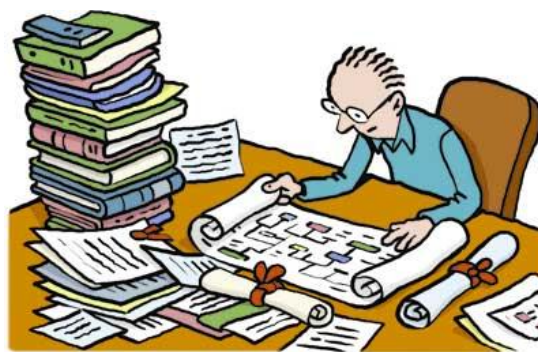




NZ SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS SOUTH CANTERBURY BRANCH NEWSLETTER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021 - VOL 25 NO. 1



FROM THE EDITOR

Carol Bell



Our first meeting for the year is revisiting our first meeting of last year in which we asked you what you wanted from this group and how we can best fill your genealogical needs. As you all know subsequent events made implementation of our findings impossible - meetings were not held for most of the year and then they were in a "more careful" form.

The discussion around where our meetings are to be held are now being held in abeyance while we wait to see what form the council's proposed archives hub will take. There are exciting possibilities for genealogists around these council plans. We await more concrete plans with much interest.

So now we're having another look at the main question. If you've had any thoughts about what you'd like to see or do at meetings now is the time to talk about it. We have the results of last year's forum and we're having one more look at it before we move to implementation. The meeting next week will in part be an open forum in which we can discuss with you what you want and how you want it, and even where and when you want it. Such power! Do try to join us for this. It should be fun - I think we all enjoyed the last discussion.

CONVENER'S REPORT



from Liz Shea



NZ Society of Genealogists <http://www.genealogy.org.nz/>

South Canterbury genealogical resources <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlscant/resources.htm>

I have been searching out the 1939 census on both Ancestry and Findmypast looking for my parents. Because they died overseas, ie not in UK, and were not born over 100 years ago, they were both under black lines. Luckily my grandmother, Florence Sophia Gallington, nee McEwen, was born over 100 years ago and I easily found her along with three black lines. I guessed that one was my father, along with two of his three siblings. As I had copies of their death certificates, I was able to get the closed entries opened and so was able to see Arthur Thomas Gallington, brother Denis and sister Doris Rosemary Boyle nee Gallington. The youngest brother Roy Henry appeared to have been evacuated as he was living with another family. I was able to find him as he died in the UK. I turned my attention to my grandfather Thomas Gregory Gallington and found him in the Brentwood mental asylum, along with another Gallington relative. Both had been soldiers in WW1 and I was aware that Grandad had suffered "shell shock" and spent time during my father's childhood in a variety of asylums, so this was confirmed with the census.

As for my mum, she proved more elusive. I found her parents, Henry Amos Frederick Hill and Lily Hill nee Brown living at 43 Dunmow Road, along with my great-grandmother, Ada Brown nee Mixter. Mum had written out her life history and one of the stories was that to avoid evacuation with all the other children when war was declared in September 1939, Mum and her grandmother, Ada went to live in a village in Oxfordshire near where her brother, Henry William Hill, was stationed, as he was a meteorologist. I found him where he was purported to be but of course great-grandmother was back in Dunmow Road, so where had my Mum gone? Her story said that she and Ada did like living in Oxford - they were city girls!! - but her parents wanted her out of London so she said that a friend's father came and picked her up in his car and took her to Wales where her friend's family were safely evacuated to. But who was this friend? My dear Mum had not said. I knew that she had two good friends, Irene Adams and Audrey Sowerby, but which one was it? I started with Irene and did a quick and dirty tree on her family but found that her father had died in 1938 and, as Irene is still alive, couldn't find her although I did find her family. There were a number of black lines there and I applied for them to be opened but this failed, so I figured it wasn't her. I revisited my mother's written life story and found a second sheet which told that same story as the earlier one, except it mentioned that the friend's father was a vicar which is why he had a car. So research into Audrey again on BDM, found her mother's maiden name and a marriage to a Percy Sowerby. A google search found Percy as minister to St John's Church in London along with a photo and then found him in the 1939 census minus wife and daughter. Finally I found Audrey Kathleen Sowerby in Wales followed by a black line. So off went a copy of mum's death certificate and then within a week or so, she was there in Wales with Audrey and her mother. Her story said that she stayed with them for some time and celebrated her birthday there on 5 November 1939 before finally returning to London. Audrey's mother's surname Sowerby had been mistranscribed as Severly so I was initially unable to find her too.



