

# South Canterbury Genealogy

July/August 2022



## From the editor

*Carol Bell*



I've been having a struggle with placing a group of close DNA matches into my family tree. I can see what part of the family they match - they have the same surname - but I can't definitively place them into my tree. The source of this Matthews line is Rose Matthews who was born "within the sound of Bow Bells" but grew up an orphan and was sent to Canada as a child on a child emigrant scheme. She returned to England as a young adult "to look for family", married there and returned with her husband to live the rest of her life in Canada. She appeared at first to be born about 1893 but later became the same age as her husband, about four years younger. Then, apparently, any family-held papers with Rose's birth date on them mysteriously gained a cigarette burn over the relevant number! I suspect Rose is the illegitimate child of my great-grandfather's brother James Matthews who was a seaman in and out of various British ports around this time. James never married and died in the Suez Canal in 1919. This month I bought her marriage certificate from the GRO, but her father is not named. Of course he's not! Now I'm working my way through GRO birth registrations to see if I can identify Rose as an illegitimate child with her mother. We've also got a photo of a young man in a First World War POW camp with the note "From your long lost brother James Matthews". Life is getting more and more complicated!

# Chair's report



*from Liz Shea*



South Canterbury genealogical resources [timaru.gen.nz](http://timaru.gen.nz)

It is with pleasure that I write my first report for the new society that came into being in June 2022 thanks to the support of the new committee and all our new members. It has been a long process to set up the new society, but in the end it has turned out well.

We have a new logo to reflect the South Canterbury colours, green and black with reference to the family tree and books which provide us with information in our study.

Our first AGM was held in July but had to be a zoom meeting as the weather was just too cold and wet and dangerous for our members to attend. It was still a good turnout and a new committee was elected along with myself as the new chair.

With all these wet days, it has given us extra time inside to do research instead of being out in the garden. The garden is so wet now and muddy, and the lawns don't need mowing, that will come later. My first blossom tree is in full flower and full of wax eyes delighting in the extra nectar it provides.

With a new daughter-in-law joining the family, I have gone on another family tree search and found lots of interesting family members including two convicts sent to Australia in the 1860s, one of whom I will write a story about later. I have also had to go into Hungarian archives but thanks to Mr Google and some helpful Facebook friends, been able to get translations of a marriage certificate. The certificate was very helpful as it gave the actual birth date of the bride and groom, their occupation, their religion and where they were born and where they now lived. Priceless information. Now on a new journey of discovery. I used a Facebook page to obtain more information and have found these new friends so helpful. The wonders of the internet.

Genealogy is full of surprises, secrets and is just so much fun when you can put the puzzle together.

Ancestry.com went down today, so I spent some time with family.

They seem like nice people.

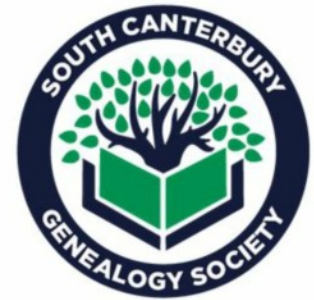




# News



We launch our new logo this month with many thanks to Liz Shea's very talented son. Transcribing continues at The Arcade on Thursday mornings 10am-1pm - how-to videos on demand. Transcribing work can also be provided for you to do at home if that's what you prefer. Sunday duty at the museum is still suspended until we get to a green-light Covid setting. Dave Jack's extensive library and facilities are available to members on request. Laptops are available for research on Ancestry, FindMyPast and Family Search, and NZ BMD fiche can be viewed at The Arcade. Thursday mornings are also turning into something of a how-to session. If there's anything you need help with, call in for a coffee and a chat.



