

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists

November 2015

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Next Meeting
3 November 21015
Gore Cemetery Visit.
Meet at 7pm at the Main gate, Crewe Street. Supper at Elaine Scotts
Please bring a plate

Report of October 2015 Meeting

This was a brilliant interactive meeting with members sharing information of what is available in Hokonur Heritage Center with Raewin Ramage, her sister in law Fonwa Ramage and all members.

Maori births, deaths and intentions to Marry appear to have been registered in Bluff.

On reflection, Elaine and I realized there were no Maori names in the thousands of such certificates we transcribed. It is thought the people had a choice of being on the Maori or European registers.

Prior to all South Island registers being put into cold storage in Christchurch.

Mataura Maoris had to apply to Bluff Post Office for copies of their certificates.

The computer data base at HHC is constantly being updated and added to, as deaths and obituaries are transcribed from The Ensign newspaper and visitors provide extra information.

Raewin showed a demonstration of the many amazing attributes of -

Puzzilla.org programme. However this requires your family to be entered in FamilySearch program. This can be done at home, but Raewin is a brilliant teacher on Thursday nights 5.30-7-30pm. The Puzzilla full programme plus the following and many others are available at LDS library.

My Heritage – Library edition - Billions of historical records

Historic Map Works – Digital map database of North America

Paper Trail

World Vital Records

Alexander Street Press – American Civil Way

Three computers were set up for members to search and Margaret Sutherland thanked Raewin and Elder and Sister Beckman for their kind hospitality. The evening closed with a lovely supper.



Germantown at Whiterig

Germans were the largest non-British immigrant group to settle in New Zealand in the 19th century. Today, some 200,000 New Zealanders could be

of German descent.

Between 1843 and 1914, at least 10,000 Germans arrived. They came mainly from northern Germany. In the 1840s times were difficult for rural labourers in the north of Germany. They were entirely at the mercy of the landowning aristocracy. They could leave the service of their master, but in doing so lost the right to live on the land. For many, emigration was the only answer.

Germantown was an early settlement north-east of Gore, now known as Whiterig.

Its name was derived from the fact that majority of occupants were Polish, Prussian and German settlers. They were given free passage in exchange for labour for the building of railway to stretch from Gore to Clinton. They were hardworking and thrifty and true pioneers in a foreign land where they did not even know the language. The men working on the section from Gore to Pukerau lived at Germantown, while those working

The men quickly learnt English as they worked, as did the children attending school, and the women at home learnt from their family members.

After the railway construction term was completed the families spread out into the community and became farmers and merged with settlers from the British Isles. In 1875 the Government opened up the first part of McNab's Knapdale Run for ballot. Many of the men from Germantown were successful. Most of the sections contained 200 acres or less.

Most Germans settled in English-speaking towns, and the larger cities had German-speaking quarters. Some German immigrants also founded rural communities such as Germantown. . Although some of these early settlements still exist, in many cases there is little sign of their origins.

20 - 30 families lived in the area and the settlers names in no particular order were:

August Regefske -	Charlie Gutschlag
John Klukosfe	Michael Lietze
William Smillie	John Liecosky
John Dovalesfske	August Gutschlag
Wiliam Reinke	William Robertson
Albert Kenisky	Joseph Stepansky
John Hoffman	John Halfka

The list of names connected with Germantown and the Whiterig coal reserve are as follows:

Joh Bulcolz	Alex Syme
I King	John Regefsky
John Dovoloske	August Gutschlag
William Smillie	Charles Gutschlag
John Klukosfske	William Gutschlag
William Voight	Otto Hanke
Michael Lietze	William Bannerman
August Regefske	Alex McKinnon
Joseph Belesky	John Halfka
Albert Kenisky	William Reinke
Gus Newman	Miss H Newman
John Sarginson	Charles Potts
Joseph Stepansky	William Marzhan
Fermont Flugge	Christian Reinke
Fred Chittock	John Zieosky
William Robertson	White Bros
J Fowler	John Hoffman & family
John Reinke now John Rankin.	
Miss H Newman married Otto Hanke.	

