

# Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists

## October 2015

CONVENOR Rhonda Wilson	208 4433
SECRETARY Vicki Newman	204 8673
TREASURER Jo Muir	248 6474
BULLETIN Avis McDonald	208 6812
WEBMASTER Liz O'Connell	208 3727
WEB SITE	<a href="http://goregenealogy.weebly.com">goregenealogy.weebly.com</a>
NZSG WEB SITE	<a href="http://www.genealogy.org.nz">www.genealogy.org.nz</a>



**Next Meeting**  
**LDS Church, Main St, Gore**  
**6 October 2015 Tuesday**  
**FamilySearch – bring your iPad,**  
**Notebook so you can search.**  
**A plate for supper Please**

### September Meeting Report

Many members were present for a delightful exchange of information. The photographs and stories re their family headstones were many and varied.

Names being researched included the following:

*The members searching are listed in italics*

**MITCHELL** of Tukurau from 1880 **COCKBURN** of Matakura and Waikaka Valley from 1873 –

*Elaine Scott*

**Joseph HILL** and **Florence DOWELL** came to NZ 1922 and settled in Timaru -

*Judy Pulley*

**James & Jane SCOTT & Annie & Martin O'Shea**

*Moira Anderson*

**David MLLAR** 29 Mar 1798 Scotland 0 3 Jan 1878 Dunedin **Catherine Young MARSHALL** 8 Jan 1800 Scotland – 16 Jan 1884 Dunedin-

*Trish Diamond*

**Joanna McKENZIE** and **Hughina Josephine**

**McKENZIE**

*Jo Muir*

**Robert SMITH** and **Donald McCALLUM**

*George Smith*

**Samuel DAVIS - Eliza ROACH/ROCHE**

*Alwyn Cavanagh*

**Bridget BROSNAHAN – Joseph WALLACE**

**SCHULTZ - REGEFESKY**

**Samuel ROBINSON – Ruth McDowell**

*Maria Hurrell*

**William MAKEPEACH – STRATHERN-TYRRELL**

*Vicky Newman*

**WILLING** - Burfield,- New Plymouth

**Solomon SHEPHERD – Robert HUTTON**

*Margaret Sutherland*

**Robert WILSON** married, died about 5 years ago in Matakura

*SrLinda Beckman*

**John WYNNE** m 1899 **Elizabeth GAFFNEY** in Kent.

**John** died 1915, Elizabeth married **Edward DANIELS**

*Avis McDonald*

### Kiwi Index

- School records- Children can be taken in and reared by families other than relatives.
- Look through ship passenger lists to find out why people came to New Zealand
- [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) – shipping inwards to New South Wales or other Australia ports  
Possibility of owning land a huge draw card for people to come to New Zealand
- [www.peabodytrust.org.uk](http://www.peabodytrust.org.uk) social housing in London [www.myheritage.com](http://www.myheritage.com)
- [www.ancestry.co.au](http://www.ancestry.co.au) and <http://www.findmypast.com.au/> free at libraries
- <http://www.genuki.org.uk/> provides a virtual reference library of genealogical information of particular relevance to the UK and Ireland. It is a non-commercial service, maintained by a charitable trust and a group of volunteers.
- Check old and present day maps
- Books about immigration to New Zealand/  
Petone heritage Library
- Join the New Zealand Society of Genealogists [www.genealogynz.com](http://www.genealogynz.com)
- Ready to watch on YouTube your family tree explained
- Look at [www.wimp.com/familytree/](http://www.wimp.com/familytree/) clear as ...

### Kiwi Collection can now be ordered.

You need to be a member of the NZSG and to be signed in to the website

[http://www.genealogy.org.nz/Sales-News\\_474.aspx](http://www.genealogy.org.nz/Sales-News_474.aspx)

If the link doesn't get you there, Go to NZSG

<http://www.genealogy.org.nz/>

Sign in, Click Shop (near top of page), Drop down to

Sales News. *Thanks to Hut Valley Branch*

\*\*\*\*\*

### Did You Know?????

Eastern Southland Family Register contains many families, with the ships they came to NZ on, and their families all listed. This folder is on the third shelf.



