

The New Zealand Genealogist

Hakihea December 2023

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New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Te Rangapū Kaihikohiko o Aotearoa

Family history - Preserving our past for the future



NZSG Kiwi Collection



December 2023 Update!

**NZSG's Kiwi Collection
now has nearly
15 million Records!**



**AND
IMAGES!**

**Our first attached images are from
our First Families Collection
- now available to subscribers**

3 tiers of access



Subscriber



Member



Public

www.genealogy.org.nz/kiwi

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Hiratsuka by
Utagawa
Tsutaya
Hiroshige 1855
[MTG Hawkes Bay](#)



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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
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Discover new resources

Share your research and skills

* See pages 158+159 for more information

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)	\$112.00
Joint	Open to any two persons living in the same household (one journal, two votes)	\$150.00
Student	Open to people 12–25 years (one journal, one vote)	\$32.00
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)	\$185.00

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



This month's theme

Asia/Accidents

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.

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.

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.

Upcoming themes

March 2024

Records relating to death

September 2024

Immigration

June 2024

West Coast/East Coast

December 2024

DNA

Style Guide

A Style Guide is available on the NZSG website:

genealogy.org.nz/Writing-for-NZG/11165/

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.

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, email 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, email and membership number must be included with each entry.

BOARD REPORT



It's that time of year again when you wonder "where did the year go?" It has been a very busy year!

As I write this, the December update to the Kiwi Collection is going through its last technical tests. The Kiwi Collection has had a great year! In addition to adding nearly three million records, we have added tiered access to allow the public and members to get some idea of what is hiding inside. With the December update, we are taking the Kiwi Collection one step further by adding images. I would like to thank the Kiwi Collection team for all their hard work to make this happen! I'd also like to thank all the project volunteers around the country who have contributed to the Kiwi Collection.

This year saw the opening of the New Zealand Liberation Museum – Te Arawhata in Le Quesnoy, France. Our Society has contributed to the Museum through a project led by Christine Barbour to identify the surviving soldiers who were at Le Quesnoy. We are very pleased to see the results of that project become available on the Kiwi Collection for all members.

A great team of knowledgeable members has been working hard on getting our online DNA group up and running. They have been working on the Google Classrooms platform to build resources to help you with your DNA research. If you haven't joined the group already, it's not too late, just complete the registration form.

Sadly, this year we have lost several long-standing members who have made significant contributions to our

Society over the years. There are obituaries for some of them in this issue. I would like to pass my condolences onto their friends and family and thank them for their part in making our Society a wonderful resource for family historians.

Directors Greta and Megan have joined me to start the review of our Rules to make our Society compliant with the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022. The Board has agreed that a new Constitution, using the template provided by the Companies Office, is the most sensible way of ensuring our Rules are compliant. We are adding in the aspects that are unique to our Society and hope to have a draft for you to review early in the New Year.

The next step in 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 all the volunteers who have been working so hard throughout the year to help provide more resources to our members. We can always have more. Even if you can only spare one hour a week or one hour a month, there is something you can contribute to helping our Society. Our strength comes from our members.

On behalf of the Board, I hope you have a relaxing summer, full of family and friends.

Sarah Hewitt, NZSG Chairperson

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An Appreciation for Francie Smith

Francie Smith has worked since 2010 in her role as Enquiries Research Assistant for the NZSG Certificates Collection. In 2022 Francie was awarded an NZSG Service Award for 10 years service to Collections Enquiries.

Now that the online request service is up and running, Francie is relinquishing her involvement with the postal service and moving on to other things. We are very grateful for Francie's voluntary service during those 13 years. Many of you will have been the beneficiary of her efforts as she has replied to thousands of enquiries and provided close to 30,000 certificates or index printouts over that time.

Francie worked diligently and cooperatively as part of a team with June Stratford who is the Certificates Collection Officer responsible for this collection. We wish Francie well in her future endeavours and thank her for her service.

June Stratford
E: jstratford@xtra.co.nz

Note: If any member is not able to access the online request service for certificates, they are welcome to write to June Stratford at 31 Mains Avenue, Whangarei 0112 who will continue to answer postal enquiries when necessary.



The Board would like to add to June's thanks. Francie has provided a valuable service to our members and we thank her for her time and efforts.

Editor Wanted!

Are you an organised person with great genealogical knowledge and an interest in writing? You could be the next Editor of *The New Zealand Genealogist*!

The Publication

The New Zealand Genealogist is recognised by most members of the NZSG as a valuable resource. Its role is to inform members of genealogical and family history methods and techniques, mostly by the publication of articles written by members, a means by which family history also might be preserved in written format.

Content can also include research information submitted by other organisations (such as Archives New Zealand), as well as letters and promoting members' enquiries. The journal offers a space for NZSG branches and interest groups to record their events and local research services.

The Role

The Editor has a role in managing the whole process of acquiring, processing, assessing and shaping content for the journal that is published quarterly.

The Editor leads a team of NZSG volunteers to assist the process, especially assessing and editing, and substantially with proofing, one of the most important production stages.

This person works with the layout contractor to organise the content to the prescribed format and also liaises with the printer (when printing is an output) and delivery of electronic files to the NZSG Webmaster.

The Skills

Skills will likely include:

- consistent data and time management, and record keeping,
- clear internal and external communication,
- knowledge of writing and editing,
- a strong sense of genealogical process and sources, and an awareness of the wider genealogical world.

If you are interested or would like to know more, email Director Melanie Middleton
mm.director@genealogy.org.nz



The Le Quesnoy Surviving Soldiers Project 2022

Christine Barbour

The sun shone upon us at the 2022 ANZAC Day celebrations at Cambridge. We laid wreaths and remembered those thousands of young fallen men who fought, giving their lives for their country.

I had commented to Herb Farrant, the chairperson of the New Zealand Military Historical Society (NZMHS), that the soldiers who died in World War I were well documented, but what of the countless men who suffered from the effects of their war service? Many returned home changed beyond recognition - suffering from physical injury, shell shock (PTSD) and maybe alcohol abuse. Often, they seemed forgotten.

Our conversation developed into The Le Quesnoy Surviving Soldiers Project, 2022.

Cambridge and Le Quesnoy (pronounced Le Kenwah), France, are sister cities. We chose the Battle of Sambre or Le Quesnoy for the project as my grandfather had fought there on 4 November 1918 and Herb was the founder of the New Zealand Memorial Museum Trust Le Quesnoy (NZMMT-LQ). This was the New Zealand Expeditionary Force's last and most successful WWI battle with no loss of civilian life. Even the 15th century ramparts remained intact. The German Forces had occupied Le Quesnoy since 1914, and the story of the Kiwi soldiers scaling the ramparts with ladders from the nearby apple orchards is well known.

After meetings at Panmure NZSG with NZMMT-LQ and the NZMHS, we established a collaborative project supplying

statistics particularly for the new NZ Liberation Museum, Te Arawhata, in France. The opening celebrations were planned for October 2023.

The group developed two excel spreadsheets, one the main database, the other recording hospital visitation reports on injured men. Via the NZSG network we located twenty data entry volunteers. Herb sourced relevant documentation for our capture dates between 23 Oct 1918 and 7 November 1918. Barry Silvester managed the database and incoming spreadsheets, with me supervising the volunteers supplying them with source material or internet links. Volunteers recorded only the known surviving soldiers.

The sources:

1. New Zealand. World War I. Army Nominal rolls, 1914-1918. Vol. 4 1 Jan 1918-31 Mar 1919.

www.ancestry.com.au/search/collections/1833/

Fourteen ships departed NZ between 13 October 1917 and 5 Jun 1918. The 30-38th reinforcements were only entered as they had left NZ in time to fight at Le Quesnoy on 4 Nov 1918, after their training.

2. New Zealand Expeditionary Force, 1916-1919. Chronicles of the NZEF.

www.ancestry.com.au/search/collections/34554/

This magazine, produced in London every fortnight, was the local "rag" for our Western Front troops. In the back each British Hospital was noted, with the names and status of the soldiers visited by a volunteer entered from Vol 5, Nos 55-59 between 25 Oct 1918 and 20 Dec 1918. (20 pages). The Hospital Reports were inserted into a separate spreadsheet so this indexing project could continue later. It is currently being done by the Auckland Museum. (See their online collections).

Image: New Zealand Liberation Museum – Te Arawhata

11 October 2023

Photo by Christine Barbour

3. New Zealand. World War I. Army Casualty Lists, 1914-1918.

www.ancestry.com.au/search/collections/226688/
NZEF casualties in order of Units. This is an online searchable database by name.

4. Official regimental histories.

www.nzetc.victoria.ac.nz

The histories include the NZ Artillery in the Field, NZ Engineers in the Great War, Māori Pioneer Battalion, NZ Tunnelling Company, Auckland, Wellington, Canterbury, Otago Regiments and the NZRB.

5. Auckland Museum Online Cenotaph

www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph/

Searched by the location for Le Quesnoy under popular searches, but only the war dead from Christopher Pugsley's book appeared; "Le Quesnoy, NZ's Last Battle, 1918".

6. The Onward Project. Photographs of soldiers.

www.fairdinkumbbooks.com

All men with photos in these publications have been identified in our data. See Onwards online alpha index.

7. The Dunsterforce men

www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph/

Custom search-dunsterforce - Soldiers of the 'Hush-Hush brigade'.

8. Books

Thirty-seven books searched for individual soldier's names by a volunteer with library experience.

9. Miscellaneous.

Original correspondence held by me from the travel agent organizing the NZRB Battlefield Tour 1968, (which included Le Quesnoy). My grandfather R D Matheson (#59141) booked but due to ill health, cancelled. The documents name the thirty four party members and eighteen of their

wives. Only four veterans can currently be identified in the group photo supplied by another soldier's descendant.

A list of many living descendants of Le Quesnoy soldiers who made contact re this project. This is ongoing.

Summary.

Main soldier's database. 19,691 entries with about 1,149 duplicates from awards, embarkations rolls, books and other sources as mentioned above. A total of 18,542 individual soldiers.

Hospital Reports database. 4,889 entries with 1,006 duplicates. Duplicates due to multiple volunteer visits. A total of 3,883 individual soldiers. Total of 24,580 entries (Embarkation rolls, books plus Hospital Reports) Total number of individual men is 22,425.

Barry and I continue the work on minor corrections and typos, and if you know the names of any soldiers who survived this battle, please email me. We forwarded seven missing service numbers to Online Cenotaph and located additional casualties for C Pugsley's second edition book, Le Quesnoy 1918.

These names will be used by Weta Workshop in the NZ Liberation Museum via the Online Cenotaph. This museum, our "Kiwi" place in France, is designed for research and to inspire future generations of visitors. After our meetings with Auckland Online Cenotaph some data was integrated, but more work is required to satisfy their requirements.

Our database, now integrated into the NZSG Kiwi Collection, December edition, is free to all members.

My thanks to the twenty NZ wide NZSG volunteers, to Herb Farrant (NZMHS) for the project leadership and to Carole Devereux the NZSG Projects Manager for her initial support. Lastly thank you Barry Silvester, the man behind the machine, collating the data and refining it into this amazing resource for family historians.

Image above: Sir Don McKinnon chair of NZMMT & Christine Barbour
Image left: Le Quesnoy Mayor Marie-Sophie Lesne with former governor-general of New Zealand and former soldier Sir Jerry Mateparae

On 11 October 2023 my husband and I travelled to Le Quesnoy joining other invited guests for two days of opening celebrations. This emotional event stirred the hearts of those present and the Liberation Museum is now a must do and see for the big Kiwi OE bucket list.

Christine Barbour
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NZSG Hamilton Branch



LE QUESNOY STORMED IN OLD-FASHIONED STYLE.

NEW ZEALANDERS MAKE BREACH IN RAMPARTS.

The battle for Le Quesnoy in France on 4 November 1918 stands out for a number of reasons.

In the age of artillery, it was not won by sheer might of arms. It was won by Kiwi ingenuity and ladders. A medieval walled town, there were too many civilians inside for artillery to pummel the Germans into surrendering. General Andrew Russell decided to encircle it and hope the German garrison would surrender. The New Zealand forces did so but the Germans refused.

As many newspapers of the time reported, the New Zealand forces were then forced to go "old-fashioned" (the headline above from the [New Zealand Herald](#), 19 November 1918).

Lieutenant Leslie Cecil Lloyd Averill (1897-1981) led a reconnaissance mission over the walls in the early afternoon of 4 November 1918. They made it over the first bastion, but discovered that the second bastion was too high for their ladders. Except in one spot.

In Lt. Averill's words:

"The 30-foot ladder was too short to reach from the bottom of the moat to the top of the final wall but there was one

place where the ladder could be placed to reach the top. This was on a narrow stone bridge, about a foot wide, which spanned the moat and was connected with a sluice-gate... After crossing this bridge and sluice-gate a narrow ledge ran for some 10 yards beside the wall to an arched opening, giving entrance to the town, but which – needless to say – had been completely blocked by the enemy to deny us access through the wall. It was only on this narrow wall above the sluice-gate that the ladder could reach the top."

Having no other option, it was through here in the late afternoon, New Zealand soldiers led by Lt. Averill took the town. New Zealand soldiers lost their lives liberating Le Quesnoy, but no civilians in the town were killed.

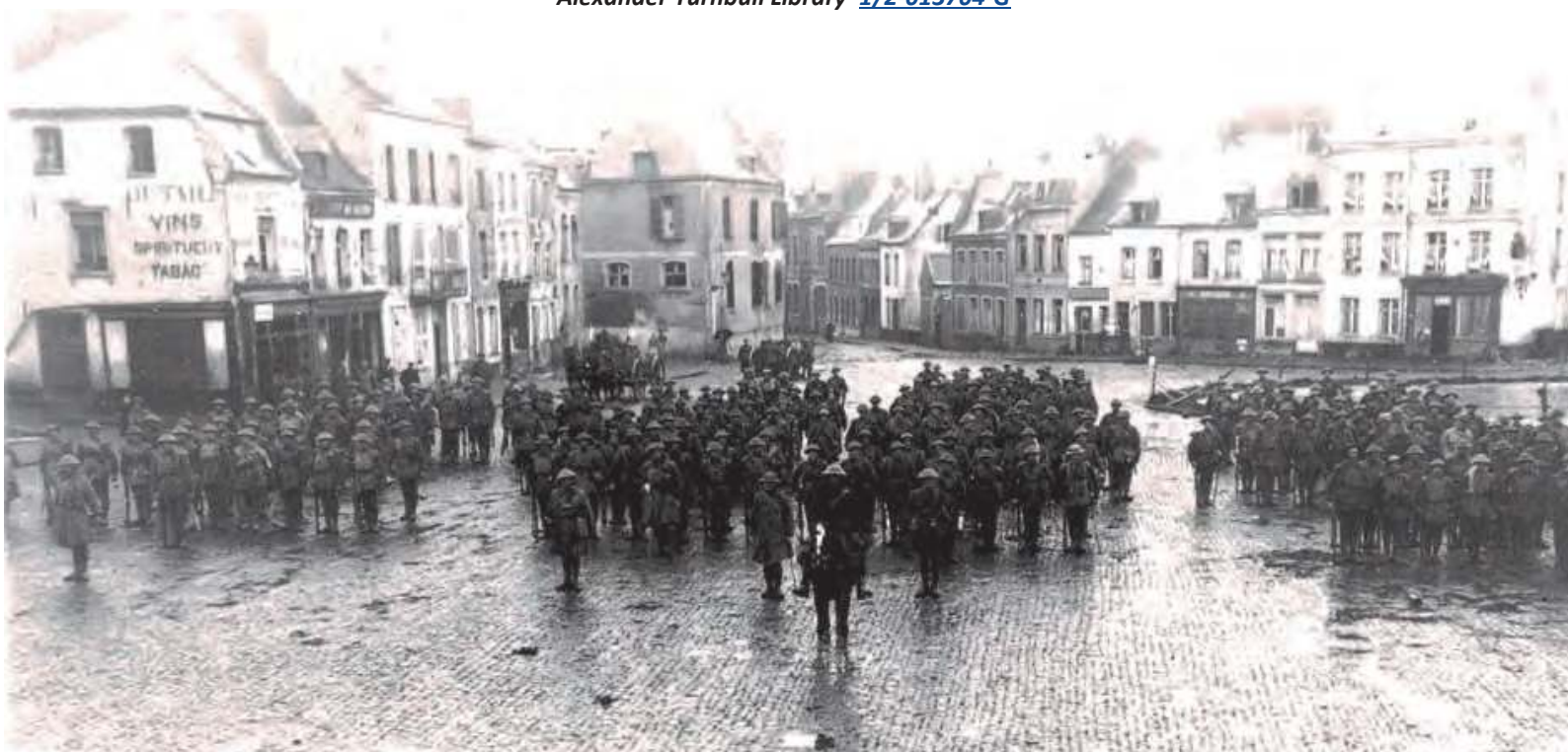
"After being under the heel of the Hun for four years, the delight of the people of Le Quesnoy on being free again knew no bounds. That their liberators had come from the other side of the world to help them in their hour of need impressed them very greatly and this battle, in which 90 of the NZ Division gave their lives, was a sacrifice which will never be forgotten." Lt Averill

See NZHistory.govt.nz for more.

