

Riccarton
Branch

New Zealand Society of Genealogists

NEWSLETTER



September 2020
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NEXT MEETING

WE ARE SORRY TO HAVE TO INFORM YOU THAT THE MEETING DUE TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO THE SIZE OF OUR MEETING ROOM NOT BEING BIG ENOUGH TO ALLOW APPROPRIATE SOCIAL DISTANCING. THE SPEAKER WILL THEREFORE COME TO OUR OCTOBER MEETING WHICH, DUE TO THE POSTPONED ELECTIONS, WILL BE HELD A WEEK LATER THE NORMAL ON WEDNESDAY 21ST OCTOBER.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CONVENOR

As I write this and yet again we cancel another meeting, it's incredible the highs and lows of this year. I have personally had a couple of highs in the genealogical jigsaw and only last week found some new information, relatives and contacts to continue the journey and some of this is because of the association I have with you, the passionate Riccarton NZSG group. A big THANKS.

So obviously a low is not being able to meet, chat and listen to some more experts that help each other with research and learning about our past, for the future. The committee didn't make the decision lightly as it is also good to have a community connection and chance to connect with like minded people. Please stay safe and I look forward to seeing you.

Lance

Meetings: 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of each month (Feb to Nov) at the Upper Riccarton Library, 71 Main South Road. Visitors are welcome.

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FINDMYPAST UPDATE

Christchurch City Libraries members can only access FindMyPast for free on a computer within a library. New databases added during the past month include:

- London, Scotland, Ireland (Dublin) and Ireland (Belfast) Government Gazettes
 - Banffshire & Morayshire Baptisms, Marriages & Burials
 - Scotland Burgess & Guild Brethren Index
 - Wales Probates 1544-1858
 - Wales Denbighshire Wrexham Cemetery
 - Montgomeryshire Monumental Inscriptions
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ANCESTRY.COM: YET MORE GOOD NEWS

Free access to Ancestry from home via the City Libraries website has yet again been extended and is **now available until Wednesday 30 September**. Recent new databases added are:

- Germany Hannover Lutheran Baptisms, Marriages & Burials 1684-1892
 - New York Auburn Prison records 1816-1942
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NEXT MEETINGS ON 21 OCTOBER & 11 NOVEMBER

The guest speaker in October will be Barbara Terry, Manager of the Linwood and Harewood Crematoriums who will speak about cremations and their records. Our final meeting of the year on 11 November will be a Members Night on the topic of Occupations, so please start digging out suitable photos **now**.

ANOTHER NEWSPAPER ARCHIVE WEBSITE

Free access to more recent issues of New Zealand newspapers is available at the Christchurch City Libraries website at home. Choose eResources from the homepage and then click on News & Current Affairs. From the alphabetical list go to "[NewsBank – Access New Zealand](#)". There are approx 150 titles listed, with varying periods of coverage. Apart from 6 (listed below) actual images are not provided but a transcription of the text. You can choose to search to for any word or phrase over one or more of the newspaper titles. Some of the newspaper are no longer published. For example, The Truth 1995-2007; The Dominion 1994-2002; The Evening Post (Wellington) 1994-2002.

There are six titles that also have images of the actual printed pages: The Press (Christchurch), The Dominion Post, Waikato Times, The Herald on Sunday, Sunday Star Times and the Otago Daily Times. Most of these only begin this year.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS OF NEW ZEALAND

Some members might remember our visit to the Library at the Burnham Army Camp some years ago. Burnham Camp was the site of an Industrial School. One of the most famous past pupils/inmates was the politician John A Lee. The head librarian, Gayle Blanch died last week, on 26 August 2020, aged 64. She took an interest in Industrial Schools and on 24 April 2015 began an excellent website with information about and photos of past pupils. She tried to gather genealogical information about their families too. Her site will hopefully live on as her enduring legacy. It was last updated on 9 April 2020. The URL for her site is: www.industrialschoolsnz.tribalpages.com/

AUCKLAND WILLS ON ARCHWAY

Some Auckland area probate documents are now able to be viewed as digital images (rather than via FamilySearch). It appears these are from the period 1950-1955 only. A blue stripe appears at the right-hand edge of the screen when you search for these.

KEN RICE: PART TWO

In addition to at his burial place in Scotland, Ken Rice is also commemorated on 3 memorials in New Zealand. The headstone on the grave of his parents Eric & Dorothy Rice on Auckland's North Shore, includes his name and dates of birth and death (see bottom left of photo below).



Ken's name appears in the right-hand column of the Karaka Roll of Honour



Ken Rice's name is at top of the left-hand panel on the Papakura War Memorial



The above memorial is attached to a rock at the crash site and was unveiled on Anzac Day, 25 April 2019

Relatives of both Ken Rice and Aubrey Clarke, from New Zealand, Australia, Canada and USA attended the ceremony. It was installed by the current owner of the site, Community Windpower of England on their Aikengall II Wind Farm.