

The New Zealand Genealogist

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New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Te Rangapū Kaihikohiko o Aotearoa

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JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS INC
TE RANGAPŪ KAIHIKOHĪKO O AOTEAROA

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COVER: *Crossing the Teremakau River*
Nicholas Chevalier; artist; 1876.
[Te Papa Collections](#)



This month's theme
Otago and Southland

Upcoming themes

September 2023

Family archives

December 2023

Accidents

March 2024

Records relating to death

June 2024

West Coast/East Coast

September 2024

Immigration

December 2024

DNA

General: Articles of any subject relevant to this magazine which meet the submission criteria will be considered.

We especially seek how-to articles based around a source or subject which explains relevance, access and use.

See page 4 for submission information.

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Journal distribution

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The Mission of the **New Zealand Society of Genealogists** is to provide educational opportunities and research resources for the development of knowledge, skills and practice in family history, genealogy and whakapapa for members and the wider community.

Being a member, you get to be part of a community of amazing people with access to a wealth of information that members have put together for over 50 years. You can contribute to that information, either by writing articles about your own research, or helping with projects such as indexing school records in your area of interest. You'll get direct help with your own research from other members or by joining one of our online or in person courses. Or you can help other members with their challenges. It's all about sharing your passion and knowledge with people who get it, and as a bonus, making new friends!

Benefits of Membership include:

Become a better researcher - add to your skills and knowledge including those held in this, our award-winning magazine, *The New Zealand Genealogist*.

Discover new resources - in addition to our Library, there are a huge array of resources available to you online.

Save money on your research - discounts and free access to many resources are available.

Share your research and skills - publish articles in *The New Zealand Genealogist* or join a local branch or interest group.

Help preserve resources for future researchers by getting involved.

How to become a member

Applications to become a member can be made online at www.genealogy.org.nz or may be made in writing. Application forms can be downloaded from the website or are available from NZSG Membership Department, PO Box 14036, Panmure, Auckland 1741.

Membership Category		Subscription
Ordinary	Open to any one individual (one journal, one vote)	\$105.00
Joint	Open to any two persons living in the same household (one journal, two votes)	\$135.00
Student	Open to people 12–25 years (one journal, one vote)	\$30.00
Affiliate Group	Open to any library, institution, museum, facility, corporate body, family history organisation or group that is supportive of the objects of the Society and which is willing to assist the Society to promote these objects (one journal, no vote)	\$175.00

Subscriptions are for 12 months from the first day of the month in which payment is received.

Submission of copy

Submissions can be made in electronic format by email in .doc, .txt or .rtf file format emailed to editor@genealogy.org.nz. Include your name, contact details and membership number.

Images

Photographs or other supporting illustrations should be provided as .jpg or .tiff files at 300dpi. Do not reduce the size of the image captured by the camera, scanner or screenshot. Images embedded in Microsoft Word documents cannot be accepted. Provide descriptive captions for each image, including name of photographer if known, owner, institutional reference if applicable. The submitter is responsible for obtaining permission to use all images submitted and will be asked to confirm this in writing.

Editing

The Editorial Team reserves the right to edit articles to meet standards and for readability, but if substantial changes are required the Editor will consult with the author.

Criteria

1. Relevance: related to people and their society; genealogy, family history, whakapapa, research, documentary sources, application, biography, genealogical technology etc.
2. Length: Feature articles: 1,800 to 2,700 words (2–3 pages) plus images; Short articles: 500–900 words plus images.

Copy deadlines

Feature articles submitted for consideration must be received by the Editor by the following dates:

Issue	Last date for consideration
March	10 January
June	10 April
September	10 July
December	10 October

Deadline for regular contributions from NZSG, Branches and Interest Groups, Members' Area: 17th of the same month.

Advertising

Apply to the NZSG Office for a rate card that includes rates, specifications and conditions, or find details on the NZSG website with other details about *The New Zealand Genealogist*. Copy must be received by the 10th of January, April, July and October.

Members' Area

Includes: Contact Sought, Information Wanted, Information Offered, Trader and Reunion notices. Members may submit queries of no more than 50 words (excluding submitter's name, address and membership number). Please do not abbreviate your enquiry. All surnames should be in capitals. There is no limit to the number of entries you may submit, but your full name, address and membership number must be included with each entry.

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My Southland Family

Alan Tunnicliffe

Many of my ancestors arrived in ports of the lower South Island, at Port Chalmers and Bluff. This story, however, is about the arrival of one family at the Port of Invercargill.

In December 1861, my great-great-grandfather George LUMSDEN, aged 46 and his wife Christina Blackwood Lumsden née ANDERSON with their eight children, ranging in age from 20 to 2, left Geelong, Australia to settle in New Zealand. The family had lived in Victoria for eight years, having emigrated from Edinburgh, Scotland in 1853 with their five eldest children, Robert, George, David, Margaret and Agnes. During their stay in Geelong another three children were born: Thomas (my great-grandfather), Christina and Euphemia. George's profession was that of a clock/watchmaker and jeweller, his family having been clockmakers in Pittenweem, Fifeshire, Scotland since 1814.

Their destination was the then small township of Invercargill. The Southland Provincial Government had arranged for direct steam communication with Australia and the Lumsden family came over under that arrangement. The rest of George's life was to be spent in Invercargill, where he later became Mayor and Member of Parliament, the town of Lumsden in Southland being named after him.

The family sailed on the SS *Oscar* from Melbourne. She was an iron screw steamer of 674 tons gross and 459 tons net and her dimensions were: length 180.5 feet; beam 28.1 feet, depth 10.7 feet. Her engines were 120 horsepower, and she was owned by Messrs McMeekan, Blackwood & Co. of Melbourne. She had been built in 1854 by T. Scott Russell and Co. of Mill Vale Ironworks, London.

The *Oscar* sailed on a clockwise voyage around New Zealand and called at Dunedin. She left the harbour there, Port Chalmers, about 5pm on the evening of Monday 16 December bound for Invercargill and then Australia,

arriving in the New (Oreti) River estuary by Invercargill about 11am on Tuesday, 17 December, having made a good run. The ship safely negotiated the first bar, but within a quarter of an hour of the pilot having taken command, the ship struck rocks on her starboard side and foundered on the sandbank opposite the Pilot Station about noon.

The tide was almost on the turn and all efforts to get the ship off the bank were a failure. It was hoped that it would refloat on the following tide, but on inspection it was discovered that the steamer's back was broken, plates opened, and several ribs bent, and the ship was taking in water. As the tide ebbed, she soon became a complete wreck. This could have been a disaster for the Lumsden family, but fortunately all passengers, numbering about 200, were safely landed and the crew, cargo and gold saved. The weather being favourable, many of the passengers were able to wade ashore. How the Lumsden family reached the shore I do not know, except that 7-year-old Thomas was piggy-backed by one of the ship's crew, a fact he later talked about in his old age.

Another ship was sent from Dunedin to pick up the passengers who were intending to travel on to Australia. The *Oscar* was sold as she lay for £80 and all the gear from her was landed and realised about £1,000 when auctioned. A court case into the incident cleared Captain Stewart of any blame, as at the time of the grounding the ship was under the charge of the pilot. Her bell is in the Invercargill Museum.

This was the Lumsden family's dramatic arrival in New Zealand. Many years later George was to look back on his arrival and say that they "had enjoyed one of the most pleasant shipwrecks one could desire".

Alan Tunnicliffe
alant@snap.net.nz



From Tunnicliffe Family Collection:
Above: George Lumsden
Left: George's shop in Invercargill

Robert Doull – A Very Successful Businessman

Rodney King

Robert DOULL, born 1838 in Watten, Caithness, Scotland, was the fifth child (of six) of Alexander and Margaret (nee McBEATH) Doull. Robert immigrated to New Zealand aged 24 in 1862, along with his brother David who was three years older.

Older family members referred to the surname Doull being pronounced similar to "howl". More recently, and perhaps motivated by media, this has morphed to pronunciation as "Dool".

It was interesting researching his life, with minimal family knowledge, but finding his death details proved a challenge. I had visions of a 120-year-old skeleton somewhere waiting to be recorded. But most of his life was very successfully contributing to the economy and development of Otago and Southland.

After arriving at Port Chalmers, Robert worked at a sawmill at Woodhaugh, Dunedin, before moving to Tokomairiro to work as a builder for his brother, David (Tokomairiro appears to be part of what's now known as Milton, south of Dunedin). He then moved to Kaihiku, near Moa Hill and established a flour mill. Later, in the 1870's, Robert worked with a business partner to open flour and sawmills near Balclutha.

Robert married Elizabeth BRUCE in Dunedin, on 22 January 1867. Based on family records they had two sons and a daughter, but BDM records reveal a third son Robert Bruce Doull. The young Robert died from misadventure with the mill wheel and/or the stream aged 17 months.

A generally successful and resourceful businessman, Robert attempted (unsuccessfully as it happened) to use a screw principle as motive power for either a flour mill, or a sawmill – he owned both¹. He also owned land in Maitua. Robert must have been quite wealthy or had access to money. In April 1878 he paid £16,000 for 19,200 acres of

leasehold and 119 acres of freehold land, including 14,000 sheep near Wairoa². In July 1878 he sold 115 acres of property, and also a mill, at Kaihiku³. Six months later Elizabeth and two children arrived in Hawkes Bay⁴. This would be the two sons Alexander (then aged 11) and John Adam (age 7), because their daughter Janet was not born until 1879, in Wairoa.

The period in Hawke's Bay ended about six years later, when he returned to his flour mill trade – and no doubt wider family – by opening a flour mill in Wyndham for two years. He then chose to open "a large new flour mill" on 7 May 1887 on the Otamete Stream in Mandeville, about 16 kms north-west of Gore⁵.

Various attributes of Robert Doull included his return to the Balclutha area to open a wheat mill when many said it would not flourish. After two years it was so successful that he included the milling of oats. Shortly afterwards he invented a process for fan drying the oats, where his patented fan-based process took one minute to turn 12 bags, which would have taken a man with a shovel 10 minutes to turn. He was reported as frequently looking for ways to automate less enjoyable tasks⁶.

In mapping the life of our ancestors, the date of death is a key component. Robert's death could not be found anywhere. He was not recorded in the NZ BMD records nor could he be found in Papers Past despite multiple obituaries appearing for the large Doull family. The last we knew of him was a valedictory social gathering to farewell him on a solo trip "to his Home country"⁷.

Maybe he died in Scotland, but no evidence could be found. As so often happens, research on a separate topic turned up yet another obituary for a Doull. The *Clutha Leader* on 21 June 1901 reported on "the death at sea of an old and much respected citizen of Balclutha. A few weeks ago, Mr Doull left the colony to pay a visit to his native land".

The article commented on his busy life and explained that "Mr Doull had been ailing most of the way, but after leaving Colombo he got much worse. He died from peritonitis on Monday May 6 (1901). He was buried at sea."

Thus ended the search for Robert Doull's death, and explained why he could not be found in NZ BDM records.

Rodney King
rajkot@xtra.co.nz



Robert Doull (King Family Collection)

Notes:

- (1) *Bruce Herald*, 4 September 1872
- (2) *North Otago Times*, 17 April 1878
- (3) *Clutha Leader*, 26 July 1878
- (4) *Hawkes Bay Herald*, 3 October 1878
- (5) *Maitua Ensign*, 1 April 1887
- (6) *Maitua Ensign*, 12 April 1895
- (7) *Maitua Ensign*, 27 April 1901

BOARD REPORT



As we head into winter and the days get shorter, I hope you are finding the opportunity to do more of your family history. Whether we are exploring family stories passed down through generations or looking for new leads in our family trees, there is always something new to learn and discover. Long winter evenings are also a good time to start writing the stories of your family.

We have certainly been overwhelmed with stories with the theme of Otago/Southland. Our acting editors say to watch out for more in the next issue as we couldn't fit them all in!

Certificates Collection

For the first three months of the new email service, our team of volunteers has sent out 1,144 certificates to members to help them with their research, saving themselves over \$28,000 combined. I would like to thank the team: Bernadette Siebet, Debbie Evans, Francie Smith, Jan Sherwood and June Stratford and for providing this valuable service to their fellow members.

Kiwi Collection Update

The next Kiwi Collection update will be in mid-July. The Cemeteries Collection will be added to the database and made available to all members. It is currently estimated that over 2 million new records will be added in this update, taking the total to over 14 million records. The Kiwi Collection is a fantastic resource for genealogists and a very valuable asset for our Society. I encourage you to subscribe and dive in!

NZSG Rules

The vote on the changes to Rule 12 was overwhelmingly in favour of changing the Rule. I would like to thank those who took the time to vote. I would also like to once again thank the B.I.G Review Committee for their work on this. Their comprehensive review has produced a result that is good for our Society, our Branches and Interest Groups.

We will soon be starting the process to review our Rules to make our Society compliant with the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022. This will involve re-registering as an Incorporated Society after 1 October 2023 with a new compliant set of Rules. If there is anything in our current Rules that you feel needs to be changed (subject to legal obligations of course), please get in touch with our National Manager, Julian Pinfold. Part of the process will be a vote on changes to our Rules, using a similar process to the Rule 12 vote. We will let you know more about the timing of the process via e-KIT.

We would like to thank the members who have volunteered recently to help with roles within our Society. They have joined many others who help run our Society and provide more resources to our members. But we can always have more. Even if you only have one hour a week to spare, we can find something that will help our Society. Our strength comes from our members.

Sarah Hewitt, NZSG Chairperson

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The Official Otago Tartan, as used by Dunedin Branch, designed in 1989 by Vilma Nelson



NZSG Branches in Otago and Southland



The New Zealand Society of Genealogists has Branches all over the country. They are a great opportunity to meet like minded people who share your passion for family history. They also hold records for their area and can be a great resource when you discover your family there.

Southland Branch

The Southland Branch has been assisting with family history for over 50 years. We meet on the third Wednesday evening (Feb-Nov) at Invercargill City Library from 4:30 pm onwards starting with an informal cup of tea before moving onto the meeting. We have a variety of presentations for members with plenty of 'how to' sessions to assist our members with their family research.

We rent a room on the first floor of the library which is well-stocked with resources for all aspects of family history whether it is NZ based or overseas. The holdings have been catalogued and will be available on the Branch computer once final checking is completed. Currently the room is open Wednesday mornings 10 am – 12 noon and has a steady trickle of folk seeking help with their research, many being members of the public. This has resulted in an increase in our Branch membership.

The Branch also holds off-site copies of almost all the Admission, Progress and Withdrawal records of most Southland schools with many entered into a database on the Branch computer. A newsletter is produced bimonthly which has been well received by members and other Branches.

southland@genealogy.org.nz

Balclutha Branch

Our Balclutha Branch of the NZSG is a friendly, enthusiastic group who meet on the first Thursday of the month (excluding January) at the Balclutha Public Library, John Street, Balclutha where we also hold our resources.

Our local resources include extensive records and histories of our region which, generally speaking, include Waiholā in the north and to the coast and down into the Catlins and inland to adjoin the Gore Branch region. If you have any research within our area do come to us as the records, both in our collections and in the wider region, our family and regional histories along with the combined local knowledge of our group can help you – something we love to do.

A good starting point is our website:

balcluthagenealogy.org.nz We don't charge but request

reimbursement of copying and P&P costs, if any, and welcome a small donation. Cemetery lookups are free.

After a disrupted couple of years, we are getting back into project work of indexing local and family histories, computerising school records and photographing and updating all cemeteries in our region. Our research nights on the 3rd Thursday of the month (excluding December and January) combine project work with research.

If you live in South Otago or are visiting the region and want to find out about your ancestors do come along. We are sure our meeting topics, research experience and material, and all-round friendliness and willingness to help will be of interest and help to your research.

balclutha@genealogy.org.nz

Gore Branch

We are a strong group with a core of approximately 15 members that attend each meeting. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month, 7pm at the Maruawai Centre in Gore.

Each month, after holding our monthly meeting we either have a guest speaker or discuss a variety of genealogy topics. If there is something of particular interest, we may watch a You Tube video for hints and tips.

For the last three years unfortunately, we have not been able to hold any research nights, or have our usual Sunday open days for the Public, as the building which houses most of our records has been undergoing major earthquake repairs and updates.

This year sees our Branch celebrate 47 years since setting up. A small number of our members have been in the group for a number of years, and were instrumental in transcribing many records from a variety of sources – cemetery records, DBM records from the local courthouse, etc.

We encourage anyone who has connections to the Gore and Eastern Southland area to contact us if you would like any help researching family members.

gore@genealogy.org.nz

Mosgiel Branch

The Mosgiel Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists was formed in 1996 after a public meeting was held to gauge interest in forming a group. The first meeting was held on the 3rd Saturday in February 1997 and later in 1997 we became an NZSG Branch.

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 2pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Wickliffe Street, Mosgiel from February to November. Normally we have a guest speaker on a range of topics or a presentation by a member followed by afternoon tea.

The research room at the hall is open at 1pm on meeting days as well as on the first Tuesday of the month from 1.30 pm to 3.00pm or at other times by appointment.

As well as this we have two 'Drop-In' sessions a month at the Mosgiel Public Library on the 1st and 3rd Mondays in the month when there is a volunteer available to answer any queries you or the public may have.

mosgiel@genealogy.org.nz

Dunedin Branch

The first formal meeting of the Dunedin Group was held on 25 September 1969. Over the years the Branch has met in many places and is now housed in the Dunedin Public Library. Our Branch library is on the third floor Heritage Room of the Dunedin Public Library, and we meet in the Dunningham Suite at the Library, at 7pm on the first Wednesday of the month from February to December. The Branch runs a Genealogy Clinic in the Library, which is run by volunteers, every Sunday 2-4pm.

We are very proud of our tartan (pictured on page 45) which was an integral part of our 50th celebrations. Over the years we have been able to obtain the services of great speakers from the University of Otago and Toitū. Once a year we hold an all-day seminar which is also open to the Public, plus field trips to Museums, Cemeteries and Churches. We also hold educational nights including information on DNA to help our members.

Just recently we opened a Dunedin Branch NZSG Facebook page which has attracted members who appear to be interested in the Otago region. We invite you to have a look and join.

dunedin@genealogy.org.nz

Alexandra Branch

The McArthur room is the home base for the Alexandra Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists. The Alexandra Branch of the NZSG was established in the 1980's and moved its resources to the McArthur room in 1996. Over the years the group have enlarged their holdings by various means including Central Lakes Trust and running seminars. Their members compiled the Central Otago Family Register from people who made available their family trees in the 1990's. Members at the monthly meetings are encouraged to bring along and speak on their current research.

The McArthur room at the rear of the Alexandra Library is also a treasure trove of Central Otago History. It holds the Central Otago Libraries History collection of Books and Pamphlets. The History within the McArthur room is as interesting as its namesake: Gladys (Glad) McArthur a gardening guru and respected community stalwart. Currently the Alexandra Library and the McArthur room are being refurbished and help for researchers is available by appointment only until later in 2023.

alexandra@genealogy.org.nz

Oamaru Branch

The Oamaru Branch was formed some 40 years ago and meets every third Monday, February to November, at St Paul's Lounge in Coquet Street. Over the years, members have contributed to the many indexes which are on the open shelves at the Waitaki Archive in Thames Street. Anyone researching people in the Waitaki District will be pleasantly surprised to see the range of material – schools, churches, local newspapers, electoral rolls, county and borough rate books and cemeteries.

Oamaru is known for its fine Victorian architecture using limestone from local quarries. These include banks, courthouse, churches, and industrial buildings. There is plenty to do and see - November Heritage celebrations, Steampunk HQ and the blue penguin colony. It is a coastal service town which supports a thriving farming community and is the gateway to the hydro schemes on the Waitaki River.

Just south of Oamaru, is Totara Estate, birthplace of the frozen meat industry. In 1882, the ship *Dunedin* carried the first cargo, with stock killed from here, to the UK.

oamaru@genealogy.org.nz



**Not in Southland or Otago?
Find your nearest Branch
under Community on our
website
www.genealogy.org.nz**

Lone Graves – Southland

Mary Stuart and Yvonne Service

Scattered around Southland, especially Northern Southland and Fiordland, are many lone graves. They are graves of pioneers and/or prospectors who died in isolated places far from any known cemetery. Some of these graves are known and marked, but there are many others that have been long forgotten and will never be known or marked.

We became very interested in the hunt for these pioneer graves when we came across the story of William DOCHERTY, a pioneer, prospector and explorer of Dusky Sound and Preservation Inlet in Fiordland who died in the inaccessible spot in 1896 aged 65 years. He was buried by his fellow diggers on 26 March 1896. The plaque was erected on the small island by the Tuatapere Lions on 2 April 1971. There were several articles in *The Southland Times* about him.



Five Rivers Estate

A cairn was erected on the Five Rivers Estate on 19 November 1934 at the foot of the Jollies Mountains in Northern Southland. The hotel "The Jolly Waggoners" was burnt down and four people are buried there. James CANNON; a cook from Glenquoich Station during the shearing season; the third was a miner found dead in his hut at Nokomai diggings and a Margaret SMITH who drowned when a coach was upset at Fryers Creek in 1866. Mrs Smith was one of 12 young women from Aberdeen who had come out to New Zealand under contract as a domestic worker.

