



# NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 276

March 2014

**Branch Library:** Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.  
**Opening Hours:** Monday: 10am to 3pm (closed 10 March, Taranaki Anniversary Day)  
 Wednesday: 12 noon to 3pm  
 Saturday: 10am to 12 noon

## Open Day

Saturday 8 March 2014, 10 am to 3 pm.

- Free entry, open to the public
- Explore your family history
- Get help from experienced genealogists
- Learn how to use the internet to find out about your ancestors
- at the branch rooms, Moturoa shopping centre carpark

Branch members are welcome to come along to progress or get help with your own research.

Please let Bev know if you are available to help as an experienced genealogist.

Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 4 Mar 2014

## Cornwall Discovery

May the fifth 2013 marked Neville Richards' homecoming to Cornwall, the land of his ancestors.

William Richards and his family left the parish of Illogan for Plymouth, where they boarded the *Blenheim* on 2 July 1842, bound for New Plymouth.

This was an emotional journey of discovery that Neville will share at the March branch meeting. His talk includes photographs that record the two week stay.



**Convenor:** John Berntsen 753 9188  
**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)

## Last Event: Mobile devices for genealogy

At the February branch meeting, Peter Hewett provided an update on the sorts of mobile devices currently available, and how these can be used for genealogy. These devices are the smart phones and tablets that we are seeing more and more.

A survey in 2013 reported that 60% of New Zealanders have a smart phone and 19% have a tablet. There are two popular types; devices running Android (phones and tablets by Samsung, HTC, LG, Asus and others) and those running iOS (iPhones and iPads by Apple).

Apps are the name for software programmes that you can install and run on your smartphone or tablet. There are lots of these, some are free and some you pay for.

Some of the on-line genealogy services ([Ancestry](#) and [MyHeritage](#)) provide apps that enable you to access and edit your online database. Another approach is taken by some desktop computer software ([Legacy](#) and [Reunion](#)) which provide apps that synch with your desktop and enable you to read and edit your data from your mobile device.

Most apps on the mobile devices need an internet connection to work. Connection can be done via wifi or the cell phone network. Wifi is cheaper but only works when you are within range of the wifi. The cell phone connection (also called 3G) needs a SIM card and a mobile phone account. The cost of these can vary widely, so check out the details. The Consumer website Telme can help with this.

[www.telme.co.nz](http://www.telme.co.nz)

## Branch Committee

The branch AGM is to be held in May 2014. There are a couple of positions available for new members on the branch committee.

Please consider helping on the committee. It is not hard work, but is a great way to be more involved in your branch. Please talk to any committee member for more information.

## Free Websites

There are lots of genealogy resources available on the internet, but some cost money. Here is a list of free sites, compiled by Fay Eaton.

[www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz](http://www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz) Historical NZ birth marriage death records

[familysearch.org/](http://familysearch.org/) the Mormon Church genealogy site

[freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ourstuff/OurPassengerLists.htm](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ourstuff/OurPassengerLists.htm) NZ passenger lists

[freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzbound/search.htm](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzbound/search.htm) NZ Bound, shipping site

[www.yesteryears.co.nz/shipping/](http://www.yesteryears.co.nz/shipping/) Shipping site

[paperspast.natlib.govt.nz](http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz) Old NZ newspapers

[www.genealogylinks.net/uk/england/](http://www.genealogylinks.net/uk/england/) Lists of links to counties in UK

[www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com) Lists of links worldwide

[www.genuki.org.uk](http://www.genuki.org.uk) Lists of UK links

[www.freereg.org.uk](http://www.freereg.org.uk) Transcribed parish records

[freebmd.rootsweb.com](http://freebmd.rootsweb.com) free UK birth marriages & deaths index

[www.freecen.org.uk](http://www.freecen.org.uk) free census records

[wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com) World Connect page, search submitted trees, also links to other sites

[freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sHipstonz/cemeteries.html](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sHipstonz/cemeteries.html) NZ cemeteries

[www.aucklandmuseum.com/130/cenotaph-database](http://www.aucklandmuseum.com/130/cenotaph-database) lists of NZ soldiers who fought in wars

[www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org) Commonwealth War Graves

[www.archives.govt.nz](http://www.archives.govt.nz) NZ Archives



## Common Mistakes in Genealogy

Sometimes, I find that a reminder or refresher can help me remember stuff I have forgotten. So here are a couple of tips you probably already knew.

