

Stratford Branch

New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

www.stratfordgenealogy.homestead.com

March 2017

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

I have just spent a week relieving at Marco School, about 10 minutes east of Whangamomona. I stayed in "The Butcher Shop" B & B, which, yes, is the settlement's old butchery shop, now renovated and a comfortable place to stay.

Once school was finished each day, I was able to explore the district. One day I drove over the Tahora Saddle, to the settlement of Tahora and found my way to the little Tahora Cemetery. Most of the burials are for infants and young children. Another day I visited the Whangamomona Cemetery and took photos of the headstones there. I was able to buy a book called "Whangamomona" by Gary Hendry, which, once indexed, will be a valuable addition to our East Taranaki resources. I have also been able to obtain a copy of the Whangamomona School Golden Jubilee book (1954), with many names of early settlers and School Committee members.

By coincidence, several weeks ago we had a visitor to the Rooms who was searching for information on his O'KEEFE/OKEEFFE family who were early settlers in the Whangamomona/Marco area. My knowledge of the area has certainly increased in the past few weeks.

Carol

PS I'll be away for 6 weeks, so the Rooms won't open on Saturdays from 17 March-29 April (inclusive).

Inside this issue:

Page 2:
Websites; Anderson Family Reunion

Page 3:
NZ Police Gazette

Page 4:
2017 Historical Anniversaries

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

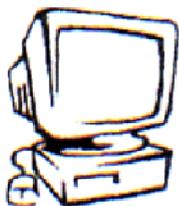
Next Branch Meeting—Wednesday 8th March at 5.30pm. At Old Midhirst Cemetery, Beaconsfield Rd, starting with a picnic tea. The presentations will start at 6:15 for those who don't wish to picnic. If wet we will meet at the Rooms at 7pm.

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

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 .

(Police Gazettes—see page 3)

<https://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/ViewEntity.do?code=5803>) and then the 'Records' tab.

Now arrange the list by date.

Genealogy Calculators / Date & Calendar Tools

Use these date, money, relationship, and surname calculators to help build your family history.

<http://www.searchforancestors.com/utility/>

Rock Solid Research, have a look at these sites for advice:

Board of certification for genealogists

<http://www.bgc certification.org/resources/standard.html>

Prairie Roots Research - The Power of GPS

<http://www.prairierootsresearch.com/research-tips/genealogical-proof-standard/>

Family Search - Understanding the Genealogical Proof Standard

<https://familysearch.org/blog/en/genealogicalproofstandardpart1/>

ANDERSON FAMILY REUNION

A Family Reunion is proposed for Labour weekend 21-22 October 2017 at Balclutha, Otago, for the descendants of **Archibald and Hannah ANDERSON (nee MILLER) of Stirling, Otago** and their children Anna Margaret MURRAY (Australia), Mary Ann Agnes CHRISTIE, (Oamaru), John Crawford ANDERSON (Stirling), Sarah Jane TURNER (Wellington), Magdalene Janet WARD (Dunedin), Harriet Julia STENHOUSE (Dunedin), Archibald Henry ANDERSON (Dunedin), Fanny Eliza DREW (Sydney Australia) and George Thomas ANDERSON (Stirling). 2017 is 200th birthday of Archibald ANDERSON who emigrated from Stirling, Scotland in 1840 to Wellington, then Dunedin and finally to "Balmoral Farm" on Inch Clutha, Stirling. If you are interested in attending, require further information, or have historic family photographs to contribute contact:

The Secretary, Anderson Reunion

Email: JubileePark@xtra.co.nz

Postal address: 62 Frances Street, Balclutha 9230 New Zealand.

Please register by 15 March 2017.

PAPERS PAST

The latest release of newspapers has just gone live on Papers Past. See

<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers>

Titles as follows:

- Bay of Plenty Times (1931-1940)
- Cromwell Argus (1876-1878, 1921-1948)
- Globe (1874-1882)
- Hawkes Bay Times (1861-1868)
- Horowhenua/Levin Chronicle (1931-1939)
- Lyttelton Times (Apr 1869-1889)
- New Zealand Times (1874-1920)
- Northern Advocate (1931-1935)
- Otago Witness (1916-1920)

Thanks to Tauranga City Libraries, Christchurch City Libraries, Central Lakes Trust, Whangarei Libraries and Libraries Horowhenua, for their support in the digitisation of these newspapers.

