

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists December 2015

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Next Meeting
1 December 2015
RSA Restaurant 6.30pm
Please phone Rhonda before
Thursday 26 November
Rhonda's Christmas house is
available after dinner

November 2015 Meeting

In November members met for a tour of the Gore Cemetery. Their guide was Elaine Scott who told us a little of the early history of the Cemetery, then touched on the lives of some of those buried there. We learnt of Miles Reginald Bree who possibly chose for himself that position in the top corner and is a descendent of William the Conqueror, and on the Plantagenet roll of Royal Blood.

It was surprising to hear of the Gore connection to the Amy Bock case, in the person of Elizabeth Cook, dressmaker to Mrs Ottaway of the Nuggets, who was engaged to Percy C Redwood, aka Amy Bock.

Each member was asked to select a tombstone, research the name and present an account at the February meeting. Hokonui Heritage Center holds the following resources: hard copy of burial and headstone records, Ensign papers, and the comprehensive data base of deaths, people file, many certificates, the Southland Early Settlers Register.

Members wish to sincerely thank Elaine for her brilliant research and lovely hospitality. After a pleasant wander around the graves we went to Elaine's for supper.



We all extend our deepest sympathy to Liz O'Connell in the sad loss of her mother.

DHS-2 E55

1939 Register

In partnership with The National Archives, Findmypast is delighted to be able to present the 1939 Register.

The Census Act of 1920 provides that no UK census can be made available for the public to view until 100 years after being taken. Due to World War II, there is a 30 year gap between available surviving censuses.

The 1939 register is the most comprehensive survey ever recorded of the civil population of England and Wales, with the lives of 41 million people captured in one day in September 1939. It's a fascinating snapshot of a nation on the eve of war.

It was used as the basis for rationing, identity cards and, in post-war Britain, the NHS.

You'll be able to discover unique insights into where your family was and what they were doing at that time. The register was taken at the outbreak of World War II, and includes maps, facts and figures and photos of the time.

How do I search the register?

From Monday 2nd November, it will be free to search the register and to preview the transcript that includes the person's name, year of birth, town and county of residence. In addition, you'll be able to see how many other people lived in the house at the time and how many of them are listed due to being younger than 100 years old and still alive. This will help you to confirm if you've found the right person and then you can choose to unlock the record.

Unlocking will give you all of the additional information such as address, dates of birth, and includes maps, facts and figures and photos of Places.

What will each household cost?

Records will be available to purchase for £6.95 per household or £24.95 for our 5 household bundle (£4.99 or A£24.95 for our 5 household bundle (£4.99 per household.



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20th Century Records

This is one of the most fascinating periods of history.. with the fall of the British Empire, and part of United Kingdom became a fully fledged republic, NZ and Australia were settled, a man landed on the moon, and Edmund Hillary climbed Mt Everest. During this turbulent time our ancestors led their lives to create the greatest stories of all... our ancestors led their lives to create the greatest stories of all..

Our own ancestral narrative.....

A family tree is much more than a collection of names and dates, which has a tendency to resemble an telephone book, and just about as exciting!.

What did Auntie Bertha do for a living before marrying and having 10 children? She must have had brilliant organizational skills.

What was going on in the towns where our family lived?

Vital Records

The civil registration of births, marriages and deaths are handled by RGO in NZ, The National records in Scotland, Edinburgh, the General Register Office for England and Wales, GRO in Belfast for Northern Ireland. Complete indexes for UK can be found on Ancestry (www.ancestry.co.uk)

Scotland records are much more detailed with all three record types naming both parents of those involved.

Northern Ireland now has a site at
<https://geni.niderct.gov.uk> but there is no index online beyond the closure periods.

Our ancestors had to emigrate, and passengers records from 1900 – 1960 are available from the National Archives ‘Board of Trade BT27 records collection. These have been digitized and made available on Ancestry and FindmyPast. They include details of passengers, last known addresses, ports of departure and arrival, intended residences and the shipping lines involved.

Immigration records prior to 1900 are spasmodic and the papers generally listed only the 1st and 2nd class passengers. Immigrants on the early ships to Otago in 1848 have been well researched, but those in steerage were not listed in the papers. During the gold rush to Gabriels Gully over 1000 hopeful miners landed daily on the Otago wharf.

There was no documentation for these arrivals.

FamilySearch can also be consulted with some amazing results at our local LDS church library. Many projects on headstones in UK are becoming available with deceased online

(www.deceasedonline.com) and the free to access Belfast City Council database at www.belfastcity.gov.uk/community/burialrecords/burialsecrets.aspx It lists entries for cemeteries still within its care.

Genetic Evidence

A useful test to help locate recent cousins on both parent's sides with the last five generations is the automosomal DNA test. Many adopted children, for example have successfully traced relatives as a result. FamilyTree DNA (www.familytreedna.com) and AncestryDNA (<http://dna.ancestry.com.au/>) are two of the various test supplies available.

I have attended many presentations on DNA over the years and must admit it was a complete mystery, but it is becoming easier to understand.

