Maritime Historian Peter Plowman has documented the ships bringing migrants to Australia and New Zealand from 1900 to the outbreak of World War 2.

Information on each ship includes where and where built, by whom, tonnage and the history of their migrant carrying voyages. Each entry includes a photograph of the ship and an index lists all ships appearing in the volume.

This was an era when passengers paid their own fare with the majority of migrants arriving from Britain, Germany and Italy. Whilst the Federal Government had no immigration schemes the states made several notable attempts. In 1912 the Victorian Government contracted shipping lines to bring 24,000 British migrants to Melbourne at 12 pounds per passenger. NSW opted for a sponsorship scheme with fares paid for by relatives or friends in Australia.

_Migrant ships to Australia and New Zealand 1900 to 1939_ [2] is an essential source for those researching the arrival of immigrant ancestors in the twentieth century. Published by Rosenberg [3] the book is also available in the library shop [4].