

# News & Views

May 2005; 23<sup>rd</sup> Year

Issue 223



## Hutt Valley Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc.

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Evening Meeting 7.30pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, February to December  
Day Meeting: 9.30am, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, February to November  
Research Evening: 6.00pm, last Thursday each month. Library open  
Venue: Hutt Bridge Club, 1 Park Ave, Avalon, Lower Hutt  
Postal Address: PO Box 31-024, Lower Hutt  
Co-ordinator: Sandra Greig  
Secretary: Deb Beban  
Treasurer: Janet Ketchell  
Membership: Dianne Fitzgerald  
Editor: Suzanne Sutton-Cummings sjsc@clear.net.nz

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### COMING EVENTS (subject to change and confirmation closer to the event)

05 May: Evening Meeting – Warwick Johnston - Hutt History  
19 May: Morning Meeting – Elaine and Ron Keown - Emily's Trunk  
26 May: Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until around 8:30pm for Members' Research  
  
02 Jun: Evening Meeting – Natasha, Petone Settlers Museum  
16 Jun: Morning Meeting -Kelly Crandle - Taita Cemetery  
30 Jun: Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until around 8:30pm for Members' Research  
  
07 Jul: Keith Griffith - Adoption  
21 Jul: David Lee Smith - Early American History  
28 Jul: Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until around 8:30pm for Members' Research  
  
04 Aug: Vicky Alexander - WOA History  
18 Aug: Malcolm McGregor - Plimmers Ark & Early Wellington History  
25 Aug: Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until around 8:30pm for Members' Research  
  
01 Sep: Brenda Joyce - Writing and Publishing Family History  
15 Sep: Graham Price - Convict Ancestor  
29 Sep: Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until around 8:30pm for Members' Research  
  
06 Oct: Jeremy Lowe or Dinah Priestly - Thorndon  
20 Oct: Ray Peiser - My Family History  
27 Oct: Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until around 8:30pm for Members' Research  
  
03 Nov: Sharon Fredriksson - Recording Family history on Video  
17 Nov: Margaret Hurst - National Turnbull Libraries and Photographic Collection  
24 Nov: Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until around 8:30pm for Members' Research  
  
1 Dec: Jan Gow - Computers and their use in Family History

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### EVENING MEETING 5 MAY - WARWICK JOHNSTON – HUTT HISTORY

Warwick will talk about the recent work he has been doing on Hutt History, pre European and very early settlers/farmers/squatters in the Valley.

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### MORNING MEETING 19 MAY - MORNING MEETING – ELAINE & RON KEOWN - EMILY'S TRUNK

When Elaine's mother was around 104 years old, Elaine finally got around to opening the tin trunk. Family history behind the memorabilia of 3 generations brought to life some of the photos of years gone by. Emily never gave much information about her early life although Elaine tried with no avail. However, when the trunk was opened, answers to many questions over the years became apparent.

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## HUTT VALLEY BRANCH NZSG RESEARCH DAY

Sunday 17 July 2005 from 10am to 4pm Cost \$5 BYO lunch, Tea and Coffee provided

Highlights for the day include:

- Branch's Library holdings will be available including Books, Microfiche and CDs
  - Discussions including research tips, use of computers in genealogy and creation of a website
  - School record index lookups
  - Sharing of private collections by various members books, microfiche and CDs
  - Screening of some episodes of the BBC program "Who Do You Think You Are?"
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## MEMBERS' INTEREST FOLDER UPDATE

A new version of the Members' Interests will be published at the beginning of July 2005. If any corrections or new entries are required could these please be forwarded to Carol Ann by June 30.

The Updates can be completed by completing the Members' Interest form which is located in the Members' Interest Folder. Once the form is completed please place it back in the folder and it will be picked up from there. If assistance is required completing the forms or there are any queries please let Carol Ann know. [ca\\_mason@yahoo.com](mailto:ca_mason@yahoo.com)

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## SPEAKERS REVIEW - BOBBIE AMYES – GREAT GRANDMA AND HER SISTERS - THE ROBERTSON LASSES

Bobbie, a keen genealogist for many years, has really enjoyed the luxury of being able to devote herself to virtually fulltime research over the last 3 years having dropped her teaching load to one day a week.

