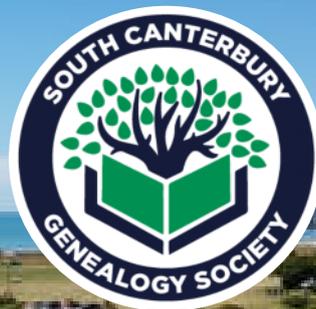


# South Canterbury Genealogy

November/December 2022



## From the editor

*Carol Bell*



The next instalment of my DNA puzzle of October - the target family has been contacted and are receptive to the possibilities outlined, so two of them are in the process of getting their own DNA tested. Watch this space! By coincidence I was also asked to help another friend who is the descendant of several generations of adoptions and fosterings but his puzzle was easier to solve. He had a 1800cM match to a woman he wasn't able to identify who (of course) didn't answer emails. I was able to establish that she was the sister of one of the men named as my friend's father. Problem solved! Or at least, father identified. There's another story along these lines on P4, although in that case the participants are long since gone.



So here we are at Christmas again. Like most of you I've given up on Christmas cards, given the horrendous cost of sending them. I won't miss the task of writing them out either. So that's one job out of the way. I have several family events scheduled over several weeks so will have to put my DNA toys away and replace them with little boys' toys - and the little boys themselves, along with more adult sections of the family. Can't wait! Season's greetings to you all. May your festive season be full of love and laughter.

# Chair's report



*from Liz Shea*



South Canterbury genealogical resources [timaru.gen.nz](http://timaru.gen.nz)

With Christmas only a few weeks away followed by a new year going into 2023, it is good to reflect on the past year. This group underwent a radical change in breaking away from NZSG and setting up our own genealogy society. After all the meetings and paperwork, we were finally approved as an incorporated society in June and have just been approved charitable status. In that time we have received grants to manage our transcribing premises and buy new laptops to assist with this project.

The transcribing group is growing and we have a great group of people who volunteer their time each week to transcribe. They also have the benefit of meeting like-minded people along with learning new computing skills.

Our meetings have been well attended since Covid restrictions were eased with visits to St Mary's Anglican church and the newly renovated Coptic church. With fine weather hopefully on the way, we are resuming our cemetery visits.

We have also been able to resume our Sunday help desk at the South Canterbury Museum which offers an excellent research service to the public. While there is lots of information online, people still appreciate the personal assistance we can give them to reassure them they are on the right track and using all the websites available.

We now have our own website and this is building over time with more information on the South Canterbury area resources.

Thank you again to the committee who have worked hard to ensure the new group was a goer and thanks to all our loyal members who stuck with us and helped us grow stronger.

Wishing everyone a merry Christmas and a great new year.





# News



Now here's an interesting website - The History of British Winters. In 1620-21 there was a Frost Fair held on the Thames. In 1658, on the night Oliver Cromwell died, there was a wild, stormy night when roofs and chimneys were blown down. 1739-40 saw a severe winter. Ice formed on the Thames, once again. Streets were blocked up with ice and snow, which made travelling hazardous. The Thames remained frozen over for about eight weeks. Some reports said this winter was the most severe on record, with temperatures falling to -24c in early January. This winter was noted as one of the most severe of all time since records began. In 1836 roads were impassable, snow depths reached a staggering 5-15 feet in many places, drifting to 20-50 feet. How did these conditions affect our ancestors? Worth a thought.

[https://lensweb.files.wordpress.com/2015/07/history\\_of\\_british\\_winters.pdf](https://lensweb.files.wordpress.com/2015/07/history_of_british_winters.pdf)

Churchwardens in England and Wales were historically involved in the administration of the parish, alongside overseers and the vestry. They would have been familiar faces in parish life and appear regularly within historical records. Churchwardens were representatives of the parish laity, expected to lead parishioners through good example and to maintain peace in the church and churchyard. They were also responsible for church goods and property, including the nave and churchyard. The University of Warwick is creating a database of remaining accounts which could broaden your knowledge of your parishes and possibly even provide a few hints. [https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross\\_fac/myparish/projects/cwa](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/myparish/projects/cwa)

Ancestry has announced plans to offer Ancestry DNA tests in 54 new markets across five continents, including Italy, Portugal, Spain, Belgium, Argentina, South Africa, and Japan. It was also revealed that Ancestry currently has 3.8 million subscribers globally.

