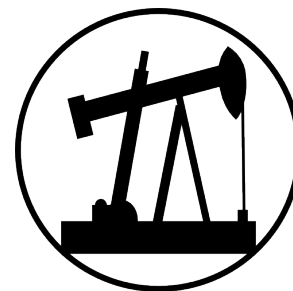




NZSG

New Plymouth

Branch Newsletter



Number 249

September 2011

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

Books Books Books

We'd like to include a book review in future newsletters. There are lots of books being published out there, that are of interest or use to genealogists. Have you read one recently? If so, please write a short review for our newsletter. If you are able to do a review, or have any questions, please contact Charles Le Breton or Peter Hewett.

Our library team is continuing to expand the resources we have in the branch. And we would like to include your suggestions.

If you have any suggestions or requests as to new books or resources we could get for the library, please contact Charles Le Breton.



Next meeting: 7:30pm Tues 6 Sept 2011

Pictorial Collections

At our branch meeting this month, Ruth Harvey will be talking about pictorial collections and copyright issues.

Ruth is the curator of Pictorial Collections at Puke Ariki.

Come along and hear what is being done at Puke Ariki to preserve our photographic history.



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

Committee: Judy Berntsen
 Anne Brophy
 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 – Tuesday 2 August 2011

At the August branch meeting, Tony McNair presented some of his family history research.

Tony is a former merchant seaman, teacher and headmaster, and his research covers Brazil, England and New Zealand.

Tony displayed the charts and books he has produced to show the results of his research. These included old photographs, certificates, hand-written pieces and other documents. As well as his interesting talk, the materials provided useful examples of how family history research can be presented.

Next Month

Next month's meeting is on Tuesday 4 October, when our guest speaker will be Bruce Bellini. Bruce will be talking on Scandinavian research.

Anonymous branch subs

Would the kind person who paid their branch sub by internet banking on 4 August, please contact Judy Berntsen, ph 7539188. This deposit did not have a name attached. We need to issue a receipt for this, so we need to know who has paid.

From the caretaker Convenor

This month has been very hectic. First, our speaker Mr McNair gave us an insight to why and how he got his family research done. He also showed us books he had compiled on his family.

We had the Regional Meeting on Saturday 20 August in the new Stratford rooms. They are in the new Community House. They are very nice, more room except for all their books, but otherwise they are warm.

At the meeting Joseph Gillard, who is our Regional Councillor went over what was discussed at the main Council meeting. Next year, NZSG is holding 6 regional meetings instead of the present 4. A controversial remit was that NZSG stated all branch assets belong to them and cannot be disposed of without their permission.

For NZSG members, Gale Newspapers (UK) are

online for you to all use. Just go into the main NZSG website and enter "Gale Newspapers". It costs NZSG \$7000 per year, so please use them or else lose them.

Upcoming conferences: 2012 Taupo, 2014 Wellington. Still looking for 2013 takers.

NZSG are going to scan out of copyright books for people to read online. KIWI INDEX is weeks away yet. Next Regional Meeting 29 October at Hawera.

Judy and I represented our branch at the Family History Fair on 26/27 August at the Claudelands Event Centre in Hamilton. We shared a stand with Stratford and Hawera and we all had plenty of room. We took our TBI and had quite a few requests and have quite a few to follow up on at the rooms.

I do not know how many paying people went through the fair. I went to a couple of lectures, one on Land Records and another on Guild of One Name Studies. There were plenty of lectures to choose from and the building was very nice and well set out. On Friday night both Judy and I went to listen to Judy Jones of the Family History Library, Salt Lake City, about the Family Research.

On Saturday night, we went to a production put on by Kapiti Branch called "Why you are you 2011: The Ancestral Dance:" This was a trip down the ancestral lane of Sir Jon Trimmer (NZ's premier male ballet dancer). It included an exhibition of the "behind the scenes" research that was involved in the Fair's Saturday evening finale. We enjoyed an entertaining evening as Sir Jon Trimmer told the story of his own very personal family history. A very well presented production.

The fair was in my opinion very well done and the site excellent. It closed at 5pm Saturday and we had packed up by 5:10 pm.

We have had two new members this month. Welcome to Steve Batten and Lee Balsom.

Our branch meeting speaker this month is Ruth Harvey from Pukeariki, speaking on Copyright and Pictorial Collections.

John Berntsen



Family History Fair 2011

The 2011 Family History Fair was held at Hamilton 27 & 28 August 2011. For details, see the caretaker convenor's notes on page 2 of this newsletter.

