

CANTERBURY BRANCH NZSG NEWSLETTER

Meetings - Parkview Community Lounge Hall, 75 Queenspark Drive, Parklands
Monthly – 2nd Thursday evening at 7:30pm & 3rd Thursday morning at 9:45am
Visitors welcome – Gold coin donation

Email - CanterburyNZ@genealogy.org.nz

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/CanterburyNZGenealogy/>

Canterbury Branch Website - <http://canterburygenealogy.wordpress.com/>



Issue # 6 / 2019

July 2019

Our meeting venue - Parkview Community Lounge Hall, 75 Queenspark Drive, Parklands

Thursday 11th July - 7:30pm - Evening Meeting – Parkview Community Lounge - Hall (*Library open 7:00-7:30pm – cuppa after*)

Freenealogy

The Researching of Your Genealogy for Free

Fiona Brooker will speak about the many freely available sources (or nearly free sources) for researching your family history, both online and physical. Are you making the most of these in your research?

Thursday 18th July at 9:45am - Morning Meeting - Parkview Community Lounge – Hall - (*Arriving earlier for a cuppa*)

Note earlier start time for our morning meetings. The meeting will start at 9:45am with morning tea while we have notices & members input, followed by the speaker from 10 -11am. You are most welcome to go down to the Donnington Room to continue chatting following the meeting.

Comte de Paris

Linda Sutherland will talk about the Comte de Paris Association, the early French families of Akaroa and the work that they are undertaking to preserve this history.

July - NZSG Canterbury Branch Events

- Saturday 6th **Irish Interest Group** - Bi-monthly informal group asking & answering questions, sharing information, resources & knowledge. **10:00am - Parkview Community Lounge – Donnington Room**
- Saturday 27th **Computer Interest Group** – Bi-monthly informal group asking & answering questions, sharing websites, discussing computers & genealogy programs. We will also look at some *FamilySearch* Affiliate Library records. 10:00am-12 noon. We will stop half way through for a cuppa break. *Led by Fiona Lees.* **10:00am - Parkview Community Lounge – Hall**
- Saturday 27th **Continental Europe Interests – individual research session** – led by Kathy Bisman (kathmark5354@gmail.com) and other experienced genealogists. This will be from 12:30-2:30pm. **Parkview Community Lounge – Donnington Room**
Canterbury Branch Library will also be open from 1pm – 3pm.

August – FAMILY HISTORY MONTH

Thursday 8th **Evening meeting – Advance Notice - Our normal evening meeting for the 8th August has been cancelled to allow members to take the opportunity to hear Nick Barratt, a very well known genealogist from the UK, speak in Christchurch.**

Thursday 8th **Nick Barrett**, English genealogist and Director of Senate House Library at the University of London, best known as genealogical consultant for series 1 to 4 of the BBC show ***Who Do You Think You Are?*** will be speaking in Christchurch. We have decided not to have our usual meeting, so everyone can attend this meeting instead.

There will be no door charge – Venue: Level 1, Tūranga Central Library. Starting time is 6pm as library closes at 8pm.

Website - https://christchurch.bibliocommons.com/events/search/local_start=2019-08-08%20TO%20event/5ceb7cb35447a82400270dd8

To find out more about Nick's work see <https://www.nickbarratt.co.uk/>

Monday 12th **Extra Evening Meeting** - Raymon Naisbitt from *FamilySearch* who will have been talking at Auckland Family History Expo, is making himself available to talk to us. **Venue:** Chapel Street Centre, corner Chapel Street & Harewood Road, Papanui. 7.30pm. Door charge \$5.00 to cover costs. No booking needed. More details on topic will be advised later.

Thursday 15th **Morning meeting – Edwina Swingler** will show us how to show citations for our research. 9:45am – **Parkview Community Lounge – Hall**

"Watch the Tūranga website for other overseas speakers coming to Tūranga in August."

SEPTEMBER 2019

Thursday 12th **Evening meeting – Chris Jones**, lecturer at the University of Canterbury will talk about the Canterbury Scroll.

Thursday 19th **Morning meeting – Joanna Szczepanski**, a curator at the museum will talk about the Macdonald Dictionary.

For user groups, why not stay for lunch & use Branch Library resources for research after a meeting! If your surname is between R & Z please offer to help with meeting tasks & looking after raffle & sales table at meetings this month. .



FROM THE COMMITTEE**Branch News:**

Both the research meetings held in June were very well attended and hopefully we were able to help with the questions put to our experts. Our thanks to Atholin Pierre, Jenny Mayne, Kathy Bisman, Tony Gordon, Barry Pycroft and others who helped, for their time and expertise over the two sessions.

But, accessing the branch resources and help doesn't have to wait for another research meeting. The branch library is open four times per month and often doesn't get any visitors, so please, take advantage of these times to come in and get some help or just use what we have available.

Recently a suggestion was made that we make some time at branch meetings for "*brainstorming*" a question from members. We are a little constrained by time at these meetings and need to consider our guest speaker too, but we are going to trial this over the next couple of months and see how it goes.

