

Stratford Branch

New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

www.stratfordgenealogy.homestead.com

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Inside this issue:

Page 2:

Websites; contacts;
Clerical Lives

Page 3:

Snippets; lost records;
Scotland info

Page 4:

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Convener's Comment

This month we have a display of wedding photos in the waiting area at the Stratford Community House. Please feel welcome to come and view them.

There is still time to add more to the display. Bring photos in on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays; we'll photocopy them and add a copy of your photo to the display. If you have an idea for a future display, please contact me.

We have been receiving e-mails from readers of our newsletter from around New Zealand who have connections with families mentioned in articles in the newsletters. Some of these are stories we printed up to 3 or 4 years ago.

It would be interesting to hear some of your family stories, especially relating to this area (and you don't have to be a Stratford Branch member). E-mail the story (no more than 1 A4 page, size 12 font), to our Newsletter editor, Maureen, for her consideration.

Monthly Branch Meetings

September 14th will be our first monthly meeting after the Winter break. If you have an idea for a theme for the night, please contact me.

Carol

**Next Branch Meeting—
Wednesday Sept
14th at 7.30pm.
Rooms open at
7pm for re-
search.**



Branch Rooms

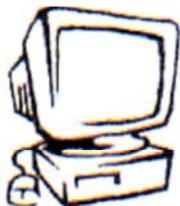
The Stratford Branch Rooms open

Tuesdays and Fridays from 10am – 3pm;

Saturdays 12 noon -2pm.

Our Branch Newsletter is now available each month on our web page-

www.stratfordgenealogy.homestead.com



Web Sites

<https://www.twgpp.org/> -

the War Graves Photographic Project—well worth a look. We also have 2 excellent books to go with this site.

The following 3 sites can help you decipher mediaeval documents:

Nottingham University www.nottingham.ac.uk – an introduction to understanding the reading of mediaeval documents.

National Archives UK –

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/palaeography/>

University of Michigan –

www.quod.lib.umich.edu/m/med/ - an online Middle English dictionary.

<http://www.gracesguide.co.uk/> - historical information on industrial and manufacturing history in Britain.

For an historical list of battles from Roman Britain to WWI, including maps photos, paintings do visit www.britishbattles.com. There is a lot of information and it's easy to navigate.

teecee@ihug.co.nz—Tony Christiansen of Canterbury Branch has prepared a database of pre-1846 European contacts with NZ and has a list of about 30,000 names. If you are interested in this period email Tony.

Pioneers in Papers Past

For those with early settler ancestors, there are three very interesting lists on Papers Past:

- Auckland Pioneers (and some from Thames) in the "Auckland Star" 1 Dec 1898 page 13.
- 'Biographical Sketches of the Colonists of the First Decade' in the "Otago Witness" 17 Mar 1898 page 27.
- Early colonists who had arrived at Lyttleton on the first ships attended a large reunion in Dec 1900. See the "Press" 18 Dec 1900, page 8 for a list of those who attended the reunion. The names are listed under the names of the ships.

Women's maiden names are included. This may be just where the women were 'maidens' at the time of their long journey.

Do remember to save used HP & Canon printer Cartridges and hand them in to the group . They provide an excellent fund raiser. The sales of books on trademe are going well. Thanks to Carol for her efforts .

Dear Ms Spragg

I was interested to read your article about John Jago (by Carol Spragg) in the June issue of Stratford Genealogy.

You mentioned Fred Wellington, and I believe that he was the son of My Great Grandmother's sister Elizabeth Jago and her husband John Wellington. The family moved to New Zealand in 1894 aboard the Gothic. My Great Grandmother was called Kitty Jago and was the daughter of Joseph and Mary Jago who lived in Pelynt, Cornwall then moved to Roche, Cornwall. Kitty married Jeremiah Coad. I can remember my mother and father corresponded with Fred Wellington and have found his name in their address book (my parents died in 1975 and 1977.)

So far I have not managed to find the connection with Isaac and Jane Jago. I have only very recently started to research this family. If you are in contact with any members of this family, please feel free to pass on this email.

Thank you for an interesting article. Since starting the research I have been reading your newsletter monthly just in case something re the family comes up.

Kind regards

Hilary Trump (Mrs) *(One of the contacts we have had recently)*

Scenes from Clerical Lives

After 1538, the newly established Church of England was instructed to keep records of all baptisms, burials and marriages, although it was not enforced until the end of the century. Even then, the details varied greatly between parishes.

From 1598, incumbents were required annually to send a complete copy of the previous year's parish register entries to the diocesan register, known as Bishop's Transcripts (BTs). As with any copied record, the accuracy of the

transcription was often questionable: some BTs are a true copy of the entries, others are not. Where both registers and BTs survive, researchers are advised to compare them.

Marriage settlements, available at county records offices, were generally the reserve of the wealthy, but these indentures are fascinating, as they usually detail all lands held by the groom, the type of tenure, and the provision proposed

for spouse and children in the event of the husband's death.

During the 1640s, approximately one third of all marriages went unregistered. This can be explained by the advent of the Commonwealth Period, during which time Cromwell banned marriages in church. A couple had to travel further afield to find a Justice of the Peace who would marry them and many simply didn't bother.

