



# RESEARCH GUIDE

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[www.toituosm.com](http://www.toituosm.com)

## Research Guide | Pukapuka Tātaki

# Genealogy

Version 2

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*Nau mai, haere mai.*

*This guide has been compiled by staff at Toitū Otago Settlers Museum and is intended to be used by people wanting to research their family history or genealogy.*

*It aims to capture the most common and relevant research questions people have when coming into the Research Centre as well as supplying information about other repositories and sources in Dunedin, New Zealand and on the internet that may be relevant to your research.*

*We hope you find this guide helpful.*

*Noho ora mai.*

## GETTING STARTED

### 1. Gather together everything you know

Before starting any type of genealogical research, it's a good idea to gather together and arrange all of the information you already have.

### 2. Talk to family members/whānau

You will be amazed at how many names, birthdates, marriage dates and other details about your ancestors you can collect just by talking to family members/whānau. They may also be a good source of family photographs.

### 3. Read "how-to" books for doing genealogy. For example:

*New Zealand Beginner's Guide to Family History Research*, by Anne Bromell.

[Bromell Anne and New Zealand Society of Genealogists. 2004. New Zealand Beginner's Guide to Family History Research. Auckland N.Z: Whitcoulls.](#)

*Searching Overseas: A Guide to Family History Sources for Australians & New Zealanders*, by Susan Pedersen.

[Pedersen Sue. 1987. Searching Overseas : A Guide to Family History Sources for Australians and New Zealanders. Kenthurst N.S.W: Kangaroo Press.](#)

*Tracing Family History in New Zealand*, by Anne Bromell.

[Bromell Anne. 1996. Tracing Family History in New Zealand. Auckland N.Z: Godwit.](#)

*Tracing Family History Overseas from New Zealand*, by Anne Bromell.

[Bromell Anne. 1997. Tracing Family History Overseas from New Zealand. Auckland N.Z: Godwit.](#)

*Whakapapa : An Introduction to Researching Māori and Pākehā-Māori Families Their History Heritage and Culture*, by Joyce Brenda, Bruce Mathers, Owen Ormsby and New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

[Joyce Brenda, Bruce Mathers, Owen Ormsby and New Zealand Society of Genealogists. 2008.](#)

[\*Whakapapa : An Introduction to Researching Māori and Pākehā-Māori Families Their History Heritage and Culture\*. Wellington N.Z: Māori Interest Group NZSG.](#)

#### **4. Download a genealogy database**

Computer databases are an excellent way to keep track of information. There are a number of good programmes on the market. For example:

Brother's Keeper: <http://www.bkwin.org>

Family Tree Maker: <http://www.familytreemaker.com>

Family History Activities: <https://www.familysearch.org/discovery>

Family Echo: <https://www.familyecho.com>

My Heritage Family Tree Builder: <https://www.myheritage.com/family-tree-builder>

RootsMagic software: <https://www.rootsmagic.com>

#### **5. Keep records of where you got your information from**

If you are not researching often, it is a good idea to cite directly below each piece of information you have, or keep a source summary list of where you have looked and what information was retrieved from where. For example: <https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Free-Charts-and-Forms>

#### **6. Research on the internet**

There is a lot of genealogical information on the web, but remember that everything you find needs to be verified. See page nine for a list of websites that might be helpful for your research.

#### **7. Join a genealogical society or subscribe to a genealogy website. For example:**

- **Ancestry**  
Website: <http://www.ancestry.com>
- **New Zealand Society of Genealogists**  
Website: <http://www.genealogy.org.nz>
- **New Zealand Society of Genealogists (Dunedin branch)**  
Website: <http://www.dunedingenealogy.org.nz>

## **8. Contact other people who are researching the same family**

Genealogy groups, social media groups and whakapapa websites often have forums or notice boards for connecting to people who are doing the same research.

## **9. Be prepared to spend some money**

Unfortunately, not everything is available for free. Certificates, memberships, websites and other resources may have fees or costs involved to access items or obtain records from.

## THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Archives hold sources for doing research (e.g. diaries, newspapers, document collections) and organise their material by archival standards. They generally do not collect material into single-family files.
- No one place or source will have all the information on your family/whānau. You will need to visit or contact a number of places depending on the information you require.
- There is a lot of information available online, and this is a great place to start once you have compiled as much information as you can from your family.
- Always try to verify the information you find with an original or official source, especially things found on personal websites. Keep in mind that official sources also hold errors, so try to verify those with a second source.
- The surname of one person can have a variety of spellings in different records (e.g. Rees, Reece, Reese, Rhys, etc.)
- "Passenger lists" are actually a variety of sources used to find immigration information ranging from newspaper ship arrival columns to provincial government-assisted passenger lists. Actual passenger lists used by the shipping company for passengers are rare.
- Assisted passengers who received loans from provincial governments for their passage were not just from the poor and working classes. Many able-bodied, middle-class people took advantage of this system.
- Births, Deaths and Marriages in Wellington is the only official place where you can order certificates.
- Some governmental and personal information and records will have been lost over time.

## TIPS WHEN CONTACTING AN ARCHIVE OR MUSEUM

1. Have a clear idea of what you are looking for.
2. Have an idea of some specific research questions, as opposed to broad request areas. For example:  
“Do you have a shipboard diary for the family Smth on ship (name)?”  
“What do you have on the Smith family?”
3. Bring your camera or camera-capable phone with you, so you can document your findings. You may also want to bring your source summary list.
4. Enquire about possible sources to view with the Archivist before you plan on visiting. Please allow as much notice as possible so the Archivist has enough time to prepare materials. Also, check the availability of appointment times and opening hours for each individual institution.
5. Check if you can bring your research papers or material with you, as some places may have restrictions on this.
6. The priority for staff at Archives and Museums is to look after the documents and records for future generations, and act as a guardian/kaitiaki. Please do not be upset if staff ask you to handle something more carefully or refrain from bringing certain things into the research area.
7. Museum and Archives staff are generally not able to do your research for you. They can retrieve and collate the material but you have to read and interpret the material yourself. If you are interested in getting someone to do research for you, please contact the New Zealand Society of Genealogists (information on page nine)

## ARCHIVE REPOSITORIES IN DUNEDIN

### **Archives New Zealand Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga**

Website: <https://www.archives.govt.nz>

Email: [dunedin.archives@dia.govt.nz](mailto:dunedin.archives@dia.govt.nz)

Collection holdings: Otago, Southland, Stewart Island (Rakiura) and the sub-Antarctic islands archives, including property sale records, wills and probates, Otago Provincial Government records, passenger lists, New Zealand Fire Service photographs, despatches from the Colonial Office.

### **Dunedin City Council Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Ōtepoti Archives**

Website: <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/services/council-archives>

Photographic Flickr archive: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/dccarchives>

Email: [archives@dcc.govt.nz](mailto:archives@dcc.govt.nz)

Collection holdings: Property, building and land information from 1857 onwards, rates books dating back to the 1850s, cadastral maps, aerial photography and building plans.

### **Dunedin Public Library Kā Kete Wānaka o Ōtepoti- Heritage Collections, 3rd Floor**

Website: <https://www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/heritage/mcnab>

Email: [library@dcc.govt.nz](mailto:library@dcc.govt.nz)

Collection holdings: The McNab New Zealand Collection includes books, periodicals, newspapers, maps, troopship journals, genealogical resources, government publications, school magazines and newspaper indices. The Alfred and Isabel Reed Collection includes books, autographs and medieval manuscripts. Letters, microfilms, records, pictures, glass transparencies, document drafts and items of memorabilia are also held.

### **First Church of Otago**

Website: <https://firstchurchotago.org/about/first-church-of-otago-heritage>

Email: [office@firstchurchotago.org](mailto:office@firstchurchotago.org)

Collection holdings: Pictorial displays, details about Thomas Burns and others, ship passenger lists, other registers, the story of Bell Hill.

### **Hocken Collections Uare Taoka o Hākena- University of Otago**

Website: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/library/hocken>

Email: [hocken@otago.ac.nz](mailto:hocken@otago.ac.nz)

Collection holdings: Literary and personal research papers, Otago Anglican records and Otago/Southland Methodist Church records, school records from the Otago Education Board area, Otago/Dunedin based business records, community, club and sporting group records, Early European settlement documents.

