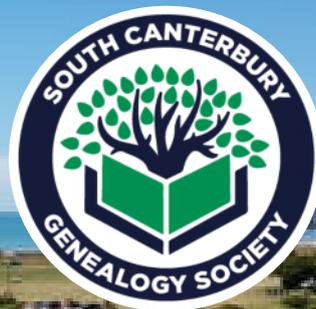


South Canterbury Genealogy

July/August 2024



From the editor

Carol Bell



After 46 years of family history research my database has reached over 20,000 entries. For many years the database was nowhere near that number, but DNA research has encouraged me to take a much closer interest in collateral lines and so I know a lot more about the wider family than I used to. And this has opened up lines of interest too. It's entirely possible, even probable, that my particular branch of the family knew their second or even third cousins had emigrated, or moved to a more lucrative part of the country. It's quite likely that they heard of letters home enthusiastic about new lands and opportunities, and it does explain why some families moved to the areas they did, or at least passed through. If nothing else, this wider research has encouraged me to stop "putting my family in a box". They didn't move independently of the world around them, or of their families. They were part of unit - a larger family, and each unit within that larger family has its story.

So perhaps I should stop being suspicious of those Ancestry trees with 64,000 entries - although how anyone could attain that number without "people harvesting" is beyond me, I must admit.

Chair's report



from Liz Shea



South Canterbury genealogical resources timaru.gen.nz

Hi everyone. I am an avid reader of history, biographies, and family history research stories. I am currently reading "I Seek a Kind Person" by Julian Borger where he relates the story of his father and grandparents' escape from Vienna, Austria in 1938/39. His father rarely spoke about his escape to England and how he coped, but Julian has since done his own research to fill in the gaps.

He found adverts in the Manchester Guardian on 3 August 1938 advertising for "Tuition" and followed up on what happened next. His father was taken in by a couple who lived in Wales and he lived with them from the age of 11 until he went to university. Julian also traced the other advertisers on the same page as his father and has related their stories of escape and survival. He used Ancestry and Findmypast to trace descendants and took the bold move of contacting these people, many of whom were also unaware of the advert and the subsequent stories about their own parents and grandparents. A very well written book and an amazing story of both survival and of subsequent research.

Our society runs help desks at the SC Museum and the Timaru District library to help others do similar research to uncover family history and very often family secrets. It can be quite confronting when you find a will or a Papers Past article that reveals long forgotten stories that many families have chosen to suppress until the next generation comes along wanting to know. We do our best to sort these out but be aware that some news does come as a shock.

The society is busy this month at the Timaru Library for family history month and appreciate the support and enthusiasm of library staff in managing a help desk every Wednesday during August. Happy searching.

Tuition

FERVENT prayer in great distress.—Who would give a Home to a grammar school scholar aged 13: healthy, clever, very musical. F. B. W., 106/29 Wd. Hauptstrasse, Vienna 5.

I Seek a kind person who will educate my intelligent Boy, aged 11, Viennese of good family. Borger, 5/12 Hintzerstrasse, Vienna 3.

I Look for an au pair for my Girl, aged 14, well educated, Jewess: very fond of children: good sewing, household help. Hess, 126 Gudrunstrasse, Vienna 10.

TWO very modest Sisters, aged 14 and 17, Jews, half orphans, well trained, pray to be accepted as foster children in a very good house. Mannheim, 77 Obere Donaustrasse, Vienna 2.

Wanted, immed., Conversation with educated French lady: pay or exchange. P 160. "M/c Guardian."

WILL a Philanthropist take a much-gifted Girl, 14 years old, daughter of an Austrian Jewish lawyer, as foster-child? Kindly write to Dr. Karl Langer, 14 Praterstrasse, Vienna 2.

The original adverts listed in the *Manchester Guardian* seeking 'tuition' for my father and other Viennese children, 3 August 1938.



News



There will be no formal meeting at the museum in August. Instead we encourage you to attend some of the family history presentations at the library

TIMARU DISTRICT LIBRARY

AUGUST IS FAMILY HISTORY MONTH

HERITAGE DROP-IN SESSIONS EXTENDED HOURS

9AM-3PM EVERY WEDNESDAY

Heritage staff and genealogy society members answer your questions about family research and online resources

PLUS SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS:

-Wednesday 14th August 11am Genealogist Dave Jack

DNA and Family History: What's it All About?