<http://rsa.org.nz/News/NZDF-announce-new-process-for-medal-and-service-records>

Some useful information here. Carol

Updates:

Ancestry: New additions or updates include-

- NSW Index to Deceased Estate Files 1859-1958
- Victoria – Wills and Probate Records 1841 – 2009
- Australian Births and Baptisms – 1792 – 1981
- Victoria – Police Gazettes 1855, 1864 – 1924
- NSW Criminal Court Records 1830 – 1945
- NSW - Sydney Cemetery Headstone Transcriptions 1837 – 2003
- Tasmania Passenger and Crew Lists 1834 – 1837, 1841 -1887

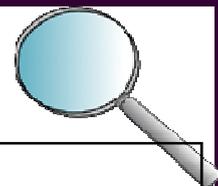
Find My Past:

- United States Marriages: All states have additions and now they claim to have the largest online collection of USA marriages
- Catholic Heritage Archives now online with entries from USA, Great Britain, Ireland

Familysearch:

- More Australian records in NSW and Victoria including Victoria Outward Passenger lists 1852-1924, Queensland Immigration Indexes 1864-1940 and NSW Deceased Estate Files 1880-1923

Snippets



NEW ZEALAND POLICE GAZETTE - 1877 - 1991

A body washed up on a Southland beach complete with its coffin, an absconding Dunedin musician, incendiarism in Rangitata, and acts of sacrilege involving thefts from the collection box in a Canterbury church are just a few of the stories to be gleaned from the Police Gazettes. **And now that they have been digitised you can browse them online.**

New Zealand police stations received copies of the Police Gazette, which were printed weekly and subsequently published in yearly volumes. This was the way police could keep in touch with one another and coordinate enquiries. The Gazettes were a work tool and many of the ones now held by Archives New Zealand are worn and heavily annotated.

Police Gazettes provide the following types of information:

- Index of persons on trial at Supreme Courts, and summarily convicted of Magistrates Court, and prisoners discharged from prisons; photographs of prisoners
- property stolen, recovered or unclaimed
- missing persons
- appointments and resignations of police personnel
- returns of unexecuted warrants
- wanted persons

Police Station opening and closing dates, and boundary charges. Other information concerning individuals, offences, etc. can be located in the general index. From this information it is possible to obtain other details through Police Station and Court records (where these are extant). To begin, click on the series link

<https://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/ViewEntity.do?code=5803> and then the 'Records' tab.

Now arrange the list by date.

1915.]

NEW ZEALAND POLICE GAZETTE.

3

DANNEVIRKE.—On or about the 3rd October last, for theft of a gun (recovered) and two fishing-rods, total value £4 5s., from the dwelling of Mrs. Fritz Jensen, Victoria Avenue, **L. Johnston** (name probably fictitious), age about twenty-six, height about 5 ft. 6 in., slim build, fresh complexion, brown hair; fairly well dressed. **No warrant.**

WELLINGTON.—16th ultimo, that he may be located and warned that unless he complies with the conditions of his release, his probationary license will be cancelled, **Albert Edward Yates**, age twenty-two, height 5 ft. 10½ in., labourer, native of New Zealand, fair complexion, light-brown hair, grey eyes, large scar on side of face and upper lip, and on lobe of right ear, left eyebrow disfigured. (See *Police Gazette*, 1913, page 568.) (P. 14/1590.)

WELLINGTON.—Since about the 18th November last, that she may be compelled to support her illegitimate child, an inmate of a registered home, **Mataura Jones**, age about twenty-four, height about 5 ft. 6 in., domestic, native of New Zealand, medium build, dark hair and complexion, brown eyes.

WELLINGTON.—2nd November last, on **warrant** for failing to maintain his illegitimate child, **Alfred J. Chote**, age twenty-six, height about 5 ft. 6 in., carpenter, native of New Zealand, slight build, dark complexion, black hair, brown eyes, "In loving memory of my mother" or words to that effect on a cross on one arm; stooping gait. His photograph is filed in the Superintendent's Office, Wellin-

APPREHENSIONS, PERSONS FOUND, ETC.