We all sat there enthralled as Bobbie, the teacher, was telling us her exciting story with much animation that comes from being a teacher - wishing we had had teachers who were such good story tellers when we were at school.

There were 4 Robertson Lasses: Jane, Beatrice, Ann and Isabella (Bobbie's great grandmother)

It seemed worth repeating most of Bobbie's story to give everyone an idea of the challenges involved in family research and the exciting journey of discovery as the story unfolds.

### The Green Book

Bobbie's story began with a green book "The Howie Family 1854 -1954" in which her name has been written - Roberta Grimwood, daughter of Isabella McLeay and A.R. Grimwood, and granddaughter of Flora Lourie and John McLeay. There also were the first 20 of her 30 cousins. The McLeays were a hearty breed, but there were also the Louries, and hundreds of second cousins.

Gilbert Pearce had written in the foreword that it was 100 years since the first of the Howie family had arrived in New Zealand and he, a keen genealogist, wanted to mark the occasion. He had obtained as many members of the families as he was able in those pre-computer days - Alexander Howie and his wife Jane Barron, who had come to Wanganui and settled out towards Fordell - they were the Wanganui Howies from Monquhitter in Aberdeenshire!

Gilbert had carefully set out the list of the Pioneers. There were Alexander and Jane's children and their offspring. Bobbie's great grandmother was there: Isabella Robertson [Lourie]. She was the daughter of Alexander and Jane's 4<sup>th</sup> child, Elizabeth, who had remarried and left Scotland for USA. The first of the family had arrived in 1854. Wanganui was a little township barely 14 years old. The Gilfillans had been massacred in 1847 not far from where the Howies were to settle out on No 2 Line Matarawa and during the coming years some of the family were to be involved with various militia related to the "Maori Wars". There was a special paragraph explaining that Elizabeth Howie-Robertson never came to New Zealand and that she had remarried and left for the US with one of her daughters. The other daughter, Isabella, had married Donald Lourie of Marton whose family were amongst the first to take up land there.

Why did her family have this story that her great grandma come out to New Zealand as a 4 year old without her mum and dad? Why had her mum gone to the US and taken another daughter there?

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## The Howies from New Deer, Scotland

First, the Howies were not from Monquhitter, but the neighbouring parish, New Deer. At some stage they had lived in the parish of Clatt which is further south west, but by the time of the 1841 census they had shifted to New Deer. Bobbie and her half sister, Dominique, had found this out using the IGI, the International Genealogical Index. By hunting for the births/baptisms and weddings of the Howie offspring they were able to locate their probable residences and hence order the appropriate films, the 1841 and the 1851 censuses for New Deer and the Old Parochial Register for New Deer.

The 1841 census clearly showed a family of Howies living near Cairnbanno, with a husband Alexander, a wife Jane and a family that seemed to match their family: Betty, John, Alexander, James, William, but with more children, a George and a Jane, and where were Helen and Ann? The other family of Howies lived south of the village of New Deer. The husband was Robert, the wife, Jane and they had a son and daughter William and Jane, Jane being the same age as the Cairnbanno Jane.

The 1851 census has William from the other Howie family married and bringing up children. His sister Jane has disappeared! Has she married? And what of the Cairnbanno Howies? There are Alexander and Jane with 3 sons William, George and John, daughter Ann [missing on the 1841 census] and a son-in-law 2 grandchildren and miscellaneous others, including one Alexander Gordon.

But wasn't it Elizabeth who was supposed to be her great grandmother's mother! But it is a **Jane** Howie who has married James Robertson, and it is the right Howie family and the right Jane?

The witnesses for the children born to James and Jane are definitely the right Howies, The Cairnbanno Howies, not The Touxhill Howies. So one of their Howies, a Jane, married James Robertson and had 2 children Jane and Beatrice... But who is this Jane or Jean who married John Gordon in 1852? That was still a mystery. It definitely looked like Isabella's mother was not Elizabeth but Jane Howie, and that Isabella had 2 sisters, Jane and Beatrice.