-Wednesday 21st August 11am Ting Sun from The National Library

DigitalNZ: a Family History Resource

The WW2 project is progressing well and should soon be appearing on our website. Remember to dig out your WW2 photos and share them with Lois White at darcycat26@gmail.com

Plans for the year

August: Family History month - Heritage drop-in sessions at the library

September: Visiting family history sites - Carol Bell

October: Jill Welford

November: Gordon Handy machinery museum

December: Christmas



FamilyTree DNA and MyHeritage join forces

FamilyTreeDNA's recent announcement to retire its family tree builder and partner with MyHeritage represents a strategic shift aimed at enhancing its services and expanding its user base. Here's a breakdown of what this means:

Retirement of the Family Tree Builder:

FamilyTreeDNA has decided to discontinue its own family tree building tool. This tool allowed

users to create and manage their family trees directly on the FamilyTreeDNA platform. The retirement likely means that users will need to find alternative ways to manage their family trees.

Partnership with MyHeritage: To address this gap, FamilyTreeDNA is partnering with MyHeritage, a well-established genealogy and DNA testing company known for its comprehensive family tree building tools and historical records. By collaborating with MyHeritage, FamilyTreeDNA aims to provide its users with access to MyHeritage's robust family tree features and extensive historical record database.

Benefits for Users:

Enhanced Features: Users will have access to MyHeritage's advanced family tree building features, which include user-friendly interfaces, extensive record databases, and additional genealogical resources.

Integration: This partnership may offer a more seamless integration between DNA test results and family tree building, allowing users to more easily connect their genetic data with their family history.

Expanded Resources: MyHeritage has a vast collection of historical records, which can enrich users' research and help in building more detailed family trees.

Transition Process: FamilyTreeDNA users who have been using its family tree tool will likely need to transfer their data to MyHeritage. The specifics of how this transition will be managed, including any data migration or user support, will be important for users to understand.

Overall, this move is designed to leverage MyHeritage's strengths in family tree management while allowing FamilyTreeDNA to focus on its core DNA testing services. It represents a strategic collaboration to enhance user experience and offer more comprehensive genealogical resources.

Background on FamilyTreeDNA and MyHeritage

FamilyTreeDNA:

Specialization: Primarily known for its DNA testing services, FamilyTreeDNA offers a range of genetic tests for ancestry and genealogical research. It is renowned for its extensive DNA databases and tools like matching services, which help users find genetic relatives. Its specialties are Y-DNA to trace the specific male line and Mitochondrial for the female. This is the only company offering these tests.

Family Tree Builder: In addition to DNA testing, FamilyTreeDNA provided a family tree building tool to help users integrate their genetic results with their family history.

MyHeritage:

Specialization: MyHeritage is a prominent genealogy company with a strong focus on family tree creation, historical records, and DNA testing. It is known for its user-friendly family tree software and a comprehensive collection of historical documents, including census records, birth and death certificates, and more.

Family Tree Builder: MyHeritage offers advanced features for creating and managing family trees, such as smart matching, record discoveries, and integrations with DNA results.



Reasons Behind the Partnership

1. Enhanced User Experience:

Feature-Rich Environment: MyHeritage's family tree builder is recognized for its advanced features, such as automatic hints for potential relatives and historical records. By partnering with MyHeritage, FamilyTreeDNA users can benefit from these sophisticated tools that may not be present in FamilyTreeDNA's existing system.

User Interface and Usability: MyHeritage is praised for its intuitive and user-friendly interface, which can enhance the overall experience for users managing complex family trees.

2. Access to Expanded Resources:

Historical Records: MyHeritage's extensive database of historical records can provide FamilyTreeDNA users with valuable information to enrich their family trees. This includes access to millions of records from various countries, which can help users trace their lineage further back and confirm their genealogical data.

Global Reach: MyHeritage has a global presence, which may benefit users with international ancestry or those seeking to connect with distant relatives around the world.

3. Streamlined Integration:

DNA and Genealogy Integration: The partnership allows for a more seamless integration of DNA test results with family tree research. Users can easily incorporate their genetic matches and findings into their family trees, enhancing their genealogical research.