Researching Military Ancestors

Service records

Only 1/3 of service records for soldiers in World War 1 have survived. On Ancestry they are divided into two collections; British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 and British Army WW1 Service Records 1914- 1920. But on FindMyPast they are simply found under British Army Service Records 1914-1920



Injured soldiers. War causality lists were issued by the war office. Daily lists were initially issued but from mid 1917 they were released on a weekly basis. TheGenealogist. hosts the collections in searchable database, who not only included those injured but also the names of those killed or taken prisoner of war

In the event of my death I give the whole of my property and effects to my wife

service book. These are available online- English and Welsh Regiments

<https://probatesearch.service.gov.uk>

Scottish visit [ScotlandsPeople](#), & for Ireland

<http://soldierswills.nationalarchives.ie>

FindMyPast

England & Wales, Electoral Registers 1832-1932

Browse over 5.4 million images containing approximately 20 million names to find your family between the censuses.

Discover where they lived, the property they owned or learn about the history of your local area.

British Newspapers

We're debuting 11 brand new publications and have bolstered another 43 titles with additional articles and years.

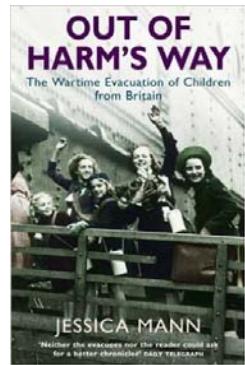
Explore over 3.5 million new articles and 22 new titles covering England, Scotland and Wales including the newly available 'Army and Navy Gazette'.

British In Argentina, 1914-1919

This book contains information and photographs of British volunteers from Argentina who went back home to serve their country in World War I.

Additional baptisms and burials from North West Kent

Search over 23,000 new baptism and burial records covering 7 parishes to discover details about the beginning and end of your North West Kent relatives' lives



Operation Pied Piper
With the threat of war looming, the British Government prepared plans for mass evacuation
Children had assembled in school playgrounds on the morning of 1st September, each with a luggage tag attached to their coat, and carrying bare necessities: their gas mask, underwear, pyjamas or nightdress, plimsolls, toothbrush, comb, soap, and a face flannel.

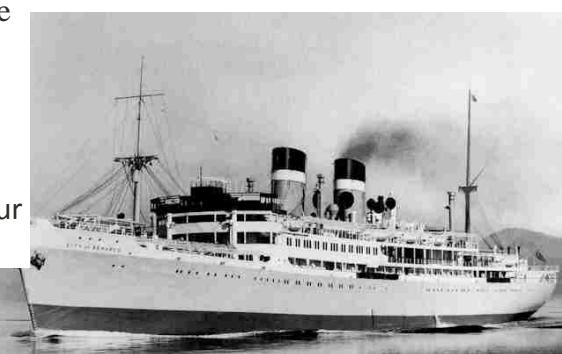
Over half a million children were evacuated from London alone during September, Over the course of just three days around 1.5 million mothers and children were sent from towns and cities into the countryside, mostly by train.

Many of them had never been out of the city, never even see a cow and many of the billets were less than welcoming to this invasion.

However, because bombing raids on cities didn't materialize in the first few months of the war, many children went back home - over half had returned by January 1940, despite Government warnings about

There were further waves of evacuation during 1940, and it was heartbreaking for the mothers. Many of them wouldn't allow their children leave home again

A smaller number of children were evacuated overseas, a story told in the book *Out of Harms Way*, written by an evacuee – but this programme came to end when the SS City of Benares was sunk in September 1940, killing most of the children on board. However some children were evacuated privately even after this incident.



Eight Top Tips

When interviewing relatives, remember that they are recalling what they think the situation was, and that is not necessarily what it was. Everything must be corroborated with 2 different sources if possible (In NZ – try to locate their school records)

Northern Irish births from 1915-1921 are currently not on the Geni platform at <https://geni.nidirect.gov.uk> because of the 100 year rule. They are however indexed at www.irishgenealogy.ie

If an English or Welsh vital record cannot be found in the GRO Indexes, try the local superintendent registrar's office. For contact details www.ukbmd.org.uk

Civil marriage commenced in Scotland in 1940. Prior to this, irregular marriages were legal and not compulsory to register: some will be missing from ScotlandsPeople

Adoption has been state registered in England and Wales since 1926, Northern Ireland since 1929, Scotland since 1930. Adoption Search Reunion www.adoptionsearchreunion.org.uk can help trace relatives

New Zealand -The Adoption Act 1881 meant that people who were willing to take in and bring up children could become their legal parents.

The Adoption Act 1955 was based on the idea that there should be a complete break between the birth and adoptive families. Many women whose children were adopted out, never saw their babies at all, and very few knew who had adopted them.

The GRO in Southport has many overseas indexes concerning British subjects abroad, indexed freely at

www.familyrelatives.com/post_search.php?area_id=11. Copies can be ordered from the GRO as with regular certificates

Websites such as Ancestry and FindmyPast offer free trials. **Make sure you cancel before the trial ends**, or your credit card may deducted with a subscription.

ScotlandsPeople



Announce the release of the Military Service Appeals Tribunal records on ScotlandsPeople. Now available to search are 7,977 index entries relating to the Appeal cases of 5,820 men seeking exemption from military service between 1916 and 1918. Fully searchable by name, address, grounds, and occupation, the index is FREE* to search, offering access to a little-known series of records which are of importance to family and military historians alike. Each record is a full colour facsimile of the Appeal case documents, and for an introductory period, are only 10 credits (2.33GBP) to view.

The new Military Service Act required all adult males, aged 18-41, to register for military service unless they were married, widowed with children, serving in the Royal Navy, a minister of religion, or working in a reserved occupation. From 1916, volunteers and conscripted men seeking exemption from military service could apply to Tribunals for temporary, conditional or permanent exemption.

Merry
Christmas and
Happy New
Year



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Drive carefully –
you are
all special.