### British Merchant Navy

Do you have an ancestor who served with the British Merchant Navy during 1915? In a joint

project between National Archives UK and National Maritime Museum, 39,000 crew lists have been digitized, along with 750,000 names of crew members. You can search by either name or by ship. And it is online free at: <http://1915crewlists.rmg.co.uk>

If your ancestor was a clergyman for the Church of England, have you checked out whether he is listed in the clergy database? It covers the period 1540-1835 so we are relatively safe in saying "he"; not many women vicars before 1835!

<http://theclergydatabase.org.uk>

Interested in English pubs? The man behind [pubshistory.com](http://pubshistory.com) also runs a facebook page on the same topic. His web database contains details on an amazing number of English pubs, including hundreds in London. For many, there are also photographs. It is worth checking out your ancestor's local, and if your ancestor actually held the licence at the pub, even better! <http://pubshistory.com>

Explore 122 almanacs and directories from Great Britain. The collection includes trade directories, county guides, almanacs and general directories. Inside you will find the names of prominent people, tradesmen, people who held office, business owners and local civil servants. Discover your ancestor's address and occupation or explore the history of your home address. The almanacs and directories stretch across three centuries.



### Irish Newspapers

The Irish Newspaper Collection on Findmypast continues to grow at a rapid pace with the latest updates including 6 brand new titles and 724,000 new articles to explore.

The newest additions include titles from several counties as well as a national publication – *The Evening Freeman*. They cover a broad period in Irish history from 1836-72.

Five newspapers have also been added to with supplementary articles. They include substantial updates to *Belfast Commercial Chronicle* (135,813 new articles), *Clare Journal*, and *Ennis Advertiser* (61,194 new articles) and *The Pilot* (17,721 new articles).

The entire collection has now passed the 10.5 million article point, all of which are fully searchable. The archive covers over 230 years of Ireland's history (1719-1950) and currently includes 88 titles.

Here are the latest titles to join the Irish Newspaper collection and the years covered as of 21 September 2015:

*Carlow Post* - 1872

*Coleraine Chronicle* – 1844-1871

*Downpatrick Recorder* – 1853-1855

*Londonderry Standard* -1839-1871

*The Evening Freeman* - 1851-57, 1860-64, 1866, 1868-70, 1871

*Wexford Constitution* – 1858

\*\*\*\*\*



Japanese Prisoners of War

FindMyPast

**The bridge over the River Kwai where thousands of POW's died (Roy Letkey)**

Over 140,000 Allied military personnel were taken prisoner by the armed forces of Imperial Japan during the Second World War. The details of many of these brave men can now be uncovered using our [new Prisoner of War 1939-1945 collection](#); over 1 million records relating to allied POW's held by Japanese, German and Italian forces in Asia, Europe and Africa.

In Japan alone, over 160 POW slave labour camps existed at the time of surrender.

A significant number of those captured were members of the British Commonwealth forces including; over 50,000 British servicemen, and over 21,000 Australian and New Zealand servicemen. The majority of these prisoners were put to work in mines, fields, shipyards, factories or the infamous Burma-Siam railroad.



They were expected to complete 12 hours of grueling physical labour in appalling conditions each day while surviving on a meager diet of about 600 calories.

Red Cross parcels were sent frequently but would usually be kept by the Japanese

and were very rarely distributed amongst the prisoners.



Prisoners were continuously hungry and they survived on a meagre diet of rice and vegetables and illness was common. Prisoners suffered from malnutrition, ulcers and cholera. Around 61,000 prisoners were put to work on the railroad. Of those 13,000 died.

Around 1 in 3 military prisoners died from starvation, work, punishments or disease while held by the Japanese. Roughly 39% of all Australian POWs, some 8,031 men, did not survive the horrors of the camps. 12,433 British military personnel also died in Japanese camps, roughly 25% of the total number held by Japanese Forces.

