

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists

July 2017

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Next Meeting
 4 July- Tuesday 7pm
 Gore Isite Center
 Speaker : Jocelyn Grace
 'Adding flesh to your stories'

Meeting report of June 2017

The many members, had valuable time to use the many resources in the Hokonui Heritage Center, for their research, and some amazing discoveries were made. Two enquiries from out of town people were researched and solved.

ANCESTRY.COM UPDATE

Literally hundreds of new databases have been added to this website since last report back in December last year. Below is a selection of those that may be of interest to our readers.

- NZ Gazette 1860-1894
- Tasmania Passenger & Crew Lists 1934-1887 (with images)
- Victoria (Australia) Wills & Probates 1841-2009
- Ireland City & Regional Directories 1850-1946
- Royal Irish Constabulary Pensions 1813-1925 (with images)
- City of London & Tower Hamlets Cemetery Registers 1841-1966
- Norfolk Electoral Registers 1813-1952 (with images)
- Bedfordshire Electoral Registers 1832-1986
- Dorset Poor Law Settlement & Removal Records 1682-1862
- USA Washington State Divorce & Marriage Indexes 1969-2014
- USA Montana Naturalizations 1867-1970
- New York City Marriage Indexes 1907-1995
- US Army Transport Service Passenger Lists 1910-1939
- California Voter Registrations 1910-1968
- Iowa Death Records 1920-1940
- Iowa Birth Records 1856-1940

Thanks to Riccarton Branch

Back Ups

It is the first day of the month. It's time to back up your genealogy files. Then test your backups!



Actually, you can make backups at any time. However, it is easier and safer if you have a specific schedule. The first day of the month is easy to remember, so I would suggest you back up your genealogy files at least on the first day of every month, if not more often. Of course, you might want to back up more than your genealogy files. Family photographs, your cheque book register, all sorts of word processing documents, email messages, and much more need to be backed up regularly. Why not do that on the first day of each month? *By Dick Eastman*

Thanks to Ashburton Family History Group

<http://www.colonialcdbooks.com/Wises-1912>



JACOB'S RIVER, 20 miles west of New River. See Aparima. APARIMA, Southland. 39 miles by rail from

Invercargill. Good trout fishing on the Aparima, Otautau, and Opio Rivers; ducks and pigeon shooting plentiful. Wallace County. The Aparima River has a tidal mouth, and is a great trout river. Post and telephone office three miles from station. Nearest doctor at Otautau, 8 miles. In 1836 Captain John Howell started a whaling station here, and it was then known to the whalers and sealers as Jacobs River or Knowsley River. Aparima means "company of five, or a band of five workmen."



RIVERTON, Southland. One of the prettiest seaport towns in the South Island ; at mouth of Aparima River, with a bar harbour; and 26 miles N.W. by rail

from Invercargill. In Wallace County Maori name Aparima. Riverton is a borough.

GUMMIES BUSH, Southland. A dairy-farming settlement, 30 miles north from Invercargill and 5 miles from Riverton railway station and 4 from Thornbury. Nearest doctor, Riverton.

Websites

Ancestry:

- New additions or updates include:
- Dorset, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns 1813-1921
- Dorset, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms 1813 – 1906
- Dorset, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials 1538 – 1812
- Gloucestershire, England, Electoral Registers 1832 – 1974
- New Zealand Birth Index 1840 – 1950 (updated)
- New Zealand Death Index 1848 – 1966
- Norway, Find a Grave Index 1800s to current
- Italy, Find a Grave Index 1800s to current
- Brazil, Find a Grave Index 1800s to current
- Sweden, Find a Grave Index 1800s to current
- Germany, Find a Grave Index 1600s to current
- US Evangelical Lutheran Church of America Records 1826 – 1940 *Thanks to Southland Branch*

Finding soldiers portraits in Australia
<http://qanzac100.slq.qld.gov.au/showcase/soldier-portraits>
 Queensland State Library
http://onerearch.slq.qld.gov.au/primo_library/libweb/action/search.do
 keywords soldier Queenslander Pictorial

<http://qanzac100.slq.qld.gov.au/showcase/soldier-portraits>
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 keywords soldier Queenslander Pictorial
 than the ones you're looking at



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](#). **All totally free**

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 someone who was in Australia. But how do you search? Type in a name and see what comes up?

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; Tweedvale in South Australia became Lobethal Port Fairy – became Warrnabool)

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 the ship they came n.

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) 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.

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If you are lucky, you now have 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.

