

OTAKI BRANCH
(NZ SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS)
NEWSLETTER
JULY 2020



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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
Thursday 23rd June 2020

JONATHAN NEWPORT
from the Department of Internal Affairs
will speak about
the Wellington Land District deeds records

○ **Subscriptions**

Thank you to the members who have renewed their subscriptions.

Some of the things that your subscription pays for are:

the two genealogy magazines we circulate among members

Family Tree (\$141.00 a year) and Who Do You Think You are? (\$138.00 a year).

And we have also just renewed the sub for the website The Genealogist available on our library computers. (\$160.00 a year)

You will be able to use last year's membership card to access our resources at the library until the end of July, then you will need this year's membership card.

When you renew your membership, paying online is very helpful for the treasurer, or you can pay at the next branch meeting.

Online bank details are: **01 0274 0446632 00** and please use your name as the reference.

Committee news:

- **AGM** – at last month’s AGM, the committee were all re-elected, with the addition of Nancy Carr. The convenor’s report is attached covering all the interesting things we’ve done over the year,

- **Let’s Talk sessions:**

“Irish for Beginners” presented by Anne Coury will be on 21 July 1.00 – 3.00pm in the Supper Room.

“Using DNA in Your Genealogical Research” presented by Anne McLellan will be on 15th September.

“Using Maps” presented by Len Nicholls will be on 17th November.

- **Trip to Wellington Archives**

We had originally planned to do this in April and got caught out with Lockdown.

We now plan to go in August, either on Thursday 13th or Thursday 20th. At the July branch meeting we will be taking names so we can plan car pooling etc, so please think whether you might like to come and which date suits you.

- **Otaki Community Expo 5th September, 10.00am to 1.00pm at the Otaki Memorial Hall**

As usual we will have a table and a presence there so people can ask questions and find out what we do.

- **War Records of Otaki people.** The Otaki Museum has the hard copies of the records and research our genealogy branch had put together over the last few years. These records are for those commemorated on various memorials in Otaki and some others we found. The Museum also now have digital files. Our branch has the digital files too. You can access these through our computer programme at the library.

Go to CD Links, then go to ‘Militia / Military Menu’.



Library Duty

Frances Milne	5 August	Glennis Balloch	19 August
Gail Hall	12 August	Len Nicholls	26 August

And: Anne McLellan Saturday 8 August

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



ENGLAND

- [TheGenealogist](#) has expanded its growing International Headstone Collection with some interesting new additions that allow researchers to see details that have been carved on stone about their ancestors and commemorated in various churches and cemeteries. The headstone records released cover 71 new cemeteries from the English and Welsh counties of Buckinghamshire, Cheshire, Conwy, Denbighshire, Devon, Dorset, Essex, Flintshire, Gloucestershire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Lancashire, Merionethshire, Merseyside, Oxfordshire, Somerset, Warwickshire, West Midlands, Wiltshire and Worcestershire.
- [Findmypast:Newspapers](#)
five brand new titles have been added to their ever-growing newspaper collection along with updates to five existing titles. Brand new to the site are:
 - Lisburn Standard covering 1878, and 1884-1959
 - Lynn Advertiser covering 1842-1890, and 1909-1910
 - Alderley & Wilmslow Advertiser covering 1874-1896, and 1898-1924
 - Cannock Chase Courier covering 1889-1910, and 1912-1913
 - Saint James's Chronicle covering 1801-1820, and 1822-1850

While their updated titles this week are:

- Burton Chronicle covering 1860-1865, 1907-1908, and 1910-1911
 - Halifax Guardian covering 1877
 - Huddersfield Daily Chronicle covering 1872
 - Chester Courant covering 1896-1897, and 1900
 - Barnsley Independent covering 1889
- [TheGenealogist](#) has also added a set of new records for medical ancestors who treated others in the course of their occupations in the time before the creation of the National Health Service. Use these records to:
 - add details to the lives of your medical ancestors
 - Discover Doctors etc. who served in India in The Madras Medical register 1934
 - find Medical ancestors in The Medical Who's Who 1912
 - Seek out midwives in The Midwives roll 1905
 - See optometrists names in the Institute of ophthalmic opticians, official Directory, 1927. for further details, you can read the article, 'Medical ancestors from before the NHS began', here: <https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/featuredarticles/2020/medicalancestors-from-before-the-nhs-began-1262/>
 - [Findmypast:Yorkshire Baptisms](#)
They've added over 59,000 brand new records from 13 parishes to their exclusive collection of baptism records from Yorkshire. The records consist of transcriptions of the original baptism certificate and cover the following Yorkshire parishes:

