The New Zealand Genealogist

MARCH/APRIL 2011
Vol 42 No 328

NEW NZSG land records services
In the fields where they fell
Taranaki refugees
Why was great-great grandmother born in Portugal?

New Zealand Society of Genealogists • Preserving our past for the future
## CONTENTS

MARCH/ APRIL, 2011                                      Vol 42 No 328

### FEATURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Family History Fair will offer variety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Campaign medals at the Te Awamutu Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>New NZSG land records services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>Clan Moffat reformed after 400 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Postcards from World War One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>In the fields where they fell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Claudet Chronicle . . . the story of a family newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>Why was great-great-grandmother Eliza born in Portugal?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>Whatever happened to Aunt Dorothy?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82</td>
<td>The importance of Sam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### REGULARS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>President’s message</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Your letters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>News from Auckland City Libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Archives New Zealand: Taranaki refugees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>News from the FRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>FRC Librarian’s Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>Who am I?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>From the branches,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>From the branches and interest groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86</td>
<td>Who am I?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89</td>
<td>Information wanted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>Reunion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Members’ interests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>Where to write</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>NZSG Bookshop</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### COVER STORY

Louisa MARCKMANN, daughter of Elizabeth/Eliza STONES, was born in 1840, in Canterbury, Kent, and died in 1916 in Wellington, New Zealand. However, Elizabeth Stones was born in Portugal, as Carol Dacey found out when she began researching her mother’s paternal family.

What was the reason Carol’s great-great-grandmother was born in Portugal. Did she have a Portuguese ancestor on her tree?

Carol’s discovery is on page 78.

ISSN 0110-4012

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“We have had some very severe shocks of earthquakes. The first that we felt — it did frighten me. I was in bed with baby two or three days after she was born. It nearly shook us out of bed. The things went flying all directions. Since that severe shock we have had many slight ones.”

His could have been written last week but it was actually written in 1882 and referred to an earthquake on December 5, 1881.

The letter written by my ancestor Anna Maria THORN is among a collection of letters sent to family in Devon and reunited with our New Zealand family in the 1970s.

Now we send emails and texts; we twitter and blog.

Will there be a record of our reaction to the Christchurch earthquake in 100 years’ time, or will it all be lost in an electronic void. Maybe now is a good time to take a piece of paper and write down your thoughts and feelings or even just transcribe your texts. Please think about what you are leaving for future generations.

At the time of writing, the building that houses the Canterbury branch library and Family Search Affiliate library is red stickered. The council was to meet in Christchurch on the weekend of March 25-26, but with the effects of the earthquake this meeting has been cancelled.

The constitution review committee is hard at work and you will find their request for submissions later in the magazine.

I hope to see you all at the Dunedin AGM and conference.

From the EDITOR

A FEW HOURS before this issue was due at the printer, I received this message from Shirley Hay about the protection of our research and data in the event of natural disaster. Naturally my mind turned to Christchurch, and then to the events in Japan, and I realised that Shirley’s message is too important to leave it for another two months until the next issue, and so decided to run it in the only position left available.

Shirley writes:

“I have always been a bit fanatical about backing up data and to that end and in addition to my daily data traveller backups, particularly genealogical, have chosen to belong to a commercial system which automatically copies all my data including the desktop arrangements (via satellite I think) more or less as it evolves in my office.

“There are several of those systems around; mine happens to be an international one called Carbonite which I think also has a base in Australia.

“I have tried restoring data in the past and it works well.

“The Carbonite system is easy to find and study via the Internet.

“Anyone is welcome to contact me should they need further help.

“Shirley Hay, shay@xtra.co.nz; phone 03 455 4169.”

Food for thought. I trust you will give Shirley’s message some consideration.

Richard
Dear editor,

In light of the Government’s decision not to hold the census on March 8, due to the Christchurch earthquake on February 22, the Far North Branch has decided to postpone its census project that was scheduled for April 25, but is not discounting the possibility of holding it at a suitable later date.

Our hearts and thoughts go out to members, families and friends in the Canterbury region who are dealing with the hardships, heartbreaking and tragedy associated with the Christchurch earthquakes.

Lauren Barclay,  
Far North Branch 2011 Census Project Officer  
Email: lauren.les@xtra.co.nz

Far North Branch census postponed

Dear editor,

In light of the Government’s decision not to hold the census on March 8, due to the Christchurch earthquake on February 22, the Far North Branch has decided to postpone its census project that was scheduled for April 25, but is not discounting the possibility of holding it at a suitable later date.

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Lauren Barclay,  
Far North Branch 2011 Census Project Officer  
Email: lauren.les@xtra.co.nz

RNZAF servicemen

Dear editor,

In 1941 my father, Tom Scott, was a British serving NCO in the RAF based at RAF Kinloss in Scotland training as bomber crew. He was 20 at the time. As a family, we knew something awful had happened, but it was not until just before he died age 83 in 2004 that he chose to tell me more about it.

During a training night exercise their plane, a Whitley bomber, lost height and crashed into a mountain near Dundee in Scotland. My father was the only survivor. The rest of the five crew members were all killed instantly. Two of the crew were from New Zealand. I have their details and would dearly like their surviving relatives -- if any -- to know they were never forgotten by father, and now us, his family. After dad died, we discovered in the back of his “work” Bible were all their names, ages ranks and numbers. The average age was 20.

I have spent the past few years trying to find out more about the event and discovered through the War Graves Commission these two men are buried in the grounds of Kinloss Abbey near the base. The graves are beautifully maintained. We have visited them to pay our respects, but it looked like they had not been visited at all.

I have ensured the names of the bomber crew killed that night have been added to the 19 OTU memorial website link at RAF Kinloss, but as the base is due for closure soon, I am desperate to find out as much as possible. It is also my intention to ensure their names as added to the Bomber Command memorial planned in Green Park, London.

It is not an unreasonable question to ask why I am doing this? The answer is, my family and I all feel the experience shaped my father’s life. He lived a good and productive life devoted to helping others.

During my research, I learned bomber crews selected themselves as they needed to like and trust each other. It became evident at the end of his life he had never forgotten his friends and felt either guilt or good fortune he survived. That is what I would like their relatives to know.

The two men are:

Pilot Officer Lewis Taylor YOUNIE, Service No 41390 RNZAF, date of death 21/10/1941, age 20. The little information I have is that he was at Scots College, Wellington.

Sergeant (Pilot) Harry Gervase ROUGHTONE, Service No 405322 RNZAF date of death 21/10/1941, age 24.

Yours faithfully

Helen McCutchan.

Email: Helen.mccutchan@btinternet.com

Mistaken transcription

Dear editor,

At our Irish Interest Group meeting held at Panmure, Auckland, on November 14, a lady was inquiring whether anyone had come across the term “Cramer” as an occupation/trade. She said the closest she could get was “Coroner”.

After looking up a book on old trades and occupations at our local library, I came across the term “Cramer”. This is a travelling salesman, specialising in selling books. Maybe the transcriber mistakenly put in an “n” in instead of an “m”. It does happen believe me, taking into account the accents and/or sometimes unfamiliar writing.

Hope this is of some help.

P. M. Irwin
Email: IRWINP@xtra.co.nz

Warrington/Ingleby

Dear editor,

Along with a small group of descendants of the WARRINGTON and INGLEBY families, I am planning to restore the gravestone of Joseph Warrington and Elizabeth Warrington (formerly Ingleby). Joseph died on February 24, 1916, and Elizabeth on

January 1, 1923. This gravestone, in the Greytown cemetery, has been damaged by a large nearby tree, now removed. The headstones are in good condition, and need to be reset in fresh concrete.

We would welcome contact, and questions, from other descendants. First generation descendant family names on the Warrington side include: WARRINGTON, KIDDIE, STEVENS, JENSEN, SURTEES, GUSTOFSSEN, and STRAWBRIDGE.

Contact regarding Warrington family could be made to kndonnelly@xtra.co.nz or to M & K Donnelly, 14 Downing Place, Welcome Bay, Tauranga 3112. Contact regarding Ingleby family could be made to pl.bicknell@paradise.net.nz.

Mike Donnelly
Email: kndonnelly@xtra.co.nz

Thanks

Dear editor,

I would like to extend my warmest thanks to those NZSG members who responded to my letter in the November/December 2010 issue of The New Zealand Genealogist. I have had many emails and phone calls with a wealth of information that will be extremely useful for my projects on Papakura-Druy.

I would also like to thank those members who kindly passed on my information to people they knew who would have information, or who posted the information in their local clubs and businesses to get my “call for help” to a wider audience. It is heartening to know there is a community out there who are more than willing to help a fellow researcher.

Again, thank you — your time, energy and help is truly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Dr Michelle Ann Smith  
Researcher/Historian
Email: medievalsecots@xtra.co.nz
Phone: 09 2967292
Wade (Silverdale) district

Dear editor,

I have been a member of NZSG for a very long time, but I am now working more with local history as a member of the Silverdale and Districts Historical Society (formerly the Wainui HS). We have a considerable archive, but of course we are always anxious for more information, if anyone can help. We also take requests for information, but ask for a reasonable donation in exchange as the society is run entirely by volunteers.

At present, I am working on a book about the early years of the Wade up to 1911 when the name changed to Silverdale. It is based more on the stories of people involved in the development of the area than on a blow-by-blow history, and as such, I hope will be a useful resource for family historians in the future. I have a couple of queries about early settlers that I have been unable to satisfy from the information in our files or from my own research.

The first is about William WATKINSON and his wife (name unknown). They were among our earliest settlers, buying land at the Wade in 1856 and not selling it until 1886. Mrs Watkinson was the first schoolteacher, and there was later a storekeeper, John Watkinson, who may have been their son. I would appreciate any further information at all about them.

The second is about Thomas LEEES, who set up a business under the name of Thomas Lees and Sons, which later moved to Auckland. I have land records and some information about his family and prior history from various public records, but would like to know when and whom he married, an accurate list of his children, and more about his life (and theirs), both before and after the 30-odd Wade years.

Thank you,
Robin Grover
Email: rogro@xtra.co.nz

Brown brothers

Dear editor,

I have been researching my family origins for many years. It was slow going when I first started, but now with the wonderful work of many people over the years and so many wonderful sources online to explore, it is almost a piece of cake. Finding the living is more difficult, especially if they have moved overseas or changed their name, or are not into computers.

Access to any files that could help is blocked by the privacy laws.

I am looking for the three sons of Francis and Edna BROWN, Frank, Dennis and Lawrie, born during the 1940s in the Helensville area. They were admitted into the Mercy Jenkins Salvation Army Boys’ Home at Eltham in 1952, and went to Eltham School. When the boys’ home closed in 1953 the brothers were transferred to the Hodderville Salvation Army Home, where they finished their education. After leaving school they went their separate ways and only met up with each other now and again.

The brothers are my cousins, they last saw each other in the early 1960s, and now Lawrie, the youngest, is searching for his older brothers, he thought that they might have worked on farms in the Waikato and in the Levin areas, which was where he last saw them.

If anyone remembers Frank or Dennis Brown, and knows where they or their families are today, please contact R. Jenkins 23 George Street, Eltham 4322.

Sincerely,
Roma Jenkins, Eltham.

Ancestor locator

Dear editor

The organisers of the 2011 Family History Fair would like to thank Diane Wilson and her “Chocolate Fish Team” for their generous koha of the rights to sell a CD they have almost finished compiling called The New Zealand Early Settler Locator. The indexes cover census, jury lists, electoral and burgess rolls from as early as 1835 through to 1863 and could contain the clues you need to locate your early New Zealand forebears. Proceeds will be used to help fund the fair. The CDs will be available from the end of April and orders can be made through the Family History Fair website www.nzfamilyhistoryfair.org.nz

Sandra Metcalfe,
NZ Family History Fair Convenor
Email: nzfamilyhistoryfair@gmail.com

Review of NZSG Constitution under way

At its meeting in November 2010, Council appointed seven members to form a committee to undertake a comprehensive review of our existing constitution being the rules and bylaws under which the society is required to operate.

The Constitution Review Committee comprises Fiona Brooker (president, ex-officio), Colleen Main (convenor, Auckland), Margaret Brown (Paraparaumu), Mary Boekman (Inglewood), John Heard (Auckland), Lindsay Holland (Ashburton), Lesley Instone (Invercargill) and Clive Palmer (Kapiti).

These members bring a range of background experience and expertise to the committee. Two are practising lawyers conversant with the Incorporated Societies Act and our legal requirements, and five have practical experience of writing constitutions. Two, a past-president and councillor, have a sound understanding of how the society as a whole functions, and four are actively involved in their local branch.

Council has asked this committee to review the whole constitution and prepare a new document that will meet the society’s present needs and provide for future needs, as far as these can be ascertained at this time. The revised constitution is to provide for the structure and functioning of the society as a whole, including council and its branches and interest groups.

When the committee has a draft document ready it will be posted on the society’s website for members consideration. A reasonable time will be allowed for members, council, branches and interest groups to comment and the committee will take into consideration all legal and practical comments received. Once this consultation process is over, a final document will be prepared and this document will be put to the member’s vote by postal ballot.

The committee has started the review process and is working to a timetable. In response to the call for submission in the November KIT, we received one from a branch and one from an individual member. If you would like to tell us your thoughts on what constitutional changes are needed to take the society into the future, please email your submission to: colleen.main@xtra.co.nz before April 30.

A copy of the current Rules and Bylaws can be downloaded from the NZSG website.

Colleen Main, convenor
Family History Fair will offer variety

Are you thinking of attending the New Zealand Society of Genealogist’s Family History Fair on August 26-27, in Hamilton? Now is the time to start planning your visit to ensure you get the most out of it.

The fair lasts for only two days and time is precious, so the better prepared you are, the greater your chances of success. If you have been researching for a while, think about your research priorities and what you hope to achieve; go back over your records and identify the gaps in your existing research; identify your sources and make sure you have not overlooked any clues that may just provide that vital breakthrough you have been seeking.

If you are new to genealogy then download the free pedigree charts and family group sheets from the NZSG website (www.genealogy.org.nz) and fill in the information you know, starting with yourself as No 1. Bring the sheets to the fair, as this will help our expert researchers identify the gaps in your knowledge and point you in the right direction. Make sure you also check the websites identified in this article as they also have useful tips for those just starting their family history journey of discovery.

This year fair will again have a wide variety of seminars on offer for those more experienced genealogist, along with free access to key, subscription-based websites such as www.findmypast.co.uk, www.ancestry.com.au, www.scotlandpeople.gov.uk and www.thegenealogist.co.uk.

To help those just starting out, there will be free, hands-on taster workshops facilitated by NZSG specialists. In addition the Genealogical Computing Group will be running a series of free workshops, including different genealogy software programs for PCs and Macs. NZSG branches and interest groups will again be available to assist those researching specific regions or countries of origin, with several also providing look-up services. The St John’s branch is in charge of the NZ research stand, and will help those just getting started or help with more generalised New Zealand inquiries. There will also be a wide variety of exhibitors providing services and products for sale.

This year we are delighted to advise that FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org) is sponsoring Judy Jones, a senior British research consultant from Salt Lake City. Judy is the keynote speaker at a special presentation on the Friday evening and will also be taking seminars on the Friday and Saturday. In the week following the fair she will be touring New Zealand. The NZSG Kapiti Branch will also be at the fair with a special presentation of YURU (Why You Are You) featuring Sir Jon TRIMMER. Sir Jon will present his family story as researched by Sue GREENE of the Kapiti branch.

Both these presentations are in the “must see” category.

Why not make the most of your visit to the fair and bring your non-genealogical partner along with you? Those not interested in family history can enjoy themselves on one of our local tours while their partner immerses themselves in the fair. On Sunday, August 28 we have also arranged tours to the Central Auckland Research Centre (previously known as the Auckland City Library) and the NZSG Family Research Centre (FRC) in Panmure. This tour offers a golden opportunity to see what these wonderful repositories have to offer.

The Hamilton City Library and the Waikato University Library will also be open on the Sunday should you wish to take advantage of their superb facilities.

If you require accommodation then the Hamilton Accommodation Accord are handling all the motel bookings. A number of motels have been block booked for the weekend of the fair and if more rooms are required then this group will find them for you. A complimentary shuttle service is being run between the motel accommodation and the venue and a bus will be available to bring people down from Auckland, stopping at designated points along the way.

The purpose of the fair — apart from genealogists having fun — is to carry out the aims and objectives of the NZSG to educate the public about family history. More than 1100 tickets were sold in 2010. This year we are aiming to sell more than 3000 tickets. Your Fair Pass can be purchased on the day or pre-purchased from Ticketek if you do not like queuing. This pass will provide you with free access to all the resources in the Exhibition Hall. Tickets to the seminars can be purchased at the fair itself and are available on a first-come basis.

See our website www.nzfamilyhistoryfair.org.nz to pre-purchase your entry pass, book your accommodation, fair tours, or the bus from Auckland. We look forward to seeing you in Hamilton at the New Zealand Family History Fair 2011.

Remember — the more effort you put into gathering your information before the fair, then the more success you are likely to have. Be as prepared as you can be and St Serendipity will do the rest.

Sandra Metcalfe
SINCE returning from the summer holidays, I have been busy clearing my email in tray, and continuing to organise our family history events for this year.

**Waitangi Day Blog Challenge**

Through the use of Social Media (Twitter, Facebook and Kintalk blog) we put out a challenge to our family history community in celebration of Waitangi Day...

