

NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 235

June 2010

Convenor: Annette Larsen 758 3320
Treasurer: Fay Eaton 751 1045
Secretary: John Berntsen 753 9188

Committee: Judy Berntsen
Bev Mulqueen
Charles Le Breton

New Plymouth Branch
PO Box 429
New Plymouth 4340

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

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

Opening Hours: Monday: 10am to 3pm:
Wednesday: 12 noon to 3pm
Friday & Saturday: 10am to 12 noon

Computer Group: every third Sunday every 2nd month at 1:30pm at the Branch Rooms
Open to anyone - \$2 door charge. Convenor – Bruce Bellini

2010/11 Branch Subs Now Due!

Thank you to everyone who has paid.

Otherwise, please ensure your subscription is paid soon.

\$30 single membership

\$40 per household

\$20 for associate (outside Taranaki)

Please use the subscription form. This can be downloaded from the branch website, and there are printed forms at the branch rooms.

Next Meeting: 7:30pm Tuesday 1 June 2010

Heather Glen

Illusions, Lies and Half-truths

Heather looks at the power structures and belief systems that shape our lives- using the example of the history of adoption in New Zealand.

She will be holding an exhibition, 16 July – 8 August at Percy Thomson Gallery, Stratford, on the adoption topic. Her *Wall of Memories* will contain stories, comments, photos, poetry and social commentary collated on canvas.



Last Meeting – Tuesday 4 May 2010

At the conclusion of AGM business, the Guest Speaker, Diane Woods, Field Librarian at the Alexander Turnbull Library, gave a power-point presentation to members.

Diane began by relating how Alexander Horsburgh Turnbull came to build up his collection which featured New Zealand and Pacific objects and ephemera as well as the works of Milton over many years before donating them to the nation in 1918.

The Alexander Turnbull Library continues Turnbull's work through acquiring new items to add to the original collections, including books, photographs, newspapers, music, maps and printed ephemera.

Over the next two years collections at the National Library will have to be stored at alternative sites as renovations to the library building to ensure the safety of collections through to 2030 are carried out.

Diane listed ways in which members could still access collections over this two year period by:

- writing, phoning or emailing to the National Library. Requests will be answered within 20 working days.
- carrying out an online search of the catalogues and using TAPUHI search for unpublished items.
- visiting the Research Service Room at 77 Thorndon Quay. Digital cameras and pen-drives are able to be used for recording.
- visiting the temporary reading room at Archives New Zealand, 10 Mulgrave St, Thordon.

Open - Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm where Turnbull Library curatorial and research staff will provide services and access will be available to digital collections and finding aids.

(review by Peter Wicky)

New member

Welcome to Anna Larsen, who has recently joined our branch.

Fibs and Facts

Anything out of the ordinary can make tracing your family history difficult (and interesting). This can be situations like;

- adoptions
- births out of wedlock
- name changes

We are planning a branch meeting building on stories from members' research. If you have any stories you are willing to share, or something that is presenting a roadblock, please contact Annette Larsen, 758 3320.

Capturing Oral Histories

3 June, 1:30pm and 9 June 6:00pm at Taranaki Research Centre, Puke Ariki

An introduction to Oral History with Puke Ariki's Andrea Wallace. Andrea will advise how to achieve clear audio, select the right questions and get that all important personal perspective.

This is a great opportunity to keep history alive !

Welcome to Fay Eaton, our new Secretary

Fay is married to Garry with 2 adult children and 2 grandsons.

I got into genealogy when the Eatons held a family reunion back in 2008 and I decided to trace their origins and found them, also Garry's gr gr grandmother's brothers, the Ashby line, among the first settlers into Christchurch. With a love of history, this prompted me to find out more about our other ancestors. I grew up knowing some of my maternal Topless, Furze, Corbett and Bishop history from my grandmother's stories and the photos of my great grandparents. Finding another Furze relative, Noeline Hosking, has helped me to expand my family knowledge and led me to join the branch. Tracing my paternal side has not been so easy as my grandfather was a Smith from Staffordshire. Attending Michael Butler's course was invaluable. Learning how and where to search has taken me on pathways in many different countries. Thank you, Michael, and all of you that have helped me in my search.



NZ Family History Fair 2010

17 – 18 July Kingsgate Hotel, Hamilton

A weekend of exhibits, seminars, displays, resources, research and help desks. Seminar places are filling fast; register for seminars to avoid disappointment.