It is known that between 1857-1863 about 50 people died in the Lumsden and surrounding districts and are buried in lonely graves. The Lumsden cemetery opened in 1883 and the first person buried there was John McPHERSON, the first school teacher of Lumsden.

One Tom KING drowned at the "Elbow Crossing" (the old name for Lumsden) on 4 December 1870. King was on his way to Castlerock when he tried to cross the Oreti River which was in full flood.

Late in 1870 the infant son of John MCLEOD of Lumsden died and is buried in the garden by his home.

Mrs Y S McNEIL who owned Ardlussa Station lost two children who drank water from a stream used for sheep dipping. The children are buried close to the homestead.

Margaret BAIRD who rests in what is known as the graveyard paddock on the Five Rivers Estate died tragically in June 1867. Mr Baird was employed as a shepherd on the estate and he and his family were camped on the north bank of the Oreti River when Mrs Baird became ill. It was winter and the snow lay thick on the ground. Mr Baird went for help but when he returned he found his wife dead and a new-born baby was beside her. In 1949 the WDFF (Women's Division of Federated Farmers) of Mossburn and Five Rivers built a cairn with a prescribed plaque over the grave.



Dead Man's Saddle

George SKINNER, William CRAIG and C DURANT are buried on Dead Man's Saddle on the hills between Nokomai and Waikaia. The three men, while mining at Rob Roy Gully, Switzers decided to try their luck at Victoria Gully, Nokomai.

All three perished in a snow storm while they were endeavouring to make their way over the hills. George Skinner and William Craig were buried in the same grave. C Durant was buried half a mile away. A mound of stone covers each grave.



Otapiri Station

Set on a grave at the old Otapiri Station homestead near Glenure is a stone with W E M carved in memory of Williamina Emily MONTGOMERY. Emily was nine years old when she fell down a stairway of the old home with fatal results.



Garston

Caroline McNAMEE died 27 June 1918 aged 34 years.

Milford Sound

Donald SUTHERLAND died 21 September 1919 at Milford Sound, a pioneer. He discovered the Sutherland Falls in 1880. Elizabeth Sutherland died 1924, wife of Donald.



Fiordland

In loving memory of Claude Morton OLLIVIER who died in Jackson's Bay on board the schooner *Ada* on 27 August 1862 aged 22 years. He was the eldest son of J Ollivier Esq. of Christchurch, and had been prospecting for quartz, mica and gold.



In loving memory of M James HEVELOT born in July (year unreadable) died in July (year unreadable) aged 20 years.



Propector Donald KEITH who lost his way and died from exhaustion here on 15 May 1886.



Peter Gregor CAMERON, miner, Coal Island, died 26 April 1889 at Puysegur Landing Point.

David John GUNN (Davey) died 25 December 1853, aged 68 years. He was a run holder and track contractor. He was going for help about a boating accident on the river when he drowned in the Holyford River, Fiordland.



Dunrobin Station

At Dunrobin Station are three graves. One is that of an unknown person, another is supposed to be that of a Chinese person employed at the station and the third is Alexander DUNMORE who was another employee aged 20 years from Kilmarnock, Scotland. Dunmore drowned in the Jacob's River on 9 September 1876 and was buried on 12 September 1876 by C BASTIAN of Dunrobin and W N MEREDITH, a constable of Lowther.

Nevis cemetery and lone graves

A notice was in the Gazette to create a cemetery dated 5 July 1899 but earlier burials had taken place there in the 1860s.

On 10 October 1864 one John SMYTHE a miner, died at the Nevis through taking an overdose of laudanum (*Otago Daily Times* 11 October 1864).

Christine KONING died from an overdose of oil of bitter almonds.

On 21 August 1865 Lott RADDING, a native of Ennis, County Clare, Ireland, died from the bursting of an abscess in the lungs.

Diphtheria caused the deaths of four of Mr D SCALLY's children in a fortnight, as reported in the *Southern Cross* on 30 April 1874.

The *Cromwell Argus* reported on 4 April 1884 a miner, Hugh MUNRO, a resident of the area for the past 17 years was crushed in a deep tail-race on his claim when a mass of stuff came away and crushed him. Munro was 56 years of age, unmarried and a native of Scotland.

Wilmont Pass

A cairn was erected to Terence (Terry) Michael Joseph SMITH died aged 24 years on 17 April 1966. A surveyor.



Fortrose, Southland coast

Alexander MCDONALD a.k.a. John SINCLAIR from, Perthshire, Scotland died on 5 June 1860 and is buried on his Toi Toi Station (Fortrose, Southland) between two trees, looking out to sea.

Ulva Island, Paterson Inlet, Stewart Island/Rakiura

TRAILL, Charles died 26 November 1891 aged 65 years. Traill, Henrietta died 27 August 1875 aged 33 years.

Ulva Island is now a bird sanctuary.

Farewell to a fisherman Tim JOSS at "The Neck", Stewart Island on 6 September 1955. A flotilla of eight launches left Halfmoon Bay, Stewart Island and three left from Bluff, Southland, where the service had been held, to cross Paterson Inlet to his last resting place. The service at the graveside was conducted by Rev Father Peter MEE who came over from Bluff.

Waikaia, Southland

A plaque on the Waikaia Bridge reads:

"R L S (Bob) TUDEHOPE 1902 - 1993

L M (May) Tudehope (nee TALL) 1911 - 1994
Who met and now rest here".



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Southland District Council (photos taken by staff while on business or holiday)

Some photos were also taken by NZSG Southland Branch members

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The Paape Family of Dunedin

Paul Hickford

The New Zealand progenitor of the Paape (pronounced "Pape") family left an indelible footprint in the communities of Dunedin and Invercargill.

Arthur Albert PAAPE (1878-1948), born in Ballarat, Victoria, Australia, arrived in New Zealand as a 21-year-old under engagement to Sargood, Son and Ewen Ltd (Sargoods), soft goods merchants and shoe and boot manufacturers in Dunedin. His father Johan Gottfried Paap(e) (1836-1895) was born in Pomerania, Prussia. Today the region is part of Poland. Johan emigrated to Australia where he married Elizabeth Ann SUMMERS in Victoria in 1866 and on naturalisation took the name John Godfrey Paape. John and Elizabeth had a family of six children, but their only two daughters failed to survive infancy.

Arthur was engaged by Sargoods as a clicker, responsible for cutting the uppers for boots and shoes from a skin of leather, a demanding job requiring precision to minimise wastage. A skilled eye was also required to identify any flaws in the raw material. While working alongside other clickers, it is believed Albert became conscious of fellow employees' frustrations and grievances and their need for fair pay for a fair day's work. It is understood that he became their spokesperson in discussions and negotiations with Sargoods for better pay and working conditions, a move that was to pave the way for the next step in his career.

About 1900, Arthur shifted to Invercargill, where over the next decade, he was employed as secretary of numerous trade unions – Boot Makers, Sawmill Workers, Painters, Butchers, Carters, plus the newly formed Trades and Labour Council. Outside of work, he was secretary for a number of sports, social and charitable organisations including the New Zealand Sports Protection League, Southland Rugby Football Union, the Caledonian Society, the Acclimatisation Society and the Dominion Band

Image Left: *Grand Hotel, Dunedin*
Burton Bros - [Te Papa Collections](#)

Carnival. Arthur was also a keen sportsman and was a passionate follower of harriers and athletics generally. Matters of the heart were also receiving Arthur's attention. On 1 November 1905 he married Mary Ann Janet MITCHELL (1882-1951), daughter of John Angus (1847-1910) and Marjory (nee McINTOSH), at her parents' home. Mary's father John had landed at Bluff in 1863 from the ship *Thomas Edward Millege* and proceeded to invest his time and energy in various business and community interests in Invercargill. In death he was described as a man of insatiable activity.

Before the first decade of the 20th century was out, the New Zealand Political Reform League, known as The Reform Party, (today's New Zealand National Party) was formed in 1909. Arthur began taking a keen interest in the party's activities after he was disillusioned in 1913 by the Grey by-election result. The seat was won by a Social Democrat with support from the Liberal Party. About August 1913 Arthur replaced Carl Petersen LINDEGREEN as the Reform Party's General Organiser and began travelling the length and breadth of the country promoting the party's policies to the wider community. Given his background, it must have been a huge step for Arthur to switch his political allegiances.

On 30 November 1914 Arthur was chosen by The Reform Party to stand in the Westland Electorate seat against T E Y (Tom) SEDDON, son of the illustrious R J (Dick) Seddon, New Zealand's Prime Minister from 1893 to 1906. Arthur lost, perhaps not surprisingly, given the Seddon family's historical influence in the West Coast community. Two years later, Arthur now aged 38, withdrew from an active role in the political arena and became a hotelier.

He had been appointed manager of the Waverley Hotel (est. c.1899), Auckland, situated alongside the Central Post Office and one of the largest business hotels in New Zealand employing 75 staff. It is, however, difficult not to

Image Right: *Grand Hotel, Dunedin - Luggage Tag c1930s*
[National Library Ephemera Collection](#)

reach the conclusion that the South Island was where his heart lay because within two years Arthur had returned to Dunedin to manage the Grand Hotel. Within the space of another three years, he had secured the licence for the Oban Hotel in the Octagon. A feature at the hotel was a display of 26 oil paintings of British bulldogs which were originally the property of the British Bulldog Club, London. Arthur secured the paintings in 1921 after they had been put up to auction for the benefit of the war funds.

Then in 1925, Arthur seized the opportunity to become licensee of the Grand Hotel where he would remain until just before his death on 22 March 1948.

In his lifetime Arthur instilled the hotelier trade into the Paape family blood. Arthur's youngest brother Frederick Griffiths Paape (1883-1955), who also emigrated from Australia to New Zealand in about 1925, became licensee of the Oban Hotel in the Octagon. His son Frank secured the licence for the Excelsior Hotel, and two of his children were to operate hotels in the Otago region.

Arthur was elected President of the Dunedin Licensed Victuallers' Association in 1945. Understandably it was a period when hoteliers were finding it difficult to recruit



Gerstenkorn, photo,
MR. A. A. PAAPE.

**Arthur Albert Paape in The Cyclopaedia of New Zealand
[Otago & Southland Provincial Districts]
[New Zealand Electronic Text Collection](#)
- Victoria University**

staff. While the industry was classified as essential, there were varying degrees of essentiality and several institutions employing domestic staff ranked above hotels on the list of priorities.

Between 1907 and 1919 Arthur and Mary had three sons – Frank Mitchell b. 1907, John Mitchell (Mid) b.1914 and Arthur Mitchell (Artie) b.1919. Fate, however, was to deal John and Arthur (jnr) a cruel hand. Both had joined the Royal New Zealand Air Force and were assigned to serve with Royal Air Force (RAF) squadrons during the Second World War. In the space of six months both were killed while undertaking flying operations.

John, a Flying Officer with 214 Squadron, was piloting a Stirling bomber when it was shot down by a night-fighter over the Netherlands on 15 October 1942. Younger brother Arthur, a Squadron Leader, piloting a Lancaster bomber of 467 Squadron was killed on 3 April 1943 when his aircraft crashed in the target area in Germany. Arthur was an exceptional bomber pilot having successfully completed over 50 sorties and flown 1,148 hours as a pilot. His flying skills and accomplishments were acknowledged by the RAF with the awarding of the Distinguished Flying Cross on 22 October 1940 to which a bar was added on 14 April 1942. Both awards were given while he was a member of 61 Squadron, RAF.

The graves of John and Arthur are less than 40 kilometres apart. John is buried in Uden War Cemetery, Netherlands and Arthur in Reichswald Forest War Cemetery near Kleve, Germany. Their war medals are held at Waitaki Museum, Oamaru. John and Arthur were survived by their parents and older sibling Frank, whose children and grandchildren still have a presence in Otago.

Arthur who died in 1948, was survived by his widow Mary who passed on 29 July 1951 in Dunedin. To this day, Arthur is still remembered by the Caledonian Society of Otago as budding athletes line up to contest the Paape Cup.

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A Lemon by another name

Wendy Hutchinson

I wanted to investigate my great grandfather Peter LEMON who settled in Dunedin, Otago. I was told he was a Swedish seaman but did not know much more.

Working backwards, I located his death certificate and burial records. Alas, the details on his death certificate in 1927 were completed by the undertaker. Where he was born, and the names of his parents were not completed. It did say he was married in Scotland. His burial records give little more – the informant being a son-in-law.

LEMON PETER (class 2) Lot 7 Block 5B
Died JUL 25 1927. Aged 77 years. A SEAMAN. Resident of 48 JACKSON ST. ST.KILDA. Born SWEDEN. Last came from SWEDEN. Lived 50 years in New Zealand. Buried 27 JUL. Informant W.H.BAXTER.

Extract Southern Cemetery Burial Records

Electoral Rolls from 1893 to 1925 list him in St Kilda, Dunedin as a seaman, the last entry being at 48 Jackson Street, living with his daughter Marguerite and her husband William Henry BAXTER.

Peter was listed by Sten Aminoff in his book 'Svenskarna I Nya Zeeland'. Aminoff notes his date of birth as 16 August 1849 from Uddevalla, Gothenburg arriving in NZ in 1884 and naturalised on 30 March 1926 in Dunedin. He notes he died in Dunedin on 25 July 1927, was married and had four children. He married in Greenock, Scotland at age 27 to Jessie CAMPBELL who died before him. He commented his birth was not found in Uddevalla.

In accessing his application for Naturalisation in 1926 with the help of his son-in-law, Peter stated he arrived in Dunedin in 1884 on the vessel *Lonsdale* and has lived in Dunedin since. He could not produce a birth certificate or any other documentation but stated he had left Sweden in 1867 and worked under the British flag in the Merchant Navy since 1869.

I then put a message on Rootsweb message board for Sweden giving his date of birth and adding that two of his daughters were named Ulrica and Marguerite which may have been family names. In less than 48 hours the response was that he was in fact born in Rogsta, Gävleborg (north of Stockholm) and a lot of family details were given. I needed to confirm if this information was correct for my Peter.

My research took me to these websites:

Emibas – the Swedish Emigration Database found on Family Search and Ancestry. He is listed as Per Petter LEMAN, sjöman (sailor) unmarried man, emigrated 30 Dec 1876 from Blästa, Rogsta, Gävleborgs län to Storbritannien – destination Greenock, Skottland.

Arkivdigital.net - a subscription service - Twins were born on 16 August 1849 in Rogsta parish – Anders and Per Tunstedt to parents Erik Olofsson, a farmer and his wife Ulrika Pehrsson Tunstedt.

The deaths of both his parents listed their children but he was not included as a son which may have been because he was out of the country.

Next I looked at Peter's marriage to Jessie Campbell in 1876 in Greenock, Renfrewshire, Scotland. Logging onto Scotland's People I obtained their marriage entry. It confirms Peter LEMAN and Jessie Campbell married at 48 Shaw Street, Greenock. Whereas full details for parents are given for Jessie, Peter's parents are not named.

The 1881 Census was checked listing Jessie and daughter Mary Ann with her mother Mary and her sister Elizabeth. Peter is not found on any Census indicating he may have been at sea at the time.

Jessie, with children Mary Ann and Peter, sailed to Port Chalmers in 1886 to be with her husband. They then proceeded to have three daughters, one being my grandmother.

Peter spent many years working on vessels around the Pacific Ocean – Port Chalmers, Auckland, Sydney and Vancouver. One of his daughters, Ulrica, who went by the name Julia, also worked as crew on the passenger liners around the Pacific. She settled in Port Angeles, Washington, USA where she died in 1966.

The change in Peter's name from Per Eriksson Tunstedt to Peter Lemon is likely to have been the result of simplifying his name whilst working on the ships. The research has identified his family in Rogsta and further research since has developed an extensive family tree including folk in Sweden, USA and New Zealand.

Wendy Hutchinson
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Above Image: Port Chalmers. From the album: Australasian Scenery Production - Frank Coxhead - [Te Papa Tongarewa](#)



Thomas Redpath, Storekeeper

Allan Penney

I first learned about Thomas REDPATH and his store while at Otanomomo Primary School circa 1950 – perhaps the 1948 Otago Centennial brought his name to our teacher's attention. We made a trip with a local farmer who guided our school group to Redpath's grave – an inconspicuous mound – in Otanomomo Bush. In my first year at South Otago High School, I was casting about for an English essay subject, and wrote 'An Old Identity of Otanomomo'. Despite the mark of "4/10 - ending weak" I was rather pleased with my effort and kept the essay. Surely Thomas Redpath deserves to be better known, not just a 'footnote' in local history. In 2017 I compiled a biographical sketch for him. Here is a shortened version.

Thomas Redpath (c1824-1863) was born in Edinburgh, the youngest of 10 children, to John and Elizabeth Redpath. His father John Redpath was an iron merchant, who with John BROWN founded a successful company, Redpath and Brown in 1802. They were wholesale ironmongers, nail makers, and iron merchants. The 1841 Census of Edinburgh, Midlothian revealed the Redpath family living at Archibald Place, St Cuthberts. Young Thomas was 16 years old and a 'Sudsman Apprentice'. Sudsmen applied soapy water to lubricate metal under stress such as when wiredrawing. Obviously being a sudsman was only a first step.

Thomas's father, John Redpath (1773-1846), died on 2 January 1846, aged 73 years, and was buried in the New Calton Burial Ground, Edinburgh. His mother Elizabeth Redpath nee SANDERSON (c1783-1847) died on 23 December 1847. It seems likely that Thomas would receive a legacy from his father, and after the death of his mother he decided to emigrate.

Settler, South Otago

Thomas Redpath purchased two adjacent sections of 50 acres each in South Otago on 25 August 1848, Sections 9 and 11, Block XIII, Inch Clutha – on the Koau branch at

the head of the island. He was on-board *Ajax* when she departed London on 8 September 1848, arriving at Port Chalmers Otago on 8 January 1849. Cabin passengers included 'Redpath, Thomas, 21' (i.e., an adult); he was about 24 years old. While he travelled in some comfort above, his two future employees travelled down in steerage on the same ship. They were Mr. and Mrs. SHEPHERD, John a labourer aged 30, and Elizabeth his wife aged 35 years. Given that Thomas grew up in Edinburgh with little knowledge of farming, and knowing he needed a farm manager, he probably engaged the Shepherds to work for him shortly after landing.

Redpath arrived at Inch Clutha in early 1849 and, with John Shepherd, set about developing his 100-acre farm which he named 'Mayshade'. I found the name 'Mayshade' occurs in Eskbank, Dalkeith, six miles south of Edinburgh. He had a boat to access the island and to row to the mouth of the Molyneux River for supplies, brought by ship to 'the beach'. There was one other settler on Inch Clutha by early 1850, Francis PILLANS.

In 1852 John Shepherd left Redpath, and by 1854 he was a police constable in Dunedin. Probably Redpath's stock roamed free on Inch Clutha for some years, but by 1854 the Crown Land Office was much more organised. Thomas Redpath in January 1854 was granted a Depasturing Licence for Run 60, Molyneux Island of 12,000 acres – Inch Clutha – he paid fees from 15 April 1854 to 27 June 1855. The increasing population in Otago was leading to demands for closer settlement and Archibald ANDERSON lost his North Molyneux Run (roughly Barnego to Lake Tuakitoto) in 1854. He brought 'Mayshade' from T Redpath on 19 July 1854 and later renamed it 'Balmoral'.

There were four early settlers who came to the south side of the Molyneux – Edwin MEREDITH 1850, John SHAW 1852, Thomas Redpath 1856, and William TELFORD 1861. Meredith set up his homestead at Otanomomo. Shaw

Above Image: Map of Puerua, Otanomomo and Inch Clutha Area - www.topomap.co.nz/

- images sourced from LINZ - Crown Copyright Reserved

claimed the riverbank around Finegand. Redpath faced the Puerua River. Telford took over at Otanomomo, later adding Redpath's farm to his holding.

Having sold his Inch Clutha property, Thomas Redpath bought land – 50-acres at Section 3 of Block XVII – at Otanomomo on 17 June 1856. He set up his home beside native bush: "The dwelling-house is erected in a beautiful position at the north of the bush, commanding a most extensive and magnificent prospect, and is quite sheltered from the south and southwest winds. The bush covers about fifty acres of land and contains a large quantity of the finest pine timber, in the district." Thomas 'spotted' his purchases to make the remaining sections unattractive to other buyers. He brought sections in mid-1857, in mid-1858, in mid-1859, and more after 1859. In all, he owned 377 acres, a farm with stockyard and stable, and much of the land cultivated and fenced.

