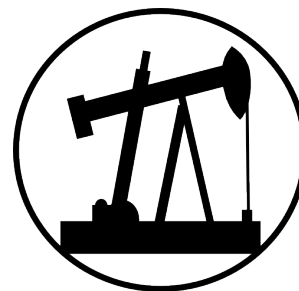


# NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 244

April 2011

**Convenor:** Annette Larsen 758 3320  
**Secretary:** Fay Eaton 751 1045  
**Treasurer:** 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](mailto:newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz)  
**Website:** [www.genealogynp.com](http://www.genealogynp.com)

**Branch Library:** Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.  
**Opening Hours:** Monday: 10am to 3pm: (closed Easter Monday 25 April)  
Wednesday: 12 noon to 3pm  
Saturday: 10am to 12 noon  
**Computer Group:** every third Sunday every 2nd month at 1:30pm at the Branch Rooms  
Open to everyone - \$2 door charge. Convenor – Bruce Bellini

## NZSG Certificates Collection

NZSG provides a service to enable members to get copies of birth, death and marriage certificates that other members have already got. This help reduce the costs of getting the certificates genealogists need to support their research.

Have you any certificates you can photocopy and bring for the committee to send up to the NZSG Certificates Collection? It will help fellow genealogists around New Zealand and beyond.

Next meeting: 7:30pm Tues 5 April 2011

## NZSG Services

Discussion about the services offered by NZSG and how these have helped members.

Please come prepared to speak about any help you have had from the NZSG services over the years. Your input is important for this evening! John Berntsen will give us an insight into the First Families Collection and Annette has examples to offer of help she has had, some of which have helped her break down brick walls.



---

## Last Meeting – Tuesday 1 March 2011

At the last meeting, Sue Greene spoke to Branch members and gave an explanation of FamNet, the on-line Family History Network which has a New Zealand connection.

FamNet has been developed to support individuals, families or groups who have information to share with others online or want to participate in the global community which has an interest in Family History.

FamNet does this by:

- supporting the development of useful databases and resources for family historians.
- supporting others with useful databases and simplifying searches by integrating these with other databases as far as possible
- operating websites and linking these with other web sites.
- developing facilities in support of family historians.

FamNet currently has over 14 million individuals in family trees many with attached documents and pictures. This is the largest collection of New Zealand Family trees and a major repository of Australian family trees. Other current databases include shipping, useful websites and military.

FamNet gives subscription credits to those who submit their family tree. Registering, storing records and retrieving your own records are all free. Submitters retain control of access to their trees by others.

A subscription is required however when you wish to see others' records. To gain full access to resources, an individual subscription is \$25 per year.

During question time, it became apparent that FamNet isn't suitable as a backup option, because it is not possible to a user to retrieve their information from the FamNet Network. However, it can be manually extracted by FamNet administrators.

[www.famnet.org.nz](http://www.famnet.org.nz).

Peter Wicky

---

## From the Convenor's Desk

Have you checked out the latest databases on "ancestry.com" at Puke Ariki Research Centre yet?

I have been checking up for family whereabouts on the New Zealand Electoral Rolls, 1853-1981. Very useful, to gauge your ancestor's movements, check occupation and see who else was at the same address. I have found it most worthwhile, when I can find the time to pop in to the library. Saves many hours of perusing microfiche.

Talking of resources –Apparently the NZSG is putting out a new index on CD Rom soon –Kiwi Index version 1. The price will be \$50, limited to NZSG members. Branches can buy a public version which will have fewer records. I have found previous NZSG indexes invaluable for my research, so I'm looking forward to the new one.

Our AGM is looming and it is vital we get more people for our committee. It need not be a huge output of time. However, you get out of it, what you put in. Also, who is going to take up the Convenor's position? I will be happy to mentor and support the new person, if he/she wants that.

On the whole I have enjoyed my five and a half years as Convenor, plus the year I had on the committee before that. Please talk to me about this position, if you even have a glimmering that you might like to take it up.

Annette Larsen

---

## Branch Rooms Opening Hours

Your committee voted to cut out the Friday opening hours of the library, due to lack of use and due to some decrease in our volunteer force for the library. This change will be in force from the beginning of this April.

**Easter:** The library will be closed Easter Monday and Good Friday but we are hoping to have it open Easter Saturday for those wanting to do research over the holiday period.



## NZ Family History Fair 2011

The 2011 Family History Fair will be held on Friday 26 and Saturday 27 August 2011, at the Claudelands Events Centre at Hamilton.

<http://nzfhf2010.dnserver.net.nz/>

## Taranaki Biographical Index

The TBI has been updated. Version 24 has over 512,000 records, indexing a wide variety of Taranaki resources. It includes transcripts of over 98,000 BDM records. The TBI is one of the resources available at the branch rooms.

Thanks to Bruce and everyone who works on building up the TBI. Thank you too to Judy Berntsen who is working on updating the school records, so that the ones that are no longer subject to the privacy laws can be put on the TBI and can be freely used.

