



# NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS

## DUNEDIN BRANCH NEWSLETTER

Issue 132

March / April 2009

Website: [genealogydunedin.co.nz](http://genealogydunedin.co.nz)**Dunedin Branch NZ Genealogists Committee**

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**Meetings** are held in the Otago Settlers Museum, first Wednesday of the month unless otherwise notified. Starting time 7 pm, but doors are open from 6.30 until 9.30 for research.

**NZSG Dunedin Branch Library** at OSM: open hours Thursday and Sunday 1 – 4pm. From May 2, Saturday 2-4 also.

**Programme**

**April 1st: Isobel Veitch. Topic: "Tasty Tit-bits from the past"** - a pot-pourri of instances of forbears' words and occupations. Isobel Veitch lives in Dunedin and is a lover of history. She has had several books published, including "Clyde and the Dunstan", "Cob & Co., Otago", and "The Last Say", which is set in the 6th Century BC.

**May 6th Kathleen Stringer** Her topic is "**Hard Labour in Dunedin**" - a talk about prisons and prisoners in early Dunedin. Kathleen Stringer has been the Archivist at the Oamaru Museum and is at present doing Post graduate studies in Dunedin.

**June 3rd Heather Bray"- Benefits of being an NZSG member."**

An over- view of the NZSG Services and Record Collections.

**LIBRARY ROSTER****APRIL****THURSDAY**

	<b>1pm to 4pm</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Jennifer Hudson	454-4981
9 <sup>th</sup> Ian Sime	453-6129
16 <sup>th</sup> Pat Inder	477-4789
23 <sup>rd</sup> Margaret Godfrey	487-6700
30 <sup>th</sup> Eleanor Dowden	473-0524

**SUNDAY**

	<b>1pm to 4pm</b>
Janet Rutherford	489-8649
12th Easter closed	
19 <sup>th</sup> Elizabeth Timms	467-2141
26 <sup>th</sup> Trish Fleming	489-8808

**MAY****SATURDAY 2pm – 4pm**

2 <sup>nd</sup> Jack Ingram	456-2040
9 <sup>th</sup> John Rutherford	4898649
16 <sup>th</sup> Cath Grant	453-5192
23 <sup>rd</sup> Janet Rutherford	489-8649
30 <sup>th</sup> Janet Rutherford	48986-49

**SUNDAY**

	<b>1pm to 4pm</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Margaret Batchelor	477-5408
10 <sup>th</sup> Jean Thomas	489-7074
17 <sup>th</sup> Eleanor Morris	476-3320
24 <sup>th</sup> Trish Fleming	489-8808
31 <sup>st</sup> Heather Grimwood	476-2161

**THURSDAY 1pm to 4pm**

7 <sup>th</sup> Elizabeth Timms	467-2141
14 <sup>th</sup> Shirley Hay	455-4169
21 <sup>th</sup> Eleanor Dowden	473-0524
28 <sup>th</sup> Margaret Godfrey	487-6700

*Continued from Newsletter 131, Dunedin Hotels, an article contributed  
by Emeritus Professor Ray Hargreaves*

**Hotel Names** There was a bewildering range of hotel names in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, such as the Odd Whim, Steeple View, Black Bull, and the Horse and Jockey.

The Licensee could change their hotel name as long as permission was gained Criterion Hotel from the Licensing Court. A hotel which stood on the south side of George St and Albion Place opened in 1863 as the Cornwall Arms. This hotel had the greatest number of name changes. In 1875 it became Krull's Family Hotel, then Steeple View, Back to Krull's Family, briefly the Sportsmen Hotel in 1886, then Cosmopolitan, Empire, and finally the Old Brigade Hotel, under which name it lost its licence in 1894.

What makes research more frustrating and confusing is that in many instances, although the hotel had an accepted name that lasted throughout the period, newspaper accounts and even diaries name the hotel for the owner. For example, one finds references to Murphy's Hotel in the 1860s. This was the Shamrock. In the late 1870s Murphy's hotel referred to City Hotel. Some hotels still carry their original name. Examples are the Crown (since 1862), Captain Cook (since 1864), and Robert Burns (since 1862).