AUCKLAND.—**Victor Southwell**, default of fine and costs, has paid the amount due to the Huntly police. (See *Police Gazette*, 1914, page 761.)

AUCKLAND.—**Walter Palmerston Johnstone**, failing to maintain, has been arrested by the Dargaville police. (See *Police Gazette* 1914, page 791.)

AUCKLAND.—**Thomas Henderson Ross**, default of fine and costs, has been arrested by the Auckland police. (See *Police Gazette*, 1914, page 642.)

TE AWAMUTU.—**George Funnell**, *alias Paul*, theft of horse, &c.: No further action is to be taken in this matter, as the missing property has been recovered. (See *Police Gazette*, 1914, page 792.)

TAUMARUNUI.—**Hugh Milligan**, default of fine and costs, has paid the amount due to the Ohakune police. (See *Police Gazette*, 1913, page 732.)

PALMERSTON NORTH.—**William Heaps**, *alias David Stratton*, *alias Healey*, default of fine and costs, has been arrested by the Manners Street (Wellington) police. (See *Police Gazette*, 1914, page 600.)

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 Maureen 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.

2017 Historical Anniversaries -

From the centenary of the Russian Revolution and the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, 2017 looks set to be an exciting year in the world of history. Here are some significant historical anniversaries.

The Russian Revolution - One of the biggest anniversaries of the year, 2017 will mark 100 years since the Russian Revolution. Heralding the collapse of the 300-year-old Romanov royal dynasty, a bitter civil war and the rise of communism, the revolution had a profound impact on the course of world history.

Battle of Passchendaele - As the centenary of the First World War continues, 2017 also marks the 100th anniversary of the battle of Passchendaele. Remembered for its unremitting bleakness and apocalyptic mud, the battle began on 31 July 1917. By the time the conflict had ended in November 1917 there were 325,000 Allied and 260,000 German casualties.

US entry into the First World War - Another notable event from the First World War – US entry into the conflict – also happened 100 years ago, on 6 April 1917. US involvement marked a decisive turning point in the war, as more than five million American soldiers ultimately fought in the conflict.

The Reformation - This year also marks 500 years since the beginning of a huge – and tumultuous – change in the religious make-up of Europe. On 31 October 1517 (commemorated as 'Reformation Day'), German protestant reformer Martin Luther published his 95 Theses condemning what he saw as the corruption of the Catholic Church. Luther's Theses was quickly reprinted and shared across Europe, triggering a seismic shift in European religion with a legacy of lasting conflict.

Six-Day War - June 2017 marks 50 years since the Six-Day War, when fighting broke out between Israel and the armed forces of Egypt, Jordan and Syria in June 1967.

Other anniversaries in 2017 include the 200th anniversary of the death of Jane Austen; the 150th anniversary of the publication of Marx's Das Kapital (volume 1) and the 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, which stated British support for "the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people".

<http://www.historyextra.com/article/bbc-history-magazine/2017-Anniversaries/>
2017 Significant Anniversaries

- 150th of Maori Representation Act, setting up Maori seats (1867)
- 100th of First World War battles for Messines (June) and Passchendaele (Oct) in Flanders, Belgium (1917)
- 100th of first enemy incursion into NZ territory (German raider Wolf lays mines, sinking several ships – 1917)
- 100th of introduction of six o'clock closing of bars (Dec 1917)
- 100th of change of title from Governor to Governor-General (1917)
- 75th of fall of Singapore (Feb 1942)
- 75th of battles of Minqar Qaim (June), Ruweisat Ridge (July) and El Alamein (Oct-Nov), in North Africa (1942)
- 75th of arrival of US Forces in NZ (June 1942)
- 50th of adoption of decimal currency (July 1967)
- 50th of end of six o'clock closing (Oct 1967)
- 50th of Strongman coalmine disaster on West Coast (Jan 1967)
- 25th of first, non-binding referendum on electoral reform (Sept 1992)

'Selected anniversaries 2014-2018', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/handsonhistory/significant-anniversaries>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 13-Aug-2014

(From Canterbury Branch newsletter)

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.