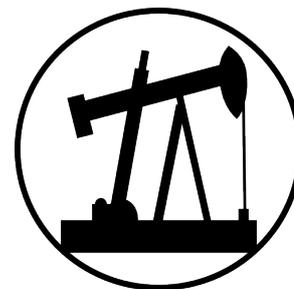




# NZSG

## New Plymouth

### Branch Newsletter



Number 277

April 2014

**Branch Library:** Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.  
**Opening Hours:** Monday: 10am to 3pm (closed 21 April, Easter Monday)  
 Wednesday: 12 noon to 3pm  
 Saturday: 10am to 12 noon (closed 19 April, Easter Saturday)

### 2014 AGM

At the branch meeting on 6 May, we will be holding our annual general meeting. The formal notice of the meeting is distributed to branch members with this newsletter.

Nominations are open for committee and branch officer positions. Our branch runs on voluntary effort from a number of people. Any contribution you are able to make is greatly appreciated by everyone.

Documents for the AGM (such as minutes of the 2013 AGM) will be distributed with the next newsletter.

Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 1 Apr 2014

### Photo Night

For the April branch meeting, we are holding a photographs evening.

Bring along and share a photo of one of your female ancestors. Pick a photo that is interesting or has a good story to go with it (even better if it is a true story).



**Convenor:** John Berntsen 753 9188  
**Secretary:** Fay Eaton 751 1045  
**Treasurer:** John Berntsen 753 9188

**Committee:** Judy Berntsen  
 Anne Brophy  
 Margaret Gregory  
 Charles Le Breton  
 Ailsa McCrone  
 Bev Mulqueen

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

## Last Event: Cornwall

At the March meeting of our Branch, we visited Cornwall, thanks to Neville Richards and Faith. We got to share in their holiday experience in what is, for me, one of the prettier parts of England. Shame the weather was often wet and cold! The Cornish pasties and cream teas hopefully helped make those days more bearable! Would have been special catching up with relations over there too.

In 1984, Neville's daughter asked him about the family tree and he realised he knew very little. The Richards family came out on one of the early ships to New Plymouth, the *Blenheim*. A number of New Plymouth people can trace their ancestry back to Cornwall.

Neville and Faith decided to embark on a holiday to Europe in May 2013 and to visit Cornwall. They went to Illogan, the home of the Richards family – a highlight of the trip. They visited the church where generations of the family had worshipped. Neville's great-grandfather was baptised there. The local reporter was on hand to get an article and photo of "Kiwi Neville".

I was interested to hear of the hundreds of bodies buried in the Illogan churchyard because of a cholera outbreak.

We learned a bit from Neville about tin mining in Cornwall and in particular Redruth, a centre of tin-mining. A miner's working day could start with an eight mile walk to work and then a long climb down the steps to the mine itself.

We heard about the 2004 floods and how they affected towns like Boscastle. Also saw the black polythene covering much land to provide solar power for the grid. Not as pretty as fields of crops. Heard of the bats that had to be protected when restoring an old building.....

Neville had interesting photos taken at the Eden Project which is one of Cornwall's most celebrated visitor attractions. A number of biomes nestle in a giant 50 metre deep crater, the site of a disused china clay pit. Inside these artificial biomes are plants collected from around the world. Eg. One houses an indoor rain forest.

Thank you both for sharing your photos with us. Everyone would have gone home with something new learned, I'm sure.

Annette Larsen

## Convenor's Report

Well March is just about over as is daylight saving.

Earlier this month we had an open day and about 24 people came through the door. From the visitors, we had 3 single and a couple sign up as branch members. I must thank the following for helping out:

- Bev for arranging the day and getting the publicity in the Midweek.
- Annette for helping on Saturday and also doing the interview for the Midweek.
- Fay, Judy, Ailsa and Margaret – committee members who helped.
- Sarah Knowles, Neville Richards, Karen Crowe – non committee who came along and also helped out.

Thanks to all of you, it would not have been such a success without these helpers.

Thanks to Neville giving us a talk on Cornwall, and also for the donation of prints of old New Plymouth.

As I will be in Auckland next Tuesday, the meeting will be in Charles' capable hands.

We are still wanting more members to join the committee. Please give it some serious consideration. You may enjoy yourself.

From Tuesday 1 April, Waitara Genealogy Group cease to exist. They have had to close down and are now no longer affiliated to the NZSG. They still have all their records and are now situated in a building next to the War Memorial Hall in Waitara. That is all we know about them at present.

Welcome to the following new members. Please introduce yourselves and make use of our resources.

Y. Sampson  
M. Hutton  
J. Hutton  
D. Trim & D MacPhail  
Geoff Harrop

And sadly we have a member who has just died. Lynne Mills. Condolences to Lynne's family from the New Plymouth branch.

John Berntsen



## British Newspaper Sites – Helpful for Fleshing out your Family Story.

At our recent branch Open Day, I was demonstrating the British Newspaper Archive ([www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk)) and casually put in my grandmother's first husband's name, Samuel Goldsmith, with surprising results. I have not really explored this site before but it is worth a look.

The first article that came up showed that my Samuel Goldsmith had been in court for inebriation! When I got home I investigated the site at length. There are a number of filters you can use to narrow down your search. At present there are 15 free credits available if you register. These credits allow you to see 3 pages of articles. Using the site without having any credits you can only read part of your article- a teaser. To read the whole article you would need to take out a subscription. A month's subscription would cost about \$60 NZ. A year's subscription would cost about \$160.