It had been a long search but worth it in the end. My mum's birthdate was also mistranscribed as 1926 but the original shows the true figure of 1924.

The motto of the day, is "patience is a virtue". My thanks to Carol Bell for her assistance.

**RootsTech Connect 2021 will be held at RootsTech.org
from 25 to 27 February 2021.**

Celebrity speakers. Dozens of classes. Online interactive marketplace. Cultural activities.

Sign up for free.

Register for your free place at www.rootstech.org/

Refer to the website for the programme of lectures and workshops

Refer to the website for the list of exhibitors and plan your virtual genealogy shopping trip

FUNERAL CARDS & DEATH NOTICES

Transcribing has restarted again after the Christmas break and I would like to thank all the transcribers for returning again this year and the checkers for their work. We are making very good progress and it's possible that without the enforced break last year we would be very near finishing. The latest folder to be started is 2017 so only three more years to go. When we have finished the Betts funeral records the museum have very kindly indicated the room is still available for the branch use. We will co-operate with the museum and help with some of their projects and then continue with branch transcribing. Our thanks to Philip and Tony for allowing the use of the research room. - Lois Shears



FUNERAL SERVICE SHEETS

We are collecting scans of funeral service sheets of people with South Canterbury connections as part of a national project to include these in a future Kiwi Collection. A copy will also be kept locally for research. Most sheets include the date of birth and date of death and many have photographs of the deceased and their family. It is hoped this resource will grow into a significant and useful national research source. If you have any funeral service sheets that you are willing to share please scan the information page(s) as below at high quality PDF and email to carolbel49@gmail.com or place on a flash drive and pass to a committee member; or give to a committee member for scanning. This resource is now available to members for research. Contact Carol.

PUBLISHING HELP

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

PLANS FOR 2021

February: Revisit 2020's planning meeting. Our plans came to little as the year unfolded - meetings themselves didn't even take place. So let's have another look at where we want to go as a group - once more with feeling! We'd value your input.

March: Cemetery month- Temuka cemetery





**South Canterbury Branch
New Zealand Society of
Genealogists**

**Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 13 April, 2021
at 7.30pm**

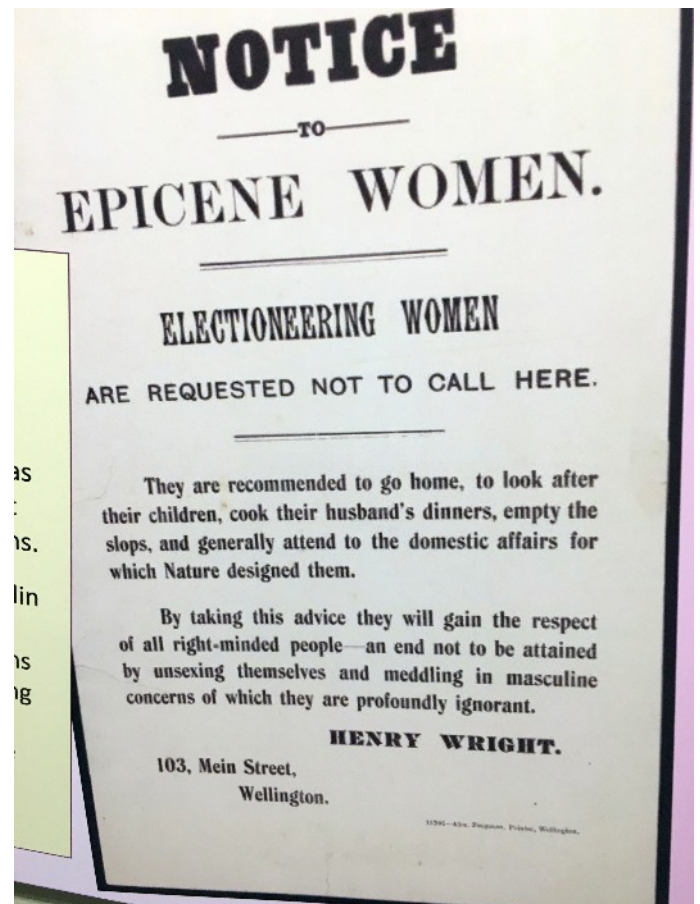
**South Canterbury Museum
Meeting Room**



