

New Plymouth Genealogy Society Incorporated Newsletter



Number 25

March 2024

Branch Library: Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.

Opening Hours: Monday: 10 am to 12:30 pm
Saturday: 10 am to 12 noon

Waitara Cemetery



The elaborate memorial for Edmund Jennins and his wife Florence, who featured in the stories told to us by Graeme Duckett during our visit to the Waitara cemetery in February.

Next meeting: 7:30pm Tuesday 5 Mar 2024

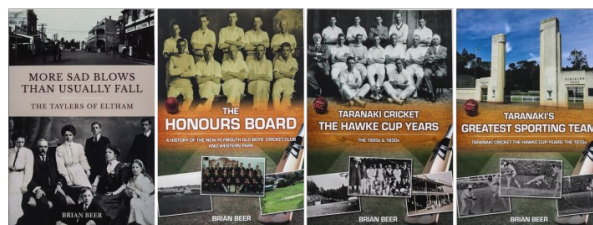
Taranaki History

Our speaker this month is Brian Beer, New Plymouth historian and Taranaki's most published sport historian.

Brian has written three books on the history of cricket in Taranaki. His most recent book is about the Tayler family of Eltham.

Come along to our March meeting to hear from one of Taranaki's leading history authors.

www.brianbeer.co.nz



Convenor: Gail Tanner 027 376 0630
Secretary: Jackie Sewell
Treasurer: Sharyn Guthrie
Committee: Lorraine Austin
Lea Bellini
Karen Crowe
Jeff Grange
Peter Hewett
Graeme Jury

New Plymouth Genealogy Society Inc
c/- Gail Tanner
122 Wairau Road
New Plymouth 4314

Meetings: 7:30 pm, first Tuesday each month
at society rooms, Moturoa Shopping Centre
access is off the Whiteley Street car park

Email: newplymouthgenealogy@gmail.com

Website: www.genealogynp.com

February meeting

For our February meeting, we visited the Waitara cemetery. Local historian Graeme Duckett talked about some of the notable characters buried in this cemetery.

The Waitara cemetery was established in the 1870s. In 1898, the Raleigh Town Board became trustees, and in 1923, Waitara Borough Council was trustees.

The oldest memorial is for George Turrell and William Edward Archer, who were two of four men drowned from a boat that foundered on the Waitara Bar in 1879.

There are [headstone transcriptions](#) for this cemetery on our society website. We have over 3,400 photographs of headstones in the Waitara cemetery. These can be viewed on the computers at our rooms, or you can enquire via email.



Next month: The Goodin Project

Last year, the society was commissioned to compile family history information for the Goodin family. The family had a lot of old documents and photos, and these were supplemented with genealogy research.

At the April meeting, we will take a look at this project. In particular, there will be examples of how to use public information and the resources in our library to find more about your ancestors.

Weekend of 17, 18, 19 May 2024

Remember to make space in your calendar for our genealogy weekend in May. Fiona Brooker from [Memories in Time](#) will run a series of presentations and workshops over the weekend. These will focus on practical tips and techniques for genealogy, especially how to organise your files and information.

Convenor's Report

It's March already! Won't be long and Daylight saving will end, and winter will be upon us.

We have a great meeting this Tuesday with Brian Beer coming to talk about his book that has been recently published. Come along and hear how he accomplished this.

With the advent of the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022 coming into force from 5 October 2023, we have found ourselves in the position of having to reregister as an Incorporated Society, and also having to update our constitution to make sure we comply with the Act that is now current.

We have already reregistered as an Incorporated Society under the new act and are now in the process of making sure the constitution is correct.

At the AGM in May, we will be asking for our members to ratify the changes in the constitution. Once we have finished updating the constitution if you would like a copy to peruse, I'd be happy to send you a copy. It is 22 pages long now, so lots of reading.

The changes are being made to make sure that our rules abide by the new act. There are many mandatory clauses that we have to have, plus a few that are optional. So, it's just a matter of making sure we have got everything that is necessary down on paper.

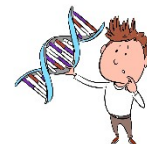
The other big news is that the show Who Do You Think You Are about Derryn Hinch is on this Sunday night, 3 March at 8:30pm on UKTV. Keep an eye out for Sharyn Guthrie and myself. I know many of you viewed it at the rooms, but now everyone gets to see it.

Happy Family Hunting.

Gail Tanner
Society Convenor

DNA Interest Group

The next DNA meeting will be at the society rooms on Sunday, 17 March at 13:30hrs.



©www.ClipartsFree.de

Over 100 Years Ago

For my research, I was recently investigating the wedding photo of my grandparents Arthur Raynor and Mary Elizabeth Hughson.

