



Quarantine Island



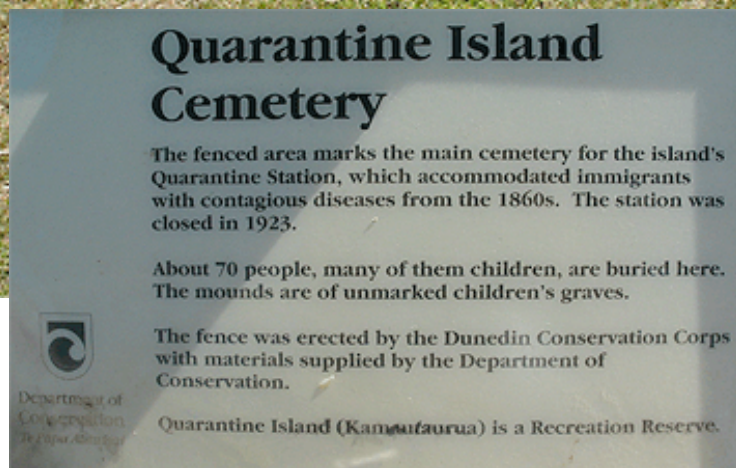
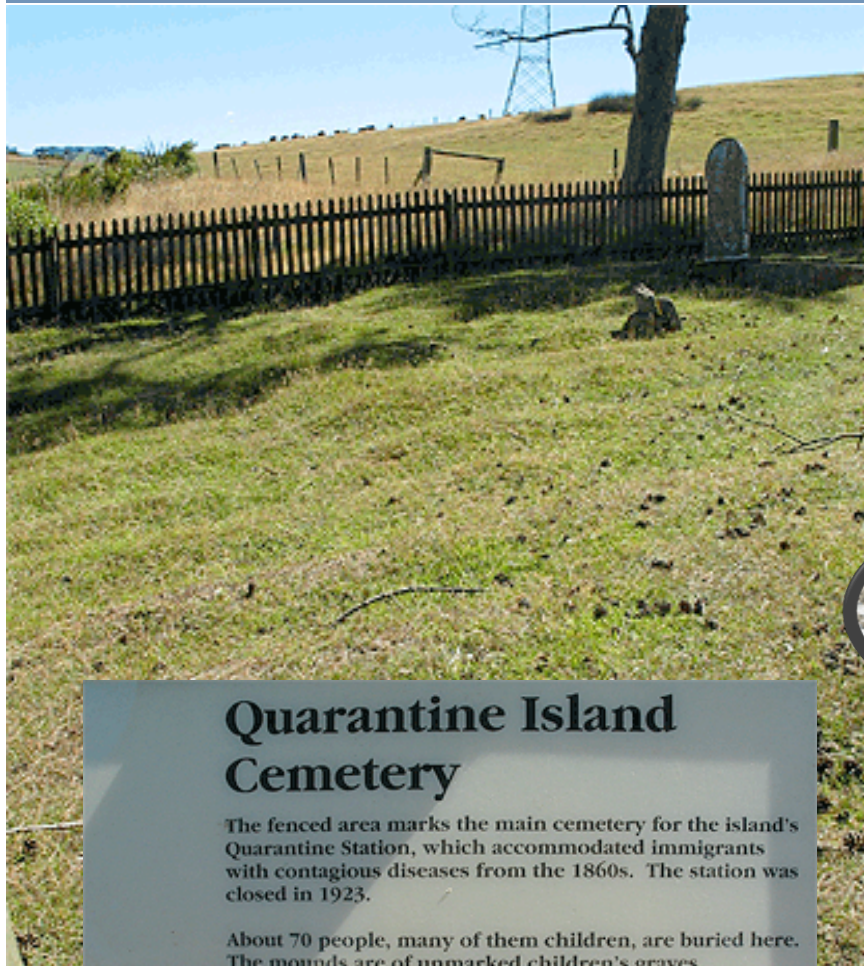
It is suggested that one or two the following fact sheets are printed out and used as wall or poster displays or laminate and make available for students.