Bobbie had got a copy of Isabella's 2<sup>nd</sup> marriage and it had listed her parents as James Robertson and Jane Howie. She had been cautious about the Jane Howie name because Isabella's guardian at the time of her first marriage was her aunt by marriage ... a Jane Howie. Back in 1999, she had found on the IGI an Isabella Robertson christened 27<sup>th</sup> Nov 1850 to James Robertson and Jane Howie. But they were not living in New Deer, but in the Parish of Longside. which is full of Robertsons. Having the right names doesn't mean you have the right people even though the dates seem to match and the family names seemed to match! Isabella had a sister a year older than her named Ann. She knew her great grandmother was 16 when she married in 1867... but proof was needed.

Bobbie's grandmother had written diaries for over 60 years. Bobbie started going back through the piles of diaries and found -"got a hanky for mother's birthday-18/11" Then in another 'got [something] for mother's birthday - 19/11", but other years had no mention. However "November 1931 Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>" says "Mother 81 years old today." She had found her great grandmother's birthday - Isabella Robertson, born 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1850, in the parish of Longside born to James Robertson and Jane Howie, not Elizabeth as Gilbert had said in error.

As well as the 2 films on Longside, they had one on the Howie family when they were in Clatt, Howies there being spelt as H - U - I - E. The film of the Longside Old Parochial Register [OPR] confirmed the information discovered earlier. There was Isabella's birthday and parentage and Ann's registration date but no birth date. The census threw up even more interesting data. James Robertson and his family were living at no 74 South Street, Mintlaw, which is a village on the cross roads. West to east, it runs from Turriff across to the Port of Peterhead, north to south it ran from the coastal fishing villages and inland farms of North Eastern Aberdeenshire down to Aberdeen itself. It would appear to have been a move that reflected an improvement in fortune; James Robertson was now a master tailor, doing well enough to have moved from his mother's croft at Allathan into a busy village hub, as well as employing an apprentice, James Park. They see that James is 26, wife Jane is 24, Ann is 1 and Isabella is 3 months old. But who is this Elizabeth? And where are Beatrice and young Jane?

Little did she know at the time that the 1851 census would be so pivotal! Here was her happy family... Mum, Dad, the kids.... Live was looking pretty good. Yet if her great grandma came out to New Zealand, as a 4 or 5 year old in 1855-1856, what had happened?

### The Wanganui Lass

They knew that Isabella Robertson came to New Zealand. She and her offspring are recorded in Gilbert Pearce's book about the Howie family in New Zealand. Obviously if they are going to find out about Isabella's life, the Howie family needed to be studied. Back when you could look up marriage records, Bobbie had copied out Issy and Donald's wedding facts. She was 16 and he was 19. They married at Fernie Lee, Matarawa, Wanganui on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1867. The minister was Rev David Hogg.

In 2002, Bobbie visited to the Whanganui Museum, where she worked her way through their Early Settler cards and some other records. Just as she was heading out the door, she was asked if she had seen Marie White's book "Lakes District of Wanganui". Marie had collected information about the Matarawa, Fordell, Kaitoke areas of Wanganui. A browse through Whitcoulls in Wanganui revealed the book in question at \$35! She thought it a trifle dear and better to be borrowed from the library until she looked through it and found the Matarawa School roll. In 1855-1868, along with her Howie and Aiken cousins, was one **Issy Robertson**. This was first and only thing she had found about the young Isabella and so she just had to buy the book!

Marie's book talks about places, families, happenings. The chapter on The Howies is not technically correct but it was what Catherine and her mother knew at the time. The book's maps and photos and information have made it an excellent reference.

### The Canadian Connection

Prowling round Rootsweb World Connect website, Bobbie found a Jane Howie and a John Gordon on Margaret Lambert's family tree. Margaret proved to be the Canadian connection and a descendant of the missing great-great-grandmother which they discovered they had in common!

But finding and being pretty sure is not solid proof! The coincidences were too great, but a good genealogist must prove beyond doubt! Emails were sent backwards and forwards and Bobbie got to learn the intricacies of Canadian research.

