

# Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists October 2016

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**Next Meeting**  
**Information Center, Gore**  
**4 October 2016**  
**Tuesday 7pm**  
**Noeline Shaw – writing her 8<sup>th</sup> book**

**The Dunedin Family History Group meeting**  
**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October --7.30pm – 9pm**  
**presentation on DNA.-**  
**What it is, and how can it help you with your**  
**Genealogical research**  
**Guest speakers – Dr Keith King and Mary Wallace.**

**If members are interested in attending this**  
**meeting / a whole day in Dunedin, visiting**  
**Archives, Early Settlers Museum and Hocken**  
**Library please contact Elaine ph 03 208 5392**

### Report of September Meeting

Robyn Williams video on migration to New Zealand was excellent. Thanks to Elaine Scott for obtaining it from NZSG, and Bruce and Elaine for setting it up. It was an extremely successful presentation and we all learnt many new facts on several subjects.  
 It was surprising to learn of the large number of young boys/ men who came to NZ under the 'Vogel' scheme. (In 1874 alone, there were 43,965 immigrants arrived, of whom 32,118 were Government assisted).

Three groups of 50 young boys were brought to NZ before the outbreak of WW1. There was a shortage of farming boys and they were to be trained in all aspects of farming, as well as be clothed and fed. Their wages were paid by Labour Dept but they were given pocket money.

The first group was organized by Thomas Edward Sedgwick of London and arrived in Wellington 25 January 1911 on *ss Athenic*. 25 came from Liverpool, and 25 from East End of London. They were dispersed to various parts of NZ and known as 'Sedgwick boys'. 50 boys arrived in Auckland on *ss Ayrshire* 20 January 1914, and another 50 on 1 March 1914 on *ss Suffolk*. The files of Sedgwick boys were destroyed in a fire in Wellington 1952, but many of them signed up for service during the First World War, as well as appear in the UK census records.

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sooty/1914AyrshireBoys.html>

The Royal New Zealand Fencible Corps were retired soldiers from Britain and Ireland who enlisted as a military reserve in the town of Auckland.

They arrived between 1847-1852 and formed the defence force which protected the early settlers of Auckland.  
 2500 men and their families arrived aboard the following vessels and settled in Otahuhu, Onehunga, Howick and Panmure. Each were enrolled to serve seven years and were offered free passage for themselves and their families, with pay ranging from 6 pence to 1 shilling and 3 pence a day, in addition to their pensions, an acre of ground and a cottage.  
 Ships names and more information

[http://ourauklandstuff.freesevers.com/Royal\\_New\\_Zealand\\_Fencibles.htm](http://ourauklandstuff.freesevers.com/Royal_New_Zealand_Fencibles.htm)  
<http://www.nzfenciblesociety.org.nz/wawcs017849/the-fencibles.html>  
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sooty/> - *Christine Clements site*

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### World War II Pets

At the beginning of World War II, a government pamphlet led to a massive cull of British pets. As

many as 750,000 British pets were killed in just one week. This little-discussed moment of panic and tragedy caused untold distress and heartache for adults and children.

The advice was printed in almost every newspaper and announced on the BBC. It was "a national tragedy in the making", Many were sent to the country but there were no food coupons for them. The **Govt in their wisdom was aware food was going to very scarce even for human consumption.**

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# Did You Know

## Gore Genealogy Branch in the Hokonui Heritage Center holds the death notices from the Southland Times newspapers from 1976 to present year.

We are happy to photograph and email specific copies directly to you.

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## Websites

Ancestry ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)) has added three major nursing records collection for Scotland, and the wider UK and Ireland. They are as follows:

### Scotland, Nursing Applications, 1921-1945

<http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=9300>

Original data: Register of Nurses Royal College of Nursing, London, United Kingdom.

### UK & Ireland, Nursing Registers, 1898-1968

<http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=60423>

Original data: Register of Nurses Royal College of Nursing, London, United Kingdom.

### UK & Ireland, Queen's Nursing Institute Roll of Nurses, 1891-1931

<http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=61098>

Original data: Queen's Nursing Institute Registers.

Welcome Trust, London,

England. *Otaki Newsletter*



### Free e-books from Family Tree Magazine 38 FamilySearch Search Tips: Find Free Genealogy Records Online



This free e-book contains some of Family Tree Magazine's best genealogy search techniques relating to FamilySearch.org, including articles on searching unindexed records, ordering microfilm, add-ons for your FamilySearch Family Tree, and a guide for improving your FamilySearch searches.