The Fact sheets in this set include,

1. Background information about the Quarantine Island Cemetery.
2. Mortality information for the Quarantine Island Cemetery. (Three pages of spreadsheet information).
3. A description from the Otago Witness 1863 of the arrival of over 400 immigrants on the Victory and their experiences of the quarantine measures.
4. A description of the arrival of the Charlotte Gladstone from local newspapers of the time.
5. A description of the arrival of the Lady Jocelyn from local newspapers of the time.
6. A description of the arrival of the Barque Cloucestre from Hong Kong from local newspapers of the time.
7. The later development and closure of the Quarantine station.
8. The Dougall Family – three generations on Quarantine Island.

Fact sheets

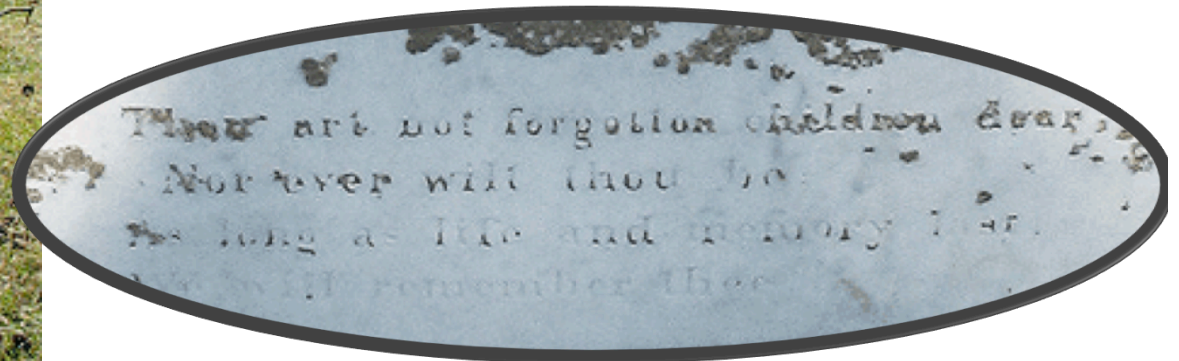
Quarantine Island Cemetery



There are 72 people buried in the Quarantine Island Cemetery. The names of 62 of them are known. Of these only 47 of them are officially recorded in the Port Chalmers burial register.

All of the graves once had wooden headboards and these faced uphill. Most of the wooden headboards have decayed and only three headstones now remain.

About half of the 72 were children and if you are able to visit the cemetery you can see groups of smaller mounds in amongst the larger adult-sized mounds. The grave mounds are just visible in the photo on the left.



The epitaph on the Dougall family headstone is a fitting comment not only for the Dougall children who are buried here for all the children who remain on Quarantine Island,

*Thou art not forgotten children dear
Nor never will thou be
As long as life and memory last
We will remember thee.*

Fact sheets



Mortality information for the Quarantine Island Cemetery - page 1

<i>Name</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Date of death</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Ship</i>
William Kelly	1 year 6 months	18 July 1863	-	<i>Victory</i>
Mrs Janet Kay	-	July 1863	-	<i>Victory</i>
Mr Dickson	50 years(?)	July 1863	-	<i>Victory</i>
Jessie Moir	Early 20s	September 1863	-	<i>Mataura</i>
Hugh Tait	-	23 September 1864	-	<i>City of Dunedin</i>
Elizabeth Ann Dougall	7 years	12 November 1865	-	
Small girl Bathgate	Under 5 years	26 December 1870	-	<i>Robert Henderson</i>
William Dougall	5 years	30 January 1871	Scarletina	
William Preston	28 years	22 February 1873	Typhoid	<i>Charlotte Gladstone</i>
Robert Mair	2 ½ years	27 February 1873	Convulsions	<i>Charlotte Gladstone</i>
George Sandford	17 years	28 February 1873	Consumption	<i>Charlotte Gladstone</i>
James Bennett	19 years	1 March 1873	Typhoid	<i>Charlotte Gladstone</i>
Laura Pike	2 years	6 November 1873	Diphtheria	<i>Lady Jocelyn</i>
George Barnes	12 months	10 November 1873	Diphtheria	<i>Lady Jocelyn</i>
George Peerless	18 years	10 November 1873	Seizure	<i>Lady Jocelyn</i>
Lilly Kemble	5 years	18 November 1873	Diphtheria	<i>Lady Jocelyn</i>
Charles Fellick	7 years	19 November 1873	Diphtheria	<i>Lady Jocelyn</i>
Small Boy Withyman	-	1873	-	<i>Lady Jocelyn</i>
Ada Johnston	3 years	14 February 1874	Scarlet Fever	<i>Mongol</i>
Julia Higgs	12 months	14 February 1874	Measles	<i>Mongol</i>
Charles Tripp	10 months	14 February 1874	Bronchitis	<i>Mongol</i>
Elizabeth Witham	12 months	21 February 1874	Bronchitis	<i>Mongol</i>
Mabel Husband	3 years	3 March 1874	Convulsions	<i>Mongol</i>
Mary Johnson	9 years	9 March 1874	Laryngitis	<i>Mongol</i>
Charles Cornwall	3 years	21 March 1874	Bronchitis	<i>Mongol</i>
Carls Partel	2 months	26 March 1874	Bronchitis	<i>Mongol</i>
Jane Gardiner	10 months	30 March 1874	Bronchitis	<i>Mongol</i>