Details of the stock and machinery on Redpath's property at the time of his death were given in an advertisement announcing a 'Grand Clearance Sale of Intestate Property' on 25 February 1863. From it we learn much about his farm. He had dairy cattle, bulls and steers. He had sows, 'porkers' and a boar of 'a first-class breed of pigs' [unspecified!]. He had turkeys and Dorking fowls. His draught horses were Jess, Kate, Prince, Star and 'the well-known Draught Entire Warwick, a splendid worker'. There were two saddle horses, Flower and Violet, and five colts. The Auctioneer noted, 'These Horses are all of a good class, and worthy the attention of buyers, the late Mr Redpath being at one time as is well known, an extensive breeder of horses.' Also listed was '1 first-rate [of course!] cattle dog, Rover.'

Thomas Redpath had an extensive set of Agricultural Implements – if he needed it, he brought it. They included '1 three-horse portable thrashing machine; 1 reaping machine, delivers in sheafs and works beautifully; 2 ploughs, ... 1 two horse circular sawmill with three saws, and one pit saw'. Also listed were many lesser implements and '12 bags wheat; 12 [bags] oats; About 300 bushels wheat in stack last year; 23 acres of growing crop, oats; 1 ¼ [acres of] potatoes' – all part of a working farm.

Storekeeper, Otanomomo

But wait! We need to go back a few years to 1857 and plot the origin of Redpath's Store, that point of difference which led to his appearance in our local history books.

In the *Bruce Herald* of 10 May 1866: 'Part of the property is situate on the banks of the Puerua river; a most valuable tidal communication with the Molyneux, into which river it runs. Near the mouth an 8-ton boat can load, and discharge at the store erected on this part of the property.' Redpath used his whaleboat, and it would be easier to pull upstream on the Puerua than the Molyneux. In mid-1857 he bought half of a section which reached down towards the Puerua swamp, but of more significance, he also brought two other sections to the west. These gave access to a sharp northern bend in the Puerua where the current lapped solid ground, an ideal unloading spot. He also knew the track across the hills from the Beach to the Clutha ferry (later Balclutha), had a path down to

Otanomomo and Finegand (later Gray's Road). Thomas imagined customers coming down that track or along the Puerua by boat to his country store. He would sell a wide range of goods (available on the spot), and his warehouse would store incoming and outgoing goods (given the uncertainty of shipping). The following advertisement appeared in the *Otago Witness* on 19 December 1857:

THOMAS REDPATH & CO.

BEg to inform the Flockowners and Settlers in the Molyneux District that they are now Erecting a STORE at the Three Bushes, Otanomomo, for the Sale and Storage of Goods.

Information gathered by John Wilson led to him calling this 'a receiving store' because "for a number of years Redpath acted as a receiving agent for all stores arriving from Dunedin for the settlers [and] all produce from the surrounding parts was taken to the store for shipment outwards, or for disposal to Redpath." This meant an outward wool-clip (or other produce) could be brought down and stored under cover to await a ship, and inward goods could be stored under cover until pickup could be arranged. I guess it would be a large wooden framed building covered with corrugated iron, a country store and warehouse combined. The 'Three Bushes' must have been a good landmark, out in the open, clearly visible from the river and the ridges. When I was a schoolboy I was told that Thomas Redpath climbed a tree to see if a ship was at anchor. Then it would be time to swing into action. His initial advertisements were for 'Thomas Redpath & Co', pointing to a partnership, perhaps financial, probably through his siblings in Scotland.

There was a delay before his store was stocked and ready for business (August 1858) – maybe the warehouse was used earlier than that. It was a traditional 'Country Store' providing every conceivable article for sale – the advertisement had a mind-boggling list, from Sago to Stockholm Tar, Cloves to Candlesticks, Tubs to Trowsers [sic], Castor Oil to Chains. And that was not all. He was happy to promise 'Articles not on hand will be procured for those ordering them. Parties ordering Goods from me through others are requested to do so in writing.' He offered, as an additional incentive for cash transactions, a 'discount given for ready money'. Opening times were specified, 'Attendance at the Store every TUESDAY and FRIDAY from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.', after all he had a farm to run. This advertisement was to run frequently in the *Otago Witness* until his death in 1863.

Death and Consequences

Thomas Redpath was only 38 years old when his death was announced in the *Otago Daily Times* on 21 Jan 1863:

DIED,
On the 14th January, at Otanomomo, Molyneux,
Mr Thomas Redpath.

The family Death notice appeared in *The Dundee Courier & Argus* (and in others?) on 21 Apr 1863:

At Otanomomo, Molyneux, Otago, New Zealand, on the 14th of January, Mr. Thomas Redpath, youngest son of the late John Redpath, Esq., iron merchant, Edinburgh. Friends will accept of this intimation.

Thomas died intestate – all his family lived in Scotland, twelve thousand miles away. The welfare of stock and crops could not be long delayed, so a 'Grand Clearance Sale' was advertised. Readers were told that it included 'All the moveable property of Thomas Redpath, Esq., deceased, intestate, embracing Horses, Cattle, Farming Implements, Crops, Stores, Household and Personal Effects.' The final act of the Auctioneer on 26 February 1863 was to sell 'the Whole Stock-in-trade in the Otanomomo Stores ... a varied assortment of goods usually kept in a country store, Consisting of Flour, tea, sugar, and provisions generally, Hardware and cutlery, Drapery goods, Stationery, Boots and shoes, Oilmans' stores, Saddlery.' 'An enterprising person could take up 'the lease of said stores for one year, from 1st March next'.

Three weeks later this appeared in the *Otago Witness*,

NOTICE.

THE Store at Otanamomo, Molyneux, lately occupied by Mr T. Redpath, will in future be open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 till 5 o'clock.
ALEX. C. BEGG.

The farm now lay idle while paperwork was prepared for its sale. Presumably the family in Edinburgh was informed of plans to wind up his estate. Finally, on 17 May 1866, the neighbouring landholder William Telford purchased the farm and added it to his Otanomomo holding. However, that was not the end of the matter. Two suits were filed – firstly, by Redpath's brother-in-law William BREMNER to recover a loan (Bremner v Redpath), and secondly, by his niece Caroline E. Redpath as his heiress-at-law (Redpath v Chapman), resolved in 1870.

I close with F Waite's assessment: "Thomas Redpath was the first settler in Inchclutha; ran the first ferry over the Clutha, at Balmoral; opened the first country store, at Otanomomo; and was the first south of Dunedin to own an entire horse." So, had Thomas lived into old age I believe he would have been feted as one of the Province's 'Pioneers', but it was not to be. Sad, but true!

P.S. Gosh, I hope this is worth more than 4/10.

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Storekeeper, Otanomomo

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Family Research in Dunedin

Glenice Lyon

My family search adventure in Dunedin started in January 2022. We had been on a 7-day Southern Odyssey minibus tour which finished in Dunedin. So, we decided to stay in Dunedin for an extra four nights. After lunch with our fellow travellers on the final day of the tour, we waved good-bye as they headed for the airport. We then walked to the Northern Cemetery to look for the grave of George & Margaret FORSYTH. By now it had started to drizzle. Not fun trying to locate the grave. Fortunately, my partner is very good at reading maps, has a good sense of direction and perseverance. There was a small concrete plaque "In loving Memory of Margaret beloved wife of George Forsyth Died April 16, 1909 Aged 60". So, we had the correct grave. We then walked to the Botanic Gardens where we had a hot cup of tea. The following day we walked to the Southern Cemetery to locate the ROSENBROCK family grave which we eventually found.

We went to the Dunedin Library and visited the Family Research section. I asked if there was any information on the Forsyth & Rosenbrock Families. The librarian eventually returned with a book called *Hoopers Inlet Located on the Otago Peninsula of New Zealand* by Ian J Smith. There were a couple of pages about George & Margaret Forsyth and their family who at one time lived and farmed at Hoopers Inlet. There was also a family tree! I had the pages photocopied. Eventually I borrowed the book on an interloan through our local library. This enabled me to read the book thoroughly before returning it.

We had a grave to visit at Andersons Bay Cemetery on the Otago Peninsula. Having had a few issues locating the previous graves my partner had the idea of recording the names of the people buried on either side of the grave, which we found in the relevant books at the library.

We also discovered the Bee Card. Free transport on the buses in Dunedin for retired citizens to travel after 9 am and not between 3pm & 6pm. So, we went to the Dunedin

City Council Office and sat down with a very helpful lady. Eventually walking out with our Bee Cards!

We caught the bus to the Cemetery at Andersons Bay. Thankfully we had recorded those buried on either side of Jesse TAPP as his grave was unmarked. As it was a pleasant day we walked to St Clair where we had morning tea, then carried on walking back into Dunedin. The following day we caught the bus out to Portobello and walked over to Hoopers Inlet. What a beautiful spot.

This year at the end of February we were back in Dunedin at the end of another mini-bus tour. The day before we flew to Christchurch, I met a relative of one of my great grandmother's sisters. She had been in touch with one of my cousins and he passed her contact details onto me. We spent a couple of hours talking about what we had found. She had also made contact with relations of another sister, and they lived in Dunedin. I was able to organise a visit to meet them as we had decided to stay a week in Dunedin at the end of the tour. On this trip we hired a car at the airport where the tour ended, and everyone flew home.

On the last night of the Tour, we stayed in Lawrence. Late afternoon we walked to the Cemetery in Lawrence and found the grave of another sister of my great grandmother. In Dunedin we visited the library a couple of times to do some more research and did a Tour of the Hocken Collections which is free on a Thursday at 11am. We phoned first to check if the tour was still happening. We visited the Southern Cemetery & Andersons Bay Cemetery to look for more family members. During this visit to Dunedin, we did a bit more sightseeing. The weather was amazing during our stay. Certainly, a place we enjoy visiting. No doubt on our next visit there will be more to investigate.

Glenice Lyon

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Image: Left: The unmarked grave of Jesse Tapp



Right: The headstone of Margaret, Beloved Wife of George Forsyth

NZSG Record Collections

Members have collected a considerable amount of information over the years and made it available to other members. With the exception of the Kiwi Collection, this is available to members without charge. It is a major benefit of membership and for personal research only.

Full details on all our Collections and how to access and contribute to them are available under NZSG Collections on our website www.genealogy.org.nz

Members are welcome to contribute new or updated material.

Access to some Collections is through Research Services researchservice@genealogy.org.nz

NZSG Certificates Collection

This collection was set up as a repository for certificates that members had obtained, but found to be unrelated to their research. We now accept certificates and miscellaneous documents of any kind whether they are related or unrelated to your research.

Certificates can be accessed either through our online email service or through our postal service. Details on how to access these are available on our website. An index is included in the Kiwi Collection.

We welcome further contributions to this Collection.

First Families

First Families is a collection of information about families where the family emigrated to New Zealand before and including 1901 and where partners were married in New Zealand before and including 1901.

It is an index, that has been compiled from family record sheets, contributed by both members of the NZSG and non-members. Each family record sheet includes the names of three generations and their spouses where known.

The record is based on the first couple of any family unit living in New Zealand before and including 1901 and it can include their children. It can also include their parents who may not have come to New Zealand, thus bridging the gap between New Zealand and the country of origin.

Surnames can be searched by members in the database accessible on the First Families page on the website. An index is also included in the Kiwi Collection.

Pre 1856 New Zealand Marriage Records

This is a collection of New Zealand marriages that took place before compulsory civil registration. The collection contains over 28,500 entries from sources including civil registration entries, church records, newspaper notices, family and social history publications, Māori Mission records, Bible entries, ministers' diary and journal entries and submissions from NZSG members to name a few.

Access is through Research Services.

Contributions can be made through a form available online which can be emailed or posted to us.

Pedigree Registration

This is a collection of Pedigree Registration forms submitted by members. Every surname on the forms is indexed. These names appear in the Kiwi Collection.

An online search request form is on our website. A contribution form can also be found there. Please note the submission requirements.

Griffis Illegitimacies

This collection is a name-searchable database involving illegitimate births in New Zealand between 1877 and 1950 that were available in public records, either at local court houses or National Archives. Virtually all of these records have now been transferred to Archives New Zealand.

The database includes details of the child (if named) the mother and the father, the location of the event, the record type and repository. Query results provide basic information only. Researchers are encouraged to go back to the original source record for more fulsome detail.

Illegitimate birth as a subject involves degrees of sensitivity so access is only for records more than 100 years old. Access is through Research Services.

New Zealand Cemeteries

We have produced cemetery transcriptions for approximately 1400 cemeteries nationwide, for burials from 1812 through to 2020. Most municipal cemeteries are included, but a significant proportion of this collection includes private cemeteries, Māori Urupa and remote burial locations. Access is through Research Services and on the Kiwi Collection.

Obituaries Collection

This Collection includes contributions from members nationwide from sources such as national and regional newspapers, club newsletters and periodicals. An index is included in the Kiwi Collection. Access details are on our website.

Funeral Service Sheets

One of our newer Collections, Funeral Service Sheets are collected by members all over the country. An index is included in the Kiwi Collection. Access is through Research Services.

School Records

These records are a valuable resource for family historians because they not only put families together in local communities, but allow us to trace their movements from place to place. The NZSG have been transcribing and indexing school APW records from its earliest beginnings and over time have accumulated records for almost 2000 schools nationwide dating from 1858 to present time.

An index is available on the Kiwi Collection. Access is through our NZSG School Records Officer - see website for current details.

NZSG Kiwi Collection

The Kiwi Collection is a major database of over 12 million New Zealand sources, including indexes to many of our Collections. The Kiwi Collection is an online, subscription-based service available exclusively to NZSG members. See the online Shop for details.

Information from the NZSG Record Collections is available to full NZSG members only, without charge. Access to the collections is a major benefit of your NZSG membership.

Members receive this information on the understanding that it is to be used for their personal research only. You should not pass it on to non-members, or make access to the collections available to non-members. Local NZSG Branch members are not full NZSG members.

Services and Benefits for NZSG Members

This page explains services and other benefits available through individual or joint membership of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

Supporting genealogy and family history in New Zealand

All NZSG members support the Society to make resources more accessible through projects and liaison with national organisations. Major achievements include access to birth, death and marriage registrations, improved content access to government records, creation of nation-wide transcriptions, such as cemetery and school records.

The New Zealand Genealogist

You can access four issues per year of our award-winning journal, published since 1970. You access it online, including some back issues to 1977.

Members can publish research queries and notices for free. The Editor welcomes articles for publication. See the Contents page for a list of themes. General and how-to articles are always welcome and encouraged.

Newsletter

The e-newsletter, *e-KIT* (electronic Keep In Touch), is dispatched regularly by email for up-to-date Society and genealogical news. Along with The BIG picture (news for Branches and Interest Groups), *e-KIT* is also available on the website.

Social media

Those on Facebook can follow our Facebook page. Members can join our Google memlist to keep in touch with current events, information and assistance.

Website

The NZSG website is the hub for information about the NZSG, both for the public and for members. Here you will find background, events and contact details. Members can login for a range of online resources and services:

- Access to the NZSG Library Catalogue
- Access to information on NZSG Record Collections: Pedigree Registration, Certificates, First Families, Pre-1856 New Zealand Marriages
- Access to historical newspaper databases for Great Britain and other countries
- Free access to digital records on 'Discovery' at The National Archives (London)
- Submit entries to the online Register of Members' Interests
- Receive free assistance through the NZSG Research Service to search Library collections
- Receive assistance to search New Zealand land records (charges may apply)
- Purchase products and services from the NZSG Shop
- Subscribe to the Kiwi Collection

NZSG Library

The Library is based at the Family Research Centre (FRC) in Panmure, Auckland. The FRC is open to the public, but members receive a substantial discount on entry fees.

The Library is open Monday, and Wednesday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm, with late nights on Wednesday and the first Friday of the month. Check the website for opening hours around holidays.

See our website for the Library Catalogue and details on borrowing or using our Research Service.

FRC Research Service

We provide research guidance to members if you are unsure where to search next for that elusive fact about your ancestor or family member. We can also look up any of the resources not available for borrowing, or if you live outside Auckland.

researchservice@genealogy.org.nz

Other Research/Purchasing Services

We have a number of other services which you might find useful. Full details of how to access these is on our website under NZSG Services

They include:

- Scottish BDM Indexes
- New Zealand Land Research
- North American Research
- Huguenot Research
- GRO (England and Wales) certificates
- Scottish Certificates, parish entries and testaments

Membership discounts

Members receive a discount on access to the Family Research Centre (FRC) and for some NZSG sales products. Member discounts on other products and commercial genealogy sites will be listed in the member only section of the NZSG website and promoted in *e-KIT*.

Digital Archive for Family History

The purpose of the Digital Archive is to create a repository that allows NZSG members to preserve the results of their unpublished family history research in a digital format. The Archive specifically aims to encourage members to create a literary piece of work, including documents and images, in a digital format that reflects their family history research. Full details of submission requirements are on our website.

Reciprocal access

Members can request a letter of introduction for reciprocal access to Australian genealogical libraries, including the Society of Australian Genealogists in Sydney and the Genealogical Society of Victoria. Contact the membership administrator with details of your visit and your membership number membership@genealogy.org.nz

The First Telephone Connection in New Zealand

Jane Chapman

Sometime after 1867, when telegraphic services first become available in Central Otago, a telegraph line had been connected between Teviot Station, a sheep station, and the Telegraph Office at Roxburgh. This was a great success. However, during 1876-77, there was a nationwide demand for qualified men to operate telegraph lines. As it became harder to staff the service, it became impossible to keep the telegraphic line between the Teviot Station and the Roxburgh Post Office working¹. This is when Thomas COOP's thoughts turned to telephony.

Thomas Coop (1838-1924) had been appointed Postmaster at Roxburgh in September of 1873². Teviot Station, then owned by John CARGILL³ and his son-in-law E. R. ANDERSON^{4,5}, was about six miles/10km from the Roxburgh Post Office. While there has been some debate over the years, the evidence suggests that the telephone line installed by Thomas Coop between Teviot Station and Roxburgh Post Office was the first real operational telephone line in New Zealand. That is, the first telephone line in New Zealand set up with the practical purpose of enabling commercial activity and ensuring ongoing communication.



Thomas Coop

Used with permission. Collection of Toitū Otago Settlers Museum, H7. Permission of Toitū Otago Settlers Museum must be obtained before any re-use of this image

The telephone line was most likely put in place by Thomas Coop during 1877 with the connection becoming operational in late 1877/early 1878. The date 1877 was mentioned by the Postmaster-General of New Zealand while in Roxburgh opening the new Post Office in 1914, as reported in the *Mt Benger Mail* of 8 April 1914⁶. According to the article, the Postmaster-General had recently been talking with Thomas Coop in Wellington so it is likely the date 1877 came from Thomas himself:

Just before leaving Wellington Mr Coop had asked him to remember him to his old friends in Roxburgh.--(Applause.) Mr Coop had told him that Mr J. K. Logan, who was their Inspector of Telegraphs in Otago, and later Chief Telegraph Engineer for the dominion, had shown him an interesting relic in the shape of a rough sort of telephone which Mr Coop believed was the very one used to connect with Teviot, and was first used for commercial purposes in the dominion. That was in 1877. Reference had been

The existence of the line was reported in the *Tuapeka Times* on 23 February 1878⁷:

'Messrs Cargill and Anderson have a telephone connecting their lower station with the Roxburgh telegraph office'.

There are at least two stories about where Thomas obtained the telephones used to connect Teviot Station and the Roxburgh Post Office:

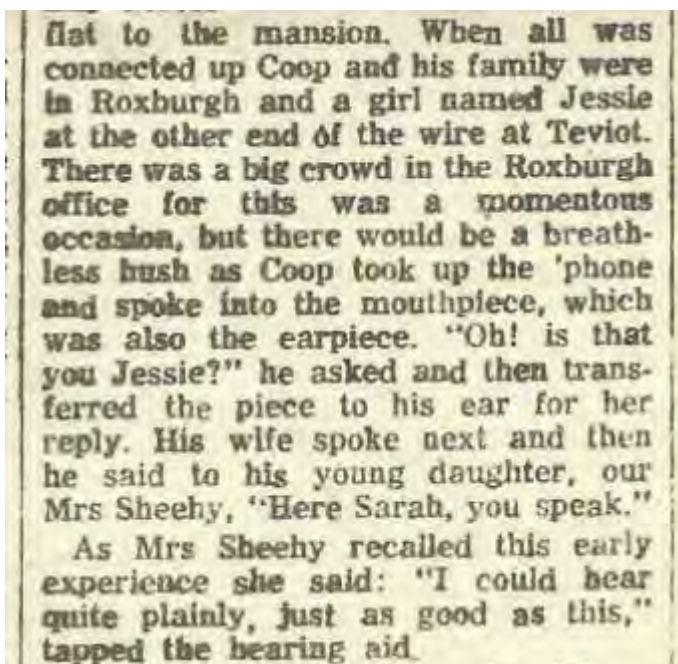
One version is that J.K. LOGAN (who had previously taught Thomas everything he knew about telegraphy) obtained two telephones from Charles HENRY of Dunedin, one of the most successful of the early experimental phone manufacturers in New Zealand. According to this story, Logan took the phones to Roxburgh and suggested to Thomas that telephony was the answer to his problems. Thomas then connected the phones, one at Teviot Station and one at the Roxburgh Post Office using the existing telegraph line⁸. However, evidence suggests that Charles Henry first built a pair of telephones in late January 1878 from a drawing he found in a *Scientific American* magazine⁹. This was after, or at about the same time that, Thomas' line became operational. If Thomas worked on the installation of the telephone line during 1877 and operationalised it in late 1877/early 1878, as suggested elsewhere, he must have had access to the telephones before January 1878.

