



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 311

May 2017

Branch Library: Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.
Opening Hours: Monday: 10 am to 12:30 pm (but closed 5 June, Queen's Birthday)
 Wednesday: 12 noon to 3 pm
 Saturday: 10 am to 12 noon

2017 Branch AGM

The branch Annual General Meeting will be held on 2 May, followed by our branch meeting. The formal notice of meeting was distributed to branch members with the April newsletter.

Nominations are open for treasurer and committee members. The branch relies on volunteers to keep things running. We just need a few more people to join the committee. Please talk with any current committee member if you can help or have any questions.

Documents for the AGM (2016 AGM minutes, reports, financial statements) will be sent to members with this newsletter.

AGM

Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 2 May 2017

Families of Historic Omata

We all know Omata as a locality, but what of the early settlers? Now there are some stories....

Schnackenberg, Hursthouse, Allen, Newsham, McKellar, Berridge and Bayley. Do you trace back to any of these? There will be others such as Norris, Jupp and Hewitt for instance but a story for each?

Come along for a fascinating evening as Len Jury tells us tales from happenings over a century ago.

Convenor: Bruce Bellini 758 0130
Secretary: Jackie Sewell
Treasurer: Neville Richards 753 5051
Committee: Lorraine Austin
 John Berntsen
 Jill Jackson
 Annette Larsen
 Charles Le Breton
 Ailsa McCrone
 Bev Mulqueen

New Plymouth Branch
 c/- Bruce Bellini
 98a Queens Road
 New Plymouth 4312
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: Te Henui Cemetery Project

At the April branch meeting, Pat George talked about photographing and transcribing the headstones in the Te Henui cemetery.

This was the main cemetery for New Plymouth for many years. It is now closed to new plot purchases.

There are about 14,000 headstones and memorials in the cemetery. These were transcribed in the 1980s (that project was led by Pat, too).

The current project is to check and update all the transcriptions, and to photograph the headstones. Many of the headstones are overgrown with moss, ivy, lichen and other vegetation, which has made access very difficult in some cases.

This project is being run in conjunction with New Plymouth District Council.

Next Meeting: 6 June 2017

Our branch library has an extensive of books and other records relating to Taranaki history. This year, we have a major project to reorganise the library resources and update our catalogue.

The project is being led by Marilyn Armitstead. At our June meeting, she will explain what is happening with our branch library and how you can get the most benefit out of it.

Computer Group Meetings

A meeting of the genealogy computer group was held at the branch rooms on Sunday 16 April.

As usual, we covered a range of topics, none of which were prearranged.

We discussed; Murray's adventures with a Windows 10 upgrade, some very large charts that Peter produced for a family reunion, and hands free options for reading ebooks. We also discussed powerpdf from Nuance, which uses OCR so that you can search for text in pdf files made with scanned documents.

The next meeting is on Sunday 18 June. Everyone is welcome. For any enquiries, please contact Peter Hewett or Bruce Bellini.

Convenor's Report

I feel that that the year since our last AGM has just flown by and our Branch has been very busy. I seem to have been in catch-up mode trying to understand all the requirements of administering a modern group, which just seems to become more involved at every corner.

Looking forward, it would seem things will continue at pace after the AGM, with the New Zealand Society of Genealogists 50th year celebrations comprising the National Luncheon to be held on Tuesday 15 August 2017.

Our Committee is also planning an Open Day, aiming to attract members of the public and perhaps gain new members, with this event also set down for August.

With good turnouts to our meetings and a reasonably stable membership, our Branch seems in good health and ready for the challenges of another year.

Cheers,

Bruce Bellini
Branch Convenor

Legacy Help

The next in Marilyn's series of Legacy sessions will be on Sunday 7 May 2017 at 1:30pm in the Branch Rooms. Future meetings are planned for every second month; 9 July, 10 September and 12 November.

Please note that there is a \$2 door charge.