Fact sheets

The following is the mortality information for the Quarantine Island Cemetery – Continued page 2.



<i>Name</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Date of death</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Ship</i>
Margaret Tanner	17 years	30 March 1874	Bronchitis	<i>Mongol</i>
Ann Tanner	20 years	31 March 1874	Bronchitis	<i>Mongol</i>
David Cox	3 years	13 March 1874	Scarlet Fever	<i>Carnatic</i>
William Withers	8 years	10 April 1874	Scarlet fever	<i>Scimitar</i>
Eliza Wellen/Weller	1 year	9 June 1874	Pneumonia	<i>Atrato</i>
William Henry Reeve	2 years	9 June 1874	Croup	<i>Atrato</i>
Florence Emily Newbury	20 months	11 June 1874	Bronchitis	<i>Atrato</i>
Mary Brophy	11 months	12 June 1874	Croup	<i>Atrato</i>
Charles Jones	1 Year	12 June 1874	Convulsions	<i>Atrato</i>
Emma Jones	2 years	12 June 1874	Bronchitis	<i>Atrato</i>
Female Baby Richmond	5 weeks	3 August 1874	Debility	
Male Baby Azzereti	1 day	27 October 1875		<i>Auckland</i>
Jane MacDonald	33 years	28 October 1875	Phthisis	<i>Auckland</i>
Richard Weatherell Smith	16 months	1 October 1875	Whooping Cough	<i>Invercargill</i>
Mrs Hannah Halliman	35 years	7 February 1876	Child birth	<i>Coronna</i>
Mrs Kate McMasters	27 years	18 December 1876	Miscarriage	<i>Oamaru</i>
Mrs Janet Bennet	-	December 1876	Child Birth	<i>Oamaru</i>
Newborn Baby Bennet	-	December 1876	-	<i>Oamaru</i>
Seaman from Manilla	-	29 December 1877	Scurvy	<i>Carl Ludovic</i>
Mrs Elizabeth Coulter	30 years	21 January 1878	Typhoid	<i>Canterbury</i>
Catherine McKenna	18 years	27 November 1878	Typhoid	
Mrs Mary Wright	37 years	7 October 1879	Childbirth	<i>Forfarshire</i>
Still Born Baby Wright		5 October 1879		<i>Forfarshire</i>
Sarah Batey	4 ½ years	7 January 1880	Measles	<i>Malborough</i>
John Cameron	8 months	12 January 1880	Diarrhoea	<i>Malborough</i>
William Cruickshank	21 months	12 January 1880	Diarrhoea	<i>Malborough</i>
Mary Welsh	11 months	16 January 1880	Diarrhoea	<i>Malborough</i>

Fact sheets



The following is the mortality information for the Quarantine Island Cemetery – Continued page 3

<i>Name</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Date of death</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Ship</i>
Peter John Clark	4 months	18 January 1880	Constipation	<i>Malborough</i>
Elizabeth Sinclair	2 years 7 months	18 January 1880	Hydrocephalus	<i>Malborough</i>
Margaret Dougall	24 Years	27 December 1884	Nephrtis	
John Dougall	63 years	9 January 1890	Stroke	
Frederick Ramsden	2 Years	9 January 1890	Scarletina (Scarlet Fever)	<i>Manapouri(?)</i>
Seaman From Mauritius		18 January 1892	Smallpox(?)	<i>Umvoti</i>
Small Boy Harris		3 June 1894	Scarlet Fever	<i>Rimutaka</i>
Private George Wilson		22 May 1916	Small Pox	<i>Willochra</i>



This view of Quarantine Island is taken from the Portobello Marine Aquarium. The view includes the Quarantine Island jetty and the married accommodation building. Goat Island lies behind and to the right of Quarantine Island. Signal Hill is the highest hill in the background with the TV tower just visible.