New Zealand soldiers assembled in Le Quesnoy market square after the town's recapture in World War I

They are identified as the 4th Battalion of the New Zealand Rifle Brigade, gathered in the market square of Le Quesnoy the day after the recapture of the town during World War I. The troops assembled, left to right, are: the Canterbury, Auckland, Wellington and Otago Companies. Photograph taken 5 November 1918 by Henry Armytage Sanders.

Alexander Turnbull Library [1/2-013704-G](#)





Joan Manning Shepherd (1932-2023)

Terri Foley

Sadly, we farewelled Joan in September, one day after her 91st birthday. Joan joined our branch in 1991 and for the past 32 years she was involved one way or another. Joan's early research was done the old-fashioned way – writing letters, visiting archives and many phone calls. However, when genealogy records became digitised Joan was not shy about using a computer.

Joan held a number of roles in the Branch and for NZSG including:
Branch Treasurer 1992 – 2000;
Branch Convenor 2000 – 2004;
Branch committee member since 2004;
Branch librarian, publicity contact, archivist, registrar, research assistant, 13 years exhibitor at the Hobby expo;
New Zealand Society of Genealogists Surnames Librarian 1997-2001 and Scottish Librarian 1999 -2001;
Branch indexing work and cataloguing at the Waiouru Army Museum 1998-2000.

She attended 11 New Zealand Society of Genealogists Conferences and Annual General Meetings and numerous Waikato Regional meetings.

She received a number of awards including:

- New Zealand Society of Genealogists Service Award 2002 for her librarian work with both Surnames and Scottish; NZSG Volunteer of the Year in 2001;
- Branch Service Award 2003;
- 2012 New Zealand Society of Genealogists Conference Organising Committee Member.

In recognition of the work Joan has undertaken, she was made a Life Member of Lake Taupo Branch NZ Society of Genealogists in 2009.

Joan's legacy for our branch is in the library of over 750 books, hundreds of microfiche and individual files the branch now owns. She was a true professional and extremely particular in researching, recording her discoveries and sources. Joan was always so generous with her time and expertise, helping others track their 'dead

rellies'. She will be in genealogy heaven – sorting out those elusive characters she could not find here. Joan will be sorely missed.

Terri Foley
Convenor

E: LakeTaupo@genealogy.org.nz

Joan in 2020



Joan Bray (1932-2023)

Mike Guest

It is with sadness we have to record the passing of one of our long-standing members Joan BRAY. Joan passed quietly at Hutt hospital on Monday 30 October 2023 with some of her family in attendance.

Joan joined the Hutt Branch in 1982 and by 1987 was a committee member and had joined The New Zealand Society of Genealogists. She immediately joined in the activities of the branch such as in setting up the hall, helping with supper and getting involved with branch projects.

Initially, cemetery records and transferring hand-written data from graves into spreadsheets ready to be sent to the NZSG Office was her first major project. Joan tackled the project with enthusiasm and commitment and made a significant contribution to the ongoing success of the project.

In November 1990 Joan was elected as secretary to Hutt Branch committee with Peggy Crawford as convenor and Graeme Constable as treasurer with the meetings held at St James Hall in Lower Hutt. Two years on and the branch relocated to Pilmuir House with Graeme Constable being elected as convenor.

Joan became very interested in school records during her term as Secretary and took on the job of managing the branch job of collecting and co-coordinating data and then forwarding contributions to the Society. During 1993-1995 Joan was a member of the committee that helped organise the 1995 NZSG Conference that was held in Upper Hutt.

Joan was the branch Projects Coordinator in 1996. Mike Guest was appointed to this portfolio when he joined the committee in 1997.

At the November 1997 branch AGM Graeme Constable stepped down as convenor with Mike Guest being elected to chair. The vote for secretary to Hutt Branch committee resulted with Shirley Dunn replacing Joan for that position, however, Joan remained as committee member. Other committee members were Betty Pyne, Maureen MacDonald, Lee Manning, Diane Bright, Gerry Eady and Bill Clark.

In about February 1998 Joan, along with Jan Walker, successfully applied and received Lotto funding of \$6,000 which was used to purchase a laptop and associated equipment and printer for specific use on Hutt branch projects.

In July 2001 the branch relocated to the Hutt Bridge Club from Pilmuir House when the building was sold to new owners. On 26 September 2002 Joan was appointed day meeting convenor by the branch committee, ably assisted by Bill Clark, who built the cupboards at Hutt Bridge Club to house the branch computers, readers, books and research material.

In 2003 Joan applied and was accepted as the School Records Look-up Officer for NZSG and as such she was also one of our Branch delegates on the Lower North Island Regional Council. Joan also continued with the branch research portfolio. In 2012 Joan was awarded an NZSG Service Award for 20 years service as the Schools Lookup Officer. And then in 2022, on the nomination by Graeme Constable, Joan received an NZSG Merit Award for 30 years as the Schools Lookup Officer. In the nomination Graeme

recalled that he found Joan to be "a well-organised lady who worked well with me while convenor". I fully endorse Graeme's sentiment. Joan was always willing to get involved with all branch activities. Joan remained the NZSG Schools Lookup Officer until her death.

Joan continued her own family research until last year when, unfortunately her health began to deteriorate, and she was unable to fully concentrate. Another of Joan's passions was quilt making. Her craft skills and artistry produced several stunning quilts.

Joan's ashes will be placed with her husband at the tiny rural Hastwell Cemetery in the Wairarapa, Ron and the Bray families home district.

Thank you Joan for your contributions to genealogy, Hutt Branch and NZSG.

Mike Guest
Hutt Branch Convenor 1997- 2002
E: mike.guest.nz@gmail.com

Lynly Yates and Joan Bray at Hutt Valley Branch's 30th Anniversary in 2013



We would also like to inform you of the passing of Brenda Joyce, a previous Council Member and active member of the Māori Interest Group. We will publish an obituary for Brenda in our March 2024 issue.

Farewell to Empire

Leena Taylor

My family are fortunate to have the wartime memoirs of Kathleen GILLESPIE, my husband's mother. Much of this story and the quotes related below come directly from those memoirs and family oral history.

By the beginning of 1940 war in Europe had not long been declared, but from where Kathleen Gillespie and her family were in Moulmein, Burma, it felt remote and unreal. When the Germans had marched into Poland the previous year, and the British went to their aid, Kathleen reported in her memoirs that the English community in Burma were thoroughly disgusted and annoyed. Heated arguments amongst the expatriates concluded that a war would not last more than six months.

Kathleen was 25 - her birthday was later in the year on 26 August. Her husband, Colin Gillespie was thirteen years her senior and both were second-generation British Foreign

Colin and Kathleen Gillespie, Sydney, Australia.

G. Mograth (photographer).

Taken about June 1947, en-route to New Zealand. In private hands, Karikari Peninsula, Northland, New Zealand.



born. Colin had spent several years at University in London completing a degree in electrical engineering. While he was away, Kathleen had married Cyrus ELLIS but on Colin's return to Burma that marriage was annulled, and she and Colin married in January 1936¹.

In the 1940s Moulmein was a "prosperous teak and rice exporting town with over 50,000 inhabitants"². Although war news made headlines in the daily papers, life carried on as if nothing of great importance was happening; Kathleen attended golf and tennis clubs where her circle of friends included many nationalities. However, the topic of conversation soon became focused on the war and the 'war effort'. Colin, as the engineer in charge of a Scottish owned sawmill, was required to double the output as part of the 'war effort'.

In her large, comfortable and well-appointed home, Kathleen had two little girls, Gloria May aged seven (from her first marriage to Cyrus Ellis) and Colleen, aged four. In March 1940 another sister joined them, Angela Jean. Mathi, a local Burmese woman, cared for the children, while a cook and servants managed the house and grounds. Kathleen said she and her friends listened to the BBC news as if it were a serial story, anxiously waiting for the next episode.

In late 1940 their Japanese friend Mr SUKYAMA - a dentist, and his doctor wife - gave a farewell dinner. They were going home to Japan, but before leaving they implied that things were going to get much worse, and suggested the Gillespie family should go to India. With the progression and worsening of the war in the Middle East and Europe, the conflicting and confusing information about Russia and Japan, the expatriates wondered and argued about who was going to be the enemy? Who was going to be the friend? What was happening with the Americans?

As to the final outcome of the war they had no doubts. Kathleen wrote, "we were going to win; God was on our side. He had to be. He couldn't take the part of those German devils." Kathleen recorded how "we listened with greater attention to the BBC each day. We were quite shattered by Churchill's speech about Japanese aggression against the Americans, and how we were at war with Japan. When Japan bombed Pearl Harbour, we knew this was the end of peace for us."

Kathleen's parents, Charles and Elizabeth O'DONAGHUE, lived in Rangoon in a third story flat. On 23 December 1941 they witnessed the aerial battle of Rangoon, the first Japanese attack on the city. The air-force had a token few Spitfire fighter planes and fought hard, destroying some of the Japanese planes³. Burma was important for the Japanese as taking it would cut off supplies to Chiang Kai-shek's nationalists in China where the Japanese were on the offensive⁴.

As soon as they could, the O'Donaghues left Rangoon and made the journey to Moulmein to be with Kathleen and her family. It was a time to share resources and support each

other; food was becoming scarce. Grains, fruit and vegetables were hoarded, provisions disappeared. Salt and sugar were almost impossible to get, and the black market flourished. The family began to notice other changes as well. Burmese men were parading about, as if training to become soldiers.

The Gillespie home was alongside the transshipment jetty and railhead in Moulmein, and the family were conscious of a great increase in army activity. Long convoys of military trucks rumbled past the house day and night, heading south. The 8th Burma Rifles Battalion was stationed in the town, though they had minimal equipment if the situation worsened⁵.

Kathleen recalled that their social life was totally disrupted with these changes. Daylight saving time and the blackout were introduced, and they saw less and less of their friends. At midnight Christmas Day 1941, Kathleen's first son, Anthony John, arrived while bombs fell nearby. In the Moulmein hospital, Kathleen's bed was pushed under a concrete stairwell to protect her and the new baby from shattering glass.

Early in the second week of January 1942 the army drove around hailing out in English, Burmese and Hindi giving people 48 hours to evacuate the town. It was a shock, even though they had suspected this day might come. Kathleen wrote that she ran around the house touching and moving things around. How could she decide what to take and what to leave? The ayah, Mathi, helped Kathleen to overcome her feelings of helplessness and together they packed only necessary things. The little girls were told to choose one toy that they could carry.

Mathi travelled with the family, all going aboard a launch at the transshipment jetty early in the evening, but it made slow progress up the river from Moulmein. They anchored midstream, in the pitch dark, waiting for other launches to arrive. Hundreds of people lined the embankment road and the roads leading to it. The launches collected tighter, side-by-side, making a bridge that reached the main pontoon jetty. The adults were terrified their launch would sink with the stampeding crowds. People jumped in the river, swimming to the further boats. Some were known to have drowned. Eventually, in the early hours of the morning they reached Martaban and entrained for Rangoon.

In the city they stayed for a short time with Kathleen's in-laws, Oswald and Emma Gillespie, but sadly had to farewell Mathi. She was given a character reference and a letter of authority with the keys of the family home. She was free to live there or take away anything she wanted. It had finally become clear to Kathleen that their old way of life was ending. On 17 January 1942 fourteen Japanese bombers raided Moulmein. By 31 January they had taken the town⁶. The family had left just in time.

It was decided to go north to Maymyo where Kathleen's elder sister Annette lived with her husband George CHARLESWORTH and their six children. No one believed the Japanese would get that far. A nephew worked for the Burma Railways and enabled them to get a compartment on the northbound train to Maymyo. It was a difficult exercise for Kathleen and Colin to manage with young children, a new baby and two sets of grandparents. The family were instructed to stand at an appointed place on the edge of the platform and wait until the train was nearly filled with the heaving press of people until a closed compartment was



Moulmein Pagoda c1935

[Chasing Chinthes](#)

directly in front of them. The nephew opened the door, and everyone scrambled into a large third-class compartment. It had a long aisle in the centre and wooden slatted seats facing each other at right angles to the aisle. The journey was long, hot and painful.

Once the family arrived in Maymyo it became apparent that this would also be a short stop. The army announced plans to evacuate British subjects. However, before that happened, the Japanese continued to bomb at regular intervals. To avoid the danger, the family set out each morning to the nearby hills and spent the day there. This gave the children a chance to play, and everyone could relax. It was a moment of peace in the tumult. When the order came to evacuate, the Charlesworths refused to leave their home, believing the Japanese would not reach that far, but finally agreed that two of their daughters could accompany the Gillespie family. It was to be many years before Kathleen saw her sister again. The remaining Charlesworths were interred by the Japanese in a Prisoner of War Camp in Maymyo⁷. However, before they left Kathleen made sure her baby Anthony was baptised on 2 February⁸.

Siblings Anthony John and Angela Jean Gillespie, Bombay, India. Unknown photographer. Circa 1944. In private hands, Karikari Peninsula, Northland, New Zealand.



The orders came to assemble at the Maymyo train station on 25 February at 10pm. Each person was permitted a kit of no more than 60lbs. Strict criteria detailed what was to be taken in the way of food, clothing, water and bedding. Each person was to have an identity disk with their name and their destination in India. Per person they were permitted one blanket, one mosquito net, one change of clothes, and one each of fork, knife and plate. They were told to bring any legal documents they had such as passports and birth certificates. The travel and basic food, was paid for by the government, but the evacuees were encouraged to bring whatever money they had also⁹.

Once again, the family were in a long train crammed with hundreds of people. They reached Mandalay late afternoon, but had to continue further south towards the battlefield as there had been a bad derailment on the far side of the Irrawaddy River Bridge. When the train began travelling north again, they had to give way to Chinese troop trains going south. Whenever the train stopped, everyone remained close to it. Some nights they would sleep on the grassy embankments – those were good nights. Otherwise, they took turns to stretch out on the floor between the seats. Their most pressing problem was toileting. There was no privacy for the women who had to hide in the bushes when the train stopped. There was no water to wash clothes or bathe. They carried drinking water in earthenware goglets – a long-necked water vessel made of earthenware¹⁰. The food provided by the government was supplemented with boiled rice, curry and greens bought at small stations along the way.

At times they shared the small stations with Chinese troop trains travelling south, but they were afraid Japanese bombers would destroy them all. Often Japanese sympathisers would place pieces of broken mirror on the roofs of the carriages to alert the fighter pilots. Finally, they arrived in Myitkyina in mid-April, late in the evening, but had to choose whether to spend the night on the railway platform or in the train. Kathleen and the children refused to stay in the train and in the early hours of the morning it rumbled away, with people still in it. Kathleen often wondered what had happened to those folk. The family and other refugees were taken to the nearby evacuation camp (run by American missionaries). There were hundreds of bamboo huts to house everyone.

Able-bodied people were advised to trek to India, while those less able would be flown out¹¹. Many families were separated. Some never met again. Kathleen said the adults did not know what to think or feel. Everyone was thinking of ways to escape and fearful of being trapped. The days moved painfully along. Kathleen's husband and the two grandfathers would take baby Anthony, now four months old, in turn and get a little bowl of porridge for each of the girls. Porridge was only for children a year old and under. Rumours were rife in the evacuation camp, and life was uncertain. Japanese planes flew overhead regularly, strafing the area. There was no telling how long they would have to stay in the camp, or if they would be captured by the Japanese. The Japanese were making steady progress across Burma towards them¹².

The month of May arrived with the 'mango showers' – the first rain before the monsoon. They began to feel if they did not fly away now, they never would. The trip would take

them 'over the Hump' – as the Eastern Himalayan Uplift separating Burma from India was colloquially known¹³. Eventually they were weighed in – fully dressed in all their clothing – ready to fly the next day. Burmese buses arrived to take them to the airfield to where the Chinese troop carriers were waiting. Just a few days after they flew out, the airfield and camp at Myitkyina were bombed heavily by the Japanese and many civilians were killed or wounded¹⁴. Again, they had escaped just in time.

Refugee camps were set up in tea plantations to provide a first haven away from the war-torn country they had escaped from. In Kathleen's reminiscences she writes, "Then spread out under us like an embroidered picture in greens and browns in graphic design, the tea plantations of Dibrugarh in Assam, our destination. The journey continued." The Gillespies arrived in India on 9 May 1942 and eventually settled in Bandra, Bombay¹⁵. It was not until the middle of 1947 that the family – with two new infant daughters – arrived in New Zealand, but that is another story.

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The Silver Cup

Sarah Hewitt

The Silver Cup held pride of place on the table in my Aunt Margaret's bay window. It was huge and from my memories a bit gaudy. It alluded to a somewhat unexpected period in our family's (very Anglo-Saxon) history. It was awarded to my 2 x great-grandfather Robert JOHNSTON for shooting - in Shanghai.

