

**OTAKI BRANCH
(NZ SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS)
NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 2019**



Convener: Len Nicholls Phone: 364 7638
email: wagner-nicholls@t-online.de

Secretary (acting): Anne McLellan
Phone: 021 159 8478
email: annesapphire@yahoo.co.nz

Treasurer Gail Hall Phone: 364 5865
and Speakers: email: mountain.view74@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Anne Coury Phone: 3647570
email: anneco@xtra.co.nz

Committee members:
Hanna Wagner-Nicholls Phone: 364 7638
email: wagner-nicholls@t-online.de

Glennis Balloch Phone: 364 5825
email: glennisballoch454@gmail.com

Arthur Marychurch Phone: 04 293 8928
email: GNP@xtra.co.nz

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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 22nd August 2019
7.30pm start
Sharon Burton
Territorial Archivist
of the Heritage Centre and Archives,
The Salvation Army
will speak about
Tracing Families

Committee news:

- The Otaki Genealogy group and the Otaki Library are having a combined exhibition on heirlooms all through August. It's wonderful – so much to look at and read about!
- As advised, the latest "Let's Talk" session on English research will be held on August 20th. The next one is 15 October which will be for genealogy beginners.
- The Otaki Community Groups Expo is on Saturday 7 September (10am to 2pm) in the Memorial Hall, and as usual we will be having a table there and offering advice and help to the public. Do

drop and say hello to our volunteers working there.

- Don't forget those helpful videos on genealogy research available for anyone free on the NZSG website. Log into genealogy.org.nz and under the Education tab at the top you'll find the short videos.
- There are a number of new books in our library cupboards – do check them out. They are taken out with your Otaki Library card and when you return them, please get them checked back in by a librarian and put them back in their correct places in our cupboards. The new books are...

True to Ireland: Eire's 'conscientious objectors' in New Zealand in World War II	Burke, Peter
Tracing Your Georgian Ancestors 1714-1837	Wintrip, John
Tracing Your Pre-Victorian Ancestors	Wintrip, John
Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors 2 nd edition	Roulston, William

Library Duty

Len Nicholls	4 September	Anne Williams	11 September
Glennis Balloch	18 September	Sue Carroll	25 September

And: Anne McLellan Saturday 14 September

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.



➤ [Findmypast](#): Scotland, Orkney, 1821 South Ronaldsay Census

The 1821 Orkney census, taken on the night of 18 May, was part of the third decennial census taken in the UK. Each result include both a transcript and image of the original documents. The 1821 Orkney census was taken on the night of 18 May 1821. It was the third decennial census for the UK. Enumerators around the country were responsible for creating an accurate records of the number of people living in their area. However, and fortunately for genealogists and family historians, the enumerator for south Ronaldsay and Burray, schoolmaster Peter Nicholson McLaren, decided to make full lists of names. He records the names along with ages and occupations. The Orkney Islands are located off the northern coast of Scotland, between the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean.



ENGLAND

- **Welcome to the website for the Railway Work, Life and Death project,** <http://www.railwayaccidents.port.ac.uk/> a joint initiative between the University of Portsmouth, the National Railway Museum (NRM) and the Modern Records Centre at the University of Warwick (MRC), also working with other institutions including The National Archives of the UK. We're making it easier to find out about railway worker accidents in Britain and Ireland in the later 19th and early 20th century – who was involved, what they were doing on the railways, what happened to them and why. Although today most people don't realise it, working on the railways 100 years ago was incredibly dangerous, with hundreds killed and tens of thousands injured each year.

Under the Accidents tab is a spreadsheet you can download to find the people who had the accidents and the dates and details. It is a work in progress, so check back in a while for more information.



- **HEICS Ships Logs and Journals of the Honourable East India Company Service** <http://heicshipslogs.co.uk>
In the early 19th century a voyage to India and the Far East took over a year to complete. Many hundreds of ships logs and pay books survive and are stored in the British Library in large bound volumes. On the whole, the logs/journals and ledgers/pay books have not been copied or transcribed. Here for the first time a few have been made available to the general public. Day to day events are recorded such as cleaning, loading the ship, weather, floggings, recordings of passing ships, sickness, disputes and death. These ships carried hundreds of crew and passengers and the logs list their names, rank and destinations. There are a number of tabs to the left of the main page on the site, leading you to events, voyages and people etc, and then under people you can look at spreadsheets of crew and passengers.
- **The cost of downloading wills from the UK probate service has gone down from £10 to £1.50 .** Included in the Calendars are Irish probates and administrations and Scottish confirmations resealed in to 1930 – until 1876 these are listed after the letter 'Z'.

