

Whangarei Family History Computer Group

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For Sale

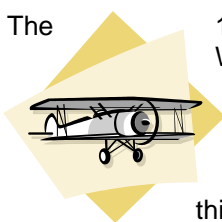
Calendar dates 2014

Saturday DECEMBER 13 Christmas breakup

Venue: 6 Augusta Place

November meetings Thursday & Saturday

The 100th anniversary of World War 1 made the timing seem appropriate to have a talk on someone from World War 1 so Vacky kindly told us about her Father's very interesting time in the fledgling Royal Flying Corp.



His interest in photography led him to be the observer and photographer in the planes. They seemed so flimsy in comparison to what we have today. Vacky's description of the planes and the things they had to do were amazing and showed such bravery.

The information Vacky had from the postcards he sent home have helped her date his time overseas although actual information had to be carefully thought out or was censored.

Vacky did this presentation on the Thursday and the Saturday and between those few days narrowed down her father's travels even if the job he was doing meant information isn't freely available. The postcards of course with the dates on gave a great timeline.

His photographs were named and places were noted, although any of himself were simply titled 'Self', but from the point of view of Genealogy it is most helpful to have all the information.

His story as told by Vacky was most interesting. Thanks so much for your time Vacky.

If you have an Ancestry subscription, note that on the top right of the front page is



Clicking on it gives a timeline of WW 1 and clicking on each date eg **1915 Dec Christmas Truce** will bring up, to the left of the screen, a wee bit of information about that event. I have taken a copy of these and will try and tie them in with my paternal Grandfather's WW 1 diaries.



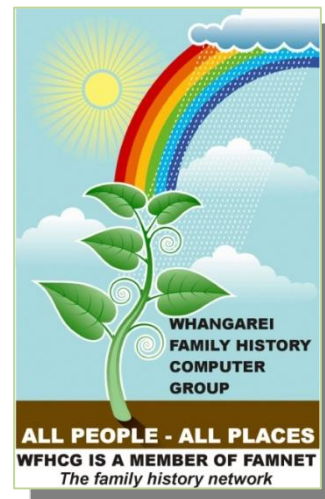
I tried also to point out a few websites I have used in my search for my Irish Grandfather's side of my family tree. What a Mission .. however, I have had quite a bit of good luck. (More than good management and research skills)

The trek started with the little my Mother had remembered and when I finally managed to learn a wee bit about computers I found FAMILYSEARCH.ORG. This site really confirmed the birth dates of Grandad and his siblings, or most of them. The first child was born before registration was required so it was only luck and a photo and a comment from a 2nd cousin which helped me find out about her.

1864 was the start of births and deaths being registered in Ireland so any children before then I had no proof of. Marriages did start in 1845.

Grandad's parents Robert MIDDLETON & Margaret RYDER marriage I found on the IRISH FAMILY HISTORY FOUNDATION site. This was a site where once registered, you searched the index, paid a minimum and chose which index looked right. Now, they are a subscription site which could end up a bit more expensive.

County Cavan is where my Grandfather came from in the Republic of Ireland but, they are part of Ulster so some records I have found in the Emerald Ancestors site.



I used GENUKI to find where records for various Counties may be in Ireland. Those that are blue usually have a direct link to a site but, don't be too disappointed if from there, there is no online access to the actual records.

After Family Search my next best site was ORIGINS.NET especially for the Griffiths Valuation records. This has now been bought by FindMyPast and the Origins site will close in 2015. GRIFFITHS VALUATIONS on ORIGINS was great for narrowing right down to the TOWNLAND which is the best way of tracing Irish genealogy I have found. FindMyPast says that all the information on ORIGINS is now available on the FMP site.

Other places I have had some luck:

- ~ National Archives – Wills
- ~ Proni – Wills

<http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/search/cwa/index.jsp> this is the WILLS index for the Republic

http://applications.proni.gov.uk/DCAL_PRONI_WillsCalendar/WillsSearch.aspx for the Northern Ireland WILLS index

<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/> for the 1901 & 1911 Irish Census

It does pay to check on both sites for Wills and the old ORIGINS.net also had some indexes of WILLS so hopefully they will now be on FMP site.

The Irish Roots magazine I get has been announcing this year that there are several Irish Newspapers now digitised and online on FMP so next year will start trawling those.

A wee Newspaper site I found was: <http://www.irelandoldnews.com/index.html> This site doesn't seem to have been updated since I found it a few years ago. It is very hard to search by name because the spelling is notorious for being misspelt. Certainly try a surname but I found a town or townland name bought up articles and sometimes the family names were mentioned. This is the site where I fluked one of my Grandfather's Aunts getting married in 1850 and so it was another child to add to my GtGt Grandfather's family.



