



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 324

July 2018

Branch Library: Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.
Opening Hours: Monday: 10 am to 12:30 pm
 Wednesday: 12 noon to 3 pm
 Saturday: 10 am to 12 noon

Women's Suffrage 125

This year, we are celebrating the 125th anniversary of women's suffrage. In 1893, New Zealand became the first country to give all women the right to vote.

There are lots of events being held around the country, and we are planning some for New Plymouth.

There were 13 separate petitions, the largest by Mary Carpenter is searchable on the [NZ History website](#).

Members of the public are invited to submit biographies of people on the petition. If your ancestor is there, please put some information together and submit it. Check out the [biography guide](#) for more information.



Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 3 Jul 2018

Family History Detective

The Fascinating Adventures of being a Family History Detective is the title of the presentation of our guest speaker Dame Ann Hercus for our July Meeting. She will outline ten years of research into her Hercus surname, sharing the fascinating stories of discovery encountered on the journey and explain how DNA testing helped answer key questions.

Dame Ann Hercus was a Member of Parliament from 1978 to 1987 and was the first Minister of Woman's Affairs. She was also Ambassador to the United Nations and Head of Peacekeeping in Cyprus.

She has written her family history book as a resource to help others to explore the origins of their own family name. Copies will be available for \$20. Please bring cash as we don't have EFTPOS !



Convenor: Bruce Bellini 758 0130
Secretary: Jackie Sewell
Treasurer: Lea Bellini 758 0130
Committee: Lorraine Austin
 Judy Berntsen
 Jill Jackson
 Annette Larsen
 Bev Mulqueen
 Neville Richards

New Plymouth Branch
 c/- Bruce Bellini
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 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: Historic Newspapers

At our June branch meeting, we looked at some members' examples of great finds in historical newspapers. It can be a bit hit and miss, as it depends whether your ancestor did something notable enough to get printed in the newspaper. Some common examples are obituaries, court reports and business advertisements.

The Auckland Star of 1931 has [an article on Hugh Mattison](#), the Boneless Boy who Ann Evans talked about at our July meeting last year.

And several papers have accounts of the [1923 Ongarue railway disaster](#). These reports helped one of our members, who is researching an ancestor who helped with the rescue.

Another line of research uncovered a tale of the [adventure with a monster eel](#), reported by the Oxford Observer in 1889.

In 1912, the Rodney and Otamatea Times had an article about the dangers of man made [climate change caused by burning coal](#).

There are many articles in the 1890s relating to women's suffrage. The passage of the bill through parliament [was reported](#), along with opinions and [cartoons](#).

These historic newspapers are a great resource for family history research, and many are available on line, including:

- [PapersPast](#) (New Zealand)
- [Trove](#) (Australia)
- [British newspaper archive](#)



Next Meeting: – 7 August 2018

At our August meeting, our speaker will be Jillian Williams, a member of the NZSG Board of Directors. Jillian is based in Taranaki and represents our region. She also holds the Marketing, Products and Publications portfolio in NZSG.

Come along to hear what is happening at the national level in NZSG, and what new services are being provided for members.

Convenor's Report

Bruce and Lea are away travelling at present, and his Convenor's piece didn't make it here in time for this newsletter. They must be out of wifi range!

But Bruce's piece would have said that you just have to make it along next Tuesday, because we have Dame Ann Hercus as our speaker. Ann is well known as a Member of Parliament from 1978 to 1987, which included being the first Minister of Women's Affairs. And then she was NZ ambassador to the UN, and had leading roles, including UN special representative in Cyprus. Subsequently, she has served on several boards of government entities, such as Women's Refuge Foundation, Theatre Royal Charitable Foundation, Crown Health Financing Agency, and others.

But I bet you didn't know that Dame Ann Hercus is also into genealogy! She has done lots of research into her family, and is coming to share some of this with us. Her book *One Family, Six Names* will be on sale. This is written to be a useful resource for researchers, as well as telling the story of Ann's family. So come along to the branch meeting on Tuesday evening.