### More Background

Back in Scotland, the Howie family had lived round Clatt, then moved to New Deer. It was here that James Robertson and Jane Howie married and the first 2 girls were born. Then they shifted to Mintlaw on the crossroads, where Ann and Isabella were born. James Robertson appeared to have died between April 1851 and September 1852. John Gordon and Jane Howie married in October 1852 and lived at Corbshill, New Deer. Corbshill, Allathan and Cairnbanno form a tight triangle of farms just to the west of New Deer. They left there in 1855 as that is the date on Ellen Gordon's 1901 Canadian census, Ellen being the first of Jane and John's children.

The Howies, when they left New Deer, arrived in Wanganui and settled round what is now called No 2 Line. Two of the Howie siblings had married Aikens and it was to Wanganui other Aiken siblings had migrated in 1852. The families were following the pattern of chain migration that is very much part of New Zealand migration patterns. The eldest of the Howie siblings had come out on the 'Gypsy' in 1854, and within 3 years his parents and 3 siblings had joined them. So when Bobbie found Isabella's name on the Matarawa school roll, there were her cousins' names and their cousins' names as well. The little community from New Deer had moved to Matarawa.

Another New Deer community was also developing in Canada. Answers to their questions as to why Jane Howie Robertson went off to Canada without daughter Isabella became apparent. When Jane had married John Gordon, he was already the father of 10 children. His wife Mary Milne had died just prior to the 1851 census. Their youngest child Elspet Smart Gordon was the same age as Isabella Robertson. His eldest son was the Alexander Gordon living with Jane's parents at Cairnbanno according to the 1851 census. Later in 1851 he married Ann Henderson and Jane's brother, William married Ann's sister, Isabella Henderson. One Henderson lass went to New Zealand with the Howies and one to Canada with the Gordons.

### The Gordons in Canada

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So the Gordons ended up in Canada - north of Toronto and south of Lake Simcoe. Back in 1855, this region was called Ontario County in the province of Ontario. In more recent years Ontario County has been amalgamated into other counties, but then it was made up of several Townships: Reach, Scott, Brock, Uxbridge, Thorah, Mara, Pickering and Whitby. A Township was a block of land, say 10 miles by 10 miles, divided into rectangles. One axis was numbered as concessions [in Roman numbers] and the other as lots, so a person may live at Concession VI, Lot 20. A complete block, one concession of one lot would be 100 acres. The McGill University site, called the Country Atlas Project, has special digital maps that will not only show the Township e.g. Scott, but will also highlight a particular farm e.g. Leask farm, Concession VI, Lot 20. Unfortunately, the Gordons mainly worked on other people's property so entering the name Gordon didn't bring up the correct family, but the site was brilliant for understanding the geography of the area. Bill Martin's site showed old directories of Scott, Reach, Thorah, etc., listing the names of early residents. John Gordon being such a common name could be found in most Townships!

Bobbie and Marg, swapped information which confirmed that they did share the same great great-grandmother and that Helen or Ellen Gordon was the first of 5 children born to John Gordon and Jane Howie. The Robertson ladies now had step siblings and half siblings – the 9 surviving children of John and Mary and the 5 of John and Jane, all Gordons. Over the next 6 months, Bobbie worked with descendants of both Gordon families to sort out the Canadian Gordon family

They had found Jane Howie in Canada, but where was her daughter, Ann Robertson? Canadian research has the same search item as Scotland - the census. The heads of the household are on line for the 1871 census through Canadian Archives and so through a process of elimination they were finally able to locate John Gordon at Scott Township, and then through the LDS 1881 Canadian census, finding Jane and their expanding family was simple enough. But where was Ann? They were pretty sure that they had located her in 1861 even if she was incorrectly labelled.

They had unearthed all sorts of information on the Gordon family, including finding their residence in Reach Township in 1861. They were living a Lot 14 Concession 12. The family consisted of John 49, Jane 35, James, William and Andrew from the first family and Ellen and Jane from the second family ... and 12 year old Ann Gordon entered as having been born in Canada!

