



**New  
Zealand  
Society of  
Genealogists**

# BLenheim BRANCH

Newsletter  
No 276  
July 2011



**Branch meetings**  
3rd Tuesday of each  
month - February  
through to November  
at 7.30pm.  
**Venue: Beavertown  
Hall, Brayshaw  
Heritage Park**  
Arthur Baker Place  
(off New Renwick  
Road)  
at 7.30pm

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Website: <http://www.henry.gen.nz/BBNZSG/>  
[http://www.henry.gen.nz/Henry\\_Family/BBNZSG.html](http://www.henry.gen.nz/Henry_Family/BBNZSG.html)*



Welcome to our ever-popular

## SOUP NIGHT

We trust you will enjoy the variety  
of soups your committee members  
have supplied



**We hope that you have  
brought a Childhood  
memory to share with  
other members**



## From your Convenor

**July 2011**



Dear Members,

### Convenor's Report July 2011

In recent years I have been considering the  
possibilities of using DNA testing in an attempt to  
undermine my most impregnable genealogical brick wall.

My paternal great grandfather's life before he  
emerged from the mists of time, residing in England at  
age 25, is a mystery that has generated several intriguing  
family stories but no hard facts. I am a direct descendant  
via the male lineage so am probably the best one in the  
descended family to follow the DNA trail, but I am  
hesitant to commit myself as I am unsure of how  
successful such a method would be.

I would be interested to hear from anyone who has  
personally tried DNA testing as a genealogy research  
tool (my email is don.henry@xtra.co.nz).

Kind regards,

Don Henry  
Convenor

*My family coat of arms ties at the back....  
is that normal?*



**JUNE MEETING** The June meeting  
at which John Orchard spoke on  
"*Immigrant Sailing Ships and the  
Edwin Fox.*" was most interesting.  
Joining with the MHS proved very  
worth while.

However we were disappointed at  
the low turnout of members on this  
occasion.

### **AUGUST MEETING**

This will be a Club research night when our  
more experienced  
members will be  
available to assist newer  
members with their  
genealogy research using  
the various tools we have  
available.



Stories and information in this publication are sourced from  
various publications and the Internet. While every care is  
taken, their accuracy can only be as good as the information  
supplied/available—*Editor*



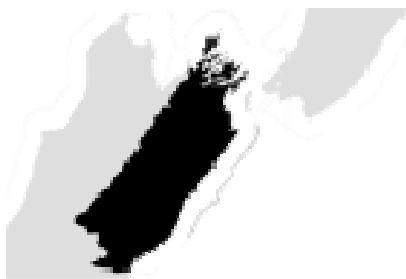
## LIBRARY NOTES

Terry Gardiner,  
Librarian

Thank you to Pauleen Wilkinson for donating the notes she prepared for the "Allen Family Reunion" in 2007. These notes cover the Allen, Lawrence, Wells and Wilkinson Families from Havelock and the Pelorus Sounds.

If anyone is off to England Ilona has given us a bag full of travel brochures and maps for various places in England. Feel free to come and collect, or peruse them.

Just a reminder. If you are using the early electoral rolls you need to check in the New Zealand Electoral Atlas to establish the name of the area you want. For instance: in 1972—78 Picton was in the Tasman Electorate. 1978—84 saw the boundary moved and Picton was in the Marlborough Electorate, but Havelock was still Tasman. Up to 1893 Picton/ Waimea had their own electorate and the Marlborough Electorate was called Wairau, changing to Marlborough in 1938, then to Kaikoura in the 1990s. The earlier rolls have an index to go with them as some fiche have three electorates on them, but the titles only show the first and last ones.



Map showing the location of Kaikoura electorate according to 2008 boundaries

### This Issue includes—

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300,000+ Burial and Cremation  
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### Blenheim Branch Committee

- Convener:** Don Henry
- Secretary:** Katrina Harris
- Treasurer:** Stuart Kennington
- Committee:**
- Librarian:** Terry Gardiner
- Newsletter Editor:** Alan Harris
- Door & Raffles:** Sue Gill



*Genealogy research in its simplest form !*

### Easytree Family Tree Wallcharts

As we are re-locating our business to Mosgiel in Dunedin during the next few months, we are pleased to offer our charts at a very reasonable price for the next four weeks - or - until we have sold our current stock. The next printing will almost certainly rise in price

