

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists January 2018

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Next Meeting
6 February – Waitangi Day
6.30pm
I Site Center
Show and Tell – A page of scrapbook or evidence of your research

December 2017 Christmas Dinner

14 of us gathered at the RSA for our annual Christmas Dinner on 5th December. The meals were great and some members even managed dessert!

The informal discussion round the table was great and I heard mention of a few success stories. Some were able to find help with difficult research problems.

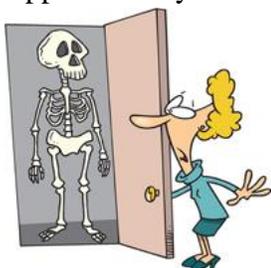
I'm sure we would all agree that it was a great evening. *(I wish I could have joined you all)*



Happy New Year.. We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas, New Year and some time to relax.

When you think of Genealogy, there's one thing you can be sure of, and that is the past won't change.

We are dealing with things that have already happened- they are fixed and immutable.



The process of family history research, however is changing all the time

DNA testing might release cats from bags and skeletons from the closets.

New technology is being utilized, new projects undertaken and new connections made. This means that you can never consider your research is complete, as can never tell when a new collection of documents might go online, creating a whole new branch of research, or even more exciting breaking down a long standing brick wall.

At the beginning of the 21st century there was very little family history online. Even 10 years ago, we used the internet in a different way. Now many researchers have I pads, tablets and cell phones. New members might begin with the NZ RGO site to discover grandparents siblings.

The most high profile Ancestry developments relate to the every growing field of ancestral DNA testing. It has been around in its current for 20 years, and has seen massive growth over those two decades.

At the close of 1917 the site held over 20 billion records.90 million being family trees, 10 billion ancestral profiles and more than 175 million photographs, scans and members stories.

More content is being added all the time, and 2018 will see the addition of new parish records and electoral rolls from across the UK.

A new exciting photo collection is planned, and the addition of 18 million names from London directories.



2018 is the centenary of the WW1 Armistice and Ancestry will mark this anniversary by releasing new military records.

2018 is also a big year for **Findmypast** which is working with volunteers from 70 family history societies in order to add to its

local record collections. While the post 1911 censuses remain closed the 1939 Register is the only source of information for the mid 20th century. Improvements are planned to allow for more specific location searches.

The General Register Office (England) is running a pilot scheme to deliver non certified PDF copies of

some birth and death certificates. The scheme was extended at the end of last year to cover births from 1837 – 1916 and deaths 1837 – 1957. However the PDF versions are only slightly cheaper than traditional paper certificates



Releasing the UK 1921 census returns early would involve the breaking of a strict

undertaking made by the government at that time, and seems highly unlikely

The 1921 census took place in June, rather than April, as originally planned. This was due to the disruption caused by the Black Friday strikes by miners, railwaymen and other transport workers, and it meant the popular holiday towns reported artificially high populations

ANCESTRY.COM UPDATE

Among the many databases recently added to this website are the following:

- Queensland Mining Accident Index 1882-1945 (transcript only but notes give full details)
- Queensland WWI Soldier Portraits (28,141 of them)
- Fife Criminal Registers 1910-31
- Fife Electoral Registers/Rolls 1914-1966 (with images; about 1 million records)
- Ontario Roman Catholic Baptisms, Marriages and Burials 1760-1923 (about 3 million records)
- Ontario Toronto Trust Cemeteries 1826-1989
- Newfoundland Births, Marriages and Deaths 1850-1949 (with images)
- Berkshire Electoral Registers 1840-1965 (2.5 million records)
- England Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital Admissions and Discharges 1826-1930 (with images)
- University of London Student Records 1890-1945
- UK Absent Voter Lists 1918-25 & 1939 (with images)
- UK Electoral Registers 2003-2010 (transcripts only)