Fact sheets: Why was a quarantine station necessary?

The arrival of *The Victory* - July 1863 - Smallpox



The word 'Quarantine' is derived from the Italian '*quarantina*', meaning 40. Quarantina was used in medieval times to denote isolation for 40 days for ships to prevent the spread of infectious diseases from foreign countries.

Two islands in Otago harbour known as Goat Island and Halfway Island were to become a quarantine station for immigrants coming into Port Chalmers and Dunedin in the 19th century.

The islands were first used in July 1863 when *The Victory* arrived and some passengers had small pox. This was the middle of winter in Dunedin. Over 400 steerage passengers (second class) overflowed from the two buildings into tents. A small hospital was hastily erected on high ground, and a cemetery was located in a bush clearing. The following Otago Witness story describes some of the events.

THE VICTORY'S PASSENGERS.

So far as the circumstances are known, the Board, after a week's delay, during which time no hospital accommodation was provided, removed the great majority of the families and single female passengers to the buildings on the Rabbit or Half-way Island. The buildings were not capable of accommodating the number even then removed, but in a few days afterwards the number was increased by the addition of a hundred or more. The captain of the vessel had threatened to cease providing for them unless all were removed; the Board submitted to this coercion; and the people were removed on the open deck of the *Thomas and Henry* on one of the most severe days that has been experienced for a considerable time in Otago. Part remained in the inferior accommodation of the *Thomas and Henry*; the remainder were added to the crowd on shore. A pitiful scene of overcrowding, confusion, and suffering ensued. In the first few days there were from seventy to eighty persons suffering from cold, convulsions, and other illness induced by the exposure and the overcrowding. There was said to be only one patient ill with small-pox when the vessel arrived, but the epidemic now began to show itself in increased numbers, and, there being no means of separation, the mass of people were subjected to the painful spectacle, and to the serious risk, of from fifteen to twenty patients in all stages of the disease sleeping among them in different parts of the buildings. For the patients themselves the same condition of things was most unfavorable, surrounded as they were by a crowd of people, living in an oppressive and heated atmosphere, and with no facilities for the preservation of ordinary decency. Ultimately

some tents and other erections were proposed as hospital accommodation but their construction was delayed by some difficulty in negotiating with the carpenters among the passengers, and by a short supply of timber and of tools. After consenting to work for a low rate of wages, the workmen demanded the current rate, but were refused, and in consequence of their demand the Board adopted an expedient which, by its harshness and inhumanity, is almost inconceivable under the circumstances. 'We shall see what can be done by appealing to their feelings through this,' said one of the members of the Board, placing his hand upon his stomach, and it is stated that, for the presumed offence of these seven carpenters, seventy men were ordered to be confined to the hulk *Thomas and Henry*, and to be kept on bread and water; and this was done—done to men already enervated by a long sea voyage, living in the midst of a dangerous epidemic, and having no opportunity of appeal. Those who were bound by their position to execute the order could not describe it otherwise than a disgrace to humanity and to civilization. During this time Dr Garraod, who had been appointed Health Officer, was in charge of the sick, and he was assisted by Mr John Thomson, by four police officers, and by nurses selected from the passengers.

THE VICTORY'S PASSENGERS.

Otago Witness, Issue 615, 11 September 1863, Page 7

Fact sheets: Why was a quarantine station necessary?



The arrival of *The Charlotte Gladstone* - February 1873 – Typhoid Fever

THE CHARLOTTE GLADSTONE.

The ship *Charlotte Gladstone*, from London, arrived at Port Chalmers on Sunday, and having sickness on board was brought up in the Quarantine ground. Sickness during the passage proved fatal to seventeen passengers. Eight died of typhoid fever, and nine from other causes.

The passengers and immigrants were removed to the proper Quarantine Island, where everything was prepared for them to make their temporary imprisonment as light as possible. Altogether there were 60 cases of sickness during the passage, consisting of 38 typhoid, 19 febricula or ephemeral fever; three of the crew were affected by typhoid, and one died.

