

Gore Branch of New Zealand of Genealogists May 2012

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Next Meeting
 1 May 2012 - 8 pm
 Hokonui Heritage Center
 Speaker – **June Trotter** –
 Books she has written
 and published
 All welcome

April Meeting

Dr Don Mackay spoke about the book he has just completed called *'The Troopers Tales'*. He has a lot of knowledge from the war eras and was very interesting, especially about the Invercargill and Otago regiments. The photos were outstanding. Thanks to Don for an extremely interesting evening.

AGM 5 June–

Subscriptions are now due #25 if paid before June, and \$20 if you do a Sunday duty in Hokonui Heritage Center. 1pm – 4pm

HINT: Legacy Programme- always **'back up'** each time you leave the programme – use the same name to avoid having information in a whole set of new files, which will eventually have to combined.

Scotlandspeople adds 1915 Valuation



Scotlandspeople has added the 1915 Valuation Rolls, which were compiled by local assessors in the autumn and winter of 1914. They were created by each of the 90 royal burgh and the county authorities of the 35 Scottish counties. The main objective was to create the basis for consistent charging of rates, or local taxation, to pay for services such as education, drainage and street lighting. Assessors identified the names of the owners, occupiers and tenants of properties, but did not work with future genealogists in mind. They generally only record the head of the household, so unlike the census, there is no information about other members of a family, unless they occur in their own right as owners, occupiers or tenants.

Each index entry lists the surname, forename, address, parish and county.

Finding children who died as infants



The 1911 UK Census was the first to ask married women how many children they had given birth to during their marriage - and how many of them were still alive. These had died as infants, never appeared on a census.

Finding these births in the GRO is a challenge, especially if the marriage has lasted 40 or 50 years - it wasn't until after the 1911 Census that the GRO started recording the mother's maiden name in the birth indexes. (this is so infuriating for genealogists searching records prior to 1911) The mother's maiden name isn't recorded in the GRO birth indexes until the 3rd quarter of 1911, but some local indexes do include this vital piece of information. Mothers breastfed their children – this was used as birth control and they were almost 'safe' during the first 6 months. Mothers breastfed each child until she felt the next baby moving in the womb. Some women never menstruated from when they married, until they died, or hit the magical age of menopause!

Remember Heather Bray said husbands knew 'getting their wife pregnant was a sure way of killing an unwanted wife', because so many died in childbirth. .

Babies frequently arrived every two years, (or earlier) if there is a bigger gap, look for a still birth or child who died when very young.

findmypast adds more parish records

Nearly 700,000 parish records have been added at findmypast, including more than 400,000 Northamptonshire burials. Thousands of new records, which also cover Yorkshire, Dorset and north-west Kent have been added to findmypast

Hint: buy 'Kiwi' stamps now, while they are available at the present price – they will keep their value irrespective of any increases in postage.

Ancestry adds Surrey marriages

[Marriage Bonds and Allegations](#) recently added to Ancestry cover 750,000 marriages in the Surrey area between 1597 and 1921.

Members Interest – Rhonda WILSON

I continue to research my mother's family, her parents Kathleen and Owen were brought up in the South Hillend /Heddon Bush area. Owens parents Timothy and Janet CAIRNS as we knew them, were actually married as Timothy and Jane KERIN. Timothy came to NZ on the *Duke of Edinburgh* in 1874 to Canterbury, where he worked in the Tinwald area. Timothy and Jane were married 1883 in the Temuka South Canterbury Catholic Church.

They had two sons that were registered KERIN, and then all the children were registered as CAIRNS. It seems that one was registered twice in both names, and they changed their name before moving south as it was hard to get work. Timothy and Jane moved south about 1904 where they settled and farmed at Heddon Bush after purchasing part of the Heddon Bush Estate. They farmed until Timothy was killed in a farm accident in 1922. I believe the farm was taken over by the two eldest sons after Timothy's death. Jane on their marriage certificate is 21 years, but I have since found her birth certificate and she was only 15. This was quite a mission as I was told she was Janet, not Jane and she is Janet on their headstone. I was lead to believe her parents were Jane and John GILMOUR; they are Jane and John on her birth and her marriage certificate but after that I can only find them as Jean & John. Have I got the right people?

My next mission is to prove or disprove this. The CAIRN's family as I know them had a 'get together' this year and they showed us where Granddad worked and lots of stories were told. *The children took all their clothes off before jumping in the powdered lime so their mother would not know (ha ha – not with lime in their hair)*
PS. Before the weekend I printed off what I knew about each family and attached a self addressed envelope and asked if they could add or correct any missing details, and return. I have all but one back and lots of amazing photos and information.
Thanks Rhonda

Browsing parish registers at findmypast

parish registers. Use 'Previous page' and 'Next page' buttons. Cheshire, parts of Wales, Plymouth, parts of the City of Westminster

From Crofts to Castles - Valuation Rolls in Scotland Go Online for the First Time. -

Valuation Rolls in Scotland for 1915 on the ScotlandsPeople website. Images, case studies, background information and statistics can all be accessed at the ScotlandsPeople

<http://media.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/index.html>

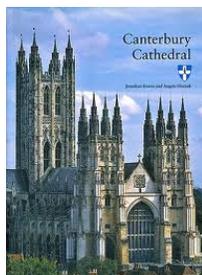
Genealogy Technology is Vital to us all.

The 2012 Rootstech conference was held in Salt Lake City and the videos and streams are available at

<http://rootstech.org/live>

Thames Boatmen

findmypast has added 300 years of 100,000 records of waterman and lightermen to their collections. The Thames is the only river regulated by parliament for apprenticeship to trade as watermen and lightermen. Boys and were bound to a master or mistress who was normally the widow of a freeman for one year. However in the 19th century this



period was changed to 5 – 7 years, having served for his time when he was 21 years. Going back to 1688 records show full name of apprentice, date apprenticeship commenced, the location, full name of master & date of freedom. These records include parish baptism, marriage & burial records of the Thames side and Medway. Thanks to Canterbury Cathedral Archives.

www.findmypast.co.uk/search/other-records/thames-watermen

Vaccination Records

Vaccination records are in local archives and give the same info as the birth certificate. Smallpox vaccination was compulsory for infants in England & Wales from 1853 – 1948. Scotland laws appear to have been the same.

Welsh Archives Baptisms, Marriages and Burials

findmypast.co.uk has announced parish records from Wales - part of a major new project with the Welsh County Archivists Group and the National Library of Wales. 3,878,862 million records from parish registers from the Church in Wales can now be searched for the first time: 1,418,921 baptism records covering 1538-1911 950,254 marriage records covering 1539-1926 340,002 marriage banns covering 1701-1926 1,169,685 burial records covering 1539-2007. These records cover the counties of Cardiganshire, Carmarthenshire, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Glamorganshire [Thanks to Kapati Branch](#)

Parish records for **Northamptonshire, Yorkshire, Dorset, Kent, London Wales & Manchester** includes Yorkshire baptisms 1599 -1996, Dorset baptisms 1559 – 1894, marriages 1560 – 1812, 113,000 new Chester wills and probate records on findmypast.co.uk for the period 1492-1911.

1901 Scottish census: you can now search the 1841-1901 Scottish censuses on findmypast.co.uk findmypast.co.uk But it is not possible to view the original census images due to the Scotland's General Register Office.