Kirkheaton, St John the Baptist from 1822-1878
Lindley, St Stephen from 1830-1902
Lindley, Thorncliffe Street from 1828-1918
Lindley, Zion (Methodist New Connection) from 1887-1919
Lindley, Zion (United Methodist) from 1793-1858
Linthwaite, Christ Church from 1828-1913
Liversedge, Christ Church from 1816-1919
Liversedge, St Barnabas from 1847-1919

Lockwood, Emmanuel from 1830-1906
Longwood, St Mark from 1797-1882
Marsden, St Bartholomew from 1734-1812
Meltham, St Bartholomew from 1669-1919
Sheffield, St Matthias, Summerfield Street from 1877-1920

- From TheGenealogist (www.thegenealogist.co.uk):

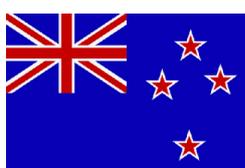
Battle of Britain RAF Operations Record Books (ORBs) released on TheGenealogist

To mark the 80th anniversary of the start of the Battle of Britain (10 July 1940 - 31 October 1940) TheGenealogist is releasing over 2 million new RAF records. These records not only cover this important fight for Britain's survival, but also encompass all of the Second World War period for a number of squadrons. This release brings the total ORBs records to 3.7 million and are part of TheGenealogist's extensive Military records collection.

The ORBs are fully searchable by name, aircraft, location and many other fields, making it easy for researchers to find their aviation ancestors. These ORBs are the latest release to join TheGenealogist's large military records collection which is always being expanded.

The fascinating pages from these diary-like documents tell the stories of brave aircrew, including those at the time of the Battle of Britain, 10 July 1940 - 31 October 1940. Recording patrols flown, the daily journal records give insights into the everyday lives of the personnel on bases. Researchers can use the collection to follow an airman's war time experiences from these fully searchable Air Ministry Operations Record Books which cover various Royal Air Force, dominion and Allied Air Force squadrons that came under British Command. Sourced from The National Archives the AIR 27 records allow the family history researcher an interesting insight into relatives who had served in air force units under wartime conditions.

The ORBs provide a summary of daily events. Some are ordinary entries, such as the names of new pilots posted to the squadron, entertainment on the base, or even noting the fact that an officer has become engaged. Sadly, these ORBs also record the death of pilots, crashes, or names of airmen that were missing in action. As names of personnel are recorded in these reports, for a family history researcher wanting to follow where an ancestor was posted to and what may have happened to them in the war, ORBs are often very enlightening documents.



NEW ZEALAND

- Latest additions to [paperspast](#) Newspapers (June 2020):

- [Marlborough Press](#) (1860-1861,1865-1883,1886)
- [Matamata Record](#) (1925-1939)



CHINA

- The **China Families** website might be of interest if your family worked in China between 1850 and 1940 - www.chinafamilies.net. This includes records of over 60,000 men and women, including Customs Service staff.

Welcome to China Families. On this site you can find a growing body of information about men and women of many different nationalities, professions and ages, who lived and worked in China between the

1850s and 1940s.

These records have been drawn from government department lists, legal and diplomatic records, cemetery lists, and during research undertaken for a number of projects on the history of modern China and of the foreign relations of China.

The resources on it were previously hosted on the University of Bristol's Chinese Maritime Customs Project. Particularly useful are the annual directories at <https://www.chinafamilies.net/directories/>.

For the university's Chinese Maritime Project, visit <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/history/customs/>.



And for Hong Kong connections, check out <https://gwulo.com/hong-kong-cemeteries>

Chris Paton



AUSTRALIA

- Trove is Australia's online culture and research portal. Bringing together content from the National Library of Australia, State and Territory libraries, and hundreds of other libraries, cultural and research institutions around Australia, it provides a single point of entry to a treasure trove of national voices and stories.

Offering free access to approximately 6.5 billion records from Australia's recent and distant past, Trove welcomes over 68,000 users from across the nation and around the world each day. For example, Trove includes 1,514 digitised newspaper titles, digital copies of Banjo Paterson's original manuscript of *Waltzing Matilda*, an architect's model of the Sydney Opera House, the voice of Lionel Rose, radio stories from the ABC chronicling the first mentions of that marvellous new invention wi-fi, and former Prime Minister John Howard's wood-panelled 1998 website.

Trove is a useful resource for anyone with a hobby, passion, or research project; and is also a valuable source of information for the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) and Culturally & Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities.

The new chapter of Trove makes the preservation, exploration and discovery of Australia's history, news and culture even easier to explore.

Dive into Trove at <https://trove.nla.gov.au>