And if we had got Bruce's Convenor's report this month, it would surely have mentioned that Jillian Williams will be speaking at our August meeting. This is special because Jillian is from Taranaki and she is on the NZSG Board of Directors. It is great that we have someone from Taranaki on the national board of NZSG.

This year, it is 125 years since women in New Zealand gained the right to vote. Lots of events are being planned around NZ to coincide with the anniversary in September. Our branch is planning some events, including:

- Tuesday 4 September, Mary Perrott presenting on Women's Suffrage 1893
- Saturday 8 September, public open day at our branch rooms, 10am to 3pm.

(not from Bruce Bellini)
Branch Convenor



Computer Group Meeting

The genealogy computer group meeting will be at 1:30 pm on Sunday 15 July 2018.

This is an informal session to discuss topics relevant to genealogy and computers. We also try to solve any problems and answer any questions you may have on using computers for genealogy.



Legacy Users Group

The next meeting will be on Sunday 12 August 2018 at the Branch Rooms from 1.30pm.

These sessions are hosted by Marilyn Armitstead and are aimed at helping you to better use the Legacy genealogy software.

The next Legacy user group is planned for 7 October. There is no meeting in December.

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

Unwanted copies of *Genealogist*

Bev Mulqueen is organising a display about genealogy at Puke Ariki, for 8 to 22 July.

For this, we need some back copies of the NZSG magazine *Genealogist* to give away.

If you have any back copies that you are prepared to donate, please bring them along to the branch meeting on Tuesday.

Bev Mulqueen

Women's Suffrage 125

Further to our last newsletter, we are progressing with plans to celebrate Suffrage 125, so we encourage you to research your petition signing ancestors.

At our September meeting, Mary Perrott will be enlightening us on aspects of the petition and some of the women involved. In addition, we plan to have an open day on 8 September, with a focus on women.



We plan to have a collection of biographies available of Suffrage signing women. Please contribute a short biography if you have any info on persons who signed the petition. If you have documents to attach to the bio, we would love to see them. This could be photos, newspaper articles, parish registers and so on. If you would like us to print your information, please send it to the branch email address newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz or bring a copy to us before 25 August 2018.

Visit our web page for more information:

www.genealogynp.com/suffrage.html

Internet Connection

The internet connection for our branch rooms is generously sponsored by Primowireless.



**PRIMO
WIRELESS**

CONNECTING TARANAKI

Please consider Primowireless for your ISP. Ring them on 0800 123 774 or visit the website:

primowireless.co.nz

Branch Subscriptions now due

Thank you to everyone who has paid their branch subs for the 2018-19 year. This is our main way of meeting branch costs.

If you haven't paid yet, please do so. Use the form you can download from the branch website.



Library Roster: July

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

Mon 2 Charles Le Breton
Wed 4 Ann Brophy
Sat 7 Karen Crowe
Mon 9 Annette Larsen
Wed 11 Jill Jackson
Sat 14 Peter Winter
Mon 16 Ailsa McCrone
Wed 18 Judy Berntsen
Sat 21 Lea / Bruce Bellini
Mon 23 Lorraine Austin
Wed 25 Fay Eaton
Sat 28 Marilyn Armitstead
Mon 30 Lorraine Austin

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.

Cemetery Transcriptions

A team of volunteers led by Pat George have made transcriptions and taken photographs of many local cemeteries.

The transcriptions and photographs for the Hurdon, Lepperton and Te Henui cemeteries are available on the computers in the branch rooms. The transcriptions for these cemeteries are also available from our branch website.

www.genealogynp.com/cindex.html



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

Magazines received;

Family Tree (July)

Genealogist (June)

Who do you think you are (July)

Newsletters received;

Balclutha, Canterbury, Feilding, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papamoa, Riccarton, South Canterbury, Southland, South Waikato, Wairarapa

If you would like an email copy of newsletters from another branch, please contact Peter Hewett. 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.