These Family Tree Wallcharts make an excellent gift for any occasion at a super affordable price

**These charts have proved ever popular over the past 16 years. See our website for more information**

Jenny Heller, Hellrich Heirlooms

Easytree Family Tree Wallcharts

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### Branch Library & Rooms

**Beavertown Hall, Brayshaw Heritage Park**

Arthur Baker Place (off New Renwick Road, Blenheim)

### Hours

**Except for December & January** our facilities at Beavertown are open to the public as below:

Day of month	Time period	Duty member	phone
1st Tuesday	3 to 5pm	Terry Gardiner	5785222
1st Sunday	2 to 4pm	Don Henry	5791987
2nd Tuesday	3 to 5pm	Terry Gardiner	5785222
2nd Wednesday	9 - 11.30 am	Ilona Alloway	5784658
3rd Tuesday	3 to 5pm	Terry Gardiner	5785222
3rd Thursday	2 to 4pm	Christine Koppert	5783408
3rd Sunday	2 to 4pm	Don Henry	5791987
4th Tuesday	3 to 5pm	Terry Gardiner	5785222

*The Library may be available by appointment outside these hours.*

### Inquiries to:

**Terry Gardiner** Librarian phone 578 5222

**Lauri Ashwell** phone 578 8385 during daytime.

JULY 2011						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### July 2011

This year, July has 5 Fridays, 5 Saturdays and 5 Sundays. While this is unusual it is not common.

Emails circulating around genealogists lately have been telling us that this only happens in July every 823 years. This is not correct - the last occurrence was in July 2005 while the next occurrence will take place in July 2016.

#### When did people get married?

Most popular day of the week was a Thursday. This was because it was pay day. Six o'clock at night was a very popular time during the 1920 to 1950s to get married.

#### Months of the year:

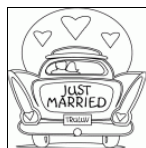
Northern hemisphere—April, June or July

Southern Hemisphere—December, January or February

Note that May was not included in the list above. The Victorians were very superstitious and according to the verse below May was not a good month to marry.

#### January

*Marry when the year is new, he will be loving, kind and true.*



#### February

*When February birds do mate, you wed nor dread your fate.*

#### March

*If you wed when March winds do blow, joy and sorry you both will know*

#### April

*Marry in April if you can, joy for maiden and for man*

#### May

*Marry in the month of May and you will surely rue the day*

#### June

*Marry when the June roses grow and over land and sea you will go*

#### August

*Who ever wed in August be, many a change is sure to see*

#### September

*Marry in September's shrine so that your is rich & fine*

#### October

*If in October you do marry, love will come but riches tarry*

#### November

*If you wed in bleak November, only joys will come, remember*

#### December

*When December snows fall fast, marry, and your love will last.*



## Marlborough Historical Society EVENTS and PRESENTATIONS



*Please note that seating for these events is limited—so if you are intending to be present please book your seat by ringing 578 1712*

**SUNDAY August 7— 2pm. Pioneer Farming in Marlborough—John Walsh**

**SUNDAY September 4—2pm. MHS visit to the Edwin Fox**

**SUNDAY October 2—2pm Founding Families of Marlborough—John Orchard, Megan Ross, Jenny Pierson**

**SUNDAY November 6—2pm Early Marlborough Churches and Hotels— Belinda Vavasour with Archives volunteers and John Orchard**

**WEDNESDAY November 16—12 noon Potluck Lunch for Members and Volunteers, Committee and staff**

This Marlborough vineyard stamp A \$1 postage stamp, part of a vineyard series produced in 1997, highlights Marlborough's role as a winemaking region.



### Pioneer Arrivals: 1840s to 1860

*Exhibition runs to Dec 2011*

A major exhibition that focuses on early immigrants to Marlborough. Including a re-creation of ship life, with replica cabins, delightful artefacts from the collection, photos of early Marlborough founders, and exquisite dresses



**Wairau Bar Collections**



**Captain James Cook Collection**

## NELSON BRANCH IN NEW PREMISES

The Nelson Branch of the Genealogy Society has moved to new premises, at 67 Trafalgar Street, Nelson. (Opposite Trailways Hotel and Motel complex) The opening hours are: Monday from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. Thursday from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Sunday 2.00pm to 4.00pm. All their records are housed in easy to access shelves and cabinets, and the Scottish Interest Group library is also located at the Nelson Group premises."