## NZSG Constitution Review

The Constitution Review Committee has begun their deliberations and is calling for submissions from Members, Branches and Interest Groups.

We need your comments on those clauses in the present Rules and By-Laws that relate to the operation of a Branch or Interest Group. In order for us to draft a new constitution, we need to identify what presently works and what needs to be changed to meet the present and future needs of our society as a whole.

The areas of the present Constitution that particularly relate to Branches and Interest Groups are:

- Rule 22.0 - Branches and Interest Groups and
- By-Laws 8.0 - Branches and Interest Groups of the Society.

What we would like you to tell us is:

- What parts of these Rules and By-Laws **do** work for you.
- What parts of the Rules and By-Laws **do not** work for you - and why.
- What changes you **would** like to see.
- What changes you **would not** like to see.

Please would you send your submission by email direct to [colleen.main@xtra.co.nz](mailto:colleen.main@xtra.co.nz) to reach us before 30th April 2011.

## 1911 Scotland Census

The Registrar General for Scotland has announced that the 1911 census will be released on [www.ScotlandsPeople.gov.uk](http://www.ScotlandsPeople.gov.uk) on Tuesday 5 April 2011.

The images of the original summary books include the name, address, age, occupation, birthplace and marital status of everyone counted in the 1911 census, as well as details about their children. For the first time, the census images will be presented in full colour. For more information see

[www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/Content/Help/index.aspx?r=546&2066](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/Content/Help/index.aspx?r=546&2066)

## Scotland's DNA

The Scotsman web site has published a series by Alistair Moffat and Dr Jim Wilson about the DNA of Scotland. An interesting feature from this research is the portion of Scotland's DNA that comes from the Vikings.

The Viking attacks began in AD793 with the surprise assault on the Holy Island of Lindisfarne. Later waves of Viking invaders landed in northern, western, and southern Scotland as well as some in what is now Ireland. Clan names often show high percentages of males sharing the same DNA. Clan MacLeod is an especially interesting case study. From a sample of the DNA of 45 Macleod Y chromosomes almost half, 47 per cent, clearly show social selection at work in that they descend from one individual.

[thescotsman.scotsman.com/features/Scotland39s-DNA-Who-do-you.6727434.jp](http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/features/Scotland39s-DNA-Who-do-you.6727434.jp).

[www.scottishdna.net](http://www.scottishdna.net)

## Ireland's Archives Online

The [Irish Archive Resource](http://www.iar.ie) website was launched in March, providing public online access to a wide range of Irish archives.

[www.iar.ie](http://www.iar.ie)





Have you subscribed to the FamNet newsletter? It is free to do this and is really a worthwhile newsletter. Go to the site and investigate. Sue Greene's talk last month helped us get a picture of what FamNet is about and I for one am going to join as soon as I get the time to do this.

Annette Larson

[www.famnet.org.nz](http://www.famnet.org.nz)

### Families in British India Society Website

The society was founded in 1998 with the primary aim of providing no cost on-line resources for people researching family and social history in India and beyond, during British presence in Asia from 1600 to Indian Independence in 1947.

FIBIS has instituted a searchable database of names of those who lived and served in British India and South Asia. It is not restricted to British residents; other European nationals and Anglo- Indians are also represented.

FIBIS volunteers have transcribed ecclesiastical records from the British Library, East India Company records, military records, maritime records, newspaper announcements and so much more! There are currently over 710,000 records, and this is growing.

[www.new.fibis.org](http://www.new.fibis.org)

### Auckland Star Online

The National Library of New Zealand and Auckland Libraries are digitising 75 years of the Auckland Star newspapers. This will be available on the Papers Past website.

The newspaper was published daily from 1870 to 1991, and was known as the Evening Star, the Auckland Evening Star and the Auckland Star.

<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>

### New Members

We welcome Rex and Edna Baldwin, Neville Richards and George Russell, who have recently joined our branch.

### BDMs are moving

The Wellington offices of the Births, Deaths and Marriages office is moving from Boulcott Street to Featherston Street.

The Christchurch office is closed until further notice, due to earthquake damage.

[bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/](http://bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/)

### Library News

Thank you to Bruce Bellini for the donation of his book "Krogh. From Nyboder to Napier." Also thanks to Roger Hawkin for the copies of "Sussex Family Historian".



The committee is buying for the library a copy of the CD Rom –Discharged in NZ. Soldiers of the Imperial Foot Regiments who took their discharge in NZ, 1840-1870.

Newsletters received;

Blenheim, Canterbury, Hutt Valley, Stratford, Wairarapa, Wanganui, Wellington

### Computer Group

The March GCG meeting discussed GEDCOM files. Bruce explained what these files are, how they can be useful. He also explained some limitations of GEDCOM that users should be aware of.



The next computer group meeting is at 1:30 pm, Sunday 15 May 2011, at the branch rooms. This is the AGM for the New Plymouth GCG branch.

### Newsletter

If you have any comments or suggestions for the newsletter, please contact Peter Hewett at [peter.hewett@gmail.com](mailto:peter.hewett@gmail.com).