Both my Aunt and Grandad were into family history. However, neither took the time to either photograph the Silver Cup or write down its inscription, but both referred to its provenance in their family history notes. I have not seen it for many years.

Robert Johnston was born in Falkirk, Stirlingshire, Scotland around 1844. There are various possibilities for his birth year, but this is taken from the Scottish Census¹. There is no record of his baptism in Falkirk. His parents were John Johnston and Helen YOUNG. John was a Journeyman Tailor and the family had moved from Falkirk to Borrowstounness (aka Bo'ness), Stirlingshire by the time their next child was born in 1846.

Robert appears in the 1851 and 1861 Scottish Censuses with his family. In 1861², the family are in East Kilbride and Robert is a tailor's apprentice. He is not in the 1871 Scottish Census. He reappears in the British Isles in October 1881 when he marries Elizabeth in Garvery, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, Ireland³. Where had he gone for those missing two decades?

The Silver Cup is the pivotal record of his whereabouts during this time. He is in Shanghai and has joined the Shanghai Volunteer Corps. However, the Silver Cup is but a moment in time and I needed to know more.

Information on the Shanghai Volunteer Corps (SVC)⁴ was fairly easy to come by. Shanghai had a number of foreign powers establish settlements there, starting with the British after the Treaty of Nanking in 1842. This led to an international force, the Shanghai Volunteer Corps, being formed in 1853. The SVC was disbanded in 1855 and re-established in 1861. The Shanghai Municipal Council took over the running of the SVC in 1870. It was disbanded for good in 1942 after the Japanese invasion of China. While it did see active service at some points of its existence, the 1870s were a very quiet time.

I next turned to the newspapers. The *North China Herald* was a newspaper in English at the time. Searching for the SVC found a lot of shooting competitions. Private Johnston appears in many of them, but two caught my notice.

Under 'Amusements' on 17 January, 1878, there is the report of the No 2 S.V.C Monthly Challenge Cup. Despite the cold weather – "so cold that several of the men found it difficult ... to hold their rifles steady", and not managing to hit the local ice skaters or duck shooters, the winner was Private Johnston with 41 points.

Image: "Paper Hunt at Shanghai", 1874 by William Simpson (1923-1899)*

In November 1879, Corporal Johnston again top scores, but is handicapped into second as he was a previous winner. This time the report goes:

Corporal R. Johnston made the highest total, namely 60 out of a possible 70, including five successive bulls at the 500 yards' range and four bulls out of his seven shots at the shorter range...

So what else was Robert doing? You can't spend all day shooting.

A project at the University of Bristol gave further insight into Robert's life in Shanghai. They were studying Chinese Maritime Customs and had started publishing/linking genealogical information on the internet⁵.

The Directories held by the project showed Robert was in Shanghai by 1870⁶. He was working as a tailor for Sayle & Co - the Shanghai branch of the Robert Sayle department store (now John Lewis Cambridge). The 1877 directory describes Sayle & Co as "linen drapers, silk mercers, tailors etc, corner of Nanking and Szechuan Roads".

The newspapers provided further details of Robert's life outside work and shooting. Searching for "Johnston", it became quickly obvious that there were three Johnstons in Shanghai at the time. Dr Johnston who turns up in a medical context, Sir Johnston who played a lot of cricket and our Robert.

Robert was into horses (or more accurately "China ponies") and more importantly horse racing and hunting. The index for 31 December, 1879 issue of the *North China Herald*, gave the following tantalising snippet:

... during the Hunt Mr. R. Johnston and Mr. W. Coleman both of Messrs. Sayle and Co. had met with accidents and sustained ...

Robert was taking part in the Christmas Day Paper Hunt. Bored with wheelbarrow races and lacking in anything to hunt, the British in Shanghai had come up with the Paper Hunt⁷. One member of the team would ride ahead to act as the hunted prey, marking the trail with coloured paper.

During the Christmas 1879 Paper Hunt, both Robert and his colleague Mr COLEMAN fell off their horses while making a jump and broke their collar bones. Another hunter was less fortunate - he was beset by the locals as they rampaged across their properties in the local countryside. Robert rode a variety of ponies in these hunts - Random, Gekko and Reveller. Newspaper articles suggested he owned them.

One question I have had about Robert's time in China is did he marry? He certainly had time to. No records have been found that suggest that he did and he is listed as a bachelor on his Irish Marriage Certificate. I do still wonder if some Chinese cousins might appear through DNA testing.

Shanghai appears to have given Robert a social standing he might not have had back in Scotland. He was a Mason and enjoyed a social life that included Masonic Balls⁸ and other events. Was this perhaps the reason he did not stay in Ireland after his marriage?

I have not yet found any shipping records for Robert's journey in and out of China. He last appears shooting for

the SVC in the *North China Herald* in October 1880. He must have left soon after as he was married in Ireland in October 1881 and was in Auckland by February 1882⁹.

His married life in Gisborne continued many of the activities he enjoyed in China. He built a successful business as a tailor. He joined the East Coast Hussars (a cavalry) which involved horses and shooting and was a member of the local Masonic Lodge.

A few years ago, having read my blog, one of my Johnston cousins got in touch saying, "I've got the Cup!" I was a bit confused as my branch of the family has the Cup. He came to visit and brought his cup. Photographing shiny silver cups is quite difficult but it says, "Consolation Cup, won by Private Johnston, No 2 Company, Spring 1879 Meeting". Turns out, there are two Silver Cups.



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Notes:

The *North China Herald* was available through one of the subscription genealogy websites during the time I was doing this research. Issues of the years 1850-1941 can now be [found on the Internet Archive](#) as individual PDFs. You can search it at [Brill Online](#). A list of other newspapers in Chinese, Japanese and English can be found on [China Families](#).

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1. Robert married a woman significantly younger and is known to have lied about his age. Different documents during his life give different values.
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* Showing the two degrees of separation in New Zealand, the artist William Simpson was the father of my Grandfather Walter Hewitt's first wife Ann Penelope Simpson.



Indian Mutiny

Jeanette Grant

"They say" that there are only six degrees of separation between any two people or events. Among the incredibly varied links I have traced, is this one to the Indian Mutiny of 1857.

My 3x great-grandfather Charles HAMILTON (1776-1859) had one sister – Louisa Hamilton (1786-1854), who married Edward COLES (1768-1846) in 1810 and had a family of nine between 1811 and 1826. Their second child was Emily Coles (1813-1857). On 10 June 1833 she married Edward VIBART (1807-1857), son of James Meredith Vibart of Taunton and his wife Juliana WILLIAMS. He had been serving in India since 1824 and rose to the rank of Major with the 2nd Bengal Light Infantry.

Emily followed him to India where they had nine children and for years, they led what was for the period a normal family life with plenty of Indian servants and the children as they grew older, going back "home" to England to live with relatives and be educated. Then in 1857, the smouldering dissatisfaction with the rule of the Honourable East India Company broke out into open rebellion – the Indian Mutiny

– with the long term result that India came directly under British rule.

Emily and Edward died together in the Massacre of Cawnpore on 27 June 1857. Their eldest son Edward Daniel Hamilton Vibart (1837-1923) was already in the East India Company's army and survived. Their three eldest daughters – Henrietta Louise (1838-1926), Georgina Caroline (1844-1926) and Louisa Hamilton (1844-1932) - were being educated in England, but their youngest son William Hamilton Vibart is mentioned in history books as being with his mother at Cawnpore and died there also. However, a death notice in *The Times* names four children killed - Emily, John Francis Meredith, William Hamilton and Louisa Mary.

The three older surviving daughters were awarded a pension of £16 a year each by the Honourable East India Company.

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*Image: 'The treacherous massacre of English women and children at Cawnpore by Nena Sahib', 1857
Tinted lithograph by T Packer, published by Stannard and Dixon, 7 Poland St, London, 12 October 1857.*

[National Army Museum](http://www.nam.ac.uk)

William Demain

Fay Brett

William DEMAIN was born circa 1797 and baptised 7 June 1799, in Rylstone, Yorkshire. He was the illegitimate son of Ann DEMAYN. William was fostered with Ann DEMAYN's brother John and his wife, Margaret RYLEY. This could explain why he put "John Demain" as his father on his marriage certificate when he wed, for the second time, Anne SMITH in 1852. His first wife, Barbara WILSON had died in 1848.

William worked in Clitheroe, Lancashire, for Garnett and Horsefall in their Low Moor cotton mill as an overlooker. On 15 June 1857, according to his death certificate, he was fatally injured at the factory being "crushed between the carriage and roller beam of a spinning mule." He lived one day. His death certificate is dated 16 June 1857, and states he was 60 years old, as does the St. Mary's burial register.

This death is also recorded in *A Lancashire Weaver's Journal* by John O'Neil (p 43) which published: "June 15, 1857: This has been a very warm day. There was a man killed this morning in the mill very soon after we started. He was crushed between the carriage and the frame of a self-actor. He did not live long after he was taken home."

There was an Inquest on 17 June 1857, and the Quarter Sessions Records detail the expenses of the Coroner - the mileage he travelled and the use of the room. There was also payment for witnesses; two of whom were Isaac Demain, William's son and his daughter-in-law, Naomi Demain.

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Image: Compton Spinning Mule

Lewis Textile Museum

Image was provided by Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council for use in the Cotton Town digitisation project:

www.cottontown.org.



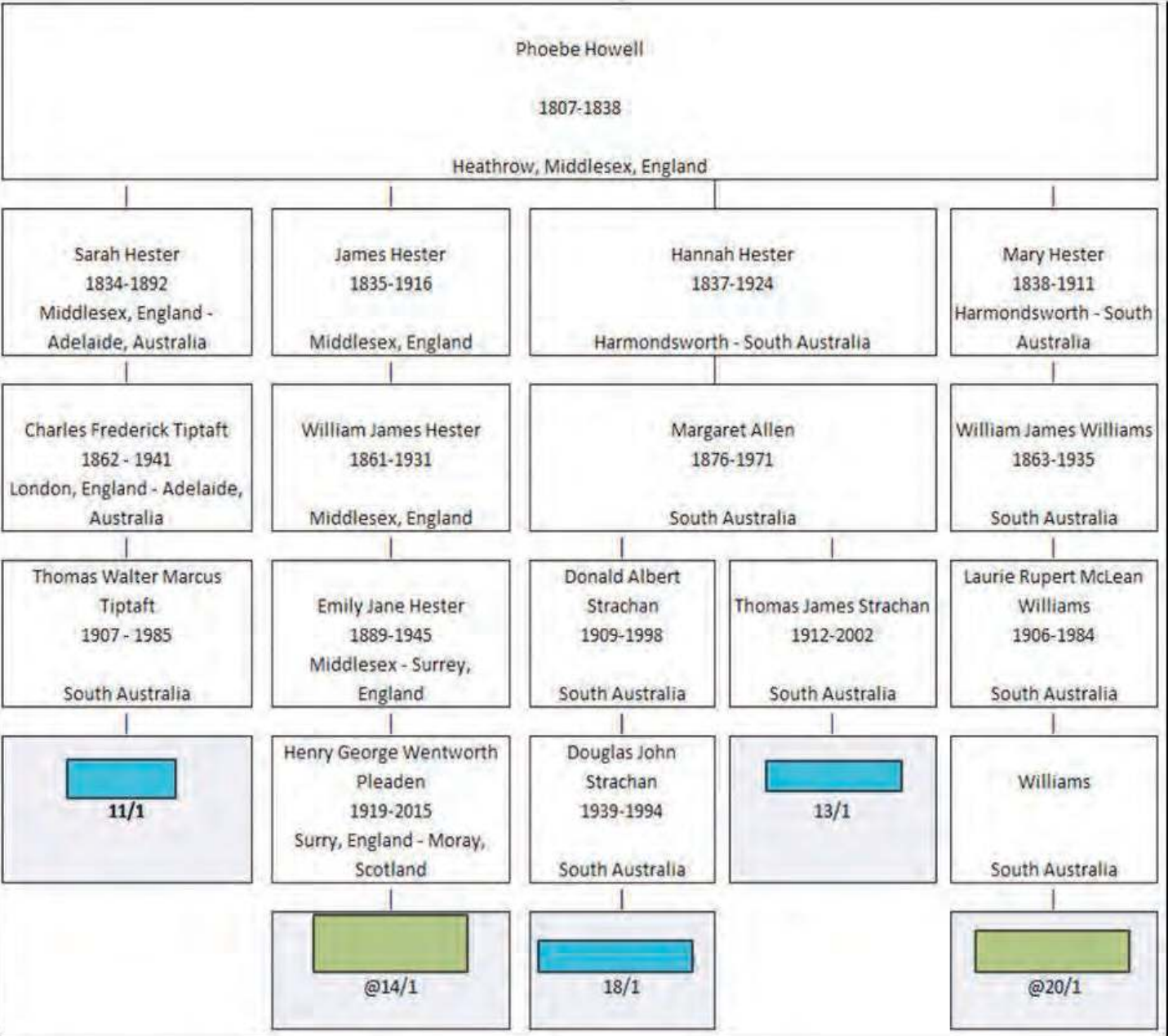
Finding Ancestors through Collaboration and DNA

Searching for the Origins of John Howell

Alison Howell and Kaye Batchelor

Problem: John and Ann HOWELL left England before the 1841 census and died before parents' details were put on New Zealand death certificates. Stories have been passed down to descendants including that Ann sat on Pipitea Point Beach and cried when they disembarked off the *Lord William Bentinck* on 22 May 1841, but nothing has survived about their origins. The search has been further complicated with John Howell being the third generation to have the same name.
Alison Howell, née GODINAGH, is researching on behalf of

her husband Jim Howell (3x great-grandson of John Howell). Alison has done extensive research into her Polish ancestors and used DNA to supplement paper research.
Kaye BATCHELOR started researching her adopted family for a school project, and has carried on, adding her birth family after the Adult Adoption Information Act was passed in the 1980s. Kaye is descended from John Howell (4x great-grandfather) and has made extensive use of DNA in researching her families.



A third researcher, Linda HANSEN, née Howell, collaborates via email from Switzerland and has been using traditional methods rather than DNA to research the Howell family for decades (2x great-granddaughter of John Howell).

Another problem: We were dissatisfied with the previous research. Many online trees have perpetuated dubious information from earlier researchers who often did not cite evidence. Some of these cited only IGI records (International Genealogical Index) from FamilySearch. Many of these entries do not have sources. John Howell is a common name, with a number of possible variant spellings, and various researchers ascribed different parents, baptisms, and birth places incorrectly to our ancestor John Howell. So where to start?

We established that John Howell and Ann CORDERY married in Teddington, Middlesex, in 1829. John was a shepherd and agricultural labourer on the Ham House estate in Surrey from at least 1829, and the first two of their children were baptised at All Saints, Kingston upon Thames, and then three more at St Andrew's, Ham, Surrey (the church was established in 1832). Rough distance as the crow flies between Teddington and Ham is two to three kilometres. Therefore initial research focused on Middlesex and Surrey. There were 98 parishes in Middlesex alone, and between Linda and Alison, most were checked.

Linda identified many Howell families in parishes around Teddington and Ham over decades, often visiting Record Offices to consult microfiche or microfilm. As more records became available on the internet, target candidates for our John Howell could be discounted, as death, burial, marriage, or census records established that these were not the John Howell that came to New Zealand. Ancestry trees appeared with our John Howell – so each had to be investigated and none proved conclusive. We had gone as far as we could and had to wait for DNA.

Kaye found she had DNA matches to several possible Howell families and started collaborating with Alison, using Jim's DNA as well as Kaye's half-sister's DNA, to see if any of these matches were common to all three.

The first thing to do is identify DNA matches that look like they are on the target line you are researching. This can be done through examining shared matches and grouping your matches by grandparent or great-grandparent lines. Ancestry.com now divides matches into paternal and maternal, which is a welcome advance, but Kaye did her matching before this, and before coloured dots, using the Leeds method. See [The Leeds Method](#) for more information on how this works.

Five DNA matches could be traced back to the children of Phoebe Howell, who married William HESTER on 11 Nov 1833, in the parish of St George Hanover Square, Middlesex. You can see the tracing back from the DNA matches in the diagram – blue is a match to Kaye, green a match to Jim.

The numbers refer to the centimorgans shared (@ means a match to Jim rather than Kaye). Kaye found that all four of Phoebe Howell Hester's children were baptised in Longford, and they were non-conformist baptisms that named Phoebe's father as John Howell of Heathrow. (See Sarah Hester's baptism record right.) Heathrow was not a parish – it was a hamlet in the parish of Harmondsworth, Middlesex, about 9kms to the west and north from Ham.

