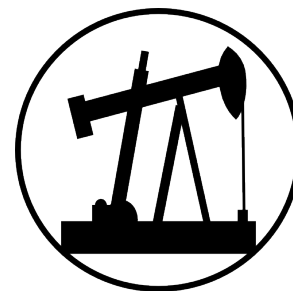




NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 260

September 2012

Branch Library: Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.
Opening Hours: Monday: 10am to 3pm
 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

Printer Cartridges

Please bring in your empty printer cartridges.
 We will take any type, ink or laser.
 Most brands can be recycled for cash. This can be a valuable source of income for the branch.



Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 4 Sept 2012

Research Night

Please bring along any brick walls and research questions that may have you stumped.
 Let's get together and help each other.



Convenor:
Secretary: Fay Eaton 751 1045
Treasurer: John Berntsen 753 9188

Committee: Judy Berntsen
 Anne Brophy
 Margaret Gregory
 Charles Le Breton
 Ailsa McCrone
 Bev Mulqueen

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

Last Meeting: Library resources

The topic for our August meeting was "Finding our Way around Our Library". While setting up the activities I certainly found many items of interest and hope those who attended did also. Not only did I find items I was previously unaware of but I also discovered the microfiche and how to make much better use of them. If you have not explored this excellent resource and would like to know more about the use of these ask the person on duty. They will be happy to help.

There is a copy of the LINZ record for the New Plymouth area (Land Information NZ, previously known as Lands and Deeds) which was transcribed some years ago by a band of volunteers before the records were all sent to Hamilton and thence to Archives NZ. These records cover the area of NP shown on the map on the wall in the rooms. Two other volumes supplement the LINZ record and can be found in the section of the library set aside for material related to land issues.

My apologies for the errors on the map of the rooms that I gave out last time. I will have copies of an amended version on hand for the next meeting.

Bev Mulqueen

October Meeting

At the October branch meeting, Syd Beale will make a presentation entitled *Where Were They*.

Christmas 2012

For our branch Christmas function this year, we are considering going out to a restaurant or other venue.

If anyone has any suggestions or ideas, please get in touch with a committee member.

(Yes, Christmas is just four months away.)

Donations Received

The branch gratefully acknowledges these recent donations. Kathleen Olsson of Hamilton has sent us some old photos of Devon Street in flood. Jenny Webster has donated three filing cabinets.

Open Day 27 October 2012

In conjunction with the GCG anniversary, the branch is holding an open day on Saturday 27 October. No prior registration is required, just bring your lunch and \$5 entry. Morning and afternoon tea supplied.

- 09:00 doors open
morning tea
10:00 Jan Gow
11:00 Sharyn Guthrie
12:00 lunch (bring your own)
1:00 Michael Butler
2:00 Question time
2:30 Jan Gow
3:30 afternoon tea

Computer Group Anniversary

The New Plymouth computer group is celebrating its 20th anniversary on ;

27 & 28 October 2012

This weekend event will include a branch open day on Saturday, an celebratory dinner that evening and the GCG anniversary on Sunday. There will be several interesting and useful presentations by guest speakers, including keynote speaker Jan Gow, QSM.

Information and registration form available from the branch website:

www.genealogynp.com/gcg.html

Registrations close 30 September 2012.

National Library

After over two years of upgrading and refurbishment, the National Library is back in business at Molesworth Street, Wellington.

www.natlib.govt.nz



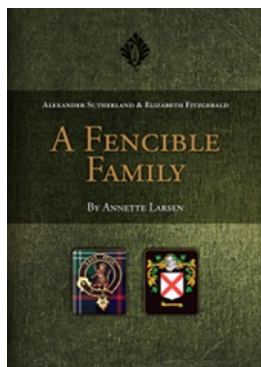
Publishing Your Family History

18 years of research has finally culminated in the printing of my booklet on my early settler Fencible great-great grandfather and his family. It was really hard to bring the project to an end and see it in finite form after lots of revisions. Like having a baby, putting out this book has taken many months and much attention and fine-tuning. It is important to set some deadlines or you just will never finish and you will drive your publisher crazy. I know! I kept finding more and more information at the eleventh hour. Would you believe – a week after my manuscript had gone to the printer, a photo of one of the Fencible children was emailed to me by someone in Australia. It would have looked wonderful in my booklet, but wasn't meant to be. I was sad that I did not have many photos of the early members of this family to put in my publication.

When you start on such a project I think you need to ask yourself the purpose of your book and its intended audience. This will shape your writing. For me, the purpose was to correct a lot of wrong information I have found while researching. This sounds egotistical. However, I will welcome anybody who finds things in it that need correcting. There is a lot of conflicting information out there and I have not shied away from this. I have simply set out all that I have found. Sometimes I have ventured to voice a reasoned opinion.

Two copies of the 90 page booklet go to the National Library, a requirement once you have an ISBN number. (The ISBN number is easy to arrange. You just go online to the National Library site and you can apply online.) A number of copies will be sent to various Auckland research centres and the rest are earmarked for interested relatives.