## **Presbyterian Archives of Aotearoa New Zealand**

Website: <https://www.presbyterian.org.nz/archives/>

Digital Collections: <https://pcanzarchives.recollect.co.nz/>

Email: [pcanzarchives@prcknox.org.nz](mailto:pcanzarchives@prcknox.org.nz)

Collection holdings: Documents from the General Assembly, General Assembly committees, foreign missions, local and national Presbyterian women's and youth organisations, parishes and presbyteries throughout New Zealand, co-operating and uniting parishes, Knox College, Knox Centre for Ministry & Leadership (and its predecessors), and the personal papers of ministers and prominent Presbyterian laymen and women from throughout the country.

## **Toitū Otago Settlers Museum          UPDATE**

Website: <http://www.toituosm.com/>

Email: [OSM.Archives@dcc.govt.nz](mailto:OSM.Archives@dcc.govt.nz)

Collection holdings: Closely aligned with the collecting focus of the Otago Early Settlers Association. Accordingly its strengths relate to the lives and experiences of the early settlers as part of the Scottish settlement regime from the 1840s through to the early 1900s - such as diaries, letters, books, maps and photographs.

# HELPFUL RESOURCES

## GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES & WEBSITES

### **Ancestry.com**

Website: <https://www.ancestry.com.au/>

### **Free Charts and Forms**

Website: <https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Free-Charts-and-Forms>

### **Māori Interest Group, New Zealand Society of Genealogists**

Website: <http://www.nzsgmig.com>

Email: [MaoriSIG@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:MaoriSIG@genealogy.org.nz)

Advises people researching their Māori whakapapa by way of sharing accumulated knowledge and sources and repositories that will assist with research.

### **New Zealand Society of Genealogists**

Website: <http://www.genealogy.org.nz>

### **New Zealand Society of Genealogists Dunedin branch**

Email: [Dunedin@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:Dunedin@genealogy.org.nz)

### **Otago Settlers Association**

Website: <https://otagosettlers.org.nz/>

## WEBSITES FOR NEW ZEALAND FAMILY HISTORY

### **Archives New Zealand Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga Passenger Lists 1839-1973**

Website: <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1609792>

Compiled by Archives New Zealand and searchable via their Family Search website (Collection area).

### **Archives New Zealand Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga Probate Records 1843-1998**

Website: <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1865481>

Compiled by Archives New Zealand and searchable via their Family Search website (Collection area).

### **Dunedin Public Libraries Kā Kete Wānaka o Ōtepoti Genealogy Resources**

Website: <https://hail.to/dunedin-public-libraries-k-kete-wnaka-o-tepoti/article/WC6SgEu>

Useful information and links for people researching their whakapapa/family history.

### **Iwidex**

Website: <https://kura.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/digital/collection/iwidex/search>

Index of information on Māori tribal history, tikanga ā-iwi and whakapapa drawn from a wide range of published and unpublished material including newspapers, serials, monographs and manuscripts.

### **National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa Papers Past**

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

Scans of some New Zealand newspapers, including the Otago papers Otago Witness (text searchable) Tuapeka Times, North Otago Times, Clutha Leader and the Bruce Herald.

### **National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa Research Guides**

Website: <https://natlib.govt.nz/researchers/guides>

Including Chinese resources, military information, politics, Pasifika family history and whakapapa.

### **New Zealand Birth, Death and Marriage Records**

Website: <https://www.bdmonline.dia.govt.nz>

Index to birth, death and marriage civil registrations in New Zealand, held by Te Tari Taiwhenua Department of Internal Affairs, Wellington.

### **NZ Ancestor Search Helper**

Website: <https://ash.howison.co.nz/>

A new tool designed by a private individual which searches through online public databases and compiles search results.

### **Otago Nominal Index**

Website: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/library/hocken/oni>

Database of Otago information taken from early directories, electoral rolls and police gazettes.

### **Statistics New Zealand Tatauranga Aotearoa Census Collection**

Website: <https://www.stats.govt.nz/census/previous-censuses/historical-census-collection>

Digitised copies of Census of Population and Dwellings reports and results, from 1871 to 1916.

## **WEBSITES FOR NEW ZEALAND HISTORY**

### **Auckland War Memorial Museum Tāmaki Paenga Hira Online Cenotaph**

Website: <https://www.aucklandMuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph>

Allows researchers, enthusiasts, and veterans and their families to explore, contribute to, and share the records and stories of those who served for Aotearoa New Zealand

### **Cedars of Lebanon Club**

Website: <https://www.cedarsoflebanon.org.nz/>

A community and resource for New Zealand Lebanese and their heritage.

