

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists

May 2017

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Next Meeting
 2 May 2017 - Tuesday 7pm
 Gore Isite
 Annual General Meeting.
 Orientation of computers 'Bring your own laptop & email info to your desktop. All welcome.



April Meeting Report

This was an amazing, awesome, interesting, and informative night with many members displaying their files and photographs of their ancestors who were soldiers in both wars. Ruth McDowall displayed a massive well documented folder with soldiers postcards home, Maria Hurrell has 43 soldiers in a well presented folder with beautiful colour photos, postcards. Sue Johnston had two children's books 'The Flanders Field' and 'Roly the Anzac Donkey'. It was a fabulous night which was an inspiration for many to do something similar with the information of ancestral soldiers. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Bruce Cavanagh has semi retired and will only be at Hokonui Heritage Center on Mondays when he will work on written enquiries, and Tuesday afternoon for the public. Avis McDonald will be there on Tuesday morning, and both are available for out of town visitors. Sunday volunteers have permission to go upstairs, but other members must arrange a time with either Bruce or Avis.

The center will continue to be open on **Sunday 1 – 4pm.**



All members are most welcome to contribute to the Gore Branch Newsletter; Family History stories; 'How to tips', Interesting websites; Sharing Information

DNA sharing workshop.

Adding genealogy to their toolkit?. Who to test for what was covered for those new to DNA, testing for genealogy; another saved spending money on a needless yDNA test (**you don't need two brothers to test yDNA unless you are exploring a potential family mismatch - better to buy just the one yDNA and spend the money saved on the brother's yDNA on another autosomal test instead**).

Many thanks to Kapati Branch



13 Tips For Searching Trove's Historical Newspapers:

From: FamNet Newsletter April 2017.

I have had a lot of success with the NZ newspaper website Papers past.

Here is an article about the Australian equivalent. Remember that our NZ ancestors moved quite freely between Australia & NZ. Maybe you lost a NZ relative on your family tree. Explore this site - you may find the lost ones appearing in Australia. Australians are spoilt by having [Australian historical newspapers](#) available at their fingertips and online through [Trove](#). Not also forgetting that it's all totally free as well. Can you believe that there are over 200 million articles already on the National Library of Australia's Trove Newspapers site, and that figure grows every month, with new papers being added?

It is a vast resource which is used not only by tens of thousands of Australian genealogists, historians, students and academics on a daily basis, but also by many overseas who are researching something about Australia, or someone who was in Australia.

But how do you search? Type in a name and see what comes up? Well, there's more to it than that. When searching newspapers you have to think of how things would be written in the newspaper at the time, which can be quite different to general search websites. So here are some tips for you.

- When searching for a birth, don't just look for the person's name, as they often aren't mentioned. (i.e. On the 23rd June, at Hobart, Mr and Mrs E. Smith of a daughter)
 - When searching use initials, not just their full name – or an abbreviation (ie. Wm instead of William)
 - When looking for a wife, look for “Mrs W. Baker” (as in wife of Mr William Baker) rather than her own name of Elizabeth
 - Use place name together with a surname to help narrow down your search
 - Or as an alternative to using a place name, use an occupation and surname
 - Remember to use different spellings of names, as every name has variants
 - Remember some places changed name, so look for a previous place name (ie. Friezland in Brisbane was renamed to Kuridala in 1916; or Tweedvale in South Australia became Lobethal etc
- If you are looking for immigration details and can't find a shipping list, look for an obituary. Many say when they arrived, and often whatship they came in on
- When looking at newspapers don't dismiss newspapers from other states, because the news may well have been reported elsewhere (and sometimes has better information) than the ones you're looking at
 - When looking for a death, don't dismiss papers that occur years after the death as they may be mentioned in a “In Memoriam” entry
 - You've done a search, and it's come up with 1000s of entries, too many to go through every one, use the “Refine Your Results” options on the left hand side of the page. So you can choose a state, choose a paper, choose an entry type, narrow down by decade
 - When looking at the paper and date range, it doesn't mean that ‘every’ issue between that range has been scanned yet. So check what's actually covered by browsing
 - Also one more point is that the text of the newspapers has been scanned and OCRd (Optical Character Recognition). So how well it

reads (and can be found by searching), depends on the quality of the original. Sometimes it's best to browse, rather than simply rely on searching as you will pick things up that the search didn't.