<http://ftu.familytreemagazine.com/38-familysearch-search-tips-find-free-genealogy-recordsonline/>

*Thanks to Hutt Valley Branch*

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### 48Ancestry.com Search Tips: Free E-book on the Biggest

### Genealogy Website

This free e-book contains some of Family Tree Magazine's best genealogy search tips relating to Ancestry.com searches, including articles on using the Ancestry.com Card Catalogue navigating immigration records, customizing your homepage and the advantages/disadvantages of public and private family trees.

<http://ftu.familytreemagazine.com/free-ancestry-search-tips/> *Thanks to Hutt Valley Branch*

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## Victoria Passenger lists

Findmypast has announced its largest

release of Australian records, giving first-time online access to records from one of Australian history's most exciting periods - the Gold Rush. Released in partnership with FamilySearch and Public Record Office Victoria (PROV), the 3.3 million records consist of **Victoria Coastal Passenger Lists spanning 1852 to 1924**, and can be found on [findmypast.com.au](http://findmypast.com.au).

During the Australian Gold rushes the population of Australia exploded; in 1852 alone, 370,000 immigrants arrived in Australia, and 1.7million people had made the journey by 1871. (*Mass migration is not new!!*)

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## The Irish Births-Marriages-Deaths have been released and are FREE to search.

<http://www.irishgenealogynews.com/2016/08/online-launch-irish-birth-marriage.html?m=1>  
<https://www.irishgenealogy.ie/en/>

Here is another site that may be able to help you.

<http://www.irelandxo.com/ireland-xo/message-board>  
You have to register and there is no subscription but you may give a donation if you so wish. First click on 'Log in' at top right and then register if you haven't already. Please read RESOURCES first as this will explain how the site works.

Then select your parish and post questions that others may answer for you.

## Census - missing

IMPORTANT: When posting your question put the names of those you are seeking in the subject line as this makes it easier to scroll through listings. Nothing more boring than seeing a lot of "I am looking for" and having to open the post to see who? Good luck and have fun searching. Thanks to Hutt Valley

There's a very useful page at the **Findmypast** website which lists the parts of the England & Wales and Scotland censuses which are known to be missing - <http://www.findmypast.co.uk/articles/census-for-england-wales-and-scotland-missing-pieces> (you don't need to be a **Findmypast** subscriber to view the page).

# Certificates

Great news this week for researchers with Irish ancestry - the historic birth, marriage, and death registers for Ireland were made available online at [IrishGenealogy.ie](http://IrishGenealogy.ie) - the official government site - and, best of all, they're absolutely free to view.

[IrishGenealogy.ie](http://IrishGenealogy.ie) Irish Genealogical Research Society's Early Irish marriages Index has now been updated, now holds reference to more than 80,000 marriages. However, there is a snag at the moment - at this stage not all of the historic registers are currently online - here's what is available now:

**BIRTHS: 1864 to 1915**

**MARRIAGES: 1882 to 1940**

**DEATHS: 1891 to 1965**

A birth, marriage, or death certificate is a certified copy of an entry in the respective register - but it doesn't actually PROVE anything. The fact that the registrar has signed the certificate provides assurance that the information shown matches the register entry, but it doesn't express any opinion at all about the accuracy of the details in the register.

Marriage certificates are most likely to contain errors - some deliberate, some accidental, some the result of ignorance. At least half of all 19th century marriage certificates include at least one error, usually the age of one or both of the parties, or the identify of one of the fathers. The fact that the marriage took place in the presence of two or more witnesses provides little reassurance - they could have been pulled in off the street. *You hope they are both sober and telling the truth as per the knowledge they have.*

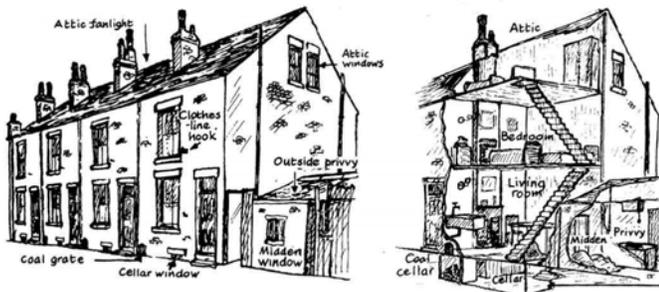
Death certificates are another unreliable source - ages are often wrong (with a tendency to round them off as 80, 90 etc) and even if the informant was a family member you might find that the wrong forename is given. And as for birth certificates - there's no guarantee that someone who appears to be married to the mother had actually been through a formal ceremony, nor that they're the father of the child.