### **Digital New Zealand Ā-tihi o Aotearoa**

Website: <https://digitalnz.org>

Search 30+ million New Zealand items across 300+ collections.

## **Ngaitahu Kaumatua Alive in 1848, as Established by the Maori Land Court in 1925 and the Ngaitahu Census Committee in 1929** (known as the 'Blue Book')

Website: <https://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Ngai-Tahu-1848-Census.pdf>

The Crown carried out census in 1848 and 1853 as a prelude to the land purchases and in 1879 a Royal Commission and a subsequent Middle Island Native Census were attempts to create a register. But it was in 1925 and 1929 that Ngāi Tahu Census Committees brought together this work and created the Blue Book containing all the names of those Ngāi Tahu kaumātua alive in 1848 and 1853.

## **NZ History Nga Korero a Ipurangi o Aotearoa**

Website: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz>

Information and resources from within the Research and Publishing Group of the Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Wellington, New Zealand.

## **Te Ara: The Encyclopedia of New Zealand**

Website: <https://teara.govt.nz>

Includes biographies and general information on New Zealand.

## **The New Zealand Electronic Text Collection Te Pūhikotuhi o Aotearoa**

Website: <http://www.nzetc.org/tm/scholarly/tei-corpus-cyclopedia.html>

*The Cyclopedia of New Zealand* digitised copy which includes the volume Otago and Southland Provincial Districts, 1905.

## **CEMETERIES**

### **Clutha District Council Cemeteries**

Website: <https://www.cluthadc.govt.nz/council/do-it-online/cemetery-search>

Database of burials in Balclutha, Kaitangata, and Tapanui, as well as Owaka.

### **Dunedin Cemeteries**

Website: <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/services/cemeteries/cemeteries-search>

Database of burials in Dunedin City Cemeteries. Includes a transcription of the burial register entry (not headstone transcriptions).

### **Gore District Council Cemeteries**

Website: <https://www.goredc.govt.nz/services/cemeteries/cemetery-records-search>

Database of burials in cemeteries such as Gore, Mataura and Charlton.

### **Invercargill City Council Cemeteries**

Website: <https://icc.govt.nz/cemeteries/cemetery-search>

More than 56,600 records for the four Invercargill and Bluff cemeteries and the Southland Crematorium.

## **New Zealand Cemeteries**

Website: <http://www.interment.net/nz/index.htm>

Cemetery records, transcripts, and burial registers, from tens of thousands of cemeteries across the world, all contributed by genealogists, cemeteries, government agencies, and private organizations.

## **Queenstown Lakes District Council Cemeteries**

Website: <https://cemeteries.qldc.govt.nz>

Database of burials in cemeteries such as Queenstown, Arrowtown, Frankton and Wanaka.

## **Southland District Council Te Rohe Pōtae o Murihiku Cemeteries**

Website: <https://www.southlanddc.govt.nz/my-southland/cemeteries/cemeterysearch>

Database of burials in a number of smaller cemeteries in Southland such as Riverton, Wallacetown and Edendale.

## **Waitaki District Council Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waitaki Cemeteries**

Website: <https://www.waitaki.govt.nz/Services/Cemeteries/Cemetery-search-and-maps/Cemetery-search>

Database of burials for Oamaru cemeteries, including Duntroon, Hampden, Herbert and Kurow .

Otago Provincial Gazette 1853 - 1876 <https://gazette.howison.co.nz/otago> contains information about debtors (\*eg unpaid passenger fees, contract tenders etc-

## **OVERSEAS RESOURCES**

### **Public Records Office, Victoria, Australia**

Website: <https://prov.vic.gov.au>

Shipping lists for departures from Victoria, Australia, to New Zealand and other ports.

### **United Kingdom and Ireland Family Search**

Website: <https://www.familysearch.org/search/location/united-kingdom-and-ireland/england>

## **COMPILED BY PRIVATE RESEARCHERS/GENEALOGISTS**

### **Denise and Peter's Home Page**

Website: <https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~ourstuff/genealogy/index.html> Passenger lists, biographies, rolls and directories.

### **Immigrant ships to New Zealand 1835 to 1910**

Website: <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~shipstonz/shipstonz.html>

### **New Zealand Yesteryears**

Website: <http://www.yesteryears.co.nz/shipping/passlist.html>

Over 900 ships, 250 ship photographs and over 2000 passenger lists

### **Passenger arrivals at Port Chalmers, New Zealand, March 1848 - January 1851** Website: <http://www.ngaiopress.com/drhocken.htm>

An expanded and corrected version of Dr Thomas Morland Hocken's lists.