## UPDATED COLLECTIONS

### Ancestry

Lancashire, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1934

### FamilySearch

England, Gloucestershire Non-Conformist Church Records, 1642-1996 (24,215 / 202429)

England, Lincolnshire, Marriage Bonds and Allegations, 1574-1885 (135,981)

England, Derbyshire, Church of England Parish Registers, 1537-1918 (2,953,523)

### FindMyPast

Middlesex CoE Baptisms (18,000) New Brentford 1813-1876, Tottenham 1813-1884, Edmonton 1802-1842

Surrey CoE Baptisms (23,000) Lambeth, Stockwell, St Mary Magdalene Bermondsey, Walworth, 1777-1876

Greater London Burial Index (8,000) Ealing,  
1813-1868

**Railway Work, Life & Death (RWLD)** <https://www.railwayaccidents.port.ac.uk/whats-in-the-new-data/>

British & Irish railway worker accidents, 1900-1939 (17,000)

## Plans for the year

- 9 August: Liz Shea: Remembrance Army
- 13 September: Teresa Scott: Reviewing members' interests and a look at National Archives' new website
- 11 October:
- 8 November: Geraldine Cemetery
- 13 December:



# WHARE NANA REVISITED

Your article in the newsletter about Whare Nana reminded me that I have an invoice from Nurses King and White to my grandmother for professional services, cotton wool, lotions and washing.

My grandmother, Minnie Hoare, nee Brasell, married William Ernest Hoare and Minnie delivered their first set of twins at Whare Nana on 5 January 1913. They were named Amy Evelyn and James William.

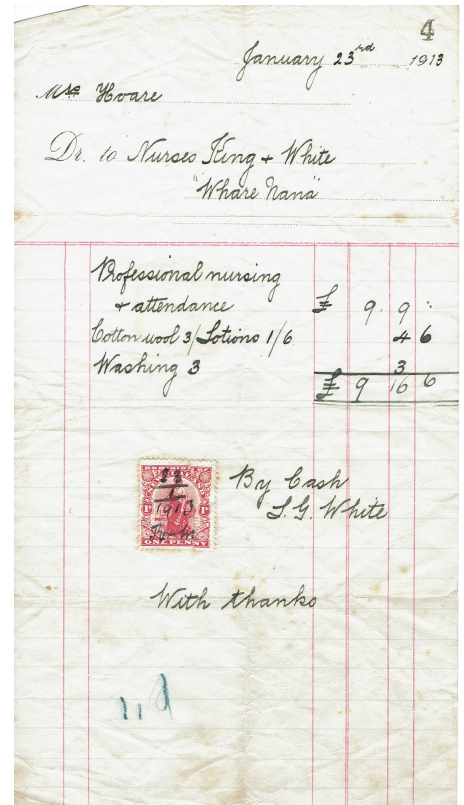
I am unsure if the next six Hoare babies were delivered at Whare Nana but in 1921 twins seven and eight were born there. Baby number eight was my mother Gladys Joan Hoare and her brother, baby seven was Frank Avery Hoare.

There were four more Hoare babies after that, making a total of 12.

My grandfather was a labourer and the princely sum of £9.16.6 must have taken some budgeting for.

I am presuming from the article, that the Whare Nana the babies were born in, was the first one established in Wai-iti Road. That was where my mother said she was born.

**Heather Fijfield**



# ANOTHER HOSPITAL STORY

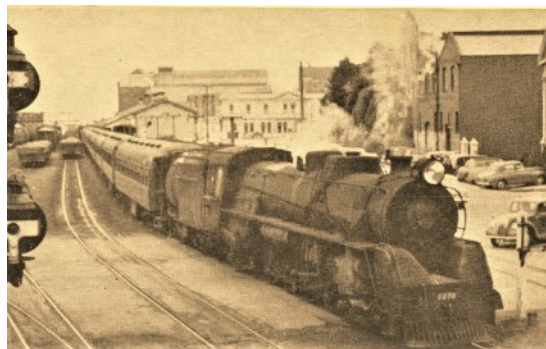
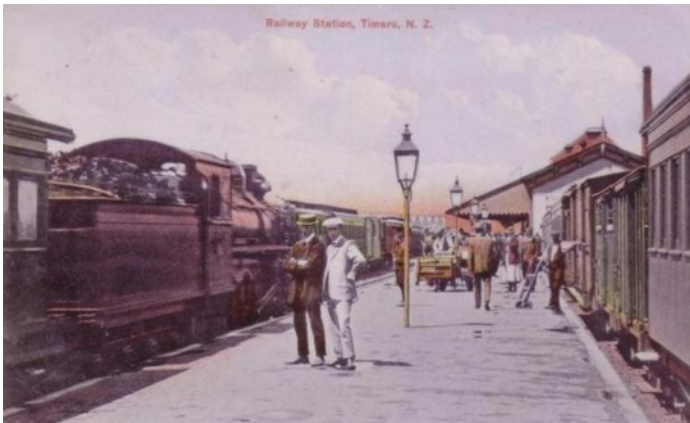
From a family story I've been working on recently. Things were tough in those days:

