



Stratford Branch

New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

www.stratfordgenealogy.homestead.com

January 2013

Stratford Community House.

52 Juliet Street

Stratford 4332

PO Box 402

Stratford. 4352.

Phone. 06 765 0913 ext. 4.

Branch Contact-

Carol Spragg.



Convener's Comment

2013 has got off to a busy start at the Rooms with a number of members calling in to continue with indexing, to research etc. During the holiday period we received several research enquiries in person or by e-mail so Lesley and I have been busy finding information for those people. Thanks to Allison and Gloria who have worked their way through the thousands of surname envelopes. Our next project is to get all of the "Daily News" BDMs etc glued into scrapbooks. This is a task which could be done at the Rooms or at home. Please talk to Marie if you can help with this project.

Carol

Inside this issue:

Page 2:
Websites;

Page 3:
Snippets; Quiz;

Page 4:
Book Review

USEFUL HINT WHEN USING HISTORICAL BDM INDEXES ON-LINE

www.bdm.govt.nz NZ BMD Historical Collection Birth search all you need is:

Family Name:

Given Name: (Don't enter)

Search from Date:

Search to Date: (Don't enter)

Click Search

Then click on either Mother's Given Names or Father's Given Names and it will group the parents names together. Be aware there are some hiccups with it. I have found that not all the children come up, don't know why but if you put their Given names in it does show them with the same parents as the others.

It is quite interesting - count the number of entries for some of the Parents!

Branch Meeting—Wednesday February 13th If it is fine, this meeting will be a Kopuatama Cemetery ramble and some of our members will be giving some biographical information on some notable ex-Stratford residents who are buried there. For those who wish to picnic, we will meet at the Cemetery from 5:30pm and have a picnic tea on the lawn just inside the main gates. The ramble will commence at 6:15 for those who would like to join us later, and should take about an hour.

If it is wet, we will meet at the Community House as usual, with a meeting at 7:30pm and those who have prepared the biographical information will present it there.

Branch Rooms

The Stratford Branch Rooms open

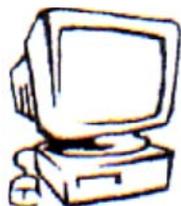
Tuesdays and Fridays from 10am – 3pm;

Saturdays 12 noon -2pm.

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

www.stratfordgenealogy.homestead.com

Editor:
Maureen Armstrong
Email:
armstrong21@slingshot.co.nz
Phone: 06 762 8837 or 027
630 9099



Web Sites

www.kiwicelts.com—A collection of NZ websites for Family History researchers. Has an excellent NZ Cemetery Map and Database and other interesting research information.

www.avotaynu.com **Jewish Research** This website will be of great interest to people researching their Jewish ancestors.

www.iwm.org.uk **The Imperial War Museum** has re-launched its website. The new site brings more than half a million new items from the archives to view, including images, film and sound.

www.ethnicaffairs.govt.nz **1888-1930 NZ Poll Tax Payers** This official website has an index covering 1888-1930 Poll Tax Payers. These were Chinese immigrants to New Zealand. The index gives the date and amount also the relevant Archives NZ reference. You can also search by the name of the ship and this will list the passengers of that ship. From the Home Page click on Advisory Services then on Consultations. Look for the heading Poll Tax Family History Research.

Hidden Scottish Gems - Top Three

FreeCen isn't just for Scotland but there is more Scottish material here than for the rest of the UK. The website provides transcripts of the census enumerators books for censuses between 1841 and 1891. It is a good alternative to ScotlandsPeople and Ancestry.com.uk Records online

More than four million Scottish Census records are now available for searching! Uploaded returns can be searched in the [UK FreeCEN database](#). If you need help searching the database, or would like more information on the Scottish transcriptions, please read Michelle Jeffery's database search

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sctfc/

Scotland's Family is a gateway site with links to Scottish resources. There is a little original material here, especially a set of parish maps arranged by county. This may help you when working through Kirk Session papers on ScotlandsPeople www.scotlandsfamily.com/

Statistical Accounts

One of the unique resources available only to Scottish researchers is the Statistical Accounts, compiled by clergymen describing their parishes in 1790, 1830, and 1840s. Individuals are rarely named, but instead you gain a fascinating insight into the places they lived in.

www.scotlandspeoplehub.gov.uk/

*Do remember to save used 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 .*

We have a collection of the NZ Genealogist Magazine from 1994 to 2008, mostly complete years with the Indexes. If anyone would like to browse through some of these, please contact Maureen. There are many interesting articles and items of interest in these magazines, and I have found a couple of family connections so far!
(Phone 762 8837, or email armstrong21@slingshot.co.nz)

ANCESTRY

The best time to use the Ancestry site if you want help with it, is to come on Tuesdays when there are usually 2 or 3 of us at the rooms to help. You can also come on Saturdays when Carol and Lesley are here.

