



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 278

May 2014

Branch Library: Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.
Opening Hours: Monday: 10am to 3pm (closed 2 June for Queen's Birthday holiday)
 Wednesday: 12 noon to 3pm
 Saturday: 10am to 12 noon

AGM

At the May monthly meeting, we will be holding the branch Annual General Meeting.

Your branch needs more volunteers to serve on the committee. This is a great chance participate more with other branch members. It is not a big commitment, so please give it your serious consideration.

The AGM will be held at 7:30 pm, followed by Mike Gooch's talk.

All members, please bring a plate for a shared supper after the meeting.



Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 6 May 2014

Building Consents

Looking for the residence or business premises of an ancestor? The Taranaki Research Centre and Puke Ariki archives hold resources which may help your search.

Mike Gooch is the Information Services Officer at Puke Ariki. At our May meeting, Mike will explain the local building records kept by Puke Ariki.

Come along and find out about the maps, directories and building registers that you may not know about.

Puke Ariki

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
Website: www.genealogynp.com

Last Event: Photos

At the April branch meeting, we held a photographs evening. The topic for this event was female ancestors.

Several branch members brought along photographs and other documents and memorabilia relating to a female in their family. This was accompanied with a story or description of the photograph.

Thank you to everyone who brought along something to help make the meeting a success.

Graves at St Marys

Branch member John Pickering is doing a great job arranging for restoration of gravestones and burial sites at St Mary's Cathedral in New Plymouth. Some of these have got to a bad state of disrepair, and John is searching out descendants of the people buried there.

Many descendants have been located, but we are still looking for relatives of William Halse (1817-1882) and George Tunnecliff (1832-1912).

If you are related to either of these people, or you know who is, please let John Pickering know.

PapersPast

Going through some of the newly digitised additions to the NZ Herald (1925-1945) on Paperspast provided my Easter relaxation. The, at times, inclement weather gave me an excuse to sit and do research! Found some great stuff.

paperspast.natlib.govt.nz

It is always worth checking the different treatment given to an event by different newspapers. I now have 3 obituaries for my great grandfather, all from different newspapers and with extras in them. The addition of other facts helps your research. It also can clarify the information you may have from another source.

Also remember that a newspaper may report something that happened in another part of the country, so even though the NZ Herald is an Auckland paper, it doesn't mean you won't find a report on something that happened in Wellington or elsewhere.

Annette Larsen

Websites

Here are a collection of useful genealogy websites, contributed by Karen Crowe.

FreeUKGen

www.freeukgen.org.uk

Teams of volunteers have transcribed registration indexes for births, marriages and deaths in England and Wales from 1837. FreeUKGen includes [FreeBMD](#), [FreeCEN](#) and [FreeREG](#).

FamilySearch

www.familysearch.org

The website of the world's largest genealogical organisation provides free access to transcriptions and images from many countries around the globe. New features and records are being added all the time. Check out the [England Jurisdictions 1851 map](#), which superimposes historic parish boundaries on a modern map.

Census Finder

www.censusfinder.com

This website helps you find indexes, transcriptions and online census returns from the UK, USA, Canada and other countries.

GENUKI

www.genuki.org.uk

This website has a vast collection of links to genealogy resources relating to the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Online Parish Clerks

The online parish clerk (OPC) project involves volunteers gathering transcriptions and indexes of parish records in their area. GenUKI has a list of [OPC websites](#).



British Newspaper Archive – part 2

by Annette Larsen

Last month, I wrote about the British newspaper archive. Later I decided to take out a week's subscription (600 credits), which cost me just under \$20 NZ, due to our current favourable exchange rate. The 600 credits were actually far more than I needed, but I decided I still got value for money.

Since then I see that the site has a special – one month for the price I paid for one week. Check it out.

www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk

The many newspaper articles about my grandmother's first husband, Samuel Goldsmith, made interesting reading and gave me a glimpse of him as a person. I had almost no knowledge of him prior to seeing these news articles. I decided my grandmother was possibly very wise to leave him given his constant court appearances which led to substantial fines and in one case 21 days "hard labour".