This is how an early German immigrant in Nelson described New Zealand in a letter home, in 1846:

'At first we had to fight a bitter struggle ... but now we are all able to live quite comfortably and we've all saved some money too ... Things are good here in this colony. Each and everyone is completely free and has full civil rights. ... So, dear mother-in-law, don't worry about us at all, as we are probably the luckiest of your children, as we eat nothing but white bread made from wheat here, and have lots of it.'

The Whiterig cheese factory situated at the corner of Whiterig Road and McKinnon Road closed at the start of World War 2 in 1939, It has recently been converted to a house is the only surviving remnant of where Germantown was situated.

The comprehensive newspaper article on Germantown is available at the Hokonui Heritage center.

Did You Know?????

There are hundreds of certificates filed alphabetically in folders in the Stack. These have been contributed by members for the benefit of new members and researchers

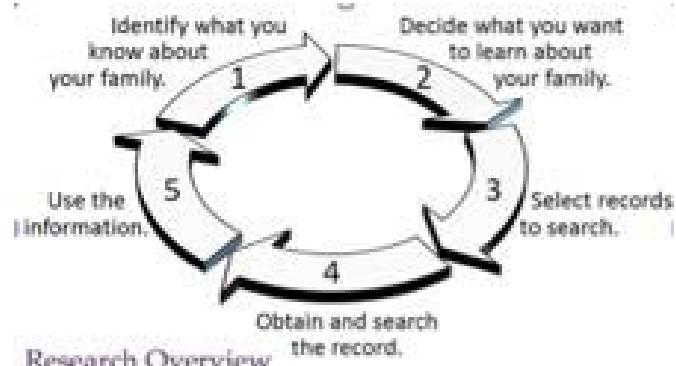
Web Watch

(Websites have been checked before we recommend them)

Susan Guthrie, an experienced Mosgiel committee member, was again at the Logan Utah Family Search Centre USA, and sent information about some of its resources at:

https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Logan_Utah_Family_History_Center

It is possible to access many resources there without subscribing & paying fees: access the Family History Research Wiki by clicking on "Wiki Home". Among the features of interest was an overview of 'cycles' in the research process readers may find helpful:



Another link from the Utah Centre provides a really good overview of the resources, and the pitfalls to know about in accessing information for family history research: it is at <https://www.evidenceexplained.com/> <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>

When Michelle Patient of NZSG was here she alerted us to the Dunedin paper *The Evening Star 1865 – 1920* recently being added to the collection

Thanks to Mosgiel Branch

Don't Let Mythology Guide Your Genealogy Research!

August 14, 2015

How can you tell if the information posted by individuals on internet genealogy sites is correct? Some sites have sources but others don't. How do you know what, and when, to believe what you read online???

A good rule of thumb is....*Don't trust anything you find on the internet (or elsewhere) if it doesn't have sources.*

Thanks Legacy News and Hutt Valley Branch

First Cobb & Co. Coach Service runs to Otago Goldfields 11 October 1861



In its first venture from Dunedin to Gabriels Gully, Cobb & Co. reduced the time for the trip from two days to nine hours.

Cobb & Co. was founded in Melbourne in 1854 by a group of Americans, among them Freeman Cobb. In 1861 its proprietor, Charles Cole, arrived in Dunedin with a luxury American Concord coach, five wagons, a buggy, more than 50 horses, and a reputation for speed and reliability. One week later, the first 'Cobb & Co Telegraphic Line of Coaches' service began a new era in New Zealand coaching.

New Zealand was crying out for a public transport network. Though not the first coach service in the colony, Cobb & Co. it quickly became the biggest. Within a few years it had connected many of New Zealand's main centres; the 'Cobb' name was also widely adopted by independent operators who had no link with the original company.