If anyone has a question they would like to put to the group, would you get in touch with me beforehand, so I know what is coming up. I think we would have to restrict the time allowed, perhaps 5 minutes or so, and your question would need to be succinct. At this stage at least, not one on DNA, as that subject can get quite involved. More on this elsewhere in the newsletter.

Now, a quick update on the two burglaries we have had over the last month, first on 20th May and then again on 10th June. Amongst other things we have lost our data projector, the meeting laptop and the two laptops in the computer room. We are working through the insurance claim process and sorting out replacements for what we have lost. In the mean-time Fiona and David Lees have loaned us a desktop computer which is set up for *FamilySearch* and you can still bring along your own laptop or iPad to use. Hopefully it will not be too long before we are up and running again.

Repairs were needed to the computer and Donnington rooms and the window facing into the foyer from the library room has been permanently walled up. There is still more work to be done to finish these jobs and consequently there is a bit of upheaval in all three rooms at present, but this will come right eventually. The Christchurch City Council have now installed an alarm so hopefully this will deter any more unwanted visits in the future.

As always, any questions, suggestions or gripes please get in touch.

Phone. 3493806 serrals@xtra.co.nz Sandra

**CANTERBURY BRANCH LIBRARY**

AT PARKVIEW COMMUNITY LOUNGE - 75 QUEENSPARK DRIVE, PARKLANDS

Open: 1st & 3rd Thursday of Month from 12noon – 3:00pm & 2nd & 4th Saturday of Month from 1:00pm – 3:00pm.

Use your branch library - a great opportunity to have one on one help for your research.

Recent Acquisitions to the Branch Library

Some new Church Histories have been added to the Branch Library

- ***The Church of St Marks in the Parish of Opawa 1865-1940***
- ***St Marks Church Opawa 1865-1965***
- ***St John the Evangelist, Woolston 1857-1957***
- ***All Saints Church Sumner 1876-1926***
- ***St Augustine's Church, Cashmere 1908 - 2008***

All the above books have been indexed.

Search our library catalogue online, so when you come to the library, you will already know what is there.

<https://canterburygenealogy.wordpress.com/branch-library/>

Jan Slater phone 354-6494 or 022 351 9552, jan.slater46@gmail.com

We recently enjoyed hosting research visits to our Library & Research rooms by members of Riccarton & Darfield groups. We are happy to arrange further visits & show what wonderful resources we have.

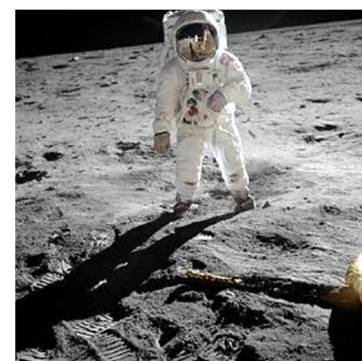
BYOD (bring your own device) when visiting the Branch Research Rooms) – use your own PC & access the internet, including the FamilySearch Affiliate Library restricted records, available while you are in our rooms.

**50th Anniversary of the Apollo 11 Landing on the Moon 20th July 1969**

Armstrong's first step onto the lunar surface was broadcast on live TV to a worldwide audience. He described the event as "*one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.*" Apollo 11 effectively ended the Space Race and fulfilled a national goal proposed in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy: "*before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth.*"

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo_11

<http://www.nisenet.org/moon50>

**Landing on the Moon – 50th Anniversary**

I was working as a draughtsman for Lands and Survey Department drawing title plans on the second floor of the State Fire building. As the time approached I snuck out the back to the room where all the transfer and mortgage documents were filed. Sitting on Marge Kissel's desk we listened to the transistor radio held against the window for the landing.

Lorraine Wilmshurst

Where were you when the moon landings were happening?

WHERE TO NEXT WITH YOUR DNA RESULTS?

There is an informal group to explore the next steps in using your DNA test results including the use of GEDMatch, navigating the test results and participating in various Project groups. The format is collaborative and will use email round-robin or meetings to share information and ideas. Please contact Bruce Holm to join the group & share ideas and information.

Bruce bruce.holm@gmail.com

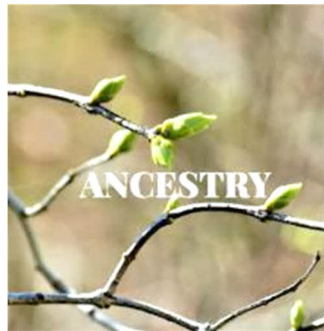


NZSG members have access to DNA webinars in the Member's Only area of the NZSG website.

Access to the DNA Bootcamps produced by Hack Genealogy covering a variety of topics by genetic genealogy expert Mary Eberle, JD of DNA Hunters. NZ Society of Genealogists Inc. have purchased a license so that our members can enjoy the Boot Camps free of charge.

Two very successful DNA & Genealogy drop-in sessions were held at Shirley Library in June. There are plans for more in September & November. Thanks to Bruce Holm for organising and running these sessions with some willing helpers.

