

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists July 2023

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Next Meeting
4 July 2023
Time 7 pm
Visitor Center
 Hokonui Drive
 Alison McDonald –
 researching her 'Brown'

June 2023 Meeting report

It was a very interesting meeting with many members present to share their ancestors who went goldmining in Tuapeka, Lawrence, Hokitika and the West Coast. It was very hard work, in a harsh climate, and not for the faint hearted with no guarantee of success.



We extend a very warm welcome to Ruth Matheson, a new member. She is researching her grandfather Frank Stent from Riverton.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of **Diane Wilson** who was an inspiration to all. She was the organizer of the indexing for the **Marriage CD rom** and the **Burial Locator**. The Genealogy Community has lost one of its giants.



FamilySearch update

Trove is an Australian digital resource providing access to over 6 billion heritage items. For family historians it is the Australian equivalent to PapersPast. The National Library of Australia is facing a \$13 million cut to its budget and in light of this is considering ending Trove. The background to this situation is available to read at The Conversation. People who are not Australian taxpayers can voice their concern via a petition set up on Change.org 26,000 people have signed so far (*Thank you Hutt Valley Branch, February 2023 and NZSG e-KIT 197 27 January 2023 for this information*)

Latest additions to Papers Past Feb 2023

Newspapers

- Dominion (1921-1934)
- Southland Times (1929-1936)
- Taranaki Daily News (1929-1935)
 - Auckland Examiner (1856-1861)
 - Mana (Auckland) (1977-1978)

Findmypast Exclusive to Findmypast, two brand-new collections and significant additions to a third set;

- British Army, Honourable Artillery Company, Cardew-Rendle Roll Of Members 1537-1908
- British Army, Honourable Artillery Company Journal 1923-2021
- British Army, Coldstream Guards 1800-1981.]

Ancestry® Recent worldwide additions can be found [at https://www.ancestry.com/cs/recent-collections](https://www.ancestry.com/cs/recent-collections)

A couple of New Zealand additions during January 2023 includes:

- New Zealand, Civil Registration Stillbirth Index, 1901-1942
- New Zealand, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1840-1902

Family Search New collections added in January 2023 include UK resources;

England, Military Pension and Service Records, 1702-1933

United Kingdom, British India Office, Births and Baptisms, 1712-1965

Thanks to Papakura Branch

Gore Library has the latest publication of NZ Society of Genealogist magazine which is published quarterly. Overseas members of the NZSG society receive the published copy, as do NZ Libraries.



ScotlandsPeople A system update was undertaken in November 2022. As with all upgrades there were issues which needed to be fixed. ‘What we are working on’ outlines the fixes that have been made and issues that remain.

An interesting feature from ‘Our Records’ is the youngest person so far found registered on the 1921 Census; Edward Robert Lockhart Batchelor is enumerated at 6 Oakwood Terrace, Dundee. Edward’s age is noted as ‘1 hr [hour]’ and consulting his birth entry, also available on ScotlandsPeople, Edward was born at 11:05 pm on 19 June 1921!



Ireland www.irishgenealogy.ie
Recent updates to civil records include an additional year of historic Births, Marriages and Deaths, the records now available online include:

- Birth register records – 1864 to 1921;
 - Marriage register records – 1845 to 1946 &
 - Death register records – 1871 to 1971.
 - Irish Genealogy News December 2022 updates include
 - **Northern Ireland**, Wills and Administrations, Index, 1621–1858
 - **Ireland, Licences To Keep Arms** 1832-1836: Parliamentary report holds the details of 6,352 individuals who were granted licences for firearms and swords by county magistrates at the Quarter Sessions Courts
 - **Newspaper BMD** announcements (Co. Clare). Wales
- <https://familytreemagazine.com/heritage/welsh/researching-welsh-ancestry/>



English Wills can be found after it has been probated. As a general reminder the probate registry is accessed on the Govt.uk site

<https://www.gov.uk/search-will-probate> or <https://probatesearch.service.gov.uk/>.

Many Wills are on the UK National Archives site <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>, some are free to download if you create an account through the site.

Alternatively, if you are an NZSG member your membership also accesses free downloads. To utilize this member benefit log into the NZSG site and head to the Resources tab and select Overseas resources – UK Archives Discovery. You will need to input your NZSG membership number.

Thanks to Papakura Branch

Many NZ wills are also available at the Info@wilsoncollection.co.nz and ash.howison site



Certificates Collection Update - a new service for NZSG members. Effective from 1 February 2023, following advice from the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages, the NZSG

Certificates Collection will be available via email request, in addition to their postal service. Please complete [Certificates Request](#) form to request up to six certificates or six surname printouts. Your Certificate Request will be answered within 24 hours with a PDF copy of the relevant certificates or documents. Alternately, you can request an Individual Search or Surname Printout which will provide you with a PDF printout of the surnames you have requested. You can then request the certificates relevant to your research from that printout. There is a partial index to the NZSG Certificates Collection on the Kiwi Collection which can instantly help you find the records you require. You can find further information about the NZSG Certificates Collection on their website. The collection was set up as a repository for certificates that members had obtained, but found to be unrelated to their research and it has grown to over 130,000 documents.



More Irish sites

<https://www.irishancestors.ie/>

Founded in 1936, the Irish Genealogical Research Society is a learned society widely recognised as holding the world’s largest and most important collection of Irish genealogical material in private hands.

They recently tweeted these research tips:

IGRS Top Research Tip #31:

The Anglican Records Project is transcribing and indexing Church of Ireland parish registers and making them free to access online.

