

NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 242

February 2011

Convenor: Annette Larsen 758 3320
Secretary: Fay Eaton 751 1045
Treasurer: John Berntsen 753 9188

Committee: Judy Berntsen
Bev Mulqueen
Charles Le Breton

New Plymouth Branch
PO Box 429
New Plymouth 4340

Meetings: 7:30 pm, first Tuesday each month
at branch rooms, Moturoa Shopping Centre
access off Whiteley Street carpark

Email: newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz
Website: 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: every third Sunday every 2nd month at 1:30pm at the Branch Rooms
Open to anyone - \$2 door charge. Convenor – Bruce Bellini

NZSG Regional Meeting

Saturday 26 February 2011
10:30am at NP branch rooms

Members are welcome and encouraged to attend this meeting. The regional meetings are held quarterly and enable representatives from national office and each Taranaki branch to meet and discuss key issues for genealogy. It is a great opportunity to mix with people from other branches.

Please bring a plate for a shared lunch.

Next meeting: 7:30pm Tuesday 1 Feb 2011

Genealogy from Published Sources

Elly Harrison explains some pitfalls of sourcing your family history information from published sources.

Elly has many years experience with genealogy research, and has published privately several family histories. She has special interest in South Africa, and has researched several other countries.



Last Meeting – Sunday 5 December 2010

Our branch Christmas dinner for 2010 was a pot luck dinner held at our club rooms.



About two dozen members and spouses enjoyed great food and company to wind up the year.

Thanks to Bev, Judy and the team for organising everything.

From the Convenor's Desk

Happy New Year to you all! Hope you have had refreshing holidays and found new and exciting discoveries for your family history. I have finally begun work on putting all my years of research into booklet form. To make it less daunting and more manageable for me, I am restricting this immediate effort to the first couple of generations of the Sutherland family who came to Auckland in 1847 – a Fencible family. So far it has been an interesting exercise.

Last AGM I re-stood as Convenor, but that only postponed the inevitable. I will DEFINITELY be standing down, both as Convenor and from the committee, in May at our next AGM. It has been an interesting journey for me over the six and a half years I've been on the committee.

Sometimes challenging, often rewarding. Please give serious consideration to standing on our committee. There are only three months left of this year before new elections are held. Speak to any of our committee if you have any ideas on the subject or need any information.

Exciting things continue to happen in the world of online genealogy. Keep a watch on old favourite genealogy sites, as they continue to release new records on a regular basis. The [Scotlandspeople](#) website is to release the 1911 census for Scotland in April 2011. [Paperspast](#) has made 3 more newspapers searchable. New things are happening on the LDS site. And so on...

I have recently accessed the National Archives of Ireland site (www.census.nationalarchives.ie) which has the original images of the 1901 and 1911 census of Ireland free for researchers. What a great resource! Found my husband's grandmother's Scottish sister, husband and children in the 1911 Irish census. She had 11 children!! The census gave the birthplace of two

of the children as England, so I was able to look at the 1901 English census on the ancestry site and found the family in Lancashire then. The husband was a shipwright, so moved around from Scotland to England to Ireland in his work. Without the 1911 Irish census I would not have found them in England. It is easy to assume things.

The latest Family Tree magazine in our library has some interesting articles, including one on death customs through the centuries and ancestors in prison. This latter article makes grim reading.

Did you know that the most popular name for newborn boys in England and Wales in 2009 was Mohammed? For girls it was Olivia with Ruby coming in second. In another article in the magazine there was also reference to some unusual names found in registration records including a 16th century illegitimate daughter being named Repentance !

The magazines to which we subscribe are great and would cost you a lot to buy from the book shops in town. Do use our library! It is your library!

Enjoy the remainder of the summer.

Annette Larsen

March Meeting

At our branch meeting on 1 March, Sue Greene will talk about FamNet. This is a new and fast growing New Zealand website for genealogy.



www.famnet.org.nz

Taranaki Punch Magazine Online

This magazine was published in the 1860s and contains cartoons of the contemporary Land Wars period. If you are lucky, you may find one of your ancestors lampooned in the publication. Warning – this is definitely not Politically Correct in today's terms but reflects the views and attitudes of the day.

Visit Online Exhibitions at www.pukeariki.com to learn more.



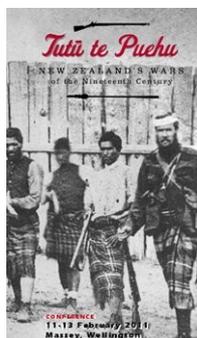
NZ Family History Fair 2011

The 2011 Family History Fair will be held on Friday 26 and Saturday 27 August 2011, at the Claudelands Events Centre at Hamilton.