"BRAINSTORM BUDS" - BRANCHES, TWIGS, BUDS AND A MESS OF KINDLING



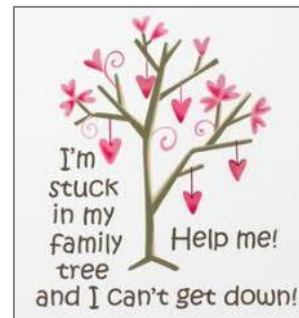
This is a new section and initiative from the committee to help answer some of your questions, or suggest an option to follow for your research.

Send us (email or phone) a succinct question to put in this section of the newsletter. At the next meetings, members can come along with suggestions and pointers to help you in your research, possibly suggesting an option you haven't yet tried. We have such a huge wealth of knowledge within our membership who would be willing to help. This is to be a short, buzzy section of the meeting, helping each other.

Example:- Where can I find name of orphanage in Christchurch where my mother was?

Suggestions:- Look at school records and look backwards to find where she had lived and guardian. Ask Schools officer for further information, or look at church archives and the

National Library. **Example Two** - ask more detailed questions eg – "I'm looking for the ship my ancestors arrived on from Belfast to Lyttelton between April-August 1885. I've tried ArchivesNZ, FamilySearch, PapersPast and some websites. Where could I search next?"



Murchison Earthquake - 17th June 1929 - 90th Anniversary

(from last month)

The 1929 Murchison earthquake occurred at 10:17am on 17 June. It struck the Murchison region of the South Island, with an estimated magnitude of 7.3, and was felt throughout New Zealand. There were 17 casualties, mostly as a result of landslides triggered by the earthquake. The rumbling sound of the earthquake was loud enough to be heard at New Plymouth, more than 250 km (155 miles) away.

See also Eileen McSaveney, 'Historic earthquakes - The 1929 Arthur's Pass & Murchison earthquakes', Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of NZ, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/historic-earthquakes/page-5> (accessed 31 May 2019)



Happy 90th Birthday, Eleanor Pointon



The family of our very own member, Eleanor Pointon were living in the Murchison area at the time of the earthquake and this is where Eleanor was born. *Apologies Eleanor for our mistake, you were born a few days before the Murchison Earthquake, you were a newborn at the time, and one of the oldest surviving people from that event.*

Bulford Kiwi: 100 Years Of Monument Commemorated

Carved in 1919, the Bulford Kiwi now represents the New Zealand troops that served in the First World War. <https://ww100.govt.nz/bulford-kiwi>

Victor Low was the Chinese Anzac who laid out the Bulford Kiwi.

On 14-15 March 1919, New Zealand troops based at Sling Camp in England rioted. As a way of keeping the soldiers occupied after the riot, a massive kiwi surveyed by Sergeant Major Victor Low was carved into the hillside above the camp. (Victor Lo Keong was born in Dunedin on 3 July 1894.) (Book by: Colleen Brown - author of *The Bulford Kiwi: The kiwi we left behind.*)

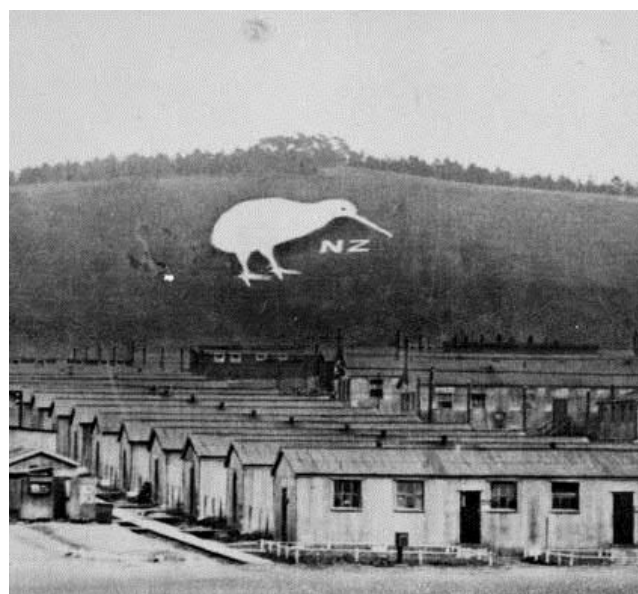
The idea of constructing a lasting memento of the New Zealanders' occupation of Sling Camp was put forward by Brigadier-General Alexander Stewart, the camp's commandant. After the riots in March 1919, the British Army gave permission for the construction of a kiwi on military land on nearby Beacon Hill. The work would keep soldiers occupied while they waited to go home.

Victor Low surveyed the Bulford Kiwi. It was a difficult job, as the hill had a 10-degree slope and there was an irregularity in the centre. The chalky soil was similar to that at Arras, with which Victor was familiar.