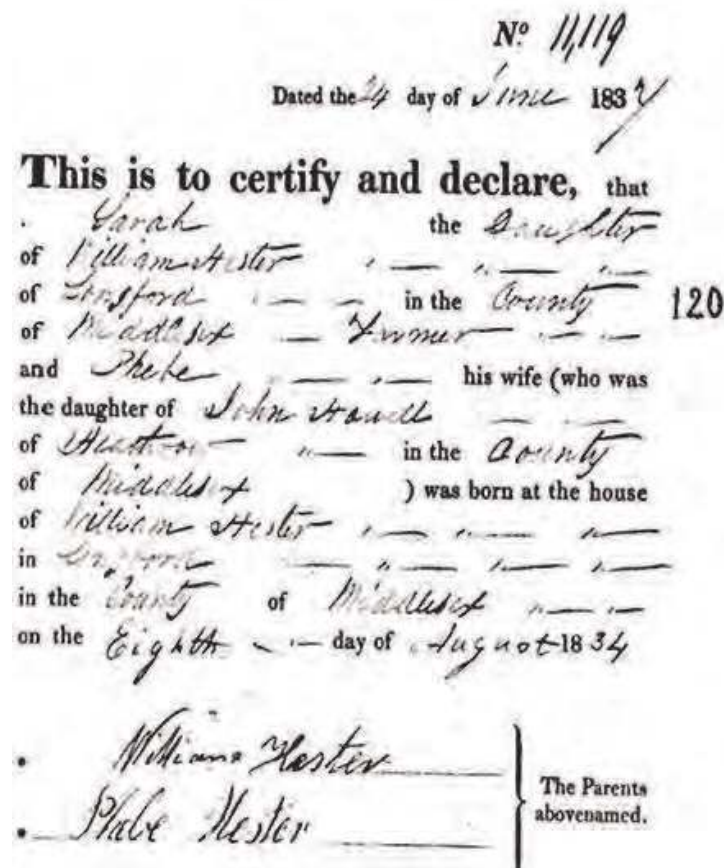
Now we had a place name to investigate further. Linda extracted all the Harmondsworth Howell records and built family trees. She also looked at census records and wills to trace these Howells to at least the 1850s. Two records

proved crucial: the marriage of John Howell to Jane Norris KENT in 1798 at St Marys, Harmondsworth, and the Will of Samuel Kent, made in 1842. This confirmed the Howell/Kent link, names and relationships of many in the Kent family, and led to Linda finding siblings of Phoebe in census records.

Phoebe's husband, William Hester, was born in Harmondsworth, and William LITTLE, a witness at the marriage, was the son of a Harmondsworth Howell. William Little married his cousin, Jane Howell, who was Phoebe's sister. So, it looked like we were right to focus on Harmondsworth Howells. More DNA matches turned up. Now that we had possible parents for our John Howell, namely John Howell and Jane Norris Kent, we looked for matches that might go back to the Kent family. Jim had four matches we could trace to two siblings of Jane Norris Kent, and Kaye had a different match to a descendent of one of these siblings.

Another set of DNA matches, shared by Jim, Kaye, and her sister, led to a Mary Ann Howell born in 1828 at St Benet Paul's Wharf, London. Her parents were William Howell/HOELL and Elizabeth COLE/COLL. William's census and death records indicated that he was likely a brother of John Howell of Heathrow, born in 1789 to John Howell and Rachel HAYNES (parents of John Howell of Heathrow). This is still being researched.

In summary: we found the first two children of John Howell of Heathrow and Jane Norris Kent were baptised at St Mary's, Stanwell: Isaac in 1798 and Mary in 1800. Linda had also identified three children born much later: Sarah (c1813), David (c1815) and William (c1821), who all gave their birthplace as Heathrow in at least one later census. Plus, Phoebe was born around 1807. That left Jane, who we think was born in 1802, and our John Howell who came to New Zealand, born in 1804, which would be consistent with his age on the records we do have and would fit into a gap in the known children of John Howell of Heathrow. It is still a mystery as to where the rest of John Howell of



Heathrow's children were baptised, and if there are any more. Further research into non-conformist records may provide a clue. John Howell of Heathrow died between 1821 and 1831, and Jane Norris Kent Howell married John's first cousin, James ELDRIDGE in 1831, and died in 1861.

Where is Heathrow today? Underneath Terminal 3 of Heathrow Airport!

Final twist(s) to the tale:

Alison continued to research Jim's DNA matches and found that while his grandmother Ella CLUNIE was descended from John Howell and Ann CORDERY, his father, thought to be a great-grandson of John and Ann, was actually the son of the boarder! Linda finally did her DNA test, and found that her father was not the son of her (supposed) Howell grandfather, so she had no Howell or Cordery DNA. You may get unexpected results when you add DNA to your toolbox, but also it can be the only way to find your elusive ancestors!

Our process was:

1. Look in the nearest geographic area to where your target ancestor was known to be and make a list of possible families in the surrounding parishes.
2. Research these families and use a wide range of records to eliminate those targets that cannot be your ancestor.
3. Identify DNA matches that match you on the right side or line that could lead back to your target ancestor.
4. Build back these matches' family trees to see if a common name or place appears.
5. Check if other descendants have these matches – collaborate.

6. Ask other descendants if they will check their match lists or allow you to view their DNA matches yourself to check them.

7. Build back these target matches as well – ideally you will find they link to the families you have already identified through your own matches.

Some techniques we used were:

- Wild card searching to identify name variants
- Use a distinctive name in the tree (such as Phoebe or Lucy) you are building to research further – it may provide a will or other record that leads you to other relatives.
- Collaborate – work with as many people as possible and their DNA kits.
- Ignore other people's trees – build your own.
- Or use other people's trees to eliminate possibilities.
- Don't forget to investigate witnesses on marriage records as they may be related.

Many Howell descendants have tested their DNA. We would welcome relatives to contact us to collaborate further in extending the Howell family tree and working on the Cordery side. If you are interested, please contact Kaye.

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Strathclyde Institute for Genealogical Studies is pleased to announce the call for papers for a conference: 'Advancing genetic genealogy: how the past is informing the present through revolutions in genetic research'.

Speakers from a variety of disciplines and backgrounds are invited to share their experiences and thoughts around the following themes:

- Autosomal DNA
- Y-DNA
- Bioarchaeology
- Genetics
- Investigative genetic genealogy

Date and Place of Conference: June 7-8, 2024, University of Strathclyde, Scotland and hybrid

Deadline for submissions: January 8, 2024

Find out more > www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/centreforlifelonglearning/genealogy/advancinggeneticgenealogy/

DNA for Scandinavian Ancestors

Many of the Scandinavians changed their names when they started their new life, and since there is often not very much information about where they came from, DNA tracing is often the only way to find their roots. And the best is always to test a person "closer to the target", as they say, and many researchers discover this when the elderly are gone and it is too late. Monica's tip is to take the test with Ancestry and then transfer the raw DNA data to MyHeritage and FTDNA. I say this because of my experience in researching Scandinavian sailors who jumped ship in Australia and New Zealand, which I would never have found if it wasn't for the DNA!

Monica Fogelqvist



Joseph (Joe) Astbury Warbrick 1861 - 1903

Sharon Harper

I came across Joe when researching another member of my husband's maternal family, namely Edward Alexander ANDERSON (1863-1953) and his wife Jane Maria WILLIAMS (c.1869 - 1856). They are buried in the Warkworth McKinney Road Cemetery about a five-minute drive from our home. Joe married their granddaughter Harriet (Ettie) BURT (1897-1941) in 1902. The couple had one daughter. I was fascinated by two aspects of his life story - firstly that he captained the New Zealand Native Football team to tour Great Britain, and secondly that he was a tour guide who died in a geyser explosion.

Joe was born in Rotorua in 1861 to an English father, Abraham and his Māori wife, Nga Karauna PAERAU, the daughter of a Ngāti Rangitihi chief. He was educated at St Stephen's School, Auckland, where it seems his rugby career really took off. Along with four of his brothers - Alfred, Arthur, Fred, and Billy - Joe travelled on the *Cuzco* to Great Britain where he captained the New Zealand Native Football Team on tour. Due to an injury sustained early on Joe retired from rugby after returning from the trip and became a farmer.

In 1903 Joe was working as a tourist guide in Rotorua, where his brother Alfred was the Chief Government Guide. On 30 August that year, while working in the geothermal region with his brother Alfred, Joe Warbrick died along with four tourists. The Waimangu (Black Water) Geyser - then

the largest in the world - unexpectedly erupted, spewing out superheated water that killed them instantly.

According to an eye-witness account by his brother Alfred, Joe Warbrick had warned one of the tourists not to venture too close to the geyser, however she insisted on moving closer to get a better photograph. Joe either accompanied her, or tried to pull her back from the brink of the geyser and barely two minutes later it erupted and killed the entire group.

Sharon Harper
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Sources

- Marriage Certificate, Joseph Astbury Warbrick and Harriet Burt, New Zealand Registrar General's Office, Marriages, 1902/2287.
- *Stuff*, Flashback - the Super Geyser that dealt death, 31 August 2014, www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/life-style/10441542/Flashback-The-Super-Geyser-that-dealt-death
- NZ History, nzhistory.govt.nz/people/joe-warbrick
- *Otago Daily Times*, 20 August 1888, p 2.
- Wikipedia, Joe Warbrick, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joe_Warbrick

Waimangu Geyser, the greatest known geyser - A. Cromwell Shepherd of Muir & Moodie 1903
[Te Papa Collections](#)

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
- Access free records on the Kiwi Collection
- 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

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 and images are 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 nearly 15 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 on how to subscribe.

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.

Rail Accident at Machavie, Transvaal, South Africa 1902

Lynda Richards

A letter received by his parents from Trooper GLENNIE of the 8th New Zealand Mounted Rifles Regiment describes the unfortunate rail accident which occurred as the soldiers were being transported to join their comrades during the latter part of the Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902.



Troops, probably the 8th Contingent, on a ship leaving for the South African War - 1902

[Alexander Turnbull Library](#)

The South Island section of the regiment had left Lyttelton on 8 February 1902 on the *Cornwall* arriving at Durban on 15 March 1902. From there they moved inland towards Johannesburg and camped at Majuba Hill, Newcastle, and then on to Charlestown where their horses were loaded onto the train. During the overnight journey while near Johannesburg, they moved onto a branch line towards Klerksdorp, and it was here on 12 April that their train collided with a goods train on the same track.

All the carriages were thrown, the second overturned, and the third and fourth ones landed on the top of the first. Sixteen men were killed and fourteen injured. Nine of the horses in the following van died immediately. One of the survivors was able to ride a horse to Potchefstroom for assistance. A large funeral was held at Klerksdorp cemetery the next day, with the service read by the New Zealand Army Chaplain.

Twenty-three year-old Corporal David Lunam WHITEHEAD from Dunedin was among the injured and died of his wounds in hospital at Potchefstroom. On 13 April 1902, from Klerksdorp, Lieutenant Harry ORBELL wrote to David Whitehead's mother:

"The sad news of our accident will have reached New Zealand a long time ago. D Whitehead, my corporal, I am sorry to say, is in a very low state, being crushed internally. It was a marvel how we managed to come out alive. I cannot say enough for the poor fellow; he was one of my best men. When I pulled him out from amongst the rest of our comrades the first words he said to me were 'It is hard luck sir'. It was a marvel how we

ANOTHER NEW ZEALANDER KILLED.

(SPECIAL TO STAR.)

DUNEDIN, April 23

Corporal David Whitehead, whose death is reported as a result of the railway disaster in which the 8th Contingent suffered so severely, was a Dunedin boy. He was engaged before joining in A and T Burt's engineering works and was an active member of the Dunedin Cycling Corps.

It is a sad coincidence; his father also died as a result of a railway accident. He was killed in December 1884, by coming in contact with the bridge at Lovell's Flat while he was on the roof one of one of the carriages of the train in which he had charge.

Corporal Whitehead, was the oldest of the three children who were thus orphaned.

Above: West Coast Times, 24 April 1902 - Papers Past

escaped, the whole ten trucks being smashed to splinters. Kindly accept my deepest sympathy."

By a sad coincidence Corporal Whitehead's father had also died as the result of an accident on the New Zealand Railway. John William Whitehead, a native of Lancashire, was in charge of the south express travelling from Dunedin to Invercargill on 31 December 1884. In his position of railway guard he passed through the crowded train with some difficulty collecting the tickets. It is thought that to save the passengers a similar annoyance he decided to make his way back to the guard's van over the top of the train - a feat he had often accomplished with safety.

Unfortunately, he had forgotten his whereabouts and as the train passed beneath the Lovell's flat bridge a beam from the structure dealt him a crushing blow on the back of his head and he was thrown off the roof of the train. John Whitehead was 34 years and had been living in New Zealand since 1864. His only son was just six years old at the time of his father's death, and there were two younger sisters.

Lynda Richards

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Sources:

Papers Past

nzhistory.govt.nz

Auckland Museum Cenotaph Database

Fatal Accident of a Jockey

Jan Sherwood

My 2x great uncle James McALEER was born in Cust, Canterbury, on 4 March 1878, the third child of my 2x great grandparents Robert and Hannah McAleer¹. James was the first of the 12 McAleer children to be born in New Zealand.

Robert and Hannah, along with their first two children Michael, three years old (my great-grandfather), and Catherine, two years old, arrived in Lyttelton on the *Opawa* on 3 March 1878, after a three-month voyage from County Tyrone, Ireland². They trekked over the Bridle Path and on to Cust by bullock team, Hannah being heavily pregnant at the time with James. They were accommodated in an immigrant cottage until a house could be built. The family lived in Cust for about 20 years before moving to Kaiapoi³.

Upon leaving school, James became a jockey and served his apprenticeship in P BUTLER's stable in Riccarton, before going on to A ATTWOOD's stable in Feilding where he stayed for about 10 years⁴. On 2 March 1905 James was riding for Mr Attwood at the Wanganui races. He was riding *Miss King* in the Westmere Hurdles on the first day of the race meeting, when his horse struck a hurdle and fell. James was thrown heavily off the horse and had several ribs broken by the hoof of another horse which followed *Miss King* over the hurdles⁵.

James was immediately taken by a nearby ambulance to the ambulance room, where he was attended to by Doctor Tripe. The doctor found James had serious internal injuries, with several of his ribs having been driven into his lungs. James regained consciousness and the attending doctor promptly sent him to the hospital. On arrival at the hospital James was in a state of collapse and Doctors FENWICK, WALL and REID did all they could for him.

He revived slightly but relapsed into unconsciousness and passed away from internal haemorrhage at about 5.30pm, 2 March 1905⁶. James was survived by his parents and 11 siblings.

All reports of James's death, including his headstone, have him as being 27 years old, but he was in fact two days short of his 27th birthday. James is buried in Kaiapoi Public Cemetery, and his parents, Robert and Hannah, were later buried in the same plot.

Jan Sherwood

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Sources

1. NZ Births, Deaths & Marriages Online, Reg. No. 1878/1850. Note: Surname was wrongly recorded as MAGALIER.
2. Archives New Zealand Passenger Lists 1839-1973 on FindMyPast. Assisted Emigration to Canterbury, *Opawa* departed Plymouth 26 September 1877, arrived Lyttelton 3 January 1878.
3. Brockelbank, Charles, comp. *Old Kaiapoi: a collection of memoirs*. North Canterbury Gazette, 1941.
4. "Turf Topics", *New Zealand Times*, 11 March 1905, p 14. Accessed on Papers Past 17 October 2023.
5. "Fatal Accident to a Jockey", *Ashburton Guardian*, 4 March 1905, p 2. Accessed on Papers Past 17 October 2023.
6. "A Feilding Jockey Killed", *Feilding Star*, 3 March 1905, p 3. Accessed on Papers Past 17 October 2023.

ACCIDENTS AND FATALITIES.

Press Association. *Electric Telegraph*
Copyright.

WANGANUI, March 4.

At the inquest concerning the death of the jockey McAleer a verdict of accidentally killed was returned. Deceased was riding *Miss King* in the Westmere Hurdles on the first day of the Wanganui races, when the horse struck a hurdle and fell, displacing the rider, who was struck in the ribs, several of which were broken, by the hoof of another horse. He was taken to the hospital, but succumbed to internal injuries. McAleer was a native of Rangiora.

Marlborough Express, 6 March 1905

[Papers Past](#)



Cause and Impact

Bruce Ralston

I was recently reminded about an accident that is supposed to have happened back in 1846 in Scotland. That led to thinking about two other road accidents that left impacts on families.

A mother's trauma

Members of the REESE family have been very good at recording family stories. Alexander Reese's 1923 printed text on the reverse of a layout of family portraits records that Thomas Reese (1816-1891) and his wife Jean DALZIEL (1818-1902) had a third son born on 5 April 1845 in Motherwell, Dalziel, Lanarkshire. Fourteen months later, on 27 May 1846, he was dead¹.

Cecil Reese, writing a substantial record of the Reese family in April 1965, notes: "a baby brother was killed when he was run over by a horse and cart. The tragedy was witnessed by his mother, and it was said that almost every year she went a wee bit queer when the anniversary of the baby's death came round."² I found no mention of the accident in local newspapers, so could only work on presumption these are connected.