The more likely version of events, and the one passed down in the family as oral history is that, while overseas in 1876, John Cargill co-owner of Teviot Station met

Alexander Graham BELL. Hearing of the isolation of Teviot Station, Bell gave Cargill two telephones which Cargill brought home to Teviot Station with him. After Cargill discussed this with Thomas Coop, Thomas laid the line between the Post Office and Teviot Station homestead. While some accounts say that Cargill and Bell met in Britain¹⁰, or more precisely, London, where Bell was demonstrating his newly invented telephone to Queen Victoria¹¹, other accounts, including that of Thomas Coop's daughters, Sarah and Annie (see below), say that Cargill met Bell in the United States of America while on his way home to New Zealand from Britain.

Thomas' daughter, Sarah Jane [Coop] SHEEHY (1874-1959) was interviewed by Kevin CREE for an article in 1957 in the *Weekly News*¹². She told him how Thomas ran a wire along the telegraph poles from Roxburgh towards Dunedin to a point on the riverbank opposite the Teviot homestead. A line of poles was then erected across the river and across the flat to the homestead enabling a connection between Roxburgh Post Office and Teviot Station six miles away. Sarah would have been about four years old at the time so this aspect of the story she presumably recalls from what her father had told her.

Sarah also told Kevin Cree how her father was the first to speak to Teviot Station by telephone, followed by her mother and herself:



A similar story is told by Thomas' daughter Annie Coop (1877 - 1978) in her written response to an inquiry by a Mr SELL. Annie's letter to Mr Sell was given to me by my mother-in-law, Shirley Noeline [Coop] CHAPMAN (1927 - 2018). It appears to be a draft of a letter to be sent rather than the final version of a letter sent. Unfortunately, the letter is undated and unsigned. However, Annie refers to her sister, Sarah as 'Mrs Sheehy (now deceased)'. Sarah died in 1959. Annie died in 1978. So, the letter was written sometime between 1959 and 1978 and, most probably in the early 1960's because, on another page of the letter (not shown below), she refers to her sister's article in The *Weekly News* of 1957 as being '6 or more years ago'.

Annie was a baby at the time of these events so her account is very much based on what she heard from her father and on the recollections of her sister, Sarah. Much of the draft letter is about other aspects of Thomas' life. An extract (the first page) of Annie's letter, in Annie's handwriting, is below¹³:

'Dear Mr Sell

I received a letter from my niece Mrs Pollock enclosing yours to her asking for details of the installation by my father of the first telephone to be used in New Zealand. What I can tell you is only from memory of what he told me many years ago.

Mr Orchiston [?], if I remember rightly, was the telegraph engineer of that day & his reports would most likely contain more details than I am able to supply. It appears that the owner of Teviot Station returning from a visit to England via the United States met Mr Graham Bell the inventor, who presented him with two telephones. These he brought home with him and my father who was Postmaster at Roxburgh installed one in the post office & the other as far as I know at Teviot Station. That was in the year 1878, and my sister Mrs Sheehy (now deceased) could remember being lifted as a small child of 4 to speak into the receiver ...'

Much earlier than her interview with Keith Cree in 1957, Sarah Jane [Coop] Sheehy had correspondence with 'S.N.M' on the subject of Thomas' telephone connection. This was via the 'Letters to the Editor' in the *Otago Daily Times*. It appears that Sarah wrote at least two letters to the Editor; each being in response to letters written by 'S.N.M'. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to find either Sarah's earlier letter or the two letters from 'S.N.M'. From her reply written on 29 April 1927, published 2 May 1927 (see below), it appears that 'S.N.M' had expressed the view that the first telephone line could not possibly have been installed in the 'backblocks' of Otago and was more likely to have been in Dunedin. Unfortunately, Sarah appears to have mixed up the dates when she refers to the connection being 'either late in the year 1878 or early 1879' since the evidence suggests late 1877 or early 1878.

Sarah's letter to the Editor in response to 'S.N.M', dated 29 April 1927 (published 2 May 1927)¹⁴ is below (abridged):

'THE FIRST TELEPHONE IN NEW ZEALAND
TO THE EDITOR

SIR, -I have read with interest what "S.N.M." has to say in reply to my letter in your issue of April 20, but I cannot see that he has thrown any further light on the subject or made good to the claim that the first telephone used in New Zealand for practical purposes was installed in Dunedin. I gave as nearly as possible the time that a telephone was installed and used for commercial purposes at Teviot Station. This telephone was connected with the telegraph Office at Roxburgh, the distance between the two stations being approximately seven miles. The vital point was that a telephone was installed at Teviot Station by my father, Mr Thomas Coop, either late in the year 1878 or early 1879 and I had always understood that this was the first telephone not only in New Zealand but in the world, that had been put to practical use, and I asked any reader who knew of one having been in use at an earlier date to be so kind as to give the date or year of its installation ...

... Apparently "S.N.M" missed the gist of my argument, when I tried to show that a gentleman like Mr Cargill was a very likely man to grasp the opportunity of obtaining a telephone as he recognised the vast possibilities there were in the invention. My statement that the Teviot homestead was up to date, etc., was for the purpose of demonstrating that "S.N.M" was in error in stating that it was not likely that the first telephone would be installed in what he termed the backblocks.

I am pleased to find "S.N.M" quoting the vast holdings of Northern Australia to refute my claim that Teviot woolsheds were considered the largest in the Australasian colonies at the time of which I was writing. While I have never visited that part of the world, let me inform "S.N.M" that an uncle of mine, Henry Coop, owned a vast tract of that country (400 miles), bought from Sir W. J. CLARKE and when this uncle was on a visit to our home at Roxburgh, as a man with considerable experience in this line, he considered the Teviot woolsheds to be the largest in the colonies, I would qualify this claim by saying I alluded to one-storey buildings only ... the arched roof of these sheds was originally built for some large railway station in Melbourne, but owing to some faulty work either in design or otherwise the roof was not accepted, and the contractors sold it to Mr Cargill, who shipped it to New

Zealand and carted it on to Teviot Station. When erected it had holding capacity under one roof for 7000 sheep ... I do not see ... why "S.N.M" said that Teviot Station was in the backblocks and that therefore there was good and sufficient reason for holding that the first telephone was not installed there.

As stated in my previous letter, I am a daughter of the late Thomas Coop, who erected the telephone at Teviot Station. - I am, etc., S.J. SHEEHY Miller's Flat, April 29'

So, can Thomas Coop be credited with establishing the first telephone connection in New Zealand for the practical purpose of enabling commercial activity and ensuring ongoing communication? The evidence would suggest that he can and that he was able to do so, probably sometime in late 1877/early 1878, using a set of telephones provided to him by John Cargill who, while travelling overseas, had been given them by Alexander Graham Bell.

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Notes:

¹ Nigel Fitzgerald 'Teviot Post Office Name was Quietly Dropped' *Otago Daily Times* 12 December 1874. Copy of original newspaper article held by Author.

² Thomas Coop was born in Marylebone, London, England in 1838 and travelled to Australia with his parents and siblings at the age of 14. He engaged in various activities in Australia before moving to Otago, New Zealand in 1861. He took up the position of Postmaster/Telegraphist based in Roxburgh in 1873 and continued there until his retirement in 1905. He died in Roxburgh on 18 February 1924 and is buried at the old Roxburgh cemetery.

For more detailed information about Thomas Coop, see:
Jane Chapman 'Thomas Coop – Youth to Early Adulthood' [BJNL's Genealogy](#) : posted 6 April 2021.

Jane Chapman 'Thomas Coop – The Roxburgh Years' [BJNL's Genealogy](#) : posted 9 April 2021.

³ John Cargill was born in 1821. He sailed with his family to Otago, New Zealand in 1847/1848 on the ship *John Wickliffe*. In New Zealand he operated various sheep stations in Otago. He served as a Member of Parliament from 1853-1858 and 1866-1870. He later moved to British Columbia in Canada. He died there on 2 January 1898 and is buried in the Armstrong Pioneer Cemetery just north of Vernon, British Columbia - Article '*John Cargill (Politician)*' [Website] - [Wikipedia](#)

⁴ Ringing success Centenary of the telephone, *Bay of Plenty Times*? March 1976 Original newspaper clipping held by Author.

⁵ Post-Master General at Roxburgh Post Office Officially Opened. A Successful Function, *Mt Benger Mail*, 8 April 1914, Page 3 via [Papers Past](#). Accessed 31 January 2023.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Local Intelligence, *Tuapeka Times*, 23 February 1878, p. 2 via [Papers Past](#) [Website]. Accessed 31 January 2023.

⁸ Nigel Fitzgerald, *Otago Daily Times* 12 December 1874. Copy of original newspaper article held by Author.

⁹ Ringing success Centenary of the telephone, *Bay of Plenty Times*? March 1976 Copy of original newspaper clipping held by Author.

¹⁰ Don Donovan, Teviot Station: Peek into Otago history through great stone walls, *NZ Herald* [Website]. Accessed 31 January 2023.

¹¹ via [Geocaching](#) [Website]. Accessed 31 January 2023

¹² Keith Cree, Her father Swam to New Zealand *The Weekly News* (Auckland) May 1957 Copy of original newspaper clipping held by author.

¹³ The niece, Mrs Pollock, referred to in Annie's letter is Annie's brother Henry's daughter Mary Margaret Ballentyne Coop (1901 - 1983). She married Ian McMillan Pollock (1898 - 1993)

¹⁴ Sarah Sheehy, The First Telephone in New Zealand. Letter to the Editor, *Otago Daily Times*, 2 May 1927, p. 3 via [Papers Past](#). Accessed 31 January 2023.



NZSG Cemeteries Collection
Coming soon to the Kiwi Collection
Access available to all members

Interrupted Journeys - Tragedy, retreat, and emigration

Neil Sutherland

I often imagine the thoughts that great-great-grandma Catherine DINGWALL might have had when she stepped ashore at Port Chalmers in 1874. After all, it was a long time since 1841, when she and her husband Andrew decided to emigrate with their children Andrew jnr (2) and Jane (6 months) from Kirkton of Largo in Fife, Scotland, seeking a better life on the other side of the world. It is around those intervening 33 years that I have modelled a family novel, motivated by the circumstances of the tragedy that befell this young family. Catherine was left a widow with two children, marooned in a very foreign land thousands of miles from her planned destination.

It took many years of genealogical and historical research, and travel, to flesh out the details of the tragedy and understand the links and lives of the main players of the story. The findings were used to build a historical context for their story in order to suggest what their realities and dreams might have been, both before and after the incident.

The family left Greenwich, Scotland, for Port Phillip (Melbourne) with high hopes. Their ship, the *India*, was new, beautiful and fast, a sleek black and white painted barque that had just returned from its maiden voyage. Their captain, Hugh CAMPBELL, was regarded as one of the best, and they would have been full of optimism and excitement as they set sail. However, the journey would not go to plan.

It began as a relatively ordinary trip. Seven weeks into the journey as *India* sped across the mid-Atlantic, the everyday on-board chores continued as usual. But when a cabin boy and another crew member were sent to fill up decanters with brandy and whiskey, disaster was about to hit. The alcohol was stored in a windowless room where, along with the barrels of spirits, spare sails were stacked around the walls. Because the room was dark, they lit a candle, and while they were decanting the liquid, *India* gave a sudden lurch. The candle fell onto some spilt alcohol, and within minutes the sails caught alight, and fire spread to the structure of the ship.

It happened that, for the first time in two weeks another ship was in view, far in the distance, and so a cannon was fired to attract attention to *India's* plight. From the time the crew of the second ship realised what was happening, it took two hours to reach the burning vessel, which by then was at risk of

sinking. The two hundred plus passengers and crew were desperate.

The rescue ship, the *Roland*, was a French whaler, heading for the South Seas. (It had recently returned to Le Havre from a season which included the southern coast of Aotearoa/New Zealand). As it approached the *India* her skeleton crew could see how critical things were and they immediately swung into action. Imagine the welling of hope as Catherine and Andrew watched its approach. Imagine their despair as they handed over their two children and watched them and the other children being taken down to the side of the ship and loaded into a lifeboat to be transferred to the *Roland*.

Already people's clothes were burning and being ripped from their bodies. Some were jumping for their lives, and one of the 17 who would never surface again, was my great-great-grandfather, Andrew. Catherine and the children were safely rescued, and found themselves on board the *Roland*, sailing for the nearest landfall, six days away at Rio de Janeiro.

A typical whaler, the rescue ship was small. The only place they could accommodate the nearly 200 survivors was on the deck, under sails draped above them for shelter. What misery these days were, as apart from good food stores, the ship carried little that was of material benefit to their needs. Many had been hauled aboard in various stages of nakedness. Many had burns, cuts, broken limbs. Some had all of these. It was a frantic time for Robert HESKETH, the British Consul in Rio, when the whaler sailed into the harbour with a crowd of destitute British citizens aboard. All of them were now his responsibility. The situation demanded instant decisions, and an island in the harbour was given over to the survivors until decisions could be made about their future.

So here was Catherine, widowed, lonely, exhausted, and with two infant children to care for, living on a Brazilian island, with no inkling of where the future would take her. What was she to do? And how did she end up in Otago, New Zealand, 33 years later?



Images: *The India* (left) Painting from 1840

(right) Samuel Elyard, *Burning of the Barque India*, c 1841. Watercolour on paper, 41.7 x 55 cm. ANMM Collection 00004246.

Hesketh eventually commandeered a freight ship and had it refitted to take the passengers on to their intended destination of Port Phillip. However, the four women who were widowed as a result of the fire, were given the option of returning to Scotland, and that was what Catherine chose.

It was more than 30 years later, when her six-month-old baby Jane had grown up and married William DUNCAN, that Catherine would face the challenge of another long seafaring journey. For in 1874, Jane and William, now with three children, decided to seek opportunity and sail to New Zealand. As Catherine lived with them (her son Andrew had died in his early twenties) she decided to accompany them. Imagine the trauma as she again stepped aboard another sailing ship to endure months once more at sea! Imagine the memories! What a woman! She did it. But imagine her anguish when, not far from Dunedin, a fire broke out on that ship too. However, this time it was quickly brought under control.

After many drawn-out days on a ship becalmed off the coast of the South Island, Catherine became desperate to get ashore. The final weeks of the journey had been dispiriting and it was a huge relief when at last the Otago Heads came into view and they approached the port.

Shortly after their arrival, William, a highly regarded teacher in Scotland, was appointed Headmaster at Dunedin's Green Island School. He held this position for more than two decades, but when he retired, he and Jane fulfilled their life-time dream and went farming near Owaka. Catherine remained part of their household until her death and burial at Green Island.

Researching this story, and the lives and connections of the people who shared roles in it, has been a wonderful twelve-year journey. The best moments were when I let the story lead me, and it is surprising where it led! I learnt to follow every link, no matter how tangential it might be. When one lead took me on board the whaling ship *Roland*, I googled to learn something of the ship. The names of two of her French crew were recorded, one of them sharing the same surname as my sister-in-law's ancestors. With the help of her whanau, we were able to prove that this rescuer, Emile, was actually her great-great-grandfather. From the resulting French genealogical research, I found who his ancestors were, and which villages were relevant to his story. Developing "word pictures" from early photos of the towns was especially rewarding. Learning about his trade as a cooper and the basics of how his life would have been on a whaler almost 200 years ago, was equally satisfying.

Visiting some of the places that my ancestors came from was essential to bringing reality to my writing and research. My partner came with me, and her investment in my story led to some invaluable genealogical finds. Through her detective work, in a Crail graveyard, she found on a headstone inscription the name of Andrew junior's school friend! Armed with census information about him, I learnt of the friend's

upbringing and family life, and was able to make links between Andrew and David as they grew up. Another thread of the story slowly emerged.

In a display case at Kellie Castle, along the road from where Catherine and the children had lived in Fife, my partner found a letter written by a prominent ancestor, a man who had an important role in the repatriation of Catherine and the children when they returned after the tragedy. Why was the letter there? What was his link to the castle? Yet another round of research was triggered.

We visited museums in the towns of my ancestors. In one near where Catherine and the children lived after their return 'home,' the custodian was a sociologist who specialised in her story. She gave a detailed account of how life was for widows raising children alone in those days. It was very satisfying to later read the early nineteenth century Parish Records of my ancestors' parish and match items from them with what the sociologist told me.

From a genealogist's point of view, I have been lucky. Very lucky, because the ship my ancestors were rescued from happened to be the *India*. Had they been victims of disaster on another ship I would not have had a story to tell. In the early 1800s, when a ship was wrecked, it usually sank without trace, everyone died, and little was known other than that the ship had not arrived at its destination. The demise of the *India* was unique because it was one of the few disasters from which people were rescued, and so could tell their tale. I was lucky to find that 1841 newspapers from Glasgow, Port Phillip, Rio de Janeiro, Edinburgh, independently reported the incident, each article compiled from the account of a different informant. Also, Consul Heskith's Rio de Janeiro reports, of both the incident and his management of the survivors, still exist along with his correspondence with the Home Office in London. They give a wealth of official information.

Andrew and Catherine were very ordinary people with ordinary 'rural Scotland' origins. While it is the nobles and notables that one would expect to be well documented, in my family ancestry we are seriously lacking such people. Yet by treating every morsel of information as a potential launching point for new research, it is astonishing how much was waiting to be found about my people and their lives. In many ways it was their ordinariness that gave them richness and a dimension that I was able to engage with.

Writing the story of Catherine's life has been strengthening and rewarding. For the moment, it is printed and finished, and I am putting Catherine aside. But already there are new aspects emerging as I get feedback about my account of her life. Catherine has led me on, and it has been up to me to look for the prompts of her story and pick them up. So often, as I have chewed away at a totally 'left field' morsel, it has proved to be the one which was most productive and interesting.

Neil Sutherland.
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Can anyone help?

An aside to this story is that after the tragedy Catherine Dingwall was given a Bible with an inscription beginning something like "To one of the sufferers, miraculously saved at sea from the burning barque *India*....." I know they brought it to New Zealand, and it was in possession of a branch of Jane and William Duncan's family living in Southland. I would love to know where it is, but after much emailing, phoning, meeting and talking to many wonderful second cousins that I did not know existed, I have been unable to locate it. Any information or suggestions that I could follow up would be appreciated. I am also keen to hear from anyone else whose ancestry takes them aboard the *India*.

Neil Sutherland

Searching for John Elliott and Elizabeth Northey

Eric Walton

The stories about my great-great-grandparents, John ELLIOTT and Elizabeth NORTHEY (my maternal grandmother's maternal grandparents) centre around Elizabeth being the daughter of a wealthy family who lived on a large estate, and John working as a gardener for the family. They fell in love and eloped. Supposedly, Elizabeth had been left money, but it was 'in Chancery' because the estate had never been settled. Her daughters would not claim the money because their mother would not. There was also supposed to be a silver hairbrush and hand-mirror that she had taken with her when she departed. And somewhere in the mix were also the WEBBs, the MARDONS and the FARQUHARSONS.

What was known for certain was that John and Elizabeth were married in the Trinity Church in Adelaide, South Australia on 13 January 1853. This was because my family kept the original marriage certificate 'in the drawer' in the kitchen where all family documents were kept – Plunket records, school reports, and the rest.

My family history research started in earnest in the early 1980s. I wrote or talked to every relative on both sides of the family and then through them, tried to find others in each branch who were interested in the family's history

and were willing to correspond with me. I was also keen to track down photographs of the various family members in my direct line and their siblings. It should be remembered that this was prior to the internet and the interest in genealogy was not what it is today.

I was lucky that when I started most of the previous generation were still alive, but unfortunately, none of my grandparents. Particularly useful for this investigation, though I didn't realise it at the time, was a copy of a slip of paper that summarised a conversation a cousin had had with my maternal grandmother. On it was stated that the Elliott family arrived in Bluff when there were only five houses present and that in addition to the three extant family lines, Elizabeth and John had six more children!

The adult children in New Zealand

It was relatively easy to find and map out the three extant lines. This included my great-grandmother, May Elliott, who was born in Invercargill, New Zealand in 1867, her older sister, Annie, born near Castlemaine, Victoria, Australia in 1863, and younger sister, Olive Bertha (known as Bertha), who was born in Invercargill in 1869. I also found a fourth child, Bessie Alice Maria (known as Alice), who was born in Adelaide in 1853, whose line died out with the death of her only child.