<http://nzfhf2010.dnserver.net.nz/>

History Conference: NZ Wars of the 19th Century

In February 11-13 at Massey University, Wellington, there will be a conference "Tutu te Puehu" on New Zealand's Wars of the Nineteenth Century.



Speakers include Prof James Belich (defending his thesis about Maori inventing trench warfare) and Dr Monty Soutar from New Zealand, Dr Peter Stanley from Australia, Prof Bruce Vandervort from USA and Prof Ian Beckett from UK. The conference is officially supported by the Ministries of Defence, Culture & Heritage and Te Puni Kokiri.

<http://www.phanza.org.nz/content/tutu-te-puehu-new-zealands-wars-conference-11-13-feb-2011>

<http://timespanner.blogspot.com/2010/10/tutu-te-puehu-new-zealands-wars-of-19th.html>

The New Zealand Gazette

The Taranaki Research Centre at Puke Ariki now has a digital copy of The New Zealand Gazette issues from 1841 to 2010. This is complete with images of the original documents. It is searchable from a Table of Contents or a full text search across all the documents. Now there is no need to wait for a visit from an NZSG official to enable a search of the Gazette.

The digitising of the AJHRs is already underway. (AJHRs means appendices to the Journal of the New Zealand House of Representatives.)

New Member

Please welcome Linda Ward, who has recently joined our branch.

NZ Memories magazine

The branch library is seeking to complete our set of issues of this magazine. We have most of the issues over recent years, but are missing these ones; 2-16, 18-23, 25, 52, 54, 55, 58, 59.

If anyone is able to contribute any of the missing issues to the branch, that would be most appreciated.

Please contact Charles Le Breton or Marilyn Armitstead.

Members Interests

Just a reminder to please update your research interests. It can be a great help to get in touch with others researching the same ancestors.

If you wish, your interests can be listed on our branch website. This enables researchers to contact you via the branch.

Please contact Judy Berntsen.

Branch Projects

Our branch has undertaken many projects to preserve and provide access to historical records. Thank you to those wonderful people quietly working away behind the scenes already on our projects. You are doing important work.

The current priority projects are;

- finishing transcription of the Spotswood College admission records
- indexing Photo News magazines.

We can always do with more assistance on these projects. No magic skills or equipment are needed. If you can spare some time to help, please contact Marilyn Reid.

More Naval History

The online resources at naval-history.net have been recently expanded with information from the 1914-1920 editions of the London Gazette. This includes Royal Navy and British Army despatches and Royal Navy Honours and Gallantry Awards.



Scandinavian Festival

25 to 27 February 2011

Norsewood

A celebration of Scandinavian culture and history. The Palmerston North NZSG branch will have a family history display at the Coronation Hall in Norsewood.

www.scandinavianfestival.org.nz

Te Papa Tongarewa

Check out the online collection at the Te Papa website. This is a collection of photographs and other records, searchable online.

collections.tepapa.govt.nz

FamilySearch.org website changes

A number of major changes are being progressively implemented at the familysearch.org website. Although most of the features of the old site are still there, accessing them has changed and caused frustration for some users.

FamilySearch has published a document called "Adjusting to the New Version of www.familysearch.org" and a video tutorial that summarizes the changes to the new site. These new guides can be found under the "[Changes at FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org)" link.

Queenstown Cemeteries Online

The Queenstown Lakes District cemeteries database is now available online.

www.qldc.govt.nz/cemeteries_database_search

Society of Genealogists Collection

The Society of Genealogists in London and findmypast.co.uk have published over 9 million family history records on line. These include;

- Boyd's Marriage Index, 1538 to 1840

- Boyd's London Burials 1538-1872
- Faculty Office Marriage Licence Allegations 1701-1850
- St Andrew's Holborn Marriage Index 1754-1812
- Vicar-General Marriage Licences Allegations 1694-1850
- St Leonard Shoreditch Burials 1805-1858 and Workhouse Deaths 1820-1828
- Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills Index 1750-1800

Library News

Recent magazines (with CD);
Family Tree (January)
NZ Memories (Feb/March)



Newsletters received;

December: Hamilton, Hutt Valley, Motueka, Stratford

January: Wellington

February: Stratford

Computer Group

The Genealogy computer group held its first meeting for 2011 on 16 January. We discussed backup techniques and tips. The meeting also provided an update on some recent internet scams and malware.



The next computer group meeting is at 1:30 pm, Sunday 20 March 2011, at the branch rooms. This will cover GEDCOM files, what these are and how to make them useful.

Newsletter

If you have any comments or suggestions for the newsletter, please contact Peter Hewett at peter.hewett@gmail.com.