The challenge was to write about:
- **HOW** different is our life from that of your earliest New Zealand ancestors (settler or Maori)?
- **WHAT** stories can you tell us about their lives?
- or
- **IF** you are first-generation New Zealander, or maybe a new Kiwi, perhaps you might like to tell us of your first impressions of New Zealand, and your experiences of settling in here; and how Kiwi traditions and culture differs from your own.

It followed the inspirational example led by our friends across the Tasman when Shelley of “Twigs of Yore blog” sent out an Australia Day blog challenge.

We were very pleased with the Waitangi Day result, which saw 11 people post their blogs. Some people posted about more than one of their ancestors.

The quality of the research was great, and people are obviously very passionate about their ancestors. What impressed us the most was the interest that this raised.

Looking at the statistics of our Facebook page, we noted that we had more than 1900 people internationally view our Waitangi Blog discussions page. That’s a whole lot of interest.

And our contributors were also international: from the United Kingdom, United States and Australia, as well as from New Zealand.

Certainly makes us motivated to wanting to issue a similar challenge again. You can see further information about the challenge on our Kintalk blog, or by searching for Auckland Research Centre on Facebook, and looking at our discussions page.

**Tours of Central Auckland Research Centre**

We now offer tours of the Research Centre at 6pm, on the first Tuesday of every month. However, early in February, we were very pleased to host a group of about 10 people from the Rootscat Internet forum. We showed them around, and gave them a hand with their research. So although we do have a set time available, we are also happy to accommodate bookings for tours at other times to groups of people. Booking in advance enables us to ensure that we have adequate staff on at the time to provide you with the assistance you require.

**Meetings and presentations**

I attended the Auckland branch of the NZSG’s February meeting, and watched NZSG library manager, Christine Hurst deliver a demonstration of how to use your new library catalogue. I am impressed with its functionality and am sure that it will be a great asset to the society and its members.

I was asked to speak at the Warkworth branch of NZSG’s late February meeting at the Warkworth Museum. My subject for this presentation was The Treasures of Central Auckland Research Centre. It is a popular presentation, which also gives me the opportunity to explain a little of what is held in the Sir George Grey Special Collections.

Also late in February, I attended the Waitakere NZSG branch meeting in Glen Eden to give a talk on Beginning Family History. Of course, although I felt a bit like I was preaching to the converted, you never know when there might be a new researcher in the audience; or, sometimes even the most experienced researcher might learn some new gem. After all, we often develop our own tips and tricks and its good to share.

At the time of writing, I am booked to present The Treasures of Central Auckland Research Centre to North-west Auckland’s SeniorNet in Huapai at 10am on April 13, and on April 14, at 10.30am, David Verran and myself are due to speak at Highland Park Library; me about our resources and David about his Fencible ancestors.

Look forward to seeing some of you there maybe?

**Family History Luncheon Time Sessions**

**Wednesday, April 6: Researching International Red Cross Archives at Bad Arolsen, Germany — Claire Bruell.**

For the last 20 years Claire Bruell has been researching her family history in the lands of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire, focusing on the present-day Czech Republic. Hidden away for 60 years at Bad Arolsen, a small town in central Germany, are Nazi records of about 17.5 million people. In December 2009, Claire joined a group of eight genealogists from Israel and spent five days at the Bad Arolsen archives, searching for details of her family. The results will be the subject of her presentation.

**Wednesday, April 20: Visiting the Royal New Zealand Navy Museum at Torpedo Bay, Devonport — Michael Wynd.**

The RNZN Museum has now settled into its marvellous new premises. Learn about family history and the navy — access issues, location of personal files, terms, abbreviations, acronyms, posting cards, why the navy is different when it comes to where an individual serves.

**Wednesday, May 4: Using Auckland Council Archives.**

Staff from the Auckland Council archives will talk about the nature of the sources the region’s archives hold that will be of interest to those doing genealogical research. They will present a couple of case studies that will show the wide range of records that researchers can consult, looking at both likely and unusual sources that may contain genealogical gems.

**Wednesday, May 18: Back to school: Researching School Records — Lyn Whelan.**

School records are a unique source of genealogical information. This session will focus on a range of late 19th and early 20th century New Zealand school records, and their usefulness in genealogical research.

**Wednesday, June 1: Scandinavian Settlers in New Zealand — Margit Brew.**

Author of Scandinavian Footprints, Margit Brew talks to us about what life was like for our Scandinavian ancestors, settling in New Zealand.

**Wednesday, June 15: Kaitiakitanga — Sustainability from a Maori world view — Mereana Taungapeau.**

The protection and preservation of the gifts of our ancestors for future generations, most commonly defined as guardianship, but is also regarded, in a wider sense as care and management of all resources. It is an expression of the responsibility of iwi and hapu to protect and care for taonga for future generations. Taonga

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**Concluded next page**
Museum notes: Campaign medals and decorations

By W. J. Tucker

THE Campaign Medals and Decorations in the Museum number 80. Ranging from the Napoleonic Wars to the Korean War, the display is an imposing and interesting exhibit. Although some were awarded prior to the Maori Wars, pride of place must go to our most valued decoration, the rare New Zealand Cross.

This cross was instituted by the New Zealand Government in 1869, for award to members of the Militia, Armed Constabulary, Forest Rangers and Volunteers, who distinguished themselves by bravery in action against the Maoris.

In communicating the order establishing the Cross to the Secretary of State for the Colonies in London, the Governor of New Zealand observed that he was aware that the Queen [Victoria] was the front of honours, and alone could institute orders of distinction. The New Zealand Government did not pretend to any powers of this kind, but the proposed distinction was simply a local honour, and the Queen’s responsible advisors had urged that there be no delay in its award, particularly as the defence of the country had fallen upon local forces.

In his reply, the Secretary of State observed that the Governor had overstepped the limits of his authority, and it was necessary to point this out so that no precedent might be established for the institution of similar awards in New Zealand or any other colony. In the very exceptional circumstances, however, the Queen had been pleased to sanction the institution of the decoration and the rules governing its award.

The decoration consists of a silver Maltese cross with a gold star on each limb; in the centre, in a circle within a wreath of laurel in gold, are the words “New Zealand”. The cross is surmounted by a crown in gold which is attached by a ring and a “V” to a silver bar ornamented with gold laurel leaves, through which the ribbon passes. The ribbon, 1½ inches wide, is crimson.

As the New Zealand Cross was awarded to no more than 23 officers and men of the New Zealand forces, and has not been used since 1869, it is the rarest British decoration, and probably one of the rarest decorations in the world. This beautiful cross was awarded to Ensign NORTHCROFT (Later Captain), Patea Rangers, for bravery at Pungarehu, West Coast, in 1866. Incidentally, it was the last of the 23 awarded.

● The New Zealand Cross and other medals from the Te Awamutu Museum collection is on display in the museum’s exhibition, Symbols of service: military medals from the museum collection, from 26 February to 2 May 2011. Spanning service in nearly a century of major wars from 1864 to 1954, the medals give us a glimpse into the life of the soldiers who received them. At war and at home, their stories highlight the extraordinary service of ordinary people.

For further information about medal recipients or for other research inquiries, contact the archivist on (07) 872-0085, email catherine.jehly@waipadc.govt.nz or visit our museum website www.tamuseum.org.nz.

Jan White
Director Museums and Heritage, Waipa District Council.
Website: www.waipadc.govt.nz

AUCKLAND LIBRARIES

From previous page

can include anything of importance — people, the environment, structures and resources including the Maori collections of Auckland Libraries and the rich content of generations of knowledge they contain. How was the practice of kaitiakitanga used in the past by Maori tipuna and how have these same practices been successfully applied in modern-day society?

Wednesday, June 29: Te Whanau marama — The Family of Light — Robert Erurua. Interest in celebrating Mātāritaki, the Maori New Year has increased over the years and so has the desire to know more. Delving through material in Sir George GREY’s Special Collections provides an opportunity to broaden this understanding with all its entanglement of relationships pertaining to a cosmic whanau, placing Mātāritaki in context.

Wednesday, July 13, Merchant Seamen, Judith Bowen. Tracing seamen ancestors serving with the British merchant navy.

Wednesday, July 27, Te Reo Rangatahi — The Language of Youth, Robert Erurua. Sir George Grey’s Special Collections of Te reo Maori language publications and aids — from readers, records, to audio tapes — can provide a visual kōrero in its own right, when relaying the journey of Te reo Maori teaching and learning of the past to the present. Fortunately, such taonga are being preserved and maintained for future reflections and considerations, educational or humorous. A vibrant collection of colour, shape and verse, a language journey of Te reo Maori learners and teaching — totally complimentary to Te reo Maori.

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54 — NZSG March/April 2011
In the early 1860s, the conflicts in Taranaki over land were making life for settlers difficult. Many of the wives and children of Taranaki settlers were sent to Nelson for their safety. Others left of their own volition and went to other provinces. These settlers became known as the Taranaki Refugees. Some of them never returned to Taranaki.

Taranaki refugees of the 1860s

By Heidi Kuglin

Archives New Zealand has records relating to military and civilian settlers during the years of 1860-1863. Records of military settlers are described in the War Research Guide available from the Archives New Zealand website at www.archives.govt.nz.

From the Home page, click on Research Guides. In this article, I will discuss some of the records about civilian settlers.

Researchers will find more information on Papers Past using search terms such as Taranaki Refugees and Taranaki Aid.

Taranaki Provincial Records

In 1860, Taranaki was a province with its own government and provincial superintendent. There are several series of records available. Of particular interest is Taranaki Province, Series 5 [TP5], Superintendent’s Inwards Correspondence. This series includes letters from provincial government officials, from other provincial governments, from army officers, and from private citizens. There are accompanying registers which list every letter received in series TP6, but unfortunately, the years from 1860-1862 are not extant. Researchers wishing to see if there are letters from ancestors in these documents will need to go through the boxes of correspondence manually.

Some examples of correspondence are given here.

William King sent a response letter to the provincial secretary, New Plymouth, February 20, 1860 [TP 5/16]. He had been asked to nominate rendezvous places for settlers in his neighbourhood in case of emergency. He, in conjunction with neighbours, recommended the homes of Messrs Elliot and Burton and described why they were chosen.

Both these spots are nearly on the line dividing the fern and forest country; both include a dwelling house and well and they would both be good points for the settlers to meet at before finally retiring on the barracks should such an unfortunate and unexpected event occur. Whilst should a line of posts be established taking the barracks as the centre we imagine these situations would both be made of service, and they are both within sight of the barracks.

Mr Elliot’s house has also the advantage of being on the most elevated ground within some distance of it and has no cover near. The house occupied by Mr King is on high land tho not on a hill, but is not commanded by any other spot and appears at first sight objectionable on account of being so near the forest but the free communication with the town and the convenience of house room and water offered by it seem to us to compensate for this disadvantage.

In case these dispositions receive the approval of the officer commanding the troops we will on receipt of your communication to such effect make the best arrangements in our power to proceed with the erection of stockades round the place we mentioned.

With respect to the offer made us of muskets and ammunition we should be glad to receive such number as can be spared, many of the settlers being wholly unarmed.

While the provincial government sent most of the refugees to Nelson on several sailings of the Airedale, other ships were also contracted.

Agreement between Frederick Remer, Master of the Wonga Wonga to take a reasonable number of passengers and luggage from New Plymouth to Nelson and that Thomas Kind and James S. Richmond agree to pay on behalf of the provincial government [TP 5/16].

The provincial government required many settlers, women and children, to leave and they were apparently given dates on which they were expected to be at the dock. However, T. E. Rawson, surgeon, Taranaki Militia, Captain Paul, 65th Regiment, had the authority to delay travel dates for those not fit to travel. On 6 August, 1860, he wrote:

I beg to state that Mrs Robert Thomson was confined but a few days ago — about the 3rd Instant and that it would not be safe for her to go to Nelson by the Airedale this week. Mrs William Read was also confined last Friday and could not be safely removed to Nelson by the next trip. [TP 5/16].

The minute written on the side of the letter approves the delay of removal of the two women until the next trip of the Airedale.

While free passages and rations were supplied as necessary for women and children, they appeared to be only available to those whose husbands had not been evacuated with them. We hold letters from settlers who claim hardship and ask for further assistance.

The Taranaki Herald of July 21, 1860 listed the rations scale: one statute adult, 1 shilling per day (including Sunday); two adults, 1s 10d and then progressing up to five statute adults of 3s 10d per day.

Thomas Gilbert wrote to the superintendent on May 19, 1860. He had been removed to Nelson. His wife and children were dangerously ill and he was living four miles out of Nelson.
in a borrowed house. His sons were out working but only get 8s per week above their room and board and the 16-year-old eldest daughter needed to stay home to take care of the family. He asked for an increase in the scale of rations from 12s 6d per week to 19s 2d per week.

Pray let my name be struck off if it must be so, but do not let my wife and children suffer on my account although I see no present prospect of getting employment in any way, not even on the roads. [TP5/16].

Philip Trescauthick PRISKE wrote to the council (no date, probably September 1860) complaining of the expense of provisions in the Nelson Region [TP5/16].

Gentlemen of the Provincial Council; some time ago I called on the Superintendent to know if my family were likely to be sent to Nelson which he did not think likely, but assured me if it was the case she would in every respect be comfortably provided for which I find is not the case. My wife says she have tenpence a week, and five pence each for two of the children, and four pence for the other, which is not sufficient to get necessaries which the Agent at Motueka allows but he said it was not in his power to grant any more. My wife state she have to give from sixpence to eight per lb for meat and all groceries considerably dearer than in New Plymouth, would therefore ask the question if I am obliged to assist in their support where ought my family to be in Nelson or New Plymouth where the would be of some service to me. I would also state my disapproval of so many families crowded into so small a compress which I think must be injurious to health peace and morals. Yours truly.

Maori Affairs Department Records

Memoranda about an estimate of settlers and natives killed in Taranaki War, 28 June 1861 [MA1/832, 1861/94]. This file holds several documents listing the 14 Europeans lost (outside of the actual engagements) and the approximate number of Māori also killed (174).

Settlers killed include:

- J. HAMBEN of Waitara, in November.
- SARTEN of town, in December.
- EDWARD MESSENGER of Brookland, 1 mile from town in January.
- W. C. KING, Woodleigh, ½ mile from town in February.

Board of Public Relief

The Board of Relief was established to administer aid to those rendered destitute by the wars in Taranaki. The Provincial Government supplied these settlers with financial relief and also rations and accommodation. The papers include the minutes of the board, appeals from the destitute for assistance, lists of applicants for relief, and orders issued by the board for food, clothing, and housing. Within these records, there is a list of applicants for relief [TP10/1/3], (although these auditor’s reports only cover July and August 1863) and many applications for relief between July 1863 and August 1866 [TP10/1/2].

On September 26, 1863, Thomas LANGMAN wrote to the Board:

Sir: I had my arm broken very badly by a Gunshot from some Rebel Native or Natives on the 12th Sept. 1863. Since which time I have been confined to my bed, I have refrained however from applying for relief under the impression that I could have supported my Wife & Family without doing so. In consequence of the extra expenses required to provide necessaries in times of Sickness, the payment of 7/- a week House Rent, the keeping in of a Fire Handle Light all Night, the providing of a Little refreshment for those who are kind enough to stay with me by night, and having a Wife and 2 children wholly dependent on my earnings has caused me to lay the same before your honourable Board feeling assured that you will give the present application for relief [sic] that Consideration which is requested of you. I remain Yours very humble Servant, Thomas Langman.

On August 3, 1863, John WHITELEY wrote to the board on behalf of Mrs COAD:

My Dear Sir, As your Honor kindly gave me permission to mention to you any case of distress needing pecuniary assistance from the public fund, I beg to mention the case of Mrs Coad who I think is in necessitous circumstances. She has lately lost her husband, has several children to provide for, and has to pay 8/- a week rent. She keeps a little shop for groceries & I am not aware that she has any other source of income.

If on enquiry Your Honor should see it right to award her a little assistance, I think it would be worthily bestowed and very thankfully received. I am Yours faithfully, John Whiteley.

On March 15, 1865, Mrs David ADAM wrote to the board:

To His Honor, the Superintendent.
I am under the painful necessity to apply to you for relief. I landed here about 7 months ago with My Husband and 5 Children. Of course Sire, you are aware that My Husband is insane and is not able to work any since we have been here. I have made every effort to maintain My family and cannot do it. We are now, Sir, on the point of Starvation. I wish to know if your Honor would Grant us a passage to Dunedin. I am Your Most obedient Servant, Mrs David Adam.

File 4 of series TP10 is entitled Miscellaneous. Within this file are the authors’ copies of orders made by the Board of Relief. Two of the above petitioners are listed in these documents. Thomas Langman’s request was disallowed and Mrs Coad was allowed 7s per week additional beginning on August 28, 1864. There is not a direct match between these documents and the petitions for aid, and the documents are filed chronologically. However, these documents can add more to the stories of some of the settlers.

Taranaki Relief Fund Sub-Commissioners

In 1861, Government established the Taranaki Relief Fund Commission to assess the losses of the Taranaki settlers. These included losses incurred when the military requisitioned fences and buildings for their purposes and losses incurred by the “rebels”.