In more recent times cousin Marion TOWERS alerted me to Lanarkshire mental health records indexed by Maxwell Indexes. There is an entry for Mrs Reese or Jean Dalziel admitted as a pauper patient to Longdales Asylum near Motherwell on 15 April 1862³. Jean was "incoherent & sometimes in discourse thinks persons are living here who are not here". The petition to have her committed states she had had this issue for seven years from when she was 35 years old, the cause "Death by accident of a child". A neighbour informed one of the doctors who assessed her that Jean was occasionally violent and even dangerous. Thomas Reese stated she was "insane & when contradicted is very violent in her conduct".



Jean Reese, about 1900

Jean spent some months in Longdales and was released on 24 January 1863. Four years later, with their two youngest daughters, Thomas and Jean sailed for Canterbury to join their remaining six children.

Jean survived the 1891 deaths of her husband and eldest son, moved to the North Island and joined family engaged in building viaducts on the Main Trunk Line. She died at Manganoho in 1902 and was buried in Hunterville.

'A busy morning for the Te Aute Hotel'.

The girl in the centre may be Mary Jane. Published in a Hawke's Bay newspaper in the mid 1960s. The original photo was displayed for many years in the old Te Aute store.

The wedding party

They had been to a wedding at Pukehou. Four young women were in a trap with the driver. Two were sisters, Lizzie and Mary Jane DANIEL, returning home to the Te Aute railway refreshment rooms and hotel, the other two were sisters Ivy and Florrie GUNDRIE, also from Te Aute⁴. The driver was Cornelius (Con) BOYLE, employed by the father, William Daniel, at the hotel.

Descending the Te Aute hill about a mile south of the hotel on the evening of Saturday, 24 March 1906, the horse started galloping. At a corner the vehicle lurched heavily and Lizzie Daniel, Florrie Gundrie and Con Boyle, all in the front seat, were thrown out. A quarter of a mile further on Mary Jane, seated with Ivy in the back seat, tried to get off the trap while the horse was still galloping. Mary Jane may have been caught up in the trap and was dragged for some distance. The vehicle, with Ivy still on board shouting to William Daniel as she passed the hotel, careened on and eventually pulled up about half a mile further on. Mary Jane's body was found on the side of the road by her father. She was 20 years old⁵.

At the inquest held at Te Aute on the following Tuesday, the jury heard from Lizzie and Florrie that Boyle was careless and would not give up the reins or put on the brakes. Boyle denied carelessness and was arrested the following week on a charge of manslaughter⁶.

Florrie suffered a badly sprained ankle, Boyle cuts and bruises around the face.

The driver and another accident

The accident and court appearances of the driver on manslaughter charges were widely reported in the newspapers. Most reports give his name or nickname with no qualifying information – age, residence, occupation – as if he was well-known. Several times he is mentioned as "formerly a jockey and trainer"⁷. And in fact, Con Boyle was very well-known nationally as a successful jockey until he retired in 1895. After that he trained horses in both the South and North Islands, notably near Hastings for the Honourable John Davies ORMOND, who kept a large breeding and training stud there. His non-custodial



A BUSY MORNING FOR THE TE AUTE HOTEL, in 1902. In the foreground are Mrs Daniel, wife of the then proprietor, and four of her children, with Mr Kinross White standing behind them. At right are the bullock teamsters, Messrs S. Cracknell and H. Cannon. The hotel was destroyed by fire in 1936.—Entered by Misses C. and J. Osborne, Otane.

sentence including two years no drinking, might suggest he had a drinking problem⁸. The trial jury had added a strong recommendation to mercy.

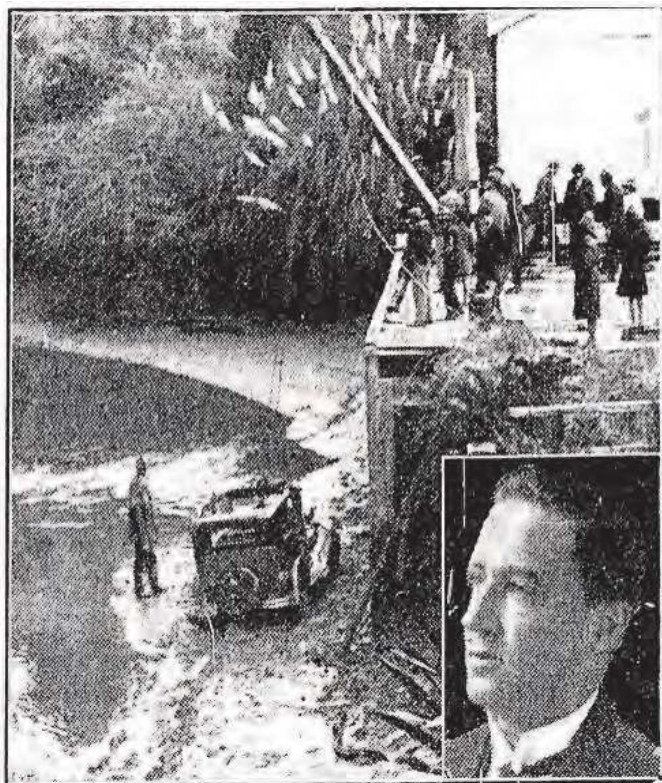
Con Boyle surfaces again when he died in April 1911. He was living and working at Hāwera. On the Sunday before his death, he was "administering a physic ball to a [young horse] was proceeding to tie a knot in the animal's tail, when it lashed out, striking him in the abdomen and inflicting injuries to which he eventually succumbed"⁹. Con Boyle was single and had no known family in this country.

Half an hour to midnight

It was a rainy night on Saturday, 27 July 1930, when a large motor car travelling from Albany ran onto loose metal, skidded and crashed through the handrail and over the side of the Albany bridge. It plunged 50 feet into Lucas Creek below. A local resident heard the crash and a woman screaming and went to investigate. He found the 38-year-old driver, Ernest John FRASER, in the water under the mudguard¹⁰. Fraser died soon after, badly cut by glass. With luck the tide was out. At high tide, the water level would have been ten feet higher and the three likely would have drowned¹¹.

The woman, Catherine Maud RALSTON, wife of William Henry Ralston, a Lake Road, Northcote fruit grower, who had been sitting in the front seat, lay on her back with her feet in the water and had suffered severe head injuries. She was made comfortable on a car cushion¹². The third occupant was also in the water a little further away, also suffering from head injuries. Clement PETERS (1887-1944), "a Māori better known as 'Kora'", was a Raleigh Road, Northcote, orchardist¹³.

The two injured were brought to road level with great difficulty, where they were transferred by the Devonport ambulance to Devonport and over to Auckland Hospital.



FATAL MOTOR-CAR ACCIDENT.

The car which plunged over Albany Bridge into the creek bed below on Saturday evening. Mr. E. J. Fraser (portrait inset) was killed and Mrs. W. H. Ralston died from injuries received.

'Fatal Motor-Car Accident' with portrait of E J Fraser.
New Zealand Herald, 29 July 1930.

Maud Ralston survived a day and died in the evening of 28 July 1930¹⁴. My grandmother, aged 50, was buried at Birkenhead Anglican Cemetery on 30 July 1930, in the presence of Northcote mayor Mr A E GREENSLADE and councillors. Flags flew at half-mast on the ferries, local buildings and at the school on Onewa Road where my father was a five-year-old pupil¹⁵.

Clement Peters survived and was a witness at the inquest, which returned a verdict of accidental death. Why the three were out so late at night and at a distance from home in Northcote has not been explained. Alcohol was not believed to be an element and the car was near new, having been driven only 1,200 miles¹⁶.

Bruce Ralston

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1. These two events (represented by baptism and burial) do not appear in ScotlandsPeople.
2. Photocopy of incomplete (one internal sheet missing – would love to discover it) typescript provided to the author by Dan Reese, Christchurch, in the late 1980s.
3. Ten days after the anniversary of her child's death. Scottish Indexes. Mental Health Records (General Register). Langdale House, Bothwell, Lanarkshire. MC7/1 p454. National Records of Scotland. Mental Welfare Commission, 1805-2005. MC7 General register of lunatics in asylums.
4. The Gundrie sisters were daughters of Constance Gundrie, long-term owner of the Te Aute store.
5. The fullest report of the accident appeared in the *Waipawa Mail*, 27 March 1906, p 3. The report suggests Mary Jane was about to be married. Born 7 November 1885 in Wairoa, she was remembered with the creation of bracelets plaited from her hair. Her older sister Lizzie, Elizabeth Ann Daniel (1884-1974), was born at Nuhaka, near Mahia, on 7 July 1884. The road over Te Aute Hill was substantially upgraded in 1965, so the course of the road has altered.
6. *Waipawa Mail*, 5 April 1906, p 3.
7. *Otago Witness*, 11 April 1906, p 49.
8. *Lyttelton Times*, 25 June 1906, p 5; *Hawera & Normanby Star*, 21 June 1906, p 5.
9. *Hawera & Normanby Star*, 11 April 1911, p 3.
10. Fraser, married, was manager of the Waitemata Bus and Transport Company. He was son of former Northcote Mayor George Fraser and had been a borough councillor himself. He had served overseas during World War I and started the bus service at Northcote, as well as having a theatre erected in 1927 on the corner of Queen Street and Clarence Road, known as the Onewa Picturedrome, now the Bridgeway Cinema.
11. *Northern Advocate*, 15 October 1930, p 4.
12. Catherine Maud Ralston was born as Kate Maud JENKINS on 4 February 1880 at Home Rule, a mining town near Gulgong, New South Wales. She may have been known more as Maud. She moved to Auckland, where some of her family were already living in Northcote, about 1913. She married the following year and had three sons and a daughter.
13. *Auckland Star*, 28 July 1930, p 8.
14. *New Zealand Herald*, 29 July 1930, p 8.
15. *Auckland Star*, 31 July 1930, p 10; *New Zealand Herald*, 31 July 1930, p 14.
16. *New Zealand Herald*, 15 October 1930, p 15

The Famous Blind Cattle Dealer

Jania Berryman

"History became legend. Legend became Myth" is a quote from *'The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring'* 2001 movie. It is a fitting description for how family stories may be altered as they are passed down the generations. The family tales surrounding how my 2x great-grandfather lost his eyesight in an accident at the young age of 19 have made it difficult to determine fact from fiction.

Samuel Oscar George LYNDs, commonly known as George was born in Onehunga, Auckland in 1859¹. He was one of 12 children of early pioneers William Lynds and Louisa ATHERFOLD of Kent, England who came to Auckland via New Plymouth in 1857 on the ship *Cashmere*².

Some relations have reported that George lost his eye-sight during an explosion at a munitions factory. Other rumours are that he lost his sight after sweeping gun powder up off the floor which went into his eyes. A Papers Past New Zealand search revealed that in 1878 George was working at Thames, when an accidental explosion of a dynamite cap occurred resulting in injury to his eyes. One eye was surgically removed, and it was noted that despite inflammation in the other eye it was expected to save the sight³. This story is consistent with the story my father, Trevor Lynds (born 1954) and his siblings were told by their father John Leslie Lynds (1925-2006).



Samuel Oscar George Lynds
Berryman Family Collection

George was working at the post office in Onehunga and found a detonator cap amongst the mail. He threw it into the rubbish bin, and it detonated with shrapnel hitting him in the eyes and blinding him. The newspaper article suggests that only one eye got hit and was surgically removed and sympathetic inflammation was evident in the other. Unfortunately, total blindness eventuated. It may be hard to comprehend how such an accident could have occurred by today's health and safety standards, however a simple Papers Past search will reveal how common such accidents occurred.

Some years following his horrific accident, George married Martha Harriet BURTON (1861-1921) in Auckland in 1884⁴. They went on to have 12 children including a stillborn baby⁵. George purchased land in 1914 from a militia soldier who was awarded an allotment for his contribution to the Māori War in the Waikato between July 1863 and April 1864. The family eventually moved to Kaipaki, Ōhaupō in 1918. The land was developed and converted to a dairy farm by George and his sons and the road was named Lynds Road⁶. George was known by his family and the community around Lynds Road as "Blind George" or "the famous blind cattle dealer". He knew the cows on the farm from their sound and feel.

Another relative who had met George shared that he could tell a lot about a person from the feel of their hands and the sound of their voice. Family members also recall that George did not consider being blind as a disability and declined assistance from the Blind Foundation. He would catch the train in from Frankton, Hamilton, and travel to Auckland to buy supplies for the farm and fabrics for the ladies to sew their own clothes.

The farm was later inherited by Oscar George Lynds (1888-1948) who in 1910 married Edith Annie WAYMAN (1887-1963), daughter of George Wayman (1843-1929), who was one of the early settlers of the Cambridge District⁷. The farm was further divided between Oscar and Edith Annie's sons Victor Harold Lynds (1915-1992), Frank George Lynds (1912-2000), Oscar Burton Lynds (1922-2004), and John Leslie Lynds (1925-2006). Daughters Dorothy Maud PAYNTER (1911-1992) and Harriet Amelia TEDDY (1913-1988) did not inherit farmland which was not unusual for daughters of that period.

Another notable but minor accident occurred on the farm and was reported in the local newspaper in 1928. Frank Lynds was returning to the farm creamery when his load of empty tin cans fell off which startled the horses and Frank was run over by the wheels of the cart⁸. Trevor Lynds remembers being told that his uncle Frank had internal damage to his kidneys. The same paper also reported that Oscar Lynds was recovering from an injury after being thrown by a pig.

Blind George passed away on 7 January 1943 at age 83 years in Auckland⁹. The farm was sold in the 1960's following World War II, but Lynds Road remains to this day.

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5. A MacKenzie, *William and Louisa Lynds: their ancestors, relations and descendants*, Duplex Design, Taradale, 2007, p 157.
6. Waipa District Council, Pironga Ward Committee Agenda, Te Awamutu: Waipa District Council, 2020.
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A Drowning in the Tokomairaro River

Petina Fowler Danenberg

Shortly after 6 o'clock on the evening of Monday 17 February 1919, Percival Charles NICHOLLS, aged 12, drowned. Percy, as he was known to his friends, got into trouble whilst swimming with some other boys in a natural pool on the Tokomairaro River in the Otago town of Milton.

Percy was the son of Jesse and Eva Nicholls and brother to his three sisters: Adeline, Florence and Gertrude. He attended the local Tokomairaro School and had been swimming with his friends before tea.

He got into difficulties swimming across the pool with the other boys. Attempts were made to save him to no avail. As the water was very muddy his body was not recovered until twenty minutes later and whilst resuscitation was attempted, he could not be saved.

His father Jesse, who had not long returned from the first World War, had to identify the body of his son. One can only imagine the grief of the family as they had already lost another son several years before.

My grandfather, Jack FOWLER was one of the boys who was swimming that day. He never forgot his friend Percy and often told the story of what happened to him.

Percy is buried in the Fairfax Cemetery, Milton with his parents, brother and one of his sisters. Jack was one of the boys who helped carry Percy's coffin at his funeral. Percy's mother Eva gave each of the boys who acted as pallbearer

one of Percy's handkerchiefs to remember him by. Jack kept his safe until he died at the age of 88 in 1995.

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Sources:

Reminiscences of J R L Fowler
Papers Past
Archives NZ COR1919/290
NZSOG Kiwi Index
BDM Historical Records
Find A Grave Fairfax Cemetery



Percy's handkerchief given to Jack Fowler



Accidental Death

Trisha Dunn

In 1894 my husband's great-grandfather, Philip BRADY, died after an accident in which an artery in his leg was ruptured.

Philip Brady was born in County Cavan, Ireland and immigrated to New Zealand in 1861 on board the ship *Chrysolite* arriving 27 July 1861¹. By initially working on the Lyttleton tunnel project, he was able to save enough to purchase a farm at Loburn, North Canterbury. He married Catherine OWENS from County Monaghan, Ireland on 7 February 1863 in Dunedin two weeks after she arrived in New Zealand². Together they had nine children and lived on the Loburn farm.

The nearest town for purchasing supplies or attending stock markets would have been Rangiora, approximately five miles away. Loburn is located on the north side of the Ashley River, with the river and its tributaries being crossed in 1894 by means of fords so travel by horse and dray was by no means easy.

On 7 March 1894 while yoking a young horse to a dray in the yard of the Cumberland Boarding-house, Rangiora, Philip was knocked down when the horse was startled by a dog driving sheep past the yard. The horse trod on one of Philip's thighs and the wheel of the dray was also drawn over him. Philip was taken inside the boarding-house and attended to by the local Doctors CLAYTON and VOLCKMAN³. Unfortunately, they were unable to stop the bleeding and Philip Brady died on Saturday 10 March⁴.

At the Inquest into his death the verdict of the Jury was of Accidental death Rupture of Artery. When reading the 9 March 1894 article from *The Press* I marvelled that today this death would have been avoided⁵. With our current health services after such an accident an ambulance would have been called, the hospital informed and by the time he arrived he would have been taken straight to the operating

1900 that the different types of blood groups were discovered, and the first cross matched transfusion (between donor and recipient) was given in 1907⁶.