There are three ways of searching the Calendars online: the government website, Ancestry and Findmypast. Each offers different options and covers different time periods.

The government's [Find a Will Service](#) offers three, free search options: Wills and Probate 1858–1995; Wills and Probate 1996 to present (new probate records appear online approximately 14 days after the grant of representation has been issued); and Soldier's Wills (1850–1986).

The last two offer Basic and Advanced search options, however searches for entries between 1858 and 1995 are only by surname and year, making it time-consuming to use.

The following is the new section on how to pay in the Find a Will site at <https://probatesearch.service.gov.uk>, which permits you to order copies of English and Welsh wills post-1858:

How to pay for your copy grant or will

The fee for each copy request is £1.50 to download (the £1.50 charge is required by law for the release of public documents. You will receive a copy of the grant of representation and the will if there is one. You can pay online using a debit or credit card.

➤ **Forces War Records adds RAF records 1918-1975** (www.forces-war-records.co.uk):

We now have added over 1.5 million NEW Royal Air Force Records from 1918 to 1975 for you to search. Forces War Records UK based team of experts has now transcribed a nominal roll of other ranks – both male and female who served in the Royal Air Force.

Records in this collection are likely to include the following:

Surname
First Name
Service Number
Maiden Names or Aliases
'Enlisted after' date
Place of Enlistment
Trade
Nationality



NEW ZEALAND

➤ **MAD on New Zealand** is a website devoted to New Zealand content

Take a look - Free to Use and Register <https://madonnewzealand.com>

Two catchphrases that explain our content are "Experience New Zealand" - "Memories Start Here"

Old photos - Nostalgia - Historical Items of Interest - Art - Ephemera - Photography - Street Art - Communities - Photo Galleries - Popular Content – Kiwiana

➤ **Stories from the Top of the South** <http://www.theprow.org.nz/>

The Prow is a website featuring historical and cultural stories from Nelson, Tasman and Marlborough. *Te Tau Ihu o Te Waka a Maui* is the Māori name for the top of the South Island. Legend tells us that Te Tau Ihu was the prow of Maui's waka, or canoe, from which he fished up the North Island. Join our voyage and discover more about the history and stories of Te Tau Ihu. Search or browse the theme pages, our timeline or the map location feature, add your own story, comment on any story, subscribe to our newsletter or follow us on Twitter. Contact us for further information or to provide feedback on our stories.

The Prow is a collaboration between the Nelson City, Tasman and Marlborough District Libraries, Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology and The Nelson Provincial Museum.

➤ **New Zealand Archaeological Reports are now online:**

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga has revamped its Archaeological Reports Digital Library. The library holds over 7500 reports dating from the 1950s until today, with more reports being added all the time.

Previously the reports were available on request, however the upgrade now means it is much easier to search and download reports directly from the Heritage New Zealand website.

You can try putting in your family name or location (such as street name or town) to see if any reports have been written about buildings or areas where your ancestors lived. You can also search for reports by Territorial Local Authority. For example, one of the Lower Hutt reports is a 2009 archaeological report on the area along State Highway 2 between the Dowse Interchange and Petone, which includes a brief history of the land use and various historical items uncovered in the excavation.

There are fascinating reports in here, but specific ones can be difficult to find –trying to find specific street addresses in Christchurch came up with thousands of irrelevant reports.

