



# NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



**Number 231**

**February 2010**

**Convenor:** Annette Larsen Ph 758 3320  
**Treasurer:** John Berntsen Ph 753 9188  
**Secretary:** John Pickering Ph 758 4952

**New Plymouth Branch**  
**P.O. Box 429,**  
**New Plymouth 4340**

**Committee:** Lea Bellini, Judy Berntsen,  
 Elly Harrison, Charles Le Breton,  
 Bev Mulqueen, Marilyn Reid,  
 Peter Wicky

**Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month at  
 Branch Rooms 7.30pm, Moturoa  
 Shopping Centre  
 access off Whiteley Street Carpark

**Email:**  
[newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz)  
**Website:**  
<http://www.genealogynp.com>

**Branch Library:** Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.

**Opening Hours:** Monday: 10am to 3pm: Wednesday: 12 noon to 3pm  
 Friday & Saturday: 10am to 12 noon

**Computer Group:** meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday every 2nd month at 1.30pm in the Branch Rooms starting from January 2010. Open to anyone - \$2 door charge. **Convenor** – Bruce Bellini: **Treasurer** - Lea Bellini.

## Branch News

### Next meeting Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February Potpourri/Sharing Evening -7.30pm

A number of Branch Members were unable to present their contributions at the meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup> as time ran short. There will now be opportunity to give your presentation at the meeting on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, so please bring along your genealogy materials and items of interest.

### Meeting Programme until the AGM in May

- 2<sup>nd</sup> February: Opportunity for members to bring along items of interest
- 2<sup>nd</sup> March: How to set out family history records.
- 6<sup>th</sup> April: Possible link with Puke Ariki's 2010 Exhibition – The Land Wars
- 4<sup>th</sup> May: Branch AGM

## Resignations of Committee Members

The resignations of two Committee Members - Michael Butler (personal reasons) and Marjorie McMahon (a shift with husband Des to live in Cambridge) - were tabled and accepted at the Committee Meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup> 2010.

Both Marjorie and Michael have given long service to the Branch and made significant contributions in many ways during their terms on the Branch Committee.

The Branch Committee wishes to express its thanks to Marjorie and Michael on behalf of Members and wishes them both well in the future.

## Donation received

The Committee acknowledges with thanks a donation of \$20 to the Branch from Thelma Somerville.

## **Branch Committee**

Several members of the present committee have indicated that they do not intend to stand for re-election at the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

Branch Members are urged to give thought to serving on the Branch Committee and allowing their nomination to go forward when these are called for later on.

## **NZSG Matters**

### **Family History Fair**

To be held in Hamilton July 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> 2010, the Fair will include seminars, exhibits, online access and help desks.

The seminars have the following themes:

- **Who am I?** Getting started.
- **What can I find?** Methods for effective research..
- **Where is my family?** Linking with others researching.
- **Sharing my past for the future.**

For more information email: [nzfamilyhistoryfair@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:nzfamilyhistoryfair@genealogy.org.nz)

Registrations open in February.

### **NZSG Bookshop:**

*Victoria Outwards to New Zealand 1852-1923.* This CD contains data on shipping lists and is searchable by passenger name, ship and port of arrival. Cost \$50. Refer to NZSG website:

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

## **Reminder for NZSG members**

The January/February *NZ Genealogist* will carry voting papers and reply envelopes for voting in the NZSG Council 2010-2012 Elections.

An election and postal ballot has become necessary as more nominations than vacancies have been received for the offices of President and Treasurer as well as for Councillors

Voting will close on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 and the results of the postal ballot will be declared at 3pm on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July at the Annual General Meeting in Hamilton.

## **On the Library Shelves**

### **Book Review**

*Your Family's History – Research, Write and Publish It.* MacGibbon, John; Ngaio Press, Wellington, New Zealand. 2009.

*Your Family's History* is only 40 pages in length but is a useful guide for anyone setting out to write a family history for the first time.

John MacGibbon, genealogist, writer and publisher – author of the best selling family history book, *Going Abroad* – has drawn on his own extensive experience in providing the family historian with a number of strategies for researching, writing and publishing a family history,

The first section covers sources for obtaining information and records – archives, repositories, libraries, databases and genealogy societies and websites both in New Zealand and overseas. Advice is given on backing up data, setting up a blog-site to keep in touch with other family members and using a program such as Evernote to store and process information, emails and graphics as these are gathered.

The second section leads into the actual writing process, providing tips on content planning, graphics and how to use them, appropriate writing style and grammar. The author emphasizes the importance of providing an index for later researchers.

Many aspects of publishing and promoting a book are covered in the final section. The author provides advice on editing, suitable publishing programs, the requirements for legal deposit, obtaining an ISBN number, and working profitably with a publisher.

The author acknowledges that the researcher may need to go beyond the booklet for further information but web portals for doing this are included. As an introductory and affordable guide to writing family history, *Your Family's History* has much to recommend it.

Obtainable on loan from New Plymouth Branch NZSG Branch Library or can be purchased from Ngaio Press ([www.ngaiopress.com/familyhistory.htm](http://www.ngaiopress.com/familyhistory.htm)) PO Box 29-010, Wellington. Price: \$15 plus \$2 postage.

## **Archives New Zealand – improved website**

Check out Archives new-look website with its new search tool which was launched on January 10<sup>th</sup> this year. Archives would welcome your feedback on how well this enables you to search their records.

[www.archives.govt.nz](http://www.archives.govt.nz)

## Recently arrived Magazines

The Practical Family History and the Family Tree magazines for January 2010 have many interesting articles. The following is a selection:

### Practical Family History

- Free online data for Durham, Warwick & Leamington Spa.
- A-Z of genealogy- K is for Kelly's Directories.
- Trace forebears in Orkney & Shetland.
- Workhouses- a gruel life?
- The virtues of the Internet.