Clipped from the Famnet newsletter: The Wilson collection is progressing steadily, and I am so grateful to all those who have been generous and shared their New Zealand marriage certificates. Folk now, and in the future, will be grateful. My plea is to you all to add to the collection by scanning or photographing any marriage certificates and if possibly encourage any of your genealogy friends to do the same. I will not use the full transcription only the place of marriage.

Diane Wilson

[www.wilsoncollection.co.nz](http://www.wilsoncollection.co.nz)

Send to [info@wilsoncollection.co.nz](mailto:info@wilsoncollection.co.nz)



## Plans for the year

**13 December: Arowhenua Cemetery with Tim Brosnahan. Turn off the main road at the church into Huirapa Street and park alongside the cemetery boundary. Please don't take any food or drink into the cemetery itself. We'll move into the cemetery as a group and Tim will give a quick talk about Arowhenua before we look around the cemetery.**





# IDENTIFYING WINIFRED HASKELL



(or be sure your sins will find you out)

We have a DNA match, and our shared match lead me to wonder if it could be through the Thornton family, which I see is marked as unknown on your online family tree. Are you able to tell me anything more about this line? I have a John Thornton who married my g-g-g-aunt Harriet Williams in Kemsing, Kent in 1860, and the match is on that line.

Regards, XXXX

*Thanks for getting in touch. The Thornton in my family is not good really. My father's mother was the child of an unknown Thornton and Winifred Haskell. On my grandmother's birth certificate it states her name as Gertrude Flora Thornton Haskell. And there is no father's name. Winifred had been a domestic for the Thornton family in London and there are 3 likely candidates, the father or the two sons. I think they ran a boarding house. My grandmother was brought up by her grandmother in Salisbury, and Winifred married a John Waterman. He probably knew nothing of my grandmother. And in 1911 Winifred had 2 further children and she emigrated to South Africa. My grandmother never saw her mother after she was about 4 in 1905. Winifred died in the early 1950s and of her other 2 children Kathrine and John (I think) there was only 1 child, who had 2 daughters, one of which has been in touch. Hope this helps, but as we don't know who Gertie's father was it's not going to be easy. Lovely to hear from another rellie as we are a pretty small family.*

Kind regards, QQQQ

Wow! How interesting! I've had a look at the 1901 census and I see that your Winifred Haskell was an 18-year-old housemaid domestic in the St Marylebone home of John & Harriet Thornton. Harriet was my g-g-grandfather's sister. John, aged 71, gives his occupation as boarding house keeper, so it seems you are right - it was a lodging house. Living in the house are two Thornton sons, Frederick (26) and Stanley (24). Because you and I have a DNA match we can rule out John as the father of Winifred's baby - John is not part of my blood line. But Frederick and Stanley are. It's one of them. But whichever one it is, and we may never know, Harriet and John and their ancestors are part of your family. So now you are part of my Williams family! Welcome!!



