

# Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists

## June 2014

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**Next Meeting**  
**3 June 2014**  
**Tuesday 8pm - Heritage Centre**  
**Annual Meeting and a visit to**  
**LDS Family History Rooms**

### Chania, Crete

**PapersPast** additions to 3 local district newspapers,  
 The Matura Ensign from 1901-1914  
 The Clutha Leader from 1901-1920  
 Tuapeka Times from 1910-1920

### May Meeting Report

Muriel Pullar and Stephanie Herring were the guest speakers. They spoke on how their families are preserving the beautiful garments, including a lovely christening gown, and a sampler Muriel had made.

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As our excellent secretary Marg is retiring due to work commitments, a new secretary is being sought. It is not an onerous task, with the barest minimum of work involved. Please give it serious thought.

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I am home again after the most amazing experiences of 18 days in Crete, plus time in Edinburgh *New Register House* and the *Caithness Library*. The Ipad was invaluable for photographing the many documents in the latter repository.

Anzac Day is not recognized in Greece but they hold a Memorial Day on 26 May 2014.

### Ancestry now has the NZ BDM indexes.

**NZ Births Indexes 2,250,215** entries from 1840 to 1950 show the full names as well as the quarter of the birth year, place of registration and the old folio number

**NZ Deaths Indexes 1,507,722** entries from 1848 to 1980 show the full names as well as the quarter of the death year, place of registration and the old folio number

**NZ Marriage Indexes 1,402,153** entries from 1840 to 1950 give the full names and whether the person is a Bride(Wife) or Bridegroom and the year plus the old folio number

The indexes can be accessed on Ancestry.com here at the Heritage Centre or over at the Gore Library and also at the LDS Family History Centre (Gore) and simply to Search then Australia & NZ then click on New Zealand then on the respective Data Collection for New Zealand Birth, Marriage & Death etc.

### Additions to Ancestry Com :

We've just added these WWII Civilian Death Records, 1939-1945, a stark reminder of the losses suffered in the other side of war. Find details of thousands of civilians who were killed during WWII by enemy action and are commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

London was hardest hit, so the London boroughs have lengthy casualty lists, but the collection also covers many other places, including Manchester, Birmingham, Nottingham, Norwich and York.

<http://www.bda-online.org.au/>

This new website launched in Australia is devoted to creating a large biographical database of Australians. Known as the Biographical Database of Australia (BDA), the first batch of records contain convict, muster, census, baptism, marriage and burial records from New South Wales (1788-1828) and for Norfolk Island and Tasmania (1802-1811). In the future, data will be added for all states and territories. Well worth checking out if you have Australian ancestors.

The indexes are free to search although there is a fee to see the underlying records.

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

Additionally, MyHeritage is investing millions of dollars to digitize more Nordic historical content and has signed new agreements that will result in a wealth of Nordic historical records to be added during the next few years.

Dick Eastman Newsletter

**archive.spectator.co.uk**

This is a free to use website containing the archives of the newspaper *The Spectator*, from July 1828 up to December 2008. Can be searched



**New Stuff from Scotlands people Newsletter Launch of Inhabited House Tax Rolls from 1778 to 1798 on Scotlands Places** Inhabited House Tax Rolls from 1778 to 1798 are the latest fascinating resource to have been added to the ScotlandsPlaces website.

These Tax Rolls offer history researchers a valuable insight into 18th Century life, while genealogists can use the records to find the names of ancestors throughout Scotland together with the annual value of the houses they held. The tax rolls include all houses valued over £5 per annum and include people with more common professions such as bonnet makers, shoemakers, innkeepers, skimmers and wrights. Other tax records available on ScotlandsPlaces relate to carriages, carts, clocks, watches, dogs, horses, servants, hearths, shops and the infamous window tax.

To find out more about these new records and to view two examples, including the entry for James Boswell at Auchinleck House in 1783, go

[www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk)

N.B. when viewing these two large example images of Inhabited House Tax Rolls on the ScotlandsPeople website, just click on an image to enlarge it further.

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***The Connacht and Munster Landed Estates project.***

The Landed Estates Web site, a searchable, online database of all Landed Estates in Connacht and Munster,

maintained by the Moore Institute for Research in the Humanities and Social Studies, National University of Ireland, Galway.

The Landed Estates Database provides a comprehensive and integrated resource guide to landed estates and historic houses in Connacht and Munster, c. 1700-1914. The aim of this guide is to assist and support researchers working on the social, economic, political and cultural history of Connacht and Munster from c.1700 to 1914.

Browse the database via the link below

<http://landedestates.nuigalway.ie:8080/LandedEstates/javascript/> lists estates by name and place, families , and individual houses.

Sincere thanks to Ashburton District Family Newsletter

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Injured soldiers returning home - the NZ connection is interesting.

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/postcolonial/2014/may/26/broken-gargoyles-the-disfigured-soldiers-of-the-first-world-war>

**Greek Orthodox Easter in Crete 2014**

This celebration is far more important than Christmas in the Orthodox church. Gifts are exchanged and families try to all come together.

No meat or dairy products are consumed for the week prior to Easter Sunday when they are all fasting.

On *Holy Easter Thursday* night there was a church service with the priests chanting for several hours with loud speakers outside. The church was full and tourists, including me, stood in the large courtyard outside. At the end of the service three altar boys emerged with crosses, followed by several priests with larger crosses, then suddenly the flower decked bier symbolizing the body of Jesus appeared . Parishioners followed, and walked around the whole parish.

Boiled eggs are dyed red. Symbolizing the body of Jesus On *Easter Friday* many of the villagers create a huge bonfire to burn the effigy of Judas which they had made. Fire crackers are thrown frequently, but dogs and cats are totally unperturbed.

On *Holy Saturday* the Eternal flame is brought from Jerusalem by plane and distributed to the churches. The midnight church *Service of the Resurrection* is an occasion attended by everyone, including small children. As they enter the church they all air kiss the picture of an Icon. Everyone has an unlit tall white candle.

The churches are all full to overflowing . At the end of the Mass and before midnight all lights are extinguished and the church only has the *Eternal Flame* on the Altar.. (I was honoured to be invited to attend this service).

The priest lit 12 candles symbolizing the 12 Apostles and they in turn lit the candles of people around them, until the whole church and courtyard was full of flickering candlelight. I was very aware that all the tall young ladies around me had long hair which was a serious fire danger. It is the custom to carry the Eternal Flame candle home, even in the car, and make a cross with the smoke on the door frame.

The fast is broken with a beautiful meal served in the lovely dining room. The next day we were invited to the grandparents original farm where a goat was roasting on a spit, along with several other spits, and vegetables and lamb were cooked in an outside kiln. 50 people were catered for, and the house only had a large cold water sink to wash the dishes !!!

An absolutely amazing experience.

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**Subs are due now**

if you have not paid, could you please pay Liz as soon as possible.