Next year's family history fair is planned for 3 & 4 August 2012.

www.nzfamilyhistoryfair.org.nz

Thanks Merv

Merv Smith has donated some books to the branch library. He has moved to Auckland and so has resigned from the branch.

Sincere thanks to Merv for the donation, and the books are much appreciated. We wish Merv all the best in Auckland!

More treasures from PapersPast

Many times we have mentioned at our branch meetings about the growing usefulness of [Papers Past](#) as a genealogical resource. Annette Larsen and others have given you some good examples in the past, but I thought you might appreciate the ones below as they relate more to the kind of background material that can be found if you are lucky.

My father's family came to NZ in 1864 on the ship Ivanhoe and after a short detour to Timaru and quarantine (25 people died mainly of low fever on the way out to NZ), landed at Lyttleton.

Like many settlers my great grandparents (GGF) and my grandfather (GF) who was 16 at the time were described as farm labourers as that is what the NZ Company wanted.

In actual fact however my GGF and GF were in the tailoring trade and my GGF had a combined grocery / drapery / tailoring business in Alderney Channel Islands for 16 years before coming to NZ.

I was therefore interested to see if there was any trace of a tailoring business in Christchurch my home town as it was reputedly situated near the corner of High and Cashel Streets.

Low and behold about a year ago I found evidence of a business - "The Colonial Clothing Co." opposite the then Christchurch Town Hall in High Street not far from Cashel. Further down

the track however also evidence of a closing down sale in 1873 so it sounds like the business struggled to survive.

Next step I found my GGF in 1888 selling a substantial farm at Seafield not far from Ashburton and being complimented on the good state of the property and stock so he must have done something right.

My GGF died in 1891 but later in the 1890s, I found my GF again involved in a tailoring business when he among others of similar trade signed a declaration restricting their hours of business.

To add to my GGF's story, I found a road in the vicinity of the aforementioned farm called "Le Breton Road". It is still in existence today. One would have to assume the families presence in the area led to the naming.

As a follow-up to the above with the help of a former surveyor workmate, I am trying to trace the position of the farm and two others I know he owned in 1881. So far an old Survey Office Plan has revealed the road was surveyed probably as part of a Crown Grant settlement in about 1880.

Hope this is of interest as I have found much more and you can probably do the same.

paperspast.natlib.govt.nz

Chas Le Breton

Free access to Immigration Records

From 29 August to 6 September 2011, ancestry.com.au is providing free access to their immigration records. To learn more, just visit this website;

www.ancestry.com.au/travel

If you don't already have an account with ancestry.com, you will need to register. Access to search the records is free during the period, and ongoing access is available with paid subscription. Further details of the offer are available on the website.



Australian Convicts Records Online

The State Library of Queensland has made a website that enables you to search the British Convict transportation register for convicts transported to Australia between 1787-1867.

Information available includes name of convict, known aliases, place convicted, port of departure, date of departure, port of arrival, and the source of the data.

The website has about 77% of the 160,000 convicts transported to Australia over this period. 603 convicts carried the name John Smith.

www.convictrecords.com.au

Backup your files!

It's September; so backup your computer files!

Of course, you can backup your files any time, and it should be done regularly. But, if you haven't done a full backup for a while, now is a good time.

Make a backup copy of all your genealogy related files, including photos, word files, genealogy database, everything. Copy all these to a separate device, such as a USB stick, external hard drive or DVD disk. It is a good idea to keep at least one backup copy at a location that is different to your computer.

Remember, all hard drives fail sooner or later. It is a matter of "when", not "if".

And be sure to check that the backup copy you have made is good.

Exact details of how to do backups vary depending on your computer model and where you are backing up to. If you are not sure about what to do, ask someone.

Gale Searchable Newspapers

Gale database provides an online searchable database of historical UK newspapers. These include The Times (1785-1985) and the Illustrated London News (1842-2003), as well as many other British publications.

The [NZSG website](#) provides free access for NZSG members to the Gale database. Login at NZSG, and select Members Area, then Online Newspapers.

Library News

Magazines received;

Family Tree (Sept 2011)

Newsletters received;

Blenheim, Canterbury, Hutt Valley, Matamata, Otaki, South Canterbury, Wairarapa, Wellington, Whakatane



Computer Group

The next computer group meeting is at 1:30 pm, Sunday 18 September 2011, at the branch rooms.



Newsletter

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

