

# Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists March 2015

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## Next Meeting Tuesday 3 March 2015

Meet at LDS Library at 7pm–  
Main Street. Bring your own  
IPad or Laptop. Discover what  
is available on Familysearch

### Rules Change

NZSG members will have received voting papers for changes to the Society's rules with the February issue of *The Genealogist*. The priority in what is stage one of the review process, is to strengthen the way in which the Society is governed and managed at a national level. This involves a change from what has been a management-operational involved Council to a governing Board. Recent staff changes at national HQ, will strengthen the process of transferring management and operational tasks to the staff and volunteer teams. It has also been an opportunity to update some very outdated sections of the current rules. Concomitant changes to the By-Laws will be voted on at the 2015 AGM to be held in Auckland on June 27.

This is the culmination of work over the last four years which has included the completion of the 2014-2016 Strategic Plan. Some of the proposed rule changes reflect the directions of the plan. The next stage of the process is to review the structures and membership of branches and interest groups. This second stage will proceed after the 2015 AGM and involve consultation with branches and interest groups, with a view to making any changes agreed to during 2016.

Members are encouraged to use the Society's website where there is a full explanation and Q&A section on the proposed changes to the rules and by-laws. The strategic plan can also be viewed there. The voting paper for the rule changes must be returned by Friday April 27. This gives time for members to direct any queries to the NZSG Manager and through their branch committee who can raise questions at the upcoming regional meeting. NZSG Council member Gill Knox is speaking at the February monthly branch meeting which will provide further opportunity for information exchange. This package of changes is designed to strengthen the Society in an increasingly competitive genealogy world and the way in which it manages and delivers services. Clive Palmer

Facilitator NZSG Rules Review Working Group  
 Discussion is also welcome on the Members Only gmail group - Ed



### February Meeting

A large number of members were present to watch Bruce Cavanagh present an excellent workshop on locating relatives of a British WW1 soldiers medal, which had been passed to him by the NZ Police. All of the British War Medals

WW1 had the service number, rank, first name (or initial), surname and military unit (Regiment or Corps).engraved around the rim edge.

William Harold Cleveland was the son of Charles Arthur and Lily E.P.Cleveland, of Shalfleet, Isle of Wright.

Bruce used a series of free and pay sites including Commonwealth Graves, FindMyPast, Free BMD'S, Passenger lists, Ancestry.co, UK censuses to locate siblings, Deceased on line and NZ Archway for Probate. His mother Lily had come to NZ on the *Athenic* ship and died in NZ. The extensive material has been passed back to the Police to follow up with death certificates if they wish.

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*to Trish Diamond. Best Wishes  
for discovering lots of your ancestors and family*

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### Gore A & P Show

The display was visited by many local people with requests of how to advance with their Family History. Anzac Poppies knitted and crocheted by Rosalie and Rhonda brightened the display perfectly. A large poster of different medals attracted lots of attention. This colourful display is now in the Gore Library window for Family History month. -----

**Genealogy software** <http://genealogy-software-review.toptenreviews.com>

**Cemeteries Collection - Ancestry Launch** The NZSG have announced that Ancestry.com now offers the NZSG cemetery records, previously only available on microfiche and in hard copy. This data set includes records up to 2009. NZSG have licensed these records to Ancestry.com who have digitized them, and in return will be receiving an electronic copy of these records shortly.

Once the electronic copy has been received, NZSG will be working on a members only service to these records from their own website.

“This project could not have been completed without the incredible assistance of members past and present of NZSG and we now look forward to our wider membership receiving the benefit of this dedication and support. Thank you to each and everyone of you who have contributed research, data and support.”

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## Your Certificates

1) **Any** certificates for **any** activity in **any** country (and we **ALL** have these) please remember to make one paper copy of each and mail it into the *NZSG Certificates Collection* (details on the website and in the magazine) so that all members have access now and into the future.

2) Family histories - please donate a copy to the *NZSG Library* AND to the *National Library* as well as the local library and/or museum where the history is centered. That may well include an overseas location then also consider whether to include their national and or state/regional library and genealogy society such as *Society of Australian Genealogists* or *Society of Genealogists (UK)* as well as *FamilySearch* (contact details in NZ are on their website).

Please note: you can donate pdf files of your family history to the *NZSG Library* to be accessed via our online catalogue so donations do not need to be limited to paper copies of published family histories.

3) Indexes to NZ resources - please consider donating a copy for inclusion in the *NZSG Kiwi Index*. If it is of an overseas nature then I would suggest that the relevant genealogy society might be the best place, as well as to *FamilySearch*

**Findmypast.co.uk** has added 1.7 million parish records and 250,000 wills for Devon, plus school admission registers, prison hulk records and Griffith's Valuation for Ireland.