Please contact Marilyn Armitstead for further information or if you have any questions. Phone: 757 2599 or email g.armitstead@xtra.co.nz



AGM Motion: NZSG Rule Change

The NZSG rules have been changed again, which means that the latest revision needs to be ratified by our branch. This process is similar to the recent changes that were ratified at the branch EGM in March.

The motion proposed to be put the the AGM is:

“That the New Plymouth Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists adopts and includes in its own rules the amendments of the NZSG rules registered on 15 February 2017.”

The changes were voted in earlier this year by a postal vote of NZSG members. These are:

- inclusion of reference to members of the Society in the Objects;
- reduction in the quorum for branches and interest groups;
- addition of reference to who should chair meetings of branches and interest groups;
- addition of the process for holding extraordinary general meetings of branches and interest groups.

Marion Elizabeth Wellington 1939 - 2017

The New Plymouth Branch of NZSG wishes to acknowledge the passing of Marion Elizabeth Wellington.

Marion had been involved with genealogy, family history and all things pertaining to Waitara and surrounds for many, many years. Long before 1991. We remember her enthusiasm in supporting the New Plymouth Branch over the years and in particular open days held in the Knox Church Hall, Fitzroy in 1998 (when someone managed to through a cup of tea over her) and at the 2001 Conference.

Marion helped establish the Waitara Genealogy Branch. However she was involved in so much more, supporting her community in every way possible. For this she was awarded a Queens Service Medal.

Marion was born 5 September 1939 and passed away 22 March 2017. She will be sorely missed.



Hooked on Genealogy Tour 2017

2017 marks 25 years of Hooked on Genealogy Tours (HOG Tours) with Jan Gow.

We leave 9 June 2017 so there is time to get you organised so that you can fully benefit from three weeks in Salt Lake City at the world's largest Family History Library! Option to then go to London for 10 days and then to Ireland for 10 days (5 days Dublin, 5 days Belfast).

Jan went to SLC in February for the RootsTech Conference and so she should be up-to-date with the changes in the Family History Library.

Why go to SLC and the FHL??

The main reason - in just one word - TIME!!! We are there for 21 days and we do have the precious time - the Library opens at 8am and closes at 9pm except for Monday and Sat nights when it closes at 5pm. We live (nestle in) in the Plaza Hotel next door to the Library and we have free wi-fi there so we can continue researching!! No telephones ringing for us; no meals to cook; no housework to do!! Just research. TIME to research.

The next one word???? IMMEDIACY!! Yes, find something new?? You can immediately follow through - book to check; microfiche to search; film to read; expert to ask - all there at the FHL just waiting for you!

Third word? EVERYWHERE!!!! Yes, Everywhere, Everytime, Everyplace - just have to ask. Put your fingers on the computer keys (you can bring your own) and the world is your oyster.

For more information: just email Jan@genealogy.net.nz or phone 09 521 1518.

Just a few places left so do phone or email soon.



Library Roster: May

Monday 10 am to 12:30 pm
Wednesday 12 noon to 3 pm
Saturday 10 am to 12 noon

Mon 1 Charles Le Breton
Tues 2 Branch meeting – 7:30pm
Wed 3 Jill Jackson
Sat 6 Karen Crowe
Mon 8 Charles Le Breton
Wed 10 Judy Berntsen
Sat 13 Mike Merrick
Mon 15 Lorraine Austin
Wed 17 Neville Richards
Sat 20 Lea/Bruce Bellini
Mon 22 Annette Larsen
Wed 24 Ailsa McCrone
Sat 27 Elly Harrison
Mon 29 Anne Brophy
Tues 30 Committee meeting

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.

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.



A4 Envelopes Please

If you have any used A4 envelopes, please consider donating these to the branch library. They are used for filing library materials.

Library News

Magazines received;
Who do you think you are (Apr)
Genealogist (Apr)



Newsletters received;
Canterbury, Dunedin, Fielding, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papamoa, Stratford, Te Awamutu, Wairarapa, Wellington

If you would like an email copy of newsletters from another branch, please contact John Berntsen. Many of the newsletters are also available from the NZSG website.

www.genealogy.org.nz/branches--area-contacts_55

Newsletter

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