Lists of People given assistance [TP 9/3]. There are a variety of lists in this series, each one named below:

- Lists of families not receiving rations (alphabetical).
- UNNAMED list of heads of families indicating number of men and women over 18 and number of children under 18. Identifies which ones are getting rations and those who have gone or applied for passage to Nelson.
- FAMILIES from the county removed within the Lines. Includes Name, which block they were from
and where they were located, eg George GIDDY from Somes Park located to St Germain’s Square and James TONKS from Bell Block relocated to Henwoods.

- LIST of men who have gone to Nelson once.
- MEN, Women, and children passengers to Nelson per Airedale.
- FAMILIES ordered to leave on August 8.
- FAMILIES leaving on September 1, 1860.
- FAMILIES ordered to leave on September 1, 1860 per Airedale.
- FAMILIES ordered to leave on August 8, 1860, men and boys over 17 not included.
- LIST of families to whom rations are supplied.

**Internal Affairs Department Files**

Series 132 in the Internal Affairs Department records also relate to the Taranaki Refugees. The original petitions from the settlers of Taranaki to Governor Gore BROWNE are available in this series [IA132/19/20]. The largest one, dated May 25, 1861, the Memorial, states:

**That your memorialists have suffered great losses during the course of the Māori War in Taranaki, and they are desirous of having the nature and extent of such losses ascertained.**

They therefore pray your Excellency to issue a commission authorising and commanding some competent persons to enquire into and report on their said losses. And your memorialists ever pray.

There are four pages of signatures, two columns per page. Other memorials in the file relate to Fanny PERVEY, William BAYLEY, Paul INCH, Edwin HARRIS, Mary CRANE, widow of Henry Crane, Maria Eliza DUNCAN, W. J. W. SMART, Mrs G. R. BURTON, widow of Captain G. R. Burton, Ann HURFORD, widow of John Hurford. The file also has witness statements regarding the death of Private Edmund Messenger and wounding of Private James SMART of the Taranaki Rifle Volunteers.

This file also contains correspondence regarding the repayment to the Government of allowances advanced to them in Nelson. These advances were made on the proviso that they would be repaid once compensation claims were decided. J. W. MARSHALL is on this list and will be included in the information relating to his claim outlined below.

At the end of the file is a list of all settlers who were driven from their homes in the country of Taranaki. A total of 244 families numbering 1223 individuals, are listed; 36 families had returned to their farms by March 1865, and 95 families were receiving rations; 71 had died in the three years.

The information included in this list includes: Name, number in the family before the war, number in the family at present time (March 1863). Those returned to their farms; those receiving rations; and remarks. Examples include:

- E. ADAMS, who had two children and left for England.
- M. CARRICH, wife and three children originally, wife and one child at the present, he had returned to Taranaki. One child was born and two died.
- W. C. KING, wife and two children, husband killed.
- T. WILKINSON, wife and two children, wife died. Received rations.

**Index of Claimants**

This series includes an alphabetical index of applications made to the commission [IA 132/21, 24]. By each claimant’s name, there is a claim number. The claim files themselves are arranged alphabetically in folders 1-17 of series IA132. Once researchers identify through the index that there is a claim file, they merely need to identify on ARCHWAY in former Archives reference IA132 which folder to order. I have not cross-matched all the files with the names in the index, so recommend that both sources are ordered and viewed.

Several examples of claims are recorded below. Most files contain a form, Statement of Losses or Injuries sustained in the recent native disturbances at Taranaki, a minute of the hearing, supplementary material, and the receipts outlining each payment. Each receipt has the claimant’s signature. Some claims are very specific naming pieces of furniture, etc. Others are more general.

**Examples of Civilian Claims**

**William Billing, claim 337 [IA132/2]**

William BILLING, of Frankley Road, made a claim from Nelson on June 22, 1861, for £452 6s. He had 50 acres of freehold land, No 55 in the Fitzroy Block. He listed his 26ft x 20ft house, items of household furniture, farming implements, crops, and stock that was either burnt, destroyed or run off by “the rebels”. He also claimed — £8 11s which was interest of money of £57, which had been paid to Mr PARRIS, a commissioner of Native Reserves in Taranaki for 1½ years’ expenses; and £30 to provide for food and clothing for his family while they were removed to Nelson. As he had not been back to his land, he indicated that there could be other damage that he was not yet aware of.

**John McDonald of Mongara District, gunner in the Royal Artillery [IA132/8]**

John McDONALD claimed £40 for loss of the use of 40 acres of bush land, lot 790 rural allotment in the Grey district. He had cleared 6-7 acres the summer before the “disturbances” and had planned to gradually clear the rest to become a settler. Because he was not there, thistles prevented the grass from growing. He estimated that it would cost him £3 per acre to clear, some being burnt, and some of the unburnt [sic], being sodden.

**James William Marshall, New Plymouth, Ironmonger [IA132/8]**

J. W. MARSHALL included in his claim, a brief history of his time in New Zealand. He had arrived in July 1852 and was evacuated from there to Nelson in February 1861. He claimed damage to house and cattle as well as loss of rent of various sections he owned, some being used by the troops and some by the fact that there was no one left to rent his land, fencing taken by the Engineering Department for construction of the Town Defences. Of the £221 claimed, £67 was agreed and then a further supplementary payment of £15 for loss of rent as the...
tenant, Mr H. N. WOOLLASTEN went

to Australia and it was unoccupied from

July 1, 1861 to July 22, 1862.

Government had paid an advance to

James Marshall in Nelson. He repaid

£110 at the rate of £6 in 1860, and £26

each quarter of 1861 and 1862 until the

repayments were completed in June

1862.

William King and Mary Wakefield, Omata [IA132/13]

William and Mary WAKEFIELD came to Taranaki on the John Taylor

in 1853. Puke Ariki holds a collection from this family. This file gives a very

complete list of the books, engravings left in addition to livestock, crops

implements, and household items. There are four foolscap pages listing the lost

books. The claim statement totalled £179

5s 10½d. This amount was crossed out and £198 1s 10½d was written in, likely

as a result of further claims or a review.

Alfred Coupland Beardsworth, Teacher, New Plymouth [IA132/2]

While most of the claims made to the

commission were from settlers living in the countryside around Taranaki,

there are a few that do not relate to loss of land and possessions. Alfred

BEARDSWORTH claimed for loss of profession as a schoolmaster when the

schoolroom was taken by order of the superintendent for 22 weeks as a refuge

for families who fled from Omata and other country areas. The children were

dispersed. He claimed £22.

Military Claims

Claims for losses incurred by soldiers are filed alphabetically in separate

sequences in boxes 18 and 19. There are some claims from civilians if the

losses were due to military taking items for defence purposes. The files are

arranged alphabetically and the contents are transcriptions of the oral

evidence presented to the Commission and minutes from the Commission on

the decision. These files do not contain payment receipts.

Trustees of the Omata Church

[IA132/18/18]

Rev’d H. H. Brown of New

Plymouth, 2 June 1862. I am one of the

Trustees for the Church property in

Omata. In July 1860 the military under the command of Major

Hutchins 12th Regiment destroyed 9½

chains of post and four rail fencing

around the Cemetery on Waireka Hill.

The fencing was taken for the

purpose of constructing a palisading [sic] around the camp on the top of

Waireka Hill.

I value the fencing destroyed at

10/- a chain only as the destruction

was only partial and I think the fence could be rendered serviceable for

that sum. I put this claim before the

Military board under col. Mould.

Henry H Brown

The sum of £4/15 was allowed by the commission.

Frederick Spears Greaves, Omata

[IA132/18/18]

Frederick GREAVES claimed for his house in Omata which was burnt by

soldiers from the camp at Waireka. It was 45½ by 12½, built of sawn timber and

thatched. The house and out-buildings were burned. Also 231 chains of

puriri post and four-rail fencing were taken for the palisade. He was awarded

£120 3s 6d.

Thomas Wilkinson, Omata

[IA132/19/19]

Thomas WILKINSON states that he was residing in his property that had

over 100 acres fenced with 4 puriri posts erected in 1854. He states that he was

ordered off his land by the military and went to Auckland. When he returned in

1862, more than 140 chains of fencing were gone. He was allowed £65 12s

compensation.

In a supplementary claim, he states that the military erected a redoubt (St

Patrick’s) on his land in March 1863 and occupied it for three months. The order

was made by Lieutenant FERGUSON. They left parapets built with about 300

cubic yards of earth and cuttings and excavations that would cost to repair. He

also claims for ½-acre of bush, which he had reserved for ornament and shelter

with 100 tons of timber, a quantity of it was Puriri. This bush was destroyed by

the military. He was awarded an additional £51 for this claim.

Papers, correspondence

and expenditure relating to the

Taranaki Relief fund Commissioner

[IA132/20/22]

For those researchers who are interested in the workings of the commission, there is an indexed file of correspondence between the commissioner and sub-commissioners and others relating the implementation of the scheme. Sub-commissioners often asked for clarification of the “rules” and answers were provided. From the file, we are able to determine that there were classes of claims. In a letter from Sgt HALE, chairman of the commission, dated January 28, 1862, thistles were considered as Class 6 and
it was decided that compensation would be distributed on an average acreage rate. The commission also discussed whether overgrowth of ferns should have equal weight as thistles as some districts were relatively free from thistles, but overgrown again with ferns.

Issues relating to some individual claimants are also included. William BAYLEY made, and was granted, a claim for his corn mill and adjacent buildings which were destroyed by the rebels. However, Dr SAMUEL made a counter claim stating that he had an absolute conveyance of the property. In a letter dated May 5, 1862 on page 119 of this file, the issue was discussed, and the commission made an award in favour of Mr Bayley on the basis that the agreement had been rent and right to purchase. It also stated that Mr Bayley had started proceedings in the Supreme Court for the recovery of his property.

While records relating to Taranaki refugees exist in a variety of different government department files, they provide a rich source of contextual and individual information which can be woven together. This article covers only a small amount of the material. Researchers who want to see the full lists of any of the series on ARCHWAY can do an advanced search. Click on the records box and type the agency and series reference into the Former Arch Ref field. Alternatively, a simple search using the terms Taranaki Refugees will yield lists as well.

Passenger list indexing project needs volunteers

FamilySearch of Utah has digitised all the passenger lists held in the Wellington office of Archives New Zealand. The assisted immigrant lists have been fully indexed and are available from the FamilySearch website. While the balance of the passenger lists have been digitised and are available from that same site, they are not yet indexed so cannot yet be searched by name. The indexing of these lists is being done by volunteers and is about 52% complete. We need more indexing volunteers. This is work that you can do from your home. To volunteer, log onto the website www.familysearch.org

Under the heading Unlock the

World’s Records, click on the link “Help index real documents . . .” Then just follow the instructions. With a few more regular volunteers, it is possible that all the passenger lists will be name searchable in about a year, adding a great resource to researchers.

To access the Assisted Immigrant search tool, log onto www.familysearch.org

Scroll down the page and click on Australia and New Zealand and keep following the links until you find the search page for this group of records. Those looking for assisted immigrants can type the name(s) in the appropriate fields. Do not fill in any of the other fields. Then follow the links. You can print off the images or download them to your computer.

Those wanting to index passenger lists and who need help or guidance can contact Lyn Whelan at lyn@postpresented.co.nz.

She will answer questions and help you get started.

Heidi Kuglin,
Archivist/Access Services
Heidi.kuglin@archives.govt.nz

ARCHIVES New Zealand

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Heidi Kuglin,
Archivist/Access Services
Heidi.kuglin@archives.govt.nz

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS INC

Notice of the
44TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
To be held on
Saturday, June 4, 2011, at 2pm,
at John McGlashan College, Dunedin

AGENDA:
1. Roll Call.
2. Apologies.
4. Matters arising from the Minutes.
   6.1 Treasurer’s Report.
   6.2 Annual Subscriptions.
   6.3 Joining Fee.
7. Appointment of Auditor:
   Motion: That Polson Higgs be appointed auditor for the period April 1, 2011-March 31, 2012.
8. Annual Report of Ted Gilberd Literary Trust and Presentation of Literary Award.
9. Presentation of Awards
   (a) Kevin McAnulty Award.
   (b) Lucy Marshall Award.
10. Appreciation of Volunteers.

Marianne Moyes,
Secretary
Council has approved the establishment of two new services to assist members in researching historic land records:

- NZSG Land Records Collection (LRC)
- NZSG Land Records Research Service (LRRS)

Council believes these two separate, but related land record services should help fill a major gap in the resources provided for members.

Both will be available to NZSG members only and operate on a cost recovery basis. They will be launched later this year, at which time full details of how they will operate will be provided.

Land records are seen by many as a complex, intimidating and challenging area to explore; perhaps even a little mysterious.

Yet such records are well worth pursuing, as they are a particularly valuable resource for genealogists and family historians. Every researcher, from the novice to the highly experienced, can benefit from using land records and discovering the sometimes fascinating nuggets of information they contain. For example, some land plans show where the bush-line used to be and the nature of the bush, outlines of long demolished buildings and the locations of such places as Maori settlements, surveyors’ camps, tracks, fords, tollgates, hotels, schools and so on.

Other information can also be gleaned. One researcher found the house her grandparents moved to just after World War One was actually owned by her grandmother, not her grandfather. This situation, most unusual for the time period, was not obvious from the grandmother’s will and would have remained unknown, had it not been for sighting the title of the period. Historic land records usually add another valuable dimension to an ancestor’s life and may disclose new avenues for the researcher to explore.

NZSG land records collection

The Land Records Collection will operate in a style similar to the NZSG Certificates Collection. Members will be invited to donate copies of land records. Information from them will be indexed and form the basis of the new NZSG Land Records Collection. It will allow members to place their family members in a geographic location at a point in time. Members will be able to search a comprehensive index of these records and obtain copies of relevant documents.

The index to this collection will allow searches on such items as the plan number, name (all names on a title will be included in the searchable index), date of the event or a date range and keywords. This field will enable other significant information to become searchable (examples: street name, township/city name, date, local authority name, river, stream, and so on).

Land records research service

The Land Records Research Service (LRRS) will offer information and guidance to members in researching historic land records. Specifically the service will assist members to:

- LOCATE the actual property on land plans and obtain copies of these plans; and/or
OBTAIN copies of related land titles, land transfer documents and such like. Members will submit their requirements as an LRRS request. Postal requests will be accepted, but it is preferred they be submitted electronically, either by email or through an online form we plan to put on the NZSG website. This is so that if the officer has any queries about a request, it will be much quicker and easier to resolve these with the member by email.

Unless you are very experienced in land records research, we recommend that you use the LRRS service in two or three distinct stages. First, obtain the land plans for the property. Then, once you are sure that it is the property you were looking for, request the titles and any other documents such as transfers in which you might be interested. You will probably want the title first, as this usually shows the references for transfers and dealings such as mortgages associated with the property. This latter information can be a good indication of the financial state of the owner for example, and can indicate the date a house was built. There is a cost involved in each of these documents, so you will probably only want those for when your ancestor was involved, although sometimes a number may have to be purchased in order to get the one you want.

Locate the actual property on land plans and obtain copies of these plans

The service will be able to provide copies of land plans, some of which as an option, will be in colour. They will cover the entire country. The service will be run by an appointed officer and operate on a cost recovery basis.

There are enormous numbers of land plans. They range from plans prepared for property owners, the Crown, the Maori Land Court and specific events such as accidents, survey (both land and topographical) and for purposes such as the military. They cover from the earliest of times through to all but the present. As you will see, finding the precise plans to meet your particular inquiry may be tricky. The success in meeting your requests will be due in no small part to the accuracy and completeness of the information provided with your request.

Regardless of whether your ancestor owned, leased or occupied the property, it is often possible to identify the actual location of the land and from there, find the relevant land plans. However, to achieve a satisfactory outcome, the member must be prepared to do some research beforehand. From a vague description such as “one acre somewhere near Taihape”, no result is possible, and the request will be returned to the member for further clarification and resubmission.

Members interested in urban residential addresses should be aware that since your ancestor lived there, the street may have been renamed or renumbered or the odd and even numbers may have been swapped to the other side of the street. Unless you have the original section or allotment number of granny’s property, you need to make sure that the address of “20 Queen Street” you found on an old electoral roll or street directory, is still in the exact same physical spot and has not become something like “57 Wakefield Street” over the intervening years. In such circumstances, a request for “20 Queen Street” may provide unexpected and disappointing results.

There may be times when we are unable to locate the land for you until you are able to further clarify which piece of land you are actually looking for. If the LRRS is unable to locate the land as per your request, we will contact you suggesting further things you may wish to follow up before resubmitting your request. Do not forget the NZSG Research Service is always available to provide advice and look-ups to help you track down the information required to submit an LRRS request.

Members may wonder why we intend supplying printouts rather than email attachments. We have tried sending the plans as email attachments, but invariably the resulting print quality and legibility is very much poorer than we can achieve by printing the plans and sending them to you. So the new service has been designed to provide printouts — though this may be reviewed at a later date.

The land plans service is a specialist service, so to a greater or lesser extent, each request will be different and is likely to present its own challenges to those providing the service.

It is important that members are aware that while we will make every attempt to ensure the correct property is looked at the level of detail here. It’s a plan of the farm in 1919. I know the location and it’s the BIDWILL farm. They were the second settlers/squatters in the Wairarapa, having driven sheep around the foreshore from Wellington in, as I recall, 1842 or so. This is the sort of information to be found on the old plans.
This shows a billiard saloon, blacksmith’s shop and the post office at Johnsonville in 1926.

identified before doing any printouts, if the printouts were done in good faith based on the information provided by the member, then a full charge will be incurred. Also, as stated, it is often the case that in order to “drill down” to the plan with the required information, a number of printouts will be required and charged for. However, if no printouts have been done, there will be no charge.