**Fires** Hotels, particularly the smaller and older hotels, were liable to fires. This was often due to the lighting, candles or oil lamps. Bedrooms in the 1860s were often small and crowded, and even had calico ceilings. Candles placed where a curtain could easily catch alight caused many fires, though they did not necessarily cause the destruction of the whole building. This calamity was more generally the result of a major fire in a city block destroying a number of buildings. In 1865 a most destructive fire claimed three hotels as well as other buildings.

Fires completely destroyed some hotels, while others just suffered damage. The Opoho Hotel suffered a fire on 1 December 1885, but the bar continued to function in temporary quarters until the licence was lost in the following June. There were two fatalities in hotel fires. Thomas Ahern, a guest at the Stafford Arms, perished in a fire in 1865, and in 1894 the wife of the licensee, Ada Lippert of the Scotia hotel, died from smoke inhalation due to a fire starting in her bedroom.

From the 1860s onwards filled water buckets were placed in many of the major hotels, and Shadrach Jones even set up his own fire brigade. Once water mains were installed in the city streets fire-fighting became easier. The city and a number of the surrounding boroughs set up their own brigades, though not all of the latter were long lasting.

Fires in neighbouring buildings could also cause losses, even though the hotel building itself was not touched by the fire. The fear of fires spread rapidly in the built up area, where many buildings were still made of wood. Helpers would willingly carry furniture and bar stock outside as a precautionary measure, and not surprisingly some stock disappeared.

By the later decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, publicans were keen to provide as much protection as they could for their guests. Licensing courts placed more and more emphasis on multi-storied hotels providing efficient means of escape before licences were granted. The best safety measure was the installation of iron balconies on the outside of the buildings, with extension ladders which could reach the ground. In some hotels ropes were attached to the wall beneath a window as a means of escape from upper story windows. Such ropes were fine for the able bodied, but no good for the very young, the elderly and the weak. The Police recommended the tubular canvas fire escapes, which although flammable were better. These had been installed at the Terminus Hotel.

All escape methods were fine as long as they were well maintained and kept clear. This was not always the case. In a 1902 report to the Licensing Court on the Gladstone Hotel it was stated that the Police *"had found in some cases, the end of the rope which was supposed to be used in a case of a fire, was not fastened to anything, and if a man jumped out holding on to that rope it would run away with him!"*

In 1899 the Otago Licensed Victuallers Association offered a prize of £10 for the most practical fire escape suitable for hotels. Four entries were put through their paces at the Prince of Wales Hotel on the afternoon on 15<sup>th</sup> May, and Mr O Christian's entry of a wire ladder which could be fastened to a kerbstone was judged the best.

**Publicans** Publicans could make or break a hotel. If they desired, they could stamp their own personality on the house.

We do not know how educated some of Dunedin's publicans were. At one extreme were people like John Hall of the York Hotel, Alexander Morrison of the Robert Burns, Michael Murphy of the Shamrock, and Matilda Wilkes of the Newmarket Hotel, all of whom signed the Book of Recognizances with an X.



On the other hand there were publicans like the legendary Shadrach Jones, a qualified medical doctor. He was a larger-than-life character in Dunedin in the early 1860s. Louis Court managed the Provincial Hotel for Shadrach Jones. He later became its licensee and in 1870 he took over the Otago Hotel in Rattray Street, which he ran until his death in 1890. Court was born and well educated in France. His father had wood and paper mills, but after a major strike decided to go into the wine and spirit business. Louis, a competent linguist, travelled for the firm. He had a short spell as a diplomat and was Court's Otago Hotel elected to the French Chamber of Deputies, but was on the wrong side at the time of the 1848 upheaval.

He was put in prison for a short period, and later moved to Italy, where he fought on Garibaldi's side. He moved to Australia in the 1850s and eventually ran a hotel in Bendigo before coming to Dunedin in 1861. Never active in public life, he was an enthusiastic Freemason.

Publicans came from many walks of life before entering the hotel trade. A number had experience as boarding house keepers or as waiters and barmen. A number were ex-policemen, like John Golder, William Gleeson and Samuel Porter.

**Partnerships** Some hotels were run by partners, and they at times took turns at holding the licence for the hotel. This was true of Simon Ross and James Johnston of the Melbourne Hotel in MacLaggan Street, and of Edward Bolton and Catherine Cash of the Provincial Hotel in Port Chalmers.

There are also a number of partners in hotels who never appear in the licensee list. For example James Sandilands Douglas was a partner with George Falconer of the Douglas Hotel on the Octagon, George Street corner. Falconer was the licensee.