It was not only military personnel who were forced to survive the war in Japanese camps, estimated 125,000 - 130,000 allied civilians were taken captive. The Japanese had no policy for the treatment of enemy civilian Internees.

The largest camp Tjihapit in Java, held around 14,000.

Over 3,000 women were interned in camps in China, nearly 1,000 in Hong Kong, just over 1,000 in Singapore and over 2,000 in the American colonized Philippines.

\*\*\*\*\*

My grandparents were on the *Grasshopper* which also went down on 14 Feb 1942 and is mentioned on this website.

They survived the bombing to ultimately be imprisoned by the Japanese on Sumatra, at Padang then Bankinang, being released and making it back to NZ for Christmas, 1945. My grandmother, Mavis LAMPEN-SMITH (nee BALMER) was a mere 4 stone and 3 pounds when released from Bankinang. The COFEPOW website is an excellent testament to the Far East POWs of this time. My grandfather, Bill Lampen-Smith, was English and worked for the British company 'Cable & Wireless' in communications so was one of the last to leave Singapore. My grandmother, Mavis, with a rare blood type had too much blood taken from her and became ill, missing the boat away from Singapore they should have been on.

My father had been evacuated to 'who knew where', as a ten year old by himself, one month earlier. He did not find out till after the war that his parents had survived.

After the war my grandfather was awarded an MBE 'at the request of his fellow prisoners in recognition of his efforts for others during internment. This was a huge commendation, that he was trusted to put other prisoners before himself in such inhumane conditions endured over such a long period.'

Many thanks to Liz O'Connell for this article

\*\*\*\*\*

First World War and men who served in it- try the Long Long Trail [www.1914-1918.net](http://www.1914-1918.net)

Passenger lists record people leaving or arriving in Britain between 1878 and the 1960's. Departures are with [findmypast](http://findmypast) and arrivals at Liverpool Southampton and other ports are with Ancestry.com.

The Vision of Britain [www.visionofbritain.org.uk](http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk) has many resources for the history of towns and villages, including maps and data from the census reports. Old Ordnance Survey maps can be consulted (at a cost.) [www.oldmaps.co.uk](http://www.oldmaps.co.uk) . However a **free site** is Old Maps Online at [www.oldmapsonline.org](http://www.oldmapsonline.org).

In Scotland look at [maps.nls.uk](http://maps.nls.uk)

In Ireland look at [www.pasthomes.com](http://www.pasthomes.com) and [www.irishhistoricmaps.ie](http://www.irishhistoricmaps.ie)

Until 19<sup>th</sup> century many boys and some girls were apprenticed to a master for 5 – 7 years in order to learn a trade. go to [findmypast](http://findmypast) and London guilds are at London Metropolitan Archives [www.lma.gov.uk](http://www.lma.gov.uk)

Service records for ordinary soldiers **only survive for men who received a pension**. This excludes men who died while in the Army or deserted. The records are at TNA or online at [findmypast pre-WW1](http://findmypast-pre-WW1)

Detailed records online for India Office at <http://indiafamily.bl.uk/UI/home.aspx> with 300,00 births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials searchable and biographical notes for British & European people in India from around 1600 – 1949. The online Gallery displays 30,000 items from the Library's collections.

**WWII Casualty Documents to go Online** – The Commonwealth

War Grave Commission (CWGC) is making available its Second World War Casualty Archive Documents in August

this year, to coincide with the 70th anniversary of Victory in Japan (VJ) Day.

The records will be available through the 'casualty search' option at [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org) and will offer a unique insight into the process of commemoration undertaken by the CWGC after the Second World War. Details will include: personal headstone inscriptions, date of death, rank, regiment and even some documents that show the journey of the deceased to their final resting place.

From Maureen Kelso, *Family Tree Magazine*, July 2015

## Writing your family history or autobiography: Peter Nash

I know a lot of people who have decided, some time ago, that they would write their family history. They have spent much time, and money on research and therefore should have enough to put together a few pages of narrative. But they do not know where to start or they do not have enough information on the early ancestors to feel comfortable to start.