Check out the website.

www.nzfamilyhistoryfair.org.nz

Canadian Archives

The following announcement was received from Sylvie Tremblay, Chief of the Canadian Genealogy Centre at Library and Archives Canada:

Greetings

I am pleased to inform you that new digitized images and new html pages are available on the Canadian Genealogy Centre pages from Library and Archives Canada website. The Form 30A (ocean arrivals, 1919-1924) microfilm reels (310 reels) have been digitized and are now available online through the Microform Digitization online research tool. We also added new pages under our Ethno-cultural and Aboriginal groups section that contain valuable information for those researching Germans, Finnish and Ukrainians. Visit

www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy.

Irish 1901 Census free online

News from the FFHS is that the National Archives of Ireland is to make the 1901 Census details freely available for viewing on its website www.nationalarchives.ie from 3 June 2010.

The data for every county is to be released all at once rather than in tranches as was done with the 1911 Census.

For more information, visit the website at

www.census.nationalarchives.ie/about/futureplans.html.

Regional Museums: Helensville

The Helensville and District Historical Society's attractive website

www.helensvillemuseum.org.nz has information about a wide range of records and background information which will be of interest to those with family history connections to the Kaipara area.

The museum's resources index (not online) details a wide range of information including:

- cemetery records
- An index of family history books written by local families.
- An extensive collection of oral histories
- James Hand's diaries.
- newspapers and documents
- photograph collection – A2 folders with photos and information
- school registers from the Helensville, Woodhill, Parkhurst/Babylon and Kaukapakapa schools.
- shipping records.

The museum provides research assistance on weekdays 1 - 1:30pm or by appointment at other times. The research room is open for visitors on afternoons over weekends. Research requests will be accepted though prices are not listed. For further information, contact the museum;

Phone: 09 420 7881 or

email Helensvillemuseum@xtra.co.nz or

write to: Helensville and District Museum, PO Box 133, Helensville.

More Online Newspapers at NZSG

NZSG has negotiated more on-line newspaper titles to be available to members. Log in to the NZSG website, go to Members Area, then On-Line Newspapers. New additions include;

- Times Digital Archive, the London Times
- 17th & 18th century Burney Collection
- 19th century British Library newspapers
- 19th century US newspapers
- the Illustrated London News Historical Archive, 1842-2003
- 19th century UK periodicals



UK Pioneers of Freedom now online

Ancestry.co.uk has recently published 224,000 records of UK radicals and religious dissenters from over 225 years of history 1694 – 1921.

These records tell the story of the Britons persecuted by the state for their religious beliefs, and who campaigned for many modern political rights. An essential resource for all those tracing non conformist ancestors born before civil registration in 1837.

These records include baptism and marriage registers and burial inscriptions, dating from the late 17th century when the roots of non conformism were laid. As our non conformist ancestors were not recorded by the state until 1837, these documents are, for the most part, the only records of these non conformists in existence.

Non conformists were often intellectuals and free-thinkers who advanced the progressive causes which formed the bedrock of the modern civil liberties. For example, the Quakers were the first religious group to denounce slavery, Unitarians campaigned for better conditions for factory workers and Methodists were great advocates of women's rights.

Library News

Thanks to kind donations from Val Koorey and Puke Ariki, our New Plymouth Photo News collection is now all but complete. Over 20 additions or up-graded editions have been added. The only missing edition is No. 70, for February 1962. Donations that can be used for swaps with other genealogy groups and/or improve the standard of the collection are still welcome.

Other recent additions to the Library are:

- Three editions of North Taranaki Foto News - these pre-date above Photo News.
- Several editions of Taranaki Spotlight and the later short run in 1980-81 of the Photo News.

Computer Group

The May meeting of the computer group discussed file types, and how different file types look to your computer. This also included a discussion of the hazards of using Word .doc files, because of hidden data stored in these files.

Some keyboard shortcuts were covered. Even if you use no other shortcuts, it is worthwhile knowing these ones.

Ctrl z undo

ctrl x cut

ctrl c copy

ctrl v paste

More shortcuts are listed on the GCG page of our website, www.genealogynp.com/gcg/shortcut0.html

The next computer group meeting is at 1:30 pm, Sunday 25 July, at the branch rooms.

Branch Officers

The following roles have been confirmed by the committee, following the recent AGM.

Bruce Bellini	Taranaki Biographical Index
Marilyn Armitstead	branch library
Marilyn Reid	projects
Peter Hewett	newsletter & website

Change of Newsletter Editor

For the last few years, Peter Wicky has been editor of our branch newsletter, researching material and producing a great newsletter every month. Peter has retired from this role, and handed over to Peter Hewett.

Sincere thanks to Peter Wicky for his valuable contribution to the branch as newsletter editor.