Full details of the service, how it will operate and the information we require from members in order to locate the plans will be made available closer to the actual launch of this service.

As this will be a new service for NZSG, we want to make sure that all members have an equal chance to use it. For that reason, council has decided to limit members to one LRRS request at a time at this early stage. However, this limit will be reviewed once the service is operational, and changed or lifted as appropriate.

As an example of what this service can deliver, an early electoral roll showed someone with the property qualification of “Sections 10, 40 and 180 Parkville”. On investigation, we found Parkville to be the name of a rural area near Eketahuna in the Wairarapa. Although as a town, Parkville did not come to pass, the surveyors of the time saw Parkville as a town, or at least a largish village, surrounded by rural land. Section 180 is a typical town sized section in Parkville Township, while Sections 10 and 40 are both larger rural properties. Because of the distance between these three properties and the scale required to show the details of the town section, it was not possible to include all three on a single A3 sheet — so we manually joined the individual land plans into a single A4 sheet in order to give a better idea of where the three properties are in relation to one another.

Obtaining copies of land titles, land transfer documents and such like

Once you are sure you have identified the correct property, NZSG can obtain copies of land titles, land transfer documents and such like for you.

Titles list all transactions involving that piece of land, such as the date of the transaction and the names of the parties involved, together with document reference numbers. If you want details of mortgages, transaction details, such as the amount of the consideration, a copy of the transfer is required. We should be able to obtain a copy on your behalf. Over the years, a property may have changed hands many times, so please make sure to ask only for the transaction(s) in which you are interested.

Typically this part of the LRRS service will operate as a two-stage process. Firstly, we would obtain the land title for you. Once you have seen that document, you can decide which of the individual transactions is of interest.

Again to enable prompt communication between the member and the officer, this service will operate best by email.

Members using this service should be aware that there is a cost in both obtaining documents and printing plans. All members will have different requirements and will want different numbers of documents; council has decided this service will operate on a cost recovery basis. Members will be asked to accept and acknowledge the cost before any document is ordered on their behalf.

Again, full details of this service will be provided prior to the launch.

Related Information


“Where did My Ancestors Live? An insight into records of Land Information New Zealand” — paper presented by Ronald Hermon, LINZ, to the NZSG Conference 2006. This most comprehensive and informative paper can be downloaded from the public area of the NZSG website http://www.genealogy.org.nz/data/media/documents/Research/Land%20Records2.pdf

Joseph Gillard
NZSG Councillor

SUBMISSION OF COPY BY EMAIL
Submissions for The New Zealand Genealogist may be sent by email to the editor at editor@genealogy.org.nz
Postal address: PO Box 5523, Moray Place, Dunedin.
The Irish Interest Group collection has now been integrated into the NZSG collection. The combined collection is one of the best material collections of Irish resources in New Zealand.

What you should know about the Irish collection at the Family Research Centre Library:

- **THERE** are more than 2000 Irish resources in the collection and most of them may be borrowed.
- **MORE** than 400 journals and magazines, the majority may be borrowed.
- 160 packets of microfiche; 73 of those may be borrowed.
- 172 microfilms, all reference.
- NEARLY 100 CD-Roms, all reference.
- 58 Maps, 54 of them may be borrowed.
- OUT of the 842 books, over 500 of them may be borrowed.
- SOME Irish resources are included with other areas, i.e., Great Britain, USA, Australia and New Zealand so be sure to check the catalogue under some other locations.
- **USING** the “visual search” menu option, there is a selection of icons of common topics for Irish research. Click on the icon of your choice to see a list of items.

**Websites at the FRC**

A small taste of some of the new databases on Ancestry.com, available free at the FRC Library:

- NEW Zealand Jury Lists, 1842-1862.
- NEW Zealand Electoral Rolls, 1853-1981.
- NEW Zealand Maori Voter and Electoral Rolls, 1908 and 1919.
- CANTERBURY, New Zealand, Provincial Rolls, 1868-1874.
- NEW Zealand Naturalisations, 1843-1981.
- NEW Zealand City and Area Directories, 1866-1955.
- LÜBECK, Germany, Census, 1857 (in German).
- GERMANY and Austria, Military Unit Histories, 1760-1919 (in German).
- GERMANY Military Weekly Publications, 1816-1942 (in German).
- GERMANY State Government Directories, 1801-1928 (in German).
- VICTORIA, Australia, Index to the Children’s Registers of State Wards, 1850-1893.
- NEW South Wales, Australia, Tickets of Leave, 1824-1867.
- INDEX to Passengers Arriving at Honolulu, Hawaii, 1900-1952.
- INDEX to Alien Arrivals by Airplane at Miami, Florida, 1930-1942.
- JEWISH in Colonial America (AJHS Oppenheim Collection), 1650-1850.
- AJHS WWI Jewish Servicemen Questionnaires, 1918-1921.
- AJHS WWII Jewish Servicemen Cards, 1942-1947.
- ONE Thousand Place Names in New South Wales.
- MODENA, Emilia-Romagna, Italy, Civil Registration Records, 1866-1939 (in Italian).
- AGRIGENTO, Sicily, Italy, Civil Registration Records, 1844-1911 (in Italian).
- CASERTA, Campania, Italy, Civil Registration Records, 1862-1939 (in Italian).
- SWEDEN, Church Records, 1500-1937 (in Swedish).

Medical records available on FamilyRelatives.com free at the FRC Library:

- LONDON and Provincial Medical directory 1853.
- MEDICAL Register 1858, 1878, 1891, 1896, 1904, 1913, 1919, 1924, 1926, 1938, 1940, 1943.
- NISBET’S Medical Directory 1909, 1912.
- MIDWIVES Roll 1920.
- MEDICAL Directory 1934.

New databases on FindMyPast, available free at the FRC Library:

- 9 million records from the Society of Genealogists:
- 2 million new Derbyshire birth, death and marriage records.
- LONDON Docklands parish baptisms: St Matthew Bethnal Green and St Dunstan Stepney.

Passenger lists available on Irish origins free at the FRC:

- BRITISH and Irish Passenger Lists, 1890 and 1891 more than 193,000 names.
- TRANSATLANTIC Migration, 1858-1870 More than 42,000 names

Landowner records available on the Genealogist.co.uk:

- English and Welsh Landowner Records 1873: Includes records of all people who owned one acre or more. Images of original pages showing name and address of owner, acreage and gross estimated rental in pounds and shillings. Contains more than 300,000 records (includes images of the original pages).
Irish Landowner Records 1876: Includes records of all people who owned one acre or more. Images of original pages showing name and address of owner, acreage and gross estimated rental in pounds and shillings. Contains more than 300,000 records (includes images of the original pages).

Scottish Landowner Records 1872-1873: Includes records of all people who owned one acre or more. Images of original pages showing name and address of owner, acreage and gross estimated rental in pounds and shillings. Contains more than 300,000 records (includes images of the original pages).

Please note that the licensing agreement with all of the website services in the FRC prohibit us from conducting look-ups. These web services are available for use at the FRC only.

ASK THE LIBRARIAN

I am planning a trip to the FRC and wanted to know if I need to book? It’s my first time there - will there be someone to show me around? And what is the cost?

We welcome all visitors to the FRC. You do not need to book to come into the library, however you will need to book if you wish to use either a film reader or one of the computers that have FindMyPast, The Genealogist and Irish Origins. You can do this by either phoning (09) 570-4248 ext 4, or emailing library@genealogy.org.nz.

There are friendly and knowledgeable volunteers on duty to show you around the library collection and point you in the right direction. While we do not offer a one-on-one service, the volunteers are sometimes able to spend more time with library users, providing more in-depth assistance. Remember to bring details of the family you wish to search including certificates.

The Library is open as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Morning Session</th>
<th>Afternoon Session</th>
<th>Evening Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>10am-1pm</td>
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Regular Extra Library Sessions

Friday nights: The Library is open from 4pm-10pm (2 sessions) on the first Friday of the month, February-December.

Sundays: The Library is open on the fourth Sunday of every month for two sessions, 10am-1pm, 1pm-4pm.

Entry charges are as follows: Members of the NZSG $3 per session, $8 all day Wednesday. Non-members $15 per session.

Librarian’s choice from the new accessions with CHRISTINE HURST

Google Your Family Tree: Unlock the hidden power of Google, by Daniel M. Lynch

In this technological day and age it is vitally important that we know how to maximise computers and the Internet. Many an hour can be wasted searching and browsing results, and this book gives you the guidance needed to ensure you maximise your time. Written in a language that most basic computer users should be able to understand, this book is packed with screenshots and visual images, making it an easy read.

The information is extremely useful and at the end of each section the book gives you the opportunity to try your own search. There are tips on language tools, using Google maps and searching for blogs among the 14 chapters.

This book is a must-have for anyone venturing on to the Internet to find ancestors.

Classification: GBR.IAID
Barcode A40004700

My Ancestor Was an Agricultural Labourer by Ian H. Waller

Broken into two parts, part one examines the history of the rural economy and its affect on the life of the AgLab and his family. Part two is how to research your AgLab ancestors. Well indexed, with illustrations dispersed throughout, this is a useful book to read if you have ancestors who worked the land.

Classification: GBR.OCC.AG LAB
Barcode A40004802
Karori and the Boer War: Men of Karori, Makara and Oharia Who Went To War by Michael Whitfield Foster

Chapter headings include:
The assembly of the first contingent at Campbell’s farm in Karori (now Ben Burn Park); Men of various contingents who have a connection with Karori; The Boer War records and their many problems; Postscripts from Canterbury. This book is well indexed and if you are interested in the Boer War and the men who fought in Africa, then this is a must read.

Classification: NZ.MIL
Barcode A40005104

Elizabeth Robertson's Diary: Norfolk Island 1845 edited by Merval House

A small book with notes pages taking up almost as much room as the diary transcript.

Fascinating reading . . . Monday 6th On Saturday morning three men escaped from the Settlement, and about 10 o’clock at night — a shepherd of the name of Berry who is a great favourite of father’s took one in the scrub just at the back of our garden; A very bad man called “blind Mooney”, he had almost blinded himself by rubbing his eyes with the seed of the cotton tree so that he should not work — He told Berry that he only came up to kill Wilson, the man who gave evidence against the two men who were hung for murder.”

Classification: AUS.NFL.DIA
Barcode A40005002

There are nearly 100 titles about New Zealand businesses in the library.

A rich source of history and with the potential to name workers, shareholders, directors and owners, books about businesses are worth another look.

Note: shipping businesses are located in the shipping section. Here is a small selection of books about businesses from around New Zealand:

Auckland Savings Bank Centenary 1847-1947 by The Auckland Savings Bank

Long before the days of Kashin the elephant, the Auckland Savings Bank was set up in 1847. This book outlines the history of the company and early Auckland. Photographs of the past presidents and vice-presidents are shown and there are many familiar names to all New Zealanders. A great piece of banking nostalgia.


This small booklet is mostly about the history of Hallensteins and has some named photographs.

Classification: NZ.OTG.BUS
Barcode A3505337

Pubs Galore: History of Dunedin Hotels 1848-1984 by Frank Tod

This book contains history of pioneer hotels, and hotels of the past. There are lists of Dunedin hotels in 1984 at the time of publication, and the lists include past publicans for each hotel. Packed full of photographs and illustrations.

Classification: NZ.OTG.BUS
Barcode A3671448

Christine Hurst

Worth another LOOK

DONATIONS FROM MEMBERS

We are grateful to the following members and branches for their kind donation of resources for the library:

Lin Allard, Kathy Bisman, Graeme Constable, Marie Corser, Barbara Dalziel, Margie Denniston, Lynette Duncan, Donald Dunn, Lois Fawcett, Marilyn Geddes, Rosemary Haden, Sandi Halling, Pam Hamlyn, Carolyn Harling, Gail Hinkley, Elaine Hollins, Kevin Kerr, Frances Lankow, Christine Liava’a, Julie Lindenberg, Dorothy McCulloch, Briar McKeown, Beth Merryweather, Margaret Mundy, Beryl Munton, Raewyn Nevin, Laurel Nixon, Graham Ogilvie, Geraldene O’Reilly, Yvonne Rose, Joan Stanley, Noeleen Sutton, Gay Swift, E. L. Taylor, Leith Thomas, Marion Towers, Annette Whitford, Joan Willcock, Dianne Willetts, Emily Wright, East India Group, Hamilton Branch NZSG, Howick Branch NZSG, Gisborne Branch NZSG, Irish Interest Group NZSG, Maori Interest Group NZSG, Midlands and Northern England Interest Group NZSG, Nelson Branch NZSG, Panmure Branch NZSG, Taupo Branch NZSG.
Clan Moffat reformed after 400 years

THE MOFFATS are an ancient Border family who were influential and powerful as far back as the time of Sir William WALLACE.

In the year 1093, William fitz RALPH, a Norman adventurer of Viking heritage, came to Scotland with Duncan II, married Gunhilda, the youngest daughter of Olaf, only son of Hemming Hakonsson, and received lands in Upper Annandale. He adopted the surname MONTE ALTO, quite possibly after the Great Hill at the north end of the valley.

Over the years the name softened to MONTEALT, then MOVAT, through MOVEST, eventually settling at Moffat in its modern form. It is from this family that the town of Moffat, in Dumfriesshire takes its name. However Adrian C. GRANT has done a great deal of research, some of which was published in the October issue of the Clan Moffat UK & Eire Newsletter. In that he is taking us back to the year 846.

In the 12th century the family was of sufficient importance to be deemed ‘de Moffet’, showing the family were considered to be principal lairds or land-owners. Robert the BRUCE, as Lord of Annandale, granted four charters of land to the Moffats in 1200. One of these was to Adam Moffat of Knock. Both he and his brother fought at Bannockburn in 1314, along with many Moffat clansmen. The Moffats were also granted the feu of Granton and Reddings in 1341 by Sir John DOUGLAS, Lord of Annandale. These remained the principle holdings of the family until 1628 when the lands passed to the JOHNSTONES as a result of overwhelming debt.

There have been many influential churchmen in the Moffat family. In 1337, Walter de MOFFET, Archdeacon of Lothian, was appointed Ambassador to France and as early as 1268 Nicholas de Moffet was Bishop of Glasgow.

Later, the Rev Robert Moffat was patriarch of African missions.

The arms of the Chief are a variation on the Bruce arms post-1190, and there is a variation of the Bruce arms, which were borne by Thomas Moffat of Wauchope, who fought with Wallace and Bruce and undifferented arms were borne by Alexander Moffat of Lochurr (1648-1731). David Kennedy-Moffat still farms the lands owned by his direct ancestor, the aforementioned Alexander Moffat of Lochurr. All Moffats have the motto “SPERO MELIORA” (I hope for better things).

The Moffats, like many other Border families were raiders and reivers, and had many feuds with other clans. Their most notable enemies were the powerful Johnstones, and in 1557 the Johnstones murdered Robert Moffat, possibly then the clan chief, and burned a building in which a number of leading Moffats had gathered. From that date for 400 years, the Moffats were considered to be a leaderless clan, until 1983 when the late Major Francis Moffat was recognised as hereditary Clan Chief by the Lord LYON. On his death in 1992, he was succeeded by his daughter, Madam Jean Moffat of that Ilk.

In June 2000 the American Clan Moffat Society rallied to their chief’s call, and 180 officers and members assembled in Moffat, Dumfriesshire. There were organised tours of the area with Moffat family interest, they held their AGM, and on the Sunday morning, dressed in Clan Moffat tartan marched up Moffat High Street accompanied by a pipe band to attend morning worship and “Kirkin’ o’ the Clan” at St Andrew’s Church. On the way they halted to lay a wreath and pay tribute at the war memorial.

Among those who had gathered were several UK Moffats. This was either their surname, or they were related to the family and were researching their origins. Over the years they had corresponded with each other trying to find answers to the genealogical jigsaw of where they all fitted into the bigger picture.

In the Monday morning local farmer David Kennedy-Moffat had organised an interesting tour of the area for them. The first port of call was Dumfries Sands where they saw the monument to John

Clan Moffat members assemble before parade, August 2010. ABOVE: John Moffat.
KIRKO, who was shot on the “sands” of the river Nith as a Covenantor. Also visited were Irongray and Glencairn churches and graveyards where several Moffats are buried.

During a picnic lunch it was mooted by the 20 people present that they would like to form a UK Clan Moffat association. The aims of the group would be to achieve recognition of the role played by Moffats in the history and culture of Scotland, and encourage research into those families bearing the Moffat surname however it was spelt, through the mutual exchange of information and to give assistance where possible. The clan chief’s approval was given and another meeting was held in August that year to discuss plans, appoint a committee, provide a constitution and it was agreed that a newsletter/magazine would be produced twice-yearly.

From that small nucleus of people the membership has risen to 265. The members are invited to meet once a year for the annual general meeting at Moffat, Dumfriesshire. This is held on the second Saturday in August.