Otago Provincial Gazette by Luke Howison, freelance web developed.  
<https://gazette.howison.co.nz/otago>

## RECOMMENDED BOOKS

*A Century of Scottish Emigration to New Zealand*, by Marjory Harper

[Harper Marjory. n.d. "A Century of Scottish Emigration to New Zealand." \*Immigrants & Minorities\* 220–39. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02619288.2011.577599>.](#)

*A Kist of emigrants*, by J. L. Johnston and Shetland Times Ltd.

[Johnston J. L and Shetland Times Ltd. 2010. \*A Kist of Emigrants\*. Lerwick: Shetland Times.](#)

*Going abroad: the MacGibbon family and other early Scottish emigrants to Otago and Southland, New Zealand*, by John MacGibbon

[MacGibbon John. 2002. \*Going Abroad : The Macgibbon Family and Other Early Scottish Emigrants to Otago and Southland New Zealand\* 2Nd ed. rev. & enl ed. Wellington N.Z: Ngaio Press.](#)

*Harnett & Co.'s Dunedin directory*

[Harnett & Co. \*Harnett & Co.'s Dunedin directory\*. Dunedin N.Z: Harnett and Co.](#)

*He raraka a ka awa: ka putake a Te mamae me te aroha*, by Bill Dacker

[Dacker Bill. 2000. \*He Raraka a Ka Awa : Ka Putake a Te Mamae Me Te Aroha\* 2000. Dunedin N.Z: Ka Runaka o Kai Tahu Whanui ki Otago.](#)

*In/visible sight: the mixed-descent families of Southern New Zealand*, by Angela Wanhalla

[Wanhalla Angela. 2009. \*In/visible sight : the mixed-descent families of Southern New Zealand\*. Wellington N.Z: Bridget Williams Books.](#)

*Matters of the heart : a history of interracial marriage in New Zealand*, by Angela Wanhalla

[Wanhalla Angela. 2013. \*Matters of the Heart : A History of Interracial Marriage in New Zealand\*. Auckland New Zealand: Auckland University Press.](#)

*Settlers: New Zealand immigrants from England, Ireland & Scotland, 1800-1945*, by Jock Phillips and T. J. Hearn

[Phillips Jock and T. J Hearn. 2008. \*Settlers: New Zealand Immigrants from England Ireland & Scotland 1800-1945\*. Auckland N.Z: Auckland University Press.](#)

*Stone's Otago & Southland Directory*

*Stone's Dunedin & Invercargill Directory*

*Steven's & Bartholomew's New Zealand Directory*

[New Zealand, City & Area Directories, 1866-1954. \*Ancestry.com\*](#) – requires a paid subscription, alternatively Ancestry Library Edition is accessible for free on-site at a Public Library or at Toitū Otago Settlers Museum's Research Centre.

*Opening the Manifest on Otago's Infant Years*, by Ian Church, Otago Heritage Books, 9780908774672: for information on trans-tasman arrivals into Bluff and Port Chalmers in particular.

*Tāngata Ngāi Tahu = People of Ngāi Tahu*, by Helen Brown and Takerei Norton

[Brown Helen and Takerei Norton. 2017. Tāngata Ngāi Tahu = People of Ngāi Tahu. Volume One. Christchurch Wellington New Zealand: Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu ; Bridget Williams Books.](#)

[Brown Helen Michael J Stevens and Tipene O'Regan. 2022. Tāngata Ngāi Tahu = People of Ngāi Tahu. Volume Two. Christchurch Wellington New Zealand: Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu ; Bridget Williams Books.](#)

*Te mamae me te aroha = The pain and the love: a history of Kai Tahu Whānui in Otago, 1844-1944*, by Bill Dacker

[Dacker Bill. 1994. Te Mamae Me Te Aroha = the Pain and the Love : A History of Kai Tahu Whānui in Otago 1844-1944. Dunedin N.Z: University of Otago Press in association with the Dunedin City Council.](#)

*The Cyclopedia of New Zealand*, by Cyclopedia Company Ltd.