They were fairly sure they now had proof of her in Canada, but as she was not in the 1871 census or 1881 census under the name Ann Gordon or Ann Robertson, they presumed she had married. Her sister, Isabella had married at 16 and Ellen at 17, so it was likely she married prior to 1871. In the last year or so, lots of records have come on line, but in April 2002, it was not so easy to trace people.

Mike Stephenson has an excellent site which provided her with lots of information helping sort out the various families. She also paid for him to send copies of some things e.g. the 1871 census of Jane and John. He also sent out land deeds for John Gordon. She would have probably taken them at face value as "Their" John Gordon, but when she typed out the info to send to the other Gordon researchers, one of them picked up immediately that it was the wrong John Gordon, for the John on the land deeds was selling and arranging mortgages with someone Purvis, apparently this other John Gordon's son-in-law. Checking and rechecking data is important.

In June 2002 one of Gordon researchers found notes that she had been made about Jane Howie / Robertson / Gordon's death. She died in Feb 1901 aged 74 of pneumonia at Lot 22 Concession 4, Scott Township. If Jane died in 1901 just before the census, someone in family would still be in the house when the census was taken! By working her way through the Lots and Cons on Schedule 2, Bobbie found Lot 22 / Con 4 then using the reference there, Bobbie went back to Schedule 1 and found her, Ann Campbell born April 12<sup>th</sup> 1849 in Scotland! As she was a widow, she would now have to find her husband's name. One of the people on the Rootsweb list, Scots-in-Canada, looked up her 1881 Canadian census disks. Using Ann and son William's ages as markers to check she was getting the right Ann Campbell, she found the family.

Her main information on Ann since then has come from 2 professionals. Mike Stephenson from Trent University sent her William and Ann's marriage certificate and Alan McGillivray from Uxbridge Scott Museum located relevant census and newspaper articles.

Poor Ann, like her sister Isabella in New Zealand, she was entered on her marriage records as Ann Robinson. Her parents are James Robinson and Jane Hawie. Ann is just 17 so like Isabella and

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Ellen married young. Her husband William Campbell's parents were Archibald Campbell and Isabella Fergusson. He had been born in Dalvadey, Campbeltown, Argyllshire. He was christened on 4<sup>th</sup> January 1839 in the Parish of Killean and Kilkenzie, Argyll.

Allan McGillivray from Uxbridge Scott museum supplied interesting newspaper snippets that provide a glimpse at the life led by William and Ann. William was a sawyer and worked at Leask's sawmill which was on Concession VI and Lot 22. Ann and William were living on 1/8 acre there renting a house from Mr Leask. William bought some land in 1879, Lot 22 Concession 4, and though the family moved onto it after the 1881 census, they shifted to Leaskdale in 1888. At some stage they shifted back again as this is where Jane Howie died in 1901. Through all his years in Scott Twp, William classed himself as a sawyer not a farmer. William and Ann had 5 children, James, Martha, William, Mary Jane and Archibald. Like her sister Isabella, Ann became a widow in middle age. William Campbell died in 1893. Ann was 44 and had 39 years of widowhood. They are buried in Uxbridge Cemetery.

### The Two Eldest Robertson Lasses

This talk hasn't touched much on the lives of the two eldest Robertson lasses. For a while it was thought they must have died. There was no record of Beatrice Elizabeth after the 1851 census, and Jane's sole record was her christening notice. Trying to find out about the girls' father, Bobbie found him in the 1841 census at Allathan. James Robertson, 15, tailor. He was with a woman presumed to be his mother, "Widow" Robertson, 45, crofter. Now that she had been found a name was needed for there are no records of James other than his marriage and the births of his girls. A search of the 1851 New Deer Census for Allathan revealed Isabella Robertson, 59, farmer of 4 acres.