When Eileen was about nine months old she contracted poliomyelitis and was immediately admitted to Dunedin Hospital, spending several months there receiving treatment. Her parents John and Margaret saved hard and they they had saved sufficient money to purchase a new house, they bought one in Hague Street, Mornington, and next door they also bought a small two-bedroomed cottage. The Hague Street house consisted of a front room or sitting room, separate kitchen and dining room, three bedrooms, and a washhouse. It was a nice house and the family enjoyed living there. John had a good job and was very happy.



Eileen had been admitted to hospital again just before her fifth birthday to have surgery on her right leg, and eventually she had a few months in hospital. John received a bill for her care from the hospital, so he went down to see the chairman of the board. In those days you had to list all assets when you were admitted to hospital, so John was told that as he owned two houses he would have to sell one of them to pay the hospital bill. He explained that he didn't have the ready cash and had a fourth child on the way, and must have asked for credit of some sort. However the chairman didn't have much sympathy for him, so he had to sell the cottage to pay the bill.

# TRAINS AROUND TIMARU



Clare Palliser has shared this history of her family with permission from the author. It is reproduced here as a piece of local interest and also to show what can be achieved in our own family history when we put pen to paper. It will be serialised for this format and printed over the next few months.

# CISSY

1888-1967

by Libby Clark

## *The continued story of Siceley Clark and the Palliser family: From Yorkshire to Timaru to Napier*



John and Alison went to live in Wellington, and over the next few years had three children, Elizabeth (Libby), Judith and John. As grandparents, Cissy and John took pleasure in having the family to stay. They had a chest of drawers with an assortment of treasures and interesting old junk to play with, and there were also the Hornby train and Meccano sets that JSC had played with. One of the simple playthings on offer was a wooden push-along trundler that the children called "Dobbin". Putting objects and toys in Dobbin, and pushing it around the verandah and up the garden path was a favourite activity when the children were young. The smell of geraniums always take me back to Thompson Rd.

Grandma and Grandfather would take the children to Westshore, or to Marine Parade with all its attractions, especially the fountain, the floral clock, the paddling pool and the skating rink. After dark, it was a treat to go down and see the multi-coloured lights on the Norfolk pines and the fountain playing in its night-time colours.

The Thompson Rd neighbours were all close friends, and the children got to know them well. The immediate neighbours were Captain Bevan (the harbourmaster) and his wife Gladys, a jolly couple who seemed to enjoy our visits, and Olive Ellison, who was deaf, and who also made sure we were rewarded for going to see her.

Holidays in Napier were hugely looked forward to by the grandchildren. Grandma's picnic baskets were a joy. There would be scones or pikelets wrapped in gingham cloth, and all the trimmings – lashings of butter, jam and cream. There would be a thermette, which Grandfather would light up, then don his waders for a cast or two in the nearby stream or river, while Grandma made tea and set out the picnic rug. Picnics were, by definition, beside the water, usually running water.

Another place where Cissy and John spent much of their time with the family was Hatepe, on the eastern shore of Lake Taupo. John and Alison had built a cottage there on a Māori leasehold section in the late 1950s, and it would have taken Cissy back to her childhood, with their family visits to Opihi and Pareora. As it had been in Timaru days, for the menfolk Hatepe was all about the trout – mainly fly fishing, but also trawling from the kauri clinker with its 2.5 HP Seagull motor. For the women and children it was about swimming, lazing on the beach, rowing the boat, walking up the river, and casual outdoor meals.



