



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 356

July 2021

Unite against COVID-19

Reduce risk – keep safe

New Zealand Government

Branch events have resumed at alert level 1
Branch rooms are open: Monday and Saturday

LEVEL 1 New Zealand is currently at Alert Level 1.

2021/22 Subs

The branch subscriptions for the 2021/22 year are now due. These funds are used for branch expenses, such as rent, power, and other costs. Please pay your subscription by 6 July 2021 (branch meeting night).

The banks are no longer accepting cheques, so please pay by bank transfer. Alternatively, you can pay by cash – please bring it along to a branch meeting.

Please complete the [subscription form](#). This form has the instructions for payment by bank transfer. Please be sure to email Sharyn that you have paid, and put your name in the bank transfer.

Branch subscriptions for 2021/22:

- \$35 single
- \$45 double
- \$25 living outside Taranaki

Next meeting: 7:30pm Tuesday 6 July 2021

Organising Your Files

At the July branch meeting, Graeme Jury will explain a system for organising all those family history files on your computer.

Over time, family history research can generate lots of pieces of information, such as old photos, certificates, news clippings, etc. It is convenient to store all these in electronic format on the computer, but they need to be well organised.

So be there for the July meeting, when Graeme will show how all these files can be neatly stored for easy retrieval.



Convenor: Gail Tanner 027 376 0630
Secretary: Jackie Sewell
Treasurer: Sharyn Guthrie
Committee: Lorraine Austin
 Lea Bellini
 Karen Crowe
 Graeme Jury
 Annette Larsen

New Plymouth Branch
 c/- Gail Tanner
 122 Wairau Road
 New Plymouth 4314
Meetings: 7:30 pm, first Tuesday each month
 at branch rooms, Moturoa Shopping Centre
 access is off the Whiteley Street car park
Email: newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz
Website: www.genealogynp.com

Last month: Museum in a Suitcase

At our June meeting, Adrienne Nightingale and Mike Nightingale from Puke Ariki visited us, with the museum in a suitcase. This is a sample of treasures from the large collection of heritage objects and stories that Puke Ariki holds in storage.

Their entertaining presentation included Kiwiana, old music and stories from local history.



DNA Interest Group

The last DNA Interest group meeting was held on Sunday 20 June. It was fantastic to see such an amazing number of people coming along to learn more about how to utilise this additional tool in our genealogy toolkit! The only catch was the lack of room and the ranges of knowledge and understanding that people have in their DNA knowledge.

I was planning on sending out a questionnaire but have decided instead to take the advice of several people I have spoken to. I plan to do a beginner's group meeting next time. I will cover the basics of DNA matching again but do not want to speak for long. The idea is to help you with your DNA results and for other group members to help you as well.

Please bring along your laptop, tablet or login and password for the website your DNA is on, for any help or guidance. If you could email me at sharynjguthrie@gmail.com any questions, even better! If you could also let me know if you plan to come. It will be on Sunday 18 July at 13:30hrs.

See you then!

And, if you would like to spend an hour with me helping with your DNA, please send me an email. The plan is to put aside a Wednesday for this, so I need to know who is interested, then work out which Wednesday and what times. Email me if interested.

Sharyn



Convenor's Report

Wow, we are already half way through 2021 and hasn't winter arrived! So rug up warm and come to our meeting this Tuesday night 6 July, 7:30pm. Enjoy some company, listen to our speaker Graeme Jury talk about how he organises his research in files on his computer for easy retrieval. I think we probably all need a little help with our document organisation, as we can end up with literally hundreds of pieces of paper, so hopefully Graeme will inspire you to organise, sort and file. We'll give you a cuppa afterwards, to ward off the chill of leaving to go home.

Just a reminder that you can borrow books from our research library, but there are some that are reference only and shouldn't leave the rooms. If the book has a red sticker with R on it, then this is a reference only and cannot be borrowed and taken home. Of there is no red sticker and there is a card in the back, you can happily borrow the book, fill in the card and leave it in the tray, and take the book home. That way we know where the book has gone and who has got it. Unfortunately we seem to have a couple of reference books missing, so if you have one of our books at home, and hadn't realised it wasn't to be borrowed, just bring it back and we'll be happy. Don't forget our library is open and staffed for research every Saturday from 10 – 12, and Monday from 10-12:30.

I was remiss in my report last month and failed to welcome our new committee members. Lorraine Austin has returned after a year's break and Graeme Jury has come on to help give us the male view of things, now that Bruce Bellini has stood down after many years on the committee and as Convenor prior to me taking over last year.

Our DNA Interest Group is going from strength to strength with 23 people taking part at the last meeting. DNA is a growing phenomenon across the genealogy world with millions of people taking the tests. You can still do your genealogy without the DNA, but it does open you up to a whole new world of distant relatives from across the world. It can also be as simple or as in-depth as you want to make it, so don't be afraid to ask about how to go about it. Sharyn Guthrie is our local guru on DNA, taking the Interest Group and generally being available to answer questions and show you how.

Gail Tanner
Branch Convenor



NZSG Annual General Meeting

The NZSG AGM for 2021 has been rescheduled to 1:00pm on Sunday 25 July. The AGM will be conducted online.

