

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists July 2022

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Next Meeting
5 July 2022
7pm Maruawai Center
Mystery night ???
Do come and join us all

June 2022 Meeting report

Convenor Elaine Scott gave her excellent and comprehensive 46th Annual Report which reminded us of the successful year we had all enjoyed with varied activities including several nights of the intricacies of DNA.

Members were invited last month to research a family name and research it, citing sources.

Names searched included:

- Gabrielle Farry.** His father was a hawker who travelled round the district selling to housewives. . Gabrielle owned a women's wear shop in Gore, (now a Restaurant) Invercargill and Wyndham. He was a Mayor, and very involved in the establishment of the Senior Citizens Association and the Senior Citizens building His sister Gloria married David Lahood.
- Dusty Spittle** of 'Spittles farm' at the end of Coutts Road. He become a well known country music singer. He was born with only one ear and ear drum.
- Bert Newman** was a well known nurseryman for many years on the present site of the Rununga, He was well known nurseryman, and he married another nursery family (Dorothy Salmond).
- Robert Montgomery McDowall**, son of John and Henrietta McDowall born 1829. He was an apprentice seaman on the ship Moolton which arrived 2 December 1849, in Otago. He jumped ship in Dunedin, became the first teacher in the Otago Province. He married 1854 in Dunedin to Christina Harrison who arrived on the ship Blundell in 1848. He spent 14 years on the West Coast goldmining and died 5 February 1903 in Normandy Hawea

Subscriptions remain \$20.00 Payable by the internet

Bank number 03 0915 025 4412 00

Archivist Bruce Cavanagh is available in the office Tuesday 1.30pm. Please contact him first by email.

bcavanagh@goredc.govt.nz or
 phone the Visitor Centre 2039288 and they can transfer the call to his cell phone .

<https://www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/> - a valuable hint..

When searching for a marriage, enter the brides name and put a full stop in the grooms field and vice versa.

When you can't find a birth on NZ BDMs but you know the approximate year and the first name of the target, try this trick. Enter a full stop into the surname field, then the forename that you know into the next field, skip the mother's name (unless it is one without spelling variations), and finally enter the year in this manner, say: 01/01/1880 - 31/12/1880. You may get a lot of hits but don't worry. Sort by father's name, if you know it, and you may be surprised to see your missing ancestor with their surname spelled in a peculiar manner!

Thanks to Peter Nash, Famnet



SCOTLAND'S PEOPLE NEWS
 More than 50,000 indexed entries of Admissions to Perth Prison for the years 1867-79 and 1888-1921 were added. A free search of the index can be made and this lists birthplace and age..

Hello! is there Anyone out there?

Messaging as your DNA Matches

Many people are frustrated by the lack of response to their messages.

Remember people take DNA rests for a variety of reasons (e.g. ethnicity, to solve a brick wall to validate their research, but they haven't done it to help you find the missing father or great grandfather!



1950 United States Federal Census Ancestry is currently indexing the 1950 Census using software to interpret handwriting to speed

up the process of indexing it. You can search the census at:

<https://www.ancestry.co.au/search/collections/6230>

8/ Thanks to Hutt Valley Branch

Old Occupations



Old Tailors , dressmakers, and seamstresses. In 1851.

Many apprentices worked appalling hours for very small wages to avoid the shame of going into the workhouse when their circumstances changed due to the husband / father being injured or dying.

Tailors measured men for trousers, suits, frock coats and costumes for women.

Tailoresses made suits, jackets and shirts.

Dressmakers designed and sewed Dresses measured up female customers, and cut the cloth. All would have served an apprenticeship receiving 5 shillings and 6 pence for working 6 am to 7pm, but the employer deducted 4 shillings for tea, coffee and a bed with 3 people sharing the bed.



The invention of the Singer sewing machine in 1851 cost equivalent of 5 months rent and was paid for on the never never weekly payment. It reduced the time of making a shirt dress from 10 hours to 1 hour 15 minutes.

Note the handle on the flywheel on the right. Treadle machines were challenge trying Tom avoid breaking the thread. In census returns when you discover Tailors, seamstresses and machinists, they are not heavy industrial machine operators. Grissette is French for dressmaker.

Websites

2.1 million new records from Berkshire have been added to **Findmypast**. Over one million Baptisms which sometimes note the fathers occupation, and mothers marital status, foundlings, orphans and children born outside marriage may also be found. Dating from 1536-1991 for Berkshire burials my include cause of death, relatives names, residences. Records of marriages and bans 1538 -1931



Switzerland -

<https://familytr.ee/swiss>.

Familysearch - 20 million - 1418 - 1996 from united stated Business

directories and 10 million from Switzerland 1418 x1996 includes Catholic and Lutheran church records. They are written in German and Latin - go to family search Wiki **guidance**.

Kent electoral Registers 4.6 million 1570-1907

dating from Elizabeth 1. The early records from Faversham and Dover until 1830s when electoral reform widened the franchise.

<https://familytr.ee/kentelec>

Kent Burials

<https://familytr.ee/kenburals>



over 4 million records spanning 400 years

Findmypast's collection of [Roman Catholic](#) records is second to none - parish registers for [Cheshire](#), [Devon](#), [Hertfordshire](#), most off [Kent](#), [Leicestershire](#), [Lincolnshire](#), [Norfolk](#), [Rutland](#), [Shropshire](#), [Staffordshire](#), [Warwickshire](#), much of [Yorkshire](#), and most of [Wales](#). They also have tens of millions of indexed records from other counties, many of them the result of Findmypast's connections with family history societies, and billions of records from other countries.

