



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 329

December 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

Christmas / New Year

The branch rooms will be closed over the Christmas / New Year period.

Last day for 2018 Saturday 15 December

First day for 2019 Monday 14 January



Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 4 Dec 2018

Rebecca Gibney: Healing the Past

"I was raised in quite a dysfunctional family. We've always felt like there has been a spirit of rejection, I guess, hanging over our family. We've always felt this kind of sense of abandonment. To now know this is something that has come down from the generations, it makes sense."

These are words Rebecca penned in respect of her journey to find family. On Tuesday night we will see her story as seen through the programme *Who Do You Think You Are* which was first aired in July 2014. This includes Rebecca's travels to Parihaka and her rendition of *Amazing Grace*.

Come along and watch this fantastic story. As well as this, we will be having a special supper and an extra special raffle – a Christmas Hamper, so come along, buy lots of raffle tickets – some one has to win this lovely prize – tickets \$1 as usual, eat and be merry.

Convenor: Bruce Bellini 758 0130
Secretary: Jackie Sewell
Treasurer: Lea Bellini 758 0130

Committee: Lorraine Austin
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: Adventures of Te Henui Cemetery

At our November meeting our guest speaker was Mike Burr, author of *An End of Honour*, a historical novel set in NZ in the 1860s. This novel looks at the Taranaki Land Wars of that time and at Titokowaru's role in these events. I appreciate being able to learn about our history in a well-researched novel rather than a history book! At the end of the book, he notes, "This novel follows the historical record as faithfully as a work of fiction might ... The principal characters existed ..." He gives a short bio at the end for the various characters. I recommend this book if you are interested in Taranaki history of that time.

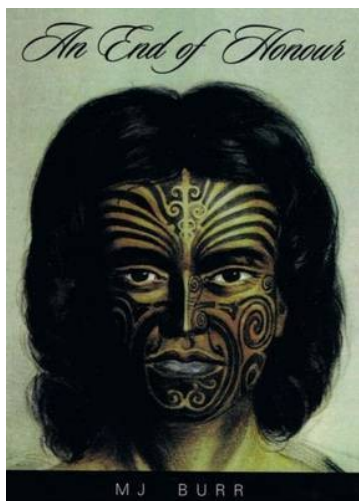
Mike started his talk by looking at some events in history that have led to social change. (The Black Death, American Civil War, World War 1 and 2.) He used a quote from Rudyard Kipling's *Recessional* (1897) – "The captains and the kings depart...." and looked at the contribution of the ordinary bloke to history. Ordinary people in extraordinary situations.

The second half of his talk was devoted to Titokowaru, whom he called "the forgotten man of NZ history". Titokowaru was outstanding at war tactics, never losing a battle. His strategy was to get the enemy where he wanted them, making them play the way he wanted.

In the 1980s, leading NZ historian, James Belich, argued that Titokowaru's war had become a dark secret of New Zealand history, "forgotten by the Pākehā as a child forgets a nightmare". For Belich, Titokowaru was "arguably the best general New Zealand has ever produced". In 2015, James Belich produced the book, *I Shall not Die. Titokowaru's War, 1868-1869*. In Mike's note at the end of *An End of Honour*, he says he is indebted to Professor James Belich's book.

Mike's talk reminded me that we who live in Taranaki should be mindful of the significance of this area in NZ colonial history.

Annette Larsen



Convenor's Report

Christmas is almost upon us, and our last meeting for the year is on Tuesday.

Please come along, it will be a good night.

I wish to thank all of you that have given time over the past year to make the year the success that it has been. The success of our Branch depends on the time and efforts that our members are prepared to give.

I would like to specifically thank Judy Bernsten, who has recently stood down from our Branch committee, for all the work she has done as a committee member, research officer and new members secretary. Judy has been on our committee since 2005 (apart from a one year break in 2016). Judy's dedication has been commendable.

Your Committee is now focussed on next year's programme and we are always grateful for any suggestions of topics or guest speakers that you may have for our meetings.

Lea and I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and our best wishes for 2019. Take care on the roads if you are travelling and we look forward to seeing you all in next year.

Happy researching!

Bruce Bellini
Branch Convenor

Merry Christmas!

The branch committee would like to wish all our members and their families a very Merry Christmas and all the very best for 2019!



Next Meeting: Waireka Cemetery

The first branch meeting for 2019 will be on Tuesday 5 February 2019. To take advantage of the summer weather, this will be a trip to the Waireka cemetery near Omata.

This area has lots of history, and is close to the site of the Battle of Waireka. Branch member and local historian, Len Jury will lead the tour and explain some local history.

Parking is limited at the cemetery, so please meet up at the branch rooms by 7:00pm, so we can car pool out to Waireka. And if you would like a lift from home, please get in touch and we will see if we can find someone near you who can provide a lift.



Computer Group Meeting

The branch genealogy computer group meeting was held on Sunday 25 November 2018.

We also talked about online storage options, also known as cloud storage. There are lots of options like Dropbox, Google drive, iCloud, Microsoft Onedrive and others.



We also tried out a speech to text app, which allows you to talk to the computer and it types out what you are saying.

And we discussed some tech support scams that are still happening. We looked at a problem where a recent Windows update broke drivers for Realtek audio.

Anniversary Lunch 2018

As a precursor to our 50th anniversary in November 2019, the branch held a catered lunch at the rooms on Sunday 18 November. Our actual anniversary date is 20 November.

The rooms were beautifully decorated and those who attended enjoyed the food, the atmosphere and socialising.

Our lunch was catered by Delistar who provided an excellent meal. We also had a lovely cake, which was ceremoniously cut by two of our longest serving members Betty Vickers and Karen Crowe.



Next year, we plan to celebrate our 50th anniversary in style!

Taranaki Wars – Phone app

Heritage Taranaki has launched a second trail in the Taranaki Wars mobile phone app. This trail covers events from 1863 to 1865, Waireka to Warea.

The app provides information on the locations of these historical events, as you visit them.

This is a free app, that can be downloaded from Apple apps store or Google play.



Library Roster: December / January

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 Lorraine Austin
Wed 5 Judy Berntsen
Sat 8 Neville Richards
Mon 10 Charles Le Breton
Wed 12 Fay Eaton
Sat 15 Lea & Bruce Bellini

Mon 14 Charles Le Breton
Wed 16 Fay Eaton
Sat 19 Karen Crowe
Mon 21 Lorraine Austin
Wed 23 Judy Berntsen
Sat 26 Lea & Bruce Bellini
Mon 28 Peter Winter
Wed 30 Annette Larsen

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

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.



Cemetery Transcriptions

Our team of volunteers are continuing to transcribe and photograph headstones in local cemeteries. Two more cemeteries (Bell Block Anglican and Urenui) have been done and are available on the website.

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

The transcriptions with photographs are available on the computers at the branch rooms.

Library News

Magazines received;

Who do you think you are (Nov)



Newsletters received;

Canterbury, Gore, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papamoa, Riccarton, 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.

