



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 222

April 2009

Convenor: Annette Larsen Ph 758 3320
Treasurer: Lea Bellini Ph 758 0130
Secretary: John Pickering Ph 758 4952

Committee: Marilyn Armitstead, Judy Berntsen,
 John Berntsen, Michael Butler,
 Karen Crowe, Elly Harrison,
 Marjorie McMahon, Mike Merrick,
 Marilyn Reid

Editor: Peter Wicky
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New Plymouth Branch
P.O. Box 429,
New Plymouth 4340

Meetings: 1st Tuesday each month at
 Branch Rooms 7.30pm, Moturoa
 Shopping Centre
 access off Whiteley St Carpark

Email:
newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz

Website:
<http://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: meets every 3rd Sunday at 1.30pm in Branch Rms except December and January. All welcome- \$2 door charge. **Convenor** - Peter Hewett; **Acting Secretary** - Bruce Bellini; **Acting Treasurer** - Lea Bellini.

Branch News

Last Meeting Tuesday 3rd March 2009

Using a power-point presentation, Sharyn Guthrie gave a very interesting talk to a large group of members about her experiences while attending the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations (AFFHO) Congress in January of this year at King's College Auckland.

Some 450 people from all over the world attended the Congress and were addressed by such well known figures in Genealogy as Dick Eastman, John Grenham, Sherry Irvine, Megan Smolenyak, Michael Gandy and Elaine Collins.

Each morning started with a Plenary Session. One of these was a talk via satellite given by Elaine Collins Commercial Director for findmypast.com about the recently released 1911 Census. This was taken on the night of April 2nd 1911 and an interesting feature is that you are able to see the census documents filled out in your ancestor's own hand rather than by an enumerator.

Large numbers of women reacting to the Government's reluctance to grant women the vote boycotted the census, either by refusing to fill in forms or by staying away from home on the night. If you can't find your ancestor using the free index at www.1911census.co.uk perhaps she was making her protest.

Next Branch Meeting – Tuesday 7th April. 7.30pm

Michael Butler will talk about publishing a family history book, including experiences with the publisher and printer, layout of the book, inserting photographs and creating an index and table of contents. Some experiences with dating of old photographs will be discussed.

In addition Michael will talk about certain members of the Luxford family, subjects of his latest book, *The Luxford Saga*. The family can be traced back to the early sixteenth century in Sussex in England. The family suddenly fled England during the late 1830s, emigrating to either New Zealand or the USA. Later family members were active in the establishment of Wellington and other places around New Zealand, while some became newsworthy during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Branch Programme for 2009

- 7th April- Michael Butler – *The Luxford Saga*
 - 5th May- AGM and Gary Bastin guest speaker from Puke Ariki.
 - 2nd June - Counties of England Night – sharing of information about sources for research.
 - 7th July - *Taranaki Between the Wars* - a talk by author Jean Nicholls.
 - 4th Aug - Waiouru Army Museum – possible visit by Museum Education Officer.
 - 1st Sept - to be arranged.
 - 6th Oct - to be arranged
 - 3rd Nov - New Plymouth Branch NZSG 40th Anniversary celebrations.
- A further Family Treemaker (New Version) workshop may be held on a Saturday to be announced.

Notice of Annual General Meeting - May 5th 2009 at 7.30pm

The New Plymouth Branch, NZSG, AGM takes place next month in the Branch Rooms at the Moturoa Shopping Centre. The programme will include the presentation of annual reports and the election of officers and members of the Committee for the ensuing year.

Please give consideration to becoming a member of the Branch Committee. It is not necessary to be an expert genealogist to contribute at meetings - enthusiasm and an ability to work with others are also important. Committee meetings are held once a month and usually finish about 8.30pm.

If you would like to put yourself forward for the Committee you can contact one of the present Committee members or arrange to be nominated on the night of the AGM.

Branch Projects Report from Marilyn Reid.

The Taranaki Biographical Index (TBI) has recently been updated by Bruce Bellini and now contains over 455 000 records.

The indexing of Spotswood College records is well underway.

The Projects team has recently begun the collecting and filing of Funeral Sheets. Members wishing to donate copies to the Branch Library please contact Marilyn.

NZSG Matters

The NZSG Annual General Meeting and Research Weekend 2009

This is to be held on June 4th & 5th 2009 and will be hosted by the Tauranga Branch NZSG at the Bay Park Events Centre, Te Maunga, Mount Maunganui.

Registration for the two days costs \$35 and for a single day \$20 for each day. This does not cover meals and morning or afternoon tea. The last day for registration is 4th May 2009.

For more information about the programme, accommodation and to download registration forms, visit the NZSG website www.genealogy.org.nz and click on News.

This meeting takes the place of the usual Annual Conference of NZSG.

NEW. Check out www.ancestry.co.uk for 77 million London Historical Records
The Branch Library is closed over Easter Holidays and on 25th April Anzac Day

For Your Information

FHC Centre Opening Hours

The LDS Family History Centre in Mangorei Road New Plymouth is open **Tuesdays and Thursdays 1pm to 3pm.**

For information about the Centre please ring Joy Okey 757 3542 at the times above or outside these times at 753 4831.

Films can be ordered for viewing at a cost of \$5 each.

Visiting the National Archives of Scotland sites in Edinburgh?

Judy Berntsen advises that from January 2009 the issuing of a Reader's Ticket by NAS now requires proof of your identity and current address as well as two passport sized colour photographs when you first visit NAS sites.