**Winifred Waterman (Haskell)  
with her second family 1911-14**



**James Haskell and his wife  
about 1947**



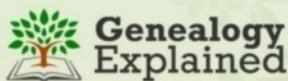
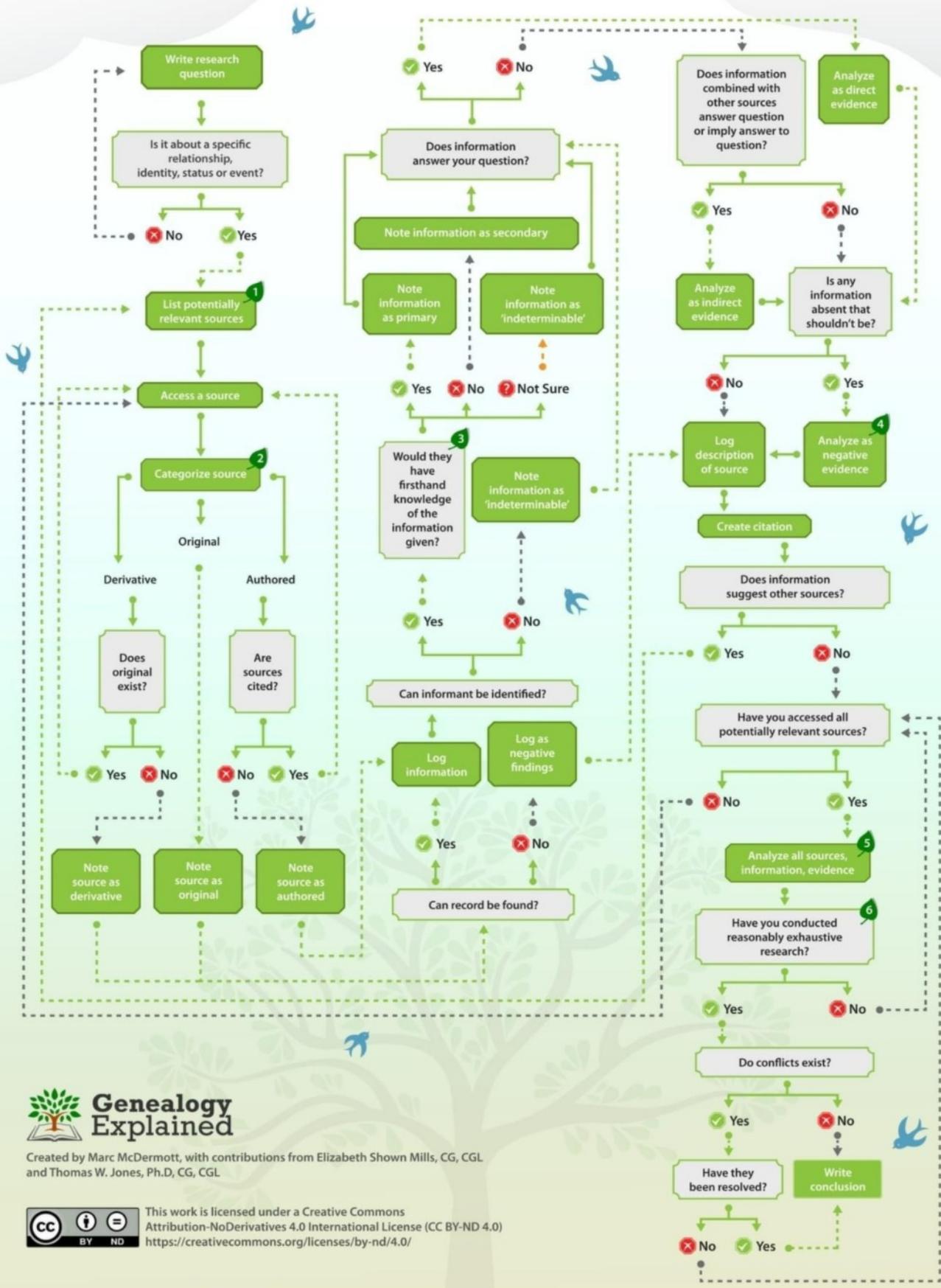
**Gertrude and Ada Haskell  
about 1973**



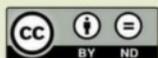
**Wendy and Lesley Haskell  
about 1967**

# GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH PROCESS

## How to Conduct Research using the GPS



Created by Marc McDermott, with contributions from Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL and Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D, CG, CGL



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Clare Palliser has shared this history of her family with permission from the author. It is reproduced here as a piece of local interest and also to show what can be achieved in our own family history when we put pen to paper. It will be serialised for this format and printed over the next few months.

# CISSY

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1888-1967

by Libby Clark

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## *The continued story of Siceley Clark and the Palliser family: From Yorkshire to Timaru to Napier*

By the late 1800s emigration was an attractive proposition. While we do not know precisely what factors prompted Charles Palliser to leave his Yorkshire home as a young man, and his father and brother to follow him to New Zealand in 1880, we can draw some conclusions from historical research on the subject.

According to Te Ara Encyclopedia of New Zealand, in 1874 there was a net addition of over 38,000 immigrants, the largest annual increase until 2002. The main reason for this “flood” was the free and assisted passages offered by the New Zealand government. Almost half of the new immigrants came with government assistance, and three-quarters of them came from the UK.

James Belich’s discussion of migrants’ motives is relevant here. He believes that there was one almost universal motive: the desire to “better oneself”. There were several variants of this: enhancement (improvement of lifestyle); promotion or avoidance of demotion (social mobility); adoption (opportunity to adopt aspects of the lifeways of genteel social classes); custom shedding (an opportunity to select and discard unwanted cultural baggage); and restoration (implementing a populist paradise or Utopia).