New Zealand's First Poppy Day 24 April 1922

The idea of selling artificial poppies to raise funds for veterans' organizations was conceived by a French woman, Madame E. Guerin. Her plan was to have widows and orphans in northern France manufacture artificial poppies that could be sold to benefit veterans and destitute children.

After Colonel Alfred S. Moffatt took the idea to the New Zealand Returned Soldiers' Association in September 1921, an order for 350,000 small and 16,000 large silk poppies was placed with Madame Guerin's French Children's League.

Unlike the practice in other countries, the NZRSA did not hold its inaugural Poppy Appeal in association with Armistice Day (11 November). As the shipment arrived too late for Poppy Day to be properly promoted prior to Armistice Day; the NZRSA decided to postpone it until the day before Anzac Day 1922. The first Poppy Day was a 'brilliant success'. The annual Poppy Day Appeal – now generally held on the Friday before Anzac Day – has become the NZRSA's primary means of raising funds for the welfare of returned service personnel and their dependants.

Thanks to Lower Hutt Branch



NZSG Certificates Collection:

It is not possible for NZSG to supply copies of certificates digitally without breaking

copyright.

However members can now digitally send certificates to the NZSGmanager@genealogy.org.nz for the Certificates Collection which will then be printed and sent to the Collections officer to process as she does any certificate.

This is wonderful progress – no more photocopies and postage required!

Websites

There's never been a better time to explore your family's history on **ScotlandsPeople** as you can now search our indexes for free

<<http://email.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/c/1Kb7x1sTccnIKthdcGd8I4>>. New records will be added to ScotlandsPeople throughout 2017; to hear about new releases, follow @scotlandspeople <<http://email.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/c/1Kbj3mLYwreUQD3jk9jnE1>> on Twitter and by liking our Facebook page <<http://email.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/c/1KbuzI53QG66WMPprCpCzY>>.

The following snippets come from the GenealogyInTime Magazine. If you haven't found it yet, do look. It has some really interesting articles.

FindMyPast has created a collection of 37,000 **University of New Zealand Graduate records** spanning the years 1870-1963. Records include name of graduate, year, university and degree. Access is by subscription from Historic University of New Zealand Student Records.

France – Family Search has indexed some 600,000 records from the Saone-et-Loire census of 1876. This district (or department to use the formal French name) is near Burgundy between the Saone and Loire Rivers. The collection covers part of modern-day Burgundy.

This was a population census. It lists the name, address, gender, age, marital status, occupation and nationality of every household member. The collection can be searched by first name, last name, gender and marital status. Access is free. Saone-et-Loire 1876 Census

US – The Danish National Archives has just launched a free new website to commemorate the day 100 years ago when the Dutch transferred the Territory of the Virgin Islands over to the United States. The website is called Danish West Indies - Sources of History.

Known as the Danish West Indies or Danish Antilles, it consisted of the islands of Saint Thomas, Saint John and Saint Croix. The Dutch West Indies (1754-1917) was transferred to the United States on 31 March 1917.

This new website contains some 5 million images of original documents, maps and drawings related

to the time when the Dutch controlled the islands. More than 150 volunteers have been working on digitizing these records for genealogical research. It is a treasure trove for anyone looking for ancestral records, including slave records.



Family Search –
Jan Gow

Have you entered some of your data into FamilySearch as per the instructions in the last newsletter? If not: Go to www.familysearch.org,

Click on Family Tree, Click on person, then Enter the details for your first person. It can be you. (I feel quite OK about entering my data). Then add parents and keep working backwards. Once you have entered a few generations, then click on Tree (instead of person) and see what is displayed. You may find that there is family information there? Check it out!!

Remember it is to your benefit if you have registered on the site. Extra benefits all through. Look at the upper RH corner – click on Free Account. Yes, it is free to register

When looking at the Person page, look to the right hand side and you will see FamilySearch, ancestry, findmypast, MyHeritage.

Click on each one separately and see what is displayed!! Includes newspapers cuttings and all sorts of information. You will be amazed at the resources there. It could take some time to look at everything.