Captain Paddle, to quote his own words, says:—“We have experienced a remarkably fine weather passage. In all my experience of 40 years at sea, I have never witnessed finer weather; we never had a gale or even a squall; only reefed the top-sails once, and then only for three or four hours.” The vessel is well adapted for immigrants, having lofty between decks, with 38 feet 6 inches of beam. She left London with 320 statute adults, but on a former occasion she

But still, with all this, there has been much sickness on board—9 children, 7 adults, and 1 ordinary seaman having died from various causes.

A great number of the immigrants are reported to have been in an unhealthy condition when they left Gravesend. This statement is made by several persons, including Dr Bakewell, the surgeon-superintendent, on whose advice the vessel was put in at the Cape for medicines, &c.

All the sick people have been removed to the Quarantine Island, along with their families and friends, to the number of about 40, all told, and are progressing favourably. The ship, after getting clear, will discharge at the Railway Pier.

Dr Hocken, who was quarantined with the passengers, has been doing duty as surgeon to those on board, and looking after their comforts. The single men were removed to the Quarantine Island for the purpose of the cleansing of their clothing.

THE CHARLOTTE GLADSTONE Otago Witness, 22 February 1873, Page 12

PORT CHALMERS.

17th February.

Arrived—Charlotte Gladstone, from London. There have been 17 deaths from typhoid fever and other causes; 15 are now sick on board. The ship has been placed in quarantine.

PORT CHALMERS, 17th February, Evening Post, 17 February 1873, Page 3

PORT CHALMERS.

24th February.

The *Charlotte Gladstone* was berthed alongside the railway pier yesterday. She looks very dirty.

An Englishman, named William Preston, aged 26, died of typhoid fever on Quarantine Island yesterday. He was married.

PORT CHALMERS. Evening Post, 24 February 1873, Page 2

PORT CHALMERS.

3rd March.

A single man, named James Bennett, aged 19, a passenger by the *Charlotte Gladstone*, died this morning at the quarantine ground of typhoid fever.

PORT CHALMERS. 3rd March. Evening Post, 5 March 1873, Page 2

DUNEDIN.

18th March.

The remainder of the *Charlotte Gladstone's* passengers have been admitted to pratique.

DUNEDIN, 18th March. Evening Post, 18 March 1873, Page 3

Fact sheets: Why was a quarantine station necessary?

The arrival of *The Lady Jocelyn* – October & November 1873- Diphtheria & Scarlet Fever



COMING IMMIGRANTS.

The following is a summary of the occupations of the immigrants expected per ship *Lady Jocelyn*, which sailed for Otago on 30th July from London:—Labourers, 16; farm labourers, 3; gardeners, 3; colliers, 7; navvies, 2; ploughman, 1; miners, 7; blacksmiths, 2; engine-fitters, 2; cooper, 1; fishermen, 2; woolsorter, 1; mason, 1; tailors, 2; butcher, 1; brass-founder, 1; shoemaker, 1; draper, 1; schoolmaster, 1; baker, 1; joiners, 3; wheelwrights, 3; chairmaker, 1; general servants, 11; housemaids, 7; cook, 1. Totals.—73 male adults, 66 female do, 19 male children, 26 female do, and 11 infants, or in all, 196 souls, equal to 160½ adults. The nationalities of these are as follows:—English, 147; Scotch, 7; Irish, 28; Welsh, 4; Channel Islanders, 8; French, 1.

COMING IMMIGRANTS. Otago Witness, 11 October 1873, Page 16

DUNEDIN.

3rd November.

The *Lady Jocelyn* is at the Heads, 85 days out from London. On the voyage seven children died from dysentery, and three are now ailing. There were three births.

DUNEDIN. 3rd November. Evening Post, 4 November 1873, Page 2

PORT CHALMERS.

6th November.

The ship *Lady Jocelyn* was towed up and anchored in the quarantine ground at 3.17 this morning. There is a good deal of sickness on board, chiefly diphtheria and scarlet fever. Nine deaths have taken place, and six are now ailing in quarantine. The Board of Health will visit her about noon.

PORT CHALMERS. 6th November. Evening Post, 6 November 1873, Page 2

Telegraphic Despatches.

(From our own Correspondent.)