A WOMAN'S PLACE

Poverty Bay Herald, 2 February 1886, Page 2

At Timaru the worthy Mr Turnbull, M.H.R., addressed a school of young ladies, the gravamen of his discourse being an earnest advice to the young ladies not to be too fine, not to confine themselves to the drawing-room and the piano, and fine crochet work, and creptoleen, and so on, but to take an earnest part in the common work of the household. He pointed out that Rebecca, although a young lady of rank and wealth, did not stay indoors twanging the timbrel, or whatever musical instrument was in fashion in Mesopotamia, but was in the habit of going to the well to draw the water wanted for the household. On being civilly requested she gave a traveller a drink, and also performed the menial and laborious office of drawing water for the camels. A young lady of Timaru, however, writes thus: "I would respectfully remind our worthy M.H.R. that there are 5000 girls in this town who would willingly draw water for camels or any other animals if they could make sure of getting an Isaac at the well, and get up quite as early in the morning as Rebecca did. We consider that young lady highly favoured in having a husband provided for her. In these days we have to use the best means at our command to attract, and then fail to get husbands. - With thanks to Olwyn Whitehouse



On display at the Timaru Museum

THE VOYAGE OF THE ATRATO, PLYMOUTH TO NEW ZEALAND, 1874

Info: Gregg, Julie, Ray - Clontarf. Diary of Voyage from Plymouth to NZ beginning April 5, 1974. Griffin and Google

Google: RMS Atrato was a UK iron-hulled steamship. She was built in 1853 for the Royal Mail Steam ... In 1874 she sailed to New Zealand, leaving London on 5 April, calling at Port Chalmers on 8 June and reaching Lyttelton Harbour on 20 June.

The Atrato had been built as a paddle steamer in 1853, but in 1870 was converted into a single screw vessel, and fitted with new engines and boilers, and was one of the first steamers to make the voyage to New Zealand. The trip, however, was not to be a smooth one. The ship had completed 1500 miles and was nearly to the Cape of Good Hope when the engines broke down. Makeshift repairs proved impossible and the ship was forced to return to Plymouth under sail. Several weeks were spent at Plymouth while the ship was refitted, and during this time a further 129 passengers were taken on. And so it was that when the 360ft Atrato left Plymouth on Easter Sunday, 5 April 1874 she was crowded with 762 emigrants, 280 of which were children. By 8 April the ship was off Lisbon in favourable weather and the passengers were enjoying the more genial climate on deck playing draughts and cards. It had been a matter of some surprise that there was no



clergyman on board, but services were regularly conducted by various self-appointed lay preachers. Clergy were to be in some demand, however, as it soon became apparent that the passengers who embarked at Plymouth had brought measles on board and this, along with its associate croup was to afflict more than half of the children on board, claiming the lives of 32.

