

Gore Branch of New Zealand Genealogists September 2012

CONVENOR Rhonda Wilson 208 4433
SECRETARY Margaret McDougall 208 5450
TREASURER Liz O'Connell 208 3727
BULLETIN Avis McDonald 2086 812
WEBMASTER Liz O'Connell 208 3727
WEB SITE www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsggb
NZSG WEB SITE www.genealogy.org.nz



Next Meeting

4 Sep 2012 - 8 pm
Hokonui Heritage Center
Discovery night

Brick Walls

“Don't be tempted to skip a generation, or you may end up with a family tree that is NOT your own”



1. Why can't I find a birth registration in England or

Wales

Was the child born in another country; Scotland, Ireland or where father was stationed as a soldier. In England, and Wales registration started 1837, but it was NOT compulsory until 1875. 10% of children were not registered in early 20th century. Search www.gro.gov.uk, familysearch.org and use parish records. Use school records in NZ. Compulsory registration in Scotland started 1 Jan 1855 and it was comprehensive in that year, all of Ireland started in 1864, but many records were lost in the 1922 fiasco.

2. I can't find my ancestors marriage.

Before a marriage could be celebrated there was lots of paperwork to be done. Much of which can assist you in your research. Banns had to be called for three separate Sundays prior to the wedding. This gave people a chance to object. A special licence was available from the Archbishop of Canterbury which allowed the marriage to take place anywhere in the country. In 17th and 18th century the Fleet Prison in London was used to perform irregular marriages, the celebrant usually being a minister imprisoned for debt and practising outside the jurisdiction of the church. The earliest known wedding was 1614, but the practice was illegal after 1753. Between 1754 and 1837 all marriages apart from Quakers and Jews had to take place in an Anglican parish church. This was an attempt to stop clandestine marriages in Greta, prisons & public houses. Marriages usually occurred in the brides parish. The birth of the first a baby could arrive 2 days or less after a marriage, but the second baby usually took 9 months

3. Why aren't they on the census?

They may have moved within England, Wales, Scotland or emigrated. In 19th century there was an exodus to towns to find employment in factories, or domestic service. Poor Law Unions helped families to emigrate providing assisted passages. Records maybe with Boards of Guardians. Findmypast has an address facility. A widow may have remarried.

August Meeting 2012

Bruce Cavanagh spoke gave everyone a chance to learn what could be achieved on Ancestry.com. and other genealogy websites.



NZSG President Michelle Patient, Councillor Roger Washborne and Barbara Wyley will visit Gore on a 'Whistle Stop Tour' on

Tuesday 9 October for morning tea. This is a wonderful opportunity for Gore Branch members to meet them and discuss what we wish the NZ Society Genealogists to provide for this area.

A change to the Programme:

Donald Buckley visit is not possible because of lack of space, but we are hoping to organize an alternative for later in the year.



Divorce Records

Many divorce records are in Archives NZ, however they are held in the records of the Supreme/High Court

which handled it. There was a Decree Nisi; then a Decree Absolute which was necessary to remarry. You may need the name of the court as well as the date. The date and court may be indicated by a stamp on the original marriage register entry, or on a subsequent Intentions to Marry application by either of them. Some divorces were reported on page 5 of the weekly "Truth", and there was an index on microfilm to them.

<http://archives.govt.nz/research/questions-answers-general-lists>

Births registered in local post offices within the wider area of Lumsden, Tapanui, and Wyndham prior to 1900 have the parents ages noted in the book of births in the stack area.

Photographs Bostik put out a "GluStik" which is suitable for labelling photos. It is acid free and recommended for scrap booking.



4. How did my ancestor die?

Causes of death can be vague- look at <http://rmh.co.uk/medical.html> 'Visitation of God, or

Syncope' appeared regularly on NZ and UK early certificates when the death was sudden. The death certificate will state whether there is a Coroner's report. These reports are closed for 75 years, but were often published in local paper.. Common causes such as phthisis for tubercular diseases are often listed on certificates. Softening of the brain could indicate syphilis .Infant mortality rates were high until World War 1. Childhood illnesses were scarlet fever and measles.



5. Did my ancestor leave a will – In NZ look on Archway or NZSG Kiwi Index V 1. There are two distinct periods in England.

Prior to January 1858 probate was granted in ecclesiastical courts. Look in www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline

These are available to NZSG Members free of charge. 1858- 1966 are now on line www.ancestry.co.uk Before the Married Woman's Property Act of 1882 you're unlikely to find any will left by a wife- she had to have consent of the husband. Many people left wills, not only the rich, so do look.

6. What job did my ancestor do?

Occupations have changed dramatically. Do you have a quarrel picker, or upright worker – both 19th century trades in chimney sweeps. Look in www.rmhh.co.uk/occup from 1710-1811 A tax was levied on apprenticeships. Look on www.ancestry.co.uk

Journeyman on a certificate indicates he hasn't undergone apprenticeship. Tenters and doffers



were often children worker in cotton mills in Lancashire. Health and safety wasn't a top priority – glue boiling

process and matchmaking cottage industry. Stonemasons had to master many skills including ability to produce skilled technical drawings, have thorough knowledge of geometry, undertake complex carvings and understand the intricacies of structural stress. He had to construct scale models, draw up plans on parchment, even in layers of special plaster set on the ground. A Master stonemason working on

churches or abbeys was paid for each block of stone he carved. To keep track each piece would have that mason's unique identifying mark. Read the book on line at www.eylhs.org.uk/Masons.pdf

As each project was completed the mason would move to another site. 'Banker masons' specialized in carving intricate geometrical shapes found on doors and windows in churches and memorials.



