



# NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 284

November 2014

**Branch Library:** Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.  
**Opening Hours:** Monday: 10am to 3pm  
 Wednesday: 12 noon to 3pm  
 Saturday: 10am to 12 noon

## Christmas Raffle

The branch is running a Christmas hamper raffle this year. Members are asked to bring along a donation of non-perishable goods to the next monthly branch meeting.

Raffle tickets are 3 for \$2 and will be on sale at the November branch meeting. The raffle will be drawn at the Christmas dinner.



Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 4 Nov 2014

## Hooked on Genealogy Tour

At the November meeting, Sharyn Guthrie and Karen Crowe will talk about their genealogy trip this year to USA and UK.

They went on the 2014 Hooked on Genealogy Tour, run by Jan Gow. The tour included time at the LDS family history centre at Salt Lake City, and also visited genealogy resource centres in England and Scotland.

Jan Gow QSM is one of New Zealand's leading genealogists, and she has run these tours for many years. Jan has built up vast knowledge and a network of many important contacts in the genealogy world. Come along and hear about the resources Sharyn and Karen were able to access on this tour.

Please bring a small plate of food for a shared supper.

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

**Committee:** Judy Berntsen  
 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)

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### Last Event: Gramps and Reunion

At the October branch meeting, we had demonstrations of two different genealogy programmes.

- Gramps with Peter Hewett
- Reunion with Neville Richards

There are many different genealogy software programmes available, and although the basics are much the same, some offer a range of different features and user interfaces. This talk showed that these programmes looked like, and explained some of the features they have.

[Reunion](#) is made to run on Apple devices (iMac, macbook, iPhone and iPad).

[Gramps](#) is an open source programme, available for Windows, mac and Linux.

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### Summer timetable

The branch will be taking a break over the Christmas / New Year period. The branch rooms will be closed for this period.

Last day 2014                                  Saturday 13 Dec

First day 2015                                  Monday 19 Jan

The first branch meeting for 2015 will be on Tuesday, 3 February 2015. David Harop will talk about writing his book about the Wanganui Maxwells.

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### Branch Christmas Dinner

The branch Christmas dinner will be held at 6:00 pm on Tuesday 9 December 2014. This will be at the Fitzroy Golf Club, Record Street. The dinner is a buffet and the cost is \$27 a head. Please put your name down on the list at the branch rooms, and please pay at the branch rooms by Tuesday 4 November.

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### Christmas Cake Raffle

Tickets in this raffle are \$1 each and will be on sale at the November branch meeting.

The prize is a glorious Christmas cake, donated by Neville Richards. The raffle draw will be done at the November branch meeting.

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### Convenor's Report

Well October is nearly gone and then our last meeting of the year. You will have seen another notice in this month's newsletter PLEASE BRING A SMALL PLATE FOR SUPPER on Tuesday night.

Also on Tuesday, we will draw our Christmas Cake raffle. There is still time to buy tickets and they will be on sale on Tuesday evening. Cost \$1 per ticket. Also the grocery hamper raffle (3 draws) will be on sale at \$2 for 3 tickets on Tuesday night. This will be drawn at the Christmas function and the winners will be able to pick up their prizes at the rooms on the days we are open.

If you have not yet put your name down for the Christmas Dinner, please come to the rooms and put your name on the sheet and pay the librarian on duty. We would love to see a big turnout. Cost is \$27 per head which is due to be paid next Tuesday 4 November. Please bring along your cash or cheque books. Just a reminder that it is being held at the Fitzroy Golf Club, Record St, Fitzroy (right at the end of the road) on Tuesday 9 December.

We are also after some kind people who would like to help out by transcribing records. This is not an onerous job and no pressure put on you to have them completed by a certain time. Please give this some serious consideration and then contact Marilyn Reid on 7586930. She would be very pleased to hear from you.

John Berntsen  
Convenor

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### Forces War Records

The Forces War Records website has recently added 30,000 records from the 51<sup>st</sup> Field Ambulance to their WW1 medical records. These medical records cover military personnel who were injured or sick during the war. It is expected that the 1½ million records in this set will be transcribed in two or three years.

[www.forces-war-records.co.uk](http://www.forces-war-records.co.uk)

John Berntsen

Note: this is a pay to use site, and costs £50 a year.

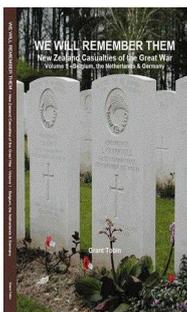


## Book Review

### “We will remember them” by Grant Tobin

One of the World War 1 memorial projects is a series of books on New Zealand's war dead graves.