Coach travel was not for the faint-hearted. At the very least, passengers had to endure a queasy rocking motion and a tendency to violent swaying. Male passengers were expected to get out and walk up steep slopes. On rare occasions passengers drowned in swollen rivers or were killed by being thrown off on steep hillsides. By 1880 railways had reached many areas, especially in the South Island. Speed, safety and comfort – and the fact that you could read on a train – won out, and coach travel gradually declined. Cobb & Co. ran its last stagecoach service in 1923.

Small horse drawn taxi services continued for a while at railway stations, until these too were upstaged by modern motor transport.

The Cobb & Co. coaches gathered dust for many years before they were recognized as heritage items and displayed in transport museums around the country.

These days, when New Zealanders hear the term 'Cobb & Co.' they think of a chain of family restaurants established in 1970 by Lion Breweries. Cobb & Co., with its links to New Zealand's transport heritage, provided the perfect brand name. In 2015 there are eight Cobb & Co. restaurants, most of them in provincial cities. *Thanks to Hutt Valley Branch for this article*

A "BONNEY" MYSTERY

Did Harold Arthur Bonney Ever marry Ivy Adelaide Beckham?

I have spent years looking for irrefutable evidence proving that a marriage took place, with no success. Harold Arthur Bonney was born in Tasmania 26 January 1886. The son of William Bonney of Mole Creek, and Alice Amelia Bonney (Bennet). Tas. Birth certificate For some reason, Arthur Harold (he uses this name henceforth) Bonney, went to NZ.

His NZEF Attestation details show he was a Bushman, living at Raetihi, never married. He was a Roman Catholic. Gave his father's address in Tasmania as n o k. Reg no 11218. He enlisted 18.10.15.

D Company 12th Reinforcements

He embarked aboard "Ulimaroa" Wellington 1.5.16 arriving in Sling Camp UK 8.8.1916. Left for France 20.8.1916

By 25.8.16 he is being transferred to 20th Gen Hospital, embarks for England 4.9.16. Bronchitis.

From that time on, Arthur's records show that he spends most of his time in hospitals, in Aberdeen, Codford, Hornchurch. There is a note on the records by Rev J McKim re a marriage by special licence to Emily May Donnelly on Sept 6th 1917.Ockenden; Essex. His next of kin records are amended showing the address of 'Mrs Bonney Babbacombe Torquay).

Note – I have searched UK census for details of Emily May Donnelly, who was a 'servant'. Also searched NZ records, births, deaths for any info re this woman.

Nothing. She did not go out as a 'war bride'. I have their UK marriage cert.

Arthur Bonney discharged as unfit for duty, is embarked on the "Ayrshire" from Plymouth for NZ on 6.11. 18 Death certificate Arthur Harold Bonney reg at Matamata 30th June 1941 shows that the above died on 9th June 1841 in Hamilton Hospital after being transferred from Tirau. Cause of death pulmonary tuberculosis and asthma 25 years. Info says he was born in Redfern Australia(!);married at Ohakune to Ivey Beckham. Age given as 29yrs at time of marriage.' Issue living' 21yrs, and 19yrs. "Age of widow, if living" 45yrs.

So I presume that Ivey Beckham was the informant. Did Arthur tell her he was born in Redfern? Or ?? The papers past death notice says 'loving father of Roy and Lynn'.

However, NZSG War Graves Archives NZ Show that Roy was killed on 26 Jan 1942; birth date shown as 16 Jan 1919. So Arthur could not have been his father.

There also ref to Arthur Bonney and Roy Arthur Beckham Bonney on the Auckland War Memorial site.' Loving son of Arthur and Ivey Bonney'.

Ivey Adelaide Beckham married Huia Cyril Woolston 11.Oct 1930. She claimed to be a spinster.

