

# Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists May 2016

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**Next Meeting**  
**3 May 2016**  
**Tuesday 8pm -**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Everyone Welcome**  
 Please bring suggestions for  
 next year's programme

## April Meeting

The Research night was well attended with members utilizing Bruce's knowledge, and the extensive material and computers upstairs, including the following: FindMyPast, Ancestry websites, scrapbooks of all Southland Times indexed death notices from 1976, obituaries and birth scrapbooks, family books of well known local families and District Books. Branches are now permitted to use the above logo which is more effective than only the center.

It is appreciated that a large proportion of the society's members just wish to get on with their research and that rules may be of little interest to them, and I understand that.

### However, please do read the documents and then cast your vote.

It is vital that all NZSG members take the opportunity to participate in this postal ballot as a two-thirds majority of valid votes cast (existing Rule 9.1) is needed for the new rules to be adopted.

## NZSG Revised Rules - Postal Ballot



NZSG members will receive a document relating to the postal ballot for a revised set of rules with their April issue of The

New Zealand Genealogist magazine. This documentation will comprise a covering letter from the president and the revised rules. In addition there will be a question and answer document on the society's website, along with copies of the President's letter and the rules themselves. Our existing rules have been widely acknowledged as being no longer fit for purpose. Legal advice also points to inconsistencies between the rules and the bylaws and recommends amalgamation. Applications for funding and sponsorship are becoming more dependent upon evidence that the society is operating in a business-like manner, in surplus, and within rules that are appropriate for purpose. We cannot continue to operate as we have in the past, and revised rules are part of the necessary change.

### Voting papers are due back to the Returning Officers by 4pm, Friday 20 May 2016.

Thank You. *Peter Gibson, NZSG Councillor & Facilitator Rules Review Working Group.*  
*Thanks to South Canterbury Branch.*

### .FindMyPast

10 million new Irish Catholic Parish Registers, adding to the largest collection of Irish records online. Fully indexed for the first time, the registers form one of the most important record collections for Irish family history and are **free to search forever**. The incredible Easter Rising & Ireland Under Martial Law 1916-1921 collection contains over 75,000 records, ranging from riot reports to first-hand accounts. This once-classified set exposes the effect the Rising had on people across Ireland, including witness statements and urgent government communications, as well as 25,000 search and raid reports. **keep your search terms broad.**

## Anzacs in England 1916 - An email

Between 1919 and 1920 over 10,000 Anzacs came to Brightlingsea, Essex to train as military engineers before going overseas. Their presence made a big social impact and many marriages took place.

We are holding an Anzac Centenary Weekend on 17-19 June 2016 and we are trying to find anyone with connections, photos or memorabilia of the Anzacs in Essex. Please look at Brightlingsea Museum on Facebook. We'd love to hear from you.

Ann Berry, Brightlingsea Museum  
Email: hedgethorne68@yahoo.co.uk

This is a late notice, but Ann may still be very interested in any information.

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### Websites

#### ANCESTRY.COM NEWS

Several useful databases have been added since the end of February this year:



Ireland Catholic Parish Registers 1655-1915 (more than 23 million records with images)

Yorkshire Quarter Session Records 1637-1914 (331,599 records with images)

Yorkshire Probates 1521-1858 (Richmond Archdeaconry & Peculiar of Knaresborough only)



Tasmania Railway Employment Records 1903-77 (130,527 records with images)  
Tasmania Police Gazettes 1884-1933 (with images)

Arizona Voter Registrations 1874-1932 (151,257 records with images)

#### FINDMYPAST UPDATE

The following have been added since the beginning of this year:

British Business Indexes 1892-1987  
Devon Parish Chest Records 1556-1950  
New Zealand Teachers Exams 1906-07  
NZ Registered Teachers 1908

#### WEBSITES for NZ & Worldwide Research

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

The very popular PapersPast website is being improved and combined with the existing separate websites for the Appendices to the Journals [A to Js], the Papers of Sir Donald McLean and journals such as Te Ao Hou and those of the Royal Society of NZ. At present this site is in the testing phase.

[anzacpow.com](http://anzacpow.com)

This lists the names of Australian and some New Zealand Second World War Prisoners of War (and a few non-POWs) who escaped in Europe or who died while a POW. There are 3,853 names in alpha order.

[www.cornwall-opc.database.org/search-database/](http://www.cornwall-opc.database.org/search-database/)

This website was the first of the several existing excellent Online Parish Clerks sites that list births, deaths, burials, marriages etc for various parishes. This one covers parishes in Cornwall.

#### Website of the Month

[Frereg2.freereg.org.uk](http://Frereg2.freereg.org.uk)

This newish website supersedes the original FreeReg site which has not been updated since 20 July 2015. It gives transcriptions of births, marriages and burials from Parish Registers in England and is very detailed

#### PAPERSPAST UPDATE

Two new newspapers were added in March and more issues were added to 3 existing titles. The new titles are:

- *Hawkes Bay Times* 1869-1874 (1006 issues over these 6 years)
- *Woodville Examiner* 1883-1920 (a bi-weekly, subtitled Waipawa Advertiser and East Coast Gazette).

Those which have been extended are:

- *Otago Daily Times* (a further decade 1921-30 has been added; coverage now 1861-1930)
- *Waikato Argus* (9 years 1896-1904 has been added; coverage now 1896-1914)

- *Bay of Plenty Times* (4 early years 1872-75 and 1921-30 decade has been added; coverage now 1872-1930)

Thanks to Riccarton Branch

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<http://www.genealogy.org.nz/>

Members of NZSG have access to the Gale Newspapers Online from the home page. Available papers from UK include 200 years of the London Times, Irish and many others. Worth searching!

