The thesis seeks to reveal, through the use of numerous case studies, the timekeeping processes that helped to make New Zealand. Whilst the period under review covers primarily the period 1840 to 1868 there is also a discussion of the emergence of clock time in thirteenth century Britain and Europe and its development through to the late nineteenth century. This is because the settlers’ apprehension of time and their use of clocks and watches had evolved over the preceding centuries. The importance of reliable time was recognised by the Church from the medieval period but as ownership of public and private clocks proliferated the decentralisation of clock time commenced. Clock time commanded the lives of people and imprinted itself through the inculcation of such notions as punctuality and productivity. Better clocks brought a new emphasis to workplace efficiency underpinning the belief that time was money and facilitated the efficient coordination of Land, Labour and Capital. The discovery of New Zealand required timekeeping at sea. The achievements of James Cook, underpinned by improved chronometers, facilitated the large-scale British colonisation of New Zealand and seldom brought respite from the rule of time. Once on land, the settlers looked to establish a temporal order similar to Britain.
Whilst the period under review covers primarily the period 1840 to 1868 there is also a discussion of the emergence of clock time in thirteenth century Britain and Europe and its development through to the late nineteenth century. This is because the settlers' apprehension of time and their use of clocks and watches had evolved over the preceding centuries. The importance of reliable time was recognised by the Church from the medieval period but as ownership of public and private clocks proliferated the decentralisation of clock time commenced. Time - history of; timekeeping in New Zealand; GMT link to New Zealand; James Hector; John Hall; William Hunter Reynolds; New Zealand Meridian; Abel Tasman; James Cook. Rights. Copyright Gerard S. Morris

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Whilst the period under review covers primarily the period 1840 to 1868 there is also a discussion of the emergence of clock time in thirteenth century Britain and Europe and its development through to the late nineteenth century. This is because the settlers' apprehension of time and their use of clocks and watches had evolved over the preceding centuries. The importance of reliable time was recognised by the Church from the medieval period but as ownership of public and private clocks proliferated the decentralisation of clock time commenced. Time - history of; timekeeping in New Zealand; GMT link to New Zealand; James Hector; John Hall; William Hunter Reynolds; New Zealand Meridian; Abel Tasman; James Cook. Rights. Copyright Gerard S. Morris. A surprisingly long time passed — 127 years — before New Zealand was visited by another European. The Englishman Captain James Cook arrived here in 1769 on the first of 3 voyages. European whalers and sealers then started visiting regularly, followed by traders. Thousands of New Zealanders served and died overseas in the First World War. The 1915 landing at Gallipoli in Turkey is regarded as a coming of age for our country. New Zealand troops fought overseas again in the Second World War in support of the United Kingdom (UK). However, the fall of Singapore shook New Zealanders' confidence that Britain could guarantee the country's security.