They married in the Rahotu Methodist Church, Taranaki, New Zealand on the 30th April 1919. Of course, the photos weren't in colour, but as the whole thing was written about in the newspaper of the day I found all the details I needed through Paperspast site. The article in The Daily News on 5 May 1919 described the wedding party in detail. Because of this article, I know the bride was wearing white crepe de chine with pearl and lace trimming. She wore the usual veil and orange blossoms, and her bouquet was of fine white flowers. Her two bridesmaids wore blue crepe de chine and wore white silk hats. One was the bride's sister and the other the groom's sister. And they had a flower girl. The groom was attended by his brother as best man (both were returned servicemen) and the groomsman was Mary's brother.

The Mother of the Bride wore a handsome costume of black satin, and the groom's mother a handsome black tailor-made costume with small hat and plume. The wedding breakfast was laid out in a large tent on the front lawn of the bride's home.

The papers of that time were a mine of information about the daily lives of the locals they wrote about. This article also said the church was beautifully decorated and the bride entered the church on her father's arm during the singing of the hymn "The Voice that Breathed O'er Eden".

You just don't get that sort of detail in newspapers these days. But what fabulous information to know. I found it very interesting that both mother's wore black.

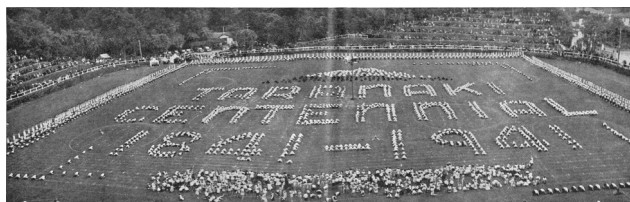
This is the link if you'd like to see the whole article from the 1919 Taranaki Daily News

paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspa.../TDN19190505.2.12

Gail Tanner

Auckland Heritage Photographs

The Auckland Library has added to [Kura](#), the heritage collections database. This includes digital copies of old maps, photographs and documents.



The scene in Pukekura Park, New Plymouth when more than 3000 children of North Taranaki schools formed a picture of Mount Egmont and the Centennial words and date. Twenty primary schools and the two New Plymouth High Schools took part in the living tableau, which was preceded by displays of drill, marching and dancing. The fixture was organised by the North Taranaki Primary Schools Sports Association, while Mr G Davey, headmaster of the Vogeltown School, arranged the tableau.

They have recently launched the [photographers database](#), listing photographers who were operating in New Zealand and the Pacific Islands from 1840s to the early 2000s.

There are over 5,000 records, of which there are listings for 582 [pioneering women photographers](#).



A little help for our projects

Many of our most valuable resources are indices, transcriptions and databases that were transcribed by our member volunteers. We have several projects under way, and some more helpers would be great!

It is not difficult to do. You can do this at home on your own computer. We provide any training and tools you need. You get to help our society and to learn more about genealogy data in our society.

For more information, just contact Lorraine Austin, or any committee member.

Library Roster: March

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

Sat 2 Mar Karen Crowe
Mon 4 Mar Charles Le Breton
Sat 9 Mar Jeff Grange
Mon 11 Mar Lorraine Austin
Sat 16 Mar Gail Tanner
Mon 18 Mar Graeme Jury
Sat 23 Mar Peter Hewett
Mon 25 Mar Annette Larsen
Sat 30 Mar Sharyn Guthrie
Mon 1 Apr closed Easter Monday
Sat 6 Apr Karen Crowe

Facebook

Our membership of our Facebook group continues to steadily grow. It has been great to see different people posting questions and others helping them with these. This is the whole point of the Facebook group to interact with other people about Genealogy. If you've searched for a record and can't find it, or have a document you can't read, post a query about it and you might be surprised at the answers you get.



New Plymouth Genealogy Society

Sharyn Guthrie

Internet Connection

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



Primo has supported us with internet connectivity since 2017. Please consider Primo for your internet service. Ring them on 0800 123 774 or visit their website:

primo.nz

Covid-19 Protection Framework

Covid-19 is still about and causing illness. Please follow the rules and keep everyone healthy.

- Stay home if you have any symptoms (flu, dry cough, short of breath, loss of smell, etc).
- You can wear a face mask at the society rooms.



There is more information at covid19.govt.nz.

Library News

Magazines received;

Family Tree (Mar)

Newsletters received;

Canterbury, Dunedin, Feilding, Hawke's Bay, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Matamata, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papakura, Porirua, Riccarton, South Canterbury, Southland, South Waikato, Stratford, Wellington, Whanganui

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



Newsletter

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