DUNEDIN, Nov. 11, 8 p.m.

The *Lady Jocelyn* was admitted to pratique this morning, and Mr. Birch and other passengers are now in town.

Telegraphic Despatches. Tuapeka Times, 12 November 1873, Page 2

Shipping.

The good ship *Lady Jocelyn* was admitted to pratique on Tuesday morning, after being inspected by Captain Thomson, Health Officer; Mr Colin Allan, the Immigration Officer; and Dr O'Donogue. The three gentlemen, with Mr Monson, of the Customs Department, proceeded on board at an early hour, and went through the ship, and finding that every soul on board was in perfect health, the word was given, and the yellow rag at the main came fluttering to the deck. The ship is in splendid condition, is the quintessence of cleanliness fore and aft, and her passengers speak in the highest terms of her sea-going qualities and of their treatment during the passage from England. Anticipating her release from the bilboes yesterday morning the Immigration department made preparations for landing her passengers by engaging the harbour steamer *Peninsula* to take them ashore. The *Peninsula* ran alongside during the forenoon, and took on board all that there were, excepting, we understand, a certain number who have volunteered to go to Southland.

Otago Witness, 15 November 1873, Page 16

Local Intelligence.

THE immigrants per *Lady Jocelyn* were open for engagement at the barracks on the 12th inst. All the female servants were readily engaged at wages varying from £26 to £35 a-year. In one instance as high as £2 per week was given for a cook. A number of the immigrants—about 50—were dispatched by the *Wanganui* to Southland.

Local Intelligence. Tuapeka Times, 15 November 1873, Page 2

Fact sheets: Why was a quarantine station necessary?

The arrival of *The Mongol* – July 1874 - Measles and Scarlet Fever



BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

WELLINGTON, July 4.

According to the report of a Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the sickness on board the *Mongol*, it was clearly shown that several cases of scarlet fever and measles occurred while the emigrants were in the Imperial depôt at Plymouth; also that the depôt was overcrowded and ill-ventilated, that the medical officer of the depôt neglected his duty, and that the ship's surgeon should not have gone to sea with such sickness. There was no regular inspection of emigrants prior to the embarkation, and that, when disease broke out in the married compartments forward, the surgeon neglected to adopt those precautionary measures which had succeeded in checking the disease at an earlier period of the voyage in other parts of the ship. A proper supply of provisions and medical comforts was not put on board, while the provisions for the young children were useless during the greater portion of the voyage. The medical comforts were so

carelessly used as to become exhausted before half of the voyage was over. The surgeon is blamed for not insisting that the immigrants should have a proper supply of water. The captain is severely blamed for allowing the supply to become exhausted for several hours in mid-ocean with epidemic disease on board. The Commissioners say, "The supply of children's rations was calculated on a wrong basis, although probably according to the scale required by the charter. No provision was made for the excessive number of children, they being in proportion to adults." They think that children's rations should not be calculated as per statute adult, but according to the numbers and requirements of the children on board.

BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH. Tuapeka Times, 15 July
1874, Page 6

Fact sheets: Why was a quarantine station necessary?

The arrival of *The Gloucester*—April 1877- Small Pox



ARRIVAL OF THE BARQUE GLOUCESTER. SMALL-POX ON BOARD.

Hongkong. The statement respecting small-pox having broken out amongst her passengers is only too correct. However, we are glad to say that she is not such a pest-house as was anticipated might be the case, the dread disease having been confined to comparatively few cases. Still, it is on board, and, therefore, the most stringent precautions are imperatively demanded in the interests of the public of the whole Colony to prevent the dissemination of the infection on shore.

Captain Vincent, of the Gloucester, stated that small pox broke out amongst the Chinese passengers, January 23rd, ten days after leaving Hong Kong. It ran through fifteen cases, the last of which appeared February 15th. Only three deaths occurred, two in the cases of Chinese, and one in that of a Fiji native, one of the barque's crew. He was the only one of the crew afflicted.

The sick Chinese were quartered under the topgallant forecastle, and there attended to by their doctor, a Chinaman of course. The barque had 122 Chinese passengers on board when she left Hong Kong. There are now four cases of small-pox under treatment, but have reached the convalescent stage. By order of Dr Drysdale, the patients were marshalled on the forecastle, so that he might see them. There was no mistaking their appearance, faces and necks being scabbed in the extreme.

