



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 326

September 2018

Branch Library: Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.
Opening Hours: Monday: 10 am to 12:30 pm
Wednesday: 12 noon to 3 pm
Saturday: 10 am to 12 noon

Family History Month

September is NZ family history month, and this year we are celebrating the 125th anniversary of women's suffrage. In 1893, New Zealand became the first country to give all women the right to vote.

There were 13 separate petitions. The largest by Mary Carpenter is searchable on the [NZ History website](#).

There are lots of events being held around the country, and our branch is holding two events at our rooms in New Plymouth.

4 Sept 7:30pm, branch meeting

8 Sept 10am to 3pm, open day

For the public open day, the branch rooms open from 10am to 3pm. Everyone is welcome to come along, and learn how to research your family, with help from our branch resources. The theme for the day is Women's Suffrage 125.

Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 4 Sep 2018

125 Years Women's Vote

As part of the Women's Suffrage 125 celebration, our speaker next month is Mary Perrott. She is a member of the New Plymouth organising committee for Women's Suffrage 125.

Mary's talk will include some of the more amusing and less known details of the suffrage debate. She will also cover NZ municipal recognition of women's right to vote before 1893, some examples of writing of the time opposing women's suffrage (about "epicene women") and some of the more dignified responses from women of the era.



Convenor: Bruce Bellini 758 0130
Secretary: Jackie Sewell
Treasurer: Lea Bellini 758 0130
Committee: Lorraine Austin
Judy Berntsen
Jill Jackson
Annette Larsen
Bev Mulqueen
Neville Richards

New Plymouth Branch
c/- Bruce Bellini
98a Queens Road
New Plymouth 4312

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.genealogy.org.nz

Last Event: DNA Smashes Brick Wall

At our August meeting, Malcolm Potts explained how DNA had finally solved a brick wall in his family research.

Dora (1910-1994) was brought up in a foster home. She was told that her mother died in childbirth, her father died when she was two, and she had no relations in NZ, so don't bother trying to find any. She and her children accepted this story until she was nearly 80 years old.

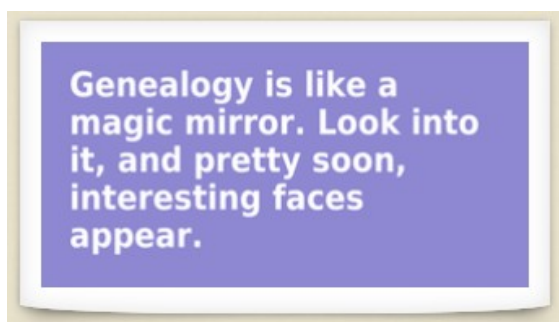


In 1990, manually searching official records (this was before genealogy on the internet), Malcolm found that his grandmother had actually survived Dora's birth, and gone on to marry and have a family. Eventually, Dora's three half sisters were tracked down, and they were very pleased to meet their new older sibling. But Dora's father proved elusive, and no evidence could be found.

When DNA became available, Dora's children did DNA tests, but that did not help – until another descendant of Dora's father happened to test, showing a likely first cousin relationship with Malcolm. Suddenly and happily, both families are delighted with this conclusion, which only DNA could bring to light.

In the talk, Malcolm showed how they used information across several DNA tests to identify just who was related to which branch of the tree.

Also at our August meeting, Eric Hart described his 40 year project to correct his mother's birth certificate. When it was transcribed about a century ago, a clerical error put the wrong surname in the BMD records. Eric explained how they tracked down the "missing" birth certificate, and the efforts needed to get it corrected.



Convenor's Report

In last month's newsletter, I mentioned that the inaugural meeting of our Branch was held on 27 November 1969, which means that November next year will be our 50th Anniversary. Our Committee thought it would be nice to have a practice run for this momentous event!

So this year we decided to have a "Birthday Celebration" on Sunday 18 November at our Branch Library and Rooms, commencing at noon. This social event will include a commercially provided luncheon meal for the grand sum of 29 dollars per person, which will include the choice of two meats, vegetables and a dessert. This event will replace the Branch Christmas celebration that we have held in December of previous years.

So please set aside this day and put it in your calendar (or phone) and be sure to watch our newsletter for more details.