If you have a full subscription to genesreunited, the British Newspaper Archive is available on their site.

As a member of the NZSG, I have free access to many digitised British newspapers via the NZSG website. This is a different database to the britishnewspaperarchive. I have gone into the NZSG database on many occasions without much success.

Looking at even the truncated entries on the britishnewspaperarchive, I have discovered that Samuel Goldsmith was a regular at the Petty Sessions of the local court!! His crimes were either inebriation or poaching! So even without a subscription to the site I have gained a greater picture of the man.

Then I decided to Google his name plus the locality of his crimes. Imagine my surprise when I discovered there was an article on the NZ Paperspast site about his poaching in Sussex! He had never ever come to New Zealand, so NZ newspapers would have been the last place I would have thought to look! An interesting article which I will reproduce here:

It is odd how differently Bunny is treated out here and at Home. This month the farmers of the KIWITEA County will not be doing their duty to their neighbours if they do not join in the crusade

to destroy rabbits. But in the Old Country the rabbit is preserved for the sport of the lord of the manor, and woe unto him of commoner clay who seeks to utilise Bunny for breakfast. That such a cry does not belong to the bad old past is proved by the following clipping from a late issue of the Courier, Tunbridge Wells(Kent), which is sent us by a Star subscriber. It is from a report of the Mark Cross Petty Session, and here is the text of it: "Samuel Goldsmith and Percy Markwick, labourers at Crowborough, were summoned for trespassing in search of conies (rabbits) on land at Eridge, in the occupation of the Marquis of Abergavenny, on 13th December. Both pleaded guilty. John Penry, a game-keeper, said he saw defendants at 4 p.m. on 13th December at a rabbit warren at Carr's Wood. They were in the act of putting nets down, and they had in their possession nine nets, a ferret, and a rabbit. Markwick said times had been hard, and he had had great difficulty in getting a bit of food. Each man was fined 10s and 5s costs." Petty sessions!

4 March 1910, Feilding Star

Do check out the various sites that offer digitised newspapers. It is such an important source for fleshing out your family history.

Annette Larsen

## English Parents

The Dunedin Family History Group is publishing a book on the lives of English born parents. The criteria is that the articles must involve any parents born in England who immigrated and died in New Zealand. The book is to be published in September 2014.

This is the last in the series of books - Scottish Mother, Scottish Father and Irish Parents.

We are able to accept submissions in any format - i.e. hardcopy, via an email attachment or on CD. Submissions can be in almost any Windows compatible format. The article can be as small or as large as needed but for space we have set the limit as 20,000 words (on average 750 words are usually 1 page so this allows a maximum of 26 pages). Graphics, photographs and maps can be in addition to the 20,000 words.



Photographs, graphics and maps help enhance an article. All pictures should be 300 dpi (dots per inch) and high quality. The published size is usually about a column width (83mm) by the relative height of the picture which also needs a caption.

All photographs must be sourced i.e. JOE BLOGGS PERSONAL COLLECTION or PRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF THE HOCKEN LIBRARY COLLECTIONS, DUNEDIN.

All articles must be received by the 31 July 2014. Entries which arrive after this date may not be able to be included in the final publication.

All articles accepted for submission provides the author with a 10% discount on the final cost of purchasing the book.

Any questions please contact [dfhg@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dfhg@xtra.co.nz) or write to 28 Milburn Street, Dunedin.

#### Library Roster: April

Monday 10 am to 3 pm  
Wednesday 12 noon to 3 pm  
Saturday 10 am to 12 noon

Wed 2 Jill Harvey  
Sat 5 Judy Berntsen  
Mon 7 Charles Le Breton / Bev Mulqueen  
Wed 9 Margaret Gregory  
Sat 12 Mike Merrick  
Mon 14 Charles Le Breton / Ailsa McCrone  
Wed 16 Margaret Gregory  
Sat 19 Closed Easter  
Mon 21 Closed Easter  
Wed 23 Fay Eaton  
Sat 26 Annette Larsen  
Mon 28 Peter Winter / Syd Beale  
Wed 30 John Berntsen

#### Empty Printer Cartridges

Please bring your empty printer cartridges in to the branch rooms. These can be either ink jet or laser cartridges, but **we can only use HP or Canon types of cartridges.**

These will be recycled to generate some income for the branch.



#### Library News

Books recently donated;

- Inglewood High School Year books for 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962
- The Naki Boy, autobiography by Charles Rush, 2013
- Combs, Combmaking and the Combmakers Company, Ron Bowers, 1987
- The Female Line, Researching your Female Ancestors, Margaret Wood, 2003
- Tracing your ancestors in the Public Record Office, 1983
- Kirby Moorside official guide
- Westminster City Archives, St Martin in the Fields



Magazines received;

Discover Your History (Mar)  
Family Tree (Mar)  
Who do you think you are (Mar, Apr)

Newsletters received;

Blenheim, Canterbury, Hutt Valley, Matamata, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Riccarton, South Canterbury, Stratford, Wellington

#### Newsletter

If you have any comments or suggestions for the newsletter, please contact Peter Hewett at [peter.hewett@gmail.com](mailto:peter.hewett@gmail.com).