A final decision was come to on Wednesday in the case of this vessel. It was resolved that all the Chinese who had escaped small-pox should be landed on Quarantine Island, whilst those who had had the disease were to remain on board the barque.

Otago Witness, Issue 1322, 31 March 1877, Page 9

THE BARQUE GLOUCESTER.

One hundred and eight of the Chinese passengers per barque Gloucester, with their effects, were transferred to the Quarantine Island Thursday morning, and established in a comfortable tent encampment on the high ground. Twelve Chinese, who had the small-pox, remain on board the barque. We understand that all those who have been landed are to be vaccinated—a wise precaution.

Not a few of the Gloucester's passengers have been here before, and after winning more or less gold at the diggings, returned to the Flowery Land to spend it, and now are back again to obtain a fresh supply of the needful. It cannot be said that the Colony has the best of the bargain. A constable has been stationed on the Island.

The whole of the Chinese on the Quarantine Island were vaccinated on Saturday. The operation was performed by Dr Burns in his capacity of Public Vaccinator. This course was rendered imperative inasmuch that the Government had not succeeded in securing the services of a medical man to reside on the island during the stay of the Chinese there. Dr Burns took elaborate precautions to avoid infection. He was fortified with disinfectants, and having disposed of the whole of his strange patients, took a hot bath at the quarantine barracks, and changed every article of clothing he came on, leaving the one suit behind him to be burned. Vaccinating the Chinese was regarded as indispensable, and hence the extreme course adopted by Dr Burns to

THE BARQUE GLOUCESTER. Otago Witness, 7 April 1877, Page 16.

Fact sheets

The Otago Quarantine Station: Development and later closure



Above - The married accommodation is the only building now left on Quarantine Island and is now heavily braced inside. Right – All that remains of the hospital today, is the brick chimney in the foreground.

By the turn of the century, quarantine was seldom needed and in the early 1920s the Island closed as a quarantine station for the Port of Otago. Why was “quarantine” no longer needed by the 1920’s?

Severe accommodation problems for the next few years only eased when major new buildings were erected between 1872 and 1874. Single women’s quarters, married quarters, a kitchen and dining room were all linked in a T shape. A keeper’s cottage was built. The single men’s quarters were on neighbouring Goat Island. A new and larger hospital was built, some distance from the first one. The cemetery was enlarged as required.

The 1870s and 1880s were the busiest years for quarantine. Scarlet fever was the most common reason for quarantining passengers, but small pox and measles were also common reasons. From 1863 to 1916 passengers from 41 ships were officially quarantined on the island. Some ships made headlines through particular circumstances and were thus well remembered for many years in Port Chalmers and Dunedin. One example was *The Gloucester*, a barque that arrived with 17 cases of smallpox on board in 1877. The length of time in quarantine varied greatly but the average was about 2 weeks.



Fact sheets

The Dougall Family – three generations on Quarantine Island

John Dougall, a master mariner, was appointed as 'Keeper of Quarantine' and took up residence in 1863 with his young family.

John and Elizabeth Dougall had 6 children. Three of them are buried in the Quarantine Island Cemetery. John Died in 1890. His wife was appointed as the official keeper until their son Will Dougall was old enough and became keeper in turn. Will and Hester Dougall had three daughters who were the third generation of Dougalls to live on the island.



The Dougall headstone Quarantine Island Cemetery.
Right Notice of the death of John Dougall Otago
Witness 9 January 1890. p 11.



The Dougall headstone Quarantine
Island Cemetery

LOCAL & GENERAL.

The many friends of Mr John Alexander Dougall, who has had charge of the Quarantine Island for the last 26 years, will hear with regret of his death, which took place on the island at an early hour on Tuesday morning, after a short illness. Mr Dougall, previous to being appointed keeper of the island, was in the pilot service.

Student Worksheet: Scatter plot template for graph for age at death and decade of death

AGE								
90 - 100								
80 - 89								
70 - 79								
60 - 69								
50 - 59								
40 - 49								
30 - 39								
20 - 29								
10 - 19								
1-9								
0-1								
YEAR	1850 - 1859	1860 - 1869	1870 - 1879	1880 - 1889	1890 - 1899	1900 - 1909	1910 - 1919	1920 - 1929