A DNA Project was launched a few years ago, using the Family Tree DNA laboratory to test samples. So far, 55 people have been tested for 25 markers and links have been found between some families which had remained unknown through written records and others have gone on to take the 37 and 43 marker tests. See website: www.ftdna.com

August 2005 and 2010 were special for us as we hosted international gatherings of Clan Moffat, when the UK and American groups joined together and we met members from all over the world. Great programmes of events were provided by the committee with coach trips to explore the Reiver Trail, the Devil’s Beef Tub, and areas where Moffat families had lived in the past. The Clan Chief’s Reception was held on Thursday evening and a Ceilidh on the following evening. Colin Moffat, the genealogist, organised a very interesting symposium with speakers on many aspects of Moffat - the place and the family. Later, committee and council meetings were held to deal with the business items for the year ahead.

Clan Moffat UK celebrated the 10th anniversary of its formation with a dinner held at the Buccleuch Arms Hotel, Moffat, on the Saturday evening. Sunday morning saw everyone assembled in Moffat High Street ready to parade to St Andrew’s kirk, led by our own clan piper, where we attended morning worship. We stopped at the war memorial en route to lay a wreath to the memory of fallen servicemen and women.

In the afternoon mini-coaches were organised to take members to the Borders Forest Trust farm at Corehead, near the Devil’s Beef Tub, to hear about the tree planting programme and see what progress had been made. Several members had made donations to help fund the purchase of the farm and enable the tree planting programme and so Clan Moffat had become a stakeholder.

Clan Moffat UK continues to collect information about Moffat forebears and has a website at www.clanmoffat.info where you can glean more information and news, join the DNA project, or print off an application form to become a member. Do hope to hear more from our overseas cousins.

Hazel Crammond
Clan Moffat UK

Top left: Devil’s Beef Tub from Corehead. Left: Corehead.
The theme for this conference is **A Golden Opportunity**, in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the discovery of gold in Otago, and it represents your Golden Opportunity to visit Dunedin and learn about the Otago of your ancestors and stay awhile to undertake some research at the excellent repositories and museums in the Dunedin area, where they are always glad to help.

**Register NOW** and book your accommodation at Quality Inn Cargills for preferential rates, or any of the conveniently-located motels in George Street. Be sure to book for the Conference Dinner, which will be held at the Otago Museum, with great Music Hall entertainment from the Dunedin Operatic Society.

Your registration form is on the centre pages of the November/December issue of *The New Zealand Genealogist* or visit the NZSG website [www.genealogy.org.nz](http://www.genealogy.org.nz) to download a form and send it in to PO Box 5523, Moray Place, Dunedin 9058.

**UPDATES** to programme:
- **Saturday:** *familysearch* with Michael Higgins of LDS, 1.10pm-1.50pm and 1.35pm-2.15pm, Monday, as alternatives to the interest Group meetings at that time
- Note: Alison Breese, of Dunedin City Archives will be present on the panel discussion, “Where do I research next?”
- **Sunday:** 11.30am-12.15pm LR1, Local Repository — Otago Settlers now being replaced by “Freemasons on the Goldfields in Otago”, speaker, Hugh Montgomery
- **Monday:** 9.50am — 10.35am Local Repository DCC Archives, now replaced by Otago Settlers Museum’s Jill Haley.

John McGlashan College, Dunedin
Labour Weekend, June 3-6
AROLD ARTHUR SCOTT was the second son of John and Sarah Scott, born in 1894 at Ardmore.

He and his two brothers William John (Jack) and Frederick George went to World War One and the three returned.

I found six old postcards in a box of old photographs my mother had, which were written by Harold to his family. Two of them were of RMS Tahiti (the ship he sailed on), others were of the Smithy of Figheldean, Salisbury Plains; YMCA Sling; three kittens; and King’s Garden, Torquay.

On one of the cards of the ship, Harold wrote:

Dear Mother,

These P.Cs are a bit dirty but I cannot help that, they are of the ship I came over on & I will be quite satisfied if I get as good a boat to come back on. If Jack comes over with the 28ths I will be put in the same lot as him. Nell tells me he is bringing a kiss over for me. I am sure it will be very welcome but would rather have it first hand. I don’t suppose Jack would like to part with it as he will never get a kiss from a nicer girl than Nell.

Harold.

On another he wrote:

Dear Mother,

I hope you are quite well. I am feeling just it. I am getting proud of my hands, they are as soft as any girl’s, I think there will be a few blisters on them when I start work again. I have not seen Stan White since I arrived but I suppose he is in the Camp somewhere. You can get three eggs and some bread & butter and a cup of tea in the Camp for 7d so you can see they do not rob us here. Give my love to all. Your loving son,

Harold

On September 1, 1917:

Dear Mother,

I am having an easy time at present, but you get the tar shook out of you when you start training here. I suppose you remember under the spreading chestnut tree the village smithy stands, well this is the tree he stood under. It is about two miles from here. I am writing to Jim Dobbs’ girls today but I am not sure of their names.

We are having a good time here and some of the fellows say they would like to stay here till the war is over. Don’t forget to send me Fred’s address and number. Will close now. Hoping you are all quite well. Your loving son Harold.
Dear Mother,
I write straight to you again. I have not had that parcel you wrote about yet. I am feeling Al but it’s awfully cold here. Talk about frost and ice, I never saw anything like it in NZ to look at the paddocks in the morning you would think they were covered with snow. We have had no snow yet but I expect we will get it soon. I suppose you would have to wait a long time for mail from me after you get the letters from Cape Town as there were none posted at Sierra Leone. They were all brought on to Plymouth.
I have not had a letter saying you had letters from Cape Town yet. I hope you are all quite well. Your loving son,
Harold

Have heard we are going to Torquay a dozen times but we are still here, 7/11/17 Sling Camp. Don’t stop writing to me as it may be years before we leave here.

Dear Mother,
I hope you are quite well. I am feeling Al. I went to see a football match between the North and South Islands and of course the North Island won. I have had no parcels yet, but still live in hope of getting them. I wrote a 5-page letter to Fred a few days ago. I hope he gets it alright. Jessie’s baby looked lovely in the photo. I heard . . . of the 27th had been killed at the front, but hope it is like everything else we here, a rumour.
Goodbye. Your loving son,
Harold.

January 1, 1918 Torquay.

Dear Annie
Here I am again. I am still having a good time. 14s does not go far here, so it is a good job my girl has plenty of cash. I would not let her pay for anything for me, but she said she would not go out with me if I paid so I let her have her way.
She is a nice lively girl & is a very good singer & is mad on music. You would hardly think a girl like her would have anything to do with a mug like me but there is no accounting for taste. I would write to Bert but I don’t know his number. Well goodbye.
Your loving brother.
These postcards were to his mother and sister Annie and mentions his older brother Jack and his younger brother Fred. Bert was married to his sister Jessie, Jim was a cousin and Nell was his girl friend.

His Mother had been a widow in 1897, with 10 children and her elderly parents living with her on a farm in Ardmore, and moved to Auckland in 1902. The family had previously lived in Thames, where her husband had been a gold miner, and the first six children had been born there.

When visiting Uncle Harold with my mother, he told her how he had recently seen Nellie, and it was just as well he had not married her. My mother said “Have you looked in the mirror lately?”
Harold never married and died in 1980 at the Ranfurly Home in Auckland.

Laurel Barr,
1/26a Sunnybrook Road,
North Shore 0620,
Auckland.
Email: laurelbarr@vodaphone.co.nz

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS INC.

Part-time Projects Co-ordinator
Up to 20 hours per week

This is a part-time position commencing with 20 hours per week with some flexibility in the days and hours worked.

The successful candidate will possess very good communication skills, both oral and written and have intermediate computer skills. Ideally the candidate will be familiar with most browsers, word processing and spreadsheet programmes. Some technical skills will be required as scanning and data transfer are integral to the position. Some knowledge of Copyright and Privacy law would be an advantage.

This position will require communication with volunteers throughout New Zealand who will be sent data by email or CD-Rom which they will transcribe in their own homes. When transcribing has been completed, the data will be returned to the co-ordinator who will arrange to have it checked.

The NZSG has a small staff and training and support will be given to the successful applicant. Remuneration will be negotiated according to the experience/ability of the applicant, and may be subject to review after 3 months.

Please apply in the first instance with details of your experience to:

Office Manager,
PO Box 14036, Panmure, Auckland
or office.manager@genealogy.org.nz

This is a part-time position commencing with 20 hours per week with some flexibility in the days and hours worked.

The successful candidate will possess very good communication skills, both oral and written and have intermediate computer skills. Ideally the candidate will be familiar with most browsers, word processing and spreadsheet programmes. Some technical skills will be required as scanning and data transfer are integral to the position. Some knowledge of Copyright and Privacy law would be an advantage.

This position will require communication with volunteers throughout New Zealand who will be sent data by email or CD-Rom which they will transcribe in their own homes. When transcribing has been completed, the data will be returned to the co-ordinator who will arrange to have it checked.

The NZSG has a small staff and training and support will be given to the successful applicant. Remuneration will be negotiated according to the experience/ability of the applicant, and may be subject to review after 3 months.

Please apply in the first instance with details of your experience to:

Office Manager,
PO Box 14036, Panmure, Auckland
or office.manager@genealogy.org.nz
IN THE March-April 2009 issue of The New Zealand Genealogist, pp.79-83, Pat BROCKLEBANK wrote an illuminating account of her discoveries in 2008 while visiting the township of Ypres (now known by its Flemish name of Ieper) and the nearby battlefields and cemeteries.

We have since followed in her footsteps and our visit to Ieper, Belgium coincided with the British Legion’s annual pilgrimage.

After the World War One, returned soldiers sought the comradeship they had felt in those quiet, peaceful moments before dawn. A dawn vigil, recalling the wartime frontline practice of the dawn ‘stand-to’, became the basis of a form of commemoration in several places after the war.

Now each year on April 25, thousands of Australians and New Zealanders assemble at dawn at war memorials in cities and towns throughout our respective countries in remembrance, and to pay their respects to our young soldiers who perished in the Great War (1914-1918) and the other major conflicts which followed including World War Two, Korean War, Vietnam and more recently Iraq and Afghanistan.

The men who went off to World War One fought in foreign lands which meant little or nothing to them and most were sons and grandsons of families who had emigrated in the mid to late 1800’s from England to Australia and New Zealand to seek a better life “down under”.

About 10 years ago my aunt Joyce MAGOULANOS of Waikanae, Kapiti Coast, gave me two postcards her mother (my maternal grandmother), Isabella Kate BARKER (nee McGINNES) had received from two nephews who were in Egypt preparing to go off to war.

Vernon John (Vern) WICKINS wrote from Zietoun Camp on July 2, 1915: “Dear Aunt Kate, just a card with my face on taken at the Sphinx, but the photo is not too good. We have been here 6 weeks today and hope we are not here much longer as the heat is terrible at times reaching as much as 120 in the shade. I had a card from Rupert at the Dardanelles he was well on the 13th of last month but I have not heard from him since but hope to see him soon as I don’t suppose we will be long now before we get there. My address is now No 2086, Lance Corporal V. J. Wickins, 5th Reinforcements, 15th Battalion AIF, 4th Infantry Brigade, Cairo, Egypt. PS Hope you got the beads safely will send the earrings as soon as possible Vern.”

The front of the postcard reveals three young men on camels in front of the Sphinx which appears to tower above them, Vern, G. HORNE from West Australia and A. T. PAMPLINS from Tasmania. Within six weeks of writing his postcard Vern was killed in action at Gallipoli. His name is etched on Lone Pine Memorial.

Unknown to Vern, he had been fighting in the trenches at Anzac Cove alongside his half-cousin, Private Leonard Lewis JOHNSTON, who wrote the following letter to his parents which was published in The Weekly Courier, Hobart, Tasmania, on December 23, 1915:

“"A few lines once again to let you know I am keeping all right. You will see I’m staying at the YMCA, which is a home to all soldiers. We come here anytime we wish to, and get a bed, or a feed or both. A bed costs us 9d, but
plenty of poor Tommies never had the price of a bed. Still, they are just as welcome as the men with a fortune. My furlough is up tomorrow, and then I will go to Weymouth (England), which is our base, and from where I hope to be able to give you an address to write to. I suppose I will go back to the front from there, but I don’t mind that a bit as I have been there before, and am not afraid to go back. In fact when you see how the people of England treat us it makes you proud to fight for them. When they see an Australian coming, he is just the very best. Nobody can do enough for us. At the present day the Australian troops have a name second to none in the world, and I am proud to be one of them.

The night before I was wounded I lost my hat. Early in the morning I picked up a cap from a chap who was lying dead. Next morning I look inside the cap, and the name there was Vern Wickins. You would know if he is one of the Wickins from Hobart.”

Leonard was reported missing on April 11, 1917. He had been captured by the Germans and later interned at prisoner of war camps at Limburg and Parchim. He eventually made it back to Hobart on 1 April 1919 where he would learn the cap that he had borrowed belonged to his half-cousin Vern.

Prior to 2000, Helen and I believed that our respective families had the good fortune not to lose anyone in World War One. However, within a matter of years of receiving the postcards from my aunt, I unearthed a wealth of Australian relatives and we soon learned that our two families had volunteered the staggering number of 29 Diggers for the Great War — 14 failed to make it home. So on our last trip to the northern hemisphere, we decided to visit Belgium and northern France to discover for ourselves where our relatives had fought and died.

It proved an extremely emotional experience, and one we will cherish forever. On those peaceful, flat plains gazing on infinite rows of little white headstones fading into the distance, it was all so real. We shed buckets of tears not only for our family members, but also for the hordes of gallant young men, and even younger men barely out of school, who were to endure the horror of the sight of “the fleshless, blackened bones of simple men” [Roland Leighton] and eventually give up their lives witnessing the leadership of fallible men, some of whom were severely lacking when it came to skills required for the development of strategic battle plans. The horrendous daily list of losses in
the field bears this out and by the time the last shells fell on Ieper in October 1918, the Salient had claimed 185,000 Commonwealth lives.

We did not just lose those lives in that World War One, “the war to end all wars”; Australia and New Zealand lost the cream of our DNA, the fiancées and husbands, brothers and sons. All that was good about the gene pool lost forever in the clinging mud and the bomb-out fields of the Dardanelles, Northern France and Belgium. It started as a great lark and the refrain “we’ll be home by Christmas” rang out as young men took their leave of loved ones and clambered aboard the trains and buses that were to take them to troop ships at various Australian and New Zealand ports. In 1915 they would become known as the ANZACs (Australia and New Zealand Army Corps).

This was not our first experience of Commonwealth war cemeteries.

At the beginning of the millennium we visited such a cemetery at Nijmegen, Holland where cousin, Leonard Charles (Mick/y) HICKFORD (21), had been buried in a composite grave with his fellow crew members of a Lancaster bomber in which he had been the rear gunner. Then a few years later we visited Arezzo and there found the graves of a large number of New Zealanders. However, these two earlier visits failed to prepare us for what lay ahead especially in Ypres, Belgium.

On this recent occasion, we were more focused and organised. Prior to leaving New Zealand, I had visited the Commonwealth War Graves Commission’s website and discovered the precise locations of where our family members were buried. We had also visited Henderson RSA in West Auckland where they kindly gave us 30 poppies in exchange for a donation. Our intention was to leave a poppy on each family member’s grave plus those of relatives of two friends (Rifleman James Thomas KNOX, New Zealand Rifle Brigade, who died on October 10, 1917, buried in Duhallow ADS Cemetery and Corporal Henry John JEFFERY, New Zealand Rifle Brigade, who died on June 20, 1917, buried in Ploegsteert Wood) and place the remainder on those of New Zealand servicemen.

We could have taken several hundred and still would not have had enough.

There are 143 cemeteries, with more than 40 burials, within a radius of 30kms of Ypres including Tyne Cot Cemetery where 35,000 soldiers are memorialised and nearly 12,000 interred. Then scattered here and there are the gravesites for just a few men.

Before driving to Ypres we visited The Australian War Memorial at Villers Bretonneux, where 770 Australian and Commonwealth soldiers lie buried. The 10,773 Australian servicemen named on the memorial died in the battlefields of the Somme and Arras. The memorial was unveiled by King George VI on July 22, 1938, and lies in the middle of sweeping grass-covered plains with a landscape open to the four winds as far as the eye can see.

The absolute silence is broken only by skylarks calling to each other from high up in the air on this late summer’s day. From the top of the memorial site, we could see for miles and over

Vern Wickins with G. H. Horne from Western Australia and A. T. Pamplins from Tasmania, July 1915.

Rupert Wickins in Egypt, 1915.
the Somme battlefield. Such a peaceful spot and we found the names of several relatives etched on the Memorial wall or on headstones, including Helen’s distant cousin, 2nd Lieutenant, Vere Cumming STEVENSON, MM, 54th Battalion, 3rd Reinforcements, AIF, KIA July 14, 1918 and Private Rupert George WICKINS (brother of Yern), 12 Battalion, A Company, KIA April 6-10, 1917.

Lieutenant Stevenson was posthumously awarded the Military Medal: “For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty Battle of Ypres (Phase 5), 12 October 1917. When all Officers of his Company became casualties he organised the men and carried on the fight. He was one of a party to capture two enemy strongholds. The first yielded four machine guns and 35 prisoners and the second two machine guns and 30 prisoners. After the Company had dug in and established a new forward line, he organised a ration party and succeeded in getting rations forward to the Front Line troops while under a heavy barrage.”