Missing from the 1939 Register

Whatever your queries in relation to the 1939 Register, the best way to start is to study *Inside the 1939 Register*, the special edition of this newsletter devoted entirely to the 1939 Register for England & Wales. Although it relates to the Findmypast version of the register, most of the information is equally applicable to Ancestry's version. Make sure you read the whole of that newsletter—there are many differences between the 1939 Register and censuses, and not all of them are intuitively obvious.

The other valuable resource is the 1939 Register itself – if you're an Ancestry subscriber you might not have considered searching the 1939 Register at Findmypast, yet because Findmypast provide a lot of information in their free search results it's a great way to find out whether your relative is really missing, or whether their entry has been mis-transcribed, or their record is still closed at Ancestry even though it could have been opened.

Note: Ancestry are currently way behind on opening up records for people who were born in 1921 – nearly half of the records open at Findmypast are still closed at Ancestry – and there's also a backlog of entries for people born between 1918-20.

1921 Census FAQs

The 1921 Scottish census transcription has been awarded to Queens University, Belfast and according to the National records of ScotlandsPeople website, it will become available later in 2022

www.nrscotlands.gov.uk/research/gudes/census-records. It will e available on [ScotlandsPeople](#) website.



A Strange Fact in New York State USA

As per [Familysearch.org](#) In 1874 New York passed a law requiring marriages to be reported. It quickly

fell into disfavor and few communities reported marriages after 1850

After the failure of the 1847 law no marriages were recorded between 1850 and 1880.



Why isn't there a 1931 census for England and Wales?

On the night of Saturday 19 December 1942 the Office of Works, Hayes, Middlesex

caught fire- apparently from an accidentally discarded cigarette. (Not enemy action as supposed from the 1942 date) The Office of Works was the location where all of the 1931 census records for England and Wales were stored. The fire raged to such an extent that there were no records deemed worth salvaging at the time.



How did the Scottish 1931 Census Records survive - They were stored in Edinburgh.

FAMILY SEARCH UPDATE Early this year 3 million names from New Zealand Electoral Rolls from 1865 to 1957 were uploaded. This is an alternative source for NZ electoral rolls, which are also available at Ancestry for a longer time period.



William Wilson MEARS was born at Carlington on 23 September 1858 and arrived in Bluff on the *Western Monarch* on 20 January 1878, having sailed from London in the October prior. Initially he settled in Pukerau and worked as a carpenter. It is believed that he brought his parents Edward and Margaret nee Wilson, and young sister Annie out to

NZ in 1883 and Annie attended Pukerau School until they shifted to Balfour and William farmed at Ardlussa. Annie appears on the Balfour School Roll on 25 January 1886.

1882 saw William Wilson Mears marry Isabella King McAndrew at the Popotunoa Church, Clinton.

- William and Isabella had 10 children
- 1900/15266 Mears Norman Wilson
- 1893/8939 Mears Margaret Wilson
- 1897/13688 Mears Ivy Annie
- 1900/14424 Mears Irene Pretoria
- 1886/13844 Mears Ann Fordyce
- 1883/5009 Mears Herbert Wilson
- 1884/16275 Mears George Macandrew
- 1891/16448 Mears William Edward
- 1887/12861 Mears Hepzibah
- 1889/15286 Mears Isabella
- 1900/15266 Mears Norman Wilson
- 1893/8939 Mears Margaret Wilson

Some of the children were enrolled at Balfour School in the late 1890s, however five of the children died between 1892 and 1900. These children are buried in Lumsden as there was no cemetery in Balfour at that time.

William continued with his carpentry work once moving to Ardlussa and built a two roomed house for his parents on the opposite side of the Ardlussa Cattleflat Road.



About 1910 the house was relocated to the next door farm and pulled there by traction engine. This house was later added to, with the addition of a proper kitchen, second bedroom, and a bathroom, wash house and gig shed. In the 1950s when floor repairs were required, it was discovered that the additions to the house had been built over the original path to the back door. Electricity was not connected to the house

until 1958 so all cooking was on a coal range with a wet back and lighting was with a kerosene lamp.

Thanks to member Margaret Sutherland

The FamilySearch blog post for 16 May '22 shows yet more millions of records have been added to the site. Index only, not images, at this stage, but for a wide variety of countries.

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/new-records-16-may-2022> The ones that caught attention were: Additions to the England, Lincolnshire,

Marriage Bonds and Allegations, 1574-1885

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/4149576>) A swath of South African vital and parish records, which do often come quite close to present day (as these things go) Assorted Non-conformist church records added to existing collections for Gloucestershire, Lancashire, Northumberland. The week before saw the addition of a new Canadian collection of nearly 1million indexed records for Canada, Border Entry Lists, 1908-1918

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/4123954>) *Thanks to New Plymouth Branch*

FindMyPast has made more than one million British newspaper pages available to view free. This comprises 158 newspaper titles dating from 1720 to 1880.

Ancestry provides some databases for free. Create a free account to access them (which also lets you build family trees, preserve and share photos and stories, connect with other researchers.) To see a list of free databases, search the card catalogue or the keyword "free". Or you can search all the free databases at once, including selected censuses for USA, UK and Australia.



Emigration to Australia

boomed in 1957 'Bring out a Briton' scheme and continued into 20 century reaching a peak in 1969 with 80,000 Britons emigrating. This website is a good place to start for all things Australian. <http://familytr.ee/emig>.

Whew –it is finished