In more detail, Alice was born in Adelaide on 6 December 1853. She was the first child of John and Elizabeth, and at the time, they lived at Grenfell Street, Adelaide. She was baptised on 8 January 1854 in the church where her parents were married. John was listed as a gardener on her birth certificate and in the baptismal entry in the Parish Register. She married Henry SINCLAIR in 'the house of Mr Green' in Maitland on 11 December 1875. She was 22 and Henry significantly older at 49 years. At the time, he was the Station Master at the Invercargill Railway Station. They probably met because Alice's father also worked for the railways in Invercargill. Their son, Henry William Sinclair, was born in Invercargill in 1877.

The newspapers of the day report that Henry resigned from his position as Station Master in 1878. In the same year, he was granted a license for the Clarendon Hotel in Invercargill, which he appears to have had until probably 1882. In early 1883, there are a series of advertisements for him selling off the contents of presumably his grocery store on the corner of Kelvin and Don Streets, Invercargill. In December 1885 there was a notice in the paper that a Henry Sinclair (possibly/probably Alice's husband) had been fined 5s for being drunk and that he had had two or three previous convictions.

Henry died 20 September 1886 in Queanbeyan, New South Wales, Australia and is buried there. He was listed as a Railway Timekeeper in the Letters of Administration of his estate. I don't know why he was in Queanbeyan, but I think it likely that his marriage to Alice had failed. Alice's



Elizabeth Northey (Walton Family Collection)

son, Henry William, died 20 October 1887 and was buried in the East Road Cemetery in Invercargill. Alice died of consumption (pulmonary tuberculosis) on 10 November 1891 and was buried with her son.

Annie (John and Elizabeth's 'second child'), was born at New Chum Gully, Campbell's Creek, which is near Castlemaine, Victoria, Australia, on 25 June 1863. Her Christian name was recorded on her birth certificate as Ann rather than Annie. John Elliott was recorded as a digger as the family was prospecting for gold; Victoria was at the height of its gold rush. Annie married Richard WEBB at St Paul's Presbyterian Church in Invercargill on 23 August 1882, when she was 19 years old. Richard was born at Bethnal Green, London, England on 9 March 1854. Annie and Richard had five children: John Robert Webb (1884-1884), Richard Francis Webb (1885-1901), Hilda Bertha Webb (1892-1892), Elizabeth Mary Webb (1895-1964), and Vera Victoria Webb (1897-1973). Annie died on 11 October 1913 at Nurse English's Private Hospital in Hastings after being thrown from a trap. An inquest returned a verdict of accidental death. She was buried in the Hastings Cemetery. Annie's husband Richard died 17 August 1929 and was buried with his wife.

May (John and Elizabeth's 'third child'), my great-grandmother, was born on 10 March 1867 in Invercargill.



John Elliott (Walton Family Collection)

At that time, her father was listed as a labourer. She married John HALL on 11 April 1888 at her parent's house in Yarrow Street. John was born on 1 March 1858 at Boswarva, near Madron in Cornwall, England, the son of William Hall and Ann WHITE. John Hall also worked for the Railways, and their employment records show that he transferred to Invercargill in late-October 1887, as a Bridge Inspector. It would appear to be a rather speedy courtship as they were married five and half months later. I think it likely that it was associated with the fact that they were all from the southwest of England; John Hall was Cornish, Elizabeth Northey was Cornish and John Elliott was from Devonshire.

They had three daughters: Clarice May Hall (1889-1974), my maternal grandmother, Winifred Mary Hall (1891-1966), and Elizabeth Dorothea Hall (1895-1959). John Hall died in Mt Albert, Auckland on 25 April 1919 of asthenia (lack of energy), three months after a stomach cancer operation. He was buried at Waikumete Cemetery in Auckland. May died on 12 May 1941 and was buried with her husband.

Bertha (John and Elizabeth's 'fourth child'), was born in Invercargill on 29 April 1869. At the time of her birth, her father was listed as a labourer. She married Alexander FARQUHARSON at her parent's house in Yarrow Street, Invercargill on 3 November 1893. Alexander was born in Ayrshire, Scotland in 1870, the son of William Farquharson and Margaret STEWART. At the time of the marriage John Elliott was listed as a railway employee. Bertha and Alexander had four children: William Elliott Farquharson (1894-1963), Ethel May Farquharson (1896-1971), Bertha Farquharson (1898-1975), and James Elliott Farquharson (1900-1956). Bertha died in Dunedin on 28 April 1944 and Alexander died in Dunedin on 18 June 1966. Both were cremated.

The additional children

In 1995, I had the opportunity of going to Melbourne to stay with a friend and work colleague. A visit to Births, Deaths & Marriages in Melbourne, and checking the indices revealed two more of John Elliott's and Elizabeth Northey's children. The first was Elizabeth Ann Elliott, who was born in Red Hill, Mt Blackwood, Victoria on 6 March 1856. Blackwood, as it is now known, was a small gold mining town in Victoria. Gold was found at Golden Point in Blackwood on 4 January 1855 and by the end the year 13,000 prospectors were living there. Though Elizabeth Ann was born at Red Hill, a 'suburb' of Blackwood, John Elliott's residence was Golden Point, another 'suburb' of Blackwood.

The second child was Agnes Dorothea Elliott, who was born at Campbell's Creek, near Castlemaine, Victoria on 3 March 1859. John Elliott is recorded as a miner. The birth was registered on 25 June 1859, by which time Agnes had been baptised. Unfortunately, both children died very young. Agnes Dorothea died of measles, pneumonia, and enteritis on 8 December 1860, aged one, in Campbells Creek and Elizabeth Ann died of bronchitis on 9 June 1861, aged five. They are buried together in the Castlemaine Cemetery.

A feature of Victorian birth certificates of the mid-1800s, was that previous 'issue' of the marriage were recorded. From that, we can see that Elizabeth Ann was actually the third child of John and Elizabeth, and that Agnes Dorothea was their fourth. On Elizabeth Ann's birth certificate, Alice is recorded as being two years old and their second child, Elizabeth, by implication had died. On Agnes Dorothea's birth certificate, less detail is given, just stating that there are two previous children living and one previous child who was dead.

Given the dates of birth of Alice and Elizabeth Ann, I think the first Elizabeth was born late 1854 or early 1855. Searches for official birth or death records for Elizabeth have proved unsuccessful. There are no records for her in either South Australia or Victoria. It is likely she was stillborn or died soon after birth, and neither the birth nor death was registered. It is not clear how or when the family travelled from Adelaide to the gold fields of Victoria. Possibly by land or possibly by sea to Melbourne and then overland. Elizabeth could have died on the journey or once they had arrived at Blackwood. The cemetery in Blackwood was gazetted in 1860, but burials apparently occurred from 1855. It is quite possible she is buried there, but as the records are incomplete, it is unlikely that we will ever know for sure.

Seven of John and Elizabeth's nine children were now accounted for. A much later search of the online records of the Invercargill City Council Cemetery records indicated that there was an interment of a stillborn daughter of John Elliott on 10 March 1866. The dates fitted so I ordered the certificate from Births Deaths and Marriages in Wellington, and yes, she was another child of John and Elizabeth, and was born on 7 March 1866. There was one child still unaccounted for. Further searches of the indices many times yielded nothing.

After finishing work for the University of Otago in 2015,

my partner and I decided to fly to Melbourne and visit Castlemaine and some of the other Victorian goldmining towns. We planned to arrive in Castlemaine on, from memory, a Tuesday so that we could attend a meeting of the Castlemaine Historical Society. Contact had been made before we left New Zealand.

That visit exceeded all expectations. The person I met with also held the records for the Castlemaine Cemetery and told me of the burial of John and Elizabeth's stillborn child on 24 March 1862. He took me to the cemetery and showed me the approximate position of the grave of the three Elliott children (plot 130F). He also took me to see New Chum Gully where the Elliotts lived and prospected, and the property John Elliott had purchased. Now that was a real surprise for me. If you look at the original subdivision plan of Castlemaine, you can see the name J. Elliott on one of the sections in Gainsborough Street. It would appear that John Elliott purchased the section at the auction on 5 November 1862 (Allotment 8 of Section 105) for £5 10/-. One-fourth of the sale price was required at the time of the sale and the remainder in a month. The records in Melbourne give the date of purchase as 3 December 1862, so that is probably the date that he paid the outstanding balance. The Council records show that the family had a tent on the property in 1862, a tent and what looks like a 'shand' in 1863, a cottage in 1864, and they were gone in 1865.

Given that John Elliott bought a section in Castlemaine, they were probably successful prospectors and did find gold. I do have in my possession a hair-brooch that was owned by my great-grandmother, May Elliott (she can be seen wearing it in an old family photo). There are three locks of hair in the brooch, and the one in the centre has a small pearl on it. The frame is decorated with fine grape leaves and bunches of fruit in gold. The family story is that the gold was found on the Otago gold fields, but I suspect in truth the gold was found in or around Castlemaine.



*Images: John and Elizabeth's daughters: Annie Webb, May Hall, Olive Bertha Farquharson
(Walton Family Collection)*

Whose hair is it? Assuming it was made when they found the gold (~1862), I would say probably Elizabeth Ann's (1856-1861) and Agnes Dorothea's (1859-1860), and perhaps Alice's with the pearl because she was alive.



The move to Invercargill

When John Elliott sold up and the family left the gold fields of Victoria for New Zealand and settled in Invercargill is uncertain, because of the lack of the necessary emigration or immigration records, but it was probably in the mid-1860s. However, the death certificates of Alice and Annie suggest 1864. There is not a lot of information about the family's time in Invercargill. There is, however, a copy of a letter written by John Elliott to his grandson Frank (Richard Francis Webb). Although it is undated it would appear to have been written soon after the family moved to Hastings. He acknowledges a letter from Frank and says "grandmother, Uncle Alex, Aunty Bert & myself were very glad that he was enjoying good health". He notes that Frank had been down to visit Clarice (my grandmother) and 'Aunty May & Winnifred' (my great-grandmother and great aunt) had been up to see him. Given that Olive Bertha and Alex were married in November 1893, that John Elliott died in November 1895, and from NZ Railways employment records, John Hall was based in Napier from 19 December 1894 until 3 December 1896, it is likely the letter was written in 1895, not long before he died (which may be part of the reason why the letter was kept by Annie's family).

The death of John ELLIOTT

John Elliott died of pneumonia in his house in Yarrow St, Invercargill on 11 November 1895. His death certificate named his parents as Edward and Dorothy Elliott and gives his father's occupation as 'Gardener'. He was buried with his daughter and grandson. The headstone is quite large and is made of white marble, with lead lettering.

John Elliott's will was signed by him on 1 August 1889. He left everything to his wife, and she was named executrix. The Affidavit of the Executrix, and Inventory and Account, were both signed by Elizabeth Northey. These are the only times I have seen her signature, it was usually 'X her mark'. The signature on the Inventory and Account is quite scratchy, whereas the other is quite fluid, as though written by someone else. She attests that the various documents are true and correct, which is interesting for an illiterate person. The Inventory lists four properties, assorted household furniture and effects (including six canaries!), and approximately £260 in cash.

The death of Elizabeth Northey

Elizabeth Northey died at 47 Cargill Street, Dunedin, the house of John and May Hall, on 21 September 1908. The causes of death were given as senility and bronchitis. She was 75 years old, as recorded on her death certificate, and not 78 years old as stated in the newspaper. Being 75 at the time of her death indicates that she was born circa 1833. For some reason, her parents were not named on the death certificate. She was buried at the Eastern Cemetery in Invercargill with her husband, daughter, and grandson.

Elizabeth's will is curious. She leaves her daughter, Annie Webb, £150. The residue of her estate is split equally between her two daughters, May HALL and Olive Bertha FARQUHARSON. She made May and Bertha joint executrices. The will was signed 'X, her mark' on 18 September 1903.

A codicil was added on 17 September 1908 in Invercargill, four days before she died in Dunedin. In that codicil she disinherited her daughter Olive Bertha Farquharson and removed her as Executrix. The Affidavit of May Hall signed on 25 September 1908 states that the estate was under the value of under £830. The reasons why Annie was bequeathed only £150, or why Bertha was disinherited are not known. What May Hall did with her inheritance is also unknown.

The marriage of John Elliott and Elizabeth Northey

I wanted to know more about John Elliott and Elizabeth Northey, and where they came from and when did they arrive in Adelaide. If they eloped, one could assume they would have arrived in Adelaide together. Unfortunately, the South Australia immigration records are incomplete and nothing definitive was found. The story of their elopement is doubtful. A different branch of the family told me that John Elliott found Elizabeth Northey on the Victorian goldfields. That is unlikely as well, but probably closer to the truth in that they met in Australia.

As noted earlier, John and Elizabeth were married in Adelaide on 13 January 1853. On Saturday, 15 January 1853, the following notice appeared in both the *South Australian Register* and the *Adelaide Observer*:

On Thursday morning, the 13th instant, by special licence, at the Trinity Church, by the Very Rev. Dean Farrell, Mr. John Elliott, formerly of Totness, Devonshire, to Miss Elizabeth Northey, late of Truro, Cornwall.

Why the notice appeared in both newspapers is uncertain, but the three separate marriage announcements published

in the *South Australian Register* on 15 January 1853 also appeared 'word for word' in the *Adelaide Observer* on 15 January 1853.

It is important to note that John and Elizabeth were married by special licence. I was told that the special licence was required because Elizabeth Northey was not 21 (that is consistent with the marriage certificate which stated she was 20; John Elliott was listed as 28). Looking at other marriage notices on Trove (Australia's newspaper archive database), there are quite a few marriages by special licence, so their marriage by special licence was by no means unique. Who would have given permission for the marriage is not known. Attempts to find a copy of the marriage licence have proved unsuccessful. Being 20 years old when married in 1853 indicates she was born circa 1833. A good number on Ancestry have Elizabeth Northey being born in 1828 on their family trees. I do not believe this is correct. If it was, she would have been 25 years old at the time of her marriage and would not have required a special licence.

John Elliott was listed as 'formerly of Totness' (correctly spelt Totnes) and Elizabeth was listed as 'late of Truro',

suggests to me that they emigrated separately, that John emigrated before Elizabeth, and that they met in Adelaide. However, this has been discussed with several people and most feel that the choice of words in the newspaper notices is simply the result of the author's writing style and should not be interpreted further.

There were two witnesses to the marriage: Ferdinand DUVAL and Elizabeth TOSMAN or ROSMAN (the form of the first letter makes this uncertain). One could assume the witnesses were friends of the bride and groom. Searching Ferdinand Duval on Trove, many newspaper articles can be found; he had a large family. He died in 1912 and an obituary was published in the *Narandera Argus and Riverina Advertiser*, a New South Wales newspaper. It stated that he was born in 1832 in Exeter in Devon (approximately 35 km from Totnes) and landed in Adelaide in 1849 and practised as a pharmacist there until 1856. It is possible that John Elliott and Ferdinand Duval met and got to know each other on the voyage from the UK to Adelaide.

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Book Review

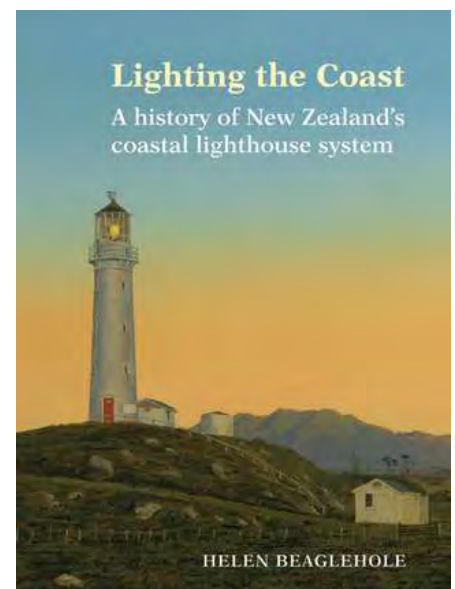
Lighting the Coast: A history of New Zealand's coastal lighthouse system,
Helen Beaglehole, Canterbury University Press, 2006.

By Elaine Prakash April 2023

ISBN 1-877257-43-5, hardcover, 354 pages, includes hundreds of images, a helpful glossary, extensive and meticulous notes, useful bibliography and an index. There are also two appendices. The first gives a brief timeline of maritime administration and the second a table of lights summarising their cost, date first lit, house construction, tower and apparatus details, and a description of the original light and any subsequent major modifications.

Beaglehole, after decades of sailing with her husband and family, has circumnavigated New Zealand and visited most of the lighthouse sites. She is obviously now an expert in this field and has years of well-documented research to draw upon. Her authoritative tome is comprehensive, and details all aspects of lighthouse design, construction, maintenance, and servicing. The major players in maritime administration, lighthouse engineers, and sea captains taking their supply vessels into dangerous waters are included too.

I highly recommend this book as a great backgrounder for the subject which will lead you to other resources for any



more specific interests. It is a very readable account of the men involved and their families, who dedicated themselves to this fascinating but difficult lifestyle. It was 150 years before technological advances made lightkeepers redundant. It is now the domain of technicians and maintenance crew to ensure the tower lights and beacons vital role in *lighting the coast* continue to keep us safe from rocks, reefs, and sandbars.



Mathesons - Early Settlers of Waitaki Christine Barbour

When fourteen-year-old Ann MACLEOD completed her sampler in 1873, she did not dream it would travel far overseas or that her great-great-grandchildren would pass their fingers over the letters admiring the fine stitching of this treasured heirloom.

As a Sea Captain's daughter, she experienced a comfortable but strict Church of Scotland upbringing in Greenock, Renfrewshire, Scotland. Her birthplace was Ballenock, North Knapdale, Argyll, beside the Crinan Canal's picturesque waters where her father Roderick Macleod worked as a canal lock keeper before gaining his captaincy. A few years after Ann's birth (1861) the Macleod family shifted to Greenock where they were blessed with eight more children, but sadly two died young.

When Ann fell in love with John MATHESON (b.1852) her parents did not agree to her marrying a widower with a young, adopted child. They hoped to emigrate to New Zealand, however the stories of the New Zealand Wars and settlers' hardships had reached Scotland. This was not the life her parents wished for their daughter. Ann persuaded her parents to relent, marrying John Matheson, a spirit merchant salesman from the Isle of Skye, on 9 August 1883. Three months later they departed Plymouth,

England as Assisted Immigrants on the S.S. *Bombay*, disembarking at Port Chalmers, Dunedin, New Zealand. The shipping list noted that John's occupation had mysteriously changed. Now he was a shepherd.

The family had homes in Otarua, Dunedin and coastal Wangaloa before settling in 1889 on the south side of the Waitaki Bridge called Waitaki South. Waitaki means "sounding water" in Māori.

The Mathesons already had three pre-schoolers to love and care for, four more children arriving in the following twelve years. I was proud to find Ann listed in the Women's 1893 Suffrage Index then also on the 1893 Waitaki Electoral roll, number 1911; occupation, married woman. While she unpacked their belongings, including her own stitched sampler and John's bagpipes, he searched for employment.

John worked as a drover and shepherd on the MacLEAN Brother's 450,000-acre sheep farm, later known as the Steward Settlement. The shepherds managed the 10,000 sheep, draughting and driving them south to a small abattoir at Eveline, Oamaru for slaughter, then exported frozen to London. Ann set about making a comfortable family home, a shepherd's cottage, located 500 metres

*Above Image: 1898 - Matheson Family of Waitaki South
(Barbour Family Collection)*

west of the Waitaki Bridge School, built years later. Two of their seven children sadly died of diphtheria and pneumonia, aged five and nine, a common occurrence in these early times.

Her refined upbringing had not prepared her for the primitive conditions of country life. Many skills not required or acquired in Greenock became essential in this Otago settlement i.e. milking cows, churning cream to make butter and chopping wood to feed the colonial stove. She grew the vegetables and served them with the readily available mutton. To purchase supplies, she drove her horse and cart thirteen miles south to Oamaru. Access to the river's north side was resolved with the erection of a two kilometre road and rail bridge about 20 years prior. A bridge keeper was employed at each end to close the gates when trains approached. Ann became good friends with the bridge keeper's wife, most likely Mrs Alexander MITCHELL, at the Waitaki end.

When their children reached school age, they walked over the bridge to attend Glenavy School. Sometimes she would prepare a basket, to share with friends. They would enjoy a picnic day along the river mouth amongst the sheltering flax bushes. The horses would be tethered to the cart and rugs and horse covers spread out to sit on for their lunch. Afterwards the men would go fishing, the children playing in the shallow stream or gathering paua shells used to edge pathways and gardens at home. Perhaps they searched for birds' nests while their mothers, with babies

sleeping soundly in their flax baskets, would chat and exchange the latest "home" news.

Friendly Māori lived at Kaika near the Waitaki River mouth. Ann would see them moving along the banks and watched them catch eels or fish or walk upriver to visit their whanau in the Whain Hills settlement near Omarama, an important area for gathering kai. One day she assisted a Māori with a broken arm and was later rewarded with gifts of flax baskets and fish.