**Surname spelling:** These days, people are much more careful about how they spell their name than their ancestors were 200 years ago. Don't limit yourself to just how you spell your surnames, think laterally about all the different ways it can be misspelt.

**Rushing:** Don't jump to a conclusion the instant you see a name matching your search. Take your time and check for other clues. Get 3 or more pieces of evidence to establish an identity or link.

**Others' research:** Family trees compiled by other people can be tempting, but don't just copy them. Use them as clues, but do your own research.

**Siblings:** Don't just research your direct ancestors, check out their siblings and neighbours as well. This gives a wider picture of the life of your ancestors, and can uncover facts that wasn't recorded with your ancestor. Looking around can uncover information or leads that wouldn't have been available otherwise.

**Sources:** Carefully document your sources. This is essential for resolving conflicting information later, and for avoiding wasting time repeating the same research.

The links below are to videos about common mistakes in genealogy. They are a bit American focused, but still a useful refresher.

<http://youtu.be/lApaEB3zG-Y>

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7LU4PfawJQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7LU4PfawJQ)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_yBCsNGZCZo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_yBCsNGZCZo)

## Library Roster

Monday	10 am to 3 pm
Wednesday	12 noon to 3 pm
Saturday	10 am to 12 noon
Sat 1	Ailsa McCrone
Mon 3	Bev Mulqueen / Anne Brophy
Tue 4	Branch meeting 7:30pm
Wed 5	Elly Harrison
Sat 8	Mike Merrick and open day
Mon 10	Closed – Taranaki Day
Wed 12	Jill Harvey
Sat 15	Lea / Bruce Bellini
Mon 17	Charles Le Breton / Ailsa McCrone
Wed 19	John Berntsen
Sat 22	Mike Merrick
Mon 24	Charles Le Breton / Bev Mulqueen
Tue 25	Committee meeting 7pm
Wed 26	Fay Eaton
Sat 29	Judy Berntsen
Mon 31	Peter Winter / Syd Beale

## April Meeting; photographs

The April branch meeting will be a photographs evening. Bring along and share a photo of one of your female ancestors. Pick a photo that is interesting or has a good story to go with it (even better if it is a true story).



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### Empty Printer Cartridges

Please bring your empty printer cartridges in to the branch rooms. These can be either ink jet or laser cartridges, but **we can only use HP or Canon types of cartridges.**

These will be recycled to generate some income for the branch.



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### Slide / Negative Scanner

The branch negative / slide scanner is available for hire to members for use at home. The cost is \$5 a week for up to two weeks.

To hire (or book) this scanner, please contact the person on duty at the rooms during normal opening hours.



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### Daytime Branch Meetings

The committee is considering holding some branch meetings during the daytime, as for some members, this may be more convenient than evening meetings. These would be in addition to the regular monthly branch meetings.

If you have any comments or suggestions on this idea, such as a preferred day of the week, please contact a committee member.

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### Library News

The library has received these recent donations as additions to the branch library.



a book on the Everett family history

a book of historic photos of New Plymouth

Centenary of Sacred Heart College, New Plymouth 1884 to 1984

Springboard for Women, the Centenary of New Plymouth Girls High School, 1883 to 1983.

Magazines received;

Discover Your History (Feb)

Family Tree (Feb)

Genealogist (Feb)

Newsletters received;

Blenheim, Canterbury, Hamilton, Hawkes Bay, Hutt Valley, Matamata, Nelson, Palmerston North, Otaki, Porirua, Stratford, Wairarapa, Wanganui, Wellington

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### 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).