The same motives would have applied to migrants who chose other destinations such as Canada, where members of another branch of the Palliser migrated to. Before we move on to the Palliser family that joined this great wave of migration, let us focus on the name and its origins.

There is little doubt that it’s a Yorkshire surname dating back to the early 14th century, particularly in the area between Ripon and Durham. The meaning of the name is said to be maker of palings and fences, derived from an old French word palis which was a palisade. There are many variations on the spelling of the name, but they all have the same origin. They include Pallyser, Palleysher, Palicer, Paleser, Pallister, Palycer, Pallacer, Pallisser, Pallisor, Palester, Pellicer, and even Talliser.

So now, we turn the spotlight onto our migrant ancestors: Charles and Frank, and their parents, Charles and Elizabeth.

## *The Migrants*

Charles and Elizabeth Palliser married in 1844, in Northallerton, Yorkshire. They had six children, including Charles, born in 1846, and Francis (known as Frank), born in 1853.

## The trail blazer

Charles (the son) was the first in the family to come to New Zealand, possibly as an assisted migrant with bricklaying and plastering skills. He had shown an adventurous streak early on, leaving Northallerton for London, where he lived for some years, “to gain wider experiences”. He left London for New Zealand in September 1870, sailing on the *City of Auckland*, which arrived in Auckland in December. From there, he “bore the hardships of those unsettled times” and spent some time on the Coromandel goldfields.

The next we know of Charles is his being initiated into the Lodge of St John in Timaru in 1875. He was then aged 29, described in the Lodge record book as a plasterer. By this time, then, he was recognised in the community and had gained a profile for himself there. In 1879 he married Fanny Kelland, whose family had come from Devon before Charles’s arrival. When they married, Charles was 33 and Fanny was 22. By 1880, Charles was a substantial property owner, with eight sections listed in the electoral roll of that year. The following year, a New Zealand Gazette notice identifies Charles Palliser as occupant of “1 rood 3 perches” (just over ¼ acre) in a rural section. Among the monuments to his skill as a tradesman, in the words of his obituary, “are big wool and grain stores, the wharf, breakwater and moles. Charles succeeded in building a prosperous life for himself, and no doubt he was instrumental in encouraging his brother and parents to follow – which they did, in 1880.

Before moving on to Frank and Margaret’s story, it is pertinent to follow Charles’s pathway a little further. In the late 1880s, he entered a business partnership (and close friendship) with Thomas Jones, their first contract as a team being to finish building Timaru’s north breakwater, a job that was completed in 1887. Jones’s obituary refers to them building the breakwater at Oamaru as well. Another of their important projects was construction of the Timaru Herald Building, which was occupied by the newspaper from 1886 to 1984.

Charles Palliser and Thomas Jones were close friends. Their next step was to take their families to Napier, where they used their expertise to build another much-needed breakwater and worked on forming Marine Parade. There were several major setbacks to this project, with storms destroying equipment and delaying progress, but the contract was completed in 1894, after five years. After this, the business partners moved with their families to Wellington. By then, Charles and Fanny had seven children, an eighth being born in Wellington. According to Jones family records, Palliser and Jones constructed roads (Palliser Rd, Oriental Crescent, Victoria St, Thane Rd, Kilbirnie Rd), and many other structures in Wellington, including the Wellington Meat Export Co freezing works. Jones’s obituary states that in Wellington they “went in for residential building in a big way”.

They evidently had a good reputation, the *Evening Post* alluding to “the well-known firm of Palliser and Jones”. Charles was also involved in the Yorkshire Society, the Industrial Association, the Wellington Bowling Club and the Commercial Travellers’ Club. *The Dominion* obituary describes him as having acquired “a handsome competence”.

On one of his trips to Europe he contracted a serious illness from which he never fully recovered, and he died in his home at 38 Ellice St in 1916.

Charles had blazed a trail that his brother would have aspired to follow.

**MORE TO COME NEXT TIME . . .**

# Meeting reports



*with Lesley Tennent*



## October 2022

Liz Shea welcomed members to St George's Coptic Church, Timaru on Tuesday 11 October. There was a good attendance.

**Present:** 23 members.

**Apologies:** Jenny Dewar, Bev Peebles, Alison Connelly.

St George's has earthquake proofing under way. Funding is an issue. They have received some help from the historical society.