In conjunction with his employment as a shepherd, John managed his own stock and property. Papers Past in 1895 documented the Commercial Stock and Produce Sales at the Junction Yards. "On account of J Matheson, one cow in milk was sold for £6 7s 6d". (Pounds, shillings and pence). He leased the Maerewhenua Estate, Section 46. The half yearly rent per acre on this 36a 1r 18p plot (Acres, roods and perches) was 4 shillings per acre, a total of £3 12s 9d. Both John and Ann's names appeared in this document. Four years later they were successful applicants in a ballot of W Estate Block V1, section 1, of 228 acres. Ten years after their arrival the family seemed to be well established and thriving. But life was hard for women of Ann's generation as they helped build a new country and raise their families.

Tragically Ann's life was cut short in 1902, aged only 41, just nine days after the birth of her seventh child. Her cause of death, a retained placenta and haemorrhage; both treatable post-partum complications these days. They passed baby William into the loving care of her friend the bridge keeper's wife for three months while the eldest daughter Ida, just turned 15, took charge of the family and home. John, devastated and heartbroken, coped with regular strolls over the Waitaki Bridge attending the Glenavy Hotel to partake in his favoured Scottish elixir, whisky.

The distraught family managed as best they could. Twenty months later, aged 16, Ida fell pregnant then married, leaving Flora to cope with the remaining two children. Roderick my grandfather, fourth of the five surviving children, was eight when his mother died and held a special love for his dear sister Flora, for the rest of his years.

By 1906 John seemed to be coping better when he was a successful applicant at the ballot for 99-year lease sections in the Steward Settlement having some 350 applications for 48 sections. The newspaper of 19 June 1909 announced a sale by public auction of 5 acres freehold & 95 acres of leasehold land at Waitaki South, a 4 bed-roomed dwelling and other buildings, alongside the School and Railway Station. The reason for the sale: "leaving the Colony!" John was on the move.

Flora was now free to marry as Jack 19, and Rod 15, were young but independent working men. She was 21 on her winter's wedding day in July 1909. John and young William, eight, shifted from Waitaki South to Oamaru, not leaving the colony as stated in the local newspaper. The Glenavy School admission register noted William's last day



**John Matheson with his dog Bess
(Barbour Family Collection)**

in December 1909. John's contentment didn't last long as in 1914, William, and I assume with his father, had returned to Waitaki School from south of Timaru. Then in 1916 William attended High St School in Dunedin. Father and son boarded with Miss Menzies at 13 Market St, St Kilda, but only a few months later fourteen-year-old William departed school for "work".

Meanwhile, it seems that John was unable to fully support himself. Throughout WWI my grandfather Roderick sent a portion of his six shillings a day pay-packet home to support John, now aged 62. Rod was upset to hear that most went on the "demon drink". Ann would have been proud to know her two sons, Jack and Roderick, served overseas during WWI and William during WWII. Whilst on leave in the UK they visited their Scottish aunts, uncles, and cousins several times. They still resided in the Greenock, Gourock area.

John and Ann's children married, three remaining in the Otago region. Ida, Mrs George FRIDD bore seven children. George was a labourer. Flora married James HOLLAMBY, a farmer and had five children. John (Jack) remained single and sadly died from the effects of WWI. Roderick had a successful career as an engineer for the NZ Railways, had two daughters in Wanganui then settled in Paeroa. William, an early adopter of waste management in Auckland, had one daughter.

At the time of John's death, January 24, 1923, he resided at the Benevolent Institution, Caversham, Dunedin, an attractive three storied stone country home predominately a residence for the poor elderly. With 50 beds, it was erected within eight acres of land on the corner of the Main South Road and Alexandra Street, Caversham. John's cause of death: myocarditis & heart failure at the age of 70. Alongside his wife, their son and daughter, he was laid to rest at Papakaio Cemetery.

A sad story you may say but common enough in those early days of North Otago.

Their gravestone (right) is inscribed:
"Early settlers of Waitaki".

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Not Robert Llewellyn Smith!

Gilly Mathieson

My mother was the genealogist – I just ran around doing research for her. I did not know her father, my grandfather; he died of a massive heart attack when my mother was 16. My mother was devastated; nothing had prepared her for his being here one minute and gone the next.

What did we know?

We knew that Robert Llewellyn SMITH was born in Bothwell, Tasmania; and came to New Zealand with his brother John (known as Jack), Jack's wife Deborah and their two small children (Gertrude and William). Prior to Robert marrying my Kiwi grandmother in New Zealand in 1906, we had two ages for him – one on his marriage certificate and a different one on my mother's birth certificate! We had his parents' names – James and Mary (nee LEONARD). Robert took his wife and two daughters to live in Hobart, Tasmania from 1922 to 1925 and my mother met many of her aunts, uncles and cousins and was able to recite many of their names. Apart from the knowledge that Robert rarely saw James (as his father was away working for much of the time) that was all we knew.

My mother commenced the journey to find out more about her father's family. Before Robert and Jack left for New

Zealand, they were living in Waratah so she wrote to the library there requesting information on a Smith family. The librarian replied that the only Smith she could find was James Smith nicknamed 'Philosopher' who had discovered tin at Mount Bischoff in 1871. The name fitted so mother decided that this James Smith was hers! She even had a large picture of him displayed with pride on her lounge wall. By now she had discovered he had married someone else and therefore her father and her aunts and uncles had to have been illegitimate and that James was carrying on with two women at the same time and producing two families. 'No wonder he was never home.' my mother was heard to say. Once she learned that James had been a member of the Legislative Council, mother did not want to do any contacting of James' legitimate family for fear of besmirching his name. She did, however, obtain a copy of his marriage certificate to Mary Jane LOVE and learned that his occupation was 'gentleman'. 'He was no gentleman' mother said. Nothing I (or my brother) could say would sway her from this track. He was her grandfather and that was that. My brother and I decided that we would not pursue it until after our mother died. And so, it stayed that way for about 10 years. Mum died 23 July 2008 aged 96; I inherited all her genealogy papers and the large picture of James 'Philosopher' Smith.

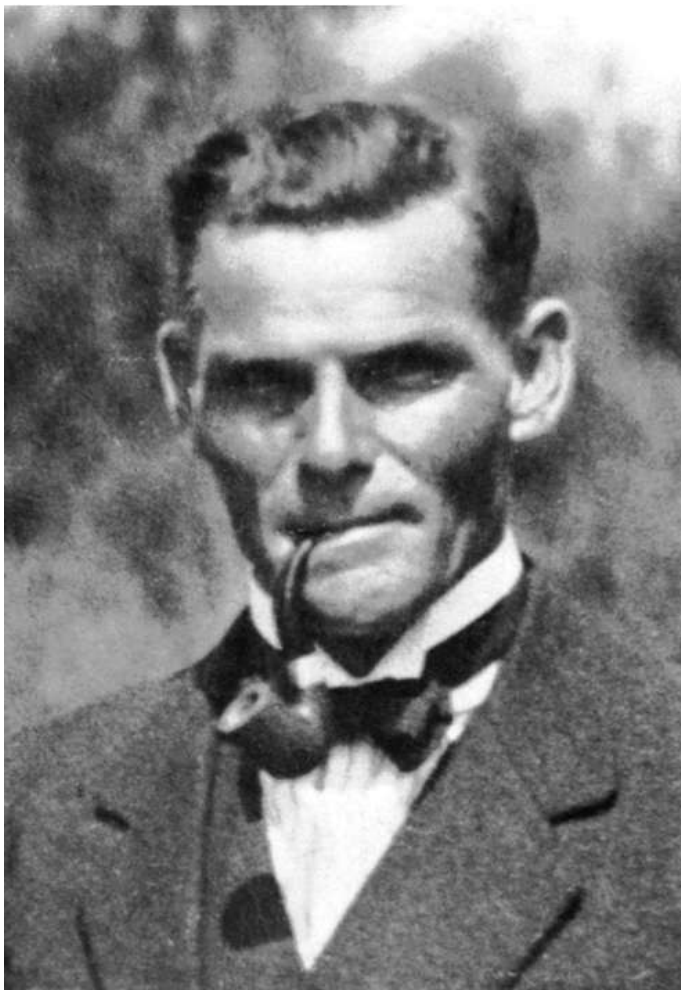
During my Christmas break that year, I decided to go through her papers and put wrongs to right for the Smith family. I took the two certificates and worked out the two years Robert could have been born in from the two ages he had put down. I then did a timeline for 'Philosopher' working around Robert's two birth dates and the knowledge I had of his brothers and sisters – older/younger. It really was not fitting and finally I said out loud, 'Sorry Mum, but he isn't yours' and I took his picture off my wall.

Next step – onto the computer, Tasmanian Archives and searching his full name – nothing. First and last name – thousands, but nothing in Bothwell.

Let's take a different tack –

John Smith, Bothwell and there he was in two family trees: one owned by the Smith family genealogist. What a find. Right, now to find his brother Robert Llewellyn. None in the list of siblings, but there was a George Robert Smith – with a perfect birth date. I had previously known the day and month. And there were several of his siblings' names that my mother had told me about.

I knew my great-aunt Deborah very well (Jack and William had died in the early 1920s), I knew my Auntie Gertie; and Aunt Dolly (Edith) too. Dolly had been born to Jack and Deb in New Zealand. As soon as I saw all this information, I knew I had found my family and that Robert Llewellyn Smith was actually George Robert Smith. I yelled out 'I found them. I found them!' and promptly burst into tears. How sad that I couldn't share all this with my mother. Confronted with all this evidence, I know I would have been able to convince her that this family was hers.



George Robert SMITH (aka Robert Llewellyn SMITH)
30.4.1877 – 17.11.1927
(Mathieson Family Collection)

I decided to apply for Robert's Death Certificate hoping there wasn't a third age. I knew when and where he had died and when the certificate arrived, I was able to confirm one of the birthdates that also agreed with the Tasmanian records.

I sent an email to Jennie (family genealogist) and as you can imagine she was thrilled to hear from me. She knew nothing of Robert after his birth, so I was able to fill her in on his life in New Zealand and his descendants. I travelled to Tasmania and met Jennie. We swapped photos and certificates and facial comparisons with other Smiths and of course family hugs.

Why had he put his age down for his marriage?

That was easily answered – if he hadn't, there would have been more than a 10 year gap between his and my grandmother's ages and she was only 19 when they married. She was the eldest of a family of 10 and I can imagine her parents would have been rather protective and concerned at her marrying someone so much older. Robert's age on my mother's birth certificate, however, is correct.

Why had he changed his name?

The name change is something my brother and I can only guess about. Once I started communicating with Jennie, it became apparent that James' father (Benjamin Smith) and Mary's father (Michael Leonard) came to Tasmania as convicts. A story I was told as a child by my grandmother was that when she and Robert started courting, her mother was afraid for her daughter, 'But Esther, he's a Tasmanian. How do you know he isn't a convict?' This sure would have put the wind up George Robert, and I think he changed his name to Robert Llewellyn so no tracing back to convicts could be done. On both the old certificates his name is written as Robert Smith – no George; but no Llewellyn either so he was very careful to use his correct name without causing suspicion.

The irony of the name change situation is that my mother called my brother Barrie Llewellyn after her father and he in turn has called his son Rhys Llewellyn. How grandfather would have laughed and how cross my mother would have been had she known.

I have since accessed the hand-written convict records of Benjamin Smith and Michael Leonard online – learned where they served their time, what they looked like and their behaviour etc. I have also been able to access information from an Irish site which gives information from that end for Michael. Mother always wanted to be able to say we were related to a Tasmanian convict. She would have been thrilled to know there were two of them within her ancestors. Benjamin was able to bring his family out after he had served his time. The Smiths were prolific in producing offspring and I was blown away by how many five children (who came from England with their mother) could produce and how many each of those has produced and so on and so on! James and Mary had 12 children for a start.

I am now on the trail of Michael Leonard to find out more about his life and family in Ireland.

I have two regrets from my research – that I didn't do my own research before my mother died; and that I didn't get to meet my grandfather. I bet the pair of them are having a great giggle way up there.

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Otago Settlers – The Kincardine/Forfarshire Crows

Bobbie Amyes

The Crows came to New Zealand chasing gold. They had already moved from Montrose, Scotland to Victoria Australia in search of gold. Before taking up farmland in Gisborne, Victoria, various members had prospected around Bendigo, Victoria. For a family that moved twice in search of gold, first to Australia, then to New Zealand, gold did not remain the allure. Looking at the occupational choices of the Crow families as they settled into New Zealand life and raised their families, it was not in Central Otago, but one by one they moved into Dunedin. However, some of the next generation remained intrigued by the challenges of wrestling gold out of the gravelly depths of the Clutha, developing better dredges and securing more than moderate success, including one week in 1902 that was a bonanza payday.

The Crow family lived around the Fordoun/Auchenblae area of Kincardineshire, with older family members buried in the local parish church. Alexander CROW and wives Rachel MILNE and Jane HARRIS [Jean HERRIS] are commemorated on a tombstone at the rear of the church, close to a steep bank. Like us, other Crow descendants have made a pilgrimage to search out these early ancestors, so we were lucky enough to have a photo to line up the grave site with relevant buildings. But, of more pertinence, my great grandfather Alexander Crow b1828 went back to Scotland in 1889 and his diary talks of his visit to the church, and he quotes the inscription on the tombstone and typically the entry reflects Alexander's interesting spelling. He might spell the same word three different ways on a page! "the grave ston of Grandfather in Dec26 1816 age 65"



The inscription on the grave gives not only information as above but mentions Alexander's address and status - "1825 ALEXANDER CROW subtenant of Muttonhole who died 26th Dec 1816 aged 65". Searching for Muttonhole or Cairnbeg as it was later known, proved elusive. West and East Cairnbeg were easy to identify, one is a new housing subdivision and the other a substantial farm. We were helped by the local rural mail deliverer, "Postman Pat," in our case Postman Steve. He directed us across the farmland to the foundations to the old Cairnbeg cottage. Long gone and enclosed by a concrete pad from a later hayshed, the old stone outline was still visible. We did not hang around to search for the Muttonhole or "Mout-toun hole" where women found guilty in the criminal court of the feudal barons were drowned.

Our ancestral line flows through Alexander Crow [b1751] and Jane Harris's son Alexander Crow [b c1797] who married Jane KIDD [Kyd]. This couple had moved from the rural life of Kincardineshire to crowded town life in Montrose, Forfarshire [Angus]. Here Alexander earned his living as a blacksmith. In 1841 they were living in Baltic St and in 1851 in Victoria St, but had for a short while lived in Colliston, St. Vigean where Isabella was born in 1837. Three children of this family, Alexander b1828, James b1831 and Isabella b1837 became our early Otago settlers, with the other family members settling in Australia. In the 1841 census, the seven surviving children would have been attending school or at home with their mother, only their father's occupation is mentioned. The eldest child, David [b1827], seemed to have died at birth or not long after. By the time of the 1851 census, the older children were working. Two of the girls, Jane and Isabella, were working as flax spinners in one of the local mills. When their elder brother, Alexander, revisited in 1888, many of the mills had disappeared, an aspect he found quite changed. By 1851 Alexander had shifted from home and was living in Dundee working as a mechanic. Of the rest of the family the two youngest, Jess (10) and John (7), were at school, the two eldest boys still at home were in apprenticeships, Francis (21), as a brass finisher and James as a tailor. Ann, aged 12, was listed as a house servant.

Sometime during 1851 the concept of migration must have risen, for on 12 March 1852, son Alexander [my direct ancestor] paid a deposit for his brother Francis and himself to travel steerage class to Australia. Their ship was to leave from Liverpool about 3 April 1852. That ticket, which has remained in the family, stated the remainder of the fare was paid on the 3 April 1852. Thus, the first of Alexander Crow and Jane Kidd's family immigrated to Australia on the *Anna*. Letters home from the goldfields of Bendigo would have told the family of Alexander's marriage at the Presbyterian Free Church Manse Melbourne to Helen/Ellon PATON in 1853, then the birth and death of their son Francis. He was born at Californian Gully in 1854, dying there 11 months later in May 1855. The older Francis married Caroline INGLIS in Melbourne in

1855. They had also been joined by brother James and sister Jane. Life on the gold fields was tough, and the young people had moved back to Melbourne and undertaken their previous trades. In June 1857, the Crow males pooled their money to purchase a block of land in Gisborne, Victoria.

Australia must have seemed a better option compared to life in Montrose, so in July 1857, the remaining Crows left Scotland for good. They sailed on the *Lady Milton*, Alexander 60, Jane in her late fifties, the girls Isabella (20), Ann (18) and Jessie (17) and John (14). By this stage Alexander, Ellen, Francis, Caroline, Jane and new husband George WOODWORTH had made their home in Gisborne, Victoria and this is where the migrating Crows headed. The block of land was named Green Valley Farm and a large house was built to accommodate the family.

The parents, Alexander Crow and Jane Kidd were to live in the area the rest of their lives, Alexander having 23 years in Australia and Jane 34 years, no mean feat for a couple who were over 50 when they immigrated. Alexander and Jane are buried in the Gisborne cemetery. The Gisborne Museum holds a photo with four generations of Crows - Jane Kidd Crow with her son Francis [Frank], his wife Caroline, their daughter and her children.

Over the years the remaining Crow children married. Future Otago settlers James Crow and Elizabeth KERR married in 1859 and went on to have 12 children. Sadly, Ellen Paton Crow died in July 1858 after giving birth to a son, the baby dying the next day. In March 1859 Alexander Crow remarried. His new wife was my great grandmother, Ann COCHRANE. Ann's parents were Catherine SINCLAIR and Robert Cochrane according to the entry under 1836 in the Auchterarder Parish Records. Of Ann's father we still know little. There is a Robert Cochrane in the Perthshire area that fits the bill, but so far, no DNA proof. Catherine Sinclair's family have DNA matches to our Crow/Cochrane family descendants. It is thought that after the death of her grandfather Donald Sinclair with whom she had been living, Ann Cochrane decided to immigrate to Australia, as her bachelor uncle, Duncan Sinclair, was living there. He did not get long to enjoy having his niece as a housekeeper, for she married Alexander four months after arrival.

The discovery of gold in Gabriel's Gully saw three of the brothers Alexander, James and John Crow follow the allure of gold. Alex and John arrived on the *King of Italy* in Sept 1861, with James following in Dec 1861 on the *Alma*. All made their way into Gabriel's Gully, the Tuapeka gold fields. Interesting though James was the later arrival, he remained in the area, settled into life in Laurence, raising his family and resuming his trade of tailor. He was later to settle in Dunedin where the younger children attended Arthur Street School. John appears to have made his way back to Australia and married Annie DUGGAN. Francis, or Frank as he was later known, was the only one of the brothers to remain in the Gisborne area. The original Green Valley farm was sold to his brother-in-law, George Woodworth with Francis buying the farm next door.

So, it was only Alexander and James of the Crow brothers who settled in Otago, but they were not the only ones.

Their sister's husband James MCGEORGE had also been lured to Otago in search of gold. Isabella and their two children had travelled to New Zealand by 1865. James McGeorge had used his time in the Victorian Gold fields carting supplies and one wonders if this was his occupation when first coming to New Zealand. Their son Alexander Crow McGeorge was the driving force behind the uptake of gold dredging once the easy pickings had disappeared. His story is told in *Kawarau Gold*.

While being a successful enterprise which ran for many years, a photo of their bonanza week is displayed in the Cromwell Museum. Alec's other brothers also played an integral part in the dredging business.

We have been lucky that in 1994 our cousin Laurie RICHARDS transcribed and published two diaries written by our ancestors. One was Ann Cochrane's voyage to Australia in 1854, but the diary of Alexander Crow in 1888 is the one pertinent to this article. My grandmother, Elizabeth Amelia Crow, the youngest child of Alexander Crow and Ann Cochrane was born in 1880. When she was eight, her father decided to return to the United Kingdom, leaving her eldest brother Samuel (19) to support the family. The diary starts on the voyage March 1888, and ends with his visit to Auchenblae Cemetery describing his ancestor "*the grave ston of Grandfather in Dec26 1816 age 65*". For enjoyment of what it has provided, the diary has been the most important. For Toitu, Otago Settlers Museum, the model steam engine made by Alexander Crow (1828-1922) would be his important addition to their collection and for my dad and his brother, the letters they received and are still in the family from their grandad in 1917, when he was 89. He lived to 94 flourishing his distinctive dramatic white beard.

Descendants of the three Otago Crow settlers have quietly made their way in the world, teachers, ministers, social workers, farmers, shop workers and owners, with the occasional very successful and wealthy business owner following in Alexander Crow McGeorge's footsteps. Probably there is also the dyslexic achiever or two, like Alexander Crow. Gold might have been the Crows' original driving force, but it turns out it was not what kept them here.

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New Zealand's First Gun Powder Mill

Kathleen Atkins

I can't imagine worse weather for grave hunting, nor a less inviting spot to do it. Clambering through the tall grasses and weeds, avoiding prickly thistles and dozens of startled sheep, we were soaked from the driving rain and jostled by the freezing winds. The ground was not steep, but the undulations on this large block of farmland made it almost impossible to see more than a metre or two in front of us. We had, we thought, carefully followed the directions we had been given, yet nearly an hour after starting the search, we were close to giving up. This was supposed to be fun!