But who were these other people? Here was missing the granddaughter Jane Robertson, the 7 year old daughter of James Robertson and Jane Howie. This other person, Elizabeth, is said to be a daughter of Isabella, so James must have had a sister. Finding Isabella and Elizabeth in the 1851 census was pivotal to finding out about James's parents and siblings. Tracing back through IGI records, Bobbie found Elizabeth Robertson married Alexander Forbes in 1852 and it was their first child James Robertson Forbes who is the baby unknown on the Allathan census. Bobbie used ScotlandsPeople to print out the death certificates of Isabella Robertson and Elizabeth Forbes.

In the 1861 census, Jane was working for her aunt and uncle on their farm just north of New Deer: - Alexander and Elizabeth Forbes, their 4 children, then Jane, or Jean as she was called in this census. Just like her mother, Jane Robertson, is not the only person with the same name of the same age in New Deer. The other Jane is also in this census, 10 houses down the road! Luckily she is still with her parents. Jane waits to be discovered after 1861.

It seems apparent now that after James Robertson died and Jane Howie remarried, the family was split. Ann seems to have stayed with her mother and grown up with the Gordon children, immigrating to Canada in 1855. Isabella could have been less a year old when James died. She was not 2 when her mother remarried. It seems that the Howie grandparents took her in and there she stayed, travelling with the Howie clan to New Zealand. Jane who had been helping her grandmother and her aunt with the new baby in 1851 seems to have stayed with the Robertsons in Scotland.

So what happened to Beatrice? Beatrice is the 5 year old child in the 1851 Longside census. This appeared to be all there was to know until Heather Old, searching for Beatrice Robertson, came across Ngairé Holford's Howie Family on the web [Rootsweb World Connect].

### The Old family of New Plymouth

The Old family is full of genealogists and are very proud of their Cornish heritage. The older generation of Olds had come to New Plymouth on the "Essex" in 1842, and it was the eldest son of John Old and Mary Jane Knuckey that married Beatrice. So why had the connection not been made earlier? This was a family keen on genealogy! The reason lay in Beatrice's age at marriage and the year she died. Beatrice was 21 when she married John Old, so unlike Isabella she did not need to have a guardian's name filled in on her intention to marry record. And because she married in 1867, parents weren't recorded on marriage certificates!

Beatrice Old died in 1875. She is reported to be the first person buried in Waverley cemetery, i.e. Plot one, but she has no headstone! Her death was reported by a personal friend, William Macfarlane. She died too soon to have the details of her parents recorded on her death certificate.

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So why hadn't they on the Howie side picked up Beatrice's marriage? Bryan Curran had sent Bobbie a list of the early Robertson marriages and Bobbie had checked out the marriage of a local Ann Robertson especially as she married into the wider Howie-Aiken clan. But checking her parentage through the ITM, she was definitely not their Ann. With no parental records how can they prove that Beatrice Robertson who married John Old is theirs! Simple. Isabella and Beatrice had a double wedding. They were married at the house of their aunt, Mrs John Howie formerly Jane Smith Young. They were married by the Rev David Hogg on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1867. Unless one knew something about the family, tracing Beatrice back through this address would have been difficult, for their aunt was not living at the Howie family farm, but on her own family farm, Fernilee, No2 Line, the farm of the Youngs.

By tracing John Old's movements through electoral rolls, purchase of land, and by the birth places of their children, they know that John and Beatrice stayed around Wanganui till the 1870s and then with their Howie, Aiken and Old relations, they moved to Wairoa as Waverley was then called.

And it is an Old relation who gives us the only personal view they have of Beatrice: "When I was about 8 years old my eldest brother got married and brought his wife to live near us for the first 12 months. She was a little Scotch woman and we were all very fond of her. When my brother and his wife moved away, they leased a farm nearer town and they moved into the house where they were living. Soon after they shifted my sister next younger than me, went to live with them to help look after their baby. Shortly after that my 2 oldest sisters got married and they all took up land in the Waverley district. That was just after the Maori wars ended or at least things were quietening down". [Hannah Barnes (nee Old), Reminiscences, Whanganui]

After Beatrice's death, John Old married again and his second wife brought up Beatrice's 5 surviving children. They in turn had a large family and when his second wife died, he married for a third time. Beatrice seems to have disappeared in the sheer hardship of raising a large family in pioneering times [at least 18 live births].