Towards the end of the war, Villers-Brettonneux was the site of the first battle in the world between tank forces, the Germans took the town on April 24, 1918, but a raging battle by 4th and 5th Division of the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) through that night and the next day recaptured the town at a cost of more than 1200 Australian lives. The people of Villers-Brettonneux remain indebted to Australia for this feat. Parts of the memorial are pockmarked as a result of being strafed by machine gun and cannon fire during World War Two. Over lunch in a café in the town, strong ties between Villers-Brettonneux and Australia were reaffirmed by the owners. The small matter of us being Kiwis, did not seem to matter too much.

Finding Villers-Brettonneux and a place to eat had taken longer than expected, so regrettably we had to skip visits to Private Frederick John OLDFIELD, 8th Company, Australian Machine Gun Corps, AIF, KIA May 3, 1917 and interred at Queant Road Cemetery, Buissy and Private Albert John WRIGHT, 3rd Battalion, AIF, KIA April 22, 1918, buried at Ebbingharn Military Cemetery.

Arriving at Ieper in the late afternoon, we were fortunate to secure hotel accommodation within 500 metres of the Menin Gate, where we were planning to attend the evening service at 8 o’clock. The Gate with its sweeping arches, sits astride the road along which hundreds of thousands of troops passed on their way to the front along the infamous Menin Road, many of whom never returned. On its walls and ceiling arches it bears 54,000 names of officers and soldiers who lost their lives during the course of the war. Among them are several members of our family including Lesley Francis STANLEY, Private, No 1032 and 7369, 24th Reinforcements, 8th Battalion, AIF, KIA October 4, 1917, Edward Lancelot STEVENSON, 9th Battalion, AIF, died of wounds on May 9, 1915 and his brother James Garnet STEVENSON, 4th Battalion, AIF, KIA November 1, 1918.

While enjoying a light café meal we happened to start chatting with several members of a Belgian massed pipe band who would be leading the march to the Gate in the evening. This proved fortuitous because later they formed a circle in the town square, directly in front of “In Flanders Fields Museum” and at my behest played Waltzing Matilda as a token of remembrance for our fallen. We followed them along the road leading into the square while they played It’s a Long Way to Tipperary and A Scottish Soldier.

Regardless of the weather, the Menin Gate service is performed every evening without fail and lasts no more than half an hour, concluding with the playing of The Last Post, which reverberated through the Gate’s four arches.

For less than 5 euros we acquired a copy of Major and Mrs HOLT’s Battle Map, Ypres Salient and Passchendaele showing the locations of Commonwealth War Graves Commission sites, which proved vital. The map also highlights the approximate battle lines for the First, Second and Third Ypres, the Gas Attack (ground taken by the Germans on April 22, 1915), Battle of Messines and the position at the end of 1917. For the loss of tens of thousands of men the Allied Forces had accomplished little.

Early the following morning we visited Belgian Battery Corner cemetery where Corporal William Leonard PATerson is buried. He is a member of Helen’s paternal family, albeit a 1st cousin, two times removed. William was serving with 13 Battalion, 10th Reinforcements when he was shot and killed on October 25, 1917 while aiding a wounded comrade. With the death of William and fearing the worst, Edward Paterson wrote to AIF headquarters seeking release of his only surviving son, Edward Austin Paterson, as he wanted to ensure the family name would live on, at least another generation. Regardless of Edward senior’s plea, his eldest boy would complete his tour of duty. Sadly, he was never to have any children.

Next we headed for Ploegsteert Wood to leave a poppy on the grave of a close friend’s uncle. It was a very difficult place to find but well worth our
endeavours. Surprisingly, it proved a place of beauty. The small country roads leading into the wood are unpaved and there are golden pheasants so tame they would rather sit on the road than move. The cemetery is surrounded by trees and the site beautifully maintained by War Graves gardeners. Here we found the mortal remains of several members of the Canterbury and Otago Regiments had been interred.

Nearby is Poegsteert Memorial, which stands amid the Berks Cemetery Extension and commemorates more than 11,000 United Kingdom and South African servicemen and at least one Australian, my distant relative, Corporal James Creswell HICKFORD, Australian Infantry, 39th Battalion; his family was originally from Little Wratting, Suffolk, England.

In addition to the above, we still have the following to visit who are descendants of my 5 x great-grandfather, Robert GUYMER (1700-1775) of Cambridgeshire, England:

George Bentley GUYMER, Private, No 5679, 4th Battalion, Australian Pioneers, mortally wounded and died on June 4, 1917, France.

Thomas Enoch HAYLOCK, Private, No 866, 21 Battalion, Australian Infantry, killed in action October 12, 1915, Gallipoli.

Alfred Herbert LOVE, Private, No 1375, 14th Battalion, Australian Infantry, killed in action April 27, 1915, Gallipoli.

Alfred Herbert MOORHEAD, Private, No 545, 16th Reinforcements, 6 Battalion, AIF, killed in action September 20, 1917, Belgium.

Albert Harry (Murphy) ROBINSON, Private, No 2883, 7th Battalion, AIF, killed in action July 24, 1916, France.

Frederick Edward ROACH, Private, No 3565, 60th Battalion, AIF, killed in action on July 19, 1916, France.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning.

We will remember them.

Now, with time to reflect, it is difficult to imagine the grief and fear Mary Ann WICKINS (nee McGINNES) was suffering by late 1917. Her husband had died suddenly in March 1915, two of her sons had been killed in action and a further two were still fighting with the AIF in Europe and would eventually return safely to their mother in Tasmania. The death tally for one branch of the Stevenson family was similar, four sons “fought for the cause” but only one returned home. Both families gave so much, and we are left wondering if it was worth all the pain and suffering.

We are not going to attempt to encapsulate a history of the Great War. As most know, substantial volumes have already been written on the topic and no doubt there will be more.

The enormity of our originally proposed undertaking was quickly realised, so we decided to concentrate on visiting no more than six Commonwealth war cemeteries in the day we had available.

Our biggest regret was not visiting Tyne Cot, Passchendaele. This site is already on the itinerary for our next trip.

Before undertaking such a pilgrimage, do your homework and visit the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website www.cwgc.org where you will find precise locations of graves and how to get there.

We opted to self-drive and while we had the benefit of a Tom Tom (GPS), not all the cemeteries were clearly identifiable, so we often had to seek assistance from locals who often did not speak English. So be well prepared.

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2 Australian War Memorial, Remembrance page

Paul and Helen Hickford,
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Email: paulhelentiff@xtra.co.nz
At the age of 20, our grandfather, Lionel CLAUDET, was sent to New Zealand on the ss Oxford and arrived in Auckland in 1881. He returned to England for a year in 1888, and in 1906 his sister travelled to New Zealand to see him a year after their father died and a Canadian cousin dropped into Auckland about 1925.

This, plus a small collection of letters, is the sum total of the pre-1930 contact between the New Zealand and the English or Canadian branches of our family. There have been no other meetings between family members, the network was almost lost and did not resume until the early 2000s … a newsletter has been the catalyst for contact, research and discovering more about this former French family.

Claudet Chronicle … the story of a family newsletter

BY BOB EDWARDS

After meeting an English relative for the first time in 2001, I suggested we start a regular family newsletter to gather and disseminate information and re-establish the family networks.

In June 2001 and a pilot first edition of four A4 pages was posted to about 10 relatives in four countries.

The feedback was enthusiastic, there was a need and the Claudet Chronicle was born.

Today 12-page editions are mailed quarterly. There have been 37 issues and we now have more than 450 pages of past and present family history, photographs and material dating from the mid 1700s to the present time.

The project is recommended as a relatively “painless” way of producing a family history. It has fostered contact and information sharing. The format has proved very successful.

Worthwhile results

The results have been amazing. The highlights are:

▷ 17TH century miniatures of our French forebears have come to light.
▷ THREE family trees, one with new important information, have come to light.
▷ NUMEROUS family photographs of past generations have been unearthed and published.
▷ A family crest and motto have been uncovered.
▷ A photograph of a great-uncle’s house in Hampstead (UK) turned up out of the blue.
▷ ARTICLES about modern weddings, christenings and holidays feature regularly.
▷ TWO music scores from the 1920s have surfaced.
▷ HELP with research and archive recovery has been an ongoing bonus.

Content all encompassing

The aim of the Claudet Chronicle is to:

▷ DISSEMINATE past and present family information including family documents, photographs and stories
▷ RECORD past and current births, marriages and deaths.
▷ REPORT news and update readers on what is happening in the various family branches.
▷ PUBLISH biographies, people profiles and backgrounders . . . to put some “flesh” on the bones of our forebears.
▷ ENCOURAGE all members of the family to record something of their life, hobbies/interests, ideas and reminiscences for future generations

Most contributions are 1-2 pages long. Occasionally a longer story must be serialised over a couple of issues. Recently themes have been introduced to encourage more folk to contribute to the publication. Five have been explored . . . . Christmas, music, art, beards and the latest one is “baby” photographs . . . . and the information has been extremely enlightening. Two or three years after the theme has gone to print readers have sent in their article/story, which turns these features into serials.

More themes are on the drawing board, maybe one, maybe two a year depending on the amount of material available. Photo-caption stories are encouraged, can be of any length, ranging from a short sentence to a full page and are well read.

Contribution guidelines

The criteria is very loose . . . participation at all age levels is continually encouraged, all contributions are accepted, debate and discussion is welcome. The art theme enabled youngsters to contribute their work . . . for many this was their first time in print and seeing their work recognised was important to them.

Opinions are valued, and as new information comes to hand, stories published in earlier issues can be revisited and if necessary updated.

Many readers do not realise the significance of that wee snippet of information they may have in their possession, even that scribbled note or jotting on a scrap of paper can provide an essential clue for understanding what, why, how or when a distant relative acted. I suspect there are still some real gems in cupboards, photograph albums, boxes, bibles, letters and memories. They may be the missing piece that links random pieces of existing information together and helps to create a more accurate picture or record of an event.

Regular contributors

An 80-year-old Scots-based wordsmith produces a very readable and sometimes risqué column about 1920-1940s happenings, movies, books,
sayings, his World War Two recollections and some family history, which is a real bonus in keeping the Chronicle fresh and eagerly awaited.

One young contributor (aged 25) with a passion for “things military” has been writing about his uncles’ World War One efforts and has sent in numerous stories on their war service.

Several female relatives have collectively produced reminiscences about their grandmothers and grandfathers . . . these delightful biographical stories will provide future generations with first hand “inside” information about their forebears.

If anyone wants to research a particular area, I encourage them to have a go.

The material is edited very lightly for grammar, spelling, accuracy but most of the copy is run “as is”. The production is simple . . . Word documents are created, cut and pasted, photographs are converted to black and white. The process, once the copy is ready, takes about a morning to put together.

Each issue has a short editorial, mainly about feedback or a future theme and often a reminder that anything the family may have . . . letters, photographs, snips, articles from newspapers etc . . . will be a very valuable resource for ongoing research.

Privacy respected

Initially this was important, the sensitivity of the information, however old, must be respected . . . so the newsletter is mailed, not emailed.

Although not at this stage planned, sometime in the future should the family decide to publish a family history the material is ready on file and ready for a final editing.

Circulation to six countries

Around 35 copies are mailed each quarter to relatives in Canada, US, England, Scotland, Australia and New Zealand. Most go to the UK, where many members of our branch of the family reside. Some get photocopied and passed on and I guess there are around 50-70 readers.

Cost

Currently the newsletter costs around $65 per issue . . . about 50/50 printing and postage.

Bob Edwards
Email: bobme @ihug.co.nz

EDITOR

The New Zealand Genealogist

Call for expressions of interest

With the impending retirement of the present editor of its flagship magazine, The New Zealand Genealogist, the New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc. is calling for expressions of interest from among its members to fill this voluntary position.

If you have good organisational skills, enjoy working with a wide range of people, and have a background in writing, publishing, or journalism, with time to spare, this is an important way in which you can make a pivotal contribution to the membership of the society. Knowledge of copyright and privacy law would be an advantage.

You will be selecting and preparing articles for publication from a variety of sources, and will need good computer skills, including scanning, and broadband access. The role includes liaison with members, staff, volunteers and council as well as overseeing of the production of the magazine for printing.

For a job description and application form, please write to the office manager, with a brief resume of your appropriate background and experience.

Marianne Moyes,
Office Manager/Secretary,
New Zealand Society of Genealogists, email office.manager@genealogy.org.nz
Why was great-great-grandmother Eliza born in Portugal?

By Carol Dacey

I started my family history research looking at my mother’s paternal side because her grandfather, Carl Frederick Theodore Markmann was born in Prussia in 1829. It was an easy name to research as there were few in New Zealand.

Carl Markmann arrived in Havelock from Australia in 1867 with his first wife Emma, who died within a few months of arrival. In 1871 at Picton he married Louisa Annie Castle (nee Keys) who was a widow. Louisa had also arrived in New Zealand in 1867 with her husband Alfred, who died in 1869. Her marriage certificate to Alfred shows her father was Henry Keys, a stone mason from Canterbury, Kent.

Louisa was born at Canterbury, Kent in 1840, so I did a search of the 1851 census. This showed Louisa and her family living at 44 Ruttington Lane, St Mary’s, Northgate, Canterbury [Fig 1].

The surprising information was that their mother Elizabeth/Eliza was born in Portugal, c1814-15.

Did that mean that her parents were Portuguese? Or was there some other reason she was born there?

A search of the Bishops Transcripts for Canterbury found the marriage in 1833 of Henry Keys and Eliza Stones. Henry signed with an X and Eliza had signed her name. A witness was Josiah Stones. As it was an early church entry there was no way of knowing if Josiah Stones was Eliza’s father or brother. But Eliza was definitely of English parentage, not Portuguese.

I checked the 1841 census for Canterbury, and the Keys family were not there, but I did find at Old Ruttington Lane, St Mary’s, Northgate [Fig 2]. It looked as though these were the parents of Eliza Keys (nee Stones) especially as Eliza had called one of her sons Josiah Stones Keys. I later found the Keys family in the 1841 census, and they were living at Dover.

Another search of the 1851 census showed that as well as Henry Keys and his family living at 44 Ruttington Lane there was at 23 Ruttington Lane [Fig 3].

At 44 Ruttington Lane, right next door to Henry and Eliza Keys, lived a John Stones and his family. John was born in France circa 1814 so there was a strong possibility that John was Eliza’s brother.

It appeared that Josiah Stones had died by the 1851 census and I found his death registered in 1849. He died of asthma and old age and his occupation was given as pensioner.

I wondered why Josiah was a pensioner as not many people received a pension in the 1840s. I thought the Parochial Aid for his wife Jane may be connected to the workhouse.

The fact that their two known children were born in Portugal and France added to the mystery. Josiah and Jane did not fit the profile of overseas travellers.

I did not pursue this branch of the family for a few years, but the question was always at the back of my mind, because of the unusual birth places.

Later, my husband suggested that the birth dates coincided with the Peninsular War in Portugal, Spain and France from 1809 to 1814. This sounded a possible connection, because if Josiah had been in the army, it could account for his pension. But why were his children born in Portugal and France?

A trip to the UK was an ideal time to find out. After getting my reader’s ticket, I spent a day at the Archives at Kew. Not knowing if Josiah had even been in the army, much less which regiment he had belonged to, I wondered if I would have any success.

Armed only with the year and quarter of Josiah Stone’s death, and some good advice from the staff, I first looked at the Returns of Payment for 1848/9 [Ref WO 22/13]. This lists soldiers and retired soldiers who have died in that period. All the War Office records start with the reference WO.

Within a few minutes I had found him listed under Pensions ceased by death. I could not believe my luck and it was almost an anti-climax, to find him so quickly. This entry showed that he had been in the 13th Light Dragoons, and had started his pension on June 5, 1817, receiving 9d per day. His date of death was March 8, 1849 and he was aged 72.

The 13th Light Dragoons was a cavalry regiment.

Then I looked up the book containing Date of Admission for medical pensions [Ref WO 116/246] for June 5, 1817, and this produced even better results. The certificate of admission details a soldiers regiment and his years of service. It was also proof that he could receive a pension, and so that no-one else could claim his pension, the certificate showed his age, height, the colour of his hair and eyes, his complexion and his trade or occupation.
Josiah was discharged for being “worn out and chronic rheumatism”.
Josiah had been born at Ecclesfield, near Sheffield and he was 5ft 6in tall. His hair was brown, eyes hazel and his complexion was fresh. His occupation before joining the army was a cutler and this would have been a useful trade to have in the dragoons. He would have been able to mend the sabres that they used in battle.

Soldiers who were pensioned out of the army were originally housed in the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

However, this filled up very quickly and a system of in-pensioners and out-pensioners was started. In-pensioners lived at Chelsea (and still do), and out-pensioners lived anywhere in Britain, but they had to report every three months to a Justice of the Peace in the town where they lived. A signed affidavit was then sent to the Chelsea Hospital and the out-pensioner could continue to receive his pension.

So now I had details of Josiah’s service, but why were his children born in France and Portugal, when Josiah had spent his entire army life as a private, not as an officer, who I thought had more chance to take a wife when on overseas duty?

Then I found out that when a regiment left on active service the wives of six soldiers in each company were allowed to live and travel with the army. Which wives went was decided by ballot. They were known as “wives on strength”, and they earned a little money, cooking, washing, and helping get food, and also as servants to the officers.