- New Jersey State Censuses for 1855, 1865, 1875, 1885, 1905 & 1915 (with images)
- Boston Roman Catholic Sacramental Records 1789-1900
- USA Railroad Retirement Pensions index 1934-1987 (1.5 million names)
- Montana Marriage Records 1943-86 (with images)
- Montana County Marriages 1865-1987 (with images)
- Montana Divorce Records 1943-1986 (with images)
- New York City Voters List 1924 (with images)

FINDMYPAST NEWS

- Warwickshire Bastardy Indexes 1844-1914
- Berkshire Baptisms Marriages and Burials 1536-1996
- Ontario Births 1860-1920
- London Wapping, Bromley and Whitechapel Baptisms 1558-1993; Marriages 1558-1859
- London Clerkenwell Burial Index
- British Armed Forces WWI Soldiers Medical Records (with images)
- British Prisoners of War 1715-1945
- British WWI Widows Pension Forms (with images; names children and gives their birth dates)
- British WWI Casualty Lists (weekly; browse only)
- British Army WWI Service Records (with images; from WO96, WO97, WO363, WO364)
- Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster Baptism, Marriages and Burials
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham records

BIRTHS DEATH MARRIAGES & RELATIONSHIPS REGISTRATION BILL 2017

Shortly before Christmas the new NZ Government introduced a bill that will, if passed, change certain aspects of the existing 1995 Act. Those new provisions that are relevant to genealogists are:

1. Historical marriages are now 75 years or more ago, rather than 80 years as at present.
2. Intentions to Marry are now similarly restricted (whether or not there actually was a marriage).
3. Historical births are now (for dead persons only) 80 or more years ago or if died 50 or more years ago, but remain at 100 years ago for persons still living.

4. Death certificates will from now on also record deceased children of a person who dies, in addition to the living children.

Thanks to Riccarton Branch



As a LostCousins member you will be entitled to receive the newsletter, which is full of useful tips and articles to help you knock down 'brick walls' and take your research to a new level. <https://lostcousins.com> This site often gets the jump on others with news and views, especially about free access to the pay to view sites. Sign up and you might learn a thing or two!

From the Magazines and Websites: A bit of a round up.

Those of you with Essex ancestors thousands of records from Essex are now available for free on FamilySearch. The site's new collection features an index of parish register records, including 424,558 baptisms, marriages and funerals, dating from 1538-1997. Also added 92,188 new Derbyshire parish records; 37,798 Manchester parish records; 129,438 Cambridgeshire bishop's transcripts; and 836,206 Hampshire bishop's transcripts.

The Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital 1826-1930 admission and discharge registers have now been digitised on Ancestry. The first hospital for seamen, co-founded by William Wilberforce, opened on board the hospital ship *Grampus* in 1821. It moved to the larger *Dreadnought* in 1831, and the *Dreadnought* hospital itself was active until 1974. TheGenealogist has added 15,000 new names from 53 war memorials, bringing its total war memorial records collection to over 383,000. The new records come from memorials in Worcestershire, London and South Yorkshire as well as Australia and Canada.

Medical records of injured servicemen in the First World War are now available on Findmypast. The website has added the series 'MH106, War Office: First World War Representative Medical Records of Servicemen' from The National Archives (TNA).
Scotland:

The Paisley Poor Law indexes are now available online for free via the Renfrewshire Heritage Centre's website.

Have you heard of? Dusty Docs

<http://dustydocs.com/>

Links to free website in the British Isles containing parish registers including Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. Also has Australia and New Zealand resources. These are the New Zealand ones

Search Surname

Birth Death Marriage Index
Passenger Lists 1838 – 1873
Probate Records
Albertland Index
Civil Records Indexes 1800 – 1896
Obituaries 1844 – 1963
Archway Government Records
Varcoes NZ Marriage index 1840 – 1854
Irish Immigrant list to NZ
Old Colonists Association Register (slow to load)

Thanks to Papakura Branch

NZ Births, Deaths and Marriages This web site is designed to make it easier to discover information in the NZ Births, Deaths & Marriages registers for the purposes of genealogy research. Input fields are provided for details of a male and/or female. One surname must be entered as a minimum. The Male/Father surname serves as a married surname for the female when searching for death records. The maximum date range for each record type is searched by default. Visit the official DIA BDM website to confirm what this range is.

bdm.psopho.co.nz

Two further sites of interest I have just explored are: www.thegazette.co.uk and cymru1914.org.

