

# Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists December 2014

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**Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday 2 December 2014**  
**Leaving Heritage car park 6.45pm**  
**Visit Clematis Cottage**  
**Museum Maitua**  
**Supper at Country Cottage Café**  
**Cost \$15. ALL WELCOME**

## November Meeting

Many members enjoyed an informative talk on Wills, Probates and the law as pertaining to Genealogists by David Gray, a local lawyer.

A will is a legal document which must be signed by the person in the presence of the two witnesses who must not be beneficiaries of the will.

A 'healthcare Power of Attorney' is someone you choose to make health and medical decisions for you if you're unable to make them for yourself. It ceases at death. David answered many questions afterwards. Supper concluded an enjoyable evening.

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Did  
you  
Know  
???

## Gore Branch holds Otago Southland Stones Directories 1884 – 1920 on CDs.

[Ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) has the **Southland Otago Electoral Rolls 1850- 1881** (there are some gaps). Use these two sources to find where your ancestors lived during these years. Remember, there are no censuses for NZ.

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## We Will Remember Them

On the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> month of 2014 a simple remembrance ceremony with 2 minutes silence was held at the Gore Cenotaph to honour the soldiers who died in World War 1 which ended

100 years ago. *Anzac poppies grow wild on the ground where horrendous fighting occurred, and in Chania, Crete. Greece.*

## FAMILY HISTORY FAIR 2015 7 – 9 August 2015

**Alexandra Park in Auckland is the venue for the 2015 Family History Fair.** The dates confirmed are August Friday 7th August with the School days in the morning; open to public from 2pm, Saturday 8th August and Sunday 9th August 2014 ***Keep this on your calender because it was a fabulous, educational fun weekend last year*** It was a brilliant weekend Organizer, Melanie Middleton thought Gore Branch's attendance and contribution to 2013 Family Fair was amazing. She hopes we will be able to assist again in 2015. **Put it in your diary NOW if you would like to be in the party.** Hopefully the internet will work this time.

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## Cemetery Records:

Hutt City Council has advised that the cemetery search is now online at:

<http://www.huttcity.govt.nz/en/Services/Cemeteries/Cemeteries-feedback/>

There are two data sets.

1. Taita Cemetery Old Monumental section and other cemeteries; and
2. The Lawn Cemetery & Wainuiomata Garden of Remembrance that you will already be familiar with.

The two systems are an interim measure.

If you have any feedback on the system, we can pass your comments on to Council, please send any comments to [huttvalley@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:huttvalley@genealogy.org.nz) Any corrections of the data should go to the Council's Contact centre (use the email link in the top left corner of the record concerned).

*Thanks to Hutt Valley Branch*

**Scottish Valuation 900,000 index rolls 1875 - 1920 free to browse online until end of year**  
[National Records of Scotland](http://www.nationalrecords.govt.nz)



## Redan and Mokoreta Roll of Honour 1938 -1945 War

### Those who gave the Ultimate Sacrifice

#### James FINDLAY *Private 113164*

Enlisted while working at Johnston Bros flaxmill, Redan  
23 years

Second New Zealand Expeditionary Force (2NZEF)  
26 (Canterbury & Otago) Infantry Battalion

Died 23 November 1941 in Western Desert  
Son of Robert and Margaret Findlay, Awarua Plains,  
Southland, New Zealand

*Honoured at Knightsbridge War Cemetery,  
Acroma, Libya*

#### Cameron Farquharson LECKIE *Gunner 22326*

Second New Zealand Expeditionary Force (2NZEF)  
New Zealand Artillery

35 years,

Died 18 October 1941 in Egypt

Son of William Gunn Leckie and of Helen Cameron  
Leckie (nee Farquharson), of Invercargill, Southland

*Honoured at Heliopolis War Cemetery, Egypt*  
(Portrait of Cameron and his headstone )

#### Gunn LECKIE *Private 8289*

35 years

Second New Zealand Expeditionary Force (2NZEF), 1st  
Echelon

Killed in action 1 December 1941 in Western Desert  
Son of William Gunn Leckie and of Helen Cameron  
Leckie (nee Farquharson), of Dunedin, Otago

*Honoured Knightsbridge War Cemetery, Acroma,  
Libya*

#### Harold James KIDDEY *Private 12801*

30 years

23 Infantry Battalion

Died 27 November 1941 in Western Desert

Son of Harold Ernest and Ethel May Kiddey, of  
Christchurch, Canterbury, New Zealand

*Honoured at Halfaya Sollum War Cemetery,  
Egypt*

Photo of actual headstone in Egypt

#### Antonio VALLI *Private 10441*

23 years

23 Infantry Battalion

Died 12 December 1941 in Western Desert

Antonio Valli was the son of Guiseppi Valli, and of  
Annie Valli, of East Winton, Southland, New Zealand.  
(Engaged to Margaret Maria Johnston).

