

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists March 2020

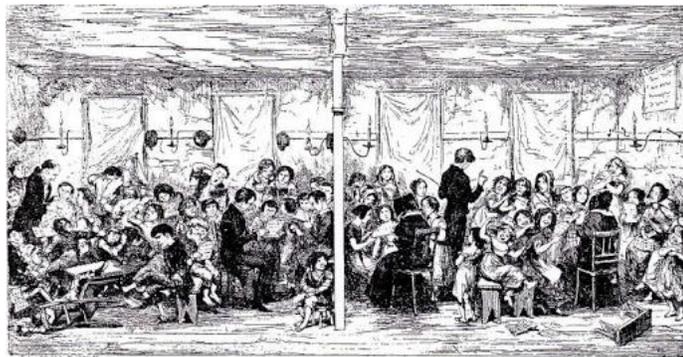
CONVENOR Elaine Scott 208 5392
 SECRETARY Vicki Newman 027 728 7505
 TREASURER Margaret Milne 208 7312
 BULLETIN Avis McDonald 208 6812
 WEBMASTER Liz O'Connell 208 3727
 WEB SITE <http://goregenealogy.weebly.com/>
 NZSG WEB SITE www.genealogy.org.nz



Next Meeting
3 March 2020
7pm Information Center
Gore
Ragged Schools -
England

The February Meeting was cancelled due to extensive floods and the evacuation of many streets in Gore.

Thanks to Margaret Milne for contacting members
 Mataura and Wyndham townships were completely evacuated to relations, friends and 2 district halls. Many residents were at the Elton John concert in Dunedin, and they were stranded. Families on higher ground were very hospitable and offered accommodation to relations and out of town visitors. The dogs, cats and animals were kindly cared for by friends and neighbours until the emergency was over. I was stranded in Wyndham for three days.



*The RAGGED SCHOOL.
 In West Street (late Christ Lane), Smithfield.
 Drawn by George Cruikshank about 1840-4.*

Ragged schools were charitable organizations dedicated to the free education of destitute children in nineteenth-century Britain. The schools were developed in working-class districts. Ragged schools were intended for society's most destitute children. Such children, it was argued, were often excluded from Sunday School education because of their unkempt appearance and often challenging behaviour.

The London Ragged Schools Union was established in April 1844 to combine resources in the city, providing free education, food, clothing, lodging and other home missionary services for poor children.

Although the London Ragged School Union did not extend beyond the metropolis, its publications and pamphlets helped spread ragged school ideals across the country.

Working in the poorest districts, teachers (who were often local working people) initially utilized stables, lofts, and railway arches for their classes. The majority of teachers were voluntary, although a small number were employed. There was an emphasis on reading, writing, arithmetic, and study of the Bible. The curriculum expanded into industrial and commercial subjects in many schools. It is estimated that about 300,000 children went through the London ragged schools alone between 1844 and 1881.^[1]

The Ragged School Museum in the East End of London shows how a ragged school would have looked; it is housed in buildings previously occupied by Dr Thomas Barnardo. The Ragged School Museum provides an idea of the working of a ragged school, but Thomas Barnardo's institution differed considerably in practice and philosophy from those schools accountable to the London Ragged School Union.



An Ireland Genealogy Projects Archive with over 153,000 headstones on it (some more legible than others)
<http://www.igp-web.com/IGPArchives/headstones.htm#gsc.tab=0>
 Thanks to Margaret Milne



A Cautionary Tale.

I was on a roll, having found some details about my Great Grandma's siblings. How unbelievably hard their lives had been when they were orphaned as little children. In a fit of enthusiasm I ordered 30 credits from Scotland's People.

What I didn't realize or notice was that I'd also clicked on "order certificates" for the names of other relatives who had died in the last 20 years.

Even an email confirming my order didn't alert me to that fact.