With Libby at the skating rink, Marine Parade

As the eldest grandchild, I remember Grandma as rather stern, and not much into cuddles. I wasn't afraid of her, but I certainly knew what was expected, and behaved accordingly. I do recall getting into bed with them, so they didn't reject my childish desire for physical closeness, but I do not have a sense of Grandma being playful and overtly affectionate. She seemed like a tall, majestic figure to me, and I was fascinated by her clothes and jewellery, and her lavender perfume, which were so different from my mother's.

I was captivated by the postcards and letters that my grandparents sent us when they went on their over-seas trip to Scotland and Canada in 1955.

In her later years, Cissy's younger sister Clara came to live with them. One family account explains this as Cissy needing help to care for John after he became ill. Clara remained in Napier with them for a number of years, staying there with Cissy after John died, and looking after Cissy following her first stroke. Once or twice a year, Cissy came to live with John and Alison to enable Clara to have a break from caregiving. Clara's sisterly dedication, loyalty and love were remarkable, and a blessing both for Cissy and for her family. It was a stroke that ended Cissy's life, in 1967.

Her's was a life that demonstrated strength, resilience and stability of character. There is much about her that we do not know and probably never will, but her story can now be set against the background of her own parents and their heritage. Going back in place and time, we can gain some insight into the factors, values, qualities and events that determined the history of the Palliser family.



Cissy and John dressed up for the occasion, Hawkes Bay A&P Show

## ***North Yorkshire***

### **The land**

The county where Cissy's parents had their roots is now known as North Yorkshire, previously North Riding. It is an area with natural borders: the rivers Tees to the north and Humber to the south, the Pennines to the west, and the North Sea to the east.

The Pennines are a range of hills deeply dissected by valleys and dales, while the east is a region of limestones and sandstones forming the upland mass of the moors.

In between, where the Pallisers and Warwicks lived for centuries, are the Vales of York and Mowbray, flat lowlands with ridges and glacial moraines. This is fertile, arable land, and the local economy was based largely on small scale farming, serviced by market towns and villages.

The main centres of population in North Yorkshire (apart from York) are Northallerton and Thirsk, which are 14.5 km from each other. These and other significant Palliser and Warwick locations are marked on the North Yorkshire map coming next edition. Most are within two compact areas, except for Saltburn-by-the-Sea, being on the coast.

**MORE TO COME NEXT TIME . . .**

# Meeting reports



*with Lesley Tennent*



## June 2022

A general meeting was held on 14 June. Liz welcomed members present in person and by Zoom, to what will be the last meeting of the South Canterbury Branch NZSG. Teresa took minutes as Lesley was sporting a large plaster cast on her right wrist. Eight members attended the meeting via Zoom - the first time this has been available. The proposed Constitution of the SC Genealogy Society Incorporated was presented. Opportunity for discussion, questions and suggestions was provided. Comment was made on a few sections. It was moved by D Jack, seconded by L Tennent that the constitution as tabled be adopted. Carried unanimously. Alison Connolly expressed thanks for all that had been done to effect this outcome. It was then moved that we lodge the constitution with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies and contact NZSG requesting disaffiliation. Signatures of 15 members required for the Registrar of Incorporated Societies in support of application for incorporation were collected.

An ordinary meeting followed the general meeting where members including Denae Holwell, Liz Shea, Teresa Scott, Lesley Tennent and Ruth Campbell talked about their current research and projects.

## July 2022

Once again the weather defeated our plans as one of several winter storms made the roads dangerous and the first AGM of SC Genealogy was reduced to a Zoom call. **Present:** Liz Shea, Lesley Tennent, Carolyn Johnston, Carol Boulton, Carol Bell, Hilary Coles, Tim Brosnahan, Annette Batchelor, Robyn Davidson, Teresa Scott, Adrienne Bruce, Clare Palliser, Janette Clarke, Heather Fifield, Lois Shears, Jenny Dewar. **Apologies:** Margaret Cosgrove, Ann Munro, Kathy de Joux, Bev Peebles, Jill Welford, Esme Jones, Dave Jack, Christine Stewart, Allison Connelly. **Remembrance:** members remembered the late Maree Bowen, Ted Hansen & Georgina McDonald.