In order to see this project reach completion I decided to limit my focus to just the Fencible couple, their children and grandchildren. It made the task much easier to handle. I also decided not to major on genealogy charts. It is a family history primarily. The book brings to light a number of old newspaper articles from "paperspast". Generally I have copied and



pasted these in their original form and many are just included in the Appendix.

Other decisions at the outset are page size and what program to use for your work. I simply used Microsoft Word and found it adequate. My graphic designer daughter who oversaw the project talked me into a smaller size than the A4 size I had first envisioned.

Checking and proof reading: It is important to get someone else to proofread your manuscript. My long-suffering husband did an invaluable job here. It is absolutely unbelievable how many mistakes had slipped through. We found that a number of proof readings were necessary. Watch grammar, punctuation, paragraphing, and spelling.

Clarity: What may be clear to you may not be clear to your reader. Getting someone else to proof read the book should ensure clarity. This was particularly important as there is a lot of repetition of first names in my Sutherland family.

Consistency: Setting out needs to be consistent throughout. Eg. The tables placed at the end of each chapter, showing brief genealogical detail of each of the grandchildren. These tables were not consistently set out by me but my daughter saw that they were tidied up. It all helps with the look of the final product.

Contents: An acknowledgement page at the front of the book is important. A contents page showing chapter headings comes after this. I decided to focus on the Fencible couple in the early chapters and then write a chapter on each child. The chapter order was chronological according to the birth of each child. I avoided a lot of footnotes as I think that is distracting and stops flow. Instead I put a lot of extra material into an Appendix at the back.

After the appendix comes a list of all sources consulted. There is a convention as to how that is to be set out. Check this out. I also felt an index was necessary, given that researchers will be using the book.

Cover: The cover is important as it will attract you to pick up the book, hopefully. I had initially forgotten about a blurb for the back cover. This needed some careful thought too.

Cost: I was surprised to find the project was not as expensive as I had expected. (The booklets worked out at under \$10 each.) Shop around for



a good deal, considering the final look you want.

Consulting other books: There are a number of helpful books in our genealogy branch library to help with publishing your family history. Have a look at some other published family histories and talk to people in our branch who have written histories. It is also worthwhile reading some of the "how to" books before you start your task. It is worth checking that you have included all the nuts and bolts so I would recommend you revisit one or two of these books before you send your copy off to a publisher.

I challenge you to get started and set yourself a goal. Good luck!

Annette Larsen

New Records Online

paperspast.natlib.govt.nz

- Akaroa Mail and Banks Peninsula Advertiser (1921-1939)
- Bay of Plenty Beacon (1939-1945)
- Horowhenua Chronicle (1910-1920)
- Hutt News (1934-1945)
- Lyttelton Times (1862-1866)
- Manawatu Standard (1906-1910)
- Manawatu Times (1906-1908)
- Northern Advocate (1921-1925)
- Waikato Times (1872, 1887-1892)
- Westport Times (1875-1878)
- Auckland Star (1927-1945)
- New Zealand Herald (1863-1884)

www.findmypast.co.uk

- 2 million new Welsh parish registers
- WWI Prisoner of War records for British Army Officers and WWII Prisoner of War records for British Army, Navy and Air Force officers.
- Lincolnshire and Yorkshire parish records
- Cheshire wills and probate records
- The Canterbury Collection: Kent parish registers held in the Canterbury Cathedral archives.

www.ancestry.com

- Lancashire, England, births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials 1538-1936
- Dorset, England, convict transportation records; calendars of prisoners; vagrant passes; jury lists; Dorchester prison admission and discharge registers; alehouse licence records; militia lists

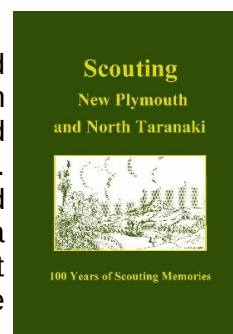
- London, England, land tax records 1692-1932
- Midlands and various UK Trade Directories 1770-1941

www.familysearch.org

- approximately 350,000 additional NZ immigration passenger lists records
- 1881 and 1891 Scottish censuses (transcriptions only)
- Irish prison register records 1790-1924

Taranaki Scout History

A book on over one hundred years of scouting history in Taranaki has been produced by a team of ex-Scouters. However, this was a limited print run and there are only a few copies left. If you want one of these, order it via the website.



www.taranakiscouthistory.com

Library News

Magazines received;

Your Family History (Sept)

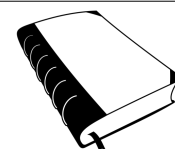
Family Tree (Sept)

The Genealogist (Jul/Aug)

Newsletters received;

Canterbury, Hawke's Bay, Hutt Valley, Matamata, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Porirua, Riccarton, South Canterbury, Stratford, Wairarapa, Wellington, Brant

The Waikato cemetery CD ROM is now available on the No 1 computer.



Computer Group

The next computer group meeting is at 1:30 pm, Sunday 16 September 2012, at the branch rooms.



Newsletter

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

