until 19 years later.

The level of detail recorded in some of the documents can also be useful given the absence of 19th-century Irish census records, most of which were destroyed during the Public Record Office fire in 1922.

For example, a typical confirmation register not only features the name of the person that was confirmed (usually a child over the age of 12), but their age, parents' names and current residence.

“These records will be vital to anyone interested in researching their Irish heritage, whether they live in Ireland or are one of the many millions living around the world with Gaelic roots.” said Ancestry.co.uk’s Senior Content Manager, Miriam Silverman.

Thanks to Stratford Branch

New Zealand war memorials



www.nzhistory.net.nz/culture/the-memorials-register

There is a map of New Zealand divided into provincial areas. Each province’s memorials locations are marked: click to link to the area and explore. Some of them have really extensive information.