Thanks to Hutt Valley Branch

Findmypast

Over 580,000 RECORDS

Nottingham Baptisms Index 1538-1917

Nottinghamshire Banns Index 1600-1812

Nottinghamshire Marriages Index 1528-1929

Nottinghamshire Burials Index 1596-1905

Periodical New Titles,

New Records 16,952

New Titles covering New York, New Jersey Philadelphia

Discover Family histories, society journals and Quaker newsletters



Canadian WW1 army records 70% complete

Although attestation forms for soldiers who served with the Canadian Expeditionary Force have been available online for many years, the project to digitise the corresponding service files has taken longer than anyone expected - the original completion date was December 2015.

As of yesterday 438,679 of approximately 640,000 files were available online - you can search them [here](#) (after reading the information about the records choose *Search database* from the menu). They're being uploaded in (approximate) alphabetical order and the last surname recorded is Oliver

The Canadian Census

Findmypast

Are you researching your Canadian family history? Perhaps you're looking for your first Canadian ancestor in order to take your research across the Atlantic? If so, we've recently added two record sets that may well make your family history exploration on Findmypast a little easier - the Canadian censuses of 1881 and 1891.

These additions mean we now have four Canadian censuses available to search, and Canadian census records are an unusually rich resource. But what can they tell us?

When the earliest census we currently have was enumerated in April of 1881, Canada consisted of British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec. The census began on 4 April 1881 and covered 192 districts broken up into 2,139 sub-districts. Census districts and sub-districts were composed of cities, towns, townships, Indian reserves, and less-defined areas. By 1891, this had expanded to 201 census districts and 2,475 sub-districts.

The 1901 census covered 206 census districts and 3,204 sub-districts. 9,000 enumerators took the details of 5,371,315 individuals (compared to 4.5m in 1891). By 1911, this had grown again to over 7 million.

What it can tell you

It's worth noting that it's always worth checking the image for these records, as the information that is transcribed isn't the complete information detailed in the census itself. Also worth bearing in mind is that, depending on from which part of Canada a person hailed, the results can be in English or French.

The transcript page of each census will tell you slightly different things:

1881

Name, Relationship, Sex, Age, Birth year
Birth place, Religion, Origin, Year, Family number,
Sub district, District name, Province, Film, Other household members

1891

First name(s), Last name, Sex, Relationship
Age, Birth year, Birth place, Marital status
Year, Relation to head of household
Family number. District name, Province
Other household members

1901

First name(s), Last name, Sex, Race or tribe, Age – for those under the age of one, their age is expressed in fractions (e.g. 3/12 means 3 months old). Birth year, Birth date, Birth place, Marital status, Relationship to head of household, Immigration year, Naturalization year, Image link, Family number, Division, Sub-district name, Sub-district number, District name, District number, Province, Film, Page number

1911

Name, Relationship, Marital status, Sex, Birth year, Birth date (month and year), Birth place, Race or Tribe, Immigration year, Naturalization year. Link to record image, District name, District number, Subdistrict name, Subdistrict number, Film, Page number, Family number, Province Country, Other household members



Australian Red Cross WW2 PoW record cards online

It's hard to keep track of everything that's happening in the

world of genealogy, so I'm grateful to Shauna Hicks whose *Diary of a Australian Genealogist* <http://gallery.its.unimelb.edu.au/umblumaic/imu.php?request=search> blog revealed this week that 58,000 Missing, Wounded and Prisoner of War Enquiry Cards (mostly from WW2 - there are some post-war items) donated by Red Cross Australia to the University of Melbourne Archives are now available online.

Mistakes Beginners Make

We've all been new to genealogy at some stage, and we'd be lying if we said we hadn't made (and continue to make) a few mistakes here and there.

Luckily, family history is a marathon, not a sprint, and so there's time to learn from our errors and become better researchers along the way

Buying into generic genealogy

There is of course the temptation to buy a book of your surname's history from somewhere on the internet and to take it as gospel, including every reference to the nobility in your family tree and the castles you should be entitled to if only someone in power would read your family history and give you what you're owed. Sadly, it doesn't work that way.

If your family history research hasn't already been done by someone you trust – or someone who has stated their sources, at least – check it

Ruling people based on dates and ages in records Found a record of someone with the same name as your ancestor, born in the same town, married to someone with their spouse's name, but the birth date's off by a year or two? That still may well be the record of your ancestor. Standards of record keeping can vary, people lied about their age for all sorts of reasons and, sometimes, mistakes happen.

Trusting the research of others

If there are no sources cited for an individual, it's as useful to your research as a wild guess would be. Don't take people at their word, and don't assume that someone else's public tree or research posted online is reliable.

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Neglecting living relatives

The internet has made family history research easier and more accessible than ever before, and it's easy to get carried away exploring the billions of records that are now at your fingertips 24/7. So easy, in fact, that people often overlook the best family history resource available to them; their family. Ask as many questions as you can, call grandma, visit your cousins and start your research that way. It's a little more labor intensive, but it'll save you some money and get instant results.

FamilySearchOrg

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

To be continued next month