For months, I'd planned our trip to the tiny townships of Purekireki and Owaka, about 32 km south of Balclutha, Otago, close to the border of the beautiful Catlins area. My genealogy research had led me to discover that my husband, Michael (Mike) SUTTON's elusive Sutton ancestors did not arrive in Auckland, as his family had assumed, but instead, had landed and settled in Otago. With more questions than answers, I was keen to head to the area. And here we were. "Visit In February", I was advised, "you'll get the best weather" – yeah right, it was bitterly cold!

Thankfully, Mike finally spotted the top of a tall headstone. There, tucked within a low rusty fence, were several graves, the Purekireki Cemetery. And there too were the graves of Charles and Louisa Ann (nee COOPER) Sutton, Mike's 2 x great grandparents.



Once, this resting place had been a well-cared for site, close to the local church and school within a small but vibrant community of hard-working settlers. In 2020, Purekireki was little more than a mark on the map, and a signpost on the side of the road, it's all but forgotten cemetery, like the town's history, hidden by farmland. But judging by the tidy state of their graves, we were pleased that Charles, Louisa and family members who lie with them, are not forgotten.

Learning how and why Charles and Louisa ended up in Purekireki was a challenge, equal to that of finding their graves. Born in Hounslow, Middlesex, England, in May 1831, Charles Sutton was, 20 years later, working as a labourer in a gunpowder mill¹, in the aptly named, Powder Mill Lane, in Heston². The mill, like many powder mills of the time was owned by Curtis and Harvey. Little did he know how far his work with explosives would take him and his future family.

It is possible that the catastrophic explosion, in July 1850, at the Hounslow gunpowder mill where many lives were lost,³ meant Charles had to seek work elsewhere as the entire plant was destroyed. By 1857, he had moved to Kilfinin, on the Cowal Peninsula in Argyll, Scotland⁴, and was now listed as a powder maker, working in a mill in this much smaller, coastal community⁵. It was from here that he returned to his former home in England, to marry Louisa Ann Cooper on 5 July 1857, in Laleham, Middlesex⁶. For 25 years, Charles was to be "intimately connected with the well-known gunpowder makers, Messrs Curtis and Harvey, of Houslow, London"⁷. As the family lived alone in the Mill House in Kilfinin, it is possible Charles had a senior role at the mill.

In their first 15 years together, Charles and Louisa had eight children, including a set of twins, but they also suffered watching four of these children die in infancy. Was it this heartbreak, or the hope of a better life that so many who were living in Scotland sought⁸, that led them to board the *Peter Denny* in Greenock, Glasgow in June 1873⁹, bound for New Zealand?

The family travelled in steerage, the cheapest class of travel. I can't imagine what the journey would have been like, but as John Wilson wrote, "From the Scottish port of Greenock to Dunedin in New Zealand's South Island is close to 20,000 kilometres – as far as you could travel to start a new life. By sailing ship, the journey took months. Voyagers endured boredom, terror and misery, and with only the vast, unpredictable ocean to look at. Many of those who stepped on board owned few possessions, but they had what it took: plenty of courage and hope."¹⁰

When Louisa left Scotland, she was seven months pregnant. Their children Charles Jr (14), Louisa Jr (12), William (11) and Emily (4) also withstood the journey. In August, well into the 81-day trip to Port Chalmers, Louisa gave birth to their ninth child. Thankfully, baby Agnes was not one of the six infants who died during the journey¹¹. Charles was 42 when he landed in New Zealand and Louisa, 40. I dare say having lived all their lives in Kilfinin, the children were used to the harsh climate that can sometimes be experienced in Otago, so at least the weather wouldn't have been too new to them, but no doubt, the houses and road construction, and much of the plants and wildlife would have seemed quite strange.

Once in Port Chalmers, Charles set about finding work, and was recorded in the 1880-1881 electoral roll living in Sawyers Bay, working as a farmer. Charles Jr, now 22

years, is also listed as a farmer, on the same plot of land. Louisa, meanwhile, gave birth to two further daughters, Elizabeth in 1875, and Mary Ann in 1877.

How the next change in the Suttons' life came about could have been through word of mouth, we may never know, but it wasn't through reading the newspaper, as we know from his will, that Charles was illiterate. Regardless, Charles was in the perfect place to support a new venture. In fact, he was to be involved in a first for New Zealand, as a gunpowder factory was to be established less than 100 km south of Port Chalmers in Owaka, or Owake as it was then known. One source reports Charles, "an expert in the field of explosives and gunpowder manufacture", was brought out from Scotland specifically to manage the new mill¹².

John MACKLEY, an English born, local entrepreneur, realising that gunpowder was a much sought after product in early European settlements in New Zealand, had identified a potentially lucrative opportunity. Within Otago alone, between 300 – 400 tons of gunpowder was¹³ being used every year. Prior to the mill's establishment, gunpowder was imported from England.

Owaka was an excellent place to build the mill, as numerous saw mills were extracting vast quantities of local trees. The timber, hinahina or whitey wood, was burnt to produce high quality charcoal, an essential ingredient in gunpowder production. Owaka also had a reliable water source, the Owaka River, a critical requirement as gunpowder must be repeatedly moistened at various times during its production, to minimise the risk of explosion. Charles's role, variously described as manager or superintendent of the plant, would have been critical, as the production of gunpowder was a complex, time consuming one, requiring a great number of safety measures built into its procedures. I dare say Charles's memory of the devastating explosion at the mill in Hounslow was never far from his mind.

By October 1881, the first gunpowder manufactured at the Owake mills was being taken to Port Chalmers and the *Oamaru Mail* reported "the samples are highly spoken of."¹⁴ In December the same year, Mackley applied to the Loan Board for more land, so he could build a store, and powder magazine in New Haven¹⁵, a small coastal town close to Owaka, so his enterprise seems to have been growing in success.

Also in 1881, one of three large tracts of land, known as runs, that converged at the tiny site of Purekireki, was subdivided. Purekireki was about 30 km inland from Owaka. These smaller farms consisted of lowland tussock country and bush covered hillside on which dairy cows were run and crops could be grown.

Charles was among the first to settle here¹⁶. Interestingly, Otago Land records show that Charles continues to lease a house in Sawyers Bay at this time, so perhaps his wife and children were living there until a home was established in Purekireki. By 1887, Charles is registered as the freehold owner of the land in Purekireki, and his family's

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involvement in activities in the growing settlement are recorded in local newspapers.

Meanwhile, glowing reports on the superior quality of the gunpowder produced at the Owake mill were regularly reported in many New Zealand newspapers. Indeed, such was the quality of the product, that in 1882 Mackley's Owake Mill won a medal at the New Zealand International Exhibition held at Christchurch, which included goods from Europe, America, China, Japan, India and the Australian colonies¹⁷.

However, production was not always continuous. The *Tuapeka Times* reported, that on 3 Nov 1883, "the Owake powder mills at Catlins River have been blown up. No one was hurt"¹⁸. About this time, Charles sought assurances from Mackley that safety procedures would be improved in the plant. But barely had the plant been reopened following repairs when in April 1884, a second explosion severely burnt the mill keeper¹⁹. Charles, alarmed that his concerns about safety were not being acted upon, resigned his position.

Despite accidents that meant production was irregular at times, and Charles leaving the firm, faith in the mill and its products was still high, as in June 1884, when members of the Harbour Board witnessed 8,000lb of Owake powder being used to blast the cliff face at Port Chalmers, bringing down thousands of tons of stone, as the blast moved "the entire face of the cliff"²⁰.

But, a further explosion, in July 1884, reportedly caused further massive disruptions to the mill²¹. The mill was again repaired and by November, quantities of gunpowder

were "at present being tested by the Government with a view to having it used by our Volunteers²²", presumably for use in the New Zealand Land Wars. However, for reasons that are not clear, the mill appears to have closed around late 1885 early 1886, possibly as imported gunpowder was being favoured by major consumers.

The loss of his role at the mill must have been a setback for Charles and Louisa, however they had proved they were up to a challenge. As well as their home in Purekireki, and the food and income they could produce off the land, Charles won contracts to maintain roads in the district. They remained in Purekireki for the remainder of their lives. Charles died in 1902 and Louisa in 1917.

Charles and Louisa's six surviving children married into local families, and their many descendants spread across Otago and Southland, with a few still living close to Owaka. Their eldest, Charles James, was the only child to not remain in the south of the country. He left under a cloud that saw him disgraced in the local media. Charles Jr, Mike's great grandfather, made his way to Auckland, almost as far away from Owaka as he could get, and started a new life there, leaving a wife and child behind. His story is a fascinating one and explains, perhaps, why my husband's branch of the Sutton family knew so little about their ancestors.

Charles and Louisa's story, though like so many who came to New Zealand seeking a new life, is one of adversity, struggle and perseverance. Mike is proud to know his ancestor stood up for the safety of workers at the gunpowder mill, at a time when work injuries were all too common.

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¹³ *Clutha Leader*, 9 December 1881 *Land Board*. [Papers Past](https://papers.past.govt.nz) (natlib.govt.nz)

¹⁴ *Oamaru Mail*, 28 October 1881, *Telegrams*. [Papers Past](https://papers.past.govt.nz) (natlib.govt.nz)

¹⁵ *Clutha Leader*, 9 December 1881, *Land Board*. [Papers Past](https://papers.past.govt.nz) (natlib.govt.nz)

¹⁶ Tyrrell, A.R., Catlins Pioneering, 2016 Catlins Pioneering Society

¹⁷ New Zealand exhibitions, 1865 to 1900 – [Te Ara Encyclopedia of New Zealand](https://www.teara.govt.nz)

¹⁸ *Tuapeka Times*, 1 December 1883, *Latest Telegrams*. [Papers Past](https://papers.past.govt.nz) (natlib.govt.nz)

¹⁹ *Oamaru Mail*, 25 April 1884, *Telegrams*. [Papers Past](https://papers.past.govt.nz) (natlib.govt.nz)

²⁰ Evening Star, 25 June 1884 [Papers Past](https://papers.past.govt.nz) (natlib.govt.nz)

²¹ *Lake Wakatip Mail*, 25 July 1884 [Papers Past](https://papers.past.govt.nz) (natlib.govt.nz)

²² *Otago Daily Times*, 27 November 1884, Otago Agricultural And Pastoral Association. [Papers Past](https://papers.past.govt.nz) (natlib.govt.nz)

HELP NEEDED

William DENT – WEST COAST

Do you recognise this photograph? Margaret from Victoria, Australia is hoping to find out where this photograph was taken and the names of the other men.

Margaret's grandfather, Bill Dent, is the first on the left of the photograph. Bill was born in Ballarat, Victoria, Australia in 1868. He married in Greymouth, New Zealand in 1892 and died in New Plymouth, New Zealand in 1924. Several of his children were born in Westport.

Margaret believes the photograph may have been taken in Greymouth, or somewhere on the west coast of the South Island.

Tricia Parnell – Office Manager
info@familyhistoryconnections.org.au



Members' enquiries and notices

This section is free to members for inquiries of a genealogical nature but is not available to non-members. Please be precise and state clearly what you want to know. For submission guidelines see the front of this magazine. 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.

SEEKING

Royal Air Force – 61 Squadron

Logbooks, diaries, photos, letters for the following New Zealand airmen who served with 61 Squadron, Royal Air Force which during the Second World War operated from airfields in six different locations - Hemswell, North Luffenham, Woolfox Lodge, Syerston, Skellingthorpe and Coningsby.

Derek Charles Gray CLINKARD, Walter Duncan HAMER, Francis Sydney HASLEMORE, Frank Skipwith KIRKE, James Benjamin LEIGH, James Day McKEOWN, Alfred Cecil NUTTALL, Aubrey William OSMAN, Arthur Mitchell PAAPE, Ivan Fenton WAUGH and John Colin WEBSTER.

Paul Hickford
paulhelentiff@xtra.co.nz

PIERCE photo album

I am looking for a missing photo album. In 1890 my grandfather James PIERCE arrived in New Zealand from Wigan, Lancashire. His family gave him as a parting gift a leather and brass bound album, about A4 size.

He was the seventh of 15 children, his parents were David and Elizabeth Pierce. Born in Wigan in 1865, he died in New Zealand in 1938. James married Elizabeth ROBERTS in 1892 and they farmed for many years in Eltham, Taranaki.

The first photo in the album is of a boy's bicycle with a basket attached to the front handlebars. As his parents were fishmongers, I guess this was the delivery bike. I am trying to find this album last seen in my parents home in Oamaru about 1953, when my mother and I left father. He remarried some years later. I would very much like to recover this album as it is full of family photos. Any help would be appreciated either to recover the album or to have copies of the photos. I am prepared to negotiate either way.

June, née Pierce.
essanjay37@gmail.com

JONES family

JONES, John and Jane lived Heathcote Valley, Christchurch. Children: Frederick James (1887) married LANGDON, Louisa 1912 and WOOD, Fanny Stevens 1918; Ethel Maude (1890) married BAGGARLEY 1939; Caroline Emily (1895) married DUNCAN 1919. Any information relating to these names would be gratefully received and contact with living descendants would hopefully enable some answers.

Heather Pearson
maxdabeagle01@gmail.com

LENNIE family

LENNIE, Alexander Henderson married RATHBON, Elizabeth 1890. Children: Olivia Iris (1890) married BEECHENER; Lawrence Alexander (1893) married OSBORNE; Madeline Murial (1895-1916); Lydia Rose (1897) married WOODLEY; Josephine Maynard (1898) married CORNWALL; William Arthur (1901) married CROWE; Moura (1904) married MOORE; Gladys (1913) married KERR. Lived Hokitika, Greymouth, Christchurch. Any information relating to these names would be gratefully received and contact with living descendants would hopefully enable some answers.

Heather Pearson
maxdabeagle01@gmail.com

OFFERING

Murchison Earthquake June 1929

I have just written a full description of the story of the Murchison Earthquake in June 1929.

As it is coming up to the 100th anniversary of that event, please contact me if you would like to discuss David MANN, my father, whom the Murchison Museum tried to locate for many years.

My phone number is 0274 777 942. I am 87 years old and will not be around for too much longer so maybe the 100th is a good time to look back on that disaster.

Pip Campbell
pippy.in.the.bay@gmail.com

Send your enquiry or notice to
editor@genealogy.org.nz



Irish Interest Group



Next Auckland Meeting

The next Irish genealogy meeting is to be held Sunday 20 August 1.00pm-4.00pm at the NZSG FRC Panmure.

Meeting Topic: Irish and Scots-Irish research.

The term Scots-Irish refers to people whose ancestors, often Presbyterian, originated in Scotland and settled in Ireland in the nine northern counties of the Province of Ulster: Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry, Tyrone, Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan. The Irish Interest Group holdings in the NZSG FRC contain numerous records to research the Ulster-Scots. These records are in Book form, CDs, Maps and County folders, and research guides have been prepared to assist in locating your ancestors. A section of Irish records include migration to Atlantic Canada, the Ulster-Scots immigrating to Nova Scotia.

Otago – Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll for the District of Bruce: A List of all persons who have preferred claims during the months of January, February and March 1862, to have their names placed on the Electoral Roll for the District of Bruce. Headings: A full list of Christian names and surnames of each Claimant, their place of abode, Nature of Qualification, Place where property situate and name and description of same, and Name of Freeholder or Householder attesting the Claimant's signature.

A full list of all Names listed on this Electoral Roll for the District of Bruce appears in The *Otago Witness* 19 April 1862 page 5. While surnames are listed under A – Z categories they are not sorted strictly alphabetically.

Gold Miners in Otago

A dam gave way in the early hours on 9 July 1863 near the Arrow township where Michael CONNOR, Patrick HANLY and William BURKE were mining their claim, with the result that their tent was flooded and their equipment washed away.

William Burke in trying to seize gear from their team was swept up in the rush of water and drowned. An inquest on the body of William Burke was held at the Arrow on 25 July where evidence of the flood was provided by Connor and Hanly. The Jury concluded that Burke had died as a result of drowning and he was buried at the Arrow.

The *Lake Whakatip Mail* 15 July 1863 reported a great loss of life through landslides and floods and listed names of those Miners who were killed at the Sand Hills, Shotover. Some of the Irish named Miners who perished were: "Michael TOWNSEND aged 27, from Callan, Co. Kilkenny; Richard AYLWARD aged 26 from Co. Kilkenny; Michael CUDIHY aged 24 from Callan, Co. Kilkenny; Timothy SHEEHAN (or Yankee Sheehan) native of Ardconnaught, Co. Kerry; Eugene McMAHON from Manor, Tralee. Co. Kerry; John LYNCH and Michael LYNCH brothers; Thomas NOONAN; Michael EGAN from Clonrush, Whitegate, West Galway; James KELLY; Patrick MURNIN; Patrick TRAVERS; John McWHIRNEY; Robert WEIR; William McALLEN; Charles WILKINSON all natives of Ireland. Patrick GLEESON drowned while attempting to cross the Shotover when flooded". [Surnames spelt as printed in newspaper coverage.]

A land slip on 25 July 1863 at Moke Creek on the Shotover resulted in an inquest on 29 July at the Arrow whereby David FLEMING and Thomas FAHEY gave evidence into the deaths of 'their mates' John LYNCH, M. EGAN and Thomas NOONAN who were washed off their claim by the force of the mud land slide. Dr. PELLEY conducted examinations on the deceased and concluded all three men had died of suffocation. The men were buried at the Arrow.

Other Miners who lost their lives at that time through landslips and floods at the Sand Hills, Shotover were: "John FRASER; William WILSON; Samuel WILSON; William CUMMINS; George JACK; James ALLAN; Joseph MORTIMER; John HORNBUCKLE; Samuel GRETTON; Peter HUNTER; David ANGUS; one NAME unknown; William BELL; and Alexander McINTOSH aged 36 native of Scotland". [Recommend reading: *A Golden Opportunity – Proceedings of the NZSG Annual Conference Dunedin 2011.*]

Irish Town – Hamilton East

Hamilton East and Frankton were initially separate entities to Hamilton. Prior to 1879, when Hamilton Borough was registered, Hamilton East and West were officially recognized as separate towns on opposite sides of the Waikato River.



Prior to 1917 Frankton Borough had equal status to neighbouring Hamilton Borough. Financial difficulties incurred by Frankton Borough resulted in it being amalgamated within Hamilton.

Now inner city suburbs, the rich histories of both Hamilton East and Frankton are chronologically chronicled in two attractive coffee table books, written and published by local historian Barry Lafferty. Each book is over 100 pages in length and includes more than 100 historical photos, the earliest dating back to 1866. Published in 2014, the Frankton book is now in its third reprint. Hamilton East had an initial print run of 1,000 in 2019, of which less than 20 percent are still available. Both books sell for \$40 each and no further reprints of either title are planned.

Barry Lafferty can be contacted at hamiltoneastbook@gmail.com

Irish Census 1926

The 1926 Census of the modern day Republic of Ireland is due to be released online for free in April 1926, according to the Irish Government. Between 1821 and 1911 censuses of Ireland were taken along with censuses of the United Kingdom. However only the 1901 and 1911 censuses now survive in full because the others were destroyed in the Public Record Office of Ireland fire in 1922. The island of Ireland was not included in the 1921 census because of the Irish Civil War. The Irish Free State was formed in 1922

and a census of both the Irish Free State and Northern Ireland was carried out on 18 April 1926. The 1926 census records for Northern Ireland have not survived. The records for the Republic of Ireland, consisting of 630,048 household return sheets with the details of 2,971,992 people will be digitised by the National Archives of Ireland in partnership with the Central Statistics Office. [National Archives Ireland] www.nationalarchives.ie

The Power of a Name

EPIC, the Irish Emigration Museum, is inviting you to be part of the Power of a Name exhibition by adding your ancestor's name to their Emigration Wall. Simply enter their name, where they emigrated from and the year they left. There is an online form where you can fill in your ancestor's details at dublin.epicchq.com/power-of-a-name Download free an EPIC Family Tree Pack. EPIC, the Irish Family History Centre, has created a guide to help you take the first steps on your genealogy journey.

Irish website

View our website www.genealogy.org.nz >Community >Interest Groups >Irish Interest Group

Geraldene O'Reilly, Convenor Irish Interest Group.: IrishSIG@genealogy.org.nz



Some dates for your diary! Keep an eye on our Facebook page and website Events calendar for other events around the country. We'll add them as we get the details. www.facebook.com/NZSGFRC/

Wellington Family History Month

Tuesdays in August, 5:30pm for a 6:00pm start
National Library Auditorium, Aitken Street, Wellington

The combined Greater Wellington Area Branches present four evenings of presentations in conjunction with the National Library.

1 August - Getting Started with Sarah Hewitt
8 August - DNA with Ann Ball and Kaye Batchelor
15 August - Gabor Toth - resources at Wellington Libraries
22 August - Papers Past and DigitalNZ

The presentations can also be attended remotely via Zoom.