Once the kiwi had been drawn by Sergeant-Major Percy Blenkarne, the image had to be redrawn to fit onto Beacon Hill. Victor surveyed the kiwi from 'YMCA Corner'. Once he was certain he had it absolutely correct, the soldiers cut the kiwi by hand under the direction of Captain Harry Clark. The soil was dug out to a depth of 30 centimetres, exposing the chalk beneath. The kiwi is 128 metres long, with its beak extending 45.7 metres and the 'NZ' letters standing 20 metres high. The work was completed on 28th June 1919, the day the Treaty of Versailles with Germany was signed.

A special ceremony has taken place to mark 100 years of the **Bulford Kiwi**.

The 'Ngā Tapuwāe, In Their Footsteps' sign commemorates the New Zealanders and the local community who were in Bulford during the First World War. The sign now leads the path to the Bulford Kiwi. <https://www.forces.net/news/uk/bulford-kiwi-100-years-monument-commemorated>



MEMBERS' RESEARCH INTERESTS & QUERIES AND REQUESTS FOR LOCAL INFORMATION

Members are invited to submit a recent find, surnames or topics of interest, or to ask a question, for inclusion in this newsletter. This is a section for members to use – with members' names, interests & localities - this could link people who are researching same names or in similar areas.

- **HURST – seeking photos of John and Eliza / Lizzie HURST, née MILES.** - John Hurst, born Yorkshire, farmed *Waihora*, previously Maddisons, later McBeans, at Springston South, died 1908 in Christchurch. Eliza / Lizzie Miles, born Sumner married John, 21 Dec 1882, died Christchurch in 1948 aged 92 years, buried Addington. Her father William MILES (d. 1882), farmed at Folly Farm, Springston.

We are researching the history of *Waihora* and hoping someone may have a connection with the HURSTS.

Thank you, Adriana, Lincoln & Districts Historical Society, email a.degroot@xtra.co.nz

- **SELWYN HUTS – early hut owners & families** - Seeking photos & info about ardent early anglers and their families at the Selwyn Huts including: boot manufacturer Philip John de la COUR; solicitor, William IZARD (d. 1940); W.H. MEDDINGS; Dr. Benjamin Michael MOORHOUSE, Jnr. (d. 1921); Arthur Morton OLLIVIER, (d. 1897); barrister, William Henry SPACKMAN (d. 1896). Many thanks to Dr. Charles Morton ANDERSON, CHAPPELL, RENNIE & McBEAN families for their interest & help with our display of historic photos of the Selwyn Huts, now at Pioneer Hall, Lincoln. Open the first Sunday of the month from 2-4pm. Please contact Adriana, Lincoln & Districts Historical Society, email a.degroot@xtra.co.nz

- **John THOMAS, d. 1931, buried Lincoln Cemetery.** - John was one of the first employees of the old Lincoln Flour Mill.

His surviving children were Mrs BRADSHAW (Ashley Bank), Mrs ASTON (Christchurch), Mrs MORRIS (Te Awamutu), Mrs DOWKER (Motukarara), Mrs BRANTHWAITE (Tai Tapu) and Mr Sam THOMAS (Lincoln).

Lincoln and Districts Historical Society would welcome a photo of him. Thank you, Adriana, email a.degroot@xtra.co.nz

Marg Harris asked a question last month about Days Road, Spreydon and received a number of suggestions from members and information from PapersPast, earlier printed road maps and Canterbury Maps. Thank you all for your help.

HOW TO FIND THE MAIDEN NAMES OF WOMEN IN YOUR FAMILY TREE - Alexandra Edmondson 06 February 2018

Tracking down the maiden names of women in your family tree can be easier than you might think. Tracing your female ancestors can be a challenge since almost all women took their husband's family name when they were married. But, not all is lost, below are some of the many ways you can locate your ancestor's maiden name.

Marriage Records - The obvious starting point, marriage certificates list both the groom's surname and the bride's maiden surname. When exploring marriage resources, remember to also look for associated records like licenses, announcements, banns, bonds and even divorce records. If you find your female ancestor's marriage record, but her maiden name isn't listed, check the witness's name on the form. The witness could be a close family member.

Westminster Marriages - Try searching for her children's marriage records too. Sometimes the mother's maiden name will appear on her children's marriage records. Be careful, though, if the woman in question is a widow or was remarried, it won't be her maiden name on the record, so be diligent with your search to confirm this.

Birth and Death Records - If you don't know your ancestor's maiden name to begin with, finding her birth certificate will be next to impossible, *initially*. Try searching for her death record first. If her parents are listed on the death record, you could discover her maiden name. Again, keep in mind that her mother may have remarried, so the listed name isn't necessarily her maiden name. If you find a potential match, a good tip is to cross-reference with other records and see if everything matches up. If you know the name of any of your female ancestor's children, search for their birth records. They normally include the mother's maiden name.

Cemetery Records - Cemetery and burial records are a great place to look, even if the woman's maiden name isn't included on the records themselves. Often times you'll find that the inscriptions on the tombstones state the parent's of the deceased, giving you her family name. Early Scottish records use the woman's maiden name.