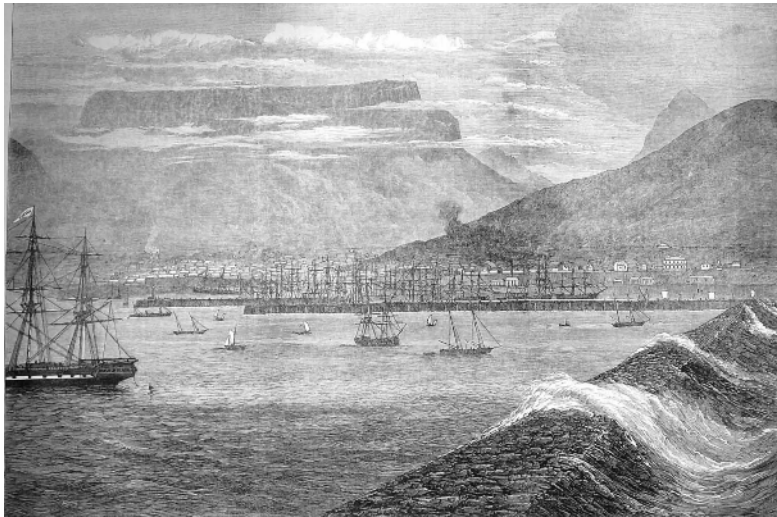


By 15 April the ship had passed the Tropic of Cancer and the heat had become oppressive. Many escaped the excessive heat between decks by sleeping on deck, and during the day awnings were spread to protect delicate English skins from the burning sun. Many showers were taken courtesy of the boatswain who hosed the passengers as he washed the

deck. Tropical sunrises and sunsets were a source of great delight, as were the flying fish, whales, porpoises and dolphins which were seen in abundance. The Atrato crossed the equator at 10am on Sunday 19 April, a fortnight to the hour after leaving Plymouth. The usual celebrations were dispensed with, probably because none of the emigrants could summon the necessary energy. The following day the ship encountered the south-east trade winds, and although this impeded progress somewhat the wind was of considerable relief to those suffering from prickly heat and heat prostration. From this point the Polar Star was left behind and the Atrato sailed under the Southern Cross which the passengers found small and unimpressive.

The coast of Africa was sighted early in the morning of 4 May and the ship entered Table Bay at noon, having completed 5931 miles of its journey. Early the next morning a crew of blacks boarded to assist with the coaling. The passengers thought them to be small, weak men who did not work like the Europeans. Fresh mutton and beef were welcomed, although the sheep were found to be very small and lean, and vegetables also made a pleasant change.





Breakwater, harbour and docks, Table Bay, Cape of Good Hope

Natives came alongside in boats selling crayfish which were consumed with delight, but a fat Dutchman who sold inedible oranges, apples and pears was not popular. Some of the passengers gave the black labourers money to purchase Cape wine, as only the cabin passengers were allowed ashore, but neither the wine nor the blacks were seen again. Two of the single men got off in a boat after dark by blacking their faces to get past the quartermaster on watch, but they drank too much wine in town and were arrested. They were fined £2 each. While the Atrato was in Table Bay the father of the family who had

brought measles on board at Plymouth died. He was buried in Cape Town while those on board reflected on poetic justice.

Coal was found to be in short supply in Cape Town and the Atrato could not get enough for her needs, even though the company offered £5 per ton, ten shillings over the normal price. So, with mailbags on board the Atrato set steam for New Zealand on Saturday 9 May, firing a salute to the town as she left. The townspeople ran up a flag on shore and dipped it three times to return the salute, and every ship in the bay did the same.

For a week after the Cape was left behind the ship steamed along at a good pace in wet, cold, windy weather. The passengers were miserable and uncomfortable as the ship rolled a good deal, but progress was good. It was then decided that the engines should be cut and the ship should depend on sail for a thousand miles or so to conserve the coal for the unpredictable New Zealand coastline. It would have been a dangerous experiment for a ship the size of the Atrato to be knocking around the shores of New Zealand with so few sails, so no chances were being taken. The rolling of the ship in the heavy seas was a great trial of patience for the passengers. As soon as they sat down to a meal their food and drink would shift to another part

The Atrato in heavy seas



of the table or disappear from view, bowl and water were upset during ablutions while the washer was turned away for a towel, tin plates and dishes rattled ceaselessly, and any form sat upon would, without warning, hurl its occupant to the other side of the cabin. Portholes could not be opened as large quantities of water rushed in with every lurch of the ship, and the strong wind and heavy spray made the deck damp and treacherous, so the passengers huddled in dark, foul-smelling hovels in the bowels of the ship as measles and whooping cough swept through the cramped cabins, devastating the children.