*Honoured Knightsbridge War Cemetery, Acroma,  
Libya*

#### Stanley James EADE *Private 231178*

24 years.

24 Infantry Battalion

Died 18 March 1944 in Italy

Stanley Eade was the son of Walter James Eade, and  
of Marion Eade, of Invercargill, Southland.

*Honoured Cassino War Cemetery, Italy*  
Portrait from Weekly News; 17 May 1944

#### George Francis O'Brien *Private 427758*

29 years

23 Infantry Battalion

Died 20 March 1944 in Italy

George O'Brien was the son of George Francis and  
Julia Margaret O'Brien, of Wyndham, Southland, New  
Zealand; husband of Violet O'Brien, of Mokoreta,  
Southland.

*Honoured Cassino War Cemetery, Italy  
and Wyndham Memorial*

Portrait Weekly News



*Also served from Mokoreta*  
*Pvt William Murray, Gordon*  
*Eade, Garnet Eade*  
*George Johnston,*  
*Walter Lainchbury,*  
*James Reid*  
*Cprl Robert Henry*  
*Tpr John Henry.*  
*Gnr Thomas Craig*  
*Neil Murray*

*Dvr Charles McKay*  
*L.A.C. Alex R McRae*

*A.B Alex McRae, Thomas Robinson*

*Also served from Redan*

*T G Cross, M Grimwood,*  
*W Jack Hunter, David Parr, J W McBride,*  
*R J McDonald (A.C. 1) J W MacKenzie,*  
*G M MacKenzie, J H Sharp, C H Smith*

Second Honour board of Mokoreta ex school pupils who  
served in World War 2.





## FindMyPast

During the past 5 weeks several new databases have been added (**at the rate of one or more per week**):

2.5 million records from 1,500 National Schools in England, being Admission Registers and Logbooks covering the period 1870-1914. These give the date of birth of the pupils, the name, occupation and abode of the father and date of starting school. At present the schools included are only in the 13 counties of Devon, Kent, Lancashire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Hertfordshire, Middlesex, Huntingdonshire, Surrey, Wiltshire, and Glamorgan; plus Westminster. More counties will be added next year.

\* 4 million records (indexed transcripts plus images) of baptisms, marriages and burials from parishes in North, East and West Yorkshire, covering the period 1588 to 1989.

\* 20,000 Monumental Inscriptions from 3 cemeteries in Eastbourne spanning the period 1610-2005. \* 4 million records (indexed transcripts plus images) of baptisms, marriages and burials from parishes in North, East and West Yorkshire, covering the period 1588 to 1989.

\* 20,000 Monumental Inscriptions from 3 cemeteries in Eastbourne spanning the period 1610-2005.

\* Half a million London Apprenticeship Abstracts for the period 1442-1859.

\* Somerset and Dorset Notes & Queries periodicals for the period 1890-1980.

\* Somerset Electoral Registers covering the period 1832-1914

### FAMILY SEARCH NEWS

Recently added was a new database relating to Australia, rather confusingly but comprehensively and accurately entitled "Australia Cemetery, Military and Church Record Transcripts 1816-1982". This is not indexed but may be browsed. The images are from a microfilm of the card index compiled over many years by a keen genealogist, the late Clarice Cubbins (1916-2014). Of the 161,880 images most are actually cards relating to cemeteries in NSW and a few elsewhere and there are actually only a very small number of Military or Church Records.

[www.libertyellisfoundation.org](http://www.libertyellisfoundation.org) This is the new name of the Ellis Island website for searching for passengers and crew on ships to New York for the period 1892-1924. The period from 1925 to 1957 will be added early next year. There are over 51 million records here. Images of passenger lists can still be viewed free

**www.1911census.co.uk** On the Home page click on Help & Advice, then from the menu at left select Occupation Codes. This is a list of the codes and what they mean. These are the numbers that you see on 1911 census images in green ink written by census clerks over the occupation of a person.

Thanks to Riccarton Branch NZSG

**www.castlegarden.org**—Castle Garden—recommended database of passenger ships that sailed to the Americas between 1820 and 1913, indexed by passenger name.