Many Thanks,

Bruce Bellini
Branch Convenor

Clifton Terrace Model School, Wellington

The Clifton Terrace Model School, successor to the Terrace School, is erecting a new war memorial to replace the memorial which was lost in 1972. The new memorial will be unveiled by the Governor-General at a ceremony to be held on Monday 19 November 2018.

The names and service details of the old boys who died on active service can be viewed at the following web address:

<https://nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/terrace-school-war-memorial>

Any descendants wishing to attend the unveiling ceremony can register their interest by contacting Claire Bruin, Office Manager, Clifton Terrace Model School, Ph 04 4727519 or email staff@ctms.school.nz



Computer Group Meeting

The next meeting of the branch genealogy computer group will be at 1:30pm on Sunday 16 September 2018.



These sessions are very informal and we welcome people of **all** levels of computer expertise. Come along if you have any questions or problems with genealogy on your computer, or if you want to hear about the latest happenings with computers and genealogy.

Legacy Users Group

The next meeting will be on Sunday 7 October 2018 at the Branch Rooms from 1.30pm.

This series of sessions are hosted by Marilyn Armitstead and are aimed at helping you to better use the Legacy genealogy software.

Please contact Marilyn Armitstead for further information or if you have any questions. Phone: 757 2599 or email g.armitstead@xtra.co.nz

Kapiti Scottish Day

The Kapiti branch of NZSG is hosting Scottish Highland genealogist Graeme Mackenzie, who will present two lectures.

- An Introduction to the Scottish Highlands, its Clans, Septs, and Surnames
- Scottish Genealogy and Ancestral Research in the Highlands

Date: Tuesday 5 March 2019

Venue: Waikanae Baptist Church, Te Moana Rd, Waikanae

Cost: \$10, BYO lunch

For more information, please contact Sonia Coom by email sonia@solarnight.net or telephone 04 2937676.

Women's Suffrage 125

It is 125 years since New Zealand became the first country to give women the vote. Our branch is holding two events in September to celebrate Suffrage 125.



At our September meeting, Mary Perrott will be enlightening us on aspects of the petition and some of the women involved. In addition, the branch will run an open day on Saturday 8 September, with a focus on the women's vote.

We have collected a number of biographies of suffrage petition signing women, and we are keen to add more to these. Please contribute a short biography if you have any info on persons who signed the petition. If you have documents to attach to the bio, we would love to see them. This could be photos, newspaper articles, parish registers and so on. If you would like us to print your information, please send it to the branch email address newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz or bring a copy along to the branch rooms.

Visit our web page for more information:

www.genealogynp.com/suffrage.html

Internet Connection

The internet connection for our branch rooms is generously sponsored by Primowireless.



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Please consider Primowireless for your ISP. Ring them on 0800 123 774 or visit the website:

primowireless.co.nz



Library Roster: September

Monday 10 am to 12:30 pm
Wednesday 12 noon to 3 pm
Saturday 10 am to 12 noon

Sat 1 Karen Crowe
Mon 3 Neville Richards
Wed 5 Judy Berntsen
Sat 8 Open day
Mon 10 Charles Le Breton
Wed 12 Fay Eaton
Sat 15 Jill Jackson
Mon 17 Lorraine Austin
Wed 19 Ailsa McCrone
Sat 22 Elly Harrison
Mon 24 Annette Larsen
Wed 26 Jill Jackson
Sat 29

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.

Ellis Island – United States Immigration

New York passenger arrival lists are now available free online at [Family Search](#).

This index has 25 million people who arrived at Ellis Island, Port of New York from 1892 to 1924. This includes all arrivals, not just immigrants.

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.



One of August's two speakers, with his mother. But which speaker?

Library News

Magazines received;

Family Tree (Sept)

Genealogist (Aug)

Who do you think you are (Aug)

Newsletters received;

Balclutha, Canterbury, Feilding, Gore, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papamoa, Porirua, Riccarton, South Canterbury, Southland, South Waikato, Wairarapa

If you would like an email copy of newsletters from another branch, please contact Peter Hewett. Many of the newsletters are also available from the NZSG website.

www.genealogy.org.nz/branches--area-contacts_55



Newsletter

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