“Wives on strength” could live inside the barracks, have half rations, and send their children to regimental schools if available. In addition to “wives on strength”, other women — wives or lovers — managed to unofficially travel with the army and they were known as “camp followers”.

Camp followers endured harsher conditions than the “wives on strength”, and life must have been extremely hard. So, I finally had the answer why great-great-grandmother Eliza was born in Portugal. Her mother was a camp follower, or possibly a “wife on strength”, but I suspect she was the former.

“Wives on strength” were more likely to be mentioned in the Muster Rolls. Unfortunately there are few records in the Muster Rolls of the camp follower wives and children before 1850. I have not been able to find the births of Eliza and John in Portugal and France, and I have checked overseas births of British citizens with no luck.

CONDITIONS in the barracks in England were very difficult as there were few married quarters. Men, women and children lived in the barracks together, with a complete lack of privacy. At the Peninsular War the hardships were horrendous. The army seemed to be permanently short of food with soldiers and followers dying of malnutrition. Their boots and clothes were always in tatters and they lacked enough warm clothing for the severe winters. The terrain was mountainous and rough in many places, and muddy and wet in others.

The army would settle in one place for a while, and then embark on long marches as they gradually moved north towards Toulouse in France, the site of the last battle of the Peninsular War in 1814.

How these camp followers and their little children survived is almost unbelievable and many died. If a soldier died in battle leaving a wife, she frequently remarried another soldier in the company. It was almost a matter of honour to look after the wife of a fallen comrade.

In the case of Josiah, he first married Mary GREEN at Sheffield on January 1, 1798. Somewhere along the way during his army life, Mary died. He then married Jane ROSE in Truro, Cornwall in 1809 when the regiment was stationed there.

After Napoleon was defeated in 1814 and peace was signed, he was exiled to the island of Elba in the Mediterranean. The British army and its followers returned to Britain.

The 13th Light Dragoons regiment was then stationed in and around Cork, Ireland. However, early in 1815, Napoleon escaped and returned to France. The French army regrouped in the north of France, under Napoleon.

The call went out to fight Napoleon again, and the 13th Light Dragoons...
réassembled and travelled by ship from Cork to Kent⁶. Shortly afterwards, they embarked for the Continent. I suspect that Jane and her children did not go to Waterloo, although some women did go.

While at Kew, I also looked at the Muster Rolls for the 13th Light Dragoons [Ref WO 12]⁶ and these show the army’s movements in peace and war. While reading part of the peace-time Muster Roll, when the Dragoons were in Britain, I was reminded of the old song “The Grand old Duke of York, he had ten thousand men, he marched them up to the top of the hill and marched them down again . . .”. The army just marched and marched.

One day they might march from one city to another and the next day they marched back again for no apparent reason. The muster rolls are full of these seemingly futile marches, so no doubt the men became very fit.

Josiah was admitted to the 13th Light Dragoons in 1800 when he was 23⁷, and he served until 1817. The 13th Light Dragoons fought battles at La Albuhera, May 16, 1811, Vittoria on June 21, 1813, Orthes on February 27, 1814, and Toulouse on April 10, 1814.

The Battle of Waterloo took place from June 16-18, 1815. The regiment was in England from 1798 to 1809⁷. The length of each battle seems very short to us these days, but they were very fierce battles.

Josiah was a soldier for 17 years, but soldiers who had fought at Waterloo, were allowed an extra two years making it 19 years for his pension. He already had the Peninsular Medal, and also received the Waterloo Medal. I would love to know where they are now.

He lived another 32 years as a Chelsea out-pensioner.

Henry and Eliza KEYS were still living at Canterbury in the 1871 census⁸, with their two youngest sons, John and Alfred. Henry died on May 29, 1878 at Canterbury, and Eliza died before the 1881 census, but I have not been able to confirm her death.

So my great-great-grandmother Eliza and her brother John had a hazardous start to their lives on the battlefields of Portugal and France. I have a picture of them in my mind being carried by their mother as she followed the army and I wonder just how they managed to survive.

A short book, The Recollections of Rifleman Harris, edited and introduced by Christopher HIBBERT, gives a graphic description of the life of an ordinary foot soldier during the Napoleonic Wars. Although my great-great-great-grandfather Josiah was a cavalry man, he would have endured similar living conditions as the infantry.

Tracing Your army Ancestors, by Simon Fowler, is also a very useful guide to researching army ancestors.

REFERENCES:
1 Original records at the Kleine Bunzow church, Germany.
2 New Zealand BDMs.
3 Archives Kew.
4 1851 online census.
5 Church LDS microfilm.
6 War Office Records, Archives Kew.
7 Tracing your Army Ancestors, by Simou Fowler.
8 IGI
9 13th Light Dragoons archives.

Carol Dacey,
Email: crdacey@xtra.co.nz

RootsIreland adds new records and advanced search

More than 18 million records are now available online at RootsIreland.

The Irish Family History Foundation’s Online Research Service (ORS) has announced the availability of an additional 90,000 civil death records from Donegal Ancestry along with other corrections and updates including 6500 new birth records.

Go to the following site www.RootsIreland.ie or http://donegal.rootsireland.ie

The Advanced Search facility is now available on All Ireland Searches on the main search page of www.rootsireland.ie with the exception of counties Limerick and Sligo.

The facility is also available for each county centres’ data with the exception of Co. Limerick and Co. Sligo and the standard search will continue to work across all counties.

All-Ireland Search http://cavan.rootsireland.ie/quis.php?searchType=adv Antrim, Armagh, Cavan, Cork (northeast), Derry, Donegal, Down, Dublin (north), Dublin (south), Fermanagh, Galway (east), Galway (west), Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Leitrim, Longford, Louth, Mayo, Meath, Offaly, Roscommon, Tipperary (north), Tipperary (south), Tyrone, Westmeath and Wicklow.

The advanced search adds a number of fields to the search criteria for birth/baptism and marriage records and changes the way you pay to view the full details of these records.

Additional search for births/baptisms — in addition to all the search fields in the Standard Search you can now search by mother’s first name and mother’s surname. Combining this with the father’s first name and surname should enable you to find all siblings within the same family.

Additional search fields for marriages — in addition to all the search fields in the standard search you can now search using any or all of the following:

Spouse’s first name, spouse’s surname, father’s first name (that the names of parents may not been recorded in the original record), father’s surname, mother’s first name (the names of parents may not have been recorded in the original record), mother’s surname.

Record Payment

When using the Advanced Search option you cannot purchase individual records unless only one match is located. You will be able to purchase the entire record set located at a reduced cost. By entering as much detail into the search form as possible you can narrow your search to produce as few as matches as possible. You can then decide to purchase all these records at a reduced cost.

Before you undertake an advanced search please consult the sources for the county you wish to search to see what data is available to search online.

When you perform a search using the Advanced Search facility the number of matching records located relating to the exact search criteria entered by you will be displayed, e.g. 2 matches, 3 matches, 10 matches, etc. It will not display any details pertaining to the records. It will display the information located as follows:

EXAMPLE: 4 matches for the search criteria of Doyle (+ variants) John, father Pat Doyle, mother Mary Smith, 1856-1859 in County ? records.

The cost to view the full details of the 4 records that you have not yet viewed will be detailed.

Once you press the Purchase Link you are confirming the purchase of the full details of the records located using your search criteria. The details of the records can be printed out or viewed again for a period of six months from date of purchase.

You have the option to continue or return to refine your search criteria to reduce the number of records returned.

Geraldene O’Reilly
Whoever happened to Aunt Dorothy?

By Merle Fellingham

Born on May 18, 1895, at Wanganui, New Zealand, Margaret Dorothy Grantham was the second child of Charles and Mary Jane (Pallet) Grantham. Aunt Dorothy’s disappearance is a mystery, or is it?

Dorothy married John Henry Wallace, an Australian, on December 4, 1918, at Wanganui. The couple had four children, all born at Wanganui. John was born c. 1894, at Gympie, Queensland.

About 1926 Dorothy travelled to Kaitieke (between Taumarunui and Raetihi, in the central North Island) to help her Aunt Grace (my grandmother — Florence Grace (Grantham) Hogan) during a convalescence period. It is said she helped her Aunt Grace after the birth on one of her children.

At the end of her time in Kaitieke, Dorothy was transported by horse and gig by Thomas Hogan (Florence Grace’s husband) to the Raurimu Railway Station to catch a train back to Wanganui. She never arrived home, and was never seen by any family member again.

It is said that Dorothy’s husband, John Wallace, was a heavy drinker, which caused problems within the family.

When Dorothy’s mother died in 1959, an advertisement was placed in the local newspaper by the deceased’s solicitor:

Estate Mary Grantham (Deceased)

Would Margaret Dorothy Wallace, possibly now Margaret Dorothy Gilligan, or would any person knowing her whereabouts or in possession of any information relating to her, please communicate with the solicitors for the above estate as soon as possible.

Messrs Treadwell, Gordon, Clayton & Swan, Solicitors, 81 Ridgway Street, Wanganui, PO Box 16.

This raises some questions. It seems that Dorothy had a friend by the name of Gilligan. Who is this person Gilligan?

Did she prearrange to meet him somewhere, and perhaps disappear together?

If she did go with this man Gilligan, did they have a family together?

Did Dorothy actually board the train?

There was even family talk that she may have gone to Australia — no family member knows.

Also, what did John Wallace do — stay in New Zealand or return to Australia?

It is not known if Dorothy’s disappearance was reported to the police, or whether there was any kind of a search for her.

Two of Dorothy’s children were raised by their grandparents and remaining two were placed in an orphanage.

There has been a family rumour which suggests that Dorothy had spoken with someone, and told them she was going to disappear to a place where she would never be found.

Dorothy’s daughter Laura Dorothy Wallace travelled to Australia (apparently to look for her mother) in the early 1950s. Laura died in Miles, Queensland, Australia in 1992.

This piece my family tree is missing. Maybe the mystery will never be solved, but there could be someone who can add a few clues to this puzzle, or even solve it for me. We would love to know what happened to Aunt Dorothy.

Merle Fellingham, 
6 Glencoe Place, 
Hamilton.
Email: fellingham@xtra.co.nz

Who am I?

These two pictures have lain un-named in a family collection for more than 60 years. Does anyone recognise the man or the house. There is a possibility he is a Carter, and the house is on a farm at Matamata. If you can confirm, please contact Shirley and Trevor Smith, 30 Copplesstone Place, New Lynn, Auckland 0600.
THE IMPORTANCE OF SAM

BY ROSEMARY ALLBROOK

EARLY LAST YEAR my husband suggested that I write up the research we had done some years ago on the CHESSHHER family.

One of the cousins was soon to be 85, so it did seem timely. With a subscription to Ancestry still current, I set about tidying up some of the details.

I was reasonably sure that Mary NEWMAN was Thomas Chessher’s sister, but had no proof. Fortunately the spelling of Chessher is uncommon (Ancestry found only 45 families in the 1891 census), and I found Mary Chessher’s marriage, in 1835, to Sam J. Newman, then a widower, at St Botolph without Bishopsgate. The 1841 census showed them living at George Street in the parish of Christ Church, Southwark. They had moved south of the river.

Further searching revealed her baptism entry at Christ Church, Southwark, which reads as follows:

21 Jan 1842: Mary (adult) daughter of Lawrence Chessher, Baptist minister, and Mary, b 22 July 1804; George Street; now the wife of Sam John Newman, L.P. Printer

One does not often strike gold in this way, so my delight was understandable. As Baptists, she would not have been baptised as a child, so I saw nothing particularly strange about this. When did she die, I wondered?

But no! What I first found was another marriage in the register of St Giles Camberwell. On February 20, 1873, Sam is a widower and a printer, his father, also Sam, was a harness maker. Mary is a spinster and both live in Havel Street, which is still in existence (SE5). Apart from their address and witnesses the details are identical to those in 1835.

Havel Street may not have been their actual residential address. In 1871 and 1881 they lived in West Ham - north of the river. They were married by banns, but from personal experience, I know it is quite possible to be married by banns even if you do not live in the parish.

These documents present a real enigma. The coincidence of three names, the bride and groom, his occupation, and the name and occupation of the bride’s father, is too improbable for this to be a random occurrence.

The St Botolph’s marriage seems to be what is to be expected. The vicar had an MA, so should have known what he was doing and have been capable of keeping good records.

The baptism, though surprising for the time, is understandable in the light of her father’s Baptist heritage where infant baptism was not practised. Could it be that Mary and Sam later saw this lack of baptism as an impediment to their marriage that needed to be rectified? Certainly baptism was, and often still is, a requirement for marriage.

Why then was there such a long gap between 1842 and 1873 when the second certificate was dated? Could it be that they had thought that baptism would retrospectively remove this impediment? Perhaps in 1873 Sam tried to make a will and without proper documents his marriage was not validated, so Mary was left unable to inherit, and in order for her to present her marriage lines, she had to get new ones. Mary died in 1885, aged 80. Sam died in 1892, aged 90.

Turning to Thomas, the assumed brother, I found three weddings, but thankfully all to different women. The first two were to sisters, both of whom gave him children. The third, in 1838 gave Thomas’s father as Lawrence, a dissenting minister and gave us a new witness, Sam J. Newman.

On a recent visit to London we got a copy of Sam’s will.

This conjures up a picture of a pedantic old man and called to mind David SUCHET’s portrayal of Hercule Poirot. Mary had died when it was drafted, and in it he disposits of all his household effects, six silver teaspoons to this person, six to another. Everything is listed, marble clock to palliassse and small feather bed. As well as the contents of his house, the will did detail many relationships. Among them, that Thomas was his brother-in-law, thus establishing that our Sam was the same person in all the records. Stephen, Thomas’s eldest child was bequeathed the portrait of his grandfather. (Was that Lawrence?) Thomas’s stepchild by his third wife was left the portrait of his mother and that of Mr and Mrs Newman. Further investigation then found that Mary Newman had married John PRETTY, a publican, and produced a son John Young Pretty, the stepson who was first identified as Thomas’s stepson by the census record of 1861.

Furthermore, this showed that the interest in the brewing business was a common thread with their relationship, as Sam soon gave up printing and became involved in the liquor business.

So thanks to the will we have established that Sam J. Newman married Thomas’s sister, and that Thomas married the widowed sister of Sam J Newman. The will also lists descendants of children from Sam’s first marriage, but they will keep for another day.

Source material:
Parish records for most London churches are digitised and indexed on Ancestry.
Census records are also on Ancestry.
Wills from 1858 are obtained at 42-49 Avenue House, High Holborn, London for £5. This year, I would expect them to be more as VAT rose to 20% in January.

Rosemary Allbrook
Email: allbrook@paradise.net.nz

New Zealand's Family History Fair
26-27 August 2011
Clydelands Events Centre, Hamilton
www.nzfamilyhistoryfair.org.nz
nzfamilyhistoryfair@gmail.com

Sharing your past for the future
Tohohotahi nga wa a mua ki tēna te wa a muri ke nei

82 — NZSG March / April 2011
Tauranga branch celebrates 40 years

Past and present members of the Tauranga Branch recently celebrated the branch’s 40th birthday with two special events.

On September 2, our meeting night, we had Robyn Williams speaking on “Moving On” and Lynne Blake our regional councillor spoke on the benefits of being a member of NZSG. Our birthday cake was cut by two life members, Heather McLean and Joan Willcock. This was followed by supper and a time for reminiscing.

On Sunday, September 12, we had an enjoyable lunch at the Tauranga RSA which was attended by past members, including a good number of former convenors. We were thrilled to welcome Mrs Irene Davies-Beazley who travelled from Hamilton to join us. Irene started the branch in September 1970 and was our first convenor. Many photographs were taken and a wealth of memories shared. Tauranga was the seventh branch to join the New Zealand Society of Genealogist.

Christine Meredith, Secretary.

Feilding branch celebrates 25 years

THE FEILDING BRANCH celebrated 25 years at the first meeting for the year on Tuesday February 15. It was great to see a good turn-out of members, and some former members, as well as visitors from Auckland on a researching sojourn.

The guest speaker for the evening was Celia Geary, who is a life member of the branch. As the first chairperson of the initial Feilding Family Research Group in 1986, Celia gave us an insight into how she became interested in genealogy, and how the Feilding Group got started, and then in 1989 became a branch of the NZSG.

All members had been asked to write a page or two about their initial interest in genealogy, why they had decided to join the branch, and some of their memories of interesting Branch activities and speakers. The committee is planning to put together a booklet of these memories.

A few members were cajoled into reading their pieces, which proved very interesting, as each had approached the topic in a different way.

Before the formal part of the meeting ended, convenor, Bev Fryer, was taken by surprise when she was presented with branch life membership, in recognition of her tireless work on behalf of the Feilding branch.

The birthday cake was then cut by Celia Geary and Bev Fryer, followed by a wonderful supper.

Trish White, Secretary.
Kapiti announces 2011 YURU guest

Kapiti branch is pleased to announce its Why You Are You (YURU) guest for 2011 is Sir Jon Trimmer.

Ballet lovers will be familiar with this leading star who first joined the then New Zealand Ballet Company in 1958, before heading overseas to study and work at the Royal Ballet School, Saddlers Wells Ballet, Australian Ballet and Danish Ballet. Returning to New Zealand in 1970, he helped revive the company and became its principal male dancer.

He remains with the Royal New Zealand Ballet Company and tours in several productions this year. Recognised for his services to ballet with an MBE in 1974, Sir Jon was knighted in 1999.