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### COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING IN NZ

Compulsory Military Training for boys was introduced by the Defence Act of 1909. It was enthusiastically endorsed by Field Marshall Lord Kitchener when he visited New Zealand the next year, and conscription was introduced in 1910-11. All males from the ages of 14 to 20 were to be trained as soldiers.

Exemption from conscription was allowed only on medical or economical grounds. There was no provision made for conscientious objection. In 1911 the Passive Resisters' Union and the National Peace and Anti-Militarist Council of New Zealand were set up to oppose compulsory military training.

The Peace Council had branches all over the country. By the time the first camps were held in March 1912, youths were being fined for failing to register under the Defence Act and being jailed for non-payment. In the first six years of conscription, according to the National Peace Council,

24,490 boys were prosecuted. More than 7000 were taken to court in one year alone. One delegate opposed to the Defence Act said he had visited a military camp and heard bad language used. Another clergyman said the majority of New Zealand youth supported conscription and those who did not were 'the most undesirable elements in the community.'

Opposition came to a head when a youth was sent to Lyttleton jail for 21 days for not paying a fine he had already been imprisoned for not paying. One Sunday in March 1912 a special train took a crowd of 500 demonstrators to Lyttleton. By order of Cabinet, the youth was freed. *Thanks to Stratford Branch*





## Compulsory Military Training in New Zealand

Under the **Compulsory Military Training Act of 1949** all males became liable for military service upon reaching 18 years of age, with the rule taking effect in 1950.

All men aged 18 and over being required to register with the Department of Labour and Employment and apart from those exempted for medical or compassionate reasons, all had to undergo 14 weeks intensive, full-time training, three years part-time service, followed by six years in the Army Reserve. South Island men whose birthdates were drawn in a ballot went to Burnham Camp, Canterbury.

All trainees were allowed the option of serving with the Royal New Zealand Navy, Royal New Zealand Air force, or the New Zealand Army. A total of 63,033 men were trained under the CMT scheme before it was abolished by the Labour Government in early 1958.

A Military Medal was issued to those soldiers who completed the 14 week training and subsequent part time service.

This was very disruptive to the men and their employers. This medal can be claimed by the wife or his children if the soldier is now deceased.

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**MILK IN SCHOOLS** All the present fuss about free milk in schools is surprising to those who remember the first time around.

New Zealand was the first country in the world to introduce this to help improve the health of children after the Depression. Children vied to be 'milk monitor', and almost everyone declared the milk was the best-tasting ever. Milk was also sometimes left in the sun, causing it to be unpalatable. The scheme was abandoned in 1967. The milk in the new scheme comes in 200ml recyclable cartons and a fridge is supplied to each school.

*Thanks to Stratford Branch.*

### A correction and Apology

In October Newsletter I reported that a red dot represented a branch, a blue dot indicated an Interest Group. This was an error with the blue dots indicating Area contacts for Waitaki Valley, Wanaka and Winton. They are not interest groups. I apologize for the error and thank Mosgiel Branch for this correction.

### Research for book on women in war –

from Jane Tolerton

I am researching New Zealand women who took an active role in the First World War - as doctors, nurses, volunteers, journalists etc. Although nurses and some VADs were officially sent, most of the women who worked in some capacity, for example, in hospitals and canteens, just went, paying their own way. If you have any information on any of these women, I'd love to hear from you Email J Tolerton —at|| [lemail.com](mailto:lemail.com)

*From Stratford Branch*

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**Findmypast** latest releases Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Nov.

[National School Admission Registers for Anglesey and Plymouth & West Devon](#)

[Over 4,000 additional Prison Ship \(Hulk\) Registers, 1811-1843](#)

[Griffith's Survey Maps & Plans for Ireland, 1847-1864 Births, marriages and deaths from District of Columbia, USA](#)

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### Formal Adoption

Formal adoption records for

- England & Wales of began 1927,
- Scotland 1930,
- Northern Ireland 1931
- Republic of Ireland 1953

The 1976 Adoptions Act gave adopted people the right to access records and trace their birth parents, but these records are carefully controlled for privacy reasons and not available to general family history purposes.

The new 2014 laws in **England and Wales** will help with family research as adopted relatives will be easier to contact. [www.adoptionsearchreunion.org.ukm](http://www.adoptionsearchreunion.org.ukm)

In NZ the adopted person (only) can apply under the Adult Adoption Information Act 1985 for a copy of the pre adoptive birth certificate if they are 20 years or older. Please note that the birth parents, adoptive parents cannot obtain a copy of the pre adoptive birth record.

## Merry Christmas Happy New Year

### Drive carefully

– you are all special.