It was only when checking my bank balance, that I was shocked to find that the order currently being processed amounted to roughly **sixty-six POUNDS !!!!**

In desperation I phoned one of our genealogy members who listened and gave good advice. The next morning I visited the bank to ask if the money could be refunded, and the teller kindly printed off a sheet giving details about the phone number for Scotland's People's Customer Services and an email address.

Another member of our group suggested emailing them, which I did. This was 'bounced back' to me, so I phoned Scotland. UK is 13 hours behind NZ time, at this time, but this will change when we go off daylight saving, and UK goes onto it.

I was somewhat relieved (after talking with their advisor) when they emailed me to say that they realized that I had ordered 5 certificates in error, and that they would refund me for that amount and the shipping costs too.

Was I relieved ! A lesson learnt.

Now I'll proceed with caution in **future**.

Thank you to those who helped me '**get out of a hole of my own making !!**' and to Scotland's People who were most accommodating.

Thanks to Margaret Allan



23andMe DNA Reduces Staff Genetic DNA testing company 23andMe has announced it is reducing staff by 14% (100 people) due to sales decline. Its CEO has cited privacy concerns as a potential reason for declining sales. In 2018, concerns were raised when 23andMe sold customers DNA data to pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline.

Thanks to New Plymouth Branch



Chinese New Year. The Year of the Rat..

You can also call it the **Lunar New Year**, because

countries such as North and South Korea and Vietnam celebrate it as well.

It is a very important family time when Chinese people try to go back to their villages or cities, and sweep their ancestors graves.

Photo of a Chinese grave in Singapore cemetery..



Chinese headstones in Singapore cemetery. Be aware of snakes and spiders lurking in the grass

Can You Find Your Ancestors in These Old English Criminal Records?

If you have read my column above you will see that I have had success using this source. If the person you are researching becomes a convict to Australia this website gives you links to documents in Australia giving details of their "service" to the nation.

<https://familyhistorydaily.com/free-genealogy-resources/old-bailey-online/>

The Complete Guide to Choosing: Ancestry vs Find My Past

<https://genealogystories.co.uk/2018/04/26/ancestry-vs-find-my-past/>

Thanks to Peter Nash, FAMNET



Websites

Findmypast has added several Scottish datasets including Scotland Poor Law & Poor lists, some school registers for Lanarkshire and births marriages and deaths for Dundee and Forfarshire 1562-1855.

WDYT YA? reminds us of 17 websites for Scotland including

Scottish Indexes <https://www.scottishindexes.com/>, Memento Mori monumental inscriptions for **Scotland** <http://memento-mori.co.uk/>

The Scottish association of Family History Societies has 2 free finding aids - burial grounds and the pre 1841 population lists
<https://www.safhs.org.uk/burialgrounds.php> and
<https://www.safhs.org.uk/populationlists.php>

The Scottish Mining website with reports of accidents Currently the site contains more than 22,000 names of those involved in the coal, iron and shale mining industries in Scotland, including over 15,



Scullery Maid

The scullery maid reported (through the kitchen maid) to the cook. Along with the junior kitchen-maid, the scullery maid did not eat at the

communal servants' dining hall table, but in the kitchen in order to keep an eye on the food that was still cooking.

Duties of the scullery maid included the most physical and demanding tasks in the kitchen such as cleaning and scouring the floor, stoves, sinks, pots, and dishes. After scouring the plates in the scullery she would leave them on racks to dry. The scullery maid also assisted in cleaning vegetables, plucking fowl, and scaling fish.

The scullery maid provided hot water for the scullery, kitchen tasks, and household. In addition to her other tasks, the scullery maid had to keep the scullery clean by clearing away meat and vegetable garbage, scrubbing work tables, and swilling the floors. The water was carried through a drain outside the house.

Scullery maids would rarely have handled fine china, stemware, crystal or plate silver; these are cleaned by housemaids and footmen. Before the advent of central heating systems, scullery maids were required to light the fires on the kitchen stove and supply hot water for tea and washing. She performed these tasks in the morning before the cook came down to the kitchens.