Gargoyles are figures, often grotesque, carved on outside of English churches to channel water away from the walls. Others that are simply decorative are known chimeras. Look at Otago

University Registry building in Dunedin. Stone masons had to know the intricacies of lifting tackle for major stones. In small towns they worked on door lintels, stone walls, paving to building a bridge or household steps, and in NZ headstones. Stone sawyers cut basic blocks, and quarrymen who blasted and sliced large blocks of workable rock from quarries.

Visit the Gore cemetery where the stonemasons carved the firm's name or initials at the base of the headstone.



World 1 7. How to obtain World War 1 service records of UK Army personnel?

Start with www.cwcq.org and obtain the details Service records – apply at www.veterans-uk.info but there is 30 pound charge

which is waived for surviving spouse of the person. The amount of information varies but Army records generally include name, rank, service # dates of enlistment and discharge, date & place of birth, usual occupation & address, casualty records & medals awarded. Operational records are at TNA



8. How to track down where UK ancestors are buried

Unlike NZ death certificates, UK certificates do not list where the person is buried. So.. check the

parish burial registers around the time of death. Search National Burial Index at www.findmypast.co.uk which is also on CD at Hokonui Heritage Center. If the person died after 1837 obtain death certificate, check death notices in local papers, www.newsplan.co.uk to locate newspapers which were in circulation at that time. Death notices often include funeral/ cremation arrangements.

So far indexes are available for Washington DC and 37 of the 50 states. Of the 13 states left to be indexed, the following 7 will be the first to be completed: Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, New Jersey and Texas.

www.historybytheyard.co.uk London

Metropolitan Police and Scotland Yard. List of Gallantry Awards prior to 1918

www.finmypast.co.uk

Prisoner of War records 170,000 British Army Officers, 1914-1918

Information usually gives name, rank, service, section, date the soldier went missing & date repatriated (or if they died in captivity)

World War Two - 107,000 records of British Army held in German territories, records usually give name, rank regiment, army number, camp number PoW number and camp location.

www.findmypast.ie Irish Petty session order books covering criminal cases

Sheffield Baptisms 1852-1940

Sheffield Marriages 1848-1991

Sheffield Burials 1767-1802

Lincolnshire Marriages 1700-1837 (49,184 new records)

Some Devon Baptisms 1900-1999

Some Devon Burials 1626-1927

Plastic Surgery records (2,328 men who were patients of Dr Harold Gillies 1917-25)

Oldham Employers World War One Roll of Honour, Oldham Pals Army records 1914-20

Archdeaconry of Canterbury (Kent) parish records: Baptisms, Marriages, Banns and Burials (128,000 images)

North West Kent parish records (burials 1788-1983 for Northfleet, Dartford and Gravesend)
x Riccarton Branch

The NZ Society of Genealogists is excited to announce the arrival of Irish Newspaper Archives. This service is free for members of the society and is available remotely via the NZSG website once you log in, under members' area, online newspapers.

- Newspapers from 1763 right up to current editions

- 29 titles from around Ireland

VISIT THE [NZSG WEBSITE](http://www.nzsg.co.nz)

Central Scotland Monumental Inscriptions

www.memento-mori.co.uk The website consists of searchable online indices containing names, ages, dates of death and places of burial in many locations in Central Scotland. (Women are listed by both maiden and married surnames.)

The indices include both pre-1855 and post-1855 gravestones many of which have been

previously transcribed in the 'Pre-1855 Monumental Inscriptions' series of publications by Mitchell.

Each separate index contains a selection of photographs (at the end of each document

>>>>>>>>><<<<<<<<

Time line for 'some' Information/Law Changes for New Zealand BDMS

- **1840**- Records before 1848 have been gleaned from church and place registers etc.
- **1848** - Birth and Death registrations introduced
- **1854** - Marriage Registration Act introduced Registry Office marriages introduced
- **1876** - Marriage details/age and birth place of parents recorded on birth registrations. occupations, parental details, where born , when and where buried, marriage details, ages of children of deceased, length of time in NZ recorded on death registrations.
- **1881** -Parental details recorded on marriage registrations and residence of each party
- **1911** -Separate registration of Maori marriages introduced
- **1912** – Official registration of stillborn births provided for
- **1914**- Recording of First World War deaths
- **1918**- All World War 1 deaths registered with reference year of 1918, The age at death is displayed as NR (not recorded , even when age is on death certificate
- **1930** – word Illegitimate to be omitted from birth registration. Registering deaths of Naval Forces
- **1933** – Minimum age of marriage raised to 16. Prior to this is was - 14 for males and 12 for females
- **1990** – NZ Post Office agencies withdrawn local agencies established
- **1995** – Births, deaths and marriages are transferred from Department of Justice to Department of Internal Affairs
- **1998** – Centralisation of registrations
- **2000** – All birth and death agency work withdrawn from Court and local authorization agencies. All register books archived. (Unfortunately)
- **2001** – Computer imaging of registrations completed
- **2004** – Addresses printed on the back of certificates
- **2005** - Civil unions introduced

Thanks to Hutt Valley Branch