If you can help, contact please Marlene Piercy
mpiecry@tpg.com.au

More websites

www.locatinglondon.org/

Locating London's Past - this website allows you to search a wide body of digital resources relating to early modern and eighteenth-century London, and to map the results on to a fully GIS compliant version of John Rocque's 1746 map.

www.familydeeds.org

A lot of free information of content taken from deeds and documents available for researchers. There is a charge if you want a copy of the original document. Website is searchable from the Name Index.

www.scotsfamily.com/occupations.htm

A list and description of about 500 unusual occupations found on early records, census returns and gravestone inscriptions in Scotland.

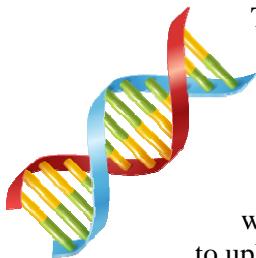
<http://www.eggsa.org>—Sth African cemeteries
many graveyard memorial inscriptions by province

<http://bit.ly/AusNotes>

If you have Australian research, use this site check WA deaths in Karrakatta Cemetery, they have a good website. The cemetery is massive. Covers Perth, Fremantle.

Rhonda has had great success with a kind person photographing the headstone in Temuka Timaru???

DNA TESTING



There is only one company that offers their test worldwide - Family Tree DNA. They're also the only company to charge the same price all over the world. And they're the only one of the three to allow researchers who have tested with other companies to upload their results - though those who transfer have to pay \$39 for full access to matches (and you can only upload test results from 23andMe if their v3 chip was used).

Only two of the companies (FTDNA and 23andMe) offer a chromosome browser, a feature that allows you to see where you and another person match - this becomes more and more useful as you identify more cousins, and as more of your known cousins test.

Two of the companies (Ancestry DNA and 23andMe) have over 1 million results in their databases; Family Tree DNA is estimated to have just 150,000 or so. However if you live outside the US it's worth bearing in mind that whilst Family Tree DNA have been offering their test in Europe for several years, Ancestry and 23andMe have only recently expanded outside the US

(in Ancestry's case they only began selling abroad in January 2015). This means that whilst you will probably get fewer matches at Family Tree DNA, they're more likely to be relevant for someone living in Europe.

My brother tested with Ancestry DNA, then uploaded his results to Family Tree DNA. As you would expect - given the disparity in the size of the respective databases - he has many more matches at Ancestry (1800 compared with 600), but what stands out for me is that there are significantly more close matches at Family Tree DNA. for a long time their Family Finder test was the only autosomal test you could buy in Europe.

This is a key issue for the 90% of the readers of this newsletter who *don't* live in the US. Bear in mind that autosomal DNA tests become less useful with each generation that you go back - because when you double the number of ancestors you roughly halve the amount of DNA that is inherited from each one.

Both Ancestry and Family Tree DNA allow their customers to upload family trees, but more Ancestry customers have uploaded trees and they also tend to be more detailed. Another advantage of Ancestry is the possibility that they'll spot a common ancestor between your tree (if you've uploaded one) and the tree of one of the people you've been matched with. My brother only has one of these matches at the moment, but it seems to be a genuine match with a half-4th cousin once removed (which ties in with Ancestry's estimate based on DNA of 5th to 8th cousin).

If you've already uploaded your tree to Ancestry, or are happy to do so (it can be a private tree), then there are definite advantages to testing with Ancestry, then uploading the results to Family Tree DNA, so you can search for matches at both sites. It's going to be more expensive, of course - someone in the UK would pay just £70 for the Family Tree DNA test, compared to £119 (including shipping) for the Ancestry DNA test, plus another £26 to get access to all the features at Family Tree DNA. But you might consider it's worth paying twice as much to get all those extra matches, especially if you're able to order when there's a discount offer.

<http://lostcousins.com/newsletters2/lateoct15news.htm>



Ireland Catholic Registers

digitized by the National Library of Ireland from microfilm. – <http://registers.nli.ie>
these registers contain baptisms, and marriages from the majority of Catholic parishes in Ireland and Northern Ireland up to 1880. These records are browseable by parish, with parish and map bases search option but they are not searchable