**Insolvency** If you have an ancestor who was involved in running a hotel, there is a good chance that he or she became insolvent. This fact may not have been part of the family folklore as to many such an event was regarded as shameful.

A surprising number of publicans did become insolvent, partly because of changing economic conditions, or because they entered into a hotel with no apparent background in the industry. John Robert James, a long-time cab driver, built the Woodhaugh Hotel as an investment. When it was completed he let it to Edward Holmes, but Holmes could not make it pay. After about three years Holmes gave up the licence. James, not finding another tenant, took over the licence, but became insolvent.

Michael Butler became licensee of the Royal Exchange Hotel in Walker (now Carroll) Street on 27 Dec 1871. He had no capital – indeed he was already in debt, and had to borrow money to pay the licence fee, goodwill to the previous tenant (Thomas Cleary), and to purchase some furniture. Butler left his wife, with the help of a servant, to run the hotel during the day as he took employment at £2 a week. Misfortune struck when he had an accident and was off work for some three months. Butler kept no accounts, as neither he nor his wife had any knowledge of bookkeeping. In the hotel he gave credit to some boarders, but they never paid – they simply left the hotel at night as if going to the theatre, but never returned. Butler was a publican for only about one year.

Andrew McKinnon, licensee of the London Hotel, Jetty Street, also lasted only about a year. In early January 1881 he filed for bankruptcy, declaring that he had liabilities of £1,182 11s 9d, and that his assets were nil.

**Family Affairs** Mostly the lists of Willet and Tod fail to reveal the fact that there existed quite a surprising number of family connections within the ranks of publicans. These included well known publican families such as the McGraths, Carrolls, Bastings and Toomeys.

Too often the activities of the widows of publicans have not been recognised. Many widows, after a short time as licensee of the pub their late husband ran, remarried. Generally, the husband, even if he had no experience of running a hotel, sooner or later took over the licence.

Most notably is the case of Margaret Black, who in 1867 married Alexander McIlroy, who was the licensee of the Gridiron Hotel in Princes St. McIlroy died in 1871, and his widow Margaret took over the licence for the next three years. In 1874 she married James Martin. She transferred the licence to her brother, Daniel Black. In 1877 James Martin became the licensee, but he died a couple of years later. Margaret again became the licensee. From 1881 to 1885 a Michael Fagan was licensee. In 1885 Margaret returned as licensee but this time under the name of Margaret Roche, as she had once more married. In 1888 the licence went to husband John Roche.

Another instance of family ties is where Nathan Greaves replaced John Golder, licensee of the Mornington Hotel in 1892. Greaves was Golder's brother-in-law.

The Commercial Hotel has the appearance of having had only one licensee from 1882 to 1902. In fact, Mrs Catherine Mills had the licence from 1882 to 1890 followed by her daughter Catherine Mills, 1891 to 1893, then reverting to the senior Catherine Mills until 1902.

A delayed take-over of a hotel occurred with the Commercial Hotel in High Street. T S Watson, the first licensee, was drowned in the harbour in early 1849. Just some eight weeks later the grieving widow found solace by taking a new husband, Samuel Shaw. Isobella Watson, now Isabella Shaw, continued to run the hotel for a few months. There was then a succession of short term licensees including Samuel Shaw 1855 – 1856!

A number of publicans lost their licences because of their reported addiction to drink. Wives, too, occasionally had problems with alcohol. Maria Fairbanks was the first wife of Henry Fairbanks, licensee of Highcliff Hotel on Portobello Road from 1873. Maria was so frequently intoxicated that Henry lost his licence in 1875. Henry was some six or seven years younger than Maria and apparently assaulted her. On one occasion she accused him of hitting her with a pick handle, but Henry claimed it was in self defence as she had hit him with a bar of soap. Maria's death notice in 1895 stated that she was "the beloved wife of Henry Fairbanks".

The focus on licensee names has meant that we too often forget about the other workers in the hotel. In smaller establishments, wives and daughters were often employed in various positions, such as cooks, barmaids, waitresses, and general servants. There were also other employees in all but the smallest hotels. Unfortunately there is no easy way to find out the names and occupations of non-family employees. The names of a few may be found in newspaper reports of court cases. Ellin Collins was a barmaid at the Empire Hotel in mid-1899. Leslie Charles was a pianist at the City Buffet in 1871. Annie Brew was barmaid and assistant waitress at the Shamrock 1895. George Holles was "boots" at the Provincial 1862. Alex Elliot stated in court: "I am a groom at the Provincial Hotel ... and sleep in the stable, which is also a theatre."