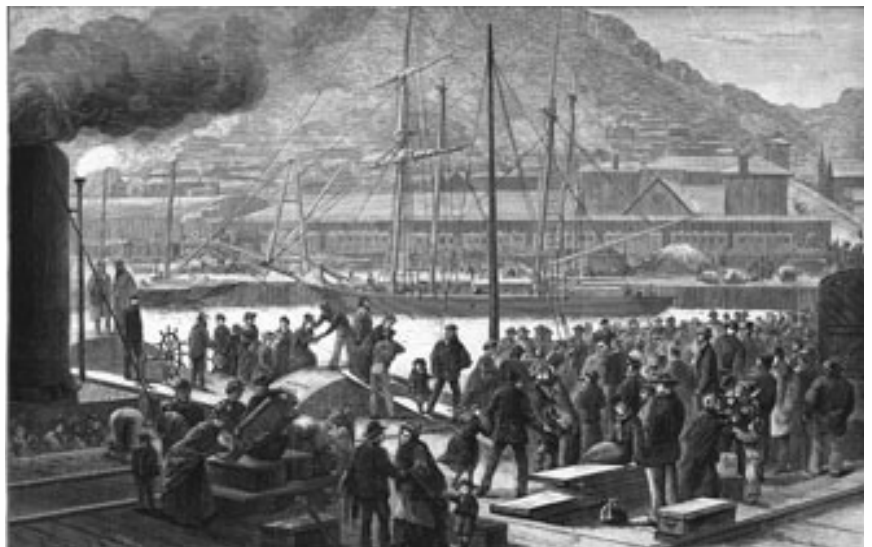
On Sunday 7 June 1874 the passengers were told that they were passing the south coast of Stewart Island, and at half past three on the morning of Monday 8 June many rushed to the deck to get their first sight of their new country. They were up again at seven to witness what many believed to be the most magnificent sunrise one could ever imagine. As far as the eye could see the horizon was streaked with all colours of the rainbow. As the spellbound immigrants watched the sun rose out of the water into a blue cloudless sky, heralding a promise for all that they would wish for in this new land. The Atrato cast anchor opposite Port Chalmers about 11 o'clock and



Port Chalmers and Dunedin Harbour 1874

waited for the health inspector - a rule enforced with every immigrant ship. There was some consternation when they were told to run up the yellow flag and have no communication with the shore, but the next day they were given a clean bill of health and the immigrants bound for Otago began to gather their belongings. They were taken off the next morning and settled on Quarantine Island for seven days. That evening there was some excitement when it was discovered that seven sailors and the quartermaster had jumped ship and made for the gold diggings. A £5 reward was offered for each man.

Eleven days were spent off the coast of Otago as cargo was unloaded and on 19 June the Atrato was once again off, heading for Lyttelton to discharge the immigrants for Canterbury. The port of Lyttelton was reached the next morning, the passengers being much impressed with the fertile grazing land they passed on their way through the Port Hills. Again an inspector met the boat, but as an account had been received from the inspectors in Otago little time was spent with the inspection.



Immigrants disembarking at Lyttelton. This 1877 engraving shows people stepping off the steam tug which ferried immigrants from ships at anchor in the harbour. In this way the Taylor family would have set foot in New Zealand

The single girls were taken off in a little wooden steamer to spend the night in the immigration barracks, and the rest of the settlers prepared for their last night on board. The following day single men and most of the married couples were landed, with the remainder following the day after. The next day, 24 June 1874, a hiring fair was held at the immigration barracks. Immigrants with large families of young children were hardest to place, but while the boom years of Vogel's policy lasted, few spent any length of time in the depots. Life in New Zealand was about to begin.