Be careful if you get results for the right name, in the right place and at the right time. It still may not be your ancestor, especially if it is a common name. You may need to do some extra research in that case to verify that this is your man!

An obituary for my husband's great grandfather appeared in the Dundee Courier and gave me a picture of a man well liked and respected in the community. I emailed it to a relative who is also researching that side of the family and her comment was: "it seems heart attacks are in the genes for that line." Knowing your family's medical background is not a bad thing.

I found I could highlight an article on the page and copy and paste it. The result was a much larger print for the article. Thank heavens for that as in the downloaded version the font was quite small. Word of caution: Make sure you SAVE your downloads.

All in all a useful exercise.

Auckland Cenotaph Database

Well worth another look if you haven't for a while and have family who fought in conflicts overseas.

muse.aucklandmuseum.com/databases/cenotaph/locations.aspx

Old Colonists' Association Register

I also happened on this site by accident. Two years ago the entries in the register were digitised and put online. If you have ancestors who were early settlers in the Auckland area it is well worth a look.

Remember the more sources you have for a fact the more sure you can be of its correctness. (Hopefully!)

I quote the following from the Auckland City Council Library site about this register:

Previously people have found reference to this valuable resource when using our Digital Library (or [Family History eResources](#)) and searching [Index Auckland](#).

They've then been able to get copies of the actual images by either coming to [Sir George Grey Special Collections](#), or by emailing requests through using our "Ask a Librarian" or "Email it 2 Me" services.

Now you can find the image online for yourself, save it or print it out.

For those who don't know:

The Old Colonists' Association developed out of the reunion gatherings of those settlers who were passengers aboard the first two immigrant ships into Auckland - the Duchess of Argyle and the Jane Gifford. Membership was confined to colonists of fifty years' standing and their descendants.

It lists members of the association, including information relating to joining date, badge number, address at time of joining, when and where born, date of arrival in New Zealand, name of ship, and some miscellaneous remarks. It covers the period from 10 October 1919 to 16 November 1934.

It has a list of 13 early vessels with their arrival dates pasted on the register's front endpaper, covering the period 1840-1842.

So now, if you get a reference for the Old Colonists Association Register (NZMS 493) in our Index Auckland, you can go to our [Manuscripts Online](#) and search for "NZMS 493" for yourself. Open "full record" and click on the Images & PDF tab, then select the page range that you wish to view.

Very exciting for those researching their early New Zealand settlers!

Happy research, folks!

Annette Larsen



Library Roster: May

Monday 10 am to 3 pm
Wednesday 12 noon to 3 pm
Saturday 10 am to 12 noon

Sat 3 Judy Berntsen
Mon 5 Charles Le Breton/Bev Mulqueen
Wed 7 John Berntsen
Sat 10 Mike Merrick
Mon 12 Bev Mulqueen/Charles Le Breton
Wed 14 Margaret Gregory
Sat 17 Lea / Bruce Bellini
Mon 19 Lorraine Austin / Ailsa McCrone
Wed 21 Fay Eaton
Sat 24 Annette Larsen
Mon 26 Peter Winter / Anne Brophy
Wed 28 Jill Harvey
Sat 31 Marilyn Armitstead

For those new to genealogy and/or want help knocking down those brick walls, this is an excellent time and place to have our experts help you. Our helpers can show you what is available in the library and how to go about finding what you are looking for.

Beginning Genealogy

Learning sessions on genealogy will be run by Marilyn Armitstead at the branch rooms, commencing 1:30 pm Sunday 18 May.

If attendees can bring along their genealogy programme on a laptop, they can use it during the session. Otherwise, it is fine to just come with pen and paper and bring any questions you have. Marilyn will be using Legacy, but it is ok if you are using another programme.

For further information, please contact Marilyn Armitstead.

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.



Library News

Magazines received;

Discover Your History (April)

Family Tree (April)

Genealogist (April)

Memories (April/May)

Who do you think you are (May)



Newsletters received;

Blenheim, Canterbury, Hawkes Bay, Hutt Valley, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Riccarton, South Canterbury, Stratford, Wanganui, Wellington

Newsletter

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