The Rangiora Hospital was not built until 1923 with a maternity home supplying the needs of the community prior to its establishment⁷. In 1894 there were little first aid measures Doctors could do to stop blood vessels haemorrhaging other than the use of tourniquets. However, this would have been impossible on a thigh wound so Philip would have slowly bled to his death. At 55 he was regarded to be advanced in years. He was given a large funeral and was buried in the grounds of St Brigid's Church, Loburn⁸.

Trisha Dunn

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7. Australia and New Zealand, Find a Grave Index, 1800s-Current.
8. Find a Grave. Find a Grave, www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi; URL: Find A Grave: Memorial #179003679 Philip Brady burial, died on 9 March 1894, Saint Brigid's Catholic Cemetery, Loburn, Waimakariri District, Canterbury, New Zealand.

By an accident with his horse and dray at Rangiora on Wednesday, March 7, Mr Philip Brady of Loburn, N. Canterbury received injuries which terminated fatally in the forenoon of Saturday. Deceased was a native of County Cavan, Ireland, and in 1861 arrived at Lyttleton in the *Chrysolite*. After saving some money at the Lyttleton tunnel works of Messrs Holmes and Richardson, he came to farm at Loburn and had lived in the district ever since. —On April 27th, 1873, the few Catholic settlers at Loburn met and Mr Brady was elected to the committee which soon after bought the two acres of land on which St Brigid's is built, and erected that little building. The Catholics of Loburn are indebted to Mr and Mrs Brady for acts of kindness in connection with the Church, more especially for hospitality given to visiting priests, and the greatest sympathy is felt for the family. Mr Brady had three sons and six daughters, and those of them who were from home were communicated with, but some in the North Island arrived too late to see the remains. He ceased to be attended by his parish priest from the time of the accident till his death and conversed with his friends. He had a large funeral and was buried in the ground at St Brigid's, respected by all classes in his neighbourhood. —*R. F. P.*

Obituary, New Zealand Tablet, 23 March, 1894, p 19.

room and the bleeding vessel repaired. It was not until





Not All Were Killed In Action

Christine Clement - snippets provided from Papers Past and collated by editor

We all know about the millions who died in WWI – killed in action or as a result of wounds received. But there were also millions of other deaths as a result of accident, disease or while prisoners of war, directly attributed to the terrible conflict. These are just a few of the New Zealanders who died as a result of accident.

Sapper Robert Arthur HISLOP was guarding the Parnell railway bridge in Auckland when he accidentally fell. He died from his injuries six days later, but it wasn't until a century later that he was recognised as the first New Zealand casualty of the Great War. (nzhistory.govt.nz/page/first-fatal-casualty-great-war)

LONDON, Nov. 30.
Private Robert Percall, Takapuna, of the Second, Wellington, Battalion, while in London on leave from the Command Depot at Codford, was run over by a motor-bus near Windmill Street, Tottenham Court Road, and killed. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

MOTOR ACCIDENT
Press Association—By Telegraph—Copyright.
Australian and N.Z. Cable Association.
LONDON, January 8.
Private Harry Mitchell, a New Zealander, while walking in a dark lane in Essex, was accidentally killed. A motor car overtook him, and the starting handle pinned him to the earth.

Evening Star, Issue 6627
9 January 1918, Page 6

Captain Noel John Hay Gavin, R.A.M.C., M.C. and bar, Wellington, who died in France on November 1, met his death as the result of an accident. His horse bolted, and fell, throwing Captain Gavin on to his head, and fracturing his skull. He died very shortly after reaching a casualty clearing station. Captain Gavin had been in England on leave, and had been back in France only a few days before he met his death. He had been attached for some time to the 14th Royal Irish Rifles.

DEATH OF A NEW ZEALANDER.
Received 11.5.
LONDON, September 26.
Lance-Corporal D. G. May, who was awaiting his discharge on account of ill-health and shell shock died through injuries received in falling from a window in Torquay. It is supposed he walked in his sleep. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

NZ Herald, Volume LV, Issue 16752, 19 January 1918,
Page 8

Taihape Daily Times
27 September 1917, Page 5

ACCIDENTS AND FATALITIES.

A SOLDIER KILLED.

Late on Friday afternoon Private Herbert Lloyd Dash, a bugler attached to the 40th Reinforcement, met with a fatal accident at Trentham Camp. He was mounted on one of the camp horses, when it suddenly bolted. Private Dash endeavoured to dismount by throwing his foot over the horse's neck. He fell on his head and was killed instantaneously. The deceased soldier was a native of New Zealand, single, and 31 years of age. His next-of-kin is an aunt, Mrs Paterson, Dominion Road, Auckland, and there are understood to be other relatives in Australia.

Sun (Christchurch)
8 July 1918, Page 8



Ten New Zealand soldiers were killed when they were hit by a train at Bere Ferrers in Southern England. Troops from the 28th Reinforcements for the NZ Expeditionary Force were being transported from Plymouth to Sling Camp on Salisbury Plain.

During an unscheduled stop, the soldiers jumped off the train expecting they were at a planned stop in Exeter. They were struck by an oncoming train on the opposite track. The victims were shockingly mangled, some being decapitated. It is believed the men left the train on the wrong side because they assumed the door through which they boarded the train was also the exit.

The dead were:

William GILLANDERS
William GREAVES
John JACKSON
Joseph JUDGE
Chudleigh KIRTON
Baron McBRYD
Richard McKENNA
William TRUSSELL
John WARDEN
Sidney WEST

All were buried at Efford Cemetery in Plymouth. A memorial is at St Andrew's Church in Bere Ferrers and a plaque bearing the names of the men was erected at the railway station.

nzhistory.govt.nz
Bere Ferrers rail accident
24 September 1917

It is with very deep regret that we have to chronicle the death of one of our members, Mr Thos. Sharp, who was accidentally killed at Pukerau on October 11th, whilst on his way to Trentham prior to proceeding to the Front. It appears that he alighted from the train at Pukerau (which is the first stop after leaving Gore) for the purpose of bidding farewell to some of his friends and fellow-employees, and as the train commenced to pull out he waited until the guard's van came up and jumped on, but missed his footing, with the result that the last bogie of the guard's van and those of the postal car went over him, killing him instantaneously. His body was brought back to Gore, where an inquest was held the following day.

Private Sharp was accorded a military funeral, which was one of the largest ever taken place at Gore, there being full 400 Territorials, Cadets, and members of both branches of the National Reserve on parade, while more than a thousand people assembled at the graveside. The coffin, which was draped in the Union Jack, was conveyed to the cemetery on a 15-pounder gun-carriage and limber, which was obtained from Invercargill, and was drawn by four horses kindly lent by O. M. S. Jackson Munro. Private Sharp's cap and side arms were placed on the coffin. He leaves a widowed mother, two sisters, and three brothers to mourn their loss.

Article abridged
Railway review
19 November 1915, pp 513-514

A SOLDIER KILLED

FALLS OFF TRAIN TO TRENT HAM.

Just after the 11.45 p.m. train from Wellington to Trentham had passed Belmont early this morning, Private G. E. Aitchinson, who had been on leave from Trentham Camp, accidentally fell off the platform of one of the carriages and was killed.

The guard was communicated with almost immediately, and the Westinghouse brakes were applied. The unfortunate man's body was found close to the line, and the train had evidently passed over it. Deceased belonged to Dunedin, and was a member of the 12th Reinforcements.

Evening Post
Volume CXI, Issue 24
29 January 1916 Page 6

Troop Train Accident

One Killed—Two Wounded.

As the special troop train which left Auckland on Tuesday night was passing through Taupiri on its way to Wellington, a trooper named Hyland, who was waving his hat from the platform of the foremost carriage, fouled the tablet bar. The obscured arm struck another trooper named Magee who was looking out of the window and crushed his head, while two others received slighter injuries.

Magee was brought on to the Waikato Hospital for treatment, but he subsequently died.

The other wounded men were able to proceed on their way to Wellington:

Kawhia Settler and Raglan Advertiser
Volume XIV Issue 764
15 October 1915, Page 3

SOLDIER'S DEATH. PECULIAR ACCIDENT

(PAP PRESS ASSOCIATION.)

WELLINGTON, Dec. 12.

A strange accident led to the death of a soldier, Arthur Thomas Hunter, at Tauherenikau Hotel, where he was staying. Hunter was found with his head through the woodwork of a fire escape and his feet a few inches off the ground. Death was due to dislocation of the neck.

Manawatu Standard
Volume XLIII Issue 1407
13 December 1918, Page 5

We regret having to record the death by drowning at Ngapara of Private Frederick George Kelly, late of the Gore railway staff. A picnic party had been organised as a compliment to Trooper F. G. Kelly, who was spending his final leave with his relatives at Ngapara, prior to leaving for the Front. The party had arrived at the picnicking place, and while the ladies were preparing dinner, some of the party indulged in a bathe in the river. Mr Kelly, senr, Trooper Kelly, and Mr Addison had been in the water some little time and Mr Kelly was engaged teaching a younger son the art of swimming, when some members of the party raised the alarm that Trooper Kelly was in difficulties. The father, who, by the way, was somewhat exhausted after his exertions managed to reach his son just as he was sinking for the third time, and caught him by his bathing costume, which, unfortunately, gave way. A further attempt to secure the drowning man, in which Mr Kelly himself became seriously endangered, was unavailing, and the party were forced to witness the disappearance of the unfortunate soldier. Trooper Kelly was said to be a good swimmer, and it is surmised that when he first got into difficulties his set

of false teeth became lodged in his throat and increased his discomfiture. The body was recovered about half an hour after the accident happened, but life was then quite extinct. Trooper Kelly was 20 years of age and belonged to the mounted section of the 11th Reinforcements. Prior to enlisting he was in the employ of the Railway Department as a cadet.

Article abridged – *Railway Review*
7 April 1916, p 151

FATAL BLASTING ACCIDENT

Returned Soldier Killed

ANOTHER SERIOUSLY INJURED

TAUMARUNUI, Sept. 24.

A returned soldier, Archibald Kitto, married, and Tom Borthwick, married with six children, were seriously injured in an explosion in the Okahu tunnel yesterday. Kitto, who had been twice wounded at the war, was shockingly mutilated in the left arm, leg and face, and had one eye blown clean out. He died in the Taumarunui hospital this morning. Borthwick sustained injuries to the face, with pellets of papa like shot from a gun. Both eyes were injured. At present he is blind, and may become permanently blind. He has no body injuries.

There are two stories of the accident. One is that in drilling the men struck an old charge, and the other is that a charge misfired and the explosion occurred when they went to investigate.—Press Association.

Thames Star
Volume LII Issue 13807
24 September 1918, Page 2

CURIOUS ACCIDENT.

TROOP HORSES COLLIDE.

BOTH ANIMALS KILLED.

(BY TELEGRAPH.—PRESS ASSOCIATION.)

TIMARU, Thursday.

A CURIOUS accident happened this evening to two troopers of the 8th Regiment, 200 of whom are now in camp. A number of men were exercising their horses on the Caroline Bay sands, when two horses, going fast in opposite directions, had a head-to-head collision. Both broke their necks and died immediately. Trooper Turnbull, of Rakaiu, was taken to the hospital rather seriously injured. The other trooper was not badly hurt.

New Zealand Herald
Volume LI Issue 15771
20 November 1914, Page 9

Roman, Pomerania to Normanby, New Zealand

Bryce Johnson

August and Wilhelmina BUBLITZ came from Pomerania, Germany. August's memorial under the Aliens Act 1880 shows that he came from Coslin, Germany. The Hamburg Historic Emigration Office has examined the embarkation record and say that August listed the village that they came from as Roman which is in the old Pomeranian County of Koslin and about 50 km southwest of the town of Koslin. Ten kilometres from Koslin City (renamed Koszalin) and 40km from Roman is the town of Bublitz. This was renamed Bobolice when the area reverted to Poland after WWI. Roman was also spelt Romahn but is now known as Ryman. The region of Pomerania comprised the areas at the southern coast of the Baltic Sea between the estuaries of the Oder and Vistula Rivers.

During the Middle Ages it was originally inhabited by Slavonic peoples akin to the Poles. Until the 17th century, the Province of Pomerania was ruled by native princes but under the dependence of Poland (up to the 12th century), and later on Brandenburg and Sweden. Its inhabitants accepted Protestantism and were influenced by the German culture. More and more Germans settled there, and the original Slavonic inhabitants gradually lost their original

language. In the early 1600's Pomerania was annexed by Sweden. During the next century most of it was incorporated into Brandenburg, therefore becoming part of Prussia. The Prussian province of Pomerania at this point was entirely German-speaking and Protestant, except for the easternmost districts where a Polish-speaking, partially Catholic minority remained. In 1812 the War of Liberation against Napoleon started. In 1817 King Fredrick Wilhelm III merged the Lutheran and Reformed Churches. Many people were imprisoned over the next thirty years for continuing to worship in the Lutheran or Reform Churches.

Wilhelmina came from Colberg, a town about ten kilometres to the north of Roman. Her maiden name was MEWES which is pronounced "Mayves" in German. Wilhelmina's oldest daughter, Mavis was named after her grandmother's maiden name. At the time August and Wilhelmina left Pomerania it was in the hands of the Prussians. During the previous thirty years the local population had experienced religious persecution and in the previous ten years, two wars. The Austrian-Prussian War of 1866 and more recently in 1870/71 was between the Prussians and the French. Hamburg was a major emigration city in the late 1800's with one million emigrating through Hamburg from 1836 to 1880 and as many as 100,000 per year emigrating in the 1870's. The Hamburg Historic Emigration Office has provided some information on the conditions of the time and how the emigration process worked in the 1870's.

August and Wilhelmina would have made the 300-mile journey from Koslin to Hamburg by train or riverboat. As they arrived in Hamburg, they would have been met by officials of the Office for Emigration Proof. These were government officials who would have advised them how to find quarters and make travel arrangements and even which countries they should consider emigrating too. They would have stayed in an emigration hostel. These were hostels that provided accommodation specifically for emigrants. At the time Julius VOGEL, the then Premier of New Zealand established an immigration scheme that specifically targeted German and Scandinavian workers. These immigrants were to work on the various public work schemes (railway building, etc.) that were running at the time. The promise of an assisted passage and of owning their own land must have been an attractive option. It is likely they stayed there for some weeks while they arranged their passage to New Zealand.

Passage was finally arranged on the *Lammershagen* under the command of Captain Pauls with C A Feildberg, the Surgeon Superintendent. The *Lammershagen* was a three-masted iron sailing ship of 1,200 tonnes and 192 feet in length. August, Wilhelmina, and children would have boarded a train, along with the 330 other passengers bound for New Zealand, to Cuxhaven where the *Lammershagen* would be leaving from. The ship was too large to come up the Elbe River to Hamburg.

Accounts of the voyage say that they enjoyed good weather for the entire trip and made good time with the voyage



taking 96 days from Cuxhaven at the mouth of the Elbe River to Wellington. Conditions for steerage passengers were not luxurious. Regulations required that the minimum height of the "tween" decks be 5.5 feet (1.72 m) and each steerage passenger was entitled to a space equivalent to 1.83m by 0.63m (6 feet by two feet). This area had to serve not only for sleeping but also for eating and recreation. Married couples were accommodated in the "tween" decks and under the poop and had the use of the after and main hatches to access the deck. Single girls were berthed under the poop and single men were accommodated under the fore hatch. The male hospital was on deck with the female hospital and the dispensary under the poop.

A letter from Peter Paulsen, a passenger on the *Lammershagen*, recorded that the thirty-three boys were schooled between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the mornings and that the twenty-two girls from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00p.m. This applied to all children between seven and 14 years of age so Fredrick and Wilhelm would not have been included as they were one and three years old at the time. The lessons were conducted in German and Danish with some rudimentary English included.

Their first sight of New Zealand was Mount Egmont rising out of the clouds. The *New Zealand Times* edition of Monday 12 July 1875 reported the ship arriving in Wellington Harbour at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday 11 July 1875 with 334 passengers. Five children had been born on the voyage out and one adult had died. The passenger list for the *Lammershagen* records August and Wilhelmina both aged twenty-six, Fredrick age three and Wilhelm aged one and a half. August's occupation is shown as Farm Labourer. The contract ticket number for the voyage was no 25. At least two other families emigrated from the same village in Pomerania. They were the KNUTHS and the KRUEGERS. The ship was held in Wellington Harbour for two days while it completed immigration formalities. Passengers were then transferred to shore by the schooner *Florence*. There were no wharves for large ships at the time. Many of the passengers were assisted immigrants and bound for the

West Coast and Taranaki. The Steamship *Wellington* took 120 passengers to the West Coast on 13 July 1875 and the *SS Manawatu*, a 108-ton steamship, carried 67.5 statute adult passengers from the *Lammershagen* to Wanganui. The *Wanganui Chronicle* reported the *Manawatu* leaving 19 July 1875 and arriving in Wanganui on 21 July. On 23 July *The Chronicle* reported that as 90 "souls", some 67.5 statute adults, had arrived "wholly unacquainted with the English language, this fact to a certain extent affect the readiness of employers of labour to avail themselves of their services..." *The Chronicle* also reported on July 24 that the *SS Egmont*, fifty-two tons, had left the Corporation Wharf on Thursday evening for Patea with forty immigrants aboard on the 22nd and had arrived at Patea at 1:00 p.m. on the 23rd. The *Egmont* returned to Wanganui at 3:30 p.m. It is likely that August and Wilhelmina travelled on the *Manawatu* and the *Egmont*. The *Patea Mail* noted on 24 and 28 July the arrival of a batch of German immigrants and commented on their difficulty in finding work because they could not speak English. The article also noted that the immigrants were housed in the Barracks and was sympathetic to the plight of the immigrants and their perceived difficulty in finding suitable labour. The paper felt that Wanganui had taken their pick of who they wanted and dispatched the rest to Patea.