So now we know what happened to 3 of the 4 Robertson girls. However, Jane is still a mystery after the age of 17.

Thank you Bobbie and thank you for your notes and useful websites. We wish you well in Auckland. Perhaps when you solve the mystery of Jane Robertson, you can come back and tell us about it.

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## WEBSITES TO HELP RESEARCHING ONTARIO PROVINCE IN CANADA - BOBBIE AYMES

1901 census <http://automatedgenealogy.com/census/index.html>

Ontario Cemeteries <http://www.wightman.ca/~dkaufman/>

Ontario Obituaries <http://www.ontarioobits.com/>

Marriages in Ontario 1800-1924 <http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~maryc/ontmarr.htm>

Ontario Marriage registrations <http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~maryc/thisisit.htm>

Bill Martin's site <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~wjmartin/sitemap.htm>

Ontario Gen web <http://www.geneofun.on.ca/ongenweb/>

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~canon/countydistrictpages.html>

Uxbridge – Scott Museum <http://www.uxbridge.com/museum/mhome.html>

Durham Regional Branch of Ontario Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/%7Eonwob22/>

Home page for Michael Stephenson <http://www.ontariogenealogy.com/stephenson.html>

Canadian Archives Genealogical Data Bases [http://www.genealogy.gc.ca/06/06\\_e.html](http://www.genealogy.gc.ca/06/06_e.html)

County Atlas Project [Ontario] <http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/CountyAtlas/search.htm>

## OTHER WEBSITES MENTIONED

Family Search [http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/frameset\\_search.asp](http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/frameset_search.asp)

Scotland's People <http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/index.php>

Rootsweb World Connect <http://wc.rootsweb.com/>

FreeCEN UK <http://freecen.rootsweb.com/cgi/search.pl>

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## SPEAKER'S REVIEW – DIANE FRASER – QUEENSLAND RESEARCH

Contrary to what was written last month, Diane is the secretary of Porirua Branch and also at the moment the newsletter editor. Pam Edmonds is Porirua's convenor and is the person who produced the divorce fiche.

Dianne Fraser talked on carrying out research in Queensland. She explained that her husband was a Queenslander and she carried out family research on their annual holidays. Her husband is a descendant of settlers who arrived in 1855. The Grigors selected for property in the hinterland of the Sunshine Coast and were original settlers in the Glasshouse Mountains area. Here they had an accommodation house for the Cobb and Co coaches who ran a service to the goldfields at Gympie. Dianne had obtained "meat on the bones" information from a number of publications on local families which she had found at historical museums and libraries in the area.

Dianne showed us what family history resources were available at the Queensland State Library <http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/>. Unfortunately at the moment this is located in a suburb of Brisbane due to renovations and is not as accessible as usual. The resources include the following:

- Births, deaths and marriage indexes for Australia, New Zealand, England and Wales
- Electoral rolls for Australia and New Zealand
- Convict records
- Immigration and shipping
- Cemetery records
- Post office directories and almanacs
- Biographical collections
- Newspapers on microfilm
- British government records relating to the Australian Colonies
- Irish land records (Census substitutes)
- Naturalization indexes
- An extensive collection of printed books for family and local historians
- Photograph collections
- Newspaper clippings files

The library also has "The Times" on line from the late 1700's. All these resources are freely available. Other resources in Brisbane are the Queensland State Archives <http://www.archives.qld.gov.au/> which is situated in Runcorn a suburb of Brisbane and rather inaccessible unless you have private transport. The archives have wills and probates, shipping, school and land records which are unavailable elsewhere.

An excellent website explaining the resources available and tips is <http://www.judywebster.gil.com.au/tips-qld.html#bdm>. Another website Dianne has found useful is Search Whatever Australia. <http://www.searchwhateveraustralia.com.au/>

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## THE 1861 CENSUS IS NOW ONLINE

[www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) have added the complete 1861 census for England. Having had a look at it at the National Library, I have found it is also riddled with transcription errors but with a bit of persistence and I did manage to find a few more family members.

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