**Victorian Workhouses** were feared by poor and old. Women, men and children all had different living and working areas. To make it worse, they could be

punished if they tried to speak to each other! Remember there was no Old Age pension until 1908. Disability insurance 1911, child support 1925.

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LADY DAY England, Wales and Channel Islands.



Before 1752 the English calendar (New Years Day) commenced on Lady Day, which was 25 March.

It is the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin.

In order to accommodate the change from the old system to the new had to be adjusted by dropping 11 days from the calendar. Therefore the date jumped from 1 January to 11 January over night. This caused riots throughout England as unenlightened people protested they had lost 11 days from their lives. Many people considered they had gone to their graves 11 days too early!!

To complicate matters, Scotland changed its calendar to the present Gregorian system in 1600!

The four traditional English Quarter Days were:

**Lady Day (25 March )**

**Midsummer Day (24 June)**

**Michaelmas (29 September)**

**Christmas (25 December )**

Land, dwelling rents and debts and were due on these days. This avoided large debts being accumulated. It was also the time when workers moved to other farms.

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## Canal & River Trust Archives- British Waterways Canals 1750- 1900



Canals were needed for the Industrial Revolution because roads could not carry the heavy weights. They were manmade rivers which were dug by pick and shovel (before mechanical diggers) deep

enough to cope with the barges, .

Did you have ancestors who either dug or worked on this essential methods of moving heavy loads. Horses were led as they pulled the barges along the path by the canal and all the locks had to be worked manually by the boatmen.

<http://collections.canalrivertrust.org.uk> –holds 37,000 archive records and over 20,000 archive images

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**Ancestry:** Great to see the partnership announced with FamilySearch is now visible in that, eg Scottish Births Deaths and Marriage indexes are now available. Can be a bit disconcerting to be shown only a name with no context as to place or date until you realize that you are looking at, eg, a parent, not the child being baptized.

**A new collection of Welsh miners** emigrating to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Welsh Society of Philadelphia Charity to Immigrants, 1798- 1883

**Findmypast.co.uk** has added 1.7 million parish records and 250,000 wills for Devon, plus school admission registers, prison hulk records and Griffith's Valuation for Ireland.

**FindMyPast Australia** The New South Wales Will Books, 1800-1952, contain over 415,000 wills containing beautiful images of the original handwritten documents only available online at Findmypast. The records are copies of original Will Books held by the State Records Authority of New South Wales and include the wills of a number of individuals from other states and countries, typically in cases where the individual was a resident of New South Wales but their last place of residence was outside the state, or where they had originated from overseas and left legacies to family members back home. Also Tasmanian BDMs, which, as for NZ contain different degrees of detail depending on when the event was registered. At least some of these are images, not just transcriptions, but indexed. So whereas you can browse some of the images for free on FamilySearch, the indexes aren't necessarily available there

**UK** Over 861,000 Baptism, Marriage and Burial records (transcriptions of the original document) from the Gloucestershire have been added to their collection of UK Parish records: Bristol baptism index 1660-1914 , Bristol marriage index 1644-1939, Bristol burial index 1625-1950 Other records from North West Kent, Warwickshire, Wiltshire, Dorset and Essex

**US Records:** 75 million records have been added to the collection of US Immigration and travel records. Over 11.5 million records have been added to their collection of US Census & Substitute records, including censuses from the States of California, Minnesota, South Dakota, Alabama, Florida and Colorado. Over 13 million records have been added to their US.

Life Events collection. including birth, marriage and death records from 11 different states. Kindertransport records comprising 1,500 passenger list records and 41 volumes from The National Archives relating to the Kindertransport refugee programme during the Second World War. These fully searchable scanned documents are a digital facsimile of the files kept by central

government to record the details of the thousands of young Jewish refugees, sent to Britain to escape Nazi persecution.

**PapersPast** (February 2015):

Hastings Standard (1896-1920) Press (1929-1935) Star (1915-1917) Westport Times (1868-1874, 1879-1884, 1886)

**Family Search** Canada, Nova Scotia Delayed Births, 1837-1904 Czech Republic, School Registers, 1799-1953 US, Ohio, Crawford County Obituaries, 1860-2004 United States Passport Applications, 1795-1925 US, Illinois, Cook County Deaths, 1878-1939, 1955-1994 being just some of the newly indexed or browsable un-indexed as yet collections added recently.