[The Cyclopedia of New Zealand : Industrial Descriptive Historical Biographical Facts Figures Illustration. 1904. Christchurch N.Z: Cyclopedia. The Cyclopedia of New Zealand - NZETC](#)

*The Heather and the fern: Scottish migration and the New Zealand settlement*, by Tom Brooking and Jennie Coleman

[Brooking Tom and Jennie Coleman. 2003. The Heather and the Fern : Scottish Migration and the New Zealand Settlement. Dunedin NZ: University of Otago Press.](#)

*Unpacking the kists : the Scots in New Zealand*, by Brad Patterson, Tom Brooking, Jim McAloon, Tanja Bueltmann, and Rebecca Lenihan

[Patterson Brad Tom Brooking Jim McAloon Tanja Bueltmann and Rebecca Lenihan. 2013. Unpacking the Kists : The Scots in New Zealand. Montreal Dunedin New Zealand: McGill-Queen's University Press ; Otago University Press.](#)

*White wings: immigrant ships to New Zealand, 1840-1902*, by Henry Brett and Cyril R. Bradwell

[Brett Henry and Cyril R Bradwell. 1984. White Wings : Immigrant Ships to New Zealand 1840-1902. Wellington N.Z: Reed.](#)

*Wise's New Zealand Post Office Directory*

H. Wise & Co. Wise's New Zealand post office directory. Dunedin: H. Wise & Co. (N.Z.), Ltd

## TOITŪ OTAGO SETTLERS MUSEUM

The Otago Early Settlers Association was founded in 1898 to mark the 50th anniversary of planned European settlement. One of the objectives of the Association was to preserve items of historical importance relating to the development of Otago. This led to the opening of the Otago Early Settlers Museum in 1908. In 1991 the Association purchased the neighbouring former NZ Railway Road Services building, thus securing room for the future development of the collections. In 1994 the buildings and collections were gifted to the Dunedin City Council, under the name Otago Settlers Museum. The name Toitū was added to the existing name after the opening of the redeveloped Museum buildings in 2012.

The Museum traces the lives of our settlers – indigenous Māori, the early Chinese, and the following waves of migrant groups – and their technological innovation, art, fashion, domestic life and transport.

### **Museum Hours:**

The Museum is open 10am – 5pm daily. Closed Christmas Day.

### **Museum Website:**

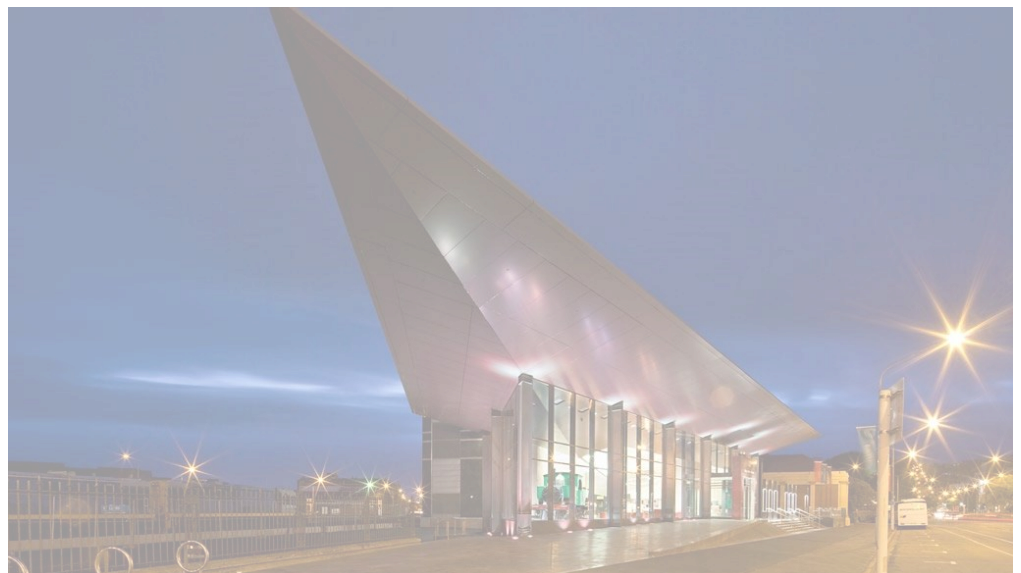
<https://www.toituosm.com/>

### **Museum Email:**

[toituosm@dcc.govt.nz](mailto:toituosm@dcc.govt.nz)