**Publican Movements** A number of publicans, particularly if they did not own a hotel, tended to move from one hotel to another. In the 1860s there were a number of Australians who advertised their previous hotels in Victoria, hoping no doubt to pick up trade by offering a friendly face. Throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, listing the previous hotel, wherever it may have been, was common practice.

Some publicans found it hard to remain in any hotel for any length of time. An example is Maurice Coughlan who arrived in New Zealand in 1884. He went farming in Southland, took over the Grange

Hotel in Dunedin, moved to the Prince of Wales in Clinton, then to the Crown Hotel in Balclutha, before moving to Sydney. He returned to Dunedin to the Shamrock Hotel, then the Australasian (later renamed the Shamrock), where his brother was licensee, then to the Club Hotel in Auckland. He took up a farm at Pukekohe, before returning to the Provincial Hotel in Dunedin, and finally retiring to the Salisbury Estate on the Taieri.

It is important for me to know the movement of publicans, so I have begun a list of all Otago publicans in the period to 1903. It is however, far from complete. It may also be of interest to genealogists as they trace the steps of their ancestors.

**Lamps not Burning** In researching hotel life, I have found one of the best sources is the reports of criminal court cases. It was not hard for a publican to be caught breaking some law or ordinance. In the hours of darkness, hotels were required to keep a lamp burning over or close to the hotel main entrance. Until the 1870s this was strictly policed. In Dunedin's weather, keeping the light burning was often impossible. Result – a court appearance. From the mid-1870s regulations were relaxed by some licensing districts, and permission was granted for hotel lamps to be extinguished when the hotel closed. The law regarding keeping the lamp burning was not removed from the statutes until 1960!

**After Hours Trading** The police were always hot on the trail of publicans who sold alcohol outside permitted trading hours. They regularly went round hotels shortly after closing time and caught many offenders, who were consequently fined. In 1877 Mrs Porter of the Caversham Hotel almost got away with her transgression. She had been discovered having the bar still open at 10.30, when it should have closed at 10pm. Her explanation was, "*the hotel clock had been removed while renovations were being carried out in the hotel, and she had therefore not known it was past 10pm closing time.*" The court was sympathetic, and a fine of only £1, without costs, was imposed.

Hotel bars were generally open on Sundays, as according to the law alcohol could be served to lodgers and travellers. A traveller was accepted as one who had journeyed at least three miles before entering the hotel and asking for a drink. An old Mornington resident, George Tombs, told me some decades ago that the lads of Mornington would travel to the North East Valley hotels to get their Sunday drink – quite legally!

The police always tried to catch offenders. On a Sunday in January 1881, the police saw James Cummings, a bricklayer, with what they believed was a glass of beer in front of the Royal Albert Hotel. However the publican's son removed the glass as the police entered the room. Cummings, when called upon as a witness, was not very helpful and stated: "*Last Sunday, feeling thirsty, I went into the Royal Albert Hotel and asked for a drink of water. Some lemonade was given to me. I was sure it was lemonade – it was white!*" The magistrate had to dismiss the charge against the publican Daniel White, even though he was convinced that Cummings had committed perjury.

Another way publicans could sometimes escape being charged for serving drinks after hours was by delaying the answering of locked hotel doors. There was always some excuse – they hadn't heard the bell or the shouting of the police demanding entry, or the key had been mislaid, or the publican himself had to be got to open the door.

Publicans could also find themselves in court for harbouring "undesirable persons", which usually meant prostitutes. One magistrate ruled that if prostitutes were found sitting down in a hotel, this meant they were "harboured". If found guilty, not only was the licensee fined, but the transgression was endorsed on the licence. Too many endorsements meant that the licence would be forfeited at the next opportunity for renewal. Licensees also got into trouble if they happened to own cottages near the hotel and let them to "persons of ill repute". Timothy Hayes of the Kensington Hotel lost his licence for three months for this reason.