OLWYN'S SOUTH CANTERBURY WEBSITE

Note the new URL <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/>

One of my favourite websites is Papers Past with the Timaru Herald up to 1928 but now the Timaru Herald online on Papers Past has increased another 35,000 pages, covering up to 1935. Next year will see more work done, bringing it to 1945. The Papers Past Management team will also be improving coverage in Canterbury in general over the coming year.

But don't forget to look at the Magazines and Journals and do a search there. Papers Past | Magazines and Journals Home (natlib.govt.nz) There is the New Zealand Police Gazette, a monthly bulletin circulated to all police in New Zealand, available online 1877-1945 and the Otago Police Gazette 1861 -1877. Access to all Police Gazettes is restricted from public access for 70 years. In 1903 a new comprehensive system of criminal registration for the New Zealand Police, required photographs, handwriting samples, reports, associates, and operating habits to be collected from every criminal arrested in New Zealand. In April 1904, the Police Gazette also published its first mug shot. In early mug shots hands were included to help in identification of a suspect. By 1913 all accused or convicted prisoners incarcerated for the first time had to submit to being photographed and fingerprinted.

New Zealand Police Gazette 8 February 1911 Page 55

Invercargill. 26th ultimo, on warrant for failing to provide his wife, Isabel Macandrew, with adequate means of support, James McMillen Macandrew, age twentynine, height 5ft. 11 in., carter, native of New Zealand, slight build, fair complexion, dark-brown hair (thin on top), three weeks' growth of moustache, blue eyes, a top set of false teeth (one broken on left side), goitre on left side of neck, scar on back of right hand, wart on knuckle of left thumb; dressed in green-coloured suit. His parents reside at Matura.

I am interested in any children fathered by James McMillen Macandrew. He was a travelling salesman. Signed up for WW1 as a single man even though he was married. Please email me at olwynbw@gmail.com

Also, the NZ Tablet was a Catholic periodical that was published weekly in Dunedin, available online 1873-1925, has many obituaries. The Christchurch City Libraries have the Canterbury Police Gazette online for 1869, 1870 and 1871. Canterbury Police Gazette, 1869 - 1871 - Christchurch City Libraries



Police badge No. 1764. Constable James Dorgan was killed in the early morning hours on Saturday 27th August 1921, in the line of duty, he had been shot dead endeavouring to apprehend a burglar in the back alley behind T and J Thomson's drapery, (now Farmers) Stafford St., Timaru. The only murder of a police officer unsolved in New Zealand. Police took 70 sets of fingerprints and closely questioned several suspects in the search for Dorgan's killer - but an arrest was never made. Constable Dorgan was married with three children and had been a policeman for nine years. <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/Dorgan.htm> 100 year anniversary in August, the South Canterbury Police are organising an event.



