



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 297

February 2016

Branch Library: Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.
Opening Hours: Monday: 10 am to 12:30 pm (closed 8 February for Waitangi Day)
 Wednesday: 12 noon to 3 pm
 Saturday: 10 am to 12 noon (closed 13 February for NZSG regional meeting)

Family Tree Maker

Sale of the Family Tree Maker genealogy software ceased at the end of 2015 and support will stop at the end of 2016.

This will likely affect many of our members, as FTM is one of the more popular software programmes for genealogy.

There is no need to panic. FTM will continue to work on your computer, but it is not clear how long it will continue to work properly.

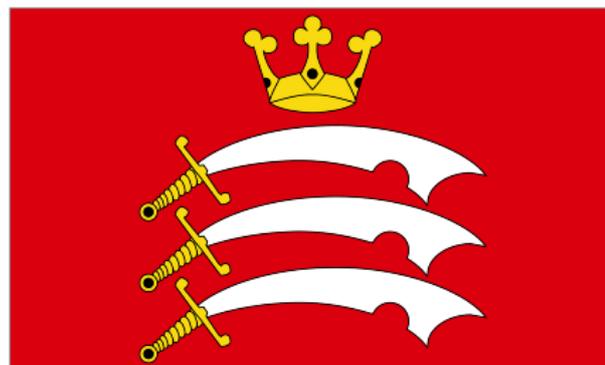
FamilyTreeMaker®
by ancestry

Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 2 Feb 2016

UK Research

At our February branch meeting, Sarah Knowles will talk about the various sources she has used for her UK research.

Using her mother-in-law's family in Middlesex as a case study, the talk will outline what sources were used and where these can be found. As well as some free websites / resources, Sarah will show what datasets are available from Ancestry, Find My Past and The Genealogist.



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

Committee: Judy Berntsen
 Jill Jackson
 Charles Le Breton
 Ailsa McCrone
 Bev Mulqueen
 Jackie Sewell

New Plymouth Branch
 c/- John Berntsen
 31 Budleigh Street
 New Plymouth 4310

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

Last Event: Michelle Patient

At the December branch meeting, Michelle Patient gave us a very informative talk about GOONS and about using DNA for genealogy research.

Michelle is the New Zealand representative for the [Guild of One Name Studies](#). She explained what the Guild is, how it works and the benefits of being a member.

Michelle also talked about using DNA for family history research, and how DNA is the ultimate genealogy record. She outlined the three leading suppliers of DNA services ([FamilyTreeDNA](#), [AncestryDNA](#) and [23andme](#)) and the pros and cons of each.

For more background, the [DNA lectures on YouTube](#) by Who Do You Think You Are are recommended.

Next Meeting: 1 March 2016

For our March meeting, we are planning a site visit to St Mary's cemetery. John Pickering has led the restoration of old headstones and memorials. So come along and see the marvellous restoration work that has been done.

NZSG Regional Meeting

The next Taranaki region meeting will be on Saturday 13 February 2016, at the New Plymouth branch rooms.

Branch Programme for 2016

The branch committee is putting together a programme for this year. Is there something that could help with your research? Or perhaps you know of someone or something that could be of interest to other branch members.

If you have any suggestions or requests, please contact a committee member.

Need a battery?

Bev has a €5 voucher for online battery supplier www.batteryupgrade.com. If you can use this, please see Bev at the next branch meeting.

Convenor's Report

Welcome to the New Year. What happened to last year, it only started then it was over.

Have you all given it a thought over the holidays about joining the committee? We need a Secretary and a Convenor, before we can operate as a branch plus about 2 or more members.

The next Regional Meeting is being held in our rooms on Saturday 13 February at 10am and we are going to discuss with the other branches about all joining and inviting the DNA person down and sharing the cost. It would be in our rooms on a Saturday or Sunday.

We also need more members urgently to help with the indexing of our records. If you can help please either contact Pat George or Lorraine Austin and you will be shown what to do. It is not an onerous task so please give this your urgent consideration.

John Berntsen
Convenor

Canon Ink Cartridges

Do you have a Canon printer?

Four unused printer cartridges have been donated to the branch. These are available for a donation.



- 1 Canon 521 yellow
- 1 Canon BCI-24B black
- 2 Canon PG 40 black
- 1 HP C1816A photo
- 1 HP 57 colour

Branch Projects

Our branch projects team can always do with some more members to help with transcribing and indexing of historical records. If you are able to help, please contact Loraine (753 4069) or Pat George (757 5434).