### Family Tree

- Restoring damaged photos.
- 1910 Valuation Office survey of English & Welsh properties.
- Relatives in South Africa.
- Social change & women's fashions 1900 – 1939.
- Ten New Year Resolutions for Family Historians.
- Further tips for finding family before 1700.

## Memories Magazine Issue 81 December/January 2010

This issue of the magazine carries a number of articles which may be of interest to family historians including:

- *Pack horses and Mules* the part these animals played in the development of high country farming in the South Island.
- *The Telephone* a story of how the party line helped to reduce isolation of settlers in a North Island West Coast settlement.
- *Pioneers in the Hawke's Bay Wine Industry.*
- *Buttercups and Daisies* a story of children's lives on an Apple Farm in Nelson in the 1930s/40s
- *Beginnings* British immigrants to New Zealand in the 1950s.
- *Regions* Hawke's Bay and Otago.

## Of Interest

### Shipping Lists digitised.

The digitisation of all Shipping Lists held at Archives New Zealand has been carried out by Bill and Glenys Chadderton from Kihikihi, representatives from LDS Family Search. The Chaddertons spent almost 15 months on the huge task of digitising some 270,000 Shipping List pages. These cover the years from 1840 to 1972 and include the names and details of nearly eight million people of whom many arrived as assisted passengers.

It is hoped that work will be completed on the shipping lists early this

year and be made available to researchers on the Family Search and Archives New Zealand websites

### Updated Census website

The National Archives of Ireland census website has been updated to provide new search options for the 1911 Census. These include: Relation to Head of Household, Literacy, Occupation, Marital status, County/Country of origin, Language proficiency, Specified Illnesses, Number of years married, Number of children born and Number of children living. All thirty two counties for 1911 are now available on the site. <http://www.nationalarchives.ie/>

### Royal Naval service records 1853-1923

The National Archives (UK) has made available some 680,000 records of Royal Navy Seamen who joined between 1853 and 1923 through the release of a final batch of files (ADM139/221) on DocumentsOnline – Archives' digital records service.

In many instances the records include information about the birthplace and year of birth, names of ships served on and length of Royal Navy service. Entries from 1892 on give more details including physical characteristics and notes about 'character' and 'ability'.

The records are free to search but a charge of £3.50 is made for any download.

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

### Scotland's People puts Catholic Records online

Approximately 700 Catholic Parish Registers from parishes in existence before 1858 when civil registration commenced have been made available online by the Scotland's People website. The earliest records date from 1703 but most began in the thirty years after 1790 when restrictions against Catholics were relaxed under legislation.

The registers include records of births and baptisms, marriages, confirmation, deaths and burials,

communicants, sick calls, status animarum, converts, first confessions and sent rents.

<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>

## Useful Websites

### National Archives of Ireland

News of an important addition to online resources for Irish Family history has recently been released by the NAI.

The transcripts of church records for Dublin and Kerry are now available online free of charge on the Irish Genealogy website <http://www.irishgenealogy.ie>

The transcripts include 1,334,000 entries of baptisms, marriages and burials – 734,000 being from Dublin and 600,000 from Kerry.

Transcripts of church records from the County Libraries of Carlow and Cork, plus the Dublin City Library up to 1900 are being completed for release in the near future.

### Google News Archive Search

*The Google News Archive Search* searches across a large collection of historical archives including major newspapers, magazines and legal archives. Search results include content which is available free to all users (BBC News, Time Magazine and The Guardian) as well as archival sites such as the Washington Post Archives which are pay-to-view.

The researcher can search by name, events, ideas and articles. For instance putting in the query British Corn Laws not only brought up articles and comment from newspapers of the day on both sides of the Atlantic but also articles written in the succeeding century giving an historical perspective.

Similarly, entering Napier Earthquake 1931, gave articles about the disaster not only in New Zealand but also in Australian and American Newspapers of the time. Google News Search also provides a timeline of events and articles associated with the search topic.

The Google News Archive Search site can be found at <http://www.news.google.com/archivesearch>

## Notices

### Archives Section at Otago Settlers Museum to be closed during redevelopment.

Most of the archives section at the Otago Settlers Museum will be closed until the building redevelopment project is completed towards the end of 2012. The Portraits section will still be available however and 6000 recently digitised portraits will be able to be viewed on computer.

### Recent newsletters received from other NZSG Branches.

These include newsletters from: Canterbury (November and December issues); Hamilton; Hutt Valley; Motueka; Wanganui; Wellington and Whakatane. These are stored in folders in the last section of shelves in the Branch library.

### FamilySearch's Microfilm Online Ordering Service

The service allows you to obtain loans of films which are then sent to a Family History Centre or Affiliate centre nearest you in New Zealand.

Ordering is done on the website <http://film.familysearch.org> at the LDS Family History Library where you can set up a free account. You need to know the film number of the film you require. This can be found by searching the Library Catalogue at *FamilySearch.org* Short term loans are for 90 days while Long Term loan times are unspecified.

Films are free but there is a handling and postage charge of NZ\$8.50 payable by credit card.

### Rotorua Cemeteries and Crematorium records

32,000 separate records dating back to 1882 are held for public cemeteries and the city crematorium. Photos of headstones can also be viewed.

<http://www.rdc.govt.nz/Services/CemeteriesCrematorium.aspx>.

Contributions can be sent to the Editor at [wicky.family@ihug.co.nz](mailto:wicky.family@ihug.co.nz)