Census Records - Census records are a great resource to help you figure out your ancestor's maiden name. Often, as people grew older they opted to live with their younger relatives or children, so be sure to check the census records to see if anyone is suddenly living with your ancestor with a different name. It could well be somebody from your ancestor's family with the same maiden name. When doing this, continue to keep marital status in mind because the person might be widowed or remarried - always verify your facts!

Newspapers - Newspapers are an invaluable resource for locating a woman's maiden name. Newspaper obituaries often list the parent's names of the deceased. Wedding announcements are also often listed in the papers and include the name of both the bride and groom to be. Check for the approximate date of the marriage and a few weeks following. If you only know the groom's name, search for him and your female ancestor (and her maiden name) will be inevitably be listed alongside.

Military Records - Even if your ancestor didn't serve herself, if her husband or son died in the war, often there are records of their pension files with her maiden name listed. Sometimes marriage certificates or affidavits included are also found in military records. Remember, you're most likely searching for your female ancestor's male relatives in these records, in the hope to find her mentioned in the detail.

Land Records - If land deeds were transferred to a widowed wife when her husband died, sometimes her maiden name will be listed in the records. A useful tip is to look for the latin *et ux*, which means "and wife".

Three Research Strategies to Follow

1. Look for Naming Patterns - Look through the names of your ancestors and if any seemingly unusual names appear, it's worth looking into. It is not un-common that your ancestor's middle name is that of their mother's maiden name. This applies to both men and women, so if you spot an unusual middle name, follow it up.

2. Check Family Heirlooms and Photographs - Check the back of old photographs for clues to who was in the picture. The insides of old books, family bibles and any old documents you may have are another useful avenue to explore.

3. Ask for Help - If the records you need aren't available online, reach out to churches and archives for access to them. Join online community boards and social media pages, where like-minded researchers are usually willing to provide assistance. Finding female ancestors can be a tricky business and brings with it its own special set of problems. One of the most common difficulties you'll face is the fact that traditionally, women nearly always take their husband's family name when married. This can be further complicated by the changing nature of woman's legal and social status at various points in history. Despite all this, there are still plenty of good resources available.

<https://blog.findmypast.com.au/how-to-find-the-maiden-names-of-women-in-your-family-tree-2531811061.html>

Thanks to Lorraine Wilmshurst for sharing this piece from Oamaru Branch Newsletter May 2019

SNIPPETS - Some bits & pieces of interest and some to help you with your research:

- **Library - Genealogy Connect** - A collection of genealogy eBook resources grouped together in a fully cross-searchable platform. <https://my.christchurchcitylibraries.com/resources/family-history/>. (Access with your library card number and pin number.) Fiona
- **NZ History – Dates in NZ History** for May - <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/calendar/7>
- **'Tom Watson' wins bronze for New Zealand – 1924 Olympic Games in Paris - 7 July 1924**
 The Academy Award-winning film *Chariots of Fire* (1981) was based on a true story about British athletes who competed at the 1924 Paris Olympics. During the film one of the main characters, Briton Harold Abrahams, wins gold in the 100m sprint. American Jackson Scholz finishes second, while New Zealander 'Tom Watson' comes third. Watson was based on Arthur Porritt, who reportedly refused permission for his name to be used in the film out of modesty. Porritt was one of four New Zealanders who competed at the 1924 Olympics. He claimed to have been selected not only because he was New Zealand's fastest sprinter but because it was cheap to get him to Paris – he was studying medicine at Oxford. From 1934 to 1967 Porritt was the New Zealand member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). He greeted New Zealand teams when they arrived in London on their way to various Olympic Games, arranging medical treatment, accommodation, training facilities and equipment. He also presented Yvette Williams (1952), Murray Halberg (1960) and Peter Snell (1960 and 1964) with their Olympic gold medals. Sir Arthur Porritt was accorded life membership of the IOC when he resigned to become Governor-General of New Zealand (1967–72). (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 30-Apr-2019

MEETING REPORTS

Thursday Evening & Morning Meetings – “June Research meetings”

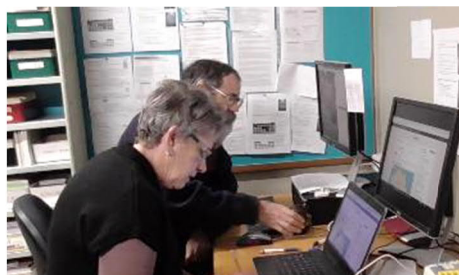
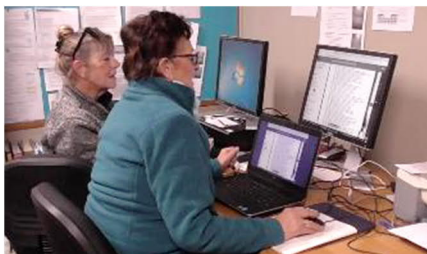
It was really good to see so many of our members at these two meetings. There was a chance to get some specific advice and lots of help for those of us with a few rather vague queries.

It was also a chance to connect with other members and have a chat over a cup of tea or coffee.

There were some members who had not really done any research for many months or years and now they are back in the grove.