In the days before the indoor water closet she may have been required to empty and clean the servants' chamber pots as well. Not a fund job!

The scullery maid was often very young, miles away from her parents and home, She only had one day a month to walk home and back. She slept in the cold attic area with other young maids.

Top 10 Sins of a Genealogist – and how to repent!!

The following are merely the headings:

Sin 1: Assuming everything you find online is correct

Sin 2: Not making research notes

Sin 3: Not going beyond birth, marriage & death records

Sin 4: Trying to do everything yourself

Sin 5: Adopting the scatter gun approach

Sin 6: Not checking your previous work

Sin 7: Trying to achieve everything online

Sin 8: Neglecting to explore

Sin 9: Inflexibility on names

Sin 10: Me, me, me

If you need a refresher (we ALL do) take a read of three FamilySearch blog posts, starting at <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/genealogicalproofstandardpart1/>

Thanks to Lorna Henderson- and Kapati Branch.

Before the coronavirus, there was Russian flu

The Russian flu was at the time the deadliest flu pandemic in Britain. It was the first to strike the country in nearly

From 1889 to 1892, our Victorian ancestors lived in fear of a deadly pandemic,

40 years and the first truly urban outbreak, gliding from town to town by rail and passing through tightly packed terraces and soot-smearred workshops at speed.

It was also the first pandemic of the media age, and the flu's progress across the globe

was shadowed by news reports carried by telegraph to the printing presses of Europe's capitals. By the time contagion arrived in Britain, panic was there to greet it. Dr Samuel West recorded his shock at arriving at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London one morning to find more than 1,000 hypochondriacs "clamouring for treatment".

In half a century, Britain had gone from a largely rural nation to a predominantly urban one. By the 1881 census 67.8 per cent of the population of England and Wales lived in towns and cities, toiling in cramped and poorly ventilated buildings where there was no escape from the coughing and spluttering of their colleagues.



In his meticulous report to the Medical Department of the Local Government Board (published in the *British Medical Journal* on 8 August 1891), Dr H Franklin Parsons noted that the disease followed the steam train from London to the rail hubs in the provinces: "In the rural parts of England the market town of the district was attacked before the surrounding villages."

The first wave, which killed an estimated 27,000 people, arrived in London in the first half of December 1889 from France, and eased off in January 1890. Although it continued to creep into the more remote parts of the country well into March, the south-east suffered the most. But the second outbreak arrived in the north, sailing into Kingston upon Hull in February 1891 and

making steady progress through the agricultural hinterland of East Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire before exploding into the industrial belt of Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford and Nottingham.

From there it was carried to Birmingham, London and the rest of the country. This wave was more protracted, accounting for as many as 57,980 victims, while a third outbreak, in January and February 1892, killed 25,000. If an ancestor disappears from the records during this period, the Russian flu may be to blame. As a bleak aside, suicide in England and Wales also rose by 25 per cent between 1889 and 1892.

On 8 May 1891 the *Yorkshire Evening Post* reported from the heart of the second wave: "In some cases there are three, four, and five sufferers in one house. Nearly all the members of the medical profession are actively engaged day and night in visiting, consulting and dispensing, and occasionally their surgeries are besieged by persons seeking advice and waiting for medicine for patients."

Cholera was the curse of the lower orders, but the Russian flu struck all levels of society. It even sent



the prime minister Lord Salisbury to his sickbed for over two weeks, and Queen Victoria's grandson, Prince Albert Victor, the second in line to the throne, to his grave. "In some districts the wealthier classes are said to have suffered first," noted Parsons, "in others the labouring classes."

In the leafy suburbs of London it was the smartly suited businessmen commuting into the City who brought the virus home with them to their families, while in the East Midlands grease-caked railwaymen from the huge London and Birmingham Railway Company works at Wolverton were principal carriers.