The wooden carving at the altar area has come from Egypt, all in pieces. It was made up on arrival in Timaru. There is a marble altar – also imported from Egypt. Heavy and came in pieces. On the ceiling there is wood lookalike that has been made to look like panels. All plastic. Looks great. New chandeliers. The stained glass windows are original.

Everything must be retained due to the classification of the church, but there is the ability to add features. The structure must remain the same. A big expense that is upcoming is the replacement of the roof tiles. The organ is not used now, although it is still operational. They have traditional tunes in English, Arabic and Coptic. Use discs and triangles. The small congregation has a permanent priest – he comes from Christchurch every Sunday. Coptic Orthodox is like Catholic Mass. Asked about their birth, death & marriage records – they keep their own.

Liz Shea thanked the speaker and presented him with a small donation. Supper at Coffee Culture concluded the evening.

## November 2022

Carol Bell stood in for Liz Shea who was away on holiday on Tuesday 8 November.

**Present:** 23 members.

**Apologies:** Heather Fifield, Carol Boulton, Liz Shea, Margaret Cosgrove.

Tim Brosnahan talked about his amalgamated index. He noted that within our library, there are numerous folders. He is trying to put the indexes together and Tim asked for guidance from members as to what form they would like the index to take. Any suggestions can be forwarded to committee members. The amalgamated index will go into our website in the next month or so.

Members were encouraged to update the card index held at the museum

Lois Shears talked about funeral directors' records. There is lots of additional info in the older records. Hall & Moore records begin from 1938. It is worth going back to the funeral director.

Snipping tool was demonstrated. Some members use it but there were many who have not as yet.

Carol Bell covered Papers Past. Suggested use exact phrase, which will limit the number of hits.

Newspapers are the main source but also try magazines and journals as these include police records. then search by dates. Filter and snip and drag to desktop. Timaru Herald is now up to 1949. Press to 1979.

In older newspapers the print is often defective. Can look outside the square and filter down with dates.

Formation of family groups on the big sites was demonstrated - Family Search, Ancestry, Find My Past. - finding a person, then getting fathers and mothers name, using a date range of 20 years either side of known sibling. FreeBMD is a valuable resource. Demonstrated use of same, and fact that can order at GRO.

**Raffle:** Jill Welford.



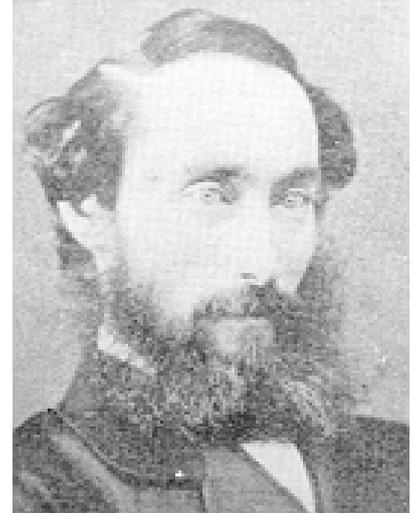
<https://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/>

# Olwyn's South Canterbury website

## Sir Edward William STAFFORD 1820-1901

Represented Timaru from 1869 to 1877 at the General Assembly. Stafford St, the main street in Timaru, was named in his honour. He had arrived in New Zealand on the Aurora, the first emigrant vessel into Port Nicholson, now Wellington, on 22 January 1840. Reference: White Wings Vol. II by Sir Henry Brett

Death: April 18 1857 at Auckland, Emily, wife of Edward W. STAFFORD, Esq., of Mayne, County Louth, Colonial Secretary of New Zealand, died aged 29. There were no children of this marriage. On 5 December 1859 Stafford married Mary Bartley at Auckland. They were to have three daughters and three sons. Mary Stafford died in 1899.