Many thanks especially to those who help us sort out our mysteries and get us looking in different directions and also to all the members who attended.

Lorraine Wilmshurst



L to R and top to bottom: Atholin Pierre, Jenny Mayne, Lorraine Wilmshurst, Jim Copland, Gail Guckert / Crissy Ball, Ivy Solomon / Debbie Smith, Fiona Lees, Christine Mackintosh / Barry Pycroft, Ian Dunbar / Jim Copland, Douglas Mackintosh / Kathy Bisman, Philip Creed / Rose Clark / Kathy Bisman / Sandra Serra, Philip Haythornthwaite / Annette Leonardo, Pat Wright, Robin Perham, Lorraine Wilmshurst / ??, Tony Gordon / Sue Knight, Sandra Serra, Victoria Wisternoff, Kathy Bisman / ??, Barry Pycroft, Helen Southen / Jan Watts, Christine Mackintosh, Jan Slater, Ian Dunbar.

Beyond Basics Computer Workshops

We are planning some **Beyond Basics Computer** workshops – not on genealogy but aimed at increasing your computer skills so you gain more confidence in using your computer as a tool. These are designed to help you get to know and navigate your computer to capture and organise your records well, so you can enjoy your genealogy more. You need to find those wonderful records and snippets, you saved, along with saving sources and citations for those records.

Initially based on Windows PCs and Android tablets, but Apple and iPad as well if there is demand. Probably small evening or weekend sessions, depending on response, BYOD – bringing your own device eg. laptop or tablet.

Initial sessions would deal with fundamentals, some of which will be new for some and revision for others. Learn that there are several ways of doing many tasks or functions – they are not right or wrong – what suits you best is the one right for you.

Course Outline and further details later.

Genealogists use Computers as a Tool. Knowing some basics makes this tool more effective.

Please let us know if you are interested so we can plan some sessions.

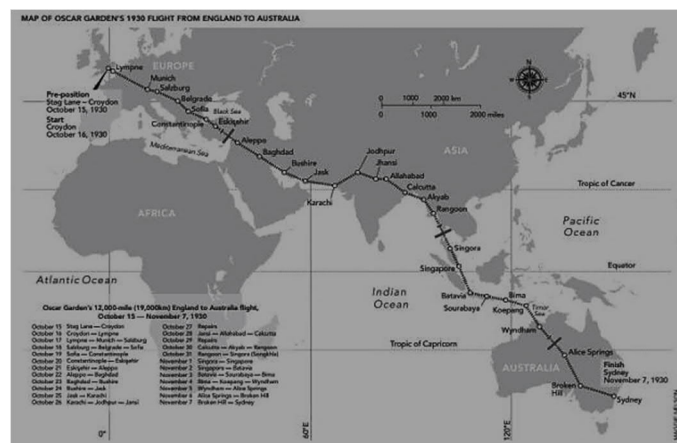
Fiona & David – nzsg-cantygroupp-newsletter@hotmail.co.nz

OSCAR GARDEN – THE FORGOTTEN AVIATOR

Here is a synopsis:

My father, Oscar Garden (1903-1997) was once a famous aviator and achieved notoriety when he became the youngest and most inexperienced pilot to fly solo from England to Australia. In the early morning of 16th October 1930, he set out from Croydon Aerodrome in a second-hand, open-cockpit Gipsy Moth he had named *Kia Ora*, Maori for good luck. On his feet he wore carpet slippers and he had half a dozen sandwiches on his lap. His 18-day-flight was the third fastest after Bert Hinkler and Charles Kingsford-Smith who both had over a decade of flying experience. My father had a mere 39 flying hours. He was lucky to survive the trip as he had several forced landings including a spectacular crash in darkness near Jhansi in central India.

When he landed at Wyndham – the first to do so as other aviators had all landed at Darwin – no one was expecting him. The Australian press dubbed him '*Sundowner of the Skies*'. Sundowner describes an Australian swagman who arrives unexpectedly out of nowhere on sundown, and disappears the next morning. The name suited my father perfectly. He was forever on the move.



He was one of the few survivors of those early years of long-distance flying. After barnstorming throughout Africa and the Middle East, he settled down to a career in commercial aviation. He flew for British Airways in the mid-1930s before transferring to Imperial Airways where he learnt to fly the luxurious Short Empire flying boats. In April 1940, he delivered the second flying boat, *Awarua*, to Auckland for Tasman Empire Airways Limited (TEAL), the forerunner of Air New Zealand. In 1943 he became TEAL's Chief Pilot and Operations Manager; as the 'Boss' of this fledgling company, he steered it through its formative years. He left suddenly in 1947, three years before I was born, and became a tomato grower. He never flew a plane again.

This book is my journey of discovery. Until recently, I knew little about my father's flying adventures or his family's Scottish history. He seldom talked to me about anything, except to bark orders. What puzzled me

was if he had been so famous, why was he forgotten? And why was he such a bastard of a father. Why didn't my mother leave him? My journey uncovered the ghosts of his past – alcoholism, mental illness and violence; his tumultuous childhood in the far north of Scotland with his parent's acrimonious marriage breakdown. The intergenerational trauma from this that impacted my childhood, my life. And yet digging up my father's past was healing for me. It helped me understand in part why he became who he was.

