

**OTAKI BRANCH
(NZ SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS)
NEWSLETTER**

MAY 2019



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Meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month (February to November) at 7.30 pm, in the **Dr Gertrude Atmore Supper Room** of the Otaki Public Library, corner Aotaki and Main Streets, Otaki.

Please Note: When the Branch has a guest speaker we have a gold coin collection.

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OUR NEXT MEETING IS:

**Thursday 23rd May 2019
7.30pm start**

Merv Judge

**will speak to us about New Zealand passenger lists
and insight into early arrivals and departures**

and

the Otaki Branch of NZSG AGM 2019

Committee news:

- Membership is due to be renewed by the end of May, so get in early! Attached is the membership form, with details of payment options. It would be appreciated if you could fill in the form, including any areas you're searching, and hand in to Gail Hall at a branch meeting, or scan and email to her.

- There is a clear file folder (in a red cover) in the left hand cupboard above the computers. This has a list of all the books and other items in our library cupboards. Really interesting to look through it and see what we have - might be just what you're looking for! Len is working on a searchable list of places.

“Let’s Talk About”

This is a new initiative for our branch, aimed at sharing aspects of Genealogy Research from Beginners to Experienced Researchers. The programme will include presentations with demonstrations and, where appropriate, opportunities for hands on experience.

The sessions will be held on the third Tuesday of every second month in the year at the Dr Gertrude Atmore Supper Room, Otaki. We are trialling afternoon sessions 1-3pm for the remainder of this year. The Topic will be advertised in the Newsletter and **members are requested to email their interest in attending to the Project Convener within 10 days of the notice.** If there is a big response to a topic, this may be presented at a Branch Meeting.

The first session will be on **Tuesday 18 June 1-3pm** at the Dr Gertrude Atmore Supper Room, Otaki. The Topic is **Organising your Genealogy Research.** This will look at working with Paper Files, Genealogy Software, On Line Trees and suggestions for organising your Genealogy papers. Please email annesapphire@yahoo.co.nz if you wish to attend.

- Don’t forget to have a look at those little videos about genealogy research on the NZSG website. You don’t have to be an NZSG member, just click on the link on the front page of the site. www.genealogy.org.nz
- And, if you’re an NZSG member, it is now possible to download some scanned books from their library for free. There are about 65 titles, generally NZ and Australian titles of older historical volumes. There are also a few links to websites to download items.

To find them, Login to the NZSG, go to the Library Home Page. Search – Advanced Search - Media. Then go to the dropdown arrow by Media and go down to Online. Just click on Search with no titles and you get them all. You can then click on one to download to your own computer.

Library Duty

Sue Carroll	5 June	Lois Coles	19 June
Frances Milne	12 June	Gail Hall	26 June

And Anne McLellan Saturday 8 June

If you cannot do a duty day, please contact one of these members listed below to swap:

Sue Carroll 364 7263	Carol Moore 364 7159	Anne Williams 364 2300
Lois Coles 364 6011	Frances Milne 06 927 9053	Anne McLellan 021 159 8478
Glennis Balloch 364 5825	Len Nicholls 364 7638	Gail Hall 364 5865

Research items of interest

For our new members, Findmypast.com, Ancestry.com, and [The Genealogist](http://TheGenealogist.com) are freely available on our computers at the Otaki Library. Just remember **NOT** to sign out of Findmypast OR The Genealogist, just click on the **red cross** at the right top of the screen, rather than Sign Out symbol.

If you find that Findmypast or The Genealogist has been signed out and you can’t get into it, contact a committee member.



- A new website, CoolattinLives.ie, has been developed in a collaboration between Courthouse Arts Centre, Tinahely; Trinity College Dublin; National Library of Ireland; and Wicklow County Archives. It's a free resource with a database containing tenant records for the Coolattin Estate in County Wicklow from pre- to post-Famine, plus access to digitised collections held by Wicklow County Archives.

The database holds:

- Tenant Lists, transcribed from maps drawn up in 1841-42, showing how much land was held by each head of household and the name of landlord
- Tenant Lists of those who remained on the estate in 1868 and in 1861-86
- Lists of tenants in rent arrears and given Notice to Quit are in the Ejectment (Eviction) ledger books, 1845-60
- Detailed records of some 6,000 tenants who departed Ireland for Canada under the Fitzwilliam Assisted Emigration Scheme, 1847-1856.