Some clergy refused to accept such blasphemy and forced a second marriage in the

church after the Reformation, or else branded the children illegitimate. This helps to explain the entries such as 'Averill alias Taylor' or 'Simcox alias Hunt' in some parish registers.

Family History Monthly

Snippets

New books:

We have purchased "The Kowalewski Family Tree" (including Kowaleski families) by Mary Dettling. It is 400+ pages, indexed with many photos. You can view it at our Branch Rooms. Mary donated us a small book about Swiss migrants, which will be of interest to those with Swiss heritage.

"Photo News" and "Spotlight"

We have a large collection of these. Local names are indexed in the "Books" section of our Master Index.

MISSING REGISTERS

Does anyone have any information about 2 missing Baptism Registers belonging to Holy Trinity Stratford? They have disappeared sometime in the last 10 or 12 years. They are Book 25/07 – 1962-1968, and Book 25/08 – 1968-1975. Someone may have borrowed them for research purposes and forgotten to return them.

It is really important for us to get them back – these books are not supposed to leave the Church premises. If anyone knows where they are, please drop them in to either the Church or the Stratford Community House.

Thank you.
Maureen Armstrong

Did you know?

1. Prior to 1855, WHEN civil registration COMMENCED IN Scotland, a Church Census was carried out which revealed that whilst there were 904 Church of Scotland parishes in the country, there were a further 2122 congregations of other Denominations—most of those records are not found on [scotlandpeople](#).
2. Prior to 1868 land could not be bequeathed in a Scottish will—instead there were many possible processes that an heir could potentially go through to inherit land, including confirmation by jury through the 'Services of Heirs' procedure, the Grant of a 'Precept of Clare Constat' by a subject superior, recognition by 'cognition and sasine' in a Burgh, and more.
3. Prior to 1940 there was no process for civil marriage in Scotland. There were many ways one could marry, from a Church-based ceremony to one of several Irregular forms, such as 'by marriage of declaration' in front of witnesses, or marriage by 'promise subsequente copula'. In fact until 2006 it was legal to be married by 'habit and repute', with no ceremony ever having been performed at all!
4. Land transfers in Scotland, whether inheritance, exchange or by purchase, have been registered in a unique set of records, (not found on line) as 'Sasines'. Dependant on where your ancestor lived, the land could be registered in various types of register—a particular register, a general register, or a Burgh Register.



(From Clan Johnston/le Assoc. NZ June 2016 newsletter)



Dutch term – Oudoom and Oudtante

An oudoom is a great-uncle, an oudtante is a great-aunt; siblings of your grandparents. The literal translations are "old uncle" and "old aunt," respectively.

(from Wellington Newsletter)

School Enrolments Indexing

Marie and Helen have completed the indexing for most Central Taranaki smaller schools, plus Eltham Primary and Stratford High School. They have now started Stratford Primary School, which is a large project. The Combined Index for completed schools is available to search.

This is the last of our cemetery walk stories from Midhirst Old Cemetery, Feb 2016:

CHARLES LATHAM

Charles LATHAM died 15th Dec 1934 aged 74, and is buried in the Midhirst Old Cemetery. He came to New Zealand aged 2, with his parents, William, aged 27, and Hannah, aged 25, and his sister, Alice Ann, aged 1. They came on the ship "British Crown", leaving Liverpool on the 4th May 1863, and arriving in Lyttleton on 16th August 1863. The family settled in Kaiapoi, and were millers at Kaiapoi in the 1893-96 Electoral Rolls.

Charles's father William, was born 23 April 1835 at Norbury, Cheshire, England. He was a blacksmith. He died on 19th April 1900 in New Plymouth hospital and is buried in the Midhirst Old Cemetery. He and his wife, Hannah farmed on Salisbury Road, Tuna. His parents were Richard LATHAM and Alice BENNETT.

William's wife Hannah nee FORD was born in Tonkington, Cheshire, England in 1838. She died on 5th February 1895, aged 56, in New Plymouth and is buried in Te Henui Cemetery. Her parents were James FORD and Mary.

Charles married Hannah BROOM in 1882 and they had 5 children:

Cora Alice born 1883—died 17th September 1930 buried in New Plymouth. Married Alexander TOWNSEND in 1916.

Mary Beatrice born 29th September 1884 at Kaiapoi, died 31st July 1952. She married Ernest Frederick HUSE in the Methodist Church in Stratford on 22nd July 1913.

James Collins born 1886, died 21st June 1966. Married Grace Watson MANSON in 1913. Their children were:

Donald Collins 1913-1977, married 1934 Celma Beryl MEED
Clement Charles 1917-1917 (died at 5 months old.) His twin
John William 1917-1972, married 1947 Audrey Ethel GARRARD

Charles Richard Born 1889, died 1960. Married Ann UHLENBERG 1913. Ann died 28th June 1941. Their children:

Kenneth George 1916-1996
Lorraine 1918 -
Francis Richard 1913-1994

Ada born 6/8/1894, died 1979. Married Ernest ANDERSEN in 1912.

Helen Love

Members' Queries:

Do you have any brick walls with which you need help? Don't know where else to look?

Well, come along to the Rooms at Stratford Community House, Juliet street, next to the Anglican Church.

We are there on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10am to 3pm, and Saturdays 12 noon to 2pm. We'll do our best to help you find answers. We have a lot of local school, Church and cemetery records available, also Electoral Rolls for several years.