**Community Activity** Publicans were not all bad. Many were active in community life, in sporting activities, local politics, public celebrations, and so on. John Carroll and H J Walter in Dunedin became mayors. Nicholas Maloney was the first Mayor of South Dunedin. John Pugh Jones was the first mayor of

St Kilda. Harry Dench and Thomas Dodson who were mayors of Port Chalmers. Publicans were also on Town Boards and Councils.

If there were any major celebrations, such as royal occasions or visits by "VIPs" the publicans got right behind the festivities and decorated their hotel frontages with greenery, flags and often transparencies.

Some collected money for charity, and we are reminded each year of one James Richmond, who died in 1881 and left money so that what is now called the "Richmond Shilling" is distributed every Christmas Day to patients in our hospital.

**Local Option** The Provincial Council, along with the Central Government, tried hard to get a workable set of rules governing the liquor trade, but never seemed to get it quite right. Publicans felt they were the most regulated of all groups in the country. Liquor laws were tinkered with frequently, as was the size of the areas in which local option votes applied. Local option gave voters the right to say whether in their district the number of hotels should be increased, stay the same or be decreased. Sometimes the districts were large, at other times small. The small size of some of the licensing areas in the 1880s caused some problems. This was exemplified in April 1888 when only one ratepayer bothered to vote in the Maori Hill North licensing district. To quote the Otago Witness, 13 April 1888: "*As he voted against any increase in the licences, this solitary vote decided that for the next three years there shall be no increase in the district of publicans, New Zealand wine, accommodation, or bottle licences.*" So much for democracy.

**Private Hotels** When doing your research into your family, you may come across a reference to a hotel which does not seem to be listed. Temperance hotels often did not make it clear that they did not serve alcohol. An example would be Murray's Hotel, located on the southern corner of Rattray and Princes Streets. This hotel existed under that name at least in the 1870s and early 1880s. Later it was renamed Wood's Private Hotel.



The licensing laws, women licensees, barmaids and sly grogging are other aspects of 19<sup>th</sup> Century hotels and hotel life are due some comment, but at another time.

To conclude, here is a memory from the autobiography of Joynton Smith, who in 1874, at the age of 16, took a job as assistant barman at the Port Chalmers Hotel. "*The first night that I was on duty, a man with a face all bruised and purple-looking reeled into the bar in a bad way. Between groans, he told me, he had been attacked in the street, and that the ruffian had knocked his teeth out. 'For Gawd's sake give me a brandy,' he gasped. I poured one out in double quick time to save him from collapsing. He tossed it down. Then he pulled himself together, took a set of false teeth out of his pocket, adjusted them, and walked out of the bar Wood's Hotel without paying.*"

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## DUNEDIN GENEALOGICAL COMPUTING GROUP ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2009

Due to the effects of the Charitable Societies legislation there was no Annual General Meeting of the DGCG in 2008 so this report covers the eighteen month period from 14 August 2007 to 10 February 2009.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Dunedin Genealogical Computing Group on 14 August 2007, Noel Read was re-elected Convenor, Barry Longstaffe elected Secretary and Shirley Jack, John Mason, Ernie Parker and Myles

Thayer re-elected to the committee. Helen Everitt was welcomed onto the committee as a new member. Ernie Parker resigned on 1 March 2008 and John Mason resigned on 21 June 2008.

The group has continued to operate as an informal sub-group of the NZSG Dunedin Branch. It has no subscription, no meeting charges and no list of members. All members of the NZSG Dunedin Branch are welcome to attend the group's meetings which, (thanks to Myles Thayer) are normally held in Science III Building, University of Otago.

The Dunedin Branch of NZSG has 270 members, of whom 217 (or 80%) are on the email mailing list. This is an increase of 12% on the last period. The average attendance at ordinary Computing Group meetings this period was 15 which is 7% of those on the email mailing list (the same as last year).

Of those people attending meetings during the last period the percentages using the main genealogy programs were:

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| The Master Genealogist  | 25 % |
| Personal Ancestral File | 23 % |
| Brothers' Keeper        | 16 % |
| Family Tree Maker       | 12 % |
| Generations             | 10 % |

This shows that The Master Genealogist has taken over from Personal Ancestral File as the most popular program in this group.

Following the AGM in August 2007, Bob Matthews spoke about the structure of the Otago and Southland Early Settlers (OASES) database that he is compiling using The Master Genealogist. It includes over 85,000 people who have been in Otago or Southland up to 1920. Fifteen people were present at the meeting.