It can be searched by name or townland, and there is also a browseable historical map.

You'll also find direct free access to three important local collections: the Wicklow Grand Jury Presentments 1818-1899, and the Admission and Discharge registers of Shillelagh and Rathdrum Workhouses.

- **Limerick Union Board of Guardians files now online**

Limerick Archives has uploaded freshly digitised material from its Limerick Union Board of Guardians Minute Books collection to its online archive at LimerickArchive.ie.

LIMERICK UNION.						
REGISTER OF DEATHS.						
Date of Death	Name	Sex	Condition	Age	Rank or Profession	Date
1841	John Smith	M	Old	85	Labourer	1841
1842	Mary Jones	F	Old	70	Labourer	1842
1843	John Doe	M	Old	65	Labourer	1843
1844	Mary White	F	Old	55	Labourer	1844
1845	John Black	M	Old	45	Labourer	1845
1846	Mary Green	F	Old	35	Labourer	1846
1847	John Brown	M	Old	25	Labourer	1847
1848	Mary Grey	F	Old	15	Labourer	1848
1849	John White	M	Old	10	Labourer	1849
1850	Mary Black	F	Old	5	Labourer	1850

The content is free to access via a series of downloadable pdfs from the [detailed description page](#). Some of the files are quite large (the Death Register, for example, is only a smidgen under 70Mb), so those of us laggards on rural broadband speeds need to exercise some patience.

The collection is split into the following distinct parts:

Board of Guardians Minute Books, 1842-1922. Meetings were held weekly and the Minute Books hold reports of the Master and Other Officers, orders of and letters from the poor law commissioners, proposals and resolutions passed, payments made and a summary of the population in the workhouse with details on the number of admissions, deaths and discharges, the number of children, the number aged and infirm, and the number of lunatics. (120+ pdf files)

Board of Guardian Rough Minute Books, 1842-1883 (5 pdfs)

Rural Sanitary Board Minute Book, 1885-1890 (1 pdf)

Contagious Diseases (Animal) Committee Minute Book, 1878-1893 (1pdf)

Wages' Book, 1916-1919 (1 pdf)

Letters from Local Government Board, 1887-1895 (5 pdfs)

General Ledgers, 1842-1875 (1 pdf)

Register of Deaths, 1907-1915 (1 pdf)

The team at Limerick Archives advises that Board of Guardians' material for the Unions of Croom, Glin, Rathkeale, Newcastle West and Kilmallock will be joining the online archive soon.

- Waterford Heritage have added over 38,000 Church of Ireland baptisms to their database at www.waterford.rootsireland.ie.
- SkibbereenHeritage.ie The website of Skibbereen Heritage Centre, one of the Irish Family History Foundation's island-wide network of heritage and genealogy centres, has been redesigned and re-organised. All the Centre's free to access databases are available as previously, but it's worth noting that two more burial registers — those for Sherkin Island and Kilheangul (near Schull) have been added to the West Cork database



UNITED KINGDOM

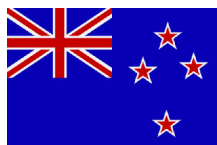
- **New Records Reveal Those Imprisoned for Debt**



TheGenealogist is expanding its Criminal Records collection with the release of over 146,000 individuals who were listed in prison records. Sourced from the PRIS 10 & PRIS 11 collections held at The National Archives, these documents contain records from 1697 to 1862 and reveal those jailed for debt or bankruptcy.

These records will give family historians details of those imprisoned in debtors prisons including the King's Bench Prison, Queen's Prison, Fleet Prison and Marshalsea Prison. They contain commitment and discharge records, giving details of names of the debtor, creditor and attorney, along with the amount of debt.