Three times Premier of New Zealand and twice Superintendent of the Province of Nelson (Nelson's first Superintendent), was born in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1820 and reached New Zealand soon after the Wairau affray of 1843. At 37 he became New Zealand's first and youngest-ever Prime Minister, holding office from 1856-1861, 1865-1869 and in 1872. In 1846 he married [Emily Charlotte Sidney Wakefield, niece of E.G. Wakefield] the daughter of Colonel [William] Wakefield and was thus brought into close contact with the New Zealand Company. His high character and sterling abilities rendered him the most suitable candidate in the Province for the office of Superintendent and he was twice chosen for the high position. The institution of a System of Education, afterwards extensively imitated in the other provinces and the establishment of Roads Boards, were among his most important achievements. In 1856 he gave up provincial for colonial politics, and accepted the offer of Premier in New Zealand's first Government. He displayed marked political ability, and great energy in his conduct of public affairs; and in 1859 he visited England to arrange for the Panama Steam Service. On his return, in 1861, his Government was defeated, chiefly on account of it's native policy. Mr Stafford was Premier again from 1865 to 1869 and again in 1872. Some years afterwards he went to England to spend the evening of his life in retirement in that country where he died on 1st February 1901, and was buried in Kensal Green, London. A wreath was sent by the Government of New Zealand, on behalf of the Colony with the inscription; "New Zealand to her Statesman" Cyclopedia of New Zealand - Nelson, Marlborough, Westland 1906.

"His vision of an independent, democratic and racially tolerant nation set him apart from almost all his contemporaries."

### Timaru Herald Saturday 10 August 1867

Stafford, spare that tree,  
Touch not a single bow;  
In youth it shelter'd me.





# Members' Interests

SHILLAM	ENGLAND	Gloucestershire Woolaston	1836+
SHORTREED	SCOTLAND	Roxburghshire	All
SHORTREED	SCOTLAND	Selkirkshire	All
SHORTRIDGE	ENGLAND	Cumberland Bewcastle	All
TARRANT	ENGLAND	Essex Plastow	1800+
TAYLER	NEW ZEALAND		1862+
TAYLOR	ENGLAND	Somerset Castle Cary	1700-1900
TAYLOR	ENGLAND	Somerset Stratford/Selworthy	pre1860
TAYLOR	NEW ZEALAND	Canterbury Rakaia	1874-1950
TEAHAN/TAEHEN	IRELAND	Kerry Ballymacelligott	1870+
THOMAS	ENGLAND		pre1900
THOMPSON	ENGLAND	Northumberland Berwick upon Tweed	1800s
THOMPSON	NEW ZEALAND	Canterbury Christchurch	1855+
THOMPSON	IRELAND	Westmeath	1800s
THORNTON	NEW ZEALAND	Kaipara Parore	c1928
TINDALL	ENGLAND	Northumberland Chatton	1650+
TINDALL	NEW ZEALAND	Sth Canterbury Burkes Pass	1865-1875
TINDALL	NEW ZEALAND	Sth Canterbury Hilton	1875+
TINDALL	NEW ZEALAND	Sth Canterbury Kakahu	1875+
TOOHEY	NEW ZEALAND	Canterbury/Sth Canterbury	1860-
TOSH	SCOTLAND	Angus Dundee	1625-1850
TREBILCOCK	ENGLAND	Cornwall Gwennap	1800s
TROTT	ENGLAND	Devon Stockland nr Honiton	1700-1900
TROTT	ENGLAND	London Stratford	1800-1900
TROTT	ENGLAND	Somerset Chard	1700-1900
TUACH	SCOTLAND	Ross & Cromarty	All
TUBMAN	IRELAND	Cavan	1860
TUBMAN	NEW ZEALAND	Otago - Dumbarton, Roxburgh, Dunedin	1860+
TWEED	NTH IRELAND	Islandmagee	1800-1860
URQUHART	SCOTLAND	Moray Dyke	abt 1690
VANSTONE	ENGLAND	Devon Broadwoodkelly	1700-1900
VANSTONE	ENGLAND	Devon Devonport	1790-1900
VANSTONE	NEW ZEALAND	Canterbury Banks Peninsula	1860+
VEVERS	ENGLAND	Cumberland Bewcastle	1854+
VICARY	ENGLAND	Devon Broadwoodkelly	1700s
VINCENT	IRELAND	Londonderry Tamlaght Finlagan	1800+
VINCENT	NEW ZEALAND	Sth Canterbury Timaru	1885+
VIRGIN	ENGLAND	Somerset Whitestaunton	1700-1900
WARNE	NEW ZEALAND	Canterbury Pleasant Point/Geraldine	1860
WASLEY	ENGLAND	Cornwall Kenwyn	pre1830
WASLEY	ENGLAND	Cornwall St Day	1830+
WASLEY	NEW ZEALAND	Westland Kumara	1890+