From Wayne

. GOOGLING genealogy. Wayne loves google and has forwarded these to share for those doing genealogy. They are a series of options to use Google to do some of your research. Unfortunately I haven't had time to even come and look at my own research so I haven't had a chance to use any of these yet but I am hoping there may be a way to find the Irish twig on my tree which left Ireland and went to America circa 1812/1815

1. [Genealogy Searches for Google by Using Your Family Tree](#)

This free genealogy site helps you use Google™ for your research. It creates a series of different searches using tips or "tricks" that will likely improve your ... see

www.genealogy-search-help.com/

1.

2. [Hot Tips on How to Use Google for Genealogy Searches](#)

Google is the number one search engine for genealogy searches. Most people use Google to find websites. However, Google can also be used to search ...

www.genealogyintime.com/GenealogyResources/.../hot_tips_on_how_to...

1.

2. [Google Genealogy Style - Google Power Search Tips for ...](#)

Learn how to Google as you've never Googled before with these tips for using Google for all aspects of your genealogy search. -

http://genealogy.about.com/od/search_tips/a/google_search.htm

Last year RootsWeb had a webinar which we watched at one of the Saturday meetings on setting up a %GoogleSearch while you Sleep+link.



Perhaps we could have a look at some of these in the New Year as a lesson and learn how to make use of them? Rootsweb had a webinar which we used earlier this year on setting up %Google your research while you sleep+.

The Travellersō ò .

Gloria & Barry White have travelled all round the North Island for the last month/7 weeks and have had some exciting weather. Gloria admitted to being very worried with some of the very high winds. Some of the photos they have shared on facebook have been glorious.

December there will be **no meetings** on the 11th or 20th Dec (Our hosts arrive home from the South Island 10th Dec and the 20th is just too close to Christmas)

There will be an afternoon tea for Christmas at 6 Augusta Place on the 13th December. You are welcome, please bring a plate of nibbles or something to share.

Please email me on whangareifamilyhsitorygroup@gmail.com to let me know if you will be able to join in so that we have an idea of numbers. (Or email/phone any of the people at top of newsletter.)

Details to be finalised but it would be nice to have say ¾ hour or so research or show and tell of what you have found during the year on that day.

Finally, does anyone have any ideas on lessons for 2015.

April we will, with a combined effort, try to get Vacky's story she did on her Father onto a PowerPoint or some sort of show so that the photos and cards and maps can be viewed while her talk is happening.

During next year it would be great if each person would contribute some of their findings, (and we will help to put it together for you to show onscreen) to help others in their research.

We will do some more of the collaborative searching too for anyone who wants it because it does help others to learn using the computer sites. However, I feel we do need to find a way to do it in a more constructed way so that the searching makes it interesting for everyone. Any ideas or time offered would be great.

THANKS - I would like to say thank you to everyone who during the year has helped; with information for the newsletter, Jane for putting all those lessons together, especially when you had to learn on the fly to get it done and also Gloria and Barry for your hours and running around and the Thursday night meeting pieces you put together. Wayne, Angela, Barry for new websites to tear our hair out over. Judy and Clint for the use of your home on the Thursday nights. (I don't think anyone will want to come back to the old Thursday night venue because there is no baking.) Those who helped at Waipu again and also Jan Gow's retreat. (I know I have already thanked those who helped that weekend but thank you again.)

Thank you to Gwen Ann & Vacky for getting the rooms ready for the November Saturday meeting , I found that day particularly stressful as I had never done anything with the computers and projectors before. That was a learn as the minutes went by day. Thank you to all of you for any of your help and ideas and information to put the meetings together.

Thank you, all of you, who come to the meetings and make them so interesting and such fun.

2015

January the 1st is when the group will have a tent/stall out at the Waipu Caledonian Games. (Wayne has all the details of the games if you need any information)

Talking about the games, I believe there is a gentleman moved into Kamo who makes and mends Kilts. I would like to hear him talk on the subject of Tartans and Kilts. Is this something anyone else would like to hear?

Please help with ideas on what you would like to learn, remembering no-one who has been doing the talking/talks during the last 4 years are experts on Genealogy it is only what has been learned during their own research and as I said on my own Irish family so much of it was pure luck and chance remarks.

If I don't see you on Saturday 13th December please have a safe, happy and healthy Christmas.