**Dick Eastman's newsletter snippets** Missed RootsTech? Catch up on the video archive at

<http://www.rootstech.org/video/4050134760001>

thanks to Kapiti NZSG Branch <http://Kapiti.Gen.org>

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**More PapersPast** Bruce Herald (1906-1920)

Bush Advocate (1910-1912) Hot Lakes Chronicle (1895-1897) Inangahua Times (1907-1919) Wairarapa Age (1906-1920)

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Photographs of graves in Heathcoate cemetery, outside Melbourne, Australia -

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ausvsac/Heathcoate.htm>

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#### **Armistice day 1918—casualties:**

Did you know, that even though the Generals knew the Armistice had been signed and fighting was to end at 11am on the 11th

November 1918, over 3,500 American troops were killed after being sent 'over the top' on that morning. They weren't the only ones! Many other Allied soldiers lost their lives that morning, one at 10.59am. This doesn't even count the many who were wounded on the 11th and died later.

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**The Hokonui Heritage Center has** a collection of Funeral Sheets which are entered on the computer and filed under their individual names, If you are cleaning out some cupboards and find old ones, please don't throw them out. Hand them in to HHC to add to our records. If you wish to keep the originals we will copy the sheet immediately for you.



### Convicts in New Zealand

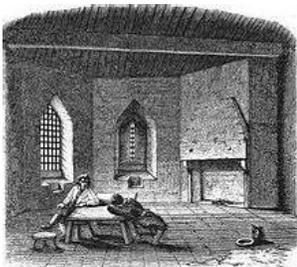
Between 1788 and 1867 to solve a prison overcrowding problem in the British Isles 162,000 British Convicts were shipped to Australia to serve out their sentence. Transportation was often the alternative to being executed.

80 percent were men between the ages of 20 - 24 and usually repeat offenders.

Once they had served their sentence, many took up land and many convicts were allowed to travel as far as New Zealand to make a new life after being given limited freedom, often as part of their release. They were not permitted to return to England.

It would be interesting to know how many ex convicts settled in New Zealand

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### Ancestry.com Debtors' Prison Registers, 1734-1862

If your ancestors struggled with debt before the 1860s, they could have found themselves locked up for many years. This new

collection of **prison records** is packed with engrossing detail about the unfortunate people jailed for debt or bankruptcy. Discover how much they owed and how long they were jailed for, as well as details of their time inside.

People had to pay their debts before they could be released, and their debts added up in prison too – they had to pay for their keep and extra freedoms like living in areas just outside the prison walls. So they often found themselves in prison indefinitely unless their family could pay their debts.

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### Did You Know???

Desktop screen side ways or upside down !!!! Help help !!  
**Hold down Ctrl Alt and use arrows to reset to normal.** *And breathe a sigh of relief*



## Shipping Passenger Sites

### FamilySearch.org

Beverley's transcriptions

[\(http://homepages.ihug.co.nz/~ashleigh/\)](http://homepages.ihug.co.nz/~ashleigh/)

Denise & Peter's "Our Stuff"

[\(http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ourstuff/\)](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ourstuff/)

Olwyn's "NZ Bound"

[\(http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzbound/\)](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzbound/)

Gavin's "Ships to NZ"

[\(http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~shipstonz/\)](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~shipstonz/)

Corey's "Yesteryears" [\(http://www.yesteryears.co.nz/\)](http://www.yesteryears.co.nz/)

Ancestors On Board

[\(http://www.ancestorsonboard.com/\)](http://www.ancestorsonboard.com/)

Public Record Office Victoria

[\(http://www.prov.vic.gov.au/\)](http://www.prov.vic.gov.au/)

PapersPast [\(http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/\)](http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/)

Appendices to the Journals of the House of

Representatives [\(http://atojs.natlib.govt.nz/\)](http://atojs.natlib.govt.nz/)

NZSG CD "Passenger Lists - Victoria, Australia Outwards to New Zealand 1852-1923"

[\(http://www.genealogy.org.nz/\)](http://www.genealogy.org.nz/)

Some Edinburgh and area directories are available online in .pdf form. Here are some from the 1770s, 80s, 90s, 1800, 1801, and 1804.

<https://archive.org/details/williamsonsdirec17731774dire>

<https://archive.org/stream/williamsonsdirec17741775prin#page/n5/mode/2up>

<https://archive.org/stream/williamsonsdirec17751776will#page/n5/mode/2up>

<https://archive.org/stream/williamsonsdirec17841785will#page/n5/mode/2up>

<https://archive.org/stream/directoryforedin17941795aitc#page/n7/mode/2up>

<https://archive.org/stream/edinburghdirecto17971798aitc#page/n3/mode/2up>

<https://archive.org/stream/edinburghleithdi99aitc#page/n5/mode/2up> [1800]

<https://archive.org/stream/edinburghleithdi18001801aitc#page/n5/mode/2up>

<https://archive.org/details/denovancosedinbu1804dire>