My father's contributions to aviation spanned almost two decades. Fellow pilots ranked his 1930 flight with the achievements of Charles Kingsford Smith, Bert Hinkler and Amy Johnson, who all died in crashes. He survived to contribute so much more. And yet what is his legacy? There is nothing, anywhere. In spite of his flaws and foibles, Oscar Garden – my odd father – is one of history's great aviators and deserves to be remembered.

<https://www.marygarden.com.au/sundowner-of-the-skies>



Oscar Garden was born at Tongue, on the north coast of Scotland, on 21 August 1903, the second son and fourth child of Robert Garden, a merchant from Orkney, and his wife, Rebecca Jane Ward, a Salvationist and later British-Israelite, from the Isle of Man. He attended the local school, but on the break-up of his parents' marriage was sent to Dollar Academy, near Stirling, and then to Douglas High School for Boys on the Isle of Man, where his mother and one of his sisters were living.

After the departure of his father and two of his sisters to New Zealand in 1914, Oscar, his mother and his third sister moved to Manchester. When he was 12 he was forced to leave school to help support them doing odd jobs and clerical work. In 1920 they sailed to Sydney, and then on to New Zealand. For four years Oscar worked for his father, who had established a cordial and bottling business in Timaru, and then went rabbiting in North Canterbury. He opened a cycle shop in Spreydon and then a garage at Southbridge. In 1928 he and his mother moved to Sydney, where he operated a hire-car business.

In 1930 a directionless Oscar was sailing back to Britain when a chance remark from a fellow passenger – '*Why don't you learn to fly?*' – led him into aviation. He gained his 'A' licence at the Norwich flying school in July that year and traded his car to buy a second-hand de Havilland DH60 Gipsy Moth, which he named *Kia Ora*. On 16 October 1930 he set off from Croydon for Australia with the sole purpose of accumulating flying hours for a commercial licence. <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/5g4/garden-oscar>

<https://player.fm/series/series-2410831/the-new-zealand-aviation-legend-youve-never-heard-of>

https://www.google.com/search?q=%22oscar+garden%22+christchurch+pilot&rlz=1C1GCEA_en&oq=%22oscar+garden%22+christchurch+pilot&aqs=chrome..69l57j33.13706j0j8&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

https://issuu.com/marcfalconer5/docs/sundowner_of_the_skies_sample

From Fiona & David – heard on National Radio 29/6/2019



BISHOPDALE BRANCH
New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc.



BISHOPDALE BRANCH CONTRIBUTION TO THE NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 25th July 7:30 p.m. at St Margaret's Hub, 94 Farrington Avenue.

Topic: Short presentations from members on something from their research.

Visitors are most welcome, for whom there will be a \$3 door charge.

Regards Tony Gordon

Convenor: Frances Cadman Phone: 352-5605 Branch Email: bishopdale@genealogy.org.nz
Secretary: Lis Hunter Phone: 354-3933
Newsletter Contact: Tony Gordon View our branch library catalogue at <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/bishopdalenzsg>

Waimakariri Genealogy Branch

WAIMAKARIRI BRANCH CONTRIBUTION TO THE NEWSLETTER

Monthly General Meeting dates are held on the third Tuesday of each month from January to November. Usually there is a Guest Speaker followed by a light supper. There is no charge for these evenings.

Next Meeting: Date: Tuesday 16th July at 7.30pm Topic – To be advised.

Venue: Waimakariri Branch, Rangiora Brass Band Rooms, Northbrook Road. All Welcome.

Thanks to Philip Worthington

Convenor & Newsletter Contact: Philip Worthington Phone: (03) 313-6730 Email: woolstone@scorch.co.nz
 Email: Waimakariri@genealogy.org.nz Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/waimakaririgenealogy/>

Book Review – "Heather's Story – A Story of the Otago Gold Fields" by Donald Offwood

Donald Offwood, a direct descendant of the first settlers in Otago, was born in Invercargill and lived for some years in Dunedin. Donald is a retired Air New Zealand International captain with an interest in writing and painting.

His first Otago story '*Oatcakes to Otago*' follows the Crawford family from the defeat of "Bonnie Prince Charlie" at the battle of Culloden in 1746, through the Highland Clearances, the famines and the great Disruption in the Scottish Church, to their emigration to Otago on the *Philip Laing* in 1848.

Heather's Story is an historical novel and picks up the Otago story from where *Oatcakes to Otago* finished; with the discovery of gold in Central Otago. It tells the Otago pioneering gold story and follows the McDonald family and their children from Gabriel's Gully to eventual settlement in Arrowtown. The story tells of the hardships families experienced – mine shaft floods and drownings - and the appalling living conditions they endured – tents in winter frosts and snow. The route the family took is the same as many of our gold seeking ancestors would have followed and experienced.