The first one is the UK's official public record since 1665. It can be searched (for free) with a name or keyword. There are wills and probate notices, insolvency notices, individual company profiles, military and civilian awards. Worth a look.

The cymru1914.org website is worth a look if you have Welsh research. A project of the National Library of Wales, there are a number of Welsh newspaper articles, archives, and photographs. It is searchable by name but some of the newspaper articles are in Welsh! (But not all!) Happy hunting!

Thanks to Annette Larsen and New Plymouth branch.

FamilySearch: (Keep checking as more documents are added all the time – below are some recent updates/new additions)

- Australia, South Australia – Immigrants Ship's Papers 1849-1940
- Australia, Tasmania – Civil Registration (District Registers) 1839-1938
- Australia, Victoria, Outward Passenger Lists 1852-1924
- British Columbia, Victoria Times BDM Notices 1901-1939
- Canada Passenger Lists 1881-1922
- Denmark Census 1835-1930
- England, Hampshire Bishop's Transcripts 1680-1892
- England, Warwickshire Parish Registers 1535-1984
- Great Britain, War Office Registers 1772-1935
- Sweden, Stockholm City Archives, Indexes to Church Records 1546-1927



The Belfast Charitable Society was founded in 1752 with the aim of tackling poverty and destitution. It was opened as a Poor House in 1774, which it operated

until the 1880s; the Society transformed the building into a nursing home and hospital for older people. It continued with this aim throughout the 20th Century, taking the name Clifton House in the 1940s.

The Belfast Charitable Society have been meticulous in their record keeping and have maintained their documents from 1752 and so have a vast archive and access to information on thousands of people. There are names of inmates of the Poor House (1774 – 1880), residents of the nursing home (1880 – 2000) Board Members (1752 – date), Members of the Society (1752 – to date), and Subscribers to the Society (1752 – date). All of this information is unique and not available through any other organization or repository.

We are conducting research to gauge the level of interest people and groups would have in this information and how they would like to access these records. We would be very grateful if you could complete this sort questionnaire.

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Ancestry has updated its controls for DNA test data. Customers can now decide if they want to have access to the list of people they may be related to and be shows as potential family member for other customers with whom they share DNA. Without being able to see such connection, a DNA test is only really useful for ethnicity information.

Meanwhile Family Tree DNA has clarified that it will never sell its DNA test data to any third party

Find My Past: Latest additions:

Findmypast has started scanning and indexing the English (amongst others) **Roman Catholic** parish registers, including baptisms, marriages and burials. Luckily for those with Oxfordshire ancestry, Findmypast has started the project in England with the Archdioceses of Birmingham and Westminster, with Birmingham being where registers of "old" Oxfordshire are held. Date ranges for parishes are not necessarily continuous; details of coverage are at:

<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/articles/england-roman-catholic-baptisms-parish-list>

Ancestry.co.uk

UK Absent voter lists 1918-1925 and 1939.
Suffolk parish records 1538-1850. Berkshire electoral registers 1840-1965.

ScotlandsPeople has released the 1935 Valuation Rolls for Scotland These cover more than 2.7 million names for owners, tenants and properties and add to the previous sets of such records. www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk From 1855 – 1930 the population free from 3 million to 4.8 million. The website has more than 118 million entries indexed entries in its Valuation rolls collection.

PROGRAMME 2017-2018

February – Show and Tell – you are invited to present a Scrapbook page or book on a soldier or ancestor.

March – David Jowell – photographer

April - Return to Monte Casino Video

May - AGM

The programme is listed on our website