- **Midlands, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1955** Thousands of Birmingham voters left their mark in these election registers. Ancestry.co.uk



NEW ZEALAND

- The alphabetical name directory in this collection (New Zealand, City and Area Directories, 1866 -1954) can be useful for tracing your New Zealand ancestors, as it lists the name of each head of household with their district or city of residence:ancestry.com Often their occupations and/or street addresses are also listed.
- Latest additions to Newspapers (May 2019):
 - [Bay of Plenty Beacon](#) (1946-1950)
 - [Feilding Star](#) (1921-1924)
 - [Franklin Times](#) (1921-1933)
 - [Hutt News](#) (1946-1948)
 - [King Country Chronicle](#) (1921-1939)
 - [Shannon News](#) (Jun 1921-1929)
 - [Thames Star](#) (1921-1938)
 - [Waipa Post](#) (Apr 1911-1935)
 - [Western Star](#) (1921-1942)
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AUSTRALIA

- **South Australia, Immigrants Ship Papers, 1849-1940** on Familysearch
Immigrants ships papers containing a record of births and deaths aboard, 1849-1867 and 1873-1885. Indexed records in collection include passenger lists arriving and departing from South Australia. Information on images varies but may include ship's name, master's name, tonnage, where bound, date, port of embarkation, names of passengers, ages, occupation, nationality, and port at which passengers have contracted to land.
- **Queensland Soldier Portraits, 1914-1918** on Findmypast
Come face to face with your Australian military ancestor in this collection of over 24,000 photographic portraits from the First World War. Each result is provided with a link to view a portrait of your ancestor in his military uniform published in The Queenslander newspaper between 1914 and 1918. Transcripts may also reveal your ancestor's service number and regiment.
- **Queensland, Hospital Registers** on Findmypast
Explore over 58,000 assorted Queensland hospital records from hospitals across Queensland including Brisbane, Croydon, Dalby, Mackay, and Wallagarra. These records are a wonderful genealogy resource, and an essential search for anyone with Queensland ancestry.
- **Queensland, Australia, Licensed Victuallers Index, 1900-1903**
<https://www.ancestry.co.uk/search/collections/qslvictuallersindex/>
The names of holders of victuallers' licenses (publicans) were printed in the Queensland Government Gazette from 1900 to 1914 on an annual basis. This index covers the period from 1900 to 1903 and includes names, districts, and hotel names.

OTHER COUNTRIES:

- **China Families** www.chinafamilies.net is a new website launched by a team led by Professor Robert Bickers of the University of Bristol, with records of thousands of foreign nationals who lived in the 19th and early 20th centuries

What can the records tell you?

The site will continue to be updated, but it currently contains approximately 60,000 names, with record sets including British Supreme Court for China intestate and probate records; cemetery records; staff lists for the China Navigation Company and Chinese Maritime Customs Service; and names of Allied civilians interned by the Japanese army during the Second World War.

Family historians can search for an individual by name to find transcripts of the original records. The collection includes British, European, American, Australian and New Zealander families, as well as Jewish refugees who came to China to seek refuge from the Nazis.

Where do they come from?

The records were created during the publication of Robert Bickers books in the past 15 years. A companion site, [Historical Photographs of China](#), has nearly 20,000 photographs of foreign nationals in China shared by their descendants.

- **Jamaica** is the latest country to join the rapidly expanding collection of international records in [Findmypast](#). This week's update includes five new sets encompassing over 2.4 million parish and civil register entries for births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials dating back to the mid-17th century. The Jamaican collections currently available to search include:
 - Jamaica Birth and Baptism Index 1752-1920
 - Jamaica, Church of England Parish Baptisms 1664-1880
 - Jamaica, Civil Birth Registrations
 - Jamaica, Civil Death Registrations
 - Jamaica, Civil Marriage Registrations

- **Scotland, Shetland Newspaper Marriage & Anniversary Notices 1872-2018** on [Findmypast](#)
Search over 47,000 marriage and anniversary notices printed in the Shetland Times between 1872 and 2018. Newspapers can be an incredible resource when tracing your family tree, they reveal the daily lives of our ancestors, allowing you to further understand an ancestor's place within their local community.

- More than 2.8 million new valuation entries for 1940 have now been added to [ScotlandsPeople](#), contained in 60,000 new digital images. You can now search over 120 million individual entries from 1855 to 1940.

The Families in British India Society <https://www.fibis.org>

has added the *Times of India* June-December 1898 arrival and departure notices, comprising 4545 arrivals and 2400 departures, to its [free database](#).