The AGM has had to be rescheduled because the quorum of 100 members was not reached at the meeting scheduled in June.

If you are a NZSG member, please attend online if you can. Otherwise, please give your proxy to someone who is attending. You can register at the NZSG website, and this has the AGM documents available for download.

[NZSG AGM](#)

Salvation Army Book Fair 2021

The third Salvation Army book fair is in August, with more books for all ages. EFTPOS will be available and you can swap a can of food for a kids book.

Thursday 12 August 9:00am – 7:00pm

Friday 13 August 9:00am – 6:00pm

Saturday 14 August 9:00am – 2:00pm

At the Salvation Army Church Hall, corner of Powderham and Dawson Streets, New Plymouth.

NZSG Website

The new NZSG website was launched on 1 June. This has a new layout, with a personal dashboard when you log in. The NSG library management system is now available from the website (previously it was a separate login).

The Kiwi Collection has been expanded and is now available online for NZSG members. This is a large collection of indices and transcriptions collected by NZSG members over the last 20 years or so. Earlier editions were available on CD-ROM and USB stick, but it is now available online by subscription, \$50/year or \$20/month.



Family History Expo 2021

13 – 15 August 2021 at the Fickling Centre in Auckland. Presented by Auckland Library and the GCG, there is a fantastic line up of speakers. Details on the library website

[Family History Expo 2021](#)

Europeans in East Africa

I have been trying to tidy up random pieces of paper that have accumulated over the last year. I have a habit of getting side tracked while researching, printing out a document, chucking it in a pile and thinking “I’ll look at that later”. Familiar??? Anyway one I had was a transcription of a headstone at the Highgate West Cemetery in Holloway, London. The grave contains Louisa Elizabeth Coxen, Frederick Coxen and Ellen Coxen. Why do I know they are there – I have a copy of the original burial records. However there are 7 names on the headstone and I want to confirm their deaths and hopefully find their burial sites before I add the details to Brother’s Keeper.

The name I am going to mention is the one appearing on the headstone as “Elizabeth, 4th daughter of Louisa and Frederick Coxen, who passed away 11 December 1898, in her 33rd year Interred at Cha-n gome, East Africa”. I think the details of place of burial have been added by the person who transcribed the headstone. Oh dear, I’ve not researched in East Africa before. Where do I start. Um, lets just try googling “Elizabeth Coxen died 1898 East Africa”. Well what do you know, up she came with a link to a web site:

www.europeansineastafrica.co.uk

The site advises that the database holds information on people of European origin who lived and worked in East Africa from about 1880 to 1939. It concentrates mainly on Kenya, but there are a some entries for Uganda and Tanzania.

It was compiled by Peter Ayre, who worked on it from 1993 until his death in 2018. His interest in East African history and its participants had developed from his business as a dealer in second-hand books about East Africa. The sources are books, journals, newspapers, magazines, private papers and emails, club records, cemeteries, schools, baptismal and marriage registers, and recorded interviews.

What a find! I located the entry for Elizabeth Coxen and it shows that she was born c. 1871, died 11.12.1898 at Rabai of fever, that she was not an official missionary, but went with approval of CMS (Church Missionary Society) as a friend of Miss Mary L. Holmes of Rabai. The information states that Elizabeth was from Holloway, London and is buried at Changombe.

Elizabeth is my 1st cousin, 4 times removed so



somewhat distant, but I was curious!

So from this, I want to say:

1. A random google of a name sometimes brings up amazing things.

2. Have a look at this website if you are interested in seeing if one of your ancestors might have gone to East Africa.

I thought it was just incredible what people are interested in and what they do to share their knowledge. Thank you, Peter Ayre.

Lea Bellini

Library Roster: July

Monday 10 am to 12:30 pm

Saturday 10 am to 12 noon

Sat 3 Gail Tanner

Mon 5 Charles Le Breton

Sat 10 Gail Tanner

Mon 12 Lorraine Austin

Sat 17 Lea Bellini

Mon 19 Annette Larsen

Sat 24 Karen Crowe

Mon 26 Jill Jackson

Sat 31 Sharyn Guthrie

Covid Alert Level 1

Please observe the COVID-19 rules at the branch rooms.

- Please don't come to the rooms if you have any symptoms (cough, fever, loss of smell or taste, recent overseas travel).
- Wash your hands and any surfaces you touch.
- Bring your own pen, paper, laptop, etc.
- Use the COVID-19 app with the QR code.
- Record your name in the attendance book.



Internet Connection

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



PRIMO

Please consider Primo for your internet service. Ring them on 0800 123 774 or visit their website:

primo.nz

Wellington Family History Day

Johnsonville Community Centre
28 Moorefield Road, Wellington

When: 10am to 4pm, 7 August 2021

Cost: \$5 entry

Library News

Magazines received;

Family Tree (June/ July)

Genealogist (June)

Who Do You Think You Are (May)

Newsletters received;

Balclutha, Canterbury, Dunedin, Gore, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Porirua, Southland, Wairarapa, Wellington, Whanganui

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.