Unified Platform: By consolidating family tree management and DNA testing with a single partner, users may find it easier to manage their genealogical data in one place.

Implications for Users

1. Transition Process:

Data Migration: FamilyTreeDNA users who have built family trees on their platform will need to transfer their data to MyHeritage. This process may involve exporting and importing data, and FamilyTreeDNA and MyHeritage will likely provide tools and guidance to facilitate this transition.

User Support: Both companies will need to ensure that users receive adequate support during the transition. This might include help with data transfer, setting up accounts on MyHeritage, and learning how to use the new tools.

2. Potential Costs:

Subscription and Service Fees: MyHeritage offers various subscription plans and additional services that might come with costs. Users transitioning to MyHeritage should be aware of any associated fees and consider whether they need to subscribe to certain plans to access specific features or records.

3. Continued Service Focus:

FamilyTreeDNA's Core Offerings: With the family tree builder being retired, FamilyTreeDNA will likely concentrate more on its core DNA testing services, such as genetic matching, ancestry composition, and advanced DNA tools. This strategic focus could lead to further innovations in its primary area of expertise.

Long-Term Implications

1. Strategic Advantages: Growth and Collaboration: For FamilyTreeDNA, partnering with MyHeritage represents a strategic move to enhance its service offerings and reach a broader audience. For MyHeritage, this partnership strengthens its position in the DNA testing market and potentially attracts FamilyTreeDNA's user base.

2. Industry Impact: Market Trends: This partnership may influence other genealogy and DNA testing companies to consider similar collaborations or innovations in their service offerings. It reflects a growing trend in the industry towards combining different aspects of genealogy and genetic research for a more comprehensive user experience.

In summary, the retirement of FamilyTreeDNA's family tree builder and its partnership with MyHeritage is a significant shift aimed at providing users with a more robust set of tools and resources for their genealogical research. It highlights a broader trend towards integration and specialization within the genealogy and DNA testing industries.

WW2 project

Norman Harold King

Harold King, born 1920 at Roswill, Timaru, embarked for the Second World War in 1942. He went first to Egypt and was later in Italy as a driver for the PRS (Photo Reconnaissance Squadron). During this time he amassed a significant collection of photos which his daughters have now shared with our WW2 project.



Harold's photo album says "With my truck in Metalica". It appears to be Italy but can't be found on a map. Does anyone know where Metalica is?



Harold King and Cliff O'Hara, also of Timaru, and the breakdown wagon, Cassino, Italy



Harold King (left) at the cook shop, Cassino, Italy



NZ soldiers with a captured enemy barge



Harold King, Doug Fitness, Charlie Douglas, Norm Greenaway outside their tent at Maadi, Egypt



On the boat deck of the Mooltan

Meeting reports



with Lesley Tennent



April

The April meeting was held on 9 April and consisted of members' input regarding military matters. Liz displayed her grandfather's war medals – First World War in Royal Artillery; he was also in the Home Guard in the Second World War. Liz shared the book "New Zealand and the First World War 1914-1919" by Damien Fenton. Annette Batchelor – project prompted by research on her uncle, Dave Dewar, WWI, whose letters have survived. He was killed in action on 1 October 1918. Lois Shears and Lois White showed WW2 photos given by some members for the WW2 project. Christine Stewart read the poem "The Rose of No Man's Land" from the Anzac Sisters book (Queen Alexandra's Service), which had affected her. Teresa Scott spoke about the WW2 experiences of her father Terence Elliot Scott (Terry, 1921-2009).

May

The May meeting was held following the AGM on 14 May. Tania Stoddart, was the speaker. She is in charge of The Homestead Heritage Project at the Croft, involving the Grant Family. The Homestead represents the family. Presbyterian Support Services have committed funds to conserve the original features of the building, a legacy left by Hamish and Lorna Grant. Gifted to PSSA in 1968. Their wish was to live out their lives in the house, and then the house be used for older people. The Grant family also built Aigantighe. In 1956 it was gifted to South Canterbury to be used as an art gallery along with art collections.

June

The June meeting was held 11 June. Speakers were Marie Rapley and Julie James from the library, talking about the Aoraki Collection, including books. They are working on digitisation.