There was a change of venue for the 2007 workshop in October which was held at the Otago Polytechnic rooms at Cargill's Corner. Approximately 30 people had individual computers with Internet access. A handout gave a list of sites of interest to genealogists and group members acted as tutors.

In November 2007 John Mason demonstrated Picasa, scanning photographs and documents and also optical character recognition (OCR) to 18 members.

As the February 2008 meeting was ready to start the Convenor was advised that the invited speaker was unavailable! The Convenor produced slips of paper which were handed out to those present. Each contained the first few words of a three minute talk on some aspect of genealogical computing. All the talks were duly presented and generated plenty of discussion.

In April 2008 Dr Terry Marler, Head of the Educational Development Centre at Otago Polytechnic talked about Blogs and Wikis. He explained how to use these new developments for genealogy to 18 people.

Charts, lists and reports that could be produced by the programs Brothers Keeper (Colin and Irene Patterson), The Master Genealogist (Myles Thayer and Noel Read and Generations (Helen Everitt) were demonstrated 'live' by using three computers and three multimedia projectors.

Brian Treanor from the Otago Polytechnic Information Systems Department showed, in August 2008, how to use Photoshop Elements to repair old photographs. Eighteen were present.

The group's 2008 workshop was held in the Otago Settlers Museum in October and 29 people attended. Fifteen were branch members and fourteen were members of the public. Six genealogical programs were demonstrated.

A group meeting was planned for November 2008 but not advertised enough. Only the Convenor, Secretary and a committee member arrived. The moral of the story is that it pays to advertise. The meeting was cancelled.

After the 2009 Annual General Meeting on 10 February, there will be an on-line display of Internet sites for family history.

During the year the Committee discussed the possibility of amalgamating with the NZSG Dunedin Branch. It was also discussed at a group meeting. The proposal will be considered at the 2009 Annual General Meeting.

I wish to thank the Computing Group committee and other branch members who helped with minutes, correspondence, meetings and the workshop, and especially Myles Thayer who organises the meeting room, computer and projectors.

Noel S L Read  
Convenor

10 February 2009

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**Re: the NZSG CD v5 for sale.**

One of the files on the CD is noted as the '*Otago Daily Times – Headlines Index 1879-1998*' containing 120,000 records.

This is a misnomer and quite incorrect for two reasons, both of which are errors by the CD compilers.

Firstly, the encompassing dates should be 1949-1998.

- the only accessible records of headlines are on cards in the ODT library, dated from 1949-1998 and they are now fully transcribed to computer.

Secondly, and more importantly, I do not have permission from Allied Press to allow the approximately 300,000 headlines as such to be accessible anywhere outside the ODT itself plus the University of Otago's Hocken Library – and they are the only two places where the headlines are held.

- I have permission only for the 120,000 Nominal index extracted from those records - which is what is on the CD.

By Nominal we mean only those headlines that contain a name – that index was separately compiled by myself in 2006 for genealogical purposes.

Shirley Hay [NZSG #2677]  
Ph: 03 455-4169; [smhay@xtra.co.nz](mailto:smhay@xtra.co.nz)

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**From the Library**

**Magazines**

We have been given quite a number of magazines lately  
*Coontin Kin*, the Shetland Family History Society's magazine  
*The Highland Family History Society Journal*  
*Descent- Journal of Society of Australian Genealogists*  
*Ancestor- the Quarterly Journal of the Genealogical Society of Victoria*  
*Austrlaian Family Tree Connections*

And we have also been given some back copies of *Cornish News*  
and *The Greater London Genealogical Newsletter*. These have helped to fill up some holes in our collection.

I have had a browse through some of the magazines and there are some very interesting articles to be found in them. By the way, if you are a Teddy Bear collector you may be interested in the bears advertised in the *Coontin Kins*. "Huggies, the original Shetland Tweed Bears" - look in the magazines for their web site.

All these magazines can be found in their labeled boxes on the shelves.

**More CDs**

Bay of Plenty Times BDM 1872 - 1910  
Waikato BDM 1864 - 1900

Nominal & Descriptive Rolls of Waikato Regiments

Tapanui School Rolls 1880 -1975

"Who Do You Think you Are?" The Complete Third Series (You can spend a pleasant "research" afternoon looking at this CD on the Library Computers!)