August and Wilhelmina originally settled in Patea where their eldest daughter, Minnie, was born. In 1876 they moved to Normanby where August worked on the Hawera – Eltham Railway line which opened in 1881. When August Jnr was born in Normanby in 1878 the birth record shows August Snr's occupation as a labourer. Annie was born in 1880. All the children were educated at Te Roti School but left at an early age to become wage earners. William oversaw a gang of bush fellers by the age of sixteen. All went on to become successful farmers. In 1884 August Snr appeared on the Egmont Electoral Roll as a Freeholder of Normanby Extension 379. This is probably a residential section in Normanby. August does not appear on the Return of Freeholders of October 1882. Eleven years after arriving in New Zealand on 23 December 1886 August completed his memorial papers requesting that he be granted New

Zealand Citizenship. This was granted on 8 January 1887. On 5 August 1893 August and Wilhelmina became entitled to a crown grant of land and this was completed on 9 December 1893. The grant was for 4.0496 hectares (ten acres), Section 48, Block One, Hawera Survey District and was in Boylan Road, Te Roti. Wilhelmina appears on the Women's Suffrage Electoral Roll in 1893 at Boylan Road, Te Roti, Eltham.

Bryce Johnson

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Lammershagen on the rocks at Swansea 1876



*August and Wilhemia with John, James and Mary
(Johnson Family Collection)*

Memories of my grandfather - August Bublitz -1848 – 1937

I am the daughter, Coral, of James R Bublitz. My father was the youngest of nine children. My memories of Grandfather were when he lived with Aunt Nance in Campbell St. Nolandtown, Hawera. Every week he came to see us in his horse and gig up Grant Rd where we lived. Des and I used to go up to the end of the road to meet him and ride half a mile on the gig with him to home, he always had a big bag of lollies for us. I used to sit beside his chair and ask him to teach me "German". He never wanted to as he wanted to forget Germany and the war. He was now a New Zealander he used to tell as everyone knew we were German as we had a "Z" on the end of our name. He did teach me the "alphabet" which I have never forgotten. He used to say to Des and me "you naughty boy" in German but I have forgotten it. He always said that he wished there was dry water, he hated having a bath and even my father did not like water. When Aunt Nance went to live in Palmerston North with Lyn, Eric and Tom he went to live with Uncle Bill and Aunt Ida. The Pritchards opened a grocery shop in Palmerston North. Grandfather died at the age of eighty-nine and I was twelve.

Coral Ogle
Granddaughter

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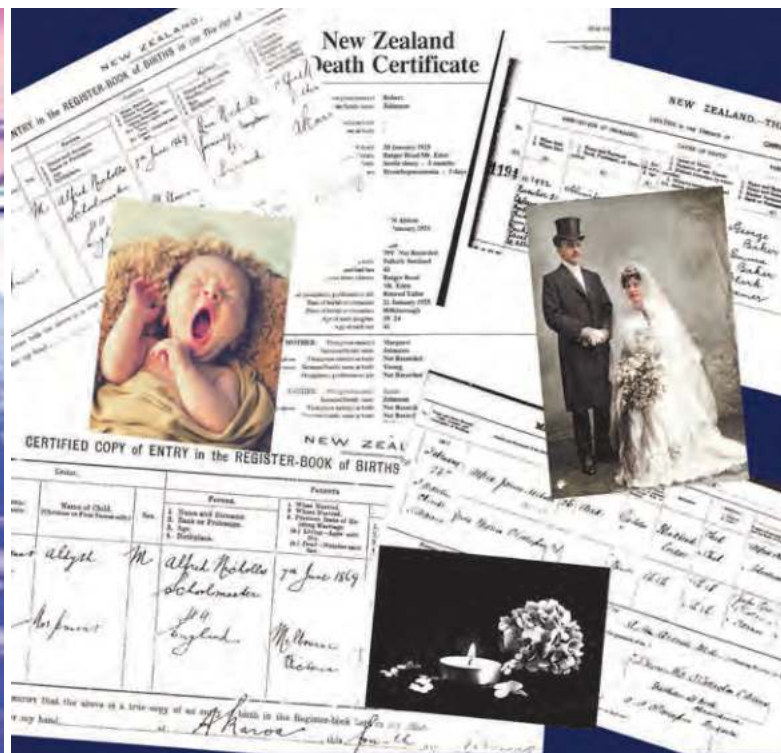
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The Answer Was Right Here at Home

Rodney King

Cleaning out your parents' belongings can be a long process, and for a genealogist an even slower activity because you want to check every last document in every last box. However, it might prove to be very worthwhile as you may be lucky enough to find a solution to those family queries you have pondered over for some time.

My father, John McCurdy KING, was a Freemason, in Hawera-based Lodge Taranaki 240. I came across his Certificate of Admission of 11 April 1946, and he remained a member of the Freemasons until his death on 11 March 1994.

Only after his death, when I really got into family history, did the question arise as to whether his father, Thomas King – my grandad, called “Pop” – was also a Mason. Was that why Dad joined? Did they attend together? Dad never, ever discussed joining the Masons with me or my two brothers. So, was Pop an influence on Dad’s joining?

Mum and Dad married in 1944. Pop died on 28 March 1950 and Mum had no recollection of Pop and Freemasonry from those few years. So that avenue was closed.

Much more recently, arranging to donate Dad’s Freemason items to the Lodge, I enquired whether they had any record of Thomas King from anywhere in Taranaki. Once again, they could not find him. Which indicated he had probably not been a member.

While clearing through old documents after Mum’s death in June 2019, I came across a small envelope with a large parchment certificate folded tightly to fit the envelope. It was a certificate confirming that Thomas had been admitted to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, Stratford Lodge No 75 on 6 June 1906. An excellent find.

In November 2021, a friend within the Freemasons, who does research, sent me the following:

“Thomas King was Initiated into Stratford Lodge No.75 on 6/6/1906, Passed to the Second Degree on 4/7/1906, and Raised to the Third Degree on 19/9/1906 – quite quick progress by today’s standards. Three months between degree ceremonies is more the norm today. Thomas declared his age as 34 years and his occupation as Saddler. His Masonic career was quite short – possibly

for family or work reasons he resigned “in good standing” on 29/12/1909. I’m not surprised you found no written reference to his being a Freemason. Members would not have written or spoken about it back then.

“Stratford Lodge was constituted on 17/3/1893, quite soon after the formation of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand in 1890. All Lodges in NZ prior to that would have been members of the English, Irish, or Scottish constitutions. English and Irish constitution records are online. Stratford Lodge was closed on 17/3/1983 on its 100th birthday”.

Knowing that Thomas did join the Freemasons and having a date, I am able to elaborate more by way of closure.

Thomas was indeed 34 when he joined the Stratford Lodge. But by 1908 he had moved, with his family of four children, from his saddlery in Stratford to New Plymouth. Two more daughters were born in New Plymouth in 1908 and 1911. Then he moved to nearby Inglewood where the last child, my father, was born in 1913. That was now seven children, and keeping up Lodge membership and running a business and a family was possibly just too much. So, we can see that Thomas left the Lodge long before Dad was even born. Among all of this, what I find the most fascinating, is that the admission document of Thomas remained among family artifacts from 1909 until I found it 112 years later. In that time Thomas moved house four times and my parents moved house four times.

I encourage readers to “get off those devices” and begin clearing out their homes. This is just one of two similar substantial finds from that carton in the far corner of my mother’s back wardrobe which helped find solutions to family queries I had.

Rodney King
E: rajkot@xtra.co.nz



**Left: Thomas King
aged about 20 in about 1892.
(King Family Collection)**

**Right: Thomas King’s
Admission document to the
Freemason’s Stratford Lodge
in 1906
(Held by the author)**



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. It is customary to repay their postage.

HELP NEEDED

AMERICAN CIVIL WAR VETERAN FROM NZ

My name is James M. Gray. I am an 84-year-old Australian citizen and a member of the international heritage organisation, Sons of Confederate Veterans, and a direct descendant of officers and enlisted men who fought and suffered throughout the great "War of Northern Aggression" commonly referred to as the American Civil War.

I have been an active Australian/New Zealand researcher for over 20 years, having discovered and confirmed over 500 such veterans in Auckland and New Zealand. I have supplied the National Archives of each with the information. Each New Zealand veteran is identified with a life to death history which includes pictures, documents, maps and sources. If any of my research would assist you in any way, it is freely available.

I have learned that Stephen Crawford SMELT, who was a war veteran with the 47th New York Infantry was wounded and captured at the Battle of Olustee in Florida on 20 February 1864. He was later released and mustered out of service in 1865. Stephen was born in 1845 in England and migrated to New Zealand and settled in the vicinity of Auckland. I believe he died on 21 July 1878/1879 at the Provincial Hospital in Auckland and was buried in Selwyn Street Cemetery (sic), possibly from wounds received when he was captured.

If enough information can be acquired and confirmed on him and his death, Mr Smelt can be awarded a free bronze memorial grave plaque or headstone by the American Veterans Administration of the American Government. Can you provide me with any information or photographs on Mr Stephen Smelt. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

James M Gray, Cmdr
Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc
E: jamesmgray@bigpond.com

Editors note: Stephen SMELT died 21 July 1878, aged 34 years (NZBDM 1878/2273). Stephen Crawford SMELT died 21 Jul 1878 at the Provincial Hospital, Auckland (Auckland Star 23 Jul 1878). Stephen Crawford SMELT buried Symonds Street Cemetery Anglican Plot K244 (Find a Grave refence includes baptism). It appears that grave K244 remains in the original position ie was not removed for the motorway and Grafton Bridge. Unlikely it has a marker, however. Does anyone have photographs of this area of Symonds Street Cemetery?

FAMILY REUNION

BURKE FAMILY GATHERING

Christchurch 16-18 February 2024

A gathering of descendants of Martin BURKE and Ann PHILP is taking place next February to commemorate the 160th anniversary of their arrival in New Zealand aboard the *Mermaid*.

Martin and Ann had three children: Mary (1862-1892) married Patrick RIORDAN, Annie (1864-1937) married Francis BURTON, and Thomas (1866-1931) married Norah BURTON. Are you connected to our whānau? Get in touch!

See burkefamilynz.org for more details, or email Maggie Gaffney E: margaretgaffney@gmail.com

INFORMATION OFFERED

JAMES/WEBSTER FAMILIES

Richard JAMES bp. 1827 Wrexham, North Wales, married Selina. Children, Anne, Edwin, Selina, Maria and nine others. Anne James was in charge of Timberley Red Cross Hospital, England, 1914 to 1918. Maria married Frederick Airton WEBSTER and lived in Christchurch. Their children were:

Charles Frederick b. 1812, Selina Dorothy b. 1884, Agnes Grange b. 1887 and Margery who was a New Zealand registered nurse in 1919.

I have photos and other material. This family has no direct connection to me, and I would like to give material to family.

Leanna Menchi
E: romeomenchi@gmail.com

SEEKING

CALLENDER

Hariata CALLENDER born 1833-1836 had 5 children with William HOWELL at Upper Waiwera in the 1860s. Hariata was probably part-Maori. Possible fathers: Edward CALLENDER (at Waitangi 1833), William CALLENDER (Tapuka) and possibly J.R. CALLENDER (Okiaito) both near Russell (1839). Looking for these or other CALLENDER men.

Rex Sinnott
E: rexmsinnott@gmail.com

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

NZSG Nelson Branch 50th Anniversary

On 9 September 2023 present and past members of the Nelson Branch of NZSG gathered at The Tides Restaurant, Nelson to celebrate their 50th Birthday. It was an entertaining afternoon ably MCed by Dennis Bush-King who determined that it was not to be all fun, when he produced some tricky genealogical puzzles for us. After quite a bit of head scratching, we progressed to the celebrations and acknowledged two long time members Cheryl Carnahan with the memorable NZSG #1234 and Dennis Bush-King, with Nelson Life Membership awards. Their outstanding contribution has strengthened the Branch and supported many members and genealogists in their search for their ancestors and family twigs.

Our Guest presenter was long time member Gail Collingwood who spoke on the history of the branch and recalled members no longer with us. Following the cutting of the cake Convenor Warwick Johnston announced a new initiative, of a gift to fund a Findmypast 6-month subscription to Nelson Public Library for the use of the general public. It begins on 1 January 2024.

We had an entertaining afternoon, meeting old friends, making new ones, and looking forward to the next 50 years! Best wishes to NZSG and branches for 2024.

Judith Fitchett
Convenor

E: nelson@genealogy.org.nz



Above left: Cutting of the cake L) to R) Dennis Bush-King Life Member, Jennie Rossiter earliest member of Nelson Branch, Cheryl Carnahan Life Member, Warwick Johnston Convenor

Above right: A Quiz before dinner!

Below: Present and Past convenors Warwick Johnston, Dennis Bush-King, Bob McFadden, Judy Brough, Judith Fitchett, Peter Gillin



The Gluten Free Food Festival

Why? We know you are all thinking this and wondering what it has to do with genealogy. It was a festival held in Auckland on 18 November where thousands of people came for the day. Despite the weather, the attendance was huge. NZSG decided to set up a stall at the festival to promote our Society to the general public, and hopefully gain some new members. This was a bit of a trial, to see if we should be promoting ourselves more next year at similar festivals.

It rained pretty much all day. Stopped long enough for us to set up and wasn't raining when we packed down. And mostly just drizzle not torrential. But people kept coming all day long. There were massive queues by 9.30 am for an opening time of 10 am. They kept growing well into the afternoon. The lines for the food trucks nearing lunchtime were amazing, but we made use of them by talking to people up and down the queues.

The venue had both indoor and outdoor stalls. For the first four hours it was wall to wall people inside – you literally couldn't move until someone in front of you did. And later in the morning the queues started growing for the food trucks set up outside. We were very lucky to have our outside stall right by the most popular line of people – chips of course! The reaction to us being there was mixed. We had a giveaway of a free Ancestry DNA test which we pushed by walking through inside and around outside with a clipboard for people to enter. Lots of comments like "Oh I don't want to know about skeletons in the closet" or "Don't want to know my Dad isn't really my Dad", or just straight out "no, not interested".

But in our stall, we had some really good responses. And amazingly so many were from really young people. There was a family who live in the centre of Panmure, whose daughter is obsessed with family history. They didn't know we existed, but said they are close enough for her to walk to FRC. Another 17-year-old from West Auckland who is fanatic about history. He would really enjoy finding about his ancestors – where they came from and where they lived, and the stories associated with them. Of course, there were quite a few adoption questions. One girl said her sister (15) is obsessed with tracing the family, but the parents won't let her. She asked if we would help her under her guidance without informing the parents. Obviously tricky given her age, but we can certainly teach her some skills.

There was a lady recovering from cancer who can't go out very often anymore who needs a hobby and thinks this would be great. An intermediate school-teacher who was fascinated with how genealogy could help kids with their identity curriculum. A couple from an Auckland Branch who don't feel like they are getting the help they need but have never joined NZSG. A woman who was astounded we were there because her 28 year-old son and her have just started looking into family history and both have the bug. So many positive comments.

It ended up being a great day. We got our name out there to lots of people. In Auckland, we are going to look for similar festivals to attend next year. Are you able to set up a stall in your local area at festivals or markets? We can help you with resources and information in setting up the stall.



**Inspired by what you've read?
Have a story to share?
Send it to:
editor@genealogy.org.nz**

Scottish Interest Group – Greater Wellington 21st Anniversary

The SIG-GW celebrated its 21st anniversary on Saturday 11 November with a function at its usual meeting location at Tawa Union Church in Tawa, Wellington.

The group was founded in November 2002 by Pen Brown who went on to convene the group for the next 11 years. Pen died in 2020 aged 82. Following convenors were John Dods (5 years), Max Kerr (3 years), and Doug Miller (3+ years).

Thirty-eight people attended the anniversary function where the guest speaker was Paris Goddard from the British High Commission based in Wellington. Special guests included the NZSG Chair Sarah Hewitt, NZSG SIG Convenor Bev Mosley, and representatives from the Wellington area NZSG Branches and Interest Groups. It was good to see several men dressed in their kilts.

Paris spoke briefly about the High Commission's work and then about the Scottish line of his family starting with his 3x great-grandfather. This was a very entertaining and intriguing talk about family fortunes gained and lost.