Many of the items are from the Timaru Herald, from 1950 onwards that were saved by previous librarians. It was noted that PapersPast digitisation of The Timaru Herald is now up to 1945.

They showed examples of what has been collected. This included plaques around Timaru.

There was discussion on the Women's Community Centre where a plaque had been, that has recently come to light.

July

The July meeting was held 9 July 2024. Present: 13 members.

Apologies: Mike & Diane Carroll, Clare Palliser, Adrienne Bruce, Jill Welford, Maureen Vuletta, Pat Smolenski. Members present spoke about a gravestone of interest to them. Many members had gone to a lot of trouble over the presentations. An interesting and information evening. Pictured at right is an Elliot headstone, part of Theresa's presentation.





Olwyn's South Canterbury website

The website is temporarily offline, seeking a new home

PEERESS TOWN AND PATITI POINT

In July 2024 a history board was unveiled on South St, Timaru to mark the 150th anniversary arrival of migrants who settled in Timaru from the sailing ship Peeress. The passage from Gravesend was anything but a comfortable one. The ship left England on 26 March 1874 planning to drop passengers at Timaru, but the sea was rough so the migrants disembarked at Lyttelton, having spent 118 days at sea. 291 immigrants were trans-shipped to Timaru on the PS Coomerang and SS Wellington. Shortly after their arrival at Timaru 24 families were given grants to build sod cottages in the Patiti Point area which became known as Peeress Town. After nine years the community had to be destroyed because of a typhoid outbreak. The site became a council reserve. On arrival at Timaru, 53 of the Peeress immigrants were coached to Temuka where they were placed in temporary barracks until the men obtained work and a home to live in. A report from a resident at Arowhenua indicates that the families at Arowhenua fared a lot better.

Timaru Herald Monday 27 July 1874 page 2 & 3

The Peeress' immigrants were trans-shipped to the SS Wellington and PS Comerang at Lyttelton on Friday, and both steamers started for Timaru shortly afterwards. Early yesterday morning, the sea being pretty favourable for landing, the Comerang and Wellington came to an inner anchorage, and the steam having been got up at the Landing Services, a cargo boat was dispatched for each service at about half-past seven, to take the immigrants and their luggage, the debarkation being concluded at about 11 o'clock. A large number of persons assembled on the beach to witness the landing, some being friends or relatives of the immigrants. The immigrants, upon landing, were conveyed to the quarters provided for them, the families to the drill-shed on LeCren's Terrace, the single women to the barracks in North-street, and the single men to the old barracks on the main-road. The Wellington, after parting her passengers, steamed away for Dunedin.

Timaru Herald Friday 19th June 1874 page 2 July 25 1874 - Comerang, PS 154 tons, Hughes, from Lyttelton. Passengers - 90 immigrants. Imports. 105 iron rails, 62 bags potatoes, 1 case. F. LeCren, agent.

We notice among these immigrants several instances of young married couples, neither of whom is yet 30, with seven or eight arrows in their quiver. Objections have been raised from time to time against the introduction of such troops of youngsters, but in reality, there seems to be no valid ground for them. The very fact of having a large family of small children dependent on them will make the parents industrious and thrifty, while a very few years will make most useful settlers of what now are mere brats of seven or eight. Obtaining large numbers of children from England and bringing them up in New Zealand, is like importing raw material for colonial manufacture instead of using home-made slops - what Superintendent Macandrew calls "devil's-dust and shoddy". The child is father to the man, and the effects of good living in their early years will not be lost in the physique of the men and women whom these children will develop into. The extra intelligence and adaptability to circumstances also, which result from an early colonial training, are particularly valuable.

Timaru Herald Wednesday 29th July 1874

Out of the Peeress' shipment, there have been forwarded to Waimate 10 families (43 adults), comprising 65 souls, and to Temuka seven families. These families comprise amongst their members several girls and boys fit for light work. The immigrants now remaining in Timaru of the Peeress; shipment are 16 families and 20 single men.