### **Books**

**"Over the Mountain to the Sea"** by David Hastings

This book recreates what life was like for ordinary people on a migrant ship. It deals with such things as daily routines and matters of food & water. There are good illustrations, often sketches done by those on board.

The following books have been donated to the Library.

**"Kakanui School Centenary"** with the History of the District 1870 - 1970

"The Church in Southland"- a brief Historical Survey of Catholicism in the Province 1856 - 1956.

**"St Patrick's Basilica Centennial 1894 -1994"**

**Columba College Chronical 1952,1953,1954**

### **Australian Fact Sheets**

On the Australian shelf you will find a folder of Fact Sheets from the National Archives of Australia. These are up to date and provide information of where and how to search for genealogical information in their records, some of which you can do on line.

The article in our last Newsletter on The Statistical Accounts of Scotland encouraged me to read the Account of the Parish of Avondale or Strathaven. It was well worth reading and was written by The Very Rev. William Proudfoot, Minister. With the time I have lately spent on Scottish Monumental Inscriptions I find myself reading what is written on gravestones with greater interest. I wondered whether William Proudfoot had a headstone. Alas, there is yet no booklet on Strathaven but I Googled his name and there was quite a lot written about him **and** a photo of his gravestone. And this is what is written on it.

ERRECTED

BY HENRIETTA PROUDFOOT,  
IN MEMORY OF HER LATE HUSBAND,  
THE REV. WILLAM PROUDFOOT  
OF AVONDALE,  
WHO DIED ON THE 26TH NOVEMBER 1849  
IN THE 65TH YEAR OF HIS AGE,  
AND 36TH OF HIS MINISTRY.

Of a singularly amiable disposition, he was ever distinguished by an un-wearied assiduity in his professional labours, and a rarely equalled warmth in his more private relations as a Husband, a Father, And a Friend .

I thought that was worth sharing!

**Shirley Smillie**

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### **A Quest for Provenance**

Stored in the Presbyterian Archives is a fascinating document originating from Scotland dated 1844. It appeared to have been in the Hewitson Library for many years but the paper work, if there was any, no longer existed. I finally decided to solve this mystery. It took me several weeks to get to the bottom of it with a very satisfactory outcome.

The document is a "Royal Declaration of Appointment" with an attached personal Seal of Queen Victoria that gives approval for the appointment and ordination of William Gilchrist as Minister to Dalmellington Parish, Ayreshire in 1844.

I initially searched some of the Library and Archives Minute Books and Library accession records in an attempt to locate when the document arrived in our hands but to no avail. The assumption was that the document must have been brought to New Zealand by a family member. The marriage index did not help in locating a Gilchrist so maybe the person married in Scotland. Hurrah for the internet!

I had already managed to ascertain some facts about William Gilchrist from the Church of Scotland *Fasti* held in the Hewitson Library and now 'on-line' I discover.

*WILLIAM GILCHRIST, born 1800. eldest son of Alexander G., collector, Glasgow ; educated at University of Glasgow ; M.A. (1821) ; appointed chaplain to Glasgow Prison in 1840, and Governor of House of Refuge in 1841 ; presented by Queen Victoria; ordained 19th September 1844; died 2nd December 1856. He married 6th December 1841, Margaret Peat, who died 21st August 1894.*

The 1851 Census for Scotland informs us that William and his wife Margaret had no issue, but living in his household were two nieces, Bithia Farquhar and Catherine Gilchrist. A search on the internet to see if either of these names can be found in New Zealand and hey presto up comes a headstone entry from the Lawrence Cemetery for Catherine Gilchrist McKinlay of Dalmellington. Once more I searched the marriage indexes and a marriage of William Gilchrist McKinlay took place at Knox Church Dunedin. This had to be a connection; something is said in the practice carrying on the family names when it comes to research. This entry led me to Archibald and Catherine McKinlay of Lawrence.

My Presbyterian background then came into play as I recalled a McKinlay family member telling me that this family settled in Lawrence and there was an extensive family tree completed. The next step was to locate a member who could recall anything about the document which was the main purpose of my research.

