



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 327

October 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

Birthday!

The first meeting of the New Plymouth branch of NZSG was in November 1969. So that makes this year our 49th birthday!

To celebrate, we are holding a branch lunch on Sunday 18 November, from 12:30pm. This will be a catered lunch at the branch rooms. The cost is \$29 a head.

Please book using the form at the branch rooms.



Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 2 Oct 2018

Adventures of Te Henui Cemetery

The Te Henui cemetery has some of the earliest history of the New Plymouth settlement. The headstones have provided valuable research material for many genealogists.

Our guest speaker is Susan Oliver. She leads a team of volunteers who care for the plantings at the cemetery. They work there five days a week, and over the years have built up considerable knowledge about the cemetery and the people associated with it

At our October meeting, she will talk about some of the more notable headstones and of some of the requests that they have had from people visiting the cemetery.

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.genealogynp.com

Last Event: Women's Suffrage

At the September Branch meeting we welcomed Mary Perrott as our guest speaker to speak to us about suffrage on this 125th anniversary of women in NZ receiving the right to vote. Mary, a 4th generation New Zealander, began by outlining some of her family genealogy. She has spent 12 years in local government.

Mary said women here were not "given" the vote. The forces against the women were determined to prevent it.

A ditty from 1891:

"When women's rights have come to stay, Who will rock the cradle?

When wives are at the polls all day, Who will rock the cradle?

When Doctor Mamma's making pills, when Merchant Mamma's selling bills,

Of course t'will cure all women's ills, But who will rock the cradle?"

Here in NZ "franchise" was the more common term used rather than "suffrage". NZ women (and some men) were "Suffragists", who lobbied to raise awareness in a generally civilised manner.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) had been campaigning for women's voting rights since 1886. Katherine Wilson Sheppard (Kate Sheppard) became the franchise superintendent of the WCTU and also editor of the women's paper "The White Ribbon". Early attempts for the vote and the petitions were not successful.

Some men feared stricter liquor laws if women were able to vote and the "beer barons" were a powerful lobby.

"As far as I can see, I have no hesitation in saying that the bulk of these ladies [in the gallery at Parliament] would be far better employed at home attending to their domestic duties." (Henry Fish)

Mary sang to us a couple of popular ditties of the time sung by the women suffragists. She also compared NZ's progress to that of Australia, where women fared not so well.

The passage of the NZ Bill was not a simple matter. A third reading in 1893 succeeded and by a majority of TWO the Bill was passed. MPs were confronted by signatures of nearly 32,000 women (about 25% of the would-be eligible women voters.)

On 19 September the NZ Parliament voted in favour of the 1893 Electoral Bill, which granted NZ women the right to vote to elect members of the House of Representatives. NZ became the first self-governing nation to extend this right. The Bill did not exclude Maori women.

The passage of the Electoral Act 1893 didn't please everyone. Women would be under the influence of the clergy, it was thought.

From 19 September 1893, 109,461 women had registered to vote ready for the November 1893 General election. (That figure does not include Maori voting. The adult Maori female population would have been about 10,300. It appears that over 4,000 Maori women voted.) On 28 November 1893 NZ women went to the polls.

Mary outlined some examples of prejudice against women prevalent before 1893. She then looked at the subject of Women in Local Government and Women in Parliament.

In the year 2018 (125 years after NZ women voted), Prime Minister Ardern has had a baby while in office, as has Minister Genter (Minister for Women)!

Annette Larsen



Mary Perrott

Next Meeting: 6 November 2018

At our November meeting, Mike Burr will talk about the early history of Taranaki, and how most of history is made by ordinary people in extraordinary situations.



Convenor's Report

I would like to thank all those people who assisted with the recent Suffrage 125 events that our Branch has been involved with. Thanks to those people who researched their ancestors who signed the petition and put together a short biographical account of that person for us to display in our Branch rooms and Library. Thanks also to those members who helped decorate our rooms for our Suffrage Guest Speaker and the Open Day.

The Cemetery Photographing Project team are continuing their excellent work and you will see the information on the five cemeteries that have recently been added to the Branch Computers and our website, described in an article later in this newsletter.

Please don't forget to put your name down on the registration form at our rooms if you would like to attend our 49th Birthday celebration in November.

Many Thanks

Bruce Bellini
Branch Convenor



Internet Connection

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



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

primowireless.co.nz

Computer Group Meeting

The branch genealogy computer group meeting was held on Sunday 16 September 2018.



We covered a few topics raised by those attending, including how to edit photos in word processors, like MS Word and LibreOffice Write. We also looked at ways to enter a hyperlink in a spreadsheet or word document.

And we were lucky to have a practical demonstration of how to recover a family database off old software that wouldn't run on the current version of Windows. One of our members bought along this challenge, and we were able to export to GEDCOM from that old software, convert the GEDCOM to a later version (5.5) and import that to their on line genealogy database.

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

Cemetery Transcriptions

Our project team has been busy with their work to transcribe and photograph cemeteries in the north Taranaki area. They are updating the transcriptions done in the 1980s and taking photographs of each headstone.

Recently, five more cemeteries were completed; Huirangi, Oakura, Okato, Tataraimaka and Waireka.

The transcriptions and photos are now available on the computers at the branch rooms. The transcriptions are also available from our branch website.

<http://genealogynp.com/cindex.html>



Library Roster: October

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

Mon 1 Charles Le Breton
Wed 3 Marilyn Armitstead
Sat 6 Karen Crowe
Mon 8 Neville Richards
Wed 10 Judy Berntsen
Sat 13 Marilyn Armitstead
Mon 15 Charles Le Breton
Wed 17 Fay Eaton
Sat 20 Elly Harrison
Mon 22 Annette Larsen
Wed 24 Ailsa McCrone
Sat 27 Lea & Bruce Bellini
Regional Meeting
Mon 29 Lorraine Austin
Wed 31 Jill Jackson

OldFriends.co.nz

This website closed down in 2016. An archive of the site has been taken by the National Library, and it is now being prepared to be made publicly available. More information is available on their website.

natlib.govt.nz/publishers-and-authors/web-harvesting/oldfriends

New Microfiche

We have been donated some genealogical records including 162 microfiche on behalf of the late David Broome.

These microfiche are mainly parishes in Devon plus a few in Cornwall. If you have an interest in these areas, have a look at the Microfiche catalogue on [our research webpage](#) and come and have a look at them at our rooms.

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.



Borrowing Library Books

When borrowing books and magazines from our library, please remember to write down a contact phone number against your name. Thank you.

Ann Brophy

After many years of service as a librarian, Ann has resigned to pursue other activities. The committee wish to express our thanks for a job well done and wish her well for the future.

Library News

Magazines received;

Family Tree (Oct & Great War Centenary Special)

Who do you think you are (Sep)

Newsletters received;

Canterbury, Feilding, Gore, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papamoa, Riccarton, South Waikato, Whanganui

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.