Henry ROBINSON married in 1862 in Ridgemont, Bedfordshire to Mary Ann Green. The family emigrated to New Zealand from Woburn with five children on an assisted passage. Herbert and Mabel were born after they arrived in Temuka. The family settled in the Temuka area where two more children were born. Henry was a carpenter and lived in Arowhenua when he died in 1901. Buried in the Temuka Cemetery. One of Mary Ann's letters, which she wrote from the ship Peeress to her parents back in the UK, is quoted in the book *The Farthest Promised Land* by Professor Rollo Arnold. The letter was written to her parents after a month in the colony. Mary first described the voyage and then wrote of their landing at Timaru:

You should have seen the people on the beach when we landed, there were hundreds to receive us. We were taken to a large building and provided with plenty to eat and tea to drink. This is the place for drinking tea. We stayed there till Monday morning, when eight families were taken about 12 miles farther to a place called Temuka, and put in the barracks until the men got into work, and a home to live in. Harry got work the same day; he has got a good master and he gets 11s a day for eight hours work.... We have got a nice little home to live in, it is a new house, belonging to the government, with a quarter of an acre of ground belonging to it; there are only two places - one to live in and the other to sleep in, and the rent is six shillings a week. When we have paid enough rent to pay for the house it will be our own, if we stop long enough. Carpentering seems the chief trade about here, for the houses are all made of wood, except the chimneys; our house is all on the ground-floor, and it is stained and varnished inside; we are obliged to make Harry's chest do for a table, until he can make us one, for furniture is very dear; he has made us a beadstead (sic), which, if we had bought an iron one, we should have had to have given 3 pounds 10s for. It cost him only 3s for wood, besides his time for making; his next job will be a table; we have bought two chairs, six shillings each, but people about here don't look for a fine house and a lot of furniture; it is all pushing ahead; it is a very pleasant country, and I think I shall like it very much. There is a good school, two churches and a chapel. We can sit in our house and see the mountains with the tops all covered with snow, although they are about 60 miles off."

The original passenger list is available online at Family search, including an index.

Washington, Geo., Rebecca, Mary...
W. Woodford, Joseph
Willcox, George
Wood, Annie

George WASHINGTON was born in Wotton Underwood, Buckinghamshire in 1836, he came from a working class family mainly agricultural labourers. He and Jane Brockless were married on 27 Oct 1856 in Wotton Underwood and over the next 16 years they had eight children. One of these children, Charles, died in 1864 at age 3. George and Jane and their seven children Rebecca 17, Mary Jane 15, Thomas 11, John 9, Robert 7, James 4 and Anthony 2 immigrated to Timaru on the Peeress to Lyttelton where the vessel berthed 23 July 1874.



*Photo back row (left-right) Anthony. Robert. Mary. James. John.
Front row (left-right) Rebecca. George & Jane (parents) Thomas.
Date of photograph 7th March 1904.*



Members' Interests



from John Sutherland

john-m-s@xtra.co.nz

KEARNS	NEW ZEALAND	Hokitika, Christchurch, Dunedin	1856+
KEEFE	IRELAND	Cork	pre1870
KREFT	POLAND	Danzig	1875
KREFT	NEW ZEALAND	Otago Akatore, Milton	1875+
KENNEDY	IRELAND	Kerry Ballymacelligott	1874+
KERRISON	ENGLAND	Norfolk	All
KESTEVEN	ENGLAND	Middlesex	All
KIRKLAND	SCOTLAND	Glasgow	1800s
KOHN	NEW ZEALAND	Canterbury Christchurch	1910+
KOHN	NEW ZEALAND	Sth Canterbury Timaru	1910+
KOHN	NEW ZEALAND	Wellington	1902+
LADBROOK	ENGLAND	Norfolk	1800+
LADBROOK	NEW ZEALAND	Canterbury	1858+
LADBROOKE	ENGLAND	Norfolk	1800+
LADBROOKE	NEW ZEALAND	Canterbury	1858+
LAIDLAW	SCOTLAND	Dumfriesshire Eskdalemuir	All
LAIDLAW	SCOTLAND	Roxburghshire Hawick area	All
LANGTON	ENGLAND	London	1800s
LAUDER	SCOTLAND	Moray Dyke	abt 1700
LAWES	ENGLAND	Wiltshire Overton	pre1878
LAWRIE	SCOTLAND	Perth	abt 1838
LEARY	IRELAND	Tipperary	1861+
LEARY/O'LEARY	IRELAND	Co Kerry Tralee	1800+
LEARY/O'LEARY	NEW ZEALAND	Sth Canterbury	1866+
LEVIEN	ENGLAND	London	pre1861
LEVIEN	NEW ZEALAND	Sth Canterbury Timaru	1863-1900
LEVY (Dr)	FRANCE		pre1862
LEVY	NEW ZEALAND	Sth Canterbury Timaru	1862-1865
LINDSAY	SCOTLAND	Lanarkshire Barony	pre1844
LOCKHART	ENGLAND	Wirral/Chester	1825-1870
LONG	IRELAND	Offaly Finnoe, Roscrea	abt 1818
LONGUET	NEW ZEALAND	Otago/Southland	
LOUDEN	IRELAND	Derry	1800s
LOWE	AUSTRALIA	Tasmania	1855+
LOWE	ENGLAND	Lincolnshire Redbourne	1800+
LOWE	NEW ZEALAND	Canterbury	1864+
LYONS	AUSTRALIA	Victoria Melbourne	1800s
MACDONALD	SCOTLAND	Angus Dundee	1860-1900