The first 2 of 5 volumes have just arrived at Puke Ariki and are displayed on the new books stand in the Taranaki Research Room. Vol. 1 covers Belgium, Netherlands and Germany and Vol. 2 France and Switzerland.



The books themselves present little new but are an amalgam of the Commonwealth War Graves data and the NZEF war dead CD that we have in the library.

They are different in being dedicated to just NZ soldiers who died in WW1 and presented by country then cemetery. In addition each volume is supplemented by a CD with photos of all the graves, general photos of each cemetery plus an application for Google Earth (still to be installed by library at time of my inspection) and TomTom GPS units.

At the rear of each volume is a list of the GPS references for each cemetery followed by a complete index.

The books are well presented in soft cover format. The only slight fault I could find was on the CD where the individual grave photos are not named or in any particular order but the photos themselves are good.

While the information is not new the books will appeal to people who prefer a dedicated publication and/or are more comfortable with a written format.

Charles Le Breton

## Hutt City Cemetery Records

As well as the Taita Lawn Cemetery and the Wainuiomata Garden of Remembrance, the Hutt City Council is now loading records for the Old Monumental Cemetery and other Hutt City cemeteries. These can be searched online (click “other records” for the latest data entered).

[cemeteries.huttcity.govt.nz](http://cemeteries.huttcity.govt.nz)

Judy Berntsen

## Search Tip

This is from the Somerset and Dorset Family History Society page on Facebook, posted by Roy Stockdill.

This tip is not specifically related to Somerset & Dorset genealogy research but it may prove useful - valuable, even - to newer and lesser experienced family historians. When you are searching the births, marriages and deaths on the FreeBMD website, try this technique.....

Leave the surname field BLANK and put in the first name(s) field a surname that you are interested in, preceded by a plus symbol. Pressing Find will then bring up all those entries where your chosen surname has been used as a middle name or a first name! For instance, entering "+STOCKDILL" produces eight entries in which my name was given as a middle name and one entry in which it was a given first name.

Of course, this works best with the rarer surnames, but it can be very useful in finding ancestors and relatives you may have missed with a normal search, and it's also VERY good for one-name studies.

In my examples, this is how some years ago I found a girl called SARAH STOCKDILL RIDOUT, who was born at Gillingham (the Dorset one) in 1863 and married at Lambeth in 1885. She does not appear to have been related to me or my family but I believe my great great uncle and his wife were close friends of her family.

Remember.....

1) Put nothing in the surname field, leave it BLANK.

2) Enter your surname - or whatever surname you're interested in - in the first name(s) field with a PLUS symbol in front of it. An asterisk works as well but it doesn't produce those entries where the surname has been used as a first name alone, only as a middle name.

3) Do the search.

Try it! I did try it with my PURCHASE surname and got 16 hits in the births. Unfortunately I do not know what connection any may have to my research but it worked.

Raewyn Evans



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### Library Roster: October

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

Sat 1 Mike Merrick  
Mon 3 Charles Le Breton / Bev Mulqueen  
Tues 4 Branch meeting – 7:30PM  
Wed 5 Jill Harvey  
Sat 8 Karen Crowe  
Mon 10 Ailsa McCrone / Syd-Cela Beale  
Wed 12 Fay Eaton  
Sat 15 Lea / Bruce Bellini  
Mon 17 Lorraine Austin / Anne Brophy  
Wed 19 Jill Jackson  
Sat 22 Marilyn Armitstead  
Mon 24 Peter Winter / Annette Larsen  
Tues 25 Committee meeting 7pm  
Wed 26 Margaret Gregory  
Sat 29 Elly Harrison

For those new to genealogy and/or want help knocking down those brick walls, this is an excellent time and place to have our experts help you. Our helpers can show you what is available in the library and how to go about finding what you are looking for.

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### Beginning Genealogy

The next session on learning genealogy will be run by Marilyn Armitstead at the branch rooms, at 1:30 pm on Sunday 8 November.

This month, the topic is parent / child relationships, how to change these and how to link / unlink individuals. Demonstrations will use the Legacy software.

For further information, please contact Marilyn Armitstead.

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### New Members

This month, we warmly welcome two new members; Carol Conceicao and Phyl Haarer.

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### 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.



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### Library News

Magazines received;

Genealogist (Oct)

Family Tree (Nov)

Who do you think you are (Oct)



Newsletters received;

Blenheim, Canterbury, Hutt Valley, Nelson, Ontario, Otaki, Palmerston North, Riccarton, South Canterbury, Stratford, Wairarapa, Wanganui, Wellington

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### 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).