We followed this by some speeches and then a haggis, ordered for the occasion, was processed in by a piper and then addressed in the usual manner.

Marie Perham, who was one of the foundation members of the group, cut the celebratory Dundee cake that was made especially for the occasion. Much reminiscing and discussion took place over afternoon tea and the proceedings were rounded off by the singing of Auld Lyne Syne.

We also produced an anniversary booklet with a brief history of the group, a list of the committee members of the last 21 years, and ten of our members contributing stories of their Scottish forebears and families.

Doug Miller
Convenor, SIG-GW
E: SIGWellington@gmail.com



Left: Doug Miller, SIG-GW Convenor with Paris Goddard from the British High Commission Wellington.

Right: Foundation member Marie Perham cutting the celebratory Dundee Cake





Irish Interest Group



Irish Genealogy Conference Auckland

The NZSG Irish Interest Group are hosting an Irish Conference in Auckland 24 & 25 February 2024, bringing two prominent Irish genealogists to N.Z. The Ulster Historical Foundation CEO Fintan Mullan and Genealogist Gillian Hunt indicated their willingness to visit New Zealand. The Ulster Historical Foundation (UHF) was established in 1956 and has grown to provide a wide range of services to benefit the Irish Diaspora seeking to reconnect with their Irish heritage, and the places in Ireland from where their ancestors originated. The papers they will present are of great value to anyone researching their Irish ancestors irrespective of wherever in Ireland they originated. Please note these February dates in your diary and keep up to date with details of the Conference through our webpage and newsletters.

Fintan and Gillian will be presenting at other North Island locations, and in the South Island. View details at genealogy.org.nz/Branch-details/11084-s1100100/

Ireland Census 1911

A further 5,483 new records have been added to the 1911 Census for Ireland, taken 2nd April 1911, which were missed during the original transcription process. Findmypast has improved the search ability of the entire collection. [FindMyPast.ie update]

Auckland Council Archives

The Auckland Council Archives are located on the lower level of the Auckland City library building, Lorne Street. While their Archive office is open daily from 2pm to 5pm, appointments can be made by contacting them at archives@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or phone (09) 307-7792. Their website contains various early Auckland historical records. Subscribe to their newsletters free to view online current issue No. 54 2023 www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Irishmen in the 4th Waikato Regiment

Following on from an article which appeared in our June 2023 newsletter - Irish Soldiers Discharged in New Zealand - Who were the Irishmen who discharged from British Regiments in N.Z. and enlisted in the Waikato Militia? Elizabeth Heaphy of Hamilton has provided additional information on files that may show prior military service for Irishmen who served in the 4th Waikato Regiment. This new article can be viewed on Irish Interest Group webpage under Resources: 4th Waikato Regiment Militia. genealogy.org.nz/Branch-details/11084-s1100100/

Ireland Civil Records

The official update from the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht on civil records. An additional year of historic Births, Marriages and Deaths (Index entry and register image) are now available to view on the website www.irishgenealogy.ie The records now available online include: Birth register records 1864-1922; Marriage register records 1845-1947 and Death register records 1871-1972.

Royal Irish Academy

The Irish Historic Towns Atlas (IHTA) is a research project of the Royal Irish Academy. It traces the topographical development of towns and cities through its atlas publications. Each atlas fascicle consists of an essay with thematic maps, a topographical gazetteer and a series of loose sheet facsimiles. The IHTA also promotes the study of Irish towns and cities through its ancillary publications, seminars and special exhibitions. Sign up for newsletter www.ria.ie

A series of IHTA workshops took place with speakers selected from various fields of archaeology, architecture etc that use the atlas in aspects of their research. The sessions from these workshops are available online www.ria.ie/news/irish-historic-towns-atlas-educational-resources/using-atlas-ihta-workshops-2022

Introducing Mems Dead

Mems Dead is a tool to help you make the most of a wonderful source for researching Irish family history and local history. The Journal of the Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead in Ireland (also known as the Journal of the Irish Memorials Association) is a series of publications produced between 1888 and 1939, consisting of over 8,000 pages. eogn.com/page-18080/13026869

Beara Peninsula, Co. Cork

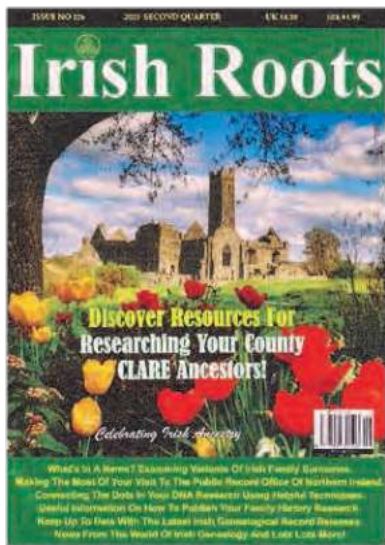
Irish Interest Group committee member Kathryn O'Neil owns the three volumes of 'Annals of Beara'. If anyone is researching family in the Beara, Kathryn will accept your family query and check these volumes for any reference to them. Kathryn O'Neil: tonykathryn@yahoo.com.au

Cork Genealogical Society

The Cork Genealogical Society came into being at an inaugural meeting in March 1994. Their annual membership fee is €20 which allows entry to all meetings, newsletters, journals and access to 'Members only' webpage. If you are interested in joining e-mail inquiry to apcoleman@eircom.net Annual membership commences 1st January. www.corkgenealogicalsociety.com

Irish Roots

Irish Roots magazine No. 126 2nd quarter 2023 is available; among the articles in this issue are: Connecting The Dots – The Role of Clustering and Shared Matches in DNA Research for Genealogy by Donna Rutherford; Local Resources for Family History Research County Clare by James G. Ryan; What's In A Name? James G. Ryan Examines Variants of Family Names; Publishing Your Family History Research by Barry Kinane; Window on the Irish Soul – A Century of Irish Stamps by Stephen Ferguson; Surnames of County Clare by Sean O Murchadha; News from the World of Irish Genealogy and lots more. Digital copies of Irish Roots are available www.irishrootsmedia.com



Irish Genealogical Research Society

One of the oldest Irish genealogical societies in existence, the Irish Genealogical Research Society (IGRS) continues to look to the future of Irish genealogy by seeking to welcome new members. Their annual journal The Irish Genealogist has been published since 1937. There is an extensive names index for this publication free to access on their website

www.irishancestors.ie from which relevant articles may be purchased. Annual IGRS membership is £26 starting from date of purchase. Benefits include access to unique material and a monthly e-Bulletin with news on Irish genealogy.

Ireland Reaching Out

Ireland Reaching Out, also known as Ireland XO, is a non-profit, volunteer and community-based organisation headquartered in Galway, Ireland. Founded in 2009 this organisation aims to build lasting links between the Irish diaspora and the civil parishes in Ireland. Recent articles available through XO Chronicles: A Catalogue to the best Irish Genealogy Records; The faithful Steward Co. Derry; The most Popular Surnames for every Irish county; 10 facts about Irish Workhouses, and 10 facts about Land Ownership in Ireland. Check out their website www.irelandxo.com families and sign up to their free e-newsletters.

A Few Forgotten Women

This is a new project of particular interest to lovers of family history, social history and women's history. View the website of A Few Forgotten Women Project where more stories are being added regularly.

afewforgottenwomen.wixsite.com/affw

[Rosemary Collins' article Remembering Forgotten Women appears WDYTIA Issue 206 2023, p60]

Geraldene O'Reilly
Convenor

E: IrishSIG@genealogy.org.nz



Update from Auckland City Libraries

Auckland Libraries' Research and Heritage service changes

Changes to Research Centres and Special Collections Reading Room

For some time, Aucklanders have been changing how they access our research services and heritage collections, with an increasing number of people choosing to engage with our collections and expertise through online channels. We have made some changes to the services and hours of our Research Centres and the Special Collections Reading Room which took effect on 30 September 2023.

Please note that Seonaid Harvey will still be available for Book A Family History Librarian appointments at Takapuna Library on the first Tuesday of every month, and Waitākere

Library on the second Tuesday of every month. And she can also be available at Research Central by appointment.

Research assistance

There are a number of ways we can help you with your research and provide access to our heritage and research collections and resources.

- Fill out our research enquiry online form
- Book an in-person appointment with a specialist librarian
- Visit our Research Centres at Central City Library and Manukau Library

Hours and service changes from 30 September

Research Central (Level 2, Central City Library)
Monday to Friday, 10am – 6pm
Saturday, 10am – 5pm
Sunday – Closed.

Special Collections Reading Room (Level 2, Central City Library)

Monday and Tuesday – Closed.

Wednesday – Friday, 12pm – 5pm (Appointments only)

Saturday – 10am – 5pm (Appointments only)

Sunday – Closed.

Visitors to Central City Library can get in-person assistance from staff at the Research Central desk from Monday to Saturday.

Research South (Level 2, Manukau Library)

Monday – Friday, 12noon – 5pm

Saturday and Sunday – Closed.

Research West and North closure information

Our research service desks at Research West (Level 2, Waitākere Central Library) and Research North (Level 1, Takapuna Library) have closed.

Some research collections held at these libraries require an appointment with a specialist librarian.

Contact libraryresearch@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz to make an appointment.

Some reference collections available at Takapuna Library and Waitākere Central Library can be accessed without an appointment. Our staff at these libraries can help you access these collections. You are also welcome to use the microfiche and CDROMs at these locations

Why have you closed Research North and West?

The number of people using the in-person research services at these Research Centres has been declining for a number of years, with increasing numbers of customers choosing to engage with our specialist expertise and research collections online.

We now focus on offering in-person research services at our Research Central (Central City Library) and Research South (Manukau Library) locations and increasing our ability to provide community outreach and online research support.

Changes to our research services were included in the Auckland Council [2023/2024 Annual Budget](#) consultation in February and March 2023. Council's Governing Body adopted the proposed changes on 29 June 2023.

Can I still use the research collections and specialist equipment at Research North and West?

Some research collections will require an appointment with a specialist librarian to access them. Other collections are available for you to use without an appointment.

You are welcome to use the research collections on the open floors and the microfiche and CD-ROMs.

What if I can't make it to Research Central or South?

We have a range of options for those unable to travel to our Research Central or South locations. This includes support from a specialist librarian over the phone, email or video

conference call, for example, Microsoft Teams or Zoom. You can also contact us to book an appointment with one of our specialists.

Email: libraryresearch@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

You may also like to check out [our video tutorials](#) available on our Niche Academy platform. These tutorials provide step-by-step instructions on using various online resources, including Kura Heritage Collections Online, Ancestry and Findmypast.

Why are you changing the Special Collections Reading Room to appointment only?

In 2022, we changed the opening hours and services available at the Special Collections Reading Room, providing both drop-in support at the desk as well as appointments.

We are moving to an appointment only system to provide a more efficient service to customers. Visitors to Central City Library can get in-person assistance from staff at the Research Central desk from Monday to Saturday.

To book an appointment with a specialist librarian at the Special Collections Reading Room, email libraryresearch@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

How will this service be better for customers and staff?

A fully integrated heritage and research service will mean we can more effectively manage our collections and deliver to a wide range of customer interests.

It will also increase staff skills and knowledge transfer and enable us to streamline internal processes, resulting in a more consistent and improved customer experience. For any enquiries about these changes please email libraryresearch@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

2024 HeritageTalks programme at Auckland Libraries

Are you interested in family, local and social history, the stories of Aotearoa New Zealand, the Pacific, and beyond? Then why not come along to one of our fortnightly HeritageTalks | Waha pū-taonga and hear more about both our personal and our shared heritage?

These talks are given by experts in their field and can provide valuable insight into our histories and our cultures.

When: Wednesdays, February to November, 12noon - 1pm

Where: Whare Wananga, L2 Central City Library, Lorne St, Auckland . Also online via Zoom

Cost: Free

Bookings will be open in January :

www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/Pages/family-and-local-history-events.aspx

For queries contact Research Central ph 09 890 2412.



**Need to access a database?
Research Services is only an email away!**

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. 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

Updated December 2023! NZSG's Kiwi Collection NOW WITH IMAGES!

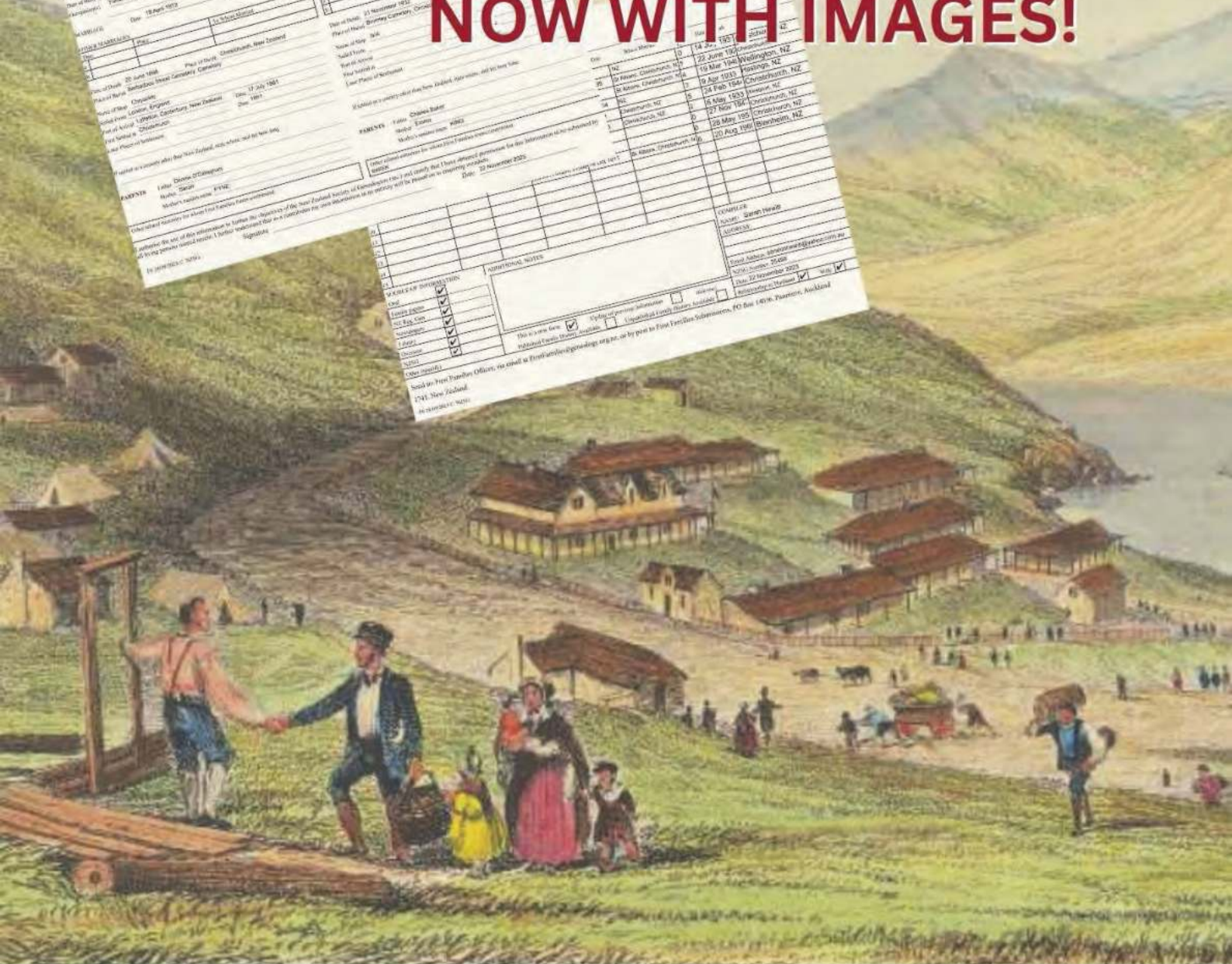
New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc.
FAMILY HISTORY - INFORMATION FOR FIRST FAMILIES COLLECTION

Family Name: JACKSON
Date of Birth: 18 August 1830
Place of Birth: Christchurch, New Zealand

WIFE: Christine (nee) Jackson
Date of Birth: 3 February 1830
Place of Birth: Christchurch, New Zealand

CHILDREN

No.	Name	Date of Birth	Place of Birth
1	John	14 June 1851	Wellington, NZ
2	John	20 June 1851	Wellington, NZ
3	John	19 May 1851	Wellington, NZ
4	John	19 May 1851	Wellington, NZ
5	John	19 May 1851	Wellington, NZ
6	John	19 May 1851	Wellington, NZ
7	John	19 May 1851	Wellington, NZ
8	John	19 May 1851	Wellington, NZ
9	John	19 May 1851	Wellington, NZ
10	John	19 May 1851	Wellington, NZ



Don't know where to start your family history research?

The Kiwi Collection is your online gateway to nearly 15 million records, helping you to connect the dots and compile your to-do list!

And now Images! Our first attached images are from our First Families Collection
Available now to subscribers!

www.genealogy.org.nz/kiwi