In the meantime I continued uncovering information and an internet search informed me that the house, now a guest house, once owned by Archibald and Catherine McKinlay had been left to the Lawrence Presbyterian Church for a Manse. Delving into these parish records highlights the involvement of a committed Presbyterian family who two generations on produced two Presbyterian ministers and other grandchildren deeply involved in Church life.

Eventually, I received a response to confirm that the "Royal Declaration" was donated to the Church by Jim Mckinlay in the mid-1960s.

This valuable document is now in context and tells a further story of the relationship of Church and State in Scotland in 1844. The Presbyterian magazine *Spanz* will be publishing that story in its June 2009 issue. <http://www.presbyterian.org.nz/>



By Yvonne Wilkie  
 Director, Presbyterian Archives Research Centre  
 Knox College, Arden, Street, Dunedin 9010

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 I have a new genealogy CD available for sale as listed below.

## Genealogy CDs for sale

Available from Gencentre, Jeni Palmer, 140 Bethlehem Heights, Tauranga 3110,  
 email [JeniP@gencentre.co.nz](mailto:JeniP@gencentre.co.nz), Ph (07) 579 1321, [www.gencentre.co.nz](http://www.gencentre.co.nz),  
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### **\*\*NEW\*\* Bay of Plenty Times Births, Deaths and Marriages 1872 - 1910**

This CD contains over 3,000 birth, death and marriage records arranged alphabetically in a pdf file. The main source used is the *Bay of Plenty Times* notices and news articles. They mainly relate to families from Tauranga, Te Puke and Katikati but include those from further afield.  
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This CD contains the Nominal and Descriptive Rolls of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Regiments of Waikato Militia. The records are in a pdf file which can be read using Adobe Acrobat. These regiments were enlisted between 1863 and 1867 for the New Zealand land wars. There are nearly 5,500 men named. Most men are listed with their name, number, date and place of enlistment, place of birth, occupation, age, height and ship to New Zealand. Many have further notes regarding their marital status, discharge date and other details.  
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The CD contains nearly 4,000 birth, death and marriage records arranged alphabetically in a pdf file. Sources include notices and reports from the *Waikato Times* 1872-1900, birth, death and marriage registers and other newspapers from the period. All the events relate to the Waikato/Thames area.  
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### ***Epitaths Courtesy of Grave Matters website***

Meek was her temper, pious was/ her life/ a tender mother and a/ virtuous/ wife/ Alas! She's gone, dear object (of)/ my love/ t' increase the number of the/ saints above//

Praises on tombs/ are trifles vainly spent/ a womans good name/ is her monument//

Our pleasures are imperfect here below/ our (br)iefest joys are mixt with bitter woe/ just thirty years was measur'd to our son/ so soon alas the greate blessing gone/ the glowing rose was quick then to fade/ at once his breath and his life decay'd//

I have found the old photos Stenlake publish most helpful in providing context.

SJ Editor



**You can contact directly by email:**

[info@stenlake.co.uk](mailto:info@stenlake.co.uk) - for general enquiries

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An extract from “*My Hand Will Write What My Heart Dictates*” The unsettled lives of women in nineteenth-century New Zealand as revealed to sisters, family and friends. Edited by Frances Porter and Charlotte MacDonald.

1996 Auckland University Press

**Charlotte Bronte to Ellen Nussey**

Haworth, England, 2 April 1841

*Charlotte Bronte and Mary Taylor became friends at Roe head School, 20 miles from Charlotte’s home of Haworth in the North of England. At 24 Mary determines to escape the coils of Victorian domesticity by emigrating, although she does not actually do so until 1845.*



“Matters are progressing very strangely at Gomersal (Mary Taylors West Riding village). Mary Taylor and Waring (brother) have come to a singular determination, but I almost think under the peculiar circumstances, a defensible one, though it sounds outrageously odd at first. They are going to emigrate – to quit the country altogether. Their destination unless they change their minds is Port Nicholson in the northern island of New Zealand!!! Mary has made up her mind she can not and will not be a governess, a teacher, a milliner, a bonnet maker, nor housemaid. She sees no means of obtaining employment she would like in England, so she is leaving it. I counseled her to go to France likewise and stay there a year before she decided on this strange unlikely sounding plan of going to New Zealand, but she is quite resolved. I cannot sufficiently comprehend what her views and those of her brother may be on the subject, or what is the extent of their information regarding Port Nicholson, to say whether this is a rational enterprise or absolute madness.