Procrastination is a wonderful attribute - your proposed work of great literary significance is just that - proposed. It will always look good on the drafting paper. I also know that, in order to get your thoughts together a few games of patience on the computer is helpful. Then a good cup of coffee – not instant – is needed, and then the phone goes. Your partner demands to be escorted to the supermarket. The dog needs a walk. Before you know it, lunch is a requirement. Then, things to do and places to go become more important. Voila, a day's writing has been spent.

Well who says that a family history has to follow a chronological order? A lot of confusion can be created by a lack of chronological order and/or switching backwards and forwards in time. This would be helpful if you are trying to hide an episode or two that is potentially embarrassing. I suggest that you start writing a chapter on a person or time period you know a lot about. Writing about a favourite grandfather, or the World War 1 service of your family members can be an effective way of getting the creative juices flowing. Before you start use a few pages to jot down the sorts of things you want to mention. Using this, just let the narrative flow and fill out the page, making sure you cross off on your draft what you have covered. Spend an hour or so just putting the words down. Then, save this (where you can find it), keep your page of draft notes, and then start doing the things mentioned in the previous paragraph. Now you will win more games of patience because you will feel sanctimonious.

The next day open the previous day's creative masterpiece and read. Make corrections, additions and deletions as you go. You will find that you need further research to make the story more complete. It would pay to add notes to your narrative as you go, giving the information about where you found the key "discoveries" so that the readers (and yourself) can check the data. Do not forget to cite your sources for the quotes you have used.

Do this again and again. Your chapter will grow and become more polished.

[PANash@xtra.co.nz](mailto:PANash@xtra.co.nz)

FamNet URL, [www.famnet.org.nz](http://www.famnet.org.nz)

To be continued next month

## Historic Occupations

These unusual occupations are from old UK census.

**HACK** A person who hires himself out for any sort of literary work

**HACKLER** or **HACKMAN** or **HECKLER** One who separated the coarse part of flax or hemp with a hackle, an instrument with teeth in the linen industry

**HAIR SEATING MERCHANT** Dealer in horsehair stuffing used in upholstery

**HALBERT CARRIER** A soldier or halberdier, armed with a halberd, a combination spear and battleaxe (a ceremonial officer)

**HANKYMAN** A travelling magician in Victorian/Edwardian England

**HARMER BECK** A parish constable or beadle

**HEDGE LOOKER** Supervised repairs of fence and enclosures

**HENTER** or **HENDER** A person who seizes or gets possession of something. Eg baliff, or thief

**HOOFER** A professional dancer, especially a tap dancer.

**HOOKER** A worker that hooks or uses hooks e.g. In woollen or cotton industry

**HOWDY** or **HOWDIE** A midwife (chiefly used in Scotland)

**HURRIER** One who draws a corf or wagon in a coal-mine. A young boy or girl employed in a coal mine to drag baskets or small wagons full of coal from the coal face, up to the surface.

**HUSBANDMAN** A tenant farmer

**HUSH SHOP KEEPER** Person who brewed and old beer without a license (usually as a side line)

(from *New Plymouth August Newsletter*)

\*\*\*\*\*

[www.sailis.sa.gov.au](http://www.sailis.sa.gov.au)

**SAILIS** stands for South Australian Integrated Land Information System. On the Home page click on "access as a guest" then click on "image search" on the top bar. From the drop down menu choose "Historical Name Index Search". You can only enter the first letter of the surname and this will return 100s of pages that are images of the original typed index but as these are in alphabetical order you will be able to find the name you are searching for. A Certificate of Title reference is given and the good news is that you can then choose "Title Image Search" from the drop down menu and at no cost download the title image. South Australian Certificates of Title are in exactly the same format as those from New Zealand. *Riccarton Branch NZSG*



*We extend our deepest Sympathy to Margaret Allan on the loss of her husband Alister.*