

New Plymouth Genealogy Society Incorporated Newsletter



Number 37

April 2025

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

Opening Hours: Every Monday and Saturday: 10 am to 12 noon
Other times available by appointment

Old New Plymouth



Next meeting: 7:30pm Tuesday 1 Apr 2025

ANZAC Stories

Our April meeting will have an ANZAC theme. For this meeting, some of our members will be sharing a short story of one of their ancestors who was in the NZ military.



Chairperson: Gail Tanner 027 376 0630
Secretary: Jackie Sewell
Treasurer: Sharyn Guthrie
Committee: Lorraine Austin
Jeff Grange
Peter Hewett
Graeme Jury
Glenys Krutz
Lois Lovell
Russell Smith

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

Last month: Old Photos of New Plymouth

At our March meeting, Allan Meads shared a selection from his collection of old New Plymouth photographs.

Allan's interest in historic photos began when he inherited his family's old photos. He scanned and restored these, acquiring software and skills in the process. Since then, his collection has expanded to other old photos, recording memories of New Plymouth's past.

This newsletter includes some photographs from Allan's collection.



Chairperson's Report

I can't believe it is the 25 March as I'm writing this. This year is zooming past like every year. It also means that our AGM is only a few weeks away on Tuesday 6 May.

Sadly, this year we have three people standing down from the committee. All three are long time members of the committee and have done a lot of work over the years and will be missed for their input into the running of our group. I'm very sad to lose Jackie (our Secretary), Graeme (who thankfully is still going to be looking after the TBI), and Lorraine, who has been taking care of the indexing project team of volunteers.

So – we are looking for anybody keen to be more involved with the running of our group. The committee meets once a month usually on the 3rd Sunday of the month, in the afternoon.

Specifically, we need a Secretary (which is basically, minute taking, and anything you'd like to eventually get involved in). We also need someone who is willing to take over the project co-ordination role. Current Committee member? – you can also take over either of these roles if you are interested. Please contact me if you are interested in finding out more about what is involved with the committee. I look forward to hearing from you!!!

This month's meeting (April) is all about Anzacs – if you have a family story from either of the World Wars, please bring it along. If you're too shy to read it out in front of everyone, I can read it out for you. Also we'd love to see any photos of those brave soldiers so bring them along too.

Coming up in August we have NZ Family History Month. For the last few years we haven't been involved, but this year we intend to hold an Open Day. Hopefully at the Bridge Club rooms, but we will be able to tell more soon.

We have also been invited to participate in Taranaki Heritage Month in October. The committee will consider this at the next committee meeting.

Another invitation we have had is to Clan Avenue (New Zealand Pipe Band Championships in March 2026) at Inglewood. This would involve a stand at the TET Stadium alongside similar historical groups. At this stage, we have expressed our interest so we will keep you informed.

Have a great genealogy month!

Gail Tanner
Society Chairperson

2025 Annual General Meeting

The fourth annual general meeting of our society will be held at 7:30 pm on Tuesday 6 May 2025. The formal notice of meeting is distributed to members with this newsletter.

Nominations are open for committee members and for secretary.

Our society relies on volunteers to keep things running. There are lots of different ways that you can help. Please talk with any current committee member if you can help or have any questions.

Documents for the AGM (such as annual report and financial statement) will be distributed with the May newsletter.

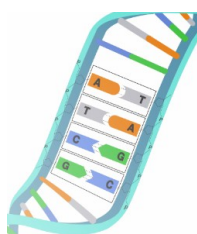


DNA Interest Group

Next meeting: Sunday 13 April 2025, 1:30pm at the rooms.

Bring along your laptop and let's look at what you are working on. Maybe you can share a success you have had or ask for help with something you are unclear on.

Come along and join in and any questions we can try and help you with.



Sharyn Guthrie

Scottish Heritage

The NZ Pipe Band Competition 2026 will be held in Inglewood. Part of this event is the Clan Avenue which is a display of Scottish heritage and culture, including genealogy and family history.

The Clan Avenue is always a vibrant hub of cultural exchange, friendship, popular with a wide audience of clan enthusiasts, musicians, family and anyone with an interest in things Scottish.

The NP Genealogy Society is considering running or contributing to a stand at Clan Avenue. If you are interested in being a part of this, please let us know at newplymouthgenealogy@gmail.com.



ROYAL
NEW ZEALAND
PIPE BANDS'
ASSOCIATION

Do you know who Crista Cowan is?

Have you built your family tree as well as you could to help yourself and others?

Crista Cowan is the corporate genealogist at Ancestry. Crista is also known as 'The Barefoot Genealogist'. Crista has done, and continues to do, multiple help videos under both her Ancestry title and Barefoot Genealogist. You will find these on 'YouTube'.

The one I want to raise your awareness of, is one that she has done a couple of months ago that can help those of us who use ancestry.com particularly, no matter what level of expertise you have. It's perfect for beginners, but it is also invaluable for those of us more experienced genealogists who may have picked up bad habits, or never known the correct and/or better way to build our family tree.

It's called Family Tree Building 101 (Beginner's Guide) and many of the points that Crista covers apply to all tree building. It's available on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=59:06).

You can click on the link above or if you prefer not to do that, then search on YouTube for the video.



Sharyn Guthrie

Library Roster: April 2024

Monday 10 am to 12 noon
Saturday 10 am to 12 noon

Mon 31 Mar Gail Tanner
Sat 5 Apr Karen Crowe
Mon 7 Apr Charles Le Breton
Sat 12 Apr Karen Crowe
Mon 14 Apr Lorraine Austin
Sat 19 Apr Lea Bellini
Mon 21 Apr Sally Morch
Sat 26 Apr Jeff Grange
Mon 28 Apr Graeme Jury
Sat 3 May Karen Crowe
Mon 5 May Charles Le Breton

Facebook Group



New Plymouth Genealogy Society

■ Private group · 265 members

There's been a lot of chatter about 23andMe on Facebook as well as in genealogy circles. 23andMe sent out a blog to explain what they were doing as they are trying to restructure the company. These are some sites to read what is happening and they will give you informed information rather than scaremongering.

<https://blog.23andme.com/articles/open-letter>

The DNA Geek: Leah Larkin
<https://thednageek.com/blog/>

DNA Xplained: Roberta Estes
<https://dna-explained.com/>

Sharyn Guthrie

Internet Connection

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



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

primo.nz

Papers Past

[PapersPast](http://paperspast.govt.nz/) is the online archive of historical New Zealand newspapers. This is a tremendous resource for genealogists and family historians. Recent additions include;

- Hawke's Bay Herald-Tribune 1937-1950
- Matamata Record 1940-1950
- North Otago Times 1919-1932

Library News



Newsletters received;

Canterbury, Feilding, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Matamata, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papakura, Papamoa, Porirua, Riccarton, South Waikato, 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.