Book Review – "Out of the Shadows – The Life of Millicent Baxter" by Penny Griffith

Penny Griffith was born in England but immigrated to New Zealand in 1987. This book grew from an MA thesis on pacifism and the Baxter family.

Millicent was the daughter of John McMilliam Brown, a founding professor of the University of Canterbury. His library is the MacMillian Brown Library at the University. Her mother (Helen Connon) was the first woman in the British Empire to earn a degree with honours and was a principal of Christchurch Girl's High School.

Millicent was a well-educated woman with a sharp political mind but was a very forthright woman with a crushing wit. She lived to the ripe old age of 96 years and had a huge influence on not only her husband Archie (a conscientious objector in WWI) but also her two sons – Terrance and James K. (NZ poet). They lived most of their lives in her shadow.

This is not only Millicent's story but will interest anyone who is interested in pacifism, World War I and II, conscientious objection, feminism, and socialism. She and her husband Archie travelled extensively within New Zealand and Europe. Her influence on her son's lives is a very interesting aspect of the book.

Book Review – "Harvest" by Christine Carrell

Rose's story is a family story that has been written by her family – but all the names have been changed to not cause any embarrassment to anyone. Rose McLeod has experienced the Napier earthquake and wartime Wellington where she trained as a teacher and met a young man going off to war (WW II). She marries her soldier and starts married life on an Otago sheep farm with pretty basic facilities, where she struggles with the political, economic and social upheavals of the middle years of the twentieth century.

The story describes what is happening in New Zealand during the 1960's and 1970's and many of us will remember the changes that occurred during this time. Rose is a pioneer in the changing role of New Zealand country women in particular during the twentieth century. This book was loaned to me by one of the family members and it was a story I could easily relate to. My mother was 6 years old in the Napier earthquake and she described a visit to Wellington during those war years. With my dad's job we lived many years in Central Otago, so Rose's story rang very true for me.

Thank you to Lorraine Wilmshurst for these 3 book reviews.

COMMITTEE 2019 / 2020

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Irish Interest Group	Evelyn Robertson	331-8204	robertsona@xtra.co.nz
WWI Project - War Memorials / Boards of Honour	Evelyn Robertson	331-8204	robertsona@xtra.co.nz

NZSG Canterbury Branch MEMBERSHIP Subscription Notices were sent out in April, payment was due on 30th April 2019 & is now OVERDUE for year ending 31st March 2020. Thank you to all those who have paid their subscription and for continuing support.

Library Technology and Computer Courses and Drop-Ins - Checkout Library website and Library magazine, Huraina, for upcoming courses – includes *Technology Help Drop-Ins, Beginning Computer Skills, Beyond Beginner Computer Skills, Introduction to iPads, Beyond Beginners iPads, Music Production or Video Editing and Introduction to the Discovery Wall*. Also, *Introduction to Family History and Introduction to Local History, and Capture Your Story as a movie on iPad* (can be borrowed).

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

We wish a warm welcome and happy researching to new member Crissy BALL and to John & Ruth WILSON.

IN MEMORIAM: We pass on sympathy and condolences to all those who have lost family and friends recently.

[New Zealand Society of Genealogist's Website:- http://www.genealogy.org.nz](http://www.genealogy.org.nz)

Please let us know if you are shifting or have changed address, or email address, so we can keep our records current, and keep in touch. Apologies for any errors and omissions in newsletter. Corrections & additions welcome. Photograph credits – David Lees – thank you

NZSG CANTERBURY BRANCH LIBRARY HOURS

Open: 1st & 3rd Thursday of Month from 12noon – 3:00pm, and
2nd & 4th Saturday of Month from 1:00pm – 3:00pm.

Bring along your research queries and brick walls to your branch library – use the resources there and receive assistance.

Branch LIBRARY at Parkview Community Lounge - 75 Queenspark Drive, Parklands

Canterbury Branch Library is an Affiliate Library of FamilySearch – access to restricted records here!!

FAMILY HISTORY CENTRE @ 25 FENDALTON ROAD

Hours: Tuesday 10:00am - 2:00pm and 7:00pm - 9:00pm

TŪRANGA - CHRISTCHURCH CENTRAL LIBRARY @ 60 CATHEDRAL SQUARE

OPEN MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9:00AM – 8:00PM (GROUND FLOOR 8:00AM – 8:00PM)

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10:00AM – 5:00PM

CHRISTCHURCH PARKLANDS LIBRARY @ 46 QUEENSPARK DRIVE

PARKLANDS LIBRARY HAS RE-OPENED AFTER EARTHQUAKE REPAIRS.

CHRISTCHURCH FENDALTON LIBRARY @ 4 JEFFREYS ROAD

WILL BE CLOSED FROM 4 MARCH – 29 JULY 2019 FOR REPAIRS & IMPROVEMENTS.

NEWSLETTER

[Member Subscriptions Due by April 30]

NZSG Canterbury Branch

C/- Ian Dunbar,
88 A Slater Street,
Richmond,

CHRISTCHURCH 8013



FamilySearch
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