Are your genealogical interests reflected in this list? If not, contact John Sutherland to be included. Take the opportunity to make contact with family members.



Library report

from Teresa Scott

South Canterbury Genealogy Society Inc - recent accessions include:

Newsletters 2024:

Ashburton District Family History Group – April; June
Balclutha – August
Cambridge – May; June; July
Canterbury Genealogy Society – April; May; June; July; August
Dunedin – May-June; July-August
Feilding – April; May; June; July
Hawke's Bay – April; June
Hibiscus Coast – April; May; June; July; August
Hutt Valley – May; June; July; August
Kapiti – May; July
Kilbirnie – May; June; July; August
Matamata – April; May; June; July; August
Mosgiel – April; May; June; July
Nelson – April; May; June; July
New Plymouth Genealogy – May; June; July;
August
Oamaru – April; May; June (Waitaki); July
Otaki Family History Society – May; June;
July
Palmerston North – April; May; June; July
Papakura – May; June; July; August
Porirua – May; June; July; August
Riccarton – May; June; July
Rotorua – May
South Canterbury Genealogy Society – March-April
South Waikato – May; June; July; August
Southland – April-May; June-July; August-September
Wellington – April; May; June; July
Whanganui – May; June; July; August



Please send request for forwarding to Teresa.

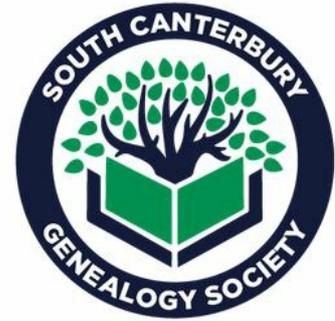
PENINSULA & PLAIN A History and Geography of Banks Peninsula and the Canterbury Plains [CANT87] [on loan]

The Gazette: Journal of the Toowoomba and Darling Downs Family History Society Inc –
July 2024

Local contacts

SC Genealogy - Office bearers

Convener:	Liz Shea	03 684 7790	Branch Contact	sheafamily@farmside.co.nz
Minute secretary:	Lesley Tennent	03 612 6759		
Treasurer:	Carolyn Johnston	03 684 5709		
Committee:	Teresa Scott	03 688 9034	Library	
	Lois Shears	03 688 1655	School Rolls	
	Clare Palliser	03 688 0896		
	Hilary Coles	03 615 7195		
	Carol Bell	03 684 7733	Newsletter	carolbel49@gmail.com
Off committee:	John Sutherland		Members Interests	john-m-s@xtra.co.nz



Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at SC Museum.

Research help is also available at the Library on Wednesdays 9am - 12pm and at the museum every Sunday 1.30pm - 4pm. The group library is available at the museum whenever the research room is open - Tuesday to Friday and Sunday 1.30pm to 4pm. Books can be borrowed on Sundays but must be signed out by the librarian or a Sunday volunteer.

A working group meets on Wednesday mornings at the Library and Friday mornings at the museum to transcribe various historical documents. Can you help? Contact Lois on 688-1655

The "Writing up your Family History" group meets Wednesday 1-3pm. If you would like help getting your research to the final stage contact Carol at carolbel49@gmail.com or 027 3399447.

