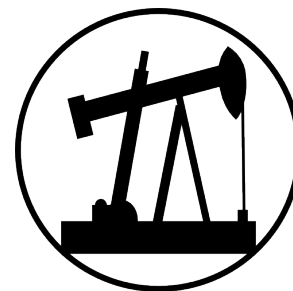




# NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 263

December 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

## Christmas / New Year Break

The branch rooms will be closed over the Christmas / New Year period.

Last day for 2012: Saturday 15 December

First day for 2013: Monday 21 January.



Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 5 Feb 2013

## Merry Christmas

The branch committee would like to wish all members and their families a very Merry Christmas and all the very best for 2013!



Please note that there is no meeting in December. This was discussed at the November branch meeting, where it was decided not to hold a meeting this month.

The next branch meeting will be held on Tuesday 5 February 2013.

**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](mailto:newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz)  
**Website:** [www.genealogynp.com](http://www.genealogynp.com)

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### **Last Meeting: Lucie Mendl Stonnell**

Last month, Tui Stonnell gave a very interesting talk about her research and the ultimate publication of a book about her husband's mother, Lucy Stonnell (1899 - 1962). Lucy was from Austria, where her family was the wealthy Mendl family who owned the Ankerbrot bakery company in Vienna.

Lucy and her husband came to New Zealand in 1928 and farmed in coastal Taranaki before settling at Lepperton where they farmed dairy cattle. They had four children; Erika (who a number of people at the meeting knew), Richard, Lou and Fritz.

Lucy was an outgoing person who loved the arts and music and she was involved in the Operatic Society, taught painting, music and horse riding. She was instrumental in introducing the Mendl Creative Dance to Taranaki and over the years, many people benefited from this gentle exercise. Tui laughed when she recounted how, in later years, Lucy would scare the locals while out driving the country roads in her pink car!

Tui's book, *Lucy, The Story of Mendl Creative Dance*, was published in Singapore.

Ailsa McCrone

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### **Wine Boxes**

The branch library uses cardboard wine boxes for storing various items such as magazines.

If you have any of these, please bring along to the branch rooms. Keep an eye open over the Christmas period, as wine consumption has been observed to increase at this time.

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### **Empty Printer Cartridges**

Please bring your empty printer cartridges in to the branch rooms. This includes any make or type, ink or laser.

Most brands can be recycled for cash. This can be a valuable source of income for the branch.

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### **Acting Convenor's Report**

Well the year is just about over, and what a year!

We had a lot of interesting talks over the past year, and it is hard to single out any one talk as being better than the rest. Thank you to everyone who attended our monthly meetings.

It was really pleasing to see the great turnout to our Open Day in October. We had 60+ visitors and we signed up 6 new members. Welcome to all our new members and hope you will be able to make good use of our branch resources.

Over the last year, plenty of good books have been donated to our branch, and we've also purchased a few new ones which we hope will be of interest to you all. We have also purchased a lot of CDs from NZSG which are all available for use at our rooms. We are also purchasing a slide-photo scanner which we will hire out to members. More details next year. Also the Committee has got a Toops card to use at the Toops warehouse. It is a cash only card and can be obtained from the Treasurer.

Last Sunday, we had our Christmas tea. This year it was held at the Fitzroy Golf Club and the meal was excellent and also the view was good.

Well on behalf of the Committee, I would like to extend to you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

John Berntsen

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### **1911 Census Transcriptions**

Spurred on by the various suggestions of Jan Gow at the recent Open Day, I tried again to find my grandfather in the 1911 census. Once again I was unsuccessful. However, I found the Beulah Martin I was looking for. I had tried various permutations of her first name, and finally in desperation I put in just a surname and a date and place of birth. Found her! - her name had been transcribed as "Beulsh"! Never would have thought of that! My persistence was rewarded.

Annette Larsen



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## 2013 ANZSI Conference

The Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers is holding its 2013 conference in Wellington 13 to 15 March 2013.

This will be the first time an indexing conference has ever been held in New Zealand. ANZSI see this as an excellent opportunity for indexers, publishers, editors, technical writers, historians, genealogists and other allied organisations to come together.

The conference theme is *Intrepid indexing: indexing without boundaries*. Ebooks and e-publishing are changing the way we index, edit and publish. The conference will host experienced speakers in these fields and is an excellent opportunity to keep up with the changing technology.

Details about the conference programme and how to register are on the website.

[www.anzsi.org/site/2013Conf.asp](http://www.anzsi.org/site/2013Conf.asp)

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## What would 1943 money be worth now?

I have just received a will I had sent to England for. As it turned out it was well worth getting. When my grandmother's first husband died in 1943, he left his daughter in New Zealand 267 pounds one shilling and one pence. I was curious as to what sort of money that was. Was it worth much?

If you have this sort of question you can go to the currency converter on the UK National Archives website. Have a look at this site;

[www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/currency/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/currency/)

I discovered that my half-aunt would have had a reasonable amount to spend, although not a fortune by any means. The 267 pounds would have had the same spending worth of 2005's 6,930 pound. The will raised more questions than it answered. But isn't that the way with our family history!!

Annette Larsen

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## Donations

The branch gratefully acknowledges recent donations to our branch.

Puke Ariki has donated two books; *Lest We Forget* and *Aces High*. They have also donated the New Zealand July and October 2011 Electoral Rolls.

Steve Batten has donated a 4 drawer filing cabinet. This has already been put to good use in the library.

Annette Larson has donated books for the library.

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## Slide / Negative Scanner

At the November meeting, the branch agreed to purchase a negative / slide scanner.

This will be available for hire to members for use at home.



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## New Members

This month, we welcome Cheryl Bevins as a new branch member.

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## Scottish Wills & Testaments

The Scotlandspeople website has announced online availability of wills and testaments from 1902 to 1925.

The new records, 392,595 in total, document the last wishes of 267,548 individuals who lived and died in Scotland during this period. The collection also includes the wills of Scots who died outside Scotland, but still had assets in the country. Inventories of moveable estate (savings, cash, furniture, stock, etc) are also included.

Scotlandspeople is a pay to use website run by the Scottish government.

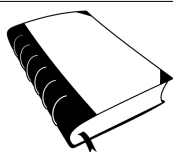
[www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk)



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## Library News

Magazines received;  
Your Family History (Nov)  
Family Tree (Dec)  
Memories (Dec / Jan)



Newsletters received;

Blenheim, Canterbury, Hutt Valley, Nelson,  
Otaki, Palmerston North, Riccarton, Stratford,  
Wairarapa, Wellington

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## Computer Group

The next computer group meeting is at 1:30 pm, Sunday 9 December 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](mailto:peter.hewett@gmail.com).