MEMBERS' INTERESTS

from Carole Cowan

ELDRIDGE	ENGLAND	Kent Cheriton	1800s
ELLINGFORD	NEW ZEALAND		pre1920
ELLIOT	NEW ZEALAND	Otago Nevis; others	1862+
ELLIOT	SCOTLAND	Roxburghshire	All
ELLIOT	SCOTLAND	Selkirkshire	All
ENRIGHT	IRELAND	Limerick Kilcolman	All
ENRIGHT	IRELAND	Limerick Shanagolden	All
ENRIGHT	IRELAND		1859
ERDMAN	GERMANY		1867
FARLEY	AUSTRALIA	Victoria Normanby/Digby	All
FARRELL	ENGLAND	Yorkshire Leeds	1790s
FAWCETT	ENGLAND	Westmorland Kirby/Stephen	1850+
FEALEY	IRELAND	Kerry Listowel	pre1880
FENTON	SCOTLAND	Glasgow	1868
FERRIER	SCOTLAND	Angus Brechin	c1800
FIELD	ENGLAND	Warwickshire Aston	1874+
FIELD	ENGLAND	Worcestershire Evesham	pre1910
FITZGIBBON	IRELAND	Limerick	All
FITZGIBBON	NEW ZEALAND	Otago Arrowtown	All
FITZSIMMONS	IRELAND	Tyrone, Omagh	abt 1812
FOLEY	ENGLAND	Cornwall Truro	pre1850
FONSECA	CANADA		1895+
FONSECA	NEW ZEALAND	Sth Canterbury Timaru	1870+
FOSTER	IRELAND	Fermanagh Aughnacloy/Knockninny	pre1870
FOX	ENGLAND	Norfolk Reepham	post 1750
FRASER	SCOTLAND	Sutherland Kinlockbervie	1800s
FRASER	SCOTLAND	Fort William	1800s
FREMLIN	ENGLAND		
FREMLIN	NEW ZEALAND		
FREWIN	ENGLAND	Buckinghamshire	1820+

Any member wishing to have their surname interests published in this newsletter or who wishes to add or delete names from their present list, please contact Carole Cowan, phone 03 684-5491 or ce.cowan@xtra.co.nz



LIBRARY REPORT

from Teresa Scott

South Canterbury Branch Library - recent accessions include:

Branch newsletters 2020, 2021 :

Balclutha – November-December 2020 **#31/12/20**

Cambridge – February 2021 **#29/01/2021**

Dunedin – February 2021 **#30/01/2021**

Hawke's Bay – December 2020 **#07/12/2020**; February 2021 **#31/01/2021**

Kapiti – January 2021 **#24/01/2021**

Kilbirnie – February 2021 **#28/01/2021**

New Plymouth – February 2021 **#30/01/2021**

Porirua – December 2020 **#17/12/20**; February 2021 **#31/01/2021**

South Canterbury – November-December 2020

South Waikato – February 2021 **#29/01/2021**

Southland – December 2020 **#12/12/20**

Wairarapa – February 2021 **#01/02/2021**

Wellington – January 2021 **#23/01/2021**

Whanganui – October-December 2020 **#16/12/2020**

Those newsletters marked # & date are held by Teresa Scott for three months from receipt; request for forwarding must be made within three months

Family Tree Magazine – May 2020, September 2020, October 2020, November 2020 [donated]

Washdyke School: A Century of Progress 1874-1974 - compiled by G. A. McCleary and Mrs J. Kellahan [donated]

Washdyke School memorabilia [donated]

"100 Years in Three Days" 1866 – 1966: The Official History of the Temuka School and its Centenary Celebrations – B. E. Gale [donated]

Please take care with records in our branch library.

If you take an item off the shelf, please put it back carefully in the correct place, spine outwards.

If you want to borrow an item, do so through the Sunday duty members or contact Teresa.

Borrowed items must be signed out and signed back in.

If something is accidentally damaged, please advise Teresa.

MUSEUM SUNDAY ROSTER

South Canterbury Museum research room

Sunday roster 1.30pm - 4.30pm

NOTE: *If you are unable to do your duty please ring
Janette Clarke 684-5327 - email : jansuscar@gmail.com*



7 February	Teresa Scott	688 9034	Carole Cowan	684 5491
14 February	Lois White	684 4173	Robyn King	688 4522
21 February	Liz Shea	684 779021	Jill Welford	686 2575
28 February	Dave Jack	021 770 000	Janette Clarke	684 5327
7 March	Lois Shears	688 1655	Carol Johnston	684 5709
14 March	Ted Hansen	688 4957	Claire Palliser	688 0896
21 March	Teresa Scott	688 9034	Carole Cowan	684 5491
28 March	Lois White	684 4173	Robyn King	688 4522

LOCAL CONTACTS

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Treasurer: Carolyn Johnston 03 684 5709

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 Carol Bell 03 684 7733 Newsletter carolbel49@gmail.com



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