The General Register Office are currently working on updating records of Marriages dating back to 1845 and Deaths dating back to 1864 - these will be added at a later date. Universal civil registration began in 1864, but non-Catholic marriages were recorded from 1845 onwards.

The registers that are online cover the whole of Ireland for the period up to 1921, but exclude the six counties of Northern Ireland after that date, and according to ClaireSantry's [Irish Genealogy News](http://IrishGenealogyNews) there are a total of 12.5 million entries online.

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**Houses in large UK towns last century- back to back - 2 up and 2 down!**

It was amazing to see rows of these houses in London, Edinburgh, Glasgow on a UK visit.

Scotland -Stirlingshire poor relief records  
[www.stirlingarchives.soct/poor-relief-indexes](http://www.stirlingarchives.soct/poor-relief-indexes)

[Ancestry.co.uk](http://Ancestry.co.uk) Seven million Somerset records from the South West Heritage trust, including Somerset School registers 1860- 1914 and Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burial 1538-1812. More than seven million Norfolk parish records. Royal Naval Seamen Index 1853- 1872 UK & Ireland. Nursing registers 1898 – 1968 from the Royal College of Nursing

[FamilySearchOrg](http://FamilySearchOrg). Transcripts of the 1851 census for England and Wales.



## More Irish Registers

A new free online resource has been launched by the Irish Genealogical Research Society and RCB Library to make it easier for family historians to track down Irish parish registers. The colour coded List of Church of Ireland Parish Registers at <http://bit.ly/2aUKwK4> provides comprehensive details of websites and archives which hold historic baptism, marriage and burial records, indicating what survives and the specific dates covered. If the originals were destroyed during the Irish Civil War a century ago, the site explains where abstracts and transcripts may be found.

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## Scottish Burial Records Online:

Information about burials can be difficult to unearth.. *no pun intended*  
Some records are the details of payment made for the hire of mortcloth, used to drape over the coffin. From 1855 – 1860 the burial place was noted, but unfortunately they were no longer noted by the registrars beyond this point. Civil registration records for death are available online via the pay -per -view based ScotlandsPeople website [www..scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://www..scotlandspeople.gov.uk)

Prior to Civil registration the church was responsible for burials, and even though the Kirk General Assembly gave instruction to keep burial registers, only a third of them did so.

## New ScotlandsPeople site Launch

[ScotlandsPeople](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk) is due to launch a brand new site on Monday 26th September. Existing users should find that their credits, searches, and saved images are still available.

New records expected to be added in due course include parish registers from non conformist Presbyterian churches, kirk session records, (some of these are already included as OPR burial records, identifying mortcloth payments). [www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk)

The most recent records on Deceased Online have restricted information to comply with the Data Protection Act – the names and addresses of funeral applicants and grave owners for burials during the last 75 years are withheld from publication.

[www.deceasedonline.com](http://www.deceasedonline.com) is a pay per view website with most burial and cremation register records costing 2 pounds to view.

You will need to register with the site before purchasing credits. Before using the site, it is worth familiarizing yourself with its Help/ FAQ page.



Some of the most useful records, are those of transcribed monumental inscriptions, largely collected by family history members.

*Greyfriars Kirkyard*

A 'lair' is a burial plot or grave in Scotland, and there can be several people burials in it. I always think it is a hidey hole for a fox or badger.

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## Review - Review - Review

Sorting out in your mind, and writing down what you need help with, can clarify the problem. The answer could be in notes that you discovered months ago, but didn't appear to be relevant at the time.

Develop a strategy to make the most effective use of your time and money, in your own country and overseas.

Going back regularly to check and identify gaps in the family history may be solved with new sources online. Talk to other researchers, join mailing lists or Family History Societies relevant to your countries, where your ancestors came from. Information is continuously being indexed and updated.

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Birmingham City Council (England) recently banned volunteers from taking photos of the city's historical graves unless they applied in writing for permission..



*Waterstone Cemetery*

Without the work of local volunteers much of this information will be lost. The Jewellery Quarter Research Trust

were transcribing the Waterstone Lane and Key hill cemeteries onto a data base. [www.jart.org](http://www.jart.org) and intend to list all the people known to be buried in a grave, including biographies, obituaries and pictures of the deceased. Agreement has been reached for the Trust to photograph the memorials at both cemeteries.

*NZ has been so fortunate to have volunteers and compliant councils who welcome our input and work*