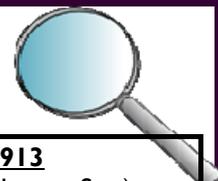
As we said before, this is a full membership, not the limited one that you can use at the Public Library. At \$2.00 per hour to use, it's a very cheap source of valuable information. Ancestry are adding new files all the time, so just because you could not find something a year ago does not mean it's not there now!

www.forebears.co.uk **Forebears is a new genealogy portal** providing reference on available genealogical sources and surnames. The aim of the site is to offer a point of reference for those researching a particular locale. The idea is if you are researching ancestors in a particular town that you can turn to Forebears to get a comprehensive list of sources that may contain information on your ancestors. and arduous process of cataloguing & data compilation. The following will make an appearance on the site shortly: Dates and location of parish registers for 40 counties; • Reference on the origins of around 10,000 surnames; and, lots of genealogical resources, indexed by subject and location. Over the coming year a lot more will be added.

www.memento-mori.co.uk **Central Scotland Monumental Inscriptions** - The website consists of searchable online indices containing names, ages, dates of death and places of burial in many locations in Central Scotland. (Women are listed by both maiden and married surnames.) The indices include both pre-1855 and post-1855 gravestones many of which have been previously transcribed in the 'Pre-1855 Monumental Inscriptions' series of publications by Mitchell.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/hospitalrecords **UK Hospital Records Database**. This database provides information on the existence and location of the records of UK hospitals. There are currently over 2,800 entries, which have been compiled by the Wellcome Library for the History and Understanding of Medicine. These can be found by searching the database.

Snippets

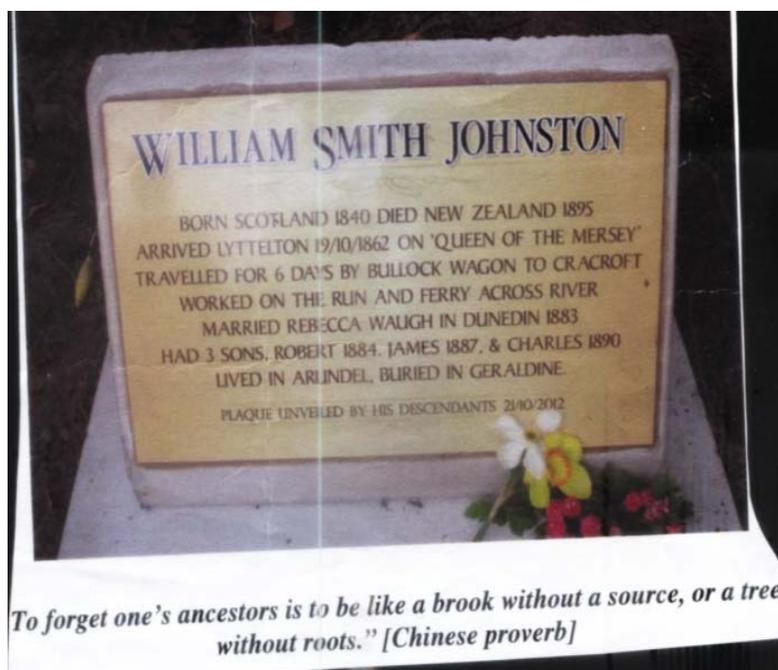


RESEARCH TIP: This little trick can be very useful indeed if you have an unusual surname and especially for those doing one-name studies. When researching at FreeBMD, try this.....

- 1) Leave the surname field blank.
 - 2) Enter into the first name field your surname of interest with either a plus sign or an asterisk in front of it - this is vital and either the plus symbol or an asterisk both work.
 - 3) Select All Types and press the Search button.
- What you will get is a list of events (births, marriages and deaths) in which your surname of interest appears as a MIDDLE forename. Many children have their mother's surname included in their forenames.

Many thanks to the ladies who have worked for many months sorting the Envelope Collection and filing the small cuttings into smaller envelopes within the A4 envelopes. They have now completed this task. Thanks also to those who have been collecting the smaller envelopes for them to use. We now have enough of those to cope with future new surnames. However, the larger A4 envelopes are still needed, please.

How's this for a detailed tombstone???