<http://www.dunedinfamilyhistory.co.nz/bruce-heraldbirths/>

The Dunedin Family History Group site includes entries for births reported in the Bruce Herald. It includes a search box to find the date of birth and name of child and for 776 entries from 1865 to 1905

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### A road map, or 'Directions' for Genealogy?

Genealogy is a matter of great interest, often more than we suspect. The BBC TV programme 'Who do you think you are?' is an example.

The Automobile Association (NZ motoring) magazine *Directions* for Autumn 2016 has a cover photo introducing an item on 'Finding your roots'. The article reports a resurgence of interest in genealogy, with some great ideas.

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Jewish tradition urges the placement of stones far more than flowers upon the headstone by those visiting this sacred site. Unlike flowers, the stone suggests both permanence and a connection with biblical texts detailing stones as the appropriate memorial for the deceased.

A strong wind might scatter flowers, but not even the smallest concrete witness. A stone, unlike flowers, is timeless. Beyond the many Old Testament examples of the erection of such monuments to those gone, we associate such timelessness as well with the eternal presence of the human soul – one not subject to finite parameters. We

believe in the immortality of the soul, and decorate graves accordingly.' Accessed 11 Feb 2016, from <http://www.jewishboston.com/Ask-A-Rabbi/blogs/4388-why-do-jews-not-place-flowers-at-graves/>

### Even more Additions to Papers Past

Recent additions to Papers Past (December 2015) include these publications:

- Aotearoa : he Nupepa ma nga Tangata Maori (1892)
- Aotearoa, or the Maori Recorder (1861-1862)
- Cromwell Argus (1869-1920)
- Dunstan Times (1866-1948)
- Kopara (1913-1921)
- Lake County Mail (1947-1948)
- Lake County Press (1872-1928)
- Lake Wakatip Mail (1921-1947)
- Maori Record : a journal devoted to the advancement of the Maori people (1904-1907)
- Mt Benger Mail (1921-1941)
- Pīpiwharau (1898-1913)
- Press (1936-1945)
- Star (1918-1920)
- Toa Takitini (1921-1932)

Thanks to Stratford NZSG Branch.

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According to Christine Clement, here are ten of the most common research mistakes:

1. Forgetting to record information.
2. Ignoring ancestor's siblings and looking for ancestors through the eldest children. Remember that the youngest children in the family were often the recipients of mother's memories.
3. Using married names instead of maiden names in trees and databases.
4. Assuming you are related to a famous person with the same name.
5. Skipping a generation.
6. Assuming a family name is only spelt one way.
7. Jumping to conclusions.
8. Researching the wrong family.
9. Relying on data from an online family tree.
10. Failing to document your source. Thanks to *Wellington Newsletter*

Thanks to Ashburton District Family History Group

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sooty/> Christine Clements own page



Many people of all ages are researching their family history. It is crucial it is to **organize your findings as you progress**. Each

discovery leads to new pieces of information, and each individual bit of information might take you in multiple directions. If you're just beginning to delve into genealogical research, you'll soon discover that your records, documents, and notes on bits of scrap paper are multiplying faster than seems possible. Plus, if multiple people in your family have the same name, your paperwork and notes will inevitably become a jumble of 'who's who?' confusion.

Here are a few suggestions for getting your genealogical ducks in a row.

One of the key decisions to make is whether to organize your documents on **paper**, or on your **computer**, or **online** (or, perhaps, **all three**). Whatever method you choose, **organized file storage is essential**. You'll want to name your folders and files using a consistent and organized way so that you don't end up misplacing important documents or notes.

**List your resources**, be it in paper or on the computer.. If you cannot find the correct place in the latter, put it in the notes page where it will be safe.

Resources don't always appear to be vital until you have conflicting dates or names. Relatives memories are often strong, but not necessarily correct. This is proved on headstones with the incorrect death dates recorded.

"The Internet is an additional tool in the researcher's toolbox,"

"The box includes the local library, local genealogical societies, family history centers. All have to work together.

"You cannot find everything online; that is a big misconception." However "the Internet is a communication tool as well as a gigantic encyclopedia, a message board as well as a chat room; it is a lot of things on a lot of levels."



Milton is the centre of the Tokomairiro district, broadly the catchment of the Tokomairiro River, which runs between the much larger Taieri and

Clutha rivers. Milton was originally known as Mill Town after its large flour and oat mill. That mill later became part of the Bruce woollen mill, which was the town's principal employer until it closed in 1999.

## Newspapers

The Bruce Herald was published at Milton from 1864 to 1971. It was one of New Zealand's longest running country newspapers.

The Herald was established by Joseph Mackay, a stationer and publisher from Dunedin. The Herald was one of a chain of newspapers that Mackay ran in Otago in the 1860s and 70s. Other papers in the chain included the **Mataura Ensign at Gore** and the **Clutha Times at Balclutha**.

Financial difficulties in the late 1870s forced Mackay out of newspaper publishing and in 1879 he sold the Herald to Francis Grant & Co. The paper changed hands several more times over the next fifty years. Reginald Augustus Pyke was probably the most significant of the later owners. Pyke ran and edited the paper several times between 1896 and 1915. His editorial policy was unashamedly parochial as he used the Herald to advance the economic interests of Milton and Bruce County. His lobbying, through the pages of the Herald, was instrumental in attracting a woollen mill to the town. The mill was for many years one of the main employers in Milton.

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**ScotlandsPeople.gov.uk** Valuation rolls fro 1930, covering 2.5 million people include the last inhabitants of St Kilda

FamilySearch Gore LDS church– available by appointment at any time. – ph Elder or Sister Beckmann at 0212772159

Irish census remnants from 1821- 1851. More than 180,000 parish records for Cornwall and Devon, via Truro Record Office

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