The Archaeological Reports Digital Library is available at

<https://www.heritage.org.nz/protecting-heritage/archaeology/digital-library>

Thanks to Hutt Valley newsletter

➤ **PapersPast** <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/periodicals>

Latest additions to Magazines & Journals (May 2019):

He Muka (1988-2015)

Rip It Up (1977-1985)

White Ribbon (1895-1960)

Latest additions to Newspapers (August 2019):

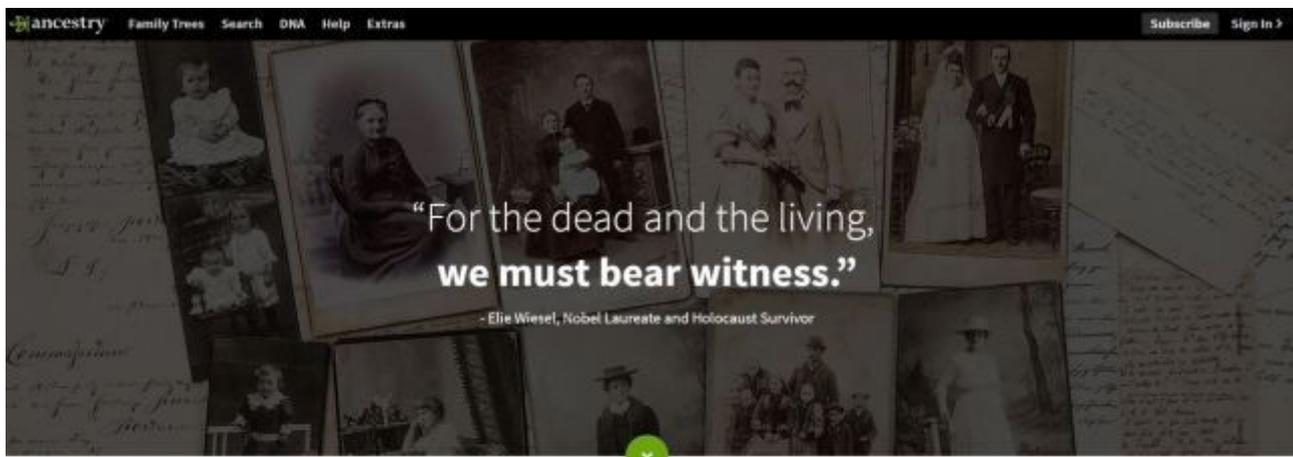
[Ashburton Guardian](#) (1922-1950)

[Industrial Unionist](#) (1913)

[Wairarapa Daily Times](#) (1920-Mar 1938)

OTHER:

- As part of [Ancestry](#)'s philanthropic initiative to make culturally important records available to everyone, the genealogy company has digitized millions of [Holocaust and Nazi persecution-related archives](#). These new records are accessible globally to the public – members and non-members alike – on a permanent basis.



Search the new collection of Holocaust records.

Find the untold stories in your family history in millions of never-before searchable records related to the Holocaust.

Included in these records are passenger lists of immigrants who left Germany and other European cities, often for Canada and the United States, between 1946 and 1971.

Also included are registers of those living in Germany between 1939 and 1947 who were persecuted by public institutions and corporations.

Ancestry partnered with Arolsen Archives, an international centre on Nazi persecution with the world's most comprehensive archive on victims of National Socialism, which granted Ancestry access to publish the digital images of these records.

The collection contains millions of names and other critical information about some of those affected by Holocaust and Nazi persecution.

With a free Ancestry account, millions of Holocaust and Nazi persecution-related archives can be searched online.

It's been more than 70 years since the Holocaust and the number of living witnesses and survivors has dwindled to around 400,000, with many of these individuals now in their 80s or 90s.

On its blog, Ancestry said, "Now more than ever, we believe it's critical that the events of the Holocaust do not become a distant memory and that these records are preserved.

"By making these Holocaust record collections public, our hope is that it empowers the public to learn more about the magnitude of the Holocaust, those who lived through it and those who perished as a result of it." After signing up for a free Ancestry account, people can view both Holocaust and Nazi persecution related archives to identify immigrants leaving Germany and other European ports as well as "non-citizens" persecuted in occupied territories.

The new collection includes *Africa, Asia & Europe Passenger Lists of Displaced Persons (1946-1971)* with 1.7 million records and 300,000 images, and *Europe, Registration of Foreigners & German Individuals Persecuted (1939-1947)* with 9.97 million records and 900,000 images. The latter collection is not restricted to people who were incarcerated in camps or other locations, and the documents may also include information on those who died, including burial information.

Ancestry plans to continue digitizing documents from the Arolsen Archives into its database in 2020.