Sir Jon, a fifth-generation Kiwi, will be touring on a different note as YURU guest, telling the story of his family history to audiences as part of Family History Month in August. His Kapiti presentation, as part of the Wellington region’s events, will be a matinee and evening show on Thursday August 18 at Paraparaumu’s well-known Southward’s Car Museum and theatre complex.

He will also present at the Family History Fair in Hamilton on Saturday August 27. All this is between rehearsals for the RNZBC tour of The Sleeping Beauty in October.

Details of ticket sales for these performances will be announced shortly by the various hosts.

Sir Jon has a relative in the South Island who is an NZSG member and helping the production team with the family story.

Clive Palmer
YURU co-ordinator

Cornish Interest Group publishes first e-newsletter

Did you enjoy our first e-newsletter? I did, thank you Vivienne for all your hard work putting it together.

Submissions to the Cornish Immigration Register continue to be received. Thank you to those who have sent in details of their Cornish families who were born in Cornwall and emigrated to New Zealand.

All members of NZSG can submit to the Register it is not only for CIG members. (Forms are available from the secretary Wendy Ashenden, 15 Tisdall Crescent, St Johns, Auckland 1072; email, ashenden@clear.net.nz).

You are also able to update your submissions, with your new research, and send your Cornish family details to the Cornish Global Migration Project. Submission forms can be obtained from the group’s secretary at www.cornishmigration.org.uk

The CIG has two round-robin journals, (CFHS cost $3 and My Cornwall $4).

If you would like to join the round-robin, contact Mrs Lois Fawcett, 4-9 Oakland Ave, Papatoetoe, Auckland, 2025; email, alanlo@xtra.co.nz

Some dates for you to put in your diaries:

JUNE: Friday 3-Monday 6 — AGM and Conference in Dunedin. CIG will hold a general meeting there on Monday, June 6, at 1.35pm-2.15pm.

JUNE: Saturday, 25 — English Interest Groups Research Day and AGM, FRC, Panmure. The Cornish Interest Group’s AGM will be held at 2pm.

AUGUST: Friday, 26-Saturday, 27 — Family History Fair, Claudelands, Hamilton. CIG will have a stand at this fair.

Happy searching.

Roselyn Harlick, publicity

Maori Interest Group AGM moved to Family History Fair

KIA ORA.

Important notice: change of date & venue. The MIG AGM will not now be held during the NZSG Conference in Dunedin as, after canvassing members, we find it is unlikely we would have a quorum.

However, the MIG committee has gained approval from the NZSG council to hold our AGM during the Family History Fair to be held at the Claudelands Events Centre, in Hamilton, Friday and Saturday, August 26 and 27.

Exact details of our AGM will be made available shortly. Voting papers and proxy forms will therefore be in the May issue of Te Reo. Can those members planning to attend The Family History Fair please contact our secretary, MaoriSIG@genealogy.org.nz

DURING the FHF you will also be able to try out some of the key internet sites focused on researching your whakapapa http://nzfjf2010.dserver.net.nz

Bruce Mathers/Puruhim Mataera, editor/webmaster

NORTH SHORE BRANCH RESEARCH

New Zealand Herald
Deaths and Births c1940 to date.
Earlier years not complete, but later ones are.
Please send SAE and donation to —
North Shore Branch
Research Officer
Dennise. COOK,
PO Box 89045 Torbay 0742.
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Catholic Diocesan Archives explained to Irish Interest Group

OUR February meeting speaker, Narelle SCOLLAY, of the Auckland Catholic Diocesan Archives (ACDA) provided us with an extremely informative presentation, beginning with the history of the Pompallier Centre and leading into an introduction on the variety of records in their archival holdings. These holdings cover a wide range of records pertaining to early parish census rolls, parish maps that show family locations, Catholic newspapers, school records, a selection of photographs and much more. Some of the Church registers containing details of births, marriages and burials have been indexed and copies of transcriptions and original entries are available to purchase from their archives. While Narelle and her faithful team of Indexers are continually working their way through an assortment of files at the ACDA, they are happy to handle inquiries at archives@acda.org.nz or (09) 360-3062.

The Auckland Province covered Northland and the Waikato and some entries in these indexes cover families from the Bay of Plenty area. Remember to check your family names under sponsors or witnesses; this is especially important when looking for female family members.

The NZSG FRC Library holds on file indexes to 13 RC parish entries that cover baptisms, confirmations, marriages and burials from the earliest Auckland records. Use the NZSG lookup service; researchservice@genealogy.org.nz and keep in mind the possible variations on the spellings of surnames.

Tourism Ireland

An Irish tourism presence was first established in New Zealand in 1972 when a company managed by Rodney WALSHE was appointed the representative of Bord Fáilte. A division dedicated to Tourism Ireland is located in Auckland, sharing premises with the Consulate General of Ireland. For all inquiries relating to Ireland visit www. ireland.co.nz/tourism.asp

At our next meeting on May 22, Mary GALWAY of Tourism Ireland will present a talk on all your needs for travelling in Ireland. Learn about the special Dublin travel pass, how to calculate travel in time/mileage if driving around various counties, current exhibitions and events pertaining to individual counties. Obtain up-to-date addresses for genealogy centres among publicity material that will be available.

Recent publicity from Ireland featured comments by their Minister of Foreign Affairs, Michael MARTIN, who said “The Irish Diaspora is not limited to Irish citizens living abroad or to those who have activated citizenship. Instead, it encompasses all those who believe they are of Irish descent and feel a sense of affinity with the country”.

Find out about the Certificate of Irishness that is affectionately being termed “Plastic Paddy”.

Next meeting

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday May 22, from 1-4pm. A door fee of $3 applies and afternoon tea is provided at conclusion of meeting, when the library will be open for research. New members and visitors are welcome. For any inquiries contact us at IrishSIG@genealogy.org.nz

Geraldene O’Reilly, convenor.

Scottish Interest Group

OUR AGM and research afternoon will be held on Sunday, June 19, at FRC. Entry $3. Come along and see what is available for you to research. Afternoon tea is provided and help with your research enquiries is available.

The third Australasian Scottish Genealogical conference is being held on Saturday and Sunday, April 16 and 17, at Hemisphere Conference Centre, Melbourne.

The Speaker is Sheena TAIT of Scotland.

The Scottish Interest Group is attending the Dunedin conference, where some of our resources will be available for research.

The SIG meeting is scheduled for 12.30-1pm on Friday, June 3, and we look forward to seeing you both at the conference and interest group meeting.

L. Fawcett, secretary

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**COMBINED ENGLISH INTEREST GROUPS**

**RESEARCH DAY and ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

A joint venture of the Cornish, Greater London, Midlands and Northern England and Southern England and East Anglia Interest Groups

**Date:** Saturday, June 25  
**Time:** 10am-4pm

At the NZSG Family Research Centre, 159 Queens Road, Panmure, Auckland

**Door Charge:** $3 per session for NZSG members and for others $15.00 per session. (Sessions are 10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm)

All resources of the Family Research Centre and Group resources will be available. Help with your research enquiries will also be available.

**Times for annual meetings for each of the groups are as follows:**

11am: Midlands and Northern England Interest Group  
12 noon-1p.m: Lunch  
1pm: Southern England and East Anglia Interest Group  
2pm: Cornish Interest Group

Please Note: Although the Greater London Interest Group will be participating in the Research Day, their annual general meeting will be held during their meeting on June 12, at the FRC.

Please join us for the day and see what the FRC and our Interest Groups have to offer.  
Bring your lunch. Morning and afternoon tea provided.
I think that both of these photographs are connected with the MARTIN SMITH family, who lived in or near Nelson in the early 1900s. The surnames were not hyphenated, and there seem to have been Martin Smiths living in Napier as well. On the back of the yachting photo is written: “Dear Bob, I expect you will be able to pick out Harold, the one on the right is Huffam, owner of the yacht, on the left young Everett and at the back Frank White, Charlie White’s boy. They are on the yacht, it is the one they brought from Wellington. Just thought I would send you these just to give you an idea of what their yacht was like. Kind regards to all, we are all well. Charlie improving a little. 21st birthday Tuesday . . . (the weather) . . . Love to all from Jess.”

The photograph of the soldier, has the photographer’s impressed stamp “Broma Studios, Nelson, NZ”.

Another photograph, not included (poor condition), was sent from Wellington to “Mr R. Smith, Sherry River, Nelson” on December 12, 1906.

It shows a “stereoscopic” photograph of a woman sitting in a chair, with the handwritten caption “What do you think of Dicks Photography”.

Robert Martin Smith of Nelson married Minnie Chegwidden in Napier in 1904. She was a prolific letter-writer and had a big album of postcards. Whether they lived in Nelson briefly after their marriage, or whether there was another R. Martin Smith, I do not know. He was a “timber man” and worked in Holt’s Mill, Napier, until after World War One after which time they moved to Gisborne. As they had no children, these photographs have no real meaning for our present family, so if anyone can recognise the people shown as being part of their family, I will be happy to send the originals on to them. Pauline Schwabe, 99 Ruahine Street, Paraparaumu, Kapiti Coast, 5032
These photographs would have been taken between 1916-1922 in the country district of Moeawatea, inland from Waverley. In the top two pictures, the older man standing in the foreground and seated on the tractor, I think could be my paternal grandfather, Victor SOLAND, who was employed as a roadman by the Patea-Waverley County. The man standing on the road in the picture above is my father, William (Bill) Soland. His dog Scottie is seated on the tractor. My hope is that someone may recognise the pictures and be able to supply further information about the men and their work. *Mrs Mary Hampshire, Unit 51, 11 Hollister Lane, Hairini, Tauranga 3112.*

My husband’s grandmother died two years ago aged 105. She had an old book with many photographs in it. Unfortunately, few of the photographs are named. Gran’s name was Birdie MACKAY-CAMPBELL. Some names associated with the family were CAMPBELL, NEARY, SINGE, RENOWDEN and WATKINS. Of course they may not be family and could be friends. My husband’s grandparents were very involved in Highland pipe bands and Scottish societies in the Wellington region. *Marion Makay, 10 Emily Way, Karori. Wellington 6012; email redfox@paradise.net.nz*
I am volunteering at the small non-profit museum in Papakura. We have come across a photograph that was used to back the two attached letters and we are wondering who the people are in the photograph and to whom the letters may be referring. The photograph was taken by a Pukekohe photographer at Thorpe Studio. If someone has any clues they can contact Michelle Smith, either on my home email medievalsco@xtra.co.nz or at the museum michelle@papakura.org.nz

Above: This photograph was taken in the 1940s (1944-49), possibly associated with the Petone Hockey Club. My father, Pat August, is the middle person. Others are unknown; any information appreciated. Above right: Taken at YWCA Hostel, Woburn, Lower Hutt. Maybe during the war years, or up to 1949. My mother Cassie (Kathleen) Mills is the first person in the front row on the left; any information appreciated. Right: This photograph was taken at Womens War Workers Hostel Woburn, Lower Hutt (also known as YWCA Hostel) during World War Two. My mother Cassie (Kathleen) Mills is in the back row fourth from left. Her twin sister Molly (Eileen) Mills is in the front row fourth from right. They worked in the munitions factory during the war and later stayed on at the hostel and worked at the Griffins biscuit factory. Cassie left in 1949 when she was married. Any information appreciated, Margaret Calman, 14 Totara Street, Taawero, Wanganui 4501, email calman@xtra.co.nz
This section is free to members for inquiries of a general genealogical nature but is not available to non-members, except for overseas residents who are charged $5. Please be precise and state clearly what you want to know. Entries may be submitted by post (PO Box 5523 Moray Place, Dunedin), typed or clearly handwritten; or by email (editor@genealogy.org.nz), as an ordinary file without formatting or embellishments. DO NOT use attachments. Where no details of a query are given, it is presumed that the inquirer would be grateful for any information. When someone has taken the trouble to write to you with reference to your request for information, please acknowledge their letter whether the information they have shared is of use or not. It is customary to repay their postage.

CUNNINGHAM Walter, b Ross Westland 1868, possibly d after 1917, eldest son of Andrew CUNNINGHAM, d 1908, and Alice (nee KEENAN), d 1927. Siblings, Elizabeth (Bessie) Ellen [Mrs W. THOMSON], Peter, Andrew, John, Stella (Mary) m x 3 (Mrs F. W. D. JONES, Mrs S. G. KEELE, Mrs J. POSENI), and Catherine (Kate, Mrs J. E. MALONE); all moved from Ross and Hokitika, Westland to Kalgoorlie, W.A. c1900. Other names connected with family, William THOMSON, Wellington, Robert Henry HEGE, Ross, Westland, George Francis HEGE b Ross, Westland 1890, Stephen Gayton KEELE listed on 1893 Electoral Roll at Lyell, West Coast, Frederick William David JONES, publican Hawera 1897 d NZ 1914, Giovanni (John/Jack) POSENI, Marcel Loch, WA, James E. MALONE, jockey/horse trainer, Belmont Park, Perth, WA. All lived Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie, Fremantle, Southern Cross, Perth areas of WA. Catherine (Kate) m 1912 James E. MALONE, moved to Poona, INDIA c1918, where he trained horses, including well known “Beamish Boy”. What happened to WALTER? Did he marry? Stay in NZ? Information also required on other names mentioned above. Contact: Deb Lindsay, 1677 Akatarawa Road, RD2, Upper Hutt 5372, 04 5266671; email lumber. jack@xtra.co.nz

DUNLOP Peter bn Aberlady, ELM, SCT c1834. Arr Dunedin, OTG, NZ 1858 on the Three Bells, d 7 Sep 1899. m Caroline THOMPSON (bn 1835 - poss Aberlady, arr Dunedin 1860 on Lady Egidia, then m(1)Peter DUNLOP at Knox Church, Dunedin 8 Feb 1861). Both buried Southern Cemetery. Lived in Duncan Street, & had 3 chn; William James (bn 19 Jan 1869 Dunedin, m 1900 Sydney, NSW, AUS to Ellen McLAREN (see McLAREN). A son William James (aka Jim), also known as James Robert, bn 5 Jan 1901 in Auburn, NSW, AUS. He later worked for the Christchurch Tramways as a fitter, Francis Thompson (bn c1869) & ?. William attended Arthur Street School. What happened to William James sn? Maureen Dunlop, 23 Leeston Road, Springfield 7161; email: mesd@clear.net.nz

KELLY, James William, (bn Wick, CAI, SCT) m 1875 Wanganui, WAN, NZ to Mary Ann CARROLL (bn Jersey, CHL, ENG). Owned Egmont Hotel, Hawera, TNK, NZ 1888-1901. Both d AKD, NZ. Chn: Alexina (bn Dunedin, OTG, NZ 1875), David (bn Dunedin 1881, m Gladys KNAPP), Talitha Mary (bn 1877, m Torquil Vavasour MacKAY), Olive Edith (m William Fellows GROVE). Janet Kelly, 17 Wayside, Miramar, Wellington 6022; email: jeckelly@xtra.co.nz

MCLAREN, Ellen (Helen) bn 17 May 1870 (dau/o John (d 6 Aug 1898 & bur Northern Cemetery, Dunedin, OTG, NZ) & Ellen (nee IRELAND) McLAREN), m Knox Church, Dunedin 7 Sep 1865 to 1889, m Caroline THOMPSON (bn 1835 - poss Aberlady, arr Dunedin 1860 on Lady Egidia, then m(1)Peter DUNLOP at Knox Church, Dunedin 8 Feb 1861). Both buried Southern Cemetery. Lived in Duncan Street, & had 3 chn; William James (bn 19 Jan 1869 Dunedin, m 1900 Sydney, NSW, AUS to Ellen McLAREN (see McLAREN). A son William James (aka Jim), also known as James Robert, bn 5 Jan 1901 in Auburn, NSW, AUS. He later worked for the Christchurch Tramways as a fitter, Francis Thompson (bn c1869) & ?. William attended Arthur Street School. What happened to William James sn? Maureen Dunlop, 23 Leeston Road, Springfield 7161; email: mesd@clear.net.nz
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Mr Trevor Stephen
4A Seaford Avenue, Mangere Bridge
Auckland 2022
Email: trevor.a@ihug.co.nz
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NORTHCOTT ENG DEV Plymouth
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van BEUCK GER Leih(r)e
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Mr Robert
5 Antoine Grove, Richmond
Nelson 7020
Email: RJ.DJ@xtra.co.nz
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HODGE 1850+ NZ WRP
MOR(PI)SON 1850+ NZ WRP
CLARKE 1880+ NZ WRP
CLARKE 1900+ ENG LND London
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I02 — NZSG March/ April 2011
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> To promote the study of family histories, genealogies and kindred subjects to the New Zealand public.
> To advance the education of the New Zealand public in the study of family histories, genealogies and kindred subjects.
> To provide assistance for people wishing to compile family histories from sources in New Zealand and overseas.
> To set up and operate a library of genealogies and related books and documents and to encourage the preservation of records having a genealogical or historical value.
> To encourage accurate and scholarly research into the histories of New Zealand families and from time to time publish the results.
> To accept copies of family histories, for the purposes of research, provided such copies are donated with the written permission of a member of such family.
> To foster awareness of family links and knowledge of heritage.
> To do all such other lawful acts and things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

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> Have queries published in the magazine at no cost.
> Have queries answered from the reference material held by the society.
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> Use the research services.

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