Liz read her convenor's report and Carolyn presented the financial report.

### **Election of Office Bearers**

Chairperson – Liz Shea nominated Clare Palliser/seconded Carolyn Johnston

Secretary – Lesley Tennent nominated Clare Palliser/seconded Carol Boulton

Treasurer – Carolyn Johnston nominated Clare Palliser/seconded Hilary Coles

Committee – Carol Bell nominated Teresa Scott/seconded Clare Palliser

Committee – Teresa Scott nominated Lesley Tennent/seconded Hilary Coles

Committee – Lois Shears nominated Carol Bell/seconded Teresa Scott

Committee – Clare Palliser nominated Hilary Coles/seconded Carol Bell

Committee – Hilary Coles nominated Carolyn Johnston/seconded Clare Palliser.

Sunday Roster – Janette Clarke nominated Liz Shea/seconded Clare Palliser.

Teresa Scott moved the committee have the power to co-opt/seconded Clare Palliser.

Signatories – to remain as Chairperson, Treasurer & Lois Shears, moved Liz Shea/seconded Hilary Coles.

Re the new bank account – there is a resolution in the minutes that gives authority.





<https://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/>

# Olwyn's South Canterbury website

THIS WAS SOUTH CANTERBURY-- The old eight stand woolshed is still in use, the lower portion was added on in the 1970s, doubling the number of sheep that could be overnigheted for shearing in the morning. The farmer was obligated to have a shed full of dry, clean sheep and after dinner and before sunset with his kids and dogs the shed is filled but not crowded so the sheep overnight in the shed are dry by morning. Dogs were not used in a shed. The farmer was constantly there during the shearing well before the shearers arrived at 7:30 in the morning and well after the shearers "knock off" for the day. The basic layout of the shearing shed was well developed by the mid-1860s, and its fundamental design has endured until today. This woodshed does not have a raised board and around the side is the counting out pens. Each shearer has his own counting out pen. Note the portable loading ramp outside and the small side door. The ramp fits between the side door and the backend of a sheep truck.

According to figures released by Statistics New Zealand the number of sheep in South Canterbury has been steadily declining and dairy cattle numbers steadily increasing. Number of shearers and sheep farmers is also declining. In 2000 there were 699 sheep farms in the Mackenzie and Waimate districts areas and by 2015 numbers had diminished to 342. Between 2005 and 2010 the number of sheep farms dropped from 531 to 348 and the number of dairy farms in the province doubled, increasing from 198 in 2000 to 414 in 2015. There are now more dairy farms than sheep farms in South Canterbury. There were 25.97 million sheep in New Zealand as of June 2021. There were 32.56 million sheep in 2010 and peaked at 70 million sheep in 1982.

The annual sheep owner returns in the AJHR after 1879 are the best guide to the approximate dates of changes of ownership. It is possible to work out when a sheep farmer moves into the area based on the sheep returns.

<https://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/sheepowners.htm>

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/6162/>

A photographic study of woolsheds in South Canterbury, NZ in 2010 (rootsweb.com)