To forget one's ancestors is to be like a brook without a source, or a tree without roots." [Chinese proverb]

We receive copies of branch newsletters from all over New Zealand. If anyone would like to see those we have at the moment, please email me and I will send them on to you. If you don't have email let me know and I will get a copy printed for you. We usually have—Blenheim, Canterbury, Christchurch, Dunedin, Gore, Hawkes Bay, Hutt Valley, Inglewood, Matamata, North Canterbury, Wairarapa, Wanganui, Wellington and New Plymouth (which is available on their website.)
Maureen

100 YEARS AGO—1913

(From the archives of the Hawera Star)

The old cannon, which for a long time past had been lying neglected at the recreation ground, has been mounted on a carriage and placed at the entrance to the tennis courts in King Edward Park.

Wanted: married couple, milking and general farm work, machines used. Wages £13 per month. A Whyte, Mangatoki

In the English 1911 census there were 1.3 million young girls and ladies 'in service' in large homes, mansions and houses.

GET YOUR FAMILY TREE ORGANISED

Did this cross your mind as a New Year's resolution for 2013? Are you like me and have lots of folders of family information collected over many years, but have nothing organised in written form? Then why not join me in learning how to use the "Legacy" programme? As mentioned in an earlier newsletter, I have started to enter data and a lot of computer knowledge isn't necessary. I can share my experience with the programme to date, get you started and offer support. Contact me at 765 0465. Carol (evenings).

January Quiz:

1. **When did our famous Colonel Malone buy the farm on Opunake Road?**
2. **Who was Sir Peter Buck?**
3. **What was 'Jew's Ear'?**
4. **Who was Captain Music, after whom the Auckland Marine Radio station was named?**
(answers next month)

Answers to December Quiz:

1. **1905—as a joint team with Australia.**
2. **One Tree Hill.**
3. **8miles per hour (13 kms per hour).**
4. **1912.**

Story Writing Competition—2013

??????? Ideas ????????

Canterbury University Press

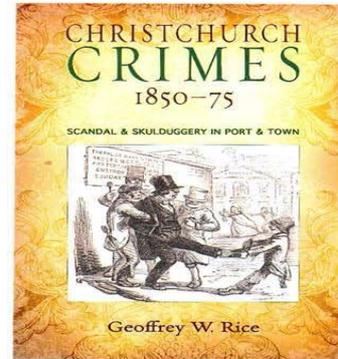
Christchurch Crimes 1850 - 75 Scandal and skulduggery in port and town

by Geoffrey W Rice

\$30.00

October 2012

ISBN: 9781927145395



While researching nineteenth-century Christchurch newspapers for another book, historian Geoff Rice was struck by the diversity of crime in early Christchurch, and the amount of detail in the court reports. Fascinated by what he was reading, he became diverted from the task at hand and set about writing this book instead: about crime and punishment in the first 25 years of Canterbury settlement.

The stories are drawn from newspaper reports, with further detail added from police records and the court minute books. The events are contextualised by Professor Rice's extensive knowledge of the times. It is not an academic study; nor is it a work of fiction. Rather it is an attempt at evidence-based reconstruction of crimes and courtroom proceedings, opening a window on the lives and deeds of ordinary people who lived in this place over 140 years ago.

History is usually written by the winners, and it is rare to hear the voices of ordinary folk from the remote past. Yet such were the shorthand skills of 19th-century newspaper reporters that courtroom testimony and cross-examinations were often captured verbatim, especially in the more sensational murder trials. Reading these reports one can almost hear the voices of the past. We catch glimpses of cabbies, shopkeepers, clerks and housewives going about their daily work, with descriptions of homes or workplaces, and the occasional fight in a pub.

The stories are often dramatic and even sensational, sometimes horrifying, sometimes amusing, often rather sad. Their crimes mirror the difficult realities of colonial life.

About the ~~editor~~ author:

Geoffrey Rice recently retired as Professor of History at the University of Canterbury. His main fields of academic research included the social history of medicine and 18th-century British foreign policy. Black November, about the 1918 influenza pandemic in New Zealand, was shortlisted in the 2006 Montana New Zealand Book Awards, and his biography of the fourth Earl of Rochford, British diplomat and statesman, was published in 2010. He has also published the illustrated histories *Christchurch Changing*; *Lyttelton, Port and Town*; and *All Fall Down: Christchurch' Lost Chimneys* with Canterbury University Press.

ORDER NOW FROM:

Nationwide Book Distributors
PO Box 65
Oxford 7443
New Zealand

ORDER ONLINE: nationwidebooks.co.nz

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. Among other resources, we have a lot of local school, Church and cemetery records available, also Electoral Rolls for several years.