End of Family Tree Maker

Ancestry.com (owner of Family Tree Maker) has announced that FTM is being discontinued. All sales of FTM will cease from the end of 2015. Support will continue to the end of 2016.

The software will continue to work for now, but it might not work with future versions of Windows or OSX. Users of FTM should consider migrating their data off FTM.

Software companies come and go. It is only just over a year since The Master Genealogist software programme was discontinued.

Some commentators have speculated that with this move to shut down FMT, Ancestry.com is seeking to move users away from software installed on your computer and towards cloud based services. The cloud based approach has advantages in that you can access it from different devices (smart phone, tablet, laptop, PC) and you don't have to install and maintain the software on your computer.

Generally, the cloud based services are paid for with a regular subscription. Many companies are finding this provides them with a better income than a single one-off payment for the software.

On the other hand, the cloud user may have to continue paying to keep getting access to their data. The user's data could be at risk if the cloud company fails, or decides to increase the cost of subscription.

So, what are the options?

1. keep using FTM

The software should continue to keep working fine for quite a while, probably until you next upgrade your computer. Consider making a backup of your installation CDs, as these will be needed if you ever need to reinstall your software.

2. move to another programme

Choose another genealogy programme and migrate your data to that. Unfortunately, FTM uses a proprietary file format, so migration can be difficult. Exporting to a GEDCOM file is a common way to do this, but the GEDCOM format might not include all the types of data that you have in your FTM database.

Watch out for other vendors offering deals to switch to their software, eg Legacy, MyHeritage, Rootsmagic

Some users are advocating use of open source software (like Gramps) as these do not lock your data in proprietary file formats.

3. move to a cloud service

Changing to a cloud service has advantages and disadvantages, and there are many to choose from. FTM users might find Ancestry.com an easy option, as there is a function available to synchronise your data from FTM to Ancestry.com.

Measuring the ANZACs

This is a project to transcribe New Zealand WW1 military records. The project was set up by Archives New Zealand and the Auckland War Memorial Museum who have teamed up with Zooniverse for this project.

The project is encouraging volunteers to join up to transcribe the scans of the old military documents. Human transcribers are needed because computers can't read that old handwriting. Error checking is done by having each piece of data is transcribed a few times by different people.

Zooniverse is a citizen science software platform set up to crowd source volunteers to work on scientific and academic projects. It started with astronomy related projects, and now covers a wide range of topics across nature, physics, humanities and biology.

www.measuringtheanzacs.org

The Marlborough Express

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1905.

LOCAL & GENERAL NEWS.

Two ladies in Oamaru had a startling experience the other evening. Their house was violently broken into, causing them to make a hurried exit. On returning with assistance they discovered the family cow in one of the rooms waiting to be milked, a necessary operation that had been somehow overlooked.



Library Roster: February

Monday 10 am to 12:30 pm

Wednesday 12 noon to 3 pm

Saturday 10 am to 12 noon

Mon 1 Charles Le Breton
Tue 2 Branch meeting – 7:30pm
Wed 3 Jill Jackson
Sat 6 Mike Merrick
Mon 8 Closed – Waitangi Day
Wed 10 Judy Berntsen
Sat 13 Closed – NZSG regional meeting
Mon 15 Lorraine Austin
Wed 17 Neville Richards
Sat 20 Bruce and Lea Bellini
Mon 22 Ann Brophy
Tue 23 Committee meeting 7pm
Wed 24 Elly Harrison
Sat 27 Marilyn Armitstead
Mon 29 Annette Larsen

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.

175 Year Anniversary

It is coming up to 175 years since the arrival of English settlers at New Plymouth in 1841 and 1842.

A reunion is being planned for descendants of those settlers who arrived on the *Amelia Thompson*. This is to be held at Labour Weekend 2016.

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.



Donated Books

The branch gratefully acknowledges donations of these books to our library.

Pioneer Traders of Taranaki, by Russell Standish 2007 (donated by Annette Larson)

NZSG Family Historian, a collection of essays edited by Richard Stedman 2004 (donated by John Berntsen)

Vogeltown School Centenary 2008 (donated by Judy Berntsen)

Library News

Magazines received;

Family Tree (Dec)

Genealogist (Dec)

Memories (Feb/Mar)

Who Do You Think You Are (Dec, Jan)

Newsletters received;

Hutt Valley, Otaki, Riccarton, South Canterbury, Stratford, Tauranga, Waimate, Wairarapa, Wanganui, Wellington



Newsletter

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