Scroll further down to see how you can view the information. Pedigree etc. Do have a look at the Pedigree Chart. Wonderful to print, especially if there is information which is new to you and you want to verify it.

Keep scrolling down looking on the RH side and you will see the latest changes - this is where you can find others making changes to your data.

You can email - great way to check on different 'facts' and to ask for the source of the information.

Why You Can't Find Your Ancestor's Birth Records

Despite the fact they are perhaps the most complete source of UK vital records available online, there are a number of reasons why your ancestor may appear to be missing from the registers.

Indexes to the civil registers of birth are virtually complete from July 1837 onwards. However despite the threat of fines, registration was not wariness of authority, non-compliance and transient family lifestyles, for example made mandatory until 1875. Up until then, there was actually under-registration due to a variety of factors including a lack of public awareness of the requirement, indifference,.

In the very earliest years, to maybe the mid-1840s, comparing the [civil registers](#) with [parish registers](#) reveals that some entries in the latter do not appear in the former. The reverse is also true of course, because the parish registers of the established church by their very nature exclude Catholics, Non-Conformists, Jews and others.

If you can't find your reference, just quietly bang your head against the wall, swear profusely, and move onto another source. Ranting against the system is energy sapping and worthless particularly if your family have a history of dodging the authorities, sabotaging them or plain telling lies like many ancestors and relatives.

Who Do You Think You Are? Live Speakers' Handouts

Speakers' handouts or slides presented at WDYT YA? Live shows in Birmingham NEC and previously in Glasgow and London are published here as PDFs or online links. Not every speaker will have provided slides of their presentations but we do expect more to arrive, so if the talk you wanted isn't yet represented on the list below do pop back to this page and check again later.

Click on the speaker's name to download the PDF [http://www.sog.org.uk/learn/who-do-you-think-you-are-live-2014-speakers-handouts/Publishing online:](http://www.sog.org.uk/learn/who-do-you-think-you-are-live-2014-speakers-handouts/Publishing-online)

Who Do You Think You Are? Live @Birmingham NEC 6-9 April 2017

Peter Bailey (Saturday 8 April) Baptism, Marriage and Burial Records in British India - Not Available in the "India Office" Records

Paul Carter (Saturday 8 April 2017) Six Tips for Publishing Your Research on the Web

Else Churchill (Thursday 6 April 2017 & Saturday 8 April 2017) The Society of Genealogists On and Off Line

Else Churchill (Thursday 6 April 2017) Country Bumpkins. Tracing Rural Ancestors

Else Churchill (Friday 7 April 2017) I'm Stuck. Some Ideas for Solving Genealogical Problems

Else Churchill (Saturday 8 April 2017) Tracing Women Ancestors

Peter Christian (Thursday 6 April 2017) Parsh Registers Online. Here is a [link to Peter's website](#) where you will find a PDF of his slides

Gill Draper (Saturday 8 April 2017) Going Back In Time. Free Resources for Finding People 13th-19th Centuries

Brian Donovan (Saturday 8 April 2017) The Digital Revolution in Irish Genealogy

Janet Few (Thursday 6 April 2017) Engaging Young Children in Family History

Janet Few (Friday 7 April 2017) The Ones That Got Away. Tracing Elusive Ancestors

Celia Heritage (Friday 7 April 2017) Surnames and Family History

Doreen Hopwood (Thursday 6 April 2017) Where Did They Come From and Why?

Dr Jane Howells (Thursday 6 April 2017) Townies. Ancestors in Small Market Towns

Sue Mitchell (Thursday 6 April 2017) In Pursuit of Lots! Using Forenames to Build the Family Tree

Sue Mitchell (Saturday 7 April 2017) Do As I Say Not As I Did. Confessions of an Imperfect Genealogist

Robert Parker (Friday 7 April 2017) A Quick Guide to Getting Started

Robert Parker (Top Tips for tracing Tour Ancestors 1939-1845

Michelle Patient (Thursday 6 April 2017) Creating a Family History Website

Mike Sharpe (Saturday 8 April 2017) True Brummies. Birmingham Research Before 1837

Erin Tilley (Friday 7 April 2017) How to get Your Kids Interested in Genealogy

Graham Walter (Friday 7 April 2017 & Saturday 8 April 2017) Five Killer Aps for Family Historians