From the Ashburton District FHG

This Family History Group advises researchers that from now on queries should be made to alice.mcl@ihug.co.nz or to the Group's Research Officer lindyb@xtra.co.nz

Newsletters from other NZSG Branches

To-date newsletters have been received from Blenheim, Wairarapa, Nelson, Motueka, and Hutt Valley. Good reading to be found in these.

Book Review

Chambers, Paul. *Early Modern Genealogy 1600 – 1838*. Sutton Publishing, Stroud, UK. 2006

If you are daunted by the prospect of searching for your British ancestors beyond 1838, Paul Chambers' book *Early Modern Genealogy* may well provide the assurance you need to accomplish the task with some guarantee of success.

The author's background is that of a writer and TV producer most notably involved in the BBC TV series *Walking with Dinosaurs*. However it was his experiences in tracing his own British roots back to the early 1300s which led to his writing of this, his latest book. He states in the Preface that 'In writing this guide I have assumed that readers will have a range of experience from those with little or no knowledge of family history research to those who may be more familiar with historical records and custom.'

With this assurance, the reader is eased into the subject by a general overview and discussion of the topic in the first chapter and this is expanded in Chapter 2 with a comprehensive survey of useful resources covering institutions, published works and the internet.

The author continues with an in-depth look at individual records, how they should be used and pitfalls to avoid in researching these. Church and Parish records, those to be obtained from taxation, wills and estates, manorial records, occupations, education, common law, crime, punishment, Court records, the Army and Navy, immigration and emigration, Chancery and Parliamentary records, newspapers and periodicals are all covered in succeeding chapters. Useful examples of various records the author obtained and used in his research are illustrated in the text.

The Appendices list addresses of County Records Offices (postal and Internet) and provide a table of the Regnal Years. The book has an extensive index.

Early Modern Genealogy 1600-1838 is a readable and worthwhile resource for the family genealogist. It can be found in the Genealogy section of Puke Ariki Library, New Plymouth.

Changes at National Library Wellington

A major redevelopment will be underway shortly at the National Library building in Wellington and is expected to be completed in 2011.

Changes are planned for access to various collections during the relocation period. Easy on-site access is planned for the General Collections which includes Family History as well as to the more highly used parts of the Alexander Turnbull Library collections including the Manuscripts and Early and Rare books.

Other parts of the Alexander Turnbull Library collections will be unavailable during the period of relocation.

If there are items you would like particular access to you are invited to contact the library and let them know before Tuesday 14th April. Email: future.services@natlib.govt.nz or you can phone the Library on 04) 474 3021

In the Branch Library : Passenger Lists and Shipping Indexes



There are a number of useful resources in the Branch Library which provide information about 19th Century shipping and immigrant arrivals in New Plymouth and other parts of New Zealand.

These include:

Books and lists

- Vols 1&2 Shipping Index 1852-1870 – Shipping Intelligence columns of the Taranaki Herald – Passenger arrivals & departures
- Passenger Shipping Lists for the Port of Wanganui to 1880
- *White Wings* by Sir Henry Brett.
Volume 1 – 50 years of Sail in the NZ Trade 1850 to 1890.
Volume 2 - Passenger ships from 1840 to 1885

Microfiche

- Shipping index for arrivals and departures at New Plymouth 1852 – 1880
- Port of Wellington Entry Passenger Index 1856 – 1887
- Patrick Henderson Shipping Company Lists 1871 – 1880
- Shipping to NZ the Comber Index 1839 – 1889
- NZ Shipwrecks (Ingram). Trails' Index to persons and vessels
- Shipping Company Register 1875 – 1893
- Guide to First Hand accounts for voyages to NZ 1840 – 1890

Full Taranaki Index on Computer –Taranaki Shipping 1852 -1890

At Puke Ariki – suggested by Elly Harrison.

Ian Nicholson's *Log of Logs: a catalogue of Logs, Journals, Shipboard Diaries, Letters, and all forms of Voyage Narratives, 1788 to 1988 for Australia & New Zealand* .

The book is in three volumes and does not contain passenger lists. It only tells you the whereabouts of logs, journals and other accounts of ships' voyages.

Two websites recommended by Annette Larsen.

National Archives of Ireland site census search.

www.census.nationalarchives.ie/1911

Historic Australian newspapers 1803 -1954 –searchable.

www.ndpbeta.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/home

Some of the many Passenger and Shipping Lists websites available.

New Zealand & Australia

Passenger lists for NZ ports:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~ourstuff>

Australian & New Zealand passenger lists:

<http://www.list.jaunay.com/ausnzpassenger/>

Passenger arrivals in Auckland area 1838-1886:

<http://www.akcity.govt.nz/dbtw->

[wpd/passengers/passenger.html](http://www.akcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/passengers/passenger.html)

Websites with links

Cyndi's List:

<http://www.cyndislist.com/ships.htm>

New Zealand Bound:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~nzbound/>

UK Sites

The Ships List:

Free site:

www.theshipslist.com

Pay site:

www.ancestorsonboard.com

Gravestone epitaphs

In a Ruidoso, New Mexico Cemetery.

Here lies

Johnny Yeast.

Pardon me

For not rising.

From Battersea, London, where lies Owen Moore..

Gone away

Owin' more

Than he could pay.

Email contributions to –

wicky_family@ihug.co.nz