

# Timeline

First arrivals  
in the south

**C.900**

**1800.** Hostilities end between Kāti Mamoe and northerners Ngāi Tahu. They become allies and are now known as Ngāi Tahu Whānui

**1800**

**1836.** Tutarau Raid - Armed conflict between northerners Ngāti Toa and Ngāi Tahu ends at Tutarau with death of Te Pūoho at the hands of a war party led by Ngāi Tahu āriki, Tuhawaiki. This was the last armed conflict between any two iwi in New Zealand

**1830**

**1840.** Treaty of Waitangi signed by Tuhawaiki and Taiaroa for Ngāi Tahu at Ruapuke Island

**1840's.** Reko Rakiraki makes Tutarau his permanent home and offers hospitality and his services as a guide to Europeans

**1840**

Upper Crossing of Maitara  
8 January 1875

**1855.** Alexander McNab and Peter McKellar purchase large run holdings - Hokonui and Knapdale (McNab) and Waimea (McKellar). McNab sold the Hokonui block to Nathaniel Chalmers in 1858 and the new owner renamed it "Croydon" after his old school

**1858.** By this time the Long Ford was in use by European settlers using horse and cart for transport

**1859.** A temporary bridge was built across the Maitara River at Te Au Nui - Maitara Falls and an accommodation house was also built at Maitara for a Mr J MacGibbon

**1850**

**1860**

**June 1862.** On the southern corner of Chalmers 'Croydon' block and near the Long Ford, 12 sections of land were marked out for a town named 'Gore'

**December 1862.** Daniel Morton's accommodation house opened. Named "Long Ford House" it was Gore's first building and made by Alexander Syme

**December 1863.** Census - Gore district had 97 males, 34 females, total 131

**November 1868.** Gold field discovered at Waikaka, gold dredges followed in the 1890s at Gore, Waimumu and Charlton

**1 January 1869.** Very big flood in the Maitara River - said to be much higher than the 1878 flood. Further significant floods followed in 1913, 1914, 1918, 1954 and 1978

Gore Railway Bridge 1878



**1880**

**5 December 1882.** Gore A&P Association's first show.

**May 1884.** Laying foundation stone of first Town Hall

**November 1884.** Gore Swimming Club formed

**1 December 1885.** First election for Gore's Mayor, Thomas Green elected.

**9 September 1886.** Gore Fire Brigade formed.

**1870**

**February 1871.** Tutarau School built and opened

**29 August 1875.** Railway line from Invercargill to Gore opened with a large celebration. This was followed by rail lines to Waipahi (1877), Dunedin (1879 and Kingston (1880)

**10 May 1878.** Maitara Ensign starts publication

**August 1878.** First telephone at Gore, located in Post Office

**1890**

**8 July 1890.** Gordon (East Gore) and Gore councils joined - First Mayor, J MacGibbon

**21 June 1892.** Eastern Southland women and the 'vote' - lively meetings

**22 July 1894.** First electric light turned on @ 5.30pm (Boyne dairy)

**12 January 1899.** Childrens' column in the Ensign - "Uncle Phil" - began in this issue

Gore A&P Associations first show in 1882



Deer in Deer Park

Longford Intermediate

**November 1982.**

Dedication of Matura Marae

**April 1983.** Gore Borough Council purchases new computer for \$40,000

**1984.** Kohanga Reo opens

**1 February 1972 .**

Longford Intermediate School opened - first day pupils arrived

**6 June 1973.**

First Gold Guitar Awards

**July 1973.**

Playcentre established

Matura Marae c.1980's

**1970**

**1980**

**1962.** Television reception meant tv had arrived to the south. Colour tvs arrived in 1973 and it wasn't until 1976 that residents could watch more than one channel

**1966.** First deer in Deer Park - later fenced

**January 1969.**

Opening of St Peters' College

**1960**

**28 January 1954.** Visit of Queen Elizabeth II to Gore

**1956.** Water tower built on hill to supply hill residents

**1956.** Elsie Street Kindergarten opened

**1957.** Parking meters installed

**25 April 1958.** First ANZAC Day Dawn Service held at Gore

**1950**

**11 June 1942.** Plane crashes in Gore's Main Street during an air raid exercise

**22 December 1942.**

Formation - Gore Amateur Swimming Club

**15 August 1945.**

WW2 ends

**1940**

**July 1996.** "Big Freeze" in Southland but not as cold as previous events that caused the Matura and Waikaka Rivers to freeze in 1889, 1903 and 1957

**1990**

**March 1903.** William Paterson imported first motor car into Gore

**1 October 1908.** Gore High School established

**13 October 1909.** Seddon Memorial Hospital opened at Gore

**1900**

First car in Gore 1904

**27 March 1936.** St James Theatre opened but it wasn't until 1967 that movies were permitted to be screened on a Sunday. The first moving pictures were shown in the district in 1895 and the first talking pictures in 1926. Gore has had 4 theatres and Matura one

**3 September 1939.**

Second World War began

**1930**

Opening of Gore High School

**1910**

**1 September 1910.** Coronation Library opened - Carnegie granted £2000 for it.

**August 1914.** WW1 - Volunteers leave for the front lines from Gore

**July 1917.** Formation of Gore's RSA (Returned Soldiers' Association)

**November 1918.** 'Flu Epidemic - 52 people in the district die including former mayor, Thomas Green

**19 July 1919.** WW1 - Peace Day celebrations held after delay due to 'flu epidemic

**1 March 1920.** Flying display at Gore Racecourse by Captain Dickson

**11 April 1923.** Opening of Gore High School hostels - First State co-ed hostels built in New Zealand

**1920**

1918 Peace Celebrations Gore

Gore Coronation Library

Military Parade - Main Street Gre c.1914

**Where We Live**  
Project Tūrangawaewae