## 300,000+ Burial and Cremation Records Added to Deceased Online

The following announcement was written by Deceased Online:

Nearly 1 million Scottish burial and cremation records now available

- 313,000 records for Edinburgh's Seafield Cemetery and Crematorium and for Warriston Crematorium are now on [www.deceasedonline.com](http://www.deceasedonline.com).
- Nearly 39,000 burial records dating from 1888 to the present day for Seafield Cemetery feature scans of mortality registers (with many of them including details of the type of hearse used!).
- Over 49,500 records from 1939 for Seafield Crematorium are available as scans of cremation register pages.
- Records for Warriston Crematorium, numbering nearly 225,000 and dating back to 1929, are available as scans of cremation registers. Please note: records up to 1991 are immediately available – records after this date are still being uploaded but will be available shortly.
- The combined Edinburgh dataset of 313,000 means that the total Deceased Online database for Scotland now numbers just under 1 million burial and cremation records.

The Deceased Online team will be in Edinburgh on Saturday 25th June meeting delegates at the Scottish Association of Family Histories (SAFHS) national conference. They will be demonstrating the wide range of records that Deceased Online has for areas throughout Scotland including register scans, grave details, photographs of memorials with searchable inscriptions, and cemetery maps. Conference details are at: <http://www.safhs.org.uk/conference.asp>

*Posted by Dick Eastman on June 24, 2011*

## About the Irish in Australia

About the Irish in Australia there are always opinions, some favourable, some not. Poet and storyteller Henry Lawson said that, when in trouble, he always had two friends, and one of them was an Irishman.

*Cont'd next column*

## A TREASURE TROVE OF SHIP PASSENGER RECORDS GO ONLINE

*continued from June issue*

Similarly to today, the records reveal a high number of retirees also travelled to Australia to spend the rest of their lives in the sun, with 17,385 retirees emigrating from the UK during the 1950s. Furthermore, 140,511 housewives travelled to Australia in the same decade. The records also show that there were 58 divorcees and 215 widowers listed who may have journeyed to the country to make a fresh start.



Rhoda Breakell, head of Genes Reunited, comments: "The wealth of passenger list records now available on Genes Reunited is an invaluable resource for people tracing relatives they believe may have left the UK from 1890 onwards. The passenger records may very well provide a missing link for many family historians who have hit a brick wall in their research, as well as helping those outside of the UK to trace back to their British and European heritage."

The easily-searchable and user-friendly database will enable would-be genealogists and family historians alike to view digitised images of the original ship passenger records online, which contain over 1.1 million pages, listing the 24 million passengers who travelled on long-distance journeys from UK ports.

*From Genes Reunited June 2011*

## About the Irish in Australia cont'd

*from previous column*

Visiting Adelaide in the 1870s, Richard Twopenny found to his dismay that four out of five servants were Irish – 'liars and dirty'. Once accused of being opposed to Irish immigration in the 1840s, leading New South Wales politician William Charles Wentworth retorted that this was a lie: 'some of the best blood in my veins is Irish'.

A couple of decades later the so-called 'Father of Federation', Henry Parkes, argued that 'Irish Roman Catholics' were not the 'best people' for the developing colony of New South Wales, and that the numbers arriving at colonial expense should be restricted.

Much later, in the 1960s, Donald Horne wrote of his Muswellbrook childhood as one in which local Catholics, the great majority of whom would have been of Irish descent, were perhaps 'not quite human'. So where do the Irish fit into the Australian story?

Irish-born immigrants and their descendants have been a feature of the Australian population since the arrival of the First Fleet in New South Wales in 1788. Their influence upon, and contribution to, Australia's ever-changing and evolving cultural, economic, political and social life was of central significance. This stems from the fact that the Irish and their descendants formed a large segment (somewhere between 20 and 30 per cent) of the population up until 1914, and some suggest well beyond that. Before the large-scale continental European and English immigration of the post-1945 decades, Australia has been described as a 'fairly faithful mirror of the early nineteenth century United Kingdom' of Great Britain and Ireland, where the Irish formed a third of the population. Australia remains the most Irish country in the world outside Ireland.