### **Museum Phone:**

+64 3 477 5052



## THE RESEARCH CENTRE

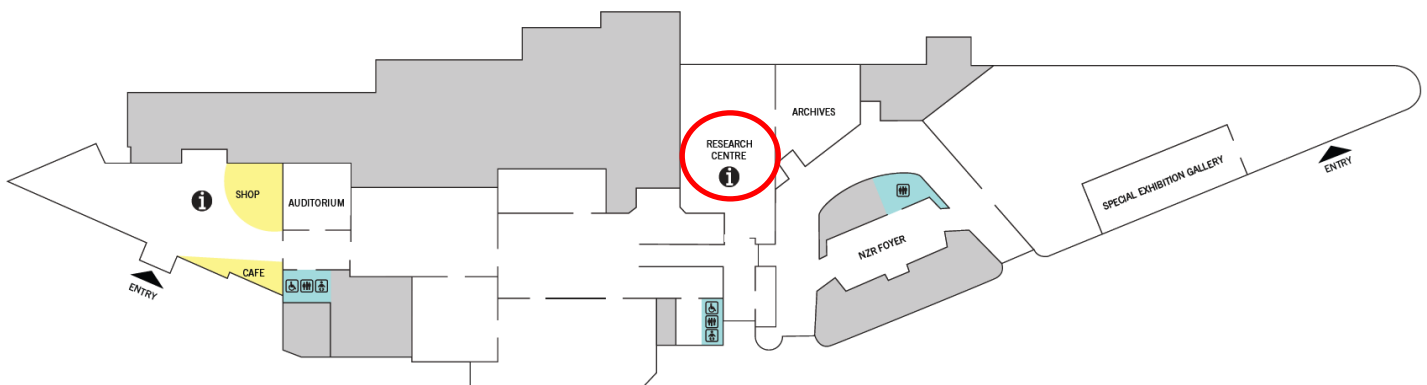
Located at the centre of the Museum is the self-guided Research Centre, which is a place for doing general genealogical research or exploring some of the topics in Toitū's galleries. No appointment is necessary.

### Research Centre Hours:

Same hours as the Museum.

### Research Centre Charges:

Free of charge to use the resources. Charges apply for print outs or copies.



## RESOURCES IN THE RESEARCH CENTRE

### Family History

The Otago and Southland Early Settlers (OASES) genealogical database can be found in Toitū's Research Centre. Accessible free of charge during Museum opening hours.

OASES is a digital catalogue of biographical information for people who settled in Otago or Southland. Only accessible while on site at the Museum. It draws upon various primary sources including some in our Archive. Data comes from sources such as newspapers, as well as church, cemetery, and government records.

Toitū does not manage the OASES database - Pastfinders Avitus, an external genealogical research company, has for a number of years now allowed the Museum access to this in-house research database.

If you are unable to visit and search the database in person or would like to submit any additions / corrections please contact Bob Matthews of Pastfinders Avitus [svsaffron@gmail.com](mailto:svsaffron@gmail.com)

## Portraits

In the Research Centre there is a manual index to over 7,000 photographic portraits held in our Archive.

Please ask a Visitor Host for access to an index and to view images of this collection.

## Early Dunedin Photographs

The Archive holds a collection of more than 4,000 individual photographic prints which are organised by subjects such as streets, suburbs, transport, and public events.

Please ask a Visitor Host for access to an index and to view images of this collection.

## Passenger Lists

The Research Centre holds indexed transcripts of newspaper shipping columns and lists of assisted immigrants to Otago from 1848 to 1888.

Archives New Zealand is the official repository for all of New Zealand passenger lists though unfortunately Otago's provincial era immigration passenger lists do not all survive.

## Military

Search military records held by The Auckland War Memorial Museum Tāmaki Paenga Hira via their Online Cenotaph website <https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph>.

View the Dunedin Roll of Honour that has been developed by Toitū from a wide variety of sources.

## Reverend Dr Thomas Burns's Visitation Book

The Thomas Burns's visitation book is the earliest informal census created by Reverend Dr Thomas Burns which records residents of Dunedin from 1848 to 1858. It is on permanent display in our New Edinburgh gallery – and has been since 2012. A hard copy of the digitised pages is available for use at the Research Centre, along with the accompanying index.

## Reference Library

Browse our selection of books on local history.