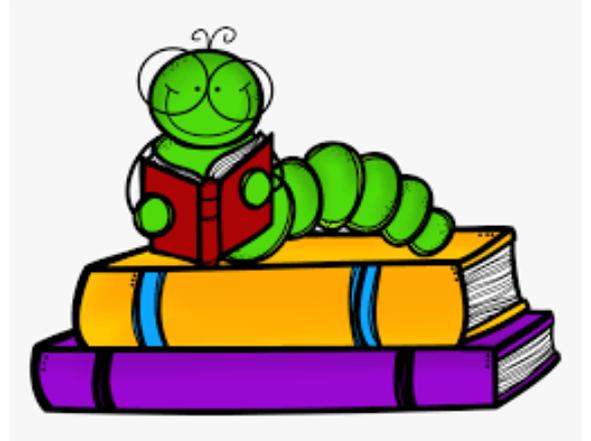


# Library report

from Teresa Scott

## Newsletters 2021, 2022:

Ashburton District Family History Group– October  
Cambridge – November; December  
Canterbury Genealogy Society – November  
Dunedin – November-December  
Feilding – October; November  
Hawke's Bay – December  
Hibiscus Coast – November  
Hutt Valley – November; December  
Kapiti – October; November  
Kilbirnie – November; December  
Matamata – October  
Mosgiel – November-December  
Nelson – October; November  
New Plymouth Genealogy – November; December  
Oamaru – October; November  
Otaki – October; November  
Palmerston North – October; November  
Papamoa Family History Group – August, September, October, November  
Porirua – November  
South Canterbury Genealogy Society – September-October 2022  
South Waikato – December  
Wairarapa –November; December Wellington – October; November



Sketches in New Zealand – W. Tyrone Power [NZG63] [donated]

White Wings: Fifty Years of Sail in the New Zealand Trade, 1850 to 1900 – Henry Brett (1924) [SHP36] [donated]

The Voyage of the *Astrolabe* – 1840 (An English Rendering of the Journals of Dumont D'Urville and his Officers of their Visit to New Zealand in 1840, together with Some Account of Bishop Pompallier, and Charles, Baron de Thierry) – Olive Wright [SHP37] [donated]

Waimate Centennial 1854 – 1954 [DH182] [donated]

Centenary of Geraldine and Temuka Districts 1855 – 1955 (Historical Survey and Programme of Celebrations [DH183] [donated]

The Six Colonies of New Zealand – William Fox (Hocken Library) [NZG64] [donated]

New Zealand Famous Firsts and Related Records – Allan Sutherland, FR.N.S., NZ. (1961) [NZG65] [donated]

Adventure in New Zealand – Edward Jerningham Wakefield (abridgement, edited 1955) [NZG66] [donated]

The Wentworth Indenture (printed 1979 from photocopy of original document of 1840) [NZG67] [donated]

Maori Land Corporations – Norm Smith, Judge of the Maori Land Court (1962) [NZG68] [donated]

Reminiscences of Twelve Months' Service in New Zealand – Lieut. H. F. McKillop (1849) [NZG69] [donated]

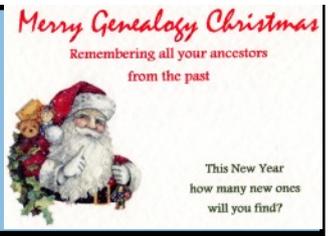
To Fame Undying: The Otago Settlers Association and its Museum 1898 – 1998 – Sean Brosnahan [OT69] [donated]

Time to Go A Journey from Old Deal to New Zealand – Jerry Vyse [DH181] [donated]



# 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

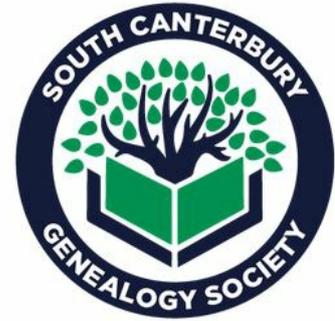
Committee: Teresa Scott 03 688 9034 Library

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



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

Research help is also available at our rooms 19 Royal Arcade Thursday 10am - 1pm 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 4.30pm. Books can be borrowed on Sundays but must be signed out by the librarian or a Sunday volunteer.

A working group meets on Thursday 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](mailto:carolbel49@gmail.com) or 027 3399447.