# Members' Interests

*from Carole Cowan*

ce.cowan@xtra.co.nz

PIRRET	SCOTLAND	Kirkintilloch	pre1920
POLLARD	ENGLAND	Sussex Brighton	All
POLLEY	ENGLAND	Essex Twinstead	1800-1875
PORTWINE	ENGLAND	Middlesex London	1800+
POULGRAIN	AUSTRALIA	Bendigo	pre1854
POULGRAIN	ENGLAND	Devon East Stonehouse	pre1854
POULGRAIN	NEW ZEALAND	Bay of Plenty Gisborne	1840+
POWELL	ENGLAND	Gloucestershire	1740+
POWELL	ENGLAND	Gloucestershire Lydney	1774+
POWELL	ENGLAND	Gloucestershire St Briavels	1774+
PREECE	ENGLAND	Hereford Humber	1780+
PREECE	NEW ZEALAND	Canterbury Christchurch/Waimate	1870+
PROCTOR	ENGLAND	Gloucestershire Alvington	All
PROCTOR	ENGLAND	Gloucestershire Winchcomb	All
PROCTOR	ENGLAND	Gloucestershire Woolaston	All
RAE	SCOTLAND	Berwickshire	1700s
RAINTON	NEW ZEALAND	Otago Dunedin	1890+
RAWES	ENGLAND		
READE	IRELAND	Offaly Corracklevin, Dunkerrin	abt 1840
REILLY	ENGLAND	Wiltshire Eton	pre1859
RETTET	ENGLAND	Surrey Malden	1750+
RETTET	NEW ZEALAND	All	
RIX	ENGLAND	Devon Iddesleigh	1600-1750
ROE	ENGLAND	Warwickshire Birmingham	1850s
ROSS	NEW ZEALAND	Sth Canterbury Glenavy	1870-1920



# Library report

*from Teresa Scott*

*South Canterbury Genealogy Society Inc - recent accessions include:*

*Newsletters 2021, 2022:*

Ashburton District Family History Group– February; April; June

Balclutha – July-August 2022

Cambridge – July; August

Canterbury Genealogy Society – June

Dunedin – July-August

Feilding – July

Gore – August

Hawke's Bay – June

Hawera – June-July

Hutt Valley – July; August

Kapiti – June; July

Kilbirnie – July; August

Matamata – July

Mosgiel – June

Nelson – June; July

New Plymouth Genealogy – July; August

Oamaru – July

Otaki – June; July

Papakura – July

Papamoa Family History Group – July

Porirua – July

South Canterbury Genealogy Society – May-June 2022

Southland – June/July

Wellington – June; July

Whanganui – April-June



***Please send request for forwarding to Teresa.***

The Gazette: Journal of the Toowoomba and Darling Downs Family History Society Inc – March 2022

Catholic Marriages, Otago-Southland Diocese (to 1920) – cross-matched with Catholic Burials in Otago Cemeteries - Michael Rombouts (1994) [OT68a] [donated]

Catholic Marriages, Otago-Southland Diocese (to 1920) – cross-matched with Catholic Burials in Southland Cemeteries - Michael Rombouts (1994) [OT68b] [donated]

Index to New Zealanders Who Served in Other Forces During World War I - compiled by Faye Guthrie (1996) [MR62] [donated]

# Local contacts

## SC Genealogy - Office Bearers

Convener: Liz Shea 03 684 7790 Branch Contact sheafamily@farmside.co.nz

Minute secretary: Lesley Tennent 03 612 6759

Treasurer: Carolyn Johnston 03 684 5709

Committee: Teresa Scott 03 688 9034 Library

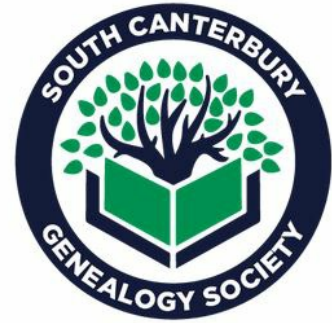
Lois Shears 03 688 1655 School Rolls

Clare Palliser 03 688 0896

Hilary Coles 03 615 7195

Carol Bell 03 684 7733 Newsletter carolbel49@gmail.com

Off committee: Carole Cowan 03 684 5491 Members Interests ce.cowan@xtra.co.nz



Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at our rooms at 19 The Arcade  
Research help is also available at our rooms Thursday 10am - 1pm and at the museum every Sunday 1.30pm - 4pm Covid restrictions permitting. The museum service is on hold awaiting a green traffic light.  
The group library is available at the museum whenever the research room is open - Tuesday to Friday and Sunday 1.30pm to 4.30pm. Books can be borrowed on Sundays but must be signed out by the librarian or a Sunday volunteer.

A working group meets Wednesday and Thursday mornings at the museum to transcribe various historical documents. Can you help? Contact Lois on 688-1655

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