Auckland Family History Expo | Tāmaki Huinga Tātai Kōrero

Friday 11 to Sunday 13 August 2023

Fickling Convention Centre. Three Kings, Auckland
Auckland Libraries and the Genealogical Computing Group (an interest group of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists) proudly present a weekend-long event covering a wide range of topics on researching genealogy, family history and whakapapa.

www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/AFHExpo

Christchurch Family History Expo 2023 Ōtautahi Huinga Tātai Kōrero

Friday 18th August - Sunday 20th August

Tūranga Central Library, 60 Cathedral Square, Christchurch
Enjoy a range of talks and workshops by genealogists, local and family history enthusiasts, and international experts in family history research. There will be information stands and displays in our exhibition space during the weekend. The sessions on Saturday and Sunday are free to attend, but bookings are required for the workshops as there will be limited places.



**Invercargill City
Libraries & Archives**
Te Haeata | The clarity of knowledge & learning

Uncovering Hidden Identities in Southland

Senga White and Amanda Hunter

Southland celebrates its local heritage in March each year by showcasing the stories and history of our province. This year, local families and identities were the focus of events organised by the enthusiastic and skilled team of librarians, archivists, educators, and information managers from the Invercargill City Council (ICC).

Many enquiries we receive throughout the year involve searching for people and we work together across multiple teams to provide access to local resources and tools, as well as providing a comprehensive, quality research service. Follow the journey of discovering information about local identities Abraham and Mabel WACHNER, as we demonstrate how our combined resources and expertise can uncover information and unexpected treasures.

A good place to begin is at the local library. Te Haeata, the Invercargill City Libraries and Archives, is the hub for researchers and genealogists, where there is a variety of both print and online resources to get you underway. It houses an extensive local history collection, searchable through an online catalogue and material stored there can be viewed when visiting the library.



Left: Mabel Wachner at the time of her interview, 1990.

Photo by Edith Ruddenklau, SOHP, Ref: H00820003. Right:

Abraham Wachner at RNZAF band parade, 1942.

**Photographer unknown, Invercargill Archives, Ref: A0105
S27520001_114.**

Abraham Wachner O.B.E. was a city councillor (1938-41), and mayor of Invercargill (1942-50.) His family emigrated to Australia, before moving to New Zealand when he was 15. When he married West Coast girl Mabel RICE in 1922, she joined him in Invercargill.

Our search for the Wachners uncovers information in local history books, Stone's directories, local newspapers, both online and on microfilm, and vertical files. The *Southland Times* indexes, compiled by newspaper staff between 1962 and 1996, are housed at the library and can be a goldmine for locating information in editions not yet digitised on Papers Past.

Research can continue seamlessly in the adjoining Invercargill Archives, a purpose-built facility that houses both ICC records and community archive collections for the whole of Southland. The facility, established in 2008, is also an approved repository for Southland school records.

As a city councillor and mayor, it is unsurprising that Abraham features heavily in council records of the time. Archives hold council minute books and they document issues he was passionate about, such as the welfare of returning soldiers after WWII. There is also an unexpected amount of archival information about his wife Mabel, largely thanks to her community and philanthropic ventures. There is even a surprising snippet about her found in the Invercargill Transport Department's list of registered car owners. Cars needed to be registered from 1905 and records show she owned her own car in 1928.

It is not just documentation that tells the story. A search of the community archive collections unearthed a number of photos of Abraham in his role as mayor, as well as a delightful series of photos belonging to a collection of portrait negatives from the *Southland Times* which show Mabel with her sister, with Mayor Eve Poole, inspecting tableware used by Queen Elizabeth II during one of her visits to Invercargill.

Information in both council records and the book written by J.O.P Watt in 1971, *Centenary of Invercargill Municipality*, tells us that Abraham Wachner died in office in 1950, aged 58. This can be confirmed by searching local cemetery records through the ICC website. Mabel continued to be heavily involved in civic life after his death. She ensured her husband's legacy through a gift of

\$20,000 towards Council's purchase of the land in the city centre to be a gathering place, and which was named Wachner Place.

Much of what we know about Mabel Wachner M.B.E as a person comes from her own words. Mabel was interviewed for an oral history in 1990, aged 98, where she shared, among other things, how she met her husband, his war service, and their shoe business in Tay Street, Invercargill. This recording has been incorporated into the Southland Oral History Project (SOHP), which contains over 400 oral history recordings of people from and associated with Southland and is housed by the Invercargill City Libraries. Oral histories can be the jewel of social history and contain family information you cannot find elsewhere. Of course, it should be noted that these are recollections from people's memories so facts should be verified by secondary sources where possible.

Verifying information is extremely important. In the case of the Wachners, Wikipedia states they had two children which is incorrect. This can be borne out by reading their obituaries, and viewing their cemetery headstone. School Admission, Progress, and Withdrawal registers, helpful tools in tracing the movements of families, confirm no record of any children with the last name Wachner attending school in Invercargill at this time.

While they were not parents, they were known for their generosity towards children and families. Abraham was known for donating shoes to those in need from his shoe business and Mabel gifted two chairs used by Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip during their 1953-54 New Zealand tour to the children of Invercargill. This story was shared in a podcast episode about donations and bequests to the Council on the library's radio show Check It Out - I nga wa o mua.

Mabel Christina Wachner's life spanned three centuries. She was born in 1892 and died in 2001 at the age of 108, having been a widow for 50 years.

The team want to continue to build these important and valuable Southland collections so please contact them if you would like to discuss donations, suggest people you believe should record an oral history, or if you have a query related to Southland.

Invercargill City Libraries:
Email: research@ilibrary.co.nz
Submit a research enquiry: ilibrary.co.nz/research-archives/research/
Website: ilibrary.co.nz/research-archives/family-history/

Invercargill City Council and Community Archives:
Email: archives@icc.govt.nz
Phone: (03) 211-1573
Website: ilibrary.co.nz/research-archives/archives/

Southland Oral History Project:
Email: sohp@ilibrary.co.nz
Phone (03) 211-8414
Website: ilibrary.co.nz/research-archives/oral-history/

Archives and SOHP Catalogue:
archives.ilibrary.co.nz/

Check It Out podcast:
ilibrary.co.nz/check-it-out-a-podcast-about-library-stuff-at-te-haeata/



Royal chair donated by Mabel Wachner, used by Queen Elizabeth II December 1953 - January 1954. ICC Civic Collection.

NZSG Kiwi Collection - over 12 million records!
What will you find? Only \$50 per year/\$20 for a month
www.genealogy.org.nz/kiwi





Update from The National Library

National Library – adapting for the future

Visitors to the National Library in Wellington may have noticed the new Archives building slowly taking shape next door. As part of this project, construction has started on a two-level link bridge, which will connect the new Archives building to the National Library building. This way, staff and visitors will be able to move more easily between the three national heritage and recorded documentary institutions – Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa National Library, Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga Archives New Zealand and Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision.

The construction is currently focused on the enabling structure. This is the piece of sophisticated engineering and design that will allow the link bridge from the new Archives building to join with the National Library building. The enabling structure construction started in April and will go until September 2024.

Changes to services

In March the He Tohu interactive exhibition surrounding He Whakapapa Kōrero (He Tohu document room), was packed away to make room for hoardings to be erected for the enabling structure.

Hoardings in the National Library General Reading Room have been erected. Due to the construction work, all

collection items will now be delivered to the Katherine Mansfield Reading Room and issued there for reading. It is expected that the Katherine Mansfield Reading Room will be more protected from the noise of construction and better for quiet reading than the General Reading Room. However, ear buds are available and can be provided on request.

If you are planning a research trip into the Reading Room, please [contact us](#) early so that we can help you to get the most from your visit. If you want to avoid the noisiest periods of construction, you might like to use our online service and [Ask a Librarian](#) to bypass the noise altogether.

Collection delivery times and turnaround times for some items will change. Please check the website for delivery times or ask our friendly knowledgeable staff. To see more information on this, please visit the National Library website [here](#).

He Whakapapa Kōrero, which houses the taonga (He Whakaputanga 1835, Te Tiriti o Waitangi 1840, The Women's Suffrage Petition 1893) will be accessible for self-tours as usual during opening hours. However, there may be detectable noise at times from the adjacent construction work. A bookable onsite and digital He Tohu Experience has been created for previously booked groups to see and experience the taonga that shaped our nation.



Karakia held to remove the He Tohu interactive exhibition space in March.

Representatives from the National Library and Archives team included Director Public Engagement Alison McIntyre, and Chief Archivist Anahera Morehu. Alisha Moeahu (tangata whenua), Hone Sadler (Ngāpuhi), and Nate Rowe from Ministerial Services led the formalities.

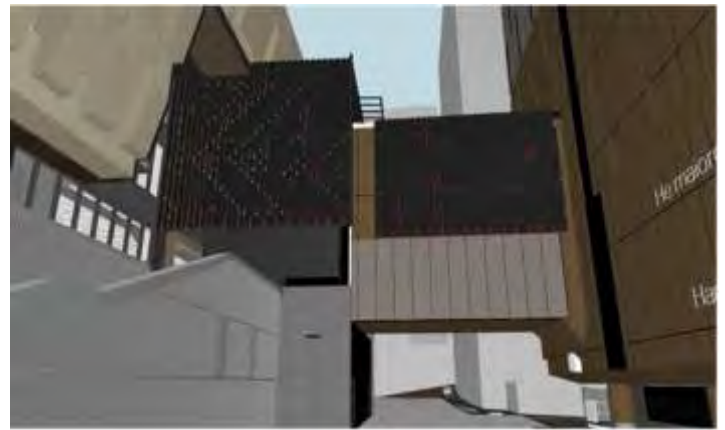
Link bridge design concept

The Department of Internal Affairs worked with Te Ātiawa Taranaki Whānui representatives, design agency Tihei Ltd., and architects Studio Pacific to co-design the link bridge with a te ao Māori world view.

Ko te remu o Te Tukutuku o Rangi: Cloaking the Whenua

A tāniko weaving pattern forms part of the link bridge façade designs, representing the border of a kaitaka papaeroa (prized cloak) to symbolise covering the whenua as well as enveloping the taonga within its boundaries. The pattern is inspired from the kaitaka of Ruhia Pōrutu, daughter-in-law of Te Rīrā Pōrutu, paramount chief of Te Ātiawa in what is now central Wellington. Ruhia used her kaitaka to save the lives of two young European immigrants who unintentionally breached the laws of tapu. Ruhia threw her cloak over the boys, placing them under her protection.

This act by Ruhia reflects the manaakitanga that Mana Whenua groups of the Wellington region have continued to exercise since European settlement, thus its relevance to the designs of these facilities.



Concept designs for the link bridge includes the Taupoki, which incorporates the tāniko weaving pattern designs on the façade.



Te Ara Tahi signals future collaboration

The link bridge project is part of Te Ara Tahi, a programme supporting Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga Archives New Zealand, Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa National Library, and Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision to create fit-for-purpose buildings, improve digital infrastructure, embed mātauranga Māori, and identify collaborative opportunities.

Institutional leaders for Te Tari Taiwhenua Department of Internal Affairs (DIA), Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa National Library of New Zealand, Alexander Turnbull Library, Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga Archives New Zealand, and Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision came together to formalise their commitment to collaborate. The resulting Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on 15 December 2022.

The three objectives of the MOU are to support New Zealanders in making knowledge more accessible to be shared and used, collaborate in the development and sharing of property, and exploring partnerships so that we can find ways to collaborate that will deliver value for our customers, kaimahi, and stakeholders to create better access to taonga, holdings, and collections.

This is an important milestone for these institutions and a foundational document for how they work together. The MOU provides a framework for ongoing collaborative input into the Te Ara Tahi Programme across their shared areas of strategic focus and supports the development of the national documentary and recorded heritage campus. Collaboration across the institutions has already been

happening, and the MOU sets the intention that these institutions want to continue working together.



Leaders from the National Library, Alexander Turnbull Library, Archives New Zealand, Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision, and the Department of Internal Affairs coming together to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 15 of December 2022.



Update from Auckland City Libraries

Are you interested in family, local, and social history, the stories of Aotearoa New Zealand, the Pacific, and beyond? Then come along to one of our fortnightly Heritage Talks | Waha pū-taonga and hear more about both our personal and shared heritage. These talks are given by experts in their field and can provide valuable insight into our histories and our cultures. Attend in-person or via Zoom.

Where: Whare Wānanga, L2 Central City Library
44 Lorne St, Auckland

Also online via Zoom Cost: Free

Booking: www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/heritagetalks

Wednesday 14 June 12 noon-1pm

Researching your house

Join experts to discover the resources available to help you research your property.

How do I know if my property contains an archaeological site? Is my house a Victorian villa or a bungalow? Who lived there and what did they do? What changes have been made to my house?

Experts from Auckland Council's Heritage Unit, Auckland Council Archives, Auckland Council Libraries, Archives New Zealand, and Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga will provide an overview of these resources and will be available to answer any questions.

Wednesday 28 June 12 noon-1pm

Under the Mountain - Auckland's volcanoes with Kirsty Webb, Auckland Libraries

Maurice Gee's creepy, exciting children's book *Under the Mountain* is set on the shores of Lake Pupuke on the North Shore and features shape-shifting aliens hiding under Rangitoto and Maungawhau. All three locations are part of Auckland's volcanic field, first mapped in 1859 by the German geologist Ferdinand Hochstetter. Maurice Gee's story will be a jumping off point for a look at Hochstetter's famous geological map, Māori representations of the volcanic world and the way other travellers and writers positioned Auckland's geology at the intersection between science and the uncanny.

Wednesday 28 June 12 noon-1pm

What is Māori Heritage? with Sheri-Ann Atuahiva and Alex Jorgensen, Auckland Council's Maori Heritage Team

The Māori Cultural Heritage Programme is a partnership with Mana Whenua of Tāmaki Makaurau working to improve the identification, mapping, and protection of Māori cultural heritage in Auckland/Tāmaki Makaurau. This conversation will be shared from the viewpoint of Sheri-Ann Atuahiva as a woman who lived on the whanau

whenua and who now works in the Māori Cultural Heritage Programme and Dr Alex Jorgensen, a pākeha archaeologist who also works in the Māori Cultural Heritage Programme.

Wednesday 19 July 12 noon-1pm

Una gemma Italiana ad Auckland (An Italian Gem in Auckland) with Giuseppe Gallina

The renaissance in Italy: the study of ancient books that led to a flourishing of stunning art and to the end of the Italian principalities. The speaker also presents a renaissance portrait, held in the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, and attributed to Italy Lavinia Fontana, one of the very few renaissance European woman painters.

Wednesday 26 July 12 noon-1pm

Search, save, research and write: How to use DigitalNZ with Kelly Dix, National Library of New Zealand

National Library's DigitalNZ website began in 2008 with a purpose: to bring the wealth of Aotearoa's digital content into one easily searchable place. DigitalNZ is primarily a search service which aims to make New Zealand digital content more useful and easily discoverable. We pull together over 30 million items held by over 200 heritage, media, government, and research organisations. Find out how to search DigitalNZ, then use the story tool to collect, curate or write about the things that interest you. You can even upload your own images!

Wednesday 2 August 12 noon-1pm

Settling the Waikato with Marie Hickey, Auckland Libraries

In the early 1860s the Government developed a scheme to bring large numbers of people to settle in the North Island. The reality was a vastly reduced number of immigrants were brought out under what became known as the Waikato Immigration Scheme (not to be confused with the military settlers of the four Waikato Regiments). This talk looks at the range of records of this scheme from passenger lists, land allocation, provision of seed etc. What requirements did they have to fulfil to be accepted? What incentive was offered? Who was sent where? Where are records/information held?

Seonaid (Shona) Harvey, Senior Research Librarian,
Family History

Visit our website: www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz
www.facebook.com/AkldResearchCentre
@Kintalk on Twitter

Branch and Interest Group services

HĀWERA

The SOUTH TARANAKI BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX consists of school admission records; newspaper birth, death and marriages; Anderson's memorialist records; funeral sheets. Request by surname. Send SAE and donation to: Jill Williams, Fairfield Road, Hāwera 4610 or email peter.williams@xtra.co.nz or julesmar@xtra.co.nz

HAWKE'S BAY

HAWKE'S BAY BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX. Request by surname. Mail service only. Include contact telephone and/or email address. Send SAE and donation to Branch Secretary, c/o 200 Pakowhai Road, Frimley, Hastings 4120.

IRISH INTEREST GROUP – LOWER NORTH ISLAND

We hold education and research days locally, and across the Lower North Island region on request by branches and groups, and can also provide presentations and a helpdesk at genealogy events. Enquiries to Irish.LowerNI@genealogy.org

NELSON

A database of half a million entries covering the wider Nelson area, from indexes and books in our library, Ancestors Attic. Includes pre 1856 marriage index, including Māori, passenger shipping lists 1840–1914 to and from Nelson and from the UK and Australia. E: nelson@genealogy.org.nz or PO Box 1879, Nelson 7040.

NORTH SHORE

Lookups for births and deaths c1940 to date from *The New Zealand Herald*. Email request to northshore@genealogy.org.nz, or to Dennise Cook, Research Officer, North Shore Branch NZSG, PO Box 89045, Torbay, Auckland 0742. A small donation to the branch will be welcome, depending on results.

OAMARU

Oamaru Cemeteries CD Headstone Transcriptions. For both the Old and New Cemeteries. The Old Cemetery records have been updated. Cost \$25 including p&p. Enquiries to Oamaru@genealogy.org.nz

PALMERSTON NORTH

Our SETTLERS DATABASE 1870–1900 contains 3,000 names or family groups. Headstone transcriptions – ask for lookups or buy the CD. BDM newspaper clippings; school admissions transcriptions – 20,000 and growing; funeral cards. Enquiries to: palmerstonnorth@genealogy.org.nz. Include what you already know. A small donation will be welcome, depending on results.

PAPAKURA

The PAKAKURA AND DISTRICTS BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX includes Alfriston, Ardmore, Ararimu, Clevedon, Drury, Karaka, Kawakawa Bay, Maketu, Ramarama, Slippery Creek, Springfield and Wairoa South. Enquiries welcome, mail service only with SAE and donation to NZSG Papakura Branch, PO Box 72–993, Papakura 2244.
E: papakura@genealogy.org.nz

TE AWAMUTU

Booklets of MEMORIAL INSCRIPTIONS FOR ST JOHN'S and ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCHES including full transcriptions from cemetery and church interiors, plans, histories and index. Also digital images of inscriptions from both cemeteries, lookups for local school admission registers (varying dates) and local newspaper family notices (1911–1974). Enquiries to teawamutu@genealogy.org.nz

WAIRARAPA

The WAIRARAPA BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX of local records includes newspaper family notices, 1997-current; a large BDM certificate collection; school admissions transcriptions; funeral service cards; headstone transcriptions. Email: wairarapa@genealogy.org.nz. Include what you already know. A donation will be welcome, depending on results.

Contributions from branches and interest groups are always welcome in the magazine – especially if you can pass on useful information from your area that may assist other members. Events, projects, new repositories and services, ways you have engaged in the community and given something back. Contact the Editor.
editor@genealogy.org.nz

[illegible]

NEW ZEALAND - THE

DEATHS IN THE DISTRICT OF CHRISTCHURCH

DESCRIPTION OF DECEASED

CAUSE OF DEATH

1. When and 2. Where and 3. Name and Surname 4. Rank, Profession, or Occupation 5. Age 6. Sex 7. Cause of Death 8. Duration of Illness 9. Medical Attendance 10. Name and Surname 11. Rank, Profession, or Occupation 12. Name and Surname 13. Rank or Profession

1194 10/1932

George Baker

Emma Baker

Clark

amer

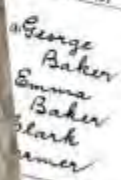


Not Recorded
at Kirk, Scotland

... profession or job	Retired Tailor
Date of burial or cremation	21 January 1925
Place of burial or cremation	Willesborough
Age of each daughter	39 24
Age of each son	41

MOTHER:	First/given name(s)	Margaret
	Surname/family name	Johnston
Given name:	First/given name(s) at birth	Not Recorded
Surname:	Surname/family name at birth	Young
	Current name, middle name or job	Not Recorded

FATHER: First/given name(s)	Surname
Surname/family name	Johnston
Given: First/given name(s) at birth	Not Recorded
Surname/family name at birth	Not Recorded
Occupation, profession or job	Tailor



CERTIFIED COPY of ENTRY in the REGISTER-BOOK of BIRTHS

CHILD.			PARENTS.	
Name of Child. (Christian or First Names only.)	Sex.	FATHER.		1. When Married. 2. Where Married. 3. Previous Issues of Existing Marriage. (a) Living—Ages and Sex. (b) Dead—Number and Sex.
		1. Name and Surname. 2. Rank or Profession. 3. Age. 4. Birthplace.		
allyth Hosprons	M	alfred Nicholls Schoolmaster 44 England	7th June 186 Melbourne Victoria	



that the above is a true copy of an entry of birth in the Register-book kept in my office.
 at Akaroa this 11th day of June 1881

The NZSG's collection of over 130,000 Certificates is now available via an email request service, in addition to our postal service.

Further details are available on our website

www.genealogy.org.nz