<https://www.ireland.anglican.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project>

GRS Top Research Tip #37:

Before boarding a ship in Dublin to migrate many first ended up in the workhouse. Detailed registers survive providing vital biographical info:

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/4496114> Thanks to the Hutt Valley Branch

– Quote from Famnet -Peter Nash

‘I have a speech I give on safeguarding and the future of your genealogy/family history records and material. I have donated some material to the Hokianga Museum. I think you should look to donating some to your local museum or library and, in particular, those of the area you have been researching. We all must take big steps in avoiding the post-funeral celebrations that usually end in a bonfire or a rubbish skip. Think about it very seriously.’

A Famous New Zealander You have Probably Never Heard Of

Patrick Shanahan (1867-1938)

Patrick SHANAHAN was born in on the 06 November 1867 in Shanat Castle, County Limerick, Ireland. He came to New Zealand as a young boy with his mother Ellen Shanahan née NOLAN and younger brothers John and Daniel in 1875 on board the *Jessie Osborne* to Lyttleton. Their father and husband John had possibly preempted their travel as he is not recorded on the *Jessie Osborne*.

By 1878 the family had settled at Arrowtown where John Shanahan applied to lease 30 acres of the mining reserve for agricultural purposes on the south-west side of the Arrow River between the road and the river.^[1]

Patrick attended St Patrick’s Roman Catholic School and was possibly Shanahan, the member of the Arrow

Cadets who won first prize, a gold pencil case and pen holder in a shooting competition in 1880.^[2]

When he left school Patrick worked at Macetown, a gold mining settlement on the upper Arrow River. He then left the area and joined a sailing ship at Bluff and worked his passage to England where he joined the British Army. He was known to have been stationed in Egypt and could be the Patrick Shanahan in the 2nd Battalion of The Royal Irish Regiment in the Second Egyptian War of 1882.^[3]

After discharge he returned to Arrowtown for a while but soon left and sailed for America where he joined the United States Navy.

Shortly after enlisting, Chief Boatswain’s Mate Shanahan, on board the training ship *Alliance*, dived into the sea, and succeeded in bringing a shipmate, William Stevens to safety. This was without any thought of the danger to himself, and the deed was



verified by other sailors. This was on the 18 May 1899 off Annapolis, Maryland.^[4] For his heroism Patrick was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the only known New Zealander to be awarded this.

In August 1908 Patrick came to Auckland as part of the United States ‘Great White Fleet’ when sixteen American battleships sailed in to the Waitemata Harbour. Members of the New Zealand Parliament met the fleet after travelling from Wellington by train – the first to traverse the whole length of the still unfinished Main Trunk Line.

In 1917 Patrick was promoted to Lieutenant and spent the war laying mines in the North Sea and the North Atlantic. He retired from active naval duty in September 1922, and spent much of his time painting sea and ship scenes, and carving ship models.

He died in Brooklyn, New York on the 07 December 1937 and is buried in the Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.^[5]

His father died in Arrowtown in 1890 Arrowtown, and his mother in 1915. Three of his brothers survived him – Daniel Shanahan of Glenorchy, Denis Shanahan of Tuatapere and Police Inspector Thomas Shanahan of Timaru.

Just imagine what 30 acres in Arrowtown would be worth now. There is a Shanahan Lane between Centennial Avenue, the main street and the river in Arrowtown. (Thanks to Christine Clement, Famnet)



Ancestry -New Zealand, School Registers and Lists, 1850-1967

Browse this collection

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

Description

[Christ College Grammar School List, 1850-1921](#)

[Nelson College School Register, 1856-1956](#)

[Southland Boys High School Register, 1881-1930](#)

[Wanganui Collegiate School Register, 1854-1939](#)

[Wellington Diocesan School for Girls, 1911-1967](#)

Not only does it give names of pupils, teachers etc., but in the case of Southland Boys High School it also gives potted biographies, (quite detailed in some cases). *Thanks to Margaret Milne*



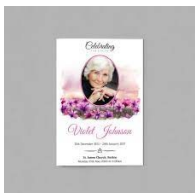
[Findmypast](#) have exclusive rights to the parish registers at Staffordshire Archives .

Evaluate, absorb. There is no point downloading it into your computer if you haven't downloaded it into your brain.

Take your time.

Read, mark, learn and inwardly digest. Anyway, what's the point if someone else gave you the ancestry. The fun is doing it yourself.

Would you like to be given a book of crossword puzzles -with the answers all filled in!



Funeral Order of Service Sheets
Hokonui Heritage Center have hundreds, mainly from Eastern Southland, indexed on the computer, filed and available at

the Heritage center.

These are a valuable source of information.

They give place of service and internment, birth and death dates, photographs of family, residences, interests, farms and workplaces. The names of the immediate family are usually listed, and family members who gave eulogies or memories.



*Vast numbers of our Victorian **ancestresses** had eight or ten children and 30 or 40 grandchildren as well as eight or ten siblings and the same number of siblings-in-law, 50 or 60*

nephews and nieces and dozens of cousins – theirs and their husbands - and the extended families of the sons and daughters-in-law. The number of family balls they juggled is unbelievable and finding them all is a serious project.”

Elaine's Hints for

- Finding Goldminers
- Papers Past
- Goldrush Online Database
- ash.howison
- Otago Nominal Index
- Otago Goldfields Database
- Wilson Index



Have you realised that the NZ BDM Historical Index now includes more people?

Only marriages more than 80 years ago has been relaxed to 75 years.

The birth dates you could see from a death that was included in the index* are also now shown in the Births where you couldn't previously find them if the birth didn't meet the display criteria. * ie died more than 50 years ago or aged 80 or over.

You'll still be out of luck if they weren't born in NZ however, given it is a NZ birth Index
Thanks to Fiona Brooker –Kapati Branch



Oh, Grandma